

Redeemer news

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | REDEEMER BY THE SEA LUTHERAN CHURCH | AUGUST 2018 – VOLUME 6 ISSUE 8

UPCOMING SUMMER PREACHERS

Rev. Robert Crossan

August 5
Acting Our Part,

August 12
Sacrifice

August 19
The Power of Words

Rev. Dr. Alan Wyneken

August 26
Living Under the Rainbow

REIMAGINING “US WITH OTHERS”

How is your Summer so far? By the time you read this, my sabbatical will be half over. It's going quickly, but God is doing His work in us. As I like to say, “God is always working!” Even when we don't understand the why or the how – we can know for sure that God has a plan for us, and it's good. He has promised to work all things together *for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose* (Romans 8:28). So it is our job to always be asking the questions “what are you teaching me God?” “How are you shaping me for your Kingdom purposes – for our good and for your glory?”



Last month I provided you the first half of a framework to help you “re-imagine” your part in the ministry that God has called us to at Redeemer. In that study, you considered the ministry we do as “Us with Us.” Since we cannot give away what we do not have, our ministry must first be faith-strengthening and life-transforming *among ourselves* before we hope to minister to those outside our church. It is my prayer that we will take to heart what the Scriptures say about how we worship, grow and serve with our church family, such that we experience the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit working amidst us. Then we can turn our sights outside of our church and invite others into our loving & Christ-centered fellowship. This month I encourage you to search the Scriptures and consider the ministry we do as “Us with Others.” I am including here a study based on resources from our friends in the

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HIGH SCHOOL

Discover the value of placing Jesus at the center of everything in your life.

Learn how the New and Old Testament Scriptures directly connect Jesus's epic story to what you're dealing with right now.

Each week will feature topics and questions that are engaging and challenge you to think critically and figure out why you believe what you believe.

September 9th we will start the 3 week series on Friends & Family topics are:

September 9: In the Beginning, God Created Relationships

September 16: Jesus' Family Tree

September 23: How Did Jesus Spell Relationship?



Starting
September 9th
at 9:45am in the
Lounge



"SO NOW I AM GIVING YOU A NEW
COMMANDMENT: LOVE EACH OTHER.
JUST AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, YOU
SHOULD LOVE EACH OTHER."
- JOHN 13:34

CONFIRMATION

Starting September 9th, we will begin the new confirmation year. Class for 7th and 8th grade Confirmation students will be held on Sunday mornings in between the 2 services allowing families to attend whichever service they prefer. September 9th is parent/student orientation as well as acolyte training. If you are not able to make it, please let the office know.

- Pastor Augie

5TH & 6TH GRADE

We will resume our Sunday morning dig into the Bible on September 9th at 9:45am. Last year we studied the Old Testament and this year we will study the New Testament. Please register at RedeemerbytheSea.org so we can order materials for you!

- Jim Bennett

REAL.PRESENT.GOD.

2019 LCMS Youth Gathering

Next Summer, July 11-15 in Minneapolis, MN will be the National Youth Gathering. Held every 3 years since 1980, the LCMS Youth Gathering provides thousands of youth (age 14-19) and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to learn more about Jesus Christ and the Christian faith.

We will need 3-4 adults on the team who are willing to help with the planning, promotion, registration and fundraising. You do not need to commit to being a chaperone to be part of this team, unless you would like to experience the same energizing excitement... or physical exhaustion :).

Visit the Sr. High page on RedeemerbytheSea.org to find out more and register for more information!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

During the month of August, the children will be “shipwrecked” and learn that:

- When you're lonely...Jesus Rescues!
- When you worry...Jesus Rescues!
- When you struggle...Jesus Rescues!
- When you do wrong...Jesus Rescues!
- When you're powerless...Jesus Rescues!

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday School Kickoff

Fall Registration

September 9th

10:45 Service

In addition, they will be working on a very special project to be revealed on September 9th at our Fall Sunday School Kickoff!

Until next time, keep serving the Lord...

- Miss Rhonda
Sunday School Director

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!

We are looking for individuals who have a passion for children & can volunteer some time to help them grow in Christ.

Areas of Need Include:

- Classroom Teachers
- Classroom Assistants
- Snack Preparation
- Check-In & Registration
- Special Events
- Christmas & Easter Programs
- Large Group Leader

SUNDAY MORNING OPPORTUNITY - 9:45AM

INTRODUCTION TO SALT & LIGHT AT REDEEMER

Our effort to raise awareness regarding a Christian Citizens civic responsibility has raised a lot of questions. A partial answer is in the question itself – Individual Christians DO have civic responsibilities when living in a self-governing society like America. Sadly we are losing our country through neglect of those responsibilities. Our challenge is to understand how we can encourage our Christian brothers and sisters to be better informed and to participate in the democratic process as instructed by our government. We know we must do this in a way that does not interfere with the mission of the Church, which is to proclaim the Gospel.

There are a number of initiatives under way to address the challenge:

- Our Synod launched a Free to be Faithful campaign in September 2012 to educate and move people to take informed actions.

- More recently the Lutheran Hour” Speaker Rev. Dr. Gregory P. Seltz has been installed as the first executive director of the Synod's new Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty in Washington, D.C. to serve as an educational resource for Churches.
- At Redeemer our group digs deep to study the founding of our country as it relates to our Christian heritage.

The bottom line is in America we are Free to be Faithful and it is each individual's responsibility to be Salt & Light to preserve and illuminate those rights.

To try and put this all in perspective, we have prepared a one hour introduction class that will discuss the issues and provide some clarity on our role as a Christian Citizen. Check the weekly bulletin for the date and time. When you join us, you will just need to decide if you prefer Ice Cream or a slice of American Cheddar Cheese with your Apple Pie.

- Dan Bitner

GROWTH GROUP UPDATES

Our Growth Groups provide people an opportunity to connect with other believers and do life together in a supportive and faith-nurturing cluster of friends. Visit: RedeemerbytheSea.org/growth-groups/ for a complete listing and information concerning our Growth Groups.

BIRTHDAY GROUP

On FRIDAY, July 20, 2019, we celebrated the birthdays of Bobbie and Jerry Ankenbrandt, Jim Brunner, BJ Lahr, Lois Palmer and Patricia Sax at the Canyons Restaurant at the Crossings at Carlsbad. It was a quiet, serene celebration and the attending birthday celebrants were given a cake and strawberries dessert. We donated one hundred forty-two (\$142) to Solutions for Change.

We meet again THURSDAY, August 9 at 11:30 a.m. at Shadowridge Country Club to celebrate the birthdays of Pastor Augie (who will still be on sabbatical but able to receive birthday greetings) Alice Lehmann, Gary Reiswig, Carolyn Schmaltz, Dave Taylor, Lois Taron, Ken Voertman and Gary Wilson.

In addition to your lunch, we request a one dollar contribution per celebrant which will go to the Del Mar/Solana Beach Optimist Club to use in their project to help children at Rady's Children's hospital battling cancer.

Everyone is welcome to join us but you do need a reservation with the Birthday Coordinator, Jo Voertman, jvbythesea@cox.net, 760-721-6674.

- Jo Voertman

SALT & LIGHT

A generation ago, nationwide surveys showed that fewer than 10% of U. S. adults said they had no religious affiliation. Today, 23% now say they are atheists, agnostics or nothing at all. The signs are everywhere that Christianity is gradually being replaced by secular beliefs and even targeted as a hate group. Couple that fact with a poll from the Annenberg Public Policy Center where 37% of Americans could not name any rights guaranteed by the 1st Amendment; 85% did not know the 1st Amendment guaranteed freedom of religion; 86% didn't know it guaranteed freedom of the press;

and 52% didn't know that freedom of speech was guaranteed. The bad news is that we are in perilous times with the foundation of our great nation at risk. The good news is that we, as disciples of Christ, have the means to correct the course of this nation through God's almighty power, and by our freedom to vote for candidates at all levels who are Biblical.

The Salt & Light group offers the following prayer; *Heavenly Father, we thank You for blessing the United States of America. You have blessed our nation beyond what we deserve. We have not always appreciated You or Your blessings. We ask You to rid us of corruption and raise up leaders who are wise and who understand and live by God's Law. We ask You to give us discernment to identify and follow leaders who aren't just saying what our itching ears want to hear, but who will stand for righteousness and declare Your truth. We ask this in Jesus name. Amen.*

Your Salt & Light Co-Leader,
- Jerry Meyer

BELL CHOIR

Did you know that Redeemer By the Sea has a bell choir? Redeemer is blessed to have 40 handbells and 26 choir chimes. Although we try, we cannot play them all. We are a beginning



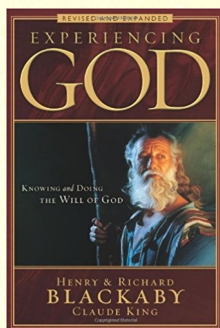
adult group that likes to have fun with the goal of ringing praise to our Lord in worship. Experience reading music is very helpful, a love of wearing white gloves a plus, but having fun is mandatory. No previous bell ringing experience is necessary, because we will teach you. We meet on Wednesdays at 5:30 in Room 3. Contact Kay for more information, kay@redeemerbythesea.org.

- Kay Boland

GROWTH GROUPS, *CONT.*

FALL LADIES STUDY

New Ladies study beginning this Fall! Wednesday mornings. Join us as we go through the study "Experiencing God." Through examination of biblical and contemporary illustrations, participants will understand and apply seven realities of experiencing God. Contact Evelyn Meyer for more information and to order the book for \$15 at evelyn10meyer@gmail.com.



- Evelyn Meyer

TWO TABLES BRIDGE GROUP

Faye Bacon coordinates the Bridge Group and does it so well that when she was suddenly unable to play at the July meeting, the ladies coordinated themselves and bridge went on as planned. Audrey Wickstrand provided, cards, tallies, score sheets and pencils, Evelyn Meyer hosted everyone to a quiet, elegant lunch and then bridge in a delightful atrium at La Costa Glen.

And some people had wonderful hands with Audrey scoring the most points and second place going to Arlyn Schmaud. All in all, it was a wonderful afternoon, filled with loving, caring fellowship and interesting bridge hands.

We usually play from twelve-thirty until four on the fourth Friday of every month except December (third Friday in November). Usually there are two tables. Light refreshments are served.

Anyone knowing the rudiments of bridge and interested in joining our group may contact the Bridge Coordinator, Faye Bacon, fobacon@att.net, 1-760-707-6677.

- Jo Voertman

CHANCEL CHOIR

NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL GOOD SOULS TO JOIN THE CHANCEL CHOIR IN AUGUST

This is a personal invitation for you to join the Chancel Choir as we begin rehearsals on Wednesday, August 1, from 6:30-8:00pm. We are so excited to start singing

again this month as the choir returns from a much needed break in July. We have some new members joining us, and there is a place for you in the choir loft.

As we start the new music year, we want you to know that we rehearse on Wednesday nights in the Sanctuary starting at 6:30pm. We have a 15 minute optional devotion from 6:15-6:30, and then begin rehearsal promptly. Our choir sings for the first service three times a month, and takes the 4th Sunday off. We sing a variety of anthems and feature soloists, small groups, and combined choir productions during the year. This December, we will perform a new Cantata on Christmas Eve. We are singing a brand new Cantata entitled "Christmas Presence," A Gathering of Hope, Peace, and Love, written by Pepper Choplin. This Cantata was written in early 2018, and is fresh off the press from Lorenz Publications.

We will begin rehearsing our new Cantata in the middle of August, ready to perform for the congregation with choir, soloists, narration, and orchestra. Please come and join this great group of singers on Wednesday night, and experience adding your voice to our choir, and giving service through singing. We need you!

If you have any questions, please contact me at 858 864-3491, or

GWilson872@aol.com anytime. Many of the singers of the Praise Band who sing during our second service, join us for our Christmas Cantata. If you attend second service, you are welcome to join us for the Cantata only. We will rehearse the Cantata on Wednesday nights from 7:30-8:00pm each week.

Hope to see you on Wednesday night, ready to sing. Our choir is a volunteer group, and there is no audition required.

IN HIS SERVICE,
- Gary Wilson
Choir Director

BAPTISMS

MILES DANIEL WINDLE
JULY 15, 2018



JORDAN DARLENE TAYLOR
JULY 22, 2018



REIMAGINING “US WITH OTHERS”

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Southeastern District of the LCMS (se.lcms.org). You can go through these on your own, or even better, with others who are part of your church family!

1. Looking at others as people for whom Christ died (2 Corinthians 5:16-17)

- a. Read the following verses silently, then pause and re-read them circling the words that catch your eye: *Acts 10:34-42, Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:8, Mark 16:15, Romans 10:13, 14, 2 Timothy 4:2, Acts 13:47, John 14:6.*
 - Why did you circle the words you did?
- b. List three things that make it hard to see others as “people for whom Christ died.”
- c. Read *Acts 15:1-31*.
 - What issue was threatening to divide the 1st century church?
 - How was it resolved?
 - What lessons do we learn from the 1st century church that we can apply to the 21st century church?

2. The work of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:18-19)

- a. Read *Luke 15:11-32*. Read it out loud, pause and let each person read it on their own, read it again out loud. Have each person circle words or acts described in the text that caught their eye. What does the parable of the “prodigal son” have to say about the work of reconciliation?
- b. The word reconciliation comes from two Latin words: *re - conciliare*. One definition is to reconnect, and another is “to love all over again.”
- c. Have each person share one time they tried to reconcile with someone and what happened.
- d. If we believe that because of sin everyone needs to be reconciled to God, what are things we can do to help them be “reconnected” with God?
- e. What may be the obstacles to that reconciliation? How long do we have to try?

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3. Ambassadors for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20)

- Discuss what the role of an ambassador is in our world today. How does that apply to us as Christians?
- What does Paul mean when he says, “God making his appeal through us?” What implications does that have for living out our lives with others?
- List 3 people you think either were, or yet are, “ambassadors for Christ.” What was it about them that made you list their name?
- Assign the following verses to individuals asking them to read, reflect and respond to what the verses have to say about our being an “ambassador for Christ.”

Philippians 3:20, Ephesians 6:20, 1 Corinthians 11:1, Romans 1:16, Galatians 2:20, Colossians 1:13.

4. Life in society

- Think about living your life in today's society and how it was when you were younger. How have things changed in moving from:
 - Typewriters to computers
 - Rotary phones to cell phones
 - Phone calls to social media
 - Buying in a store to buying online
 - How we get from one place to another
 - Other changes that you can think of?
- Things have also changed in the American attitude to the Christian institutional church.

While 40% of Americans may check the “I am a Christian” box on polls, only 14% think that faith is important, 16-18% think being part of a church is important, societally Sunday is no longer a “day of rest,” sports practice and competitions are held on Sunday, stores are no longer closed, and everything is open. What once were seen as “authority figures” are not any longer: mistrust of politicians, doctors, teachers, police, and pastors. Some implications of this societal shift for the institutional Christian church in America are:

- Aging members, and fewer new members
- Fewer resources financial and otherwise
- High maintenance buildings
- Cost and availability of clergy
- Fewer people willing to assume leadership roles

- Discuss the above list and how they are being seen in our congregation.
- Rate those listed above with 1 being the most challenging to our congregation and 5 being the least.
- What gives you hope in living out your faith in the church? What makes it difficult??

5. The whole body growing up together (Ephesians 4:15-16)

- Recently we studied “Life on Mission” as a sermon and small group series at Redeemer. At the heart of “missional

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LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION

Women in Mission Ministry's Upcoming Fall Welcome Back Meeting!

Mark your calendar...**Tuesday September 11th** - *"KINDNESS IS THE KEY TO HAPPINESS"*

9:30 a.m. business meeting and program at 10:30 - special 'treats' will be provided by the Officers.

Speakers: **Roxana and Joel Rabe** (members of RBTS) will share their experiences from their 2016 IMPAC Trip in Portugal & 2017 Habitat for Humanity Global Village in Macedonia.

Men and women of Redeemer will want to join us for this special program, *"...in every good work and word."* 2 Thessalonians 17



- Mary Ann Meinardus

REIMAGINING “US WITH OTHERS”

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living” is each individual Christian understanding their role in carrying out the mission of Matthew 28:19-20, as well as building up and nurturing relationships with all those around them for the sake of the gospel. Our friends at the Southeastern District of the LC–MS use the acronym “BLESS” as a way to remember this and put this into action:

- **B- Bonding with someone.** What do you have in common with them? (e.g. living in the same neighborhood, working in the same building, exercising at the same gym etc.)
 - **L- Learning from someone.** Learning how to listen to their story, asking questions like “help me to understand,” and moving beyond what we assumed or thought we knew.
 - **E- Engage.** Listening and learning as if you really care about them, paying attention to what they are saying.
 - **S- Serving.** Discovering what needs they might have and how you might meet those needs. eg- bringing them a meal, giving them a ride, volunteering to watch over their house while they are out of town, etc.
 - **S-Share.** Finding opportunity to share the message of Christ’s love.
- b. Read *1 Peter 3:15*. Have each person write out their own faith story considering the following guidelines: Concise, without quoting bible verses, Non-judgmental or threatening, Non-defensive or critical, Inviting, welcoming, loving.
- c. In pairs, have one person share their story with another and then reverse. Those listening may ask questions putting themselves in the place of someone who is curious but cautious about Christians. Share in the larger group what you learned.

Whether you work through these lessons with others or by yourself in your own devotional time, my prayer is that God’s Spirit will help you grow in Christ’s love for others in the Body of Christ (Us with Us) – and then lead you to engage people outside of the church (Us with Others) – your friends, neighbors, coworkers and family. May God increase all of our ability and desire to share His love with the people around us.

Your fellow servant in Christ,

Pastor Augie

WHO CAN I CONTACT?

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Church Council President, Kris Urdahl
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(562) 673-7346

Trustees, Shawn Burkholder
trustees@redeemerbythesea.org
(307) 690-7814

Prayer, Jo Brandt
prayer@redeemerbythesea.org
(760) 729-0112

WHO ARE YOUR ELDERS?

Head Elder, Jerry Meyer
elders@redeemerbythesea.org
(760) 729-0360

Your elders are a resource to you for your spiritual and ministry needs. Feel free to contact them with any needs or concerns – or just to say hello!

They are: Dave Berrier, Jim Brunner, Tom Burke, Matt Busch, Dan Bitner, Ed Meinardus, Jerry Meyer, Lyle Meyer, Joel Rabe, Ralph Wenstone, Charles Um

