

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Go Disciple All Nations

Sharing Christ, Changing Lives



2018

IN TOUCH WITH REDEEMER

A newsletter by and for the family of Redeemer Lutheran Church

Volume XXVIII, Issue I



Have you ever caught a movie when there was only fifteen minutes left? If you have; you know how the story ends and what takes place to advance the storyline. If you missed most of the movie you might have missed the character development or the twists in the plot. How does the main character weave through the issues in the movie and bring resolution to the narrative? Sometimes I find myself watching the same movie multiple times to see the choices that were made to bring about the ending; sometimes I wonder what it would be like to change one and imagine different endings.

One year ago, this congregation listed five benchmarks for the 2017 calendar year. We accomplished three of the five goals for this year and we learned a lot about this congregation in the process. What is surprising is that what we learned from the unattained goals for this year. In 2018, the time we spend in the Family Education hour will reflect some of the feedback we received from these experiences.

What will we choose to do this next year here at Redeemer? The benchmarks that this congregation writes for the next year (2018) will reflect who we believe ourselves to be and how we see Redeemer Lutheran Church in the Willmar community. We know from the Book of Revelation how the story ends in the Second Coming of Christ, now we have front row seats as to the direction and choices we will make concerning the immediate future of our congregational family.

What then, how will this change what we do here? Publishing our benchmarks will serve as an indicator of where we are headed in the next twelve months. It also will give us an indication as to what it will take for our congregation to fulfill our goals. To what extent will each one of us pledge to see the mission statement of this church, to disciple all nations, put into practice by the entire congregation? To reach out in faith, hope and love, to this community and county it will take our energy, talent and financial investment. If everything is truly His, why wouldn't we want to see His name be glorified in how we use those resources?

Pastor Matt

SERVING GROUPS

We have monthly serving groups and a list is posted on the church office window. Please check your phone number for accuracy or if you're not on the list and would like to be, contact the church office. Please help out when your co-chair calls.

JANUARY

Sharon Skaro – 320-599-4506

Janice Bartel – 320-403-5045

Matt & Jennifer Akerson

Elloyd & Janice Bartel

Rev. Jack & Carol Baumgarn

Jacob Berghuis

Sarah Berghuis

Susan Christensen

Dave & Julie Danzeisen

Jerry Gesch

Pete & Paulette Hagen

Gary & Mary Hillenbrand

Carol Jackson

Jared & Kjaresty Johnson

Dylan & Angela Kalkbrenner

Roger & Lois Koosmann

Angela Leindecker

David & Anita Maras

Jerret & Darci Mohr

Bill & Bridget Neumann

Jeff & Cheryl Pitt

Stan & Sharon Skaro

Rolf & Joyce Standfuss

Tyler & Shannon Templer

Dale & Ashley Weilage

FEBRUARY

Rose Meyer – 320-235-2556

Marlys Eggen – 320-235-7088

Troy & Lisa Anderson

Lois Bartel

John & Sharon Cola

Carolyn Davis

John & Marlys Eggen

Jeremy & Nichole Gleason

Sarah Hagen

Keven & Diane Hillenbrand

Jamie Jackson

Randy & Lynn Johnson

Roger & Nancy Klaassen

Ben Kopacek

Brad & Claudia Lenz

Brad Marcus

Gene & Rose Meyer

Randy & Melissa Mord

Nathan & Margaret Nielsen

Tim & Stacy Pollock

Charlotte Roduner

Jennifer Schoumaker

Dave & Lynn Sherod

Jeff & LeAnn Stauffenecker

Tony & Kerry Texley

Roland Wedel

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS in Memory of:

Our grandparents & great grandparents the Barbers, Petersens and Andersons by The Barber Family
Husband Ted, son Teddy Bartel, parents Theodore & Hertha Bartel and Christ & Margaret Sannerud by Lois Bartel
Marvin & Luella Behm by Ken, Carol, Gordon, Myron, Debra & spouses
Son William (Bill) Stanton Braun by James & Gayle Braun
Lloyd Rhoda & Roger Bremseth by Deb, Jordan, Daniel, Callie & Willow Bremseth
Florence Christensen by Norman & Susan Christensen
Curt Conklin by Marcia & Family
Son Kevin Eisenlohr by Larry & Vickie Eisenlohr
Hubby Levi and niece/godchild Laurie Gast by Myrt Elsing
MaryAnne Rossow by Brian, Jackie & Devyn Frank
Rev. Earl & Caroline Van Leeuwen, Aunt Martha Wandiak, Rev. Walter & Alma Friedrich by Rev. & Irene Friedrich
Orville Schmidt, Lila Warwick, Grandma & Grandpa Hagen, Grandma & Grandpa Reinke by Sarah Hagen & Family
Wayne & Alicia Peterson by Mary Hillenbrand, Ann Johnson, Wayde Peterson
Karen Holst by Edwin Holst & Family
Ken Kalstrom & Dorothy Ost by Pat Kalstrom
Gordon & Maealice Kimpling by Jeff, Darla, Zach, Kera, Safiya, Syriah, Paul & Don Kimpling
Carol Lenz by Paul Lenz
Herb & Leigh Lessman by The Lessman Family
Our parents Leon & Inez Maras, Ralph & Florence Munsterman, and our brothers Dan Maras & Mark Munsterman by Dave & Anita Maras
Dr. A. Paul Martens by Kathy Martens & Family
Our parents and grandparents Lester & Darline Vogeler, Norman & Pearl Pankow by Terry, Cheryl, & Brent Pankow
Simon Zimmer & Arlene Pitt by Jeff & Cheryl Pitt & Family
Lloyd Rhoda by Bonnie Rhoda & Family
Past Ruth Circle Members by Ruth Circle
Mildred Knutson by Brenda Schanbachler
Gloria Schroeder by Gary & Family
Rosie Schwartz by Melvin Schwartz & Family
Husband Louis Smith by Charlene Smith
Our parents Ray & Marian Werder & Henry Swart by Curt & Debbie Swart
Vivian Wedel by The Roland Wedel Family
Richard, Mary Ann, & Patricia Zetah by Dick Zetah Jr.



A Year of Encouragement

“And let us watch out for one another to provoke love and good works, not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.”
Hebrews 10:24-25 CSB

A couple of weeks ago I participated in a random Facebook question that a friend had posted to her wall. The question read as follows: “I could really use this! Leave a positive word I can carry through to 2018 that starts with the 1st letter of your name. It should only be 1 word. (Copy this to your wall so I can leave a word for you!) Like any person scrolling through Facebook I left a positive remark for my friend and proceeded to follow the instructions for my wall. Words that I received (which I am still unclear whether these describe me or are meant to encourage me) Jubilant, Kindness, Determination, Memorable, Blessings, Breathtaking, Abundance, Magnificent, Miraculous!! Plus a few funny ones like crazy, guacamole and spackle all with some stories behind them.

As we leave 2017 behind, a year filled with what seemed like an overwhelming amount of negative comments and events, I think we all need to take a few words of encouragement into the new year of 2018. What words would you use to encourage someone in the coming year?

Can we make 2018 the year of the encourager? Let’s take the challenge together as a community of believers to seek out opportunities to encourage those around us even when they may not necessarily need it, or we feel in less than an encouraging mood. What can we as a church community be involved in that would encourage our fellow Redeemer family members and our Willmar community?

Let's make it a goal for the new year together. I believe you all to be Capable, Captivating, Courageous people who can accomplish so much together in the name of Christ.

God’s Blessings in the new year,
Cassie Drenkow
Director of Christian Education

(Thank you to everyone who donated to our poinsettias, please feel free to pick yours up any time!)

++ JANUARY 2018 ++

	ELDERS	GREETERS	ACOLYTES	SOUND	LIBRARY
Jan 7 8:00 AM Communion 10:30 AM	Dave Runke Doug Jorschumb Stan Skaro Paul Meyer	Mike Botzek, Deb Arnold Brad & Suzanne Skindeliem Gary & Mary Hillenbrand Bonnie Rhoda	Eric Sellmann Adrianna Rodriguez	Wayne Dahlke Art Bolland	Marcia Gilman
Jan 14 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Jeff Kimpling Wayne Dahlke	Luther & Peggy Dykema Don & Birdie Urban Leon & Carole Schultz Marlin & Cheryl Niss	Jay Marcus Mackenzie Schoumaker	Mark Boeschen Sarah Jeppesen	LaVonne Van Zee
Jan 21 8:00 AM Communion 10:30 AM	Mark Sellmann Doug Jorschumb Neil Buboltz Brandon Kopacek	Bill & Deb Paterson Anita Petersen, Myron Behm Loren & Judy Schultz Trudy Hemingway	Malinda Petersen Evan Friton	Mike Mikkelsen Kolby Lindquist	Michelle Marcus
Jan 28 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Dave Runke Paul Meyer	Gene & Rose Meyer Gayne & Marvelle Stone Keven & Diane Hillenbrand Troy & Lisa Anderson	Sergio Fernandez Natalie Jorschumb	Brad Marcus Darrell Hoekstra	Sarah Fosso
USHERS	8:00 AM *Brad & Claudia Lenz, Dave & Carol Runke (*Head Usher) 10:30 AM *Doug & Renee Jorschumb, Curt Swart				

YOUR ELDER FOR 2018

Elder	Phone #	Household Names
Mark Sellmann	235-0075	Akerson – Bokelman
Brandon Kopacek	905-0734	Bolland – Davis
Stan Skaro	599-4506	Derksen – Grewe
Jeff Pitt	894-3132	Grothe – Jacobson
Paul Meyer	651-295-6670	Jagow – Kruse
Doug Jorschumb	235-5451	Kubasch – Meyer
Neil Buboltz	796-2352	Mikkelsen – Phillips
Wayne Dahlke	262-9847	Pitt – Schoumaker
Jeff Kimpling	235-5373	Schroeder – Streich
Matt Akerson	894-4997	Stueckrath – Zetah

**VOTER'S MEETING – SUNDAY, JANUARY 21ST
BEGINNING RIGHT AFTER FIRST SERVICE
BRUNCH WILL BE SERVED**

UPCOMING CRAFT NIGHTS have been set for January 12th and February 9th from 6 pm to midnight in the Fellowship Hall. Any type of project is welcome i.e. scrap booking, crocheting, knitting, coloring, sewing, whatever you would like to work on! Bring a snack to share and your own beverage. For questions contact Julie Danzeisen.



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS For **JANUARY** we will be collecting “Snacks” for our troops. Beef Jerky – Nuts – Raisins – Granola Bars – Microwave Popcorn – Tuna – Hard Candy – Licorice – Canned Ravioli/Beef Stew – Powdered Drink Mix. Please place donated items in box located in the narthex.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES If you did not get a new church directory and would like one, contact Lori in the church office. Please check for accuracy and contact the office with any updated information.

Sunday	Attend	Advent	Attend	Adults	Sr. High	S. S.	Comm	Private
Dec 3	259	Dec 6	180	31	10	55	210	
Dec 10	482	Dec 13	146	30	10	65		
Dec 17	259	Dec 20	120	39	9	33	211	
Dec 24	104	Dec 24	202/190					
		Dec 25	97				71	
TOTAL	1104		935	100	29	153	492	27
Out by transfer: Jenyne Beehler								



PRAYER BOX Please share any prayer requests or praises in your life by filling out a form and dropping it in the Prayer Request Box located in the narthex.

JOIN THE HAPPY QUILTERS as they start up again on Monday, January 8th at 12:30. If you can tie a knot, you are a quilter!

DID YOU GET NEW SHOES OR BOOTS FOR CHRISTMAS? Remember to bring your unused shoes and boots to church and place them in the box down by the Fellowship Hall (no flip flops please). We would also appreciate it if you could tie or rubberband your shoes together in pairs.



LOST AND FOUND Please check out the many items that we have in our Lost and Found bin that is located in the church office.

It's a new year. It's a time when we take stock of the year past in order to improve the year to come. It's a time when we sit down to plan and implement what we want to accomplish and even change. Part of that is planning our stewardship for the coming year.

Often we find this difficult and daunting and even joyless. But it doesn't have to be. In fact, it is really quite simple and full of joy. So here are some tips to make that planning less stressful. You begin by answering these three questions: Who are you? To whom do I give? And how much?

So, who are you? The Table of Duties in the Small Catechism informs us. Are you a hearer of God's Word? Are you a citizen of society? Are you a member of a family? Stewardship covers these three estates: church, society, family. We don't particularly struggle to give to society or family. Our struggles, our difficulties and our questions arise in giving to the church.

So, what is our duty as members of the church with regard to giving? The Table of Duties, again, gives us a guide. If you are a hearer, a member of the church who receives instruction, St. Paul taught: "Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor" (Gal. 6:6). This means the local congregation is primary.

Your pastor is the one called to preach the Gospel to you and administer the Lord's blessed sacraments to you. Your congregation is the place where those things happen. Thus, when God calls us to give to the church, He has the local congregation in mind. For "the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel" (1 Cor. 9:14).

In other words, giving to the church is not to be an afterthought, given after everything else is spent. In this way, it is deliberate. We give regularly – weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly – keeping in mind our own strengths, weaknesses, and limitations. We set it aside beforehand – before anything else is spent.

And how are we to give it? We give it with eagerness and earnestness. We give it cheerfully and with love, not out of compulsion. For through the preaching of the gospel and the administration of the sacraments, God has made us His children, forgiven us all our sins, given us grace upon grace, promised us life everlasting with Him in His kingdom, and filled us with His own Spirit, the Holy Spirit. This makes giving a joy, as Jesus said, "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

It's that easy. And it is joyful. For in stewardship, our gracious and giving Lord invites us to take part in the work that He accomplishes here on earth, providing for the ongoing preaching of the gospel as well as those who are in need. Taking part in that makes all our work holy – work that is done in service to the Lord as priestly members of His kingdom.

Stewardship Board

YOUTH NEWS!!!

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH 6-8th grade are invited to join other youth from area churches to go to Skatin' Place in St. Cloud on January 12th. The bus will leave from Bethel at 5:30 pm and return by 10:00 pm. If you are interested, please let Cassie know by Wednesday, **January 3rd**.

SUNDAY SCHOOL starts on Sunday, **January 7th**, 2018. We will be talking about the lives of the apostle Paul and Peter.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH BIBLE STUDY will start Sunday, **January 7th** at 7:00 pm.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH Early Bird registration deadline for Polar Plunge is Sunday **January 7th**, 2018. Cost to attend Polar Plunge is \$31 if you register by January 7th and \$41 if you register after. Payment is due at time of registration.

YOUTH FAMILY DINNER AND PARENTAL GUIDANCE will be Wednesday, **January 10th** at 6:00 pm and Parental guidance will start at 6:30 pm.

CONFIRMATION starts Wednesday, **January 10th** at 7:00 pm.

8TH-12TH GRADE YOUTH & PARENTS On Sunday, **January 14th** after the 10:30 am worship, there will be an informational meeting about the Summer Mission Trip for 2018. If you are interested in attending, please plan on staying for a short 30-minute meeting.

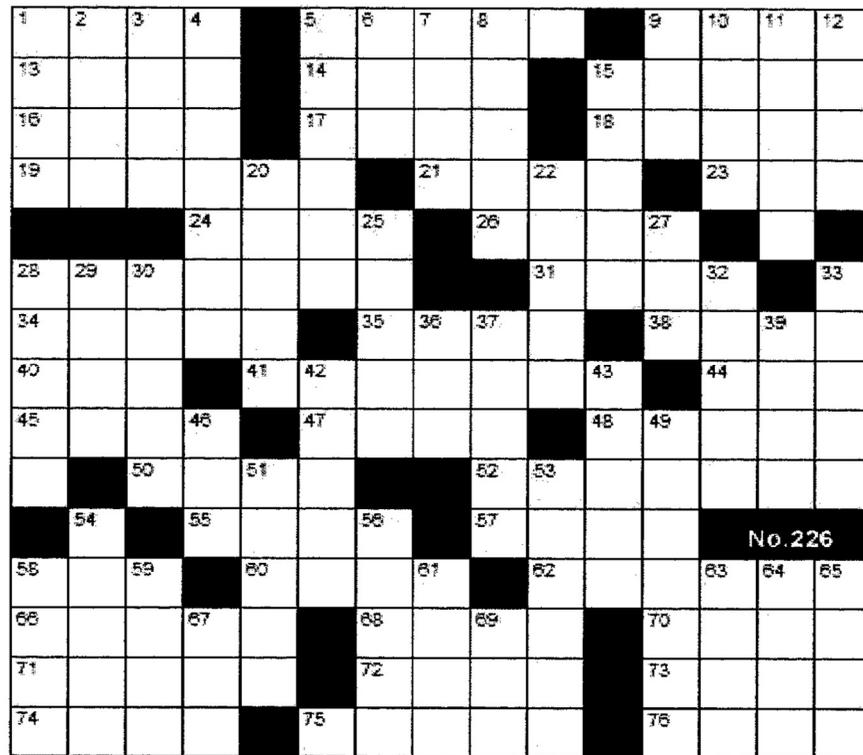
VBS 2018 PLANNING MEETING will be on Monday, **January 15th** at 6:30 pm in the youth room. If you would like to help in the pre-planning or help with VBS this year, please join us for this planning meeting.



IT'S COMING--a weekend filled with worship, fellowship and fun. Join us for the Quake Jr High Retreat on March 16-18, 2018. The cost is \$59 and the deadline is **February 4th**. Please sign-up outside the Youth Room.

REDEEMER FAMILIES "Save-the-Date" for VBS 2018 on **July 22-26**, for SHIPWRECK Vacation Bible School. Be reminded that we are Rescued by Jesus!





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ACROSS

- 1 give attention to your servant's prayer and his ____ (1 King 8:28)
- 5 a light shining in a dark place, until the day ____ (2 Peter 1:19)
- 9 seedtime and harvest, and cold and ____, and summer and winter (Gen 8:22)
- 13 The Angel which redeemed me from all evil, bless the ____ (Gen.48:16) KJV
- 14 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
- 15 but they saw a bay with a ____ beach (Acts 27:39)
- 16 also learn to maintain good works for necessary ____ (Titus 3:14)
- 17 donkeys that work the soil will eat fodder and ____ (Isa 30:24)
- 18 there before me was ____ standing open in heaven (1,4) (Rev 4:1)
- 19 she cast the child under one of the ____ (Gen 21:15) KJV
- 21 All who see me mock me; they ____ insults, shaking their heads (Ps 22:7)
- 23 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will ____ God. (Matt 5:8)
- 24 And these also stagger from wine and ____ from beer (Isa 28:7)
- 26 Abb. for the first book of the New Testament
- 28 we should live ____, righteously, and godly (Titus 2:12) KJV
- 31 on the ten-stringed ____ I will make music to you (Ps 144:9)
- 34 and ____ son of Jether, commander of Judah's army (1 King 2:32)
- 35 a tenth of your spices mint, ____ and cummin (Matt 23:23)
- 38 purple and blue and crimson ____ and fine linen (2 Chr 2:14)
- 40 Were there not ____ cleansed? (Luke 17:17)
- 41 he pierces my ____ and spills my gall on the ground (Job 16:13)
- 44 the other holy offerings ____ they in pots (2 Chr 35:13)
- 45 God will bless us, and all the ____ of the earth will fear him (Ps 67:7)
- 47 I do all this for the ____ of the gospel (1 Cor 9:23)
- 48 I commend unto you ____ our sister, which is a servant (Rom 16:1) (KJV)
- 50 Daniel, close up and ____ the words of the scroll (Dan 12:4)

- 52 She took some flour, ____ it and baked bread (1 Sam 28:24)
- 55 brother of Cain (Gen 4:1-2)
- 57 Go, ____ everything you have and give to the poor (Mark 10:21)
- 58 Babylon is taken, ____ is confounded, Merodach is broken (Jer 50:2)
- 60 Show me the coin ____ for paying the tax (Matt 22:19)
- 62 Make two gold rings and ____ them to the other (Ex 28:26)
- 66 Forts and towers in the wooded ____ (2 Chron 27:4)
- 68 take some water from the Nile and ____ it on the dry ground (Ex 4:9)
- 70 the inhabitant of this ____ shall say in that day (Isaiah 20:6)
- 71 the ____ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
- 72 Above all ____, guard your heart (Prov 4:23)
- 73 Peace, peace, to those far and ____ says the LORD (Isa 57:19)
- 74 he roasts his meat and ____ his fill (Isaiah 44:16)
- 75 Their bulls never fail to ____; their cows calve (Job 21:10)
- 76 They ____ at me and say, "Aha! Aha! (Ps 35:21)

DOWN

- 1 twenty-five shekels ____ fifteen shekels equal one mina (Ezek 45:12)
- 2 The LORD Almighty will ____ them with a whip (Isa 10:26)
- 3 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
- 4 who ____ us of the regular weeks of harvest (Jer 5:24)
- 5 a ____ came to hearken, named Rhoda (Acts 12:13) KJV
- 6 If ye have faith ____ grain of mustard seed (2,1) (Matt 17:20) KJV
- 7 Go, I ____ you well; keep warm and well fed (James 2:16)
- 8 the thirty-fourth book of the Old Testament
- 9 Joshua, who ____ seen all the great works of the LORD (Judg 2:7)
- 10 son of Seth (Gen 4:26) KJV
- 11 not a forgetful hearer, but ____ of the work (1,4) (James 1:25) KJV
- 12 Jesus withdrew to the region of ____ and Sidon (Matt 15:21)
- 15 if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made ____ again (Luke 14:34)
- 20 Jehud, Bene ____, Gath Rimmon, (Josh 19:45)
- 22 the nations will ____ to him, and his place of rest will be (Isa 11:10)
- 25 Peter went to visit the saints in ____ (Acts 9:32)
- 27 Test me, O LORD, and ____ me, examine my heart (Ps 26:2)
- 28 He has filled me with bitter herbs and ____ me with gall (Lam 3:15)
- 29 to seek an ____: He will cast lots with arrows (Ezek 21:21)
- 30 received them and made them leaders of his raiding ____ (1 Chron 12:18)
- 32 I mean not that other men be ____, and ye burdened (2 Cor 8:13) (KJV)
- 33 How the oppressor has come to an end! How his fury has ____ (Isa 14:4)
- 36 I wrote them with ____ in the book (Jer 36:18)
- 37 also the cucumbers, melons, ____, onions and garlic (Num 11:5)
- 39 David was clothed with a ____ of fine linen (1 Chr 15:27)
- 42 Now shall the ____ tremble in the day of thy fall (Ezek 26:18)
- 43 wheat and barley, beans and lentils, millet and ____ (Ezek 4:9)
- 46 Jesus, walking by the ____ of Galilee (Matt 4:18)
- 49 All my familiars watched for my ____ (Jer 20:10) KJV
- 51 whoever rebukes a wicked man incurs ____ (Prov 9:7)
- 53 he ____ Damascus on his journey (Acts 9:3)
- 54 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ____ (Acts 17:10)
- 56 Jesus was in the home of a man known as Simon the ____ (Matt 26:6-7)
- 58 ____ them farewell, saying, I must by all means keep (Acts 18:21) KJV
- 59 I have neither ____ on usury, nor men have lent to me (Jer 15:10)
- 61 they will ____ out the bread by weight (Lev 26:26)
- 63 there was what looked like ____ of glass (1,3) (Rev 4:6)
- 64 ____ your hands, all you nations; shout to God (Ps 47:1)
- 65 He is not ____; he has risen! (Luke 24:6)
- 67 low tech form of Old Testament transportation
- 69 they decided to ____ the money to buy the potter's field (Matt 27:6-7)

(Answers in next month's newsletter or in the church office.)