

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL**  
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04/19

**Address Service Requested**

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# Go Disciple All Nations

## *Sharing Christ, Changing Lives*



Lutheran Church Missouri Synod



# 2019

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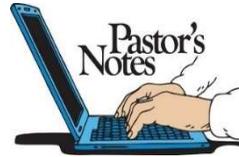
## IN TOUCH WITH REDEEMER

A newsletter by and for the family of Redeemer Lutheran Church

Volume XXIX, Issue IV

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Dale Meyer, current Concordia Seminary (St. Louis) President and former Lutheran Hour Speaker, recently went to Ethiopia and he wrote to the church in America about what he saw and thought:



### The Meyer Minute for March 13, 2019

When Pastor Jeff Skopak of Jacksonville, Florida, President Larry Rast of Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne, and I are not visiting pastors, seminary leaders and ministry sites here in Ethiopia, we are sitting with one another contrasting the church in Ethiopia, specifically the Lutheran Church, to our church in America. We are completely agreed: The church in Ethiopia is on the ascent, growing so much that it's having trouble keeping up. The church in America is in descent, numbers declining, but generally does not realize that 20th century institutional ways of being the church aren't suited for our times. I hasten to add we're not talking about doctrine here; we're talking about the earthly ways we arrange and carry out our Lord's work.

An illustration comes to mind. Diane and I began married life and ministry in the 1970s in a place we love to this day, Venedy, Illinois. A town of 125 people, a church, grain elevator, tavern, and volunteer fire department. The garage and grocery store had closed. One evening the fire siren blared throughout town; a back building at John Moehlmann's house was on fire. The volunteer firemen went to the station while the rest of us went to watch the fire. Time passed; "Where's the fire truck?" "They can't get it started!" So some of the people watching hooked up Mr. Moehlmann's garden house to his house and doused the fire in the little back building.

That's it. Dr. Rast and I in our positions are asked to spend much time in meetings of the institutional church. Most of them accomplish little; the old fire truck won't start. It may well be the same way in your congregation. Faithful believers and well-meaning volunteers see the growing opportunities but end up frustrated by meetings that seem to accomplish little. The fire at Mr. Moehlmann's was put out; people just did what they had to do. The boys eventually got the old truck started, and I'm sure in time they figured out whatever the problem was. Right now the Mekane Yesus Church is a movement of faith, and institutional adjustments and creations need to be made.

(continued)

## Being Grateful

Ingratitude and discontent result from focusing on ourselves and our wants, rather than on what God has given us. We're like the nine lepers who got what they wanted and then went rejoicing in their good fortune but neglected to thank God for His gift of healing (Luke 17:11-19). Paul writes, *"For although wicked and evil people knew about God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened"* (Romans 1:21).

There is a cartoon that shows a man, who is focused on himself, praying, but the words are those of complaint. "Lord," he begins, "I've lost my job, my car, my house, and now my wife is talking about leaving me. What does it take to get Your attention anyway?" The next frame of the cartoon pictures God responding, "I've been wondering the same thing Myself!" Even though Lent is a somber, penitential time during the church year and even though we all face challenges in our lives, the Christian cannot help but have joy in his heart – joy that must be accompanied with humble gratitude for the freedom from sin and the sure hope of salvation that is our, for *"Everyone who believes in the Son has eternal life..."* (John 3:36). Look to Jesus and live!

### **WEDNESDAY LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES**

April 3 & 10

12:15 & 6:00 pm w/meal following

### **HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES**

Maundy Thursday – April 18th

7 pm w/Lord's Supper

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Good Friday – April 19th

12:15 & 7 pm

~ ~ ~

Easter – April 21st

8 & 10:30 am w/Lord's Supper

9 am Easter Breakfast

**SIMPLY GIVING** Just as you rely upon receiving income on a regular basis, Redeemer relies on your regular contributions. We appreciate the efforts of congregation members to make consistent donations throughout the year, especially during popular winter and summer travel periods. To assist you, Redeemer provides a convenient electronic giving option for setting up regular contributions. You can choose weekly, semi-monthly or monthly donations. Please complete a yellow "Simply Giving" form found in the narthex or stop in the church office.

## **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.

### **APRIL**

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

Deb Arnold  
Matt Biel  
Lisa Bjerke  
Verdell & Val Bjerketvedt  
Jim & Gayle Braun  
Jason Connelly  
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

### **MAY**

Marlene Buboltz – 320-796-2352  
Anita Maras – 320-235-5184

Murriel Ashburn  
John & Michelle Behl  
Lenora Bode  
Neil & Marlene Buboltz  
Matt & Liz Cordes  
John Corti  
Rev Robert & Irene Friedrich  
Mike & Joy Gratz  
Richard & Dianne Hanson  
Darrell & Gail Hoekstra  
Ron & Bonnie Jaspersen  
Jason & Marlene Kubasch  
Rod & Naomi Lindquist  
Dave & Anita Maras  
Mike & Lori Martinek  
Terry & Cheryl Pankow  
Dain & Angela Peterson  
Lynn & Ranae Rahn  
Matt & Alicia Runke  
Rod & Denise Schroeder  
Brandon & Jessica Smith  
Gayne & Marvelle Stone  
Roger & Darlene Swenson

**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!**

Lutheranism in America today is less a movement of faith and more another institution struggling with new times. God bless our leaders, but the Spirit will move through people locally. I don't want to institutionalize what Jesus has done for me; I want to share it.

### **The Meyer Minute for March 11, 2019**

Late Saturday afternoon, still in Ethiopia, specifically in Bishtofu, Pastor Jira took us to the congregation he planted. Today it's a large congregation, with a day school and a busy office of Compassion International. The congregation has begun work on a new sanctuary, which promises to be wonderful. That leads to my first point today: This congregation has planted 70 other congregations. 70! How many congregations has your congregation or mine begun? (Direction: Allow time for reflection).

Three of us, Pastor Jeff Skopak of Jacksonville, Florida, President Larry Rast of Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne, and I had spent the day presenting to 70 Lutheran pastors of the Bishtofu area. One theme through the day was that their church, the Ethiopian Evangelical Church of Mekane Yesus, is a growing church. It will soon have 10 million members! In contrast, our denomination, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, has been in slow but steady decline since 1970. It had grown steadily from its beginning in 1847 but has gone from almost 3 million members in 1970 to 1.9 million today. We were invited because our two seminaries are recognized for profound theological knowledge, while Mekane Yesus has something to teach us American Lutherans about growing. The lessons both ways are many, and I don't have space here to get into them. Keep reading, and also know that students from both our seminaries are learning the lessons.

When the day of presentations were over, Pastor Jira invited one of the pastors to give a closing devotion and blessing. He did, in Amharic, one of the two native languages of Ethiopia. While our heads were bowed, we could not understand the words but we did hear music outside. The local mosque was broadcasting its call to prayer. Muslims are about a third of Ethiopia and are increasingly aggressive in their outreach. What a profound moment for me, head bowed to our Lord and Savior but with minaret music calling Muslims to prayer.

(Direction: Put yourself in the moment).

I've had a most blessed life, but I'm weary of hearing reasons why we can't get out into our communities to make friends and share Jesus. That one congregation started 70 congregations, even while minarets were blaring. Do you think the Lord Jesus accepts our excuses?

Pastor Matt

Sunday	Attend	Comm	Adults	Sr. High	S. S.	Online	Wed	Attend	Private
Mar 3	178	145	30	4	30		Mar 6	219	
Mar 10	58		17	1	6	159	Mar 13	155	
Mar 17	267	213	52	10	35	94	Mar 20	163	
Mar 24	205		39		38	101	Mar 27	130	
Mar 31									
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>708</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>354</b>		<b>667</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Out by transfer:</b>									

**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, April 5th.

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS** For **APRIL** we will be collecting *Snacks*. 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.



**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**

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

**THE CONFERENCE** in Phoenix was not only uplifting and joyful, but a learning experience in Christian growth. The seminars gave us new ideas for attracting new members, stewardship, reactivating congregations and attracting/retaining youth. The music, seminars and speakers were outstanding. We left with lots of new ideas and a joyful heart. Looking ahead, each year, Redeemer should send a staff person and 2-4 of our lay leaders. Ken & Alix Behm

**ATTENDING THE BEST PRACTICES MINISTRY CONFERENCE** might be something you would like to consider. The conference is held in Phoenix in February at a great Lutheran host site; if you would like to be considered for 2020 please talk to Pastor Matt, the cost is extremely low and the rewards are high. If anyone would like to sample some of the presentations from past conferences please go to <http://www.cclphoenix.org/bpm-resources> and click on any of the sessions. These are a few of the recommended sessions from previous years.

2017 Recommended Recorded Sessions:

- Creating a Connection Culture – Jason Pankau
- Creating a Truly Missional Church – Jason Pankau
- Transforming People and Place – Stan Rowland
- Investigating Millennials and Founders in the Church – Julianna Schults
- Joining Jesus as a Congregation – Greg Finke
- Pier Ministry; Where Church & Community Connect – Ed Doerner
- Starting New Ministries – Bill Woolsey

2018 Recommended Recorded Sessions:

- Who Broke My Church Pt 2 – Hunter and Swank
- Coaching Young People from Service to Leadership – Julianna Shults
- Make the Church Fit the Community It Serves - Mary Schuldheisz
- Six Steps to Starting New – Peter Meier
- Wounded Posers to Strong Warriors Life Changing Ministry to Men - Peter Mueller

**EVENTS COMING UP:**  
**April 28th – Voter's Meeting – 9:15 am**  
**May 5th – Confirmation**

**THANK YOU** for the opportunity to attend the Best Practices for Ministry Conference in Phoenix, Arizona.

It was a very uplifting event. I attended eight breakout sessions and three large group sessions. Looking over the notes I took during the sessions, the six statements that stuck with me the most were:

1. We have the tendency to substitute the good news of God with doctrine.
2. Lutherans are good at asking – What does this mean? We should be asking – what if He means what He says?
3. We can only grow in faith so far with knowledge; we need to live out faith to keep growing in faith.
4. We can't just learn it, we need to do it.
5. We need to care about people before religion.
6. We need to build trust not defend truth.

As one presenter stated – As believers in Christ, we are already in heaven; we need to believe it, get over ourselves and live out our faith the way Jesus modeled it for us through relationships.

Thank you, Tim Smith

**BACK IN FEBRUARY**, when it was cold and dreary, seven members of Redeemer Lutheran jumped on a jet plane and headed to sunny and warm Phoenix, AZ. Turns out it was cold and dreary there too. However, the purpose of the trip was to attend the Best Practices for Ministry conference hosted by Christ Church Lutheran (Phoenix) and our conference hosts were everything we hoped for in Phoenix, sunny and warm with a lot of food! We spent three days meeting church professionals and lay people, attending educational presentations and worshipping with members of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod who traveled from near and far.

There were about 200 presentations to choose from. There were a lot of amazing topics, but with only 3 days to cover them, we had to each choose the ones that would be the most meaningful to bring back to our congregation. Some of the topics included were growing the church, gender roles in the LCMS, social media tools and Sunday School. There are far too many notes to list here, so I encourage you to talk with any of us that attended (see below) to hear about our experiences and takeaways. You can also go to:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/y7vfsyb1ky1rcb8/AADRKp7ETzQQWI3PIED4mGTya?dl=0>

and listen to some of the presentations. If you are interested in attending the next conference, it is scheduled for February 20-22, 2020. Christ Church Lutheran will again host in Phoenix.

In Christ, Michelle Marotzke, Board of Education

Attendees: Pastor Matt, DCE Cassie, President Tim Smith, Ken & Alix Behm and Kelly Fernandez

†† APRIL 2019 ††					
	ELDERS	GREETERS	ACOLYTES	SOUND	LIBRARY
<b>Apr 3</b> 6:00 PM	(12:15 Jeff P.) Matt Akerson		Eric Sellmann	Sergio Fernandez	
<b>Apr 7</b> 8:00 AM Communion 10:30 AM	Jeff Pitt Doug Jorschumb Matt Akerson Paul Meyer	Ted Wurm Mike Botzek Alice Beckmann Carol Dahlke	Koda Helfinstine Chloe Jensen	David Reyes Sarah Jeppesen	Anita Petersen
<b>Apr 10</b> 6:00 PM	(12:15 Doug J.) Neil Buboltz		Matthew Mohr	Brad Marcus	
<b>Apr 14</b> 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Jeff Kimpling Wayne Dahlke	Deb Arnold Myron Behm Todd Swartz Bonnie Rhoda	Monica Rhoda Maddox Bolstad	Brad Marcus Kolby Lindquist	LaVonne Van Zee
<b>Apr 18</b> Communion 7:00 PM	Stan Skaro Doug Jorschumb		Adrianna Behl	Darrell Hoekstra	
<b>Apr 19</b> 12:15 PM 7:00 PM	(12:15 Jeff K.) Wayne Dahlke		William Jorschumb	Sergio Fernandez	
<b>Apr 21</b> 8:00 AM Communion 10:30 AM	Dave, Jeff P., Doug, Jeff K., Stan Brandon, Neil, Paul, Matt, Wayne	Brad Skindeliem Suzanne Skindeliem Jack Kuppich Doug & Renee Jorschumb	Adam Sandau Matthew Lingbeek	Mark Boeschen	Michelle Marcus
<b>Apr 28</b> 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Stan Skaro Paul Meyer	Luther Dykema Peggy Dykema Gary Hillenbrand Mary Hillenbrand	Natalie Gleason Kayleigh Barber	Wayne Dahlke Darrell Hoekstra	Sarah Fosso
<b>USHERS</b>	8:00 AM *Rob Linhoff, Michelle Corti, Ted Wurm 10:30 AM *Troy & Lisa Anderson, Ron Kassel, Wyatt Kassel				

**JOIN US ON APRIL 3RD** as the Wednesday morning Women's Bible Study will be starting a new book called "*Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth*". Books are \$8 and can be paid for in the church office.

**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 is Love and His Love for us.



**For the months of**

**June, July, & August**

**9:00 am Worship**

**10:00 am Family Education Hour**

# Robbins Island

**Tuesdays this Summer  
June 11 – August 13**

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

**SUNDAY SERMON'S CAN BE  
VIEWED ON  
REDEEMER'S FACEBOOK PAGE.  
CHECK IT OUT!**

## LUTHERAN ISLAND CAMP AND CHRIST SERVE RANCH

### Women's Retreat 2019

**April 5-7, 2019**

Featuring Guest Speaker

Jane Wilke

“Laced with Grace”



**2019 CAMP  
THEME:  
“FORGIVEN”**

**More information can be found  
in the registration forms that are  
in the narthex or go online at  
[www.islandcamp.org](http://www.islandcamp.org).**

### APRIL 7TH

5th-8th Graders, **SAVE THE DATE** for the Moving Movie with Willmar area churches. We will be watching the movie “Wreck-It Ralph: Ralph Breaks the Internet”. Enjoy a meal and activities at three different churches. Drop off will be at 4 pm at Redeemer and pick up will be at Calvary Lutheran Church at 8 pm.



### APRIL 7TH

5th-8th Grade Parents! We need your help to prepare and serve appetizers here at Redeemer during the Moving Movie Event. If you are willing to help with this event, please contact Cassie at [cdrenkow@redeemerwillmar.org](mailto:cdrenkow@redeemerwillmar.org) or 320-235-4685.

### APRIL 14TH

Preschool—4th Grade Parents! The Sunday School kids will sing for Palm Sunday worship services at the end of the 8:00 worship and the beginning of the 10:30 worship. Please make sure to arrive by 8:45 am and meet in the Trinity Room.

### APRIL 20TH

**NOTICE THE TIME CHANGE!** We will be doing Easter Breakfast Prep from 5-8 pm!

**YOUTH AND PARENTS!** Easter Breakfast Sign-up Sheets are posted online. Please sign-up at <http://signup.com/go/bizEhgk>. We need youth and parents to help make this a great event!

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL** is hosting a neighborhood EGG HUNT on Sunday, April 14th for our members and neighbors across the street. HOW CAN YOU HELP???? We need:

- \*Plastic Eggs (bring to church office)
- \*Candy (bring to church office)
- \*Volunteers to stuff eggs after Lenten services on April 3rd & 10th.
- \*Volunteers to hide eggs the morning of.
- \*Volunteers to greet and hand out bags during the event.
- \*Volunteers to clean up and collect empty eggs after the event.



If you are available to help, please sign up on the church office window with contact information and someone from the planning committee will contact you with further details.

# Spring Crafters Retreat

Quilters, Scrap  
bookers, and other  
crafters welcome.



April 9–14, 2019

Cost including lodging, brunch and supper  
each day.



3:00 pm Tuesday check-in \$255  
3:00 pm Wednesday check-in \$210  
3:00 pm Thursday check-in \$165  
3:00 pm Friday check-in \$125



**LUTHERAN ISLAND CAMP SUNDAY:** On April 7, Wayne Hilchen will be visiting our congregation to share information, answer questions, and register our children for summer camp. Simply give Wayne your registration. There is no need for a deposit at this time. Our congregation pays half of your registration fee for up to 7 nights of camp per year for children/youth. We also have camperships for adults, family camp, or if you would like to bring a friend with. The camp also provides some camperships so every child can go to camp at least once this summer. If you have any questions about the camperships, contact Deb Bremseth.

Our goal is to have many of our children ready to sign up for camp on April 7. When we do that, we will be able to help each other with rides, encourage children to go to the same camps, and help the camp plan for the summer. So, pick up your brochure, decide which camps you are interested in and get ready to sign up.

The theme at Lutheran Island Camp in 2019 is "Forgiven" and is based on Jesus' words in Luke: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Luke 23:34a. During 2019 we believe that God will touch the lives of many young people. He will strengthen their faith. He will give them guidance in their young lives. God will engage them in reflective learning about His creation, each of our sins, and the wonderful gift of forgiveness that He provides for us.

## **PRAYER UPDATE FROM THE KAISERS**

Thanks for being willing to pray! Here are our current prayer requests:

- 1) Praise God for two successful weeks working with the Konso team March 11-22. We checked over their revisions to the translation of the New Testament from 1 Timothy 3 to Revelation 4. They are an experienced team, and we were able to make good progress.
- 2) I will be working with the Zayse team March 25-29 in Arba Minch to check over their translation of 2 Corinthians. It has been very hot in Arba Minch recently (the mid to upper 90s), and there is no fan or air conditioning in the room we will be working (but there are lots of windows). Please pray that the heat will not make us sluggish, that God will keep us healthy, give us wisdom and guidance, and that we will have good communication with each other.
- 3) Pray for safe travel on the busy roads to Addis Ababa on Saturday March 30.
- 4) I will be working with the Suri team April 1-5 in Addis Ababa to check over their translation of John 1-5. Pray that God will guide us wisdom, guidance, and good communication.
- 5) After a few early rains last month, it has been hot and dry throughout our area. Please pray for badly needed rain.

Thanks for praying! God bless,

Jim (& Susan) Kaiser

Translation Consultant in Ethiopia

Lutheran Bible Translators

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival:  Tues.  Wed.  Thurs.  Fri.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ St. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Event: April 9-14

Payment: Total Amount Due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Deposit \$ \_\_\_\_\_ minimum of \$25  
Balance due upon arrival \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed or Credit Card:  Visa  Mastercard

Card#: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_



**EASTER FLOWERS**

*Easter is April 21st, so remember your loved one by ordering an Easter flower to decorate the church. Please complete this form and bring with your donation to the church office no later than April 14th.*

*In memory of:*

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By: \_\_\_\_\_

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- Flower picked up
- or*
- Flower left at church

Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Offering # \_\_\_\_\_



Please fill out and return to church office, or email information to Lori at [Ischroeder@redeemerwillmar.org](mailto:Ischroeder@redeemerwillmar.org)

I would like my monthly newsletter:

(Please check one)

- In my mailbox at church.
- Discontinue by mail, I will read on-line.
- Emailed to: \_\_\_\_\_
- Continue mailing to me.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_