

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
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WILLMAR, MN 56201
(320) 235-4685
redeemer@redeemerwillmar.org
www.redeemerwillmar.org

03/19

Address Service Requested

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US Postal Paid
Permit No. 370
Willmar, MN 56201

Go Disciple All Nations

Sharing Christ, Changing Lives



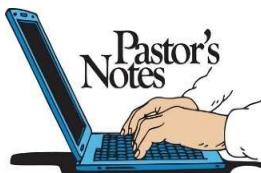
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod



2019

IN TOUCH WITH REDEEMER

A newsletter by and for the family of Redeemer Lutheran Church
Volume XXIX, Issue III



In sports, there is a time when each team is given to prepare for competition. There is a build-up in your head and in your body as you get mentally ready to operate at the best you have to offer. At some time in your pregame routine there was a time where I would put myself through the same mental steps I would go through when the game began. My mental preparation was just as important as my physical stretching and routine, that pre-game time was essential for how I would approach my time on the field.

This is the same mentality I see in our congregation today. We may be asked to take a place in the mission field in our daily lives, but the mental and physical preparation has not been addressed. Often, we spend an hour a week in this church building; but it does not translate to how faith is utilized during the rest of week. There are several things that go through my mind as to the preparation of this congregation, there are factors that can be addressed by the staff and those that are out of our control. The amount of time the average congregation member spends has been drastically cut from one or two generations ago; this is not something that can easily be changed but is simply the reality of church culture. As the "realities" of where we are can be somewhat overwhelming, they can also lead to a "why try" mentality (especially if the team/congregation has a defeated personality).

Over the next few months, there will be several opportunities in this church aimed at addressing a need this congregation has had. We might look at ourselves as being blessed by God, yet not to the point where bringing up religion in a conversation seems too difficult. If we are not careful, we can end up with a mentality that our church's mission statement does not apply to anyone in the church but the pastor. The "Great Commission" was adopted by this congregation as our mission statement for everyone who calls Redeemer their spiritual home and training ground. The opportunities that will take place in the next few months will tell me as a pastor where we are; and what the future here at Redeemer will look like over the next five years. I will have a better understanding of the health of this church and our attitude toward the Gospel.

Thy Strong Word LSB 578 vs 5

Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, Alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!

When we sing a song, do we sing because we like the tune; do we listen to the words that we sing; or do they go unnoticed? The words of this verse of this famous song is a plea from us to God that we would live out our faith more. We sing, but how easy is it for us as introverts to wait and see if the words apply better to someone else? Over the next few months we will look at how we are training so that when we re-enter the mission field, we will be better equipped.

Pastor Matt

Serving God as Stewards

Do we really want to be stewards? No! By nature, we are independent, self-centered people. Our first impulse is that we want to be the owners. We want to have possession of things. We want to be important, to be respected, and even to be envied. We are not born stewards. However, by His grace, God transforms us into stewards who seek to follow His ways rather than our own. With changed hearts, we embrace His love and plan for our lives. Through the working of the Holy Spirit, we surrender our desires and plans to serve Him. God empowers us to put aside our need to be owners who are in control as we become His faithful stewards who seek to do His will. The love of Christ controls us. Transformed, we worship the Lord and live lives of faith, love, and obedience rather than living for ourselves.

As the Holy Spirit works in us through Word and Sacrament, transforming us into the image of Christ, we, in turn, will express more of His character. When we believe that God is present in our lives and trust in His power, we will, through faith, apply God's teachings to our lives.

As God's people, we can live unselfishly because of God's giving. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son..."* (John 3:16). The love of God empowers us to respond faithfully to His love and grace. We learn to love because God first loved us (1 John 4:19). We learn to give because God first gave to us. Being a faithful steward is love in action. As Dr. Stephen F. Olford, a 20th Century Christian leader, said, "Christ alone owns our eyes to view His world. He alone owns our hands to serve His will. He alone owns our feet to walk His way. He alone owns our minds to think His thoughts. He alone owns our hearts to love Him fervently. He alone owns our personalities to radiate His charm and glory. Failure to recognize this is a refusal to recognize His sovereignty."

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES & EVENTS

Ash Wednesday – March 6th
10:30 am Jennie Williamson Concert
11:30 am Lunch
12:15 pm Worship
5:15 pm Supper
6:00 pm Worship
6:30 pm Jennie Williamson Concert

Wednesday Lenten Worship Services w/meal following – 12:15 & 6:00 pm

Maundy Thursday – April 18th – 7 pm w/Lord's Supper

Good Friday – April 19th – 12:15 & 7 pm

Easter – April 21st – 8 & 10:30 w/Lord's Supper – 9 am Easter Breakfast

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.

MARCH

Beth Corti – 320-231-1907

Alice Beckmann
Marcia Conklin
Lee & Beth Corti
Kim & Karen Heiden
Robert Hillenbrand
Robin Jacobson
Richard & Donna Johnson
Brandon & Chelsie Kopacek
Jeremy & Andria Krakow
Philip & Michelle Marcus
Dan & Phyllis Monson
Mick & Heather Moyer
Marlin & Cheryl Niss
Tom & Tracy Ost
Todd & Audrey Raap
Robert & Debra Rodelius
Justin & Tanya Rosenau
Brad & Suzanne Skindelien
Gordon & Deloris Steffen
Wilfred Wenberg
Ted Wurm

APRIL

Betty Schleh 320-354-2136
Deb Setrum – 320-222-3869

Deb Arnold
Matt Biel
Lisa Bjerke
Verdell & Val Bjerketvedt
Jim & Gayle Braun
Jason Connally
Dean & Cindy Cordes
Luther & Peggy Dykema
Brian & Jackie Frank
Joe & Darla Hammerschmidt
Todd & Allison Hillenbrand
Loren & Dianne Kruse
Brenda Munsterman
Craig Nissen
Gardenia Preusse
Dave & Carol Runke
Jerry & Betty Schleh
Ryan Schumacher
Kim & Deb Setrum
Joe & Michele Steffen
Joey Werder

NOTE: Please remember to contact your co-chair and ask them how you can be of assistance or just to let them know you are available!

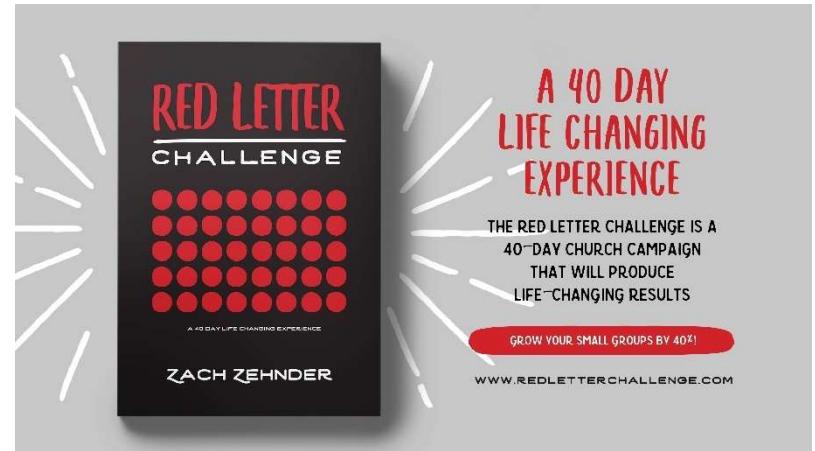
Dear Redeemer Congregation,

I would like to personally invite you to a class I will be teaching at Redeemer on Sunday mornings starting March 10th. Bridges is a 6-week DVD based course put out by the Crescent Project that seeks to encourage Christians to reach out to their Muslim neighbors with the love of Jesus. It goes over the basic beliefs and history of Islam, and ways for Christians to build bridges and connect with their Muslim neighbors. The study also shares testimonies of former Muslims who now place their trust in Christ.

I will be using a study book that will engage and guide each participant throughout the learning process. Please see your staff if you have an interest in the class so that they can be sure to have a sufficient number of books. I look forward to this opportunity to join you and serve your congregation in learning more of the mission field God has prepared.

In Christ,

Nathan Scheele



RED LETTER CHALLENGE! During the 40 days of Lent we will embark on a journey, the sermons will hinge on a book by a Lutheran pastor from Florida. This series will study the words of Jesus from the Gospels, looking at how to put them into practice. On Wednesday nights, starting March 13th, there will be a small group who will study the messages from Sunday and the readings from the book. If you would like to take the challenge and join others at this congregation to find out where God could take you during Lent; there are sign-up sheets throughout the church. There is a suggested donation of \$5 for the book, but please do not let this hinder you from reading the book.

Sunday	Attend	Adults	Sr. High	S. S.	Comm	Private	Online
Feb 3	212	26	6	32	178		
Feb 10	227	27	3	52			
Feb 17	210	16	4	39	165		
Feb 24	110	13	8	27			135
TOTALS	759	82	21	150	343	29	135
Out by transfer: Ronald Grefe							

SCRIP GIFT CARD ORDER FORMS can be found in the wooden rack in the narthex or the church office. The next order will be due by Friday, March 8th.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS For **MARCH** we will be collecting previously viewed DVD's (comedy and action), paperback novels, board games, electronic games, hand-held games, car games, crossword and word find books, and journals. Please place donated items in box located in the narthex.



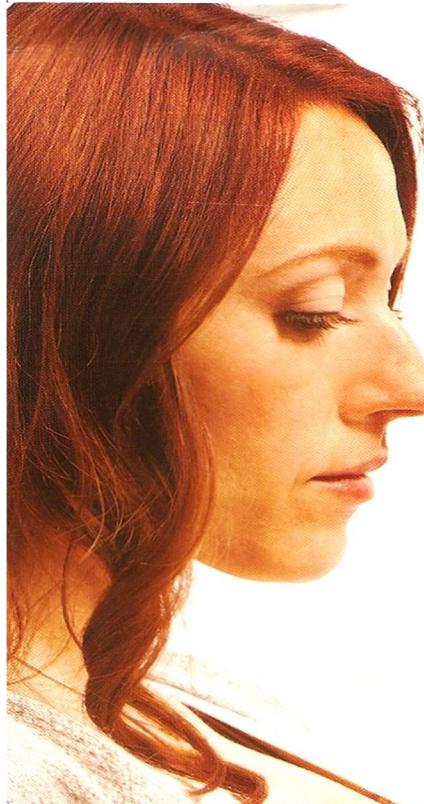
A SEWING PROJECT FOR HOME! The quilters have bundles of squares that can be sewn together, just grab one or more from the wire rack in the kitchen. Directions are included. The quilters meet every Monday at 12:30 pm – we'd love to have you join us!



OLD SHOES AND BOOTS!!! Bring your old shoes and boots (snow boots, work boots, rain boots, etc.) to church and place them in the box by the Fellowship Hall (no flip flops please). Please tie or bind them together. They are used to help support our Lutheran Island Camp.

YOUR ELDER FOR 2019

Elder	Phone #	Household Names
Dave Runke	235-9068	Akerson – Bokelman
Brandon Kopacek	905-0734	Bolland – Davis
Stan Skaro	599-4506/894-9450	DerkSEN – Grewe
Jeff Pitt	894-3132	Grothe – Jacobson
Paul Meyer	651-295-6670	Jaspersen – Kruse
Doug Jorschumb	235-5451	Kubasch – Meyer
Neil Buboltz	796-2352	Mikkelsen – Phillips
Wayne Dahlke	262-9847	Pitt – Schoumaker
Jeff Kimpeling	235-5373	Schroeder – Streich
Matt Akerson	894-4997	Stueckrath – Zetah



Unplanned is the inspiring true story of one woman's journey of transformation.

All Abby Johnson ever wanted to do was help women. As one of the youngest Planned Parenthood clinic directors in the nation, she was involved in upwards of 22,000 abortions and counseled countless women about their reproductive choices. Her passion surrounding a woman's right to choose even led her to become a spokesperson for Planned Parenthood, fighting to enact legislation for the cause she so deeply believed in.

Until the day she saw something that changed everything, leading Abby Johnson to join her former enemies at 40 Days For Life, and become one of the most ardent pro-life speakers in America.

Unplanned is the most important movie you'll ever see on the most controversial issue of our time. No matter which side of the fence you're on, no one will leave this film unmoved.

IN THEATERS EVERYWHERE MARCH 29
UNPLANNED
Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | @UNPLANNEDMOVIE | #UNPLANNED | UNPLANNED.COM
TEXT "baby" to "53445" for a 30 minute sneak peek video
TAKE A GROUP OR HOST A RED CARPET EVENT BEFORE THE FILM OPENS
UNPLANNED.COM/REDCARPET

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

BEGINS ON MARCH 10TH!

Remember to change
the batteries in your
smoke detector also!



++ MARCH 2019 ++

	ELDERS	GREETERS	ACOLYTES	SOUND	LIBRARY
<u>Mar 3</u> 8:00 AM Communion 10:30 AM	Jeff Pitt Doug Jorschumb Paul Meyer Brandon Kopacek	Gayne Stone Marvelle Stone Marlin Niss Cheryl Niss	Monica Rhoda William Jorschumb	Sergio Fernandez Art Bolland	Michelle Marcus
<u>Mar 6</u> 6:00 PM	(12:15 - Jeff K.) Matt Akerson		Matthew Lingbeek	Sarah Jeppesen	
<u>Mar 10</u> 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Stan Skaro Matt Akerson	Jeff Pitt Cheryl Pitt Loren Schultz Judy Schultz	Adam Sandau Henry Johnson	Wayne Dahlke Darrell Hoekstra	Sarah Fosso
<u>Mar 13</u> 6:00 PM	(12:15 - Jeff Pitt) Paul Meyer		Natalie Gleason	Darrell Hoekstra	
<u>Mar 17</u> 8:00 AM Communion 10:30 AM	Dave Runke Jeff Pitt Neil Buboltz Wayne Dahlke	Lyle Ehrenberg Vera Ehrenberg Trudy Hemingway LaVonne Van Zee	Christina Spieker Kayleigh Barber	Mark Boeschen Sarah Jeppesen	Lorraine King
<u>Mar 20</u> 6:00 PM	(12:15 - Doug J.) Brandon Kopacek		Elsa Gustafson	Mark Boeschen	
<u>Mar 24</u> 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Jeff Kimpling Neil Buboltz	Rolf Standfuss Joyce Standfuss Keven Hillenbrand Diane Hillenrand	Jay Marcus Adrianna Rodriguez	David Reyes Kolby Lindquist	Bonnie Rhoda
<u>Mar 27</u> 6:00 PM	(12:15 - Jeff K.) Stan Skaro		Malinda Petersen	David Reyes	
<u>Mar 31</u> 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Stan Skaro Brandon Kopacek	Jeff Kimpling Darla Kimpling Troy Anderson Lisa Anderson	Brady Bush-Gregory Mackenzie Schoumaker	Brad Marcus Art Bolland	Marcia Gilman
USHERS	8:00 AM *Bob & Lila Rekedal, Luther Dykema, Lori Schroeder 10:30 AM *Curt Swart, Glen Lotthammer, Rod Lindquist, Kolby Lindquist				

INTERESTED IN USHERING? It's one of the easiest ways you can serve at Redeemer! We have spots open for the 8:00 service in April, May, and September. For the 10:30 service, we have February, May, June, September, and December available. Contact the church office or one of the Elders, Stan Skaro or Wayne Dahlke.

REDEEMER FAMILIES! Join us this Lent for This is Love Devotions. Stop by our Facebook page each Sunday afternoon and hear tips for sharing the weekly devotion with your family. Hear about how God's love is for us.

THRIVENT UPDATE Since 2010, over \$414 million has been distributed to thousands of churches, schools, and other nonprofits just like ours through Thrivent Choice®. Through this program, eligible members can make an impact by recommending where Thrivent donates its charitable outreach dollars each year. Redeemer Lutheran Church received \$3,508 in charitable outreach funding in 2018 and the Preschool received \$651. All 2018 Choice Dollars® have now been made available for members to direct and these dollars will expire on March 31, 2019. If you haven't done so already, go online to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

IRAs, 401(k)s, 403(b)s, RMDs... lots of letters and lots of acronyms! But, did you know that these acronyms can become one of the very best gifts to Redeemer Lutheran Church? The IRA rollover provision allows those age 70 ½ to make gifts directly from their IRAs to their chosen charities. Making an IRA rollover, as opposed to a normal charitable gift, satisfies your required minimum distribution (RMD) and you're able to transfer up to \$100,000 annually without first having to recognize the distribution as income. Interested in making a gift? Contact your IRA account administrator and/or tax professional to discuss the options available.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Enrolling now for Fall

Ages 3 to 5 years old

2 to 5 days per week

Half or Full Day

Accredited, Christian Curriculum

4 Star Parent Aware

Eligible for Scholarships



Registration forms are on the welcome counter or on the website at:

www.redeemerlutheranpreschool.org

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

March 4th – 7th

MARCH 6TH

Join us for "Muffins with Mom" on Wednesday from 7-8:30 am. Stop by Redeemer on your way to school or work and enjoy a muffin, coffee or juice with Mom before you start your day!

MARCH 7TH

Join us for "Donuts with Dad" on Thursday from 7-8:30 am. Stop by Redeemer on your way to school or work and enjoy donuts, coffee, or juice with Dad before you start your day!

Robbins Island

Tuesdays this Summer
June 11 – August 13

Bring the whole family!
Sand Volleyball, Frisbee Golf,
Destination Playground,
Devotions



For the months of

June, July, & August

9:00 am Worship

10:00 am Family Education Hour

 **ATLAS**
OF WEST CENTRAL MINNESOTA

DESSERT FUNDRAISER

Hear how ATLAS walks with people on the road of life

Friday, March 15 6:30pm

Willmar Assembly of God Church
3821 Abbott Drive Willmar, MN

For more info:
atlaswcmn.org
320-441-2250
facebook.com/atlaswcmn

7pm Program with Testimonies, Music, and Worship

Together Touching Lives For Christ

Sponsor and reserve a table for 8 people for \$80.



The event is free to attend, but you must RSVP to info@atlaswcmn.org, 320.441.2250, on our Facebook event, or online at www.atlaswcmn.org/rsvp.



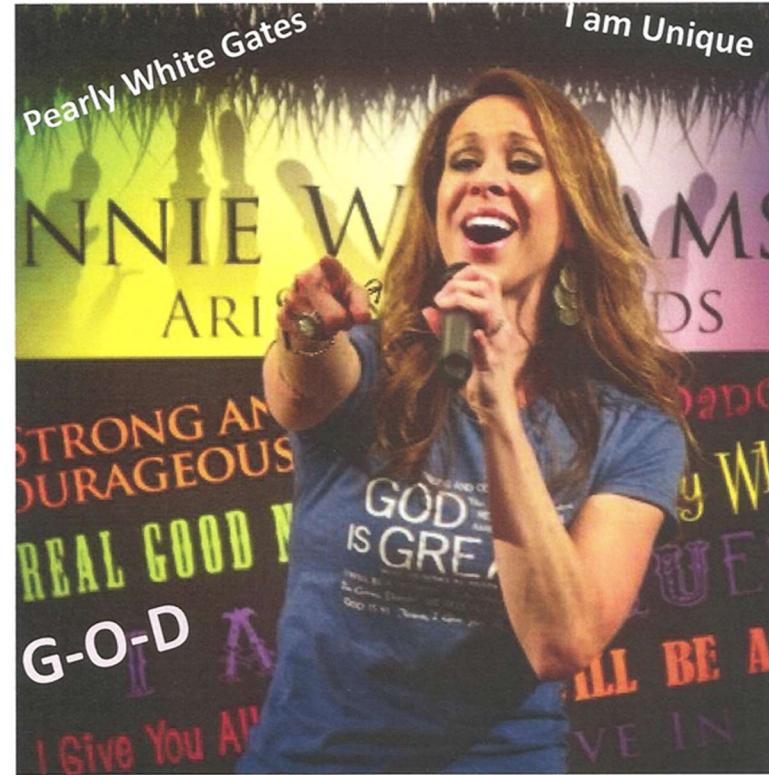
Lenten devotions can be found on the welcome counter in the narthex. Pick one up for yourself or share one with a friend or neighbor!

TWO!! GOD IS GREAT CONCERTS WITH JENNIE WILLIAMSON

Fireflies

Jesus
Loves
Me

Baa,
Baa



This
Little
Light of
Mine

Boom,
Boom,
Stamp,
Stamp

Noah

Redeemer Lutheran Church & Preschool

1401 6th St Sw, Willmar MN

Wednesday, March 6, 2019

10:30am Concert: Lunch follows 11:30-12:15

Evening: Supper 5:15 Ash Wed Service 6:00

Concert following Service at 6:30

Free Event

Check out music at: Arisonrecords.com

Ash Wed Service at 12:15 pm also.

BRING AN ITEM TO THE CONCERT FOR THE FOOD SHELF!