



August 2018

THE JOY OF THE REUNION

Last month, Lisa and I enjoyed some time away attending the Kress Family Reunion in Chicago. It had been 20 years since we last attended. What a joy it was to see all the familiar faces once again – cousins and aunts & uncles, as well as my father and his wife, my brothers & sisters and their spouses, along with their children and their grandchildren, not to mention our own children, their spouses and most certainly our grandchildren. Oh what a joy it was to be in the presence of so many people we love.

As I mentioned above, it was 20 years since we last attended. You can imagine the familiar aging faces (my own included), new faces never met, and sadly, the faces I will never get to see again this side of heaven.

Having not seen most of these family members in such a long time, it didn't take long for our conversations to start up again – as if we had just seen each other the day before. I believe family members are so understanding and forgiving in that way.

Reminiscing over the Kress family reunion has prompted me to ponder yet another family and their reunion – the family we are all joined together in Christ Jesus – God's family.

Do you know every time we gather as God's family in the Divine Service it is indeed a reunion of God's family united in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? Do you know every time we gather as God's family in the Divine Service we gather with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven in and only through faith in Jesus Christ? Do you know, this family we are members by grace, participate in a reunion each and every Sunday?

Let's unpack this a bit, shall we? God's Word reveals to us that Jesus Christ and the Father are One (John 1:1-4; 10:30), and that Jesus is also the only-begotten Son of God (Hebrews 1:1-4). This familial term indicates God the Father regards Jesus, God the Son, as a family member. We become God's own child and a member of His supernatural family through the water and with the Word in Holy Baptism. The Scriptures clearly state that we too are members of God's family (Romans 9:8; 1 John 3:1-2). The



Inside this issue

- Pastors Message..... 1-3
- Open Communion
- Explained..... 3-5
- Christian Persecution ... 6-7
- Property Appreciation..... 7
- Cook Books 7
- Stewardship 8
- Bible Study..... 9-10
- Treasurer's Report..... 10
- LCEF..... 11
- Prayer List..... 12
- Schedules..... 13
- Child Care..... 14
- Puzzle..... 15

Apostle Paul clarifies, "There is one body and one Spirit— just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all" (Ephesians 4:4-6). In other words, we are grafted into Him (Romans 11), and we abide in Him, and He in us (John 15).

While Jesus Christ is referred to as the only-begotten Son of God, believers in Christ Jesus are referred to as children united by Him into God's

Continued on Page 2

The Joy of the Reunion (continued)

family who also need to grow and mature in faith (Ephesians 4:11-16), as sons and heirs adopted into His family (Galatians 4:4-7). God's infinite grace and mercy are revealed to His redeemed sinners, whom "He predestined us for adoption to Himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will, to the praise of His glorious grace, with which He has blessed us in the Beloved" (Ephesians 1:5-6).

As children of God, we inherit something too! What do we inherit? Nothing less than eternity (Matthew 25:34; 1 Thessalonians 2:12; Hebrews 12:28)! The Apostle Paul also writes, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 1:3).

These spiritual blessings are infinite, eternal, and reside in Christ, and by God's grace we are given these blessings as His children. As earthly children we eventually inherit what our parents leave behind for us after their death. But in God's case believers are already reaping the rewards of the inheritance by having peace with Him through the sacrifice of His Son on the cross. Other rewards of our inheritance include the gift of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit at the moment the seed of faith in Christ is given (Ephesians 1:13-14). This, of course, enables us to live and serve Him in the present, and the knowledge that our salvation is secure for eternity (Hebrews 7:24-25).

Being a member of God's family is the greatest blessing bestowed upon you and me and all believers in Christ Jesus. Furthermore, it is one that should drive us to our knees in humble adoration, devotion, and worship. We can never do anything to deserve it for it is His gift of love, mercy, and grace to us, yet, we are called to become sons and daughters of the Living God (Romans 9:25-26). May we all respond in faith to His invitation to His Family Reunion each day in His Word as well as each week in His House!

Come to God's Family Reunion! Oh what a joy it is to be in the presence of the One who loves us. To be in His presence in the Divine Service to hear and to

SERVING THE LORD

Pastor	Rev. James Kress
Child Care Director	Wendy Horvath
Office Secretary	Deb Anderson
Organist	Bill Bowers
Keyboardist	Elizabeth D'Amico
Choir Director	Collins Sita
Newsletter Editor	Pat Finkenbine

OFFICERS

President	Wade Duncan
Vice President	Bill Bowers
Treasurer	
Secretary	June Brown

BOARDS

Head Elder	Mike Nagel
Christian Ed.	
Human Care	Lisa Kress
Outreach	
Assimilation	Ann Varone
School Board	Laurie Steinke
Stewardship	
Youth	Alan Duburg
Financial Secretary	Mindy Duncan
Property Mgmt.	Jim Metzker

GROUPS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild	Sally Zierdt
Men's Group	
Altar Guild	
Coffee Hour	

Continued on Page 3

The Joy of the Reunion (continued)

believe in these Words, “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen” (Galatians 1:3-5).

Your Brother in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Jim Kress

OPEN COMMUNION EXPLAINED

by Rev. Roberto Rojas

Open Communion—the practice of communing those confessing something contrary to the Bible—is strange to God and His Word. God’s Word is clear: It teaches us who should and shouldn’t commune. Before we learn this, however, we first need to remember what the Lord’s Supper is. It’s what Jesus says it is: “This is my body” (Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22; Luke 22:19), and “This is my blood” (Matthew 26:28; Mark 14:24; cf., Luke 22:20, “...the new covenant in my blood”). The Apostle Paul does not ‘interpret’ Jesus’ words, he confesses them as He received them: “This is my body,” and “This cup is the new covenant in my blood” (1 Corinthians 11:24-25). Not only has our Lord told us what the Lord’s Supper is—His true Body and Blood—but He has also told us what it is for—The forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:28).

What’s more, the Bible teaches that it can be received either for our benefit or detriment. The benefit is God’s forgiveness; the detriment, God’s judgment (1 Corinthians 11:29). Who receives forgiveness and who receives judgment? Those who receive it in a worthy manner do so for forgiveness, and those who receive it in an unworthy manner, to their judgement. But what does it mean to receive it worthily? Scripture says, “Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself” (1 Corinthians 11:28-29).

What does it mean to examine yourself? Elsewhere, Scripture uses this same language: “Test yourselves to see whether you are in the faith. Examine yourselves” (2 Corinthians 13:5), and “Let each person examine his own

work” (Galatians 6:4). The first text teaches us to examine our faith; the second, our work. St. Paul exhorts Timothy and all pastors to examine their life and doctrine also: “Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persevere in these things, for by so doing you will save both yourself and those who hear you” (1 Timothy 4:16). These commands simply repeat Christ’s summary of the eternal Law: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your



heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets” (Matthew 22:37-39). We are to examine ourselves according to the Law of God: our faith toward God (First Table), and our love toward our neighbor (Second Table).

Examination means repentance. We examine ourselves and then repent. If you lack faith in any of God’s Word, repent and trust God. If you lack love toward your neighbor, repent and love him. Repentance is essential to a worthy reception; impenitence, to an unworthy reception.

(Continued on page 4)

OPEN COMMUNION EXPLAINED (continued)

Most agree repentance is necessary for the Second Table of the Law, that is, the final seven commandments (i.e., Honor your father and mother; You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery, etc.). Let's look at the Eighth Commandment—You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You'd be hard-pressed to find a pastor who communes a gossip, slanderer, and liar. Pastors (I hope) would rebuke that man and bar him from the Lord's Supper so long as he continues to spread lies and cause divisions in the church. It would be a fake repentance to say, "I'm sorry in my heart," while purposely spewing lies that cause heartache and pain—That's false repentance. Whoever does this uses Christ's forgiveness as a license to sin (Read Romans 7). True repentance means you fear the wrath of God against sin, confess it, and beg for forgiveness. As a result, this faith in Christ's forgiveness gives us the strength to mend our ways. That's true repentance. Only when this happens can you receive the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner, for forgiveness.

Most (again, I hope) completely agree with everything I just said, and that this would be considered an unworthy reception of the Lord's Supper. It would be a scandal to commune those who deliberately break God's Commandments and use forgiveness as a means to dwell in sin (Read Romans 6). In my experience, most recognize that it's wrong to commune impenitent and godless liar and slanderer. What many don't recognize, however, is that if those who impenitently sin against their neighbor bars them from receiving the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner, how much more for those who impenitently sin against God. Repentance applies to all of God's Law—The Second and First Table.

Think of a situation like the one I described before, but instead of a man lying about his neighbors, imagine him publicly and persistently lying about God. What if he said that God couldn't do the things He clearly said He could do? What if he said things about God that God never said of Himself? What if he denied what God said and revealed of Himself? And what if that man had no remorse or sad-

ness because of it, but stubbornly persisted in it and tried to get others to believe it? Would he receive the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner? Would someone who calls God a liar receive the Lord's Supper for forgiveness or judgment? Is this a worthy reception of the Lord's Supper? Of course not! For the man to receive the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner again, he would have to repent and bear fruits of repentance which means to stop calling God a liar, stop saying things about God that God never said of Himself, stop denying what God actually said, and to finally believe and confess the truth of what God *has* said! If he does not repent, then he is guilty of sinning against the Body and Blood of Christ (a sin like that of Judas, Pilate, and the Jews who murdered our Lord). The man is communed unto his own judgment.

This is exactly what churches do when they practice Open/Close Communion—They are communing with those who impenitently call God a liar and who add and subtract from God's Word (Read Revelation 22:19). To teach false doctrine is a sin against the Second Commandment (You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God); to believe false doctrine is a sin against the Third Commandment (Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy). Since false doctrine is a sin, and since repentance is necessary to receive the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner, you must repent of believing or teaching your false doctrine in order to receive the Lord's Supper for your forgiveness.

The common refrain is, "As long as we all believe in Jesus, we should commune together." What they don't realize is that they are seeking to commune with those who call Jesus a liar. When you commune with Baptists, you commune with those who say "Baptism doesn't save you," even though God clearly said, "Baptism now saves you" (1 Peter 3:21). When you commune with Presbyterians, you commune with those who say "Christ is not bodily present in the Lord's Supper," even though Jesus clearly said, "Take, eat; this is my Body" (Matthew 26:26). When you commune

(Continued on page 5)

OPEN COMMUNION EXPLAINED (continued)

with members of the ELCA, you commune with those who provide funds for their women to abort their children, even though God says, “You shall not murder” (Exodus 20). And when you commune with Roman Catholics, you commune with those who say “You are saved by faith and works,” even though the Holy Spirit said, “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9). The list goes on and on. (Sadly, some pastors think this is “close enough” for communion fellowship. How far do you take this? Who determines this? etc.)

Some might say, “The Bible doesn’t talk about denominations. So, we should all commune together.” It’s true that the Bible doesn’t talk about denominations, because what we call “denominations,” God calls divisions. And denominations exist because sin exists. Denominations aren’t formed because of disagreement with man, but because of disagreement with God. The Apostle Paul says, “I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment” (1 Corinthians 1:10). Again, the Apostle Paul teaches us why divisions exist in the church: “I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who *cause* divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them” (Romans 16:17). Why do so many denominations/divisions exist? Because of the idolatrous sin of false doctrine (1 Corinthians 5:11). God tells us to repent of it ourselves, and to avoid those that don’t—This means don’t commune with them. He teaches us to avoid them because in fleeing false doctrine we are fleeing from the devil, since *all* false doctrine is demonic (John 8:44; 1 Timothy 4:1). Avoid those who disturb and splinter the unity of the Church (sadly, those who point out and avoid false teachers have been falsely accused of *causing* the division).

We avoid false doctrine in order to keep it from breaking apart the body of Christ and the unity that God alone gives through His Word. To

commune with those who disagree with God is not true *comm-union* (literally, “with union”). Before we receive the Lord’s Supper together, we should eliminate, with the Word of God, divisions caused by false doctrine. We should have one mind and judgment, and let God’s Word judge. Reason and tradition don’t determine who preaches truth; God’s Word alone determines that. If we cannot be united in confession, we cannot be united in communion. If we cannot believe the same thing, we should not receive the same thing. How can we eat the indivisible body of Christ if we ourselves are divided? We cannot commune with the impenitent—One of us has to change: Either they abandon their false doctrine, or *we* abandon God’s Word; either they renounce their lies, or *we* renounce God. Until then, we are strangers.

Open Communion is False Communion (and, perhaps, it should be called that from now on). It pretends there is unity when there is no unity; it says there is peace when there is no peace (Ezekiel 13:10). What a strange concept! It’s a fake, false, flawed communion—not in the sense that Christ is not truly present, but in the sense that unity is not truly present. It’s a mockery of the True Unity and the True Communion that God gives us through the flesh and blood of Christ. False Communion is a work of the devil, but True Communion is a work of the Holy Spirit. Only He can give us faith to believe, teach, and confess the same Word to be true.

Rev. Roberto E. Rojas, Jr. is the sole pastor of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church (also known as “Zion New Life”) in Winter Garden, FL, established in 1891. He attended the Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN (M.Div., 2008-2013; STM., 2013-2014). During his studies at the seminary, he participated in a year-long exchange program in the Westfield House in Cambridge, England, and also in the Seminário Concórdia in São Leopoldo, Ríó Grande do Sul, Brazil. He and his beautiful wife, Erica, are happily married and live in Gotha, FL.

CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION IN OUR MIDST AND ABROAD

May the good Lord bless you and yours with God loving peace.

Attacks on Christians increasingly continue. It might be comforting to think they aren't happening here but that would be a false feeling based on the lies of our news media. Lying is not only an overt act but it is also a covert act as is the case when people know the truth but don't say anything except possibly in their heart where they might say, "Well, at least it's not me (us)." I call this the Hezekiah complex (2 Kings 20:19).

We are told in Scripture when one part of the body of Christ hurts the whole body of Christ hurts (1 Corinthians 12:26). So, when a lady Christian in Pakistan by the name of Asia Bibi or a gentleman in Iran named Pastor Andy are suffering imprisonment, torture and facing almost certain death do we all not hurt; or at the very least, shouldn't we?

These people and those like them need our daily prayer and any other help we can give them. We should also pray daily for those who are physically and financially helping them. And of course let us not forget to ask the good Lord to draw their persecutors to Him in true repentance and reconciliation leaving behind these horrendous feelings and acts that are damning them.

Please remember, one day a lot sooner than we think, persecution will be in our own front yard. May the good Lord continue to protect us and grant us courage when faced with persecution, Don Borwick

Following is an article that reminds us it is not just over there but it is here in our own backyards:

Farm family sues to fight zoning rules
Thursday, July 19, 2018 |
Chris Woodward (OneNewsNow.com)

A farming family in Pennsylvania has filed suit after being instructed to stop holding religious events, including Bible studies and retreats, on their property under zoning rules.

Independence Law Center tells OneNewsNow it has filed a lawsuit on behalf of Scott and Terri Fetterolf of Sewickley Heights, a suburb of Pittsburgh.

ILC chief counsel Randall Wenger says Sewickley Heights is ordering the Fetterolfs to stop using their 35-acre property to host Bible studies, worship events, religious retreats, and religious fundraisers.

"The borough has no business overseeing a group of people reading and discussing a book together on private property —even if that book is the Bible," Wenger tells OneNewsNow.

Borough officials filed a Notice of Violation/Cease and Desist Order against the family and its property, attempting to impose zoning restrictions that apply to "places of worship" such as churches and synagogues.

However, Wenger alleges that secular examples of such activities – parties and political fundraisers - are not banned by the zoning rules.

(Continued on page 7)

ILC is arguing on the legal grounds of religious freedom, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, and equal protection.

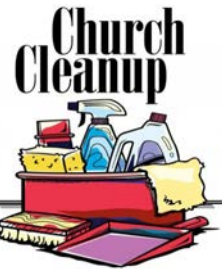
"So there are some real problems in the way that this borough is interpreting their own ordinance and the way that they're applying it to this couple in Sewickley Heights," the attorney contends.

The lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

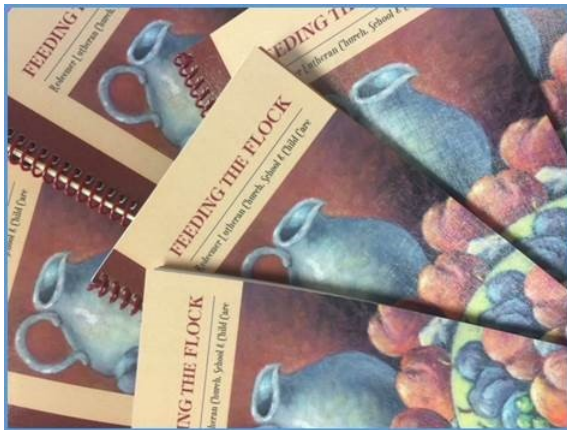
PROPERTY APPRECIATION DAY

We sure could use some help on our Property Appreciation Days every month. There is outside work to do and cleaning and dusting that needs done inside the Church. If you can help, please come to the church and we will put you to work.

Our next Property Appreciation Day is Saturday, August 18th at 8:00 am.



REDEEMER COOKBOOKS



Hot off the presses! The Redeemer Lutheran Church, School & Child Care Cookbooks are HERE!

This is a Fundraiser, so be prepared to purchase your very own FEEDING THE FLOCK cookbook for only \$12.00. They can be purchased in the Church Office or on Sunday mornings at the Visitor's Desk.

Check out our Websites and Facebook pages

Church — www.redeemerfl.com

Child Care — www.redeemerfl-cc.com

School — www.redeemerfl-school.com

FACEBOOK: [Redeemer Lutheran Church](#) [Redeemer Lutheran Child Care](#)

When it comes to stewardship, a favorite Bible verse is the account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4). It's a moving account. Our Lord praises the seemingly small gift of two copper coins given by a poor widow above the abundance of gifts given by the rich, saying, "Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them" (Luke 21:3).

And that is usually where we stop. But the text goes on. "For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on" (Luke 21:4).

"She ... put in all she had to live on." She gave everything. She held nothing back. She trusted that the Lord who made her and all creatures, who gave her everything she had, who redeemed her from her own sin, from death, and the power of the devil, who called her by the Gospel and enlightened her with His gifts of Word and Sacrament, would continue to do this. He would provide her with all that she needed for this body and life because that is the character of the God she had.

But this is not why we give small gifts. Her gift, though it appeared small, was actually large. When we are tempted to give small gifts it is precisely because we want them to be small! We don't trust the Lord to provide for us.

We give small gifts because we lack faith in the One who created us, redeemed us, sanctifies and keeps us in the one true faith. We give small gifts because we doubt that God will really give us what we need and desire. We give small gifts because we are not content with what God has already given.

We are not slaves, children of the slave woman, under the Old Covenant (Gal. 4). We are adopted sons of the free woman. And since we are sons, we are also heirs. And heirs receive the inheritance. For everything is already ours in Christ. And thus, moved by the willing spirit of adoption, we do the will of God in financial matters far beyond all that done by those under the Old Covenant who were forced by legal demands.

So what have you decided to give? How do I decide what to give? Let the Scriptures be your guide.

We are to give proportionally to what we have received from God's giving to us (Luke 12:48; 1 Cor. 16:1-2, 2 Cor. 8:12). But you have not been set free to give nothing. See that you excel in the grace of giving (2 Cor. 8:7).

We are not free to live selfishly outside the Gospel, without regard for God who gives us all good gifts, without generosity for our neighbor who needs us and our gifts, without supporting the community of faith in which we live, without care for our spiritual fathers and those who teach and help raise our children in the faith, without resources for the poor and needy – in short, we are not free to live unto ourselves, hoarding what God has given us only for us.

For love is the fulfillment of the law (Romans 13:10). And the sum of the law is this: Love God and love your neighbor (Matt. 22:34-40). We love because He first loved us. We give because He has given to us.

Luther once said, "Possessions belong in your hands, not in your heart" (LW 14:240). There is a reason your 10 fingers spread apart. With your hands you catch God's gifts for what you need and let the rest fall through your fingers to your neighbors – your family, your friends, your community, your church.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS CONTINUES FOLLOWING DIVINE SERVICE

STEWARDSHIP BASICS

This new eight-part Bible study from LCMS Stewardship Ministry, is given to help congregations start a discussion of whole-life stewardship. Like many congregations, Redeemer Lutheran Church struggles financially. Why? Although the members of Redeemer care very deeply for their church, perhaps some or even most are unfamiliar or uncertain about their role and responsibility God has called us into His vineyard as steward.

This study is being offered to all members, guests, and visitors of Redeemer. This basic study will take place following Divine Service on Sundays (approximately 10:30). So grab a cup of coffee, a delicious snack and meet in the sanctuary for this eye-opening study

Stewardship is a topic that rarely provokes a neutral reaction. It either brings disdain because it makes those who hear the message uncomfortable, or it promotes a legalism that is not true to the Scriptures. Neither reaction is godly. To arrive at the desired destination, one needs to begin at the proper place.

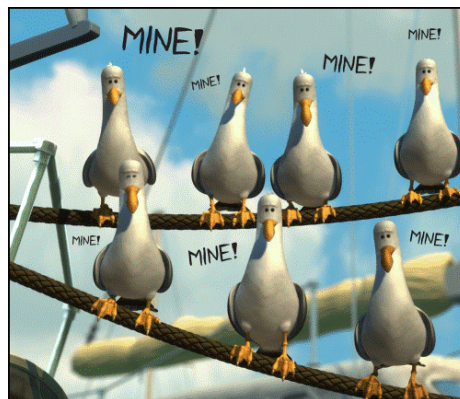
“Stewardship Basics” endeavors to do this. It starts with the Creator, not the steward, to show that stewardship is a journey that begins with identity. From creation, human beings were tasked with the stewardship of all that the Lord God made. But this stewardship was not left to the will and whim of man. Instead, being created in the image of God, the steward is to reflect the owner’s will in every aspect of his or her stewardship.

Stewards can be good. But because of the first stewardship crisis of Genesis 3, all stewardship is flawed. Usurping the role of the Creator, sinful stewards claimed ownership of what was not theirs. The result was judgment. This judgment did not excuse the steward from his or her created purpose; it only made stewardship an unpleasant labor. But in the blessing of the Gospel, the steward is redeemed and set free to reflect the image of the Creator and Redeemer.

Stewardship that begins in the right place can, by the leading of the Holy Spirit through the Gospel, produce an understanding of stewardship that is liberating. The desired result is faithfulness, not the humorous meme to the right.

This study was the central piece to the Major Applied Project for the Rev. Dr. Nathan Meador’s Doctor of Ministry degree. It is presented here to help congregations find the correct starting point for a renewed discussion of who God has created and redeemed His stewards to be for Him. It is not intended to be a comprehensive study, but rather it is a starting point to frame an ongoing effort in stewardship.

Hopefully, those using it will find that it can be very helpful in starting a discussion of whole-life stewardship that seeks to promote faithfulness. To God be the glory!



FROM THE TREASURER

Treasurer's Report As of June 30, 2018

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>OVER/UNDER</u>
INCOME	10,862	13,442	(2,580)
<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>13,952</u>	<u>16,009</u>	(2,057)
+/-	(3,090)	(2,567)	
YEAR TO DATE			
INCOME	75,226	80,730	(5,504)
<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>103,020</u>	<u>96,248</u>	6,772
+/-	(27,794)	(15,518)	



Respectfully submitted,
Jean Clappe-Mixell
North Star Bookkeeping LLC

SUMMER SERIES BIBLE CLASS

This summer in the church Narthex, a Bible Class Series is being offered to all members and friends of the Redeemer family each **Wednesday at 10 AM**. The first series is called *Overcoming Doubt*.



Doubting is normal for human beings. Whether our doubts lead us to good or evil depends on what we do with them. We can run to our Lord with them and come out stronger in faith. Or we can let doubt run us away from our Lord. Because Christians are human, Christians also doubt. But surrounded by good Christian friends and the Word of God, it is better to face doubts than to run from them.

As a group of good Christian friends, we can use this Bible Class to get into the Word. Once there, God Himself speaks to our doubts. Expect to meet a God of great patience and unlimited grace who is known to say, “Come now, let us reason together” (Isaiah 1:18).

Assured of His grace, we will explore Scripture as our God speaks to some of humankind’s common doubts.

If you find any interest in this class come join us each Wednesday. Use this Summer Series of Bible Classes to gain insight into the Scriptures. Learn what God is saying about Himself, about you, and about His Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ.



The following story was posted on lcef.org in July.

The Joy a Simple Gift Can Bring

July 6, 2018 | Posted on LCEF website by Demian Farnworth

About two years ago, young Ivan Haeflinger of Elma, Iowa, was under the weather. His nose was runny, his body hurt, he coughed and he was tired. It was not a good day for Ivan. That is until the mail came. Around noon, Ivan's mother, Steva, went down the driveway to fetch the mail. As she sorted through the stack of envelopes on her way back into the house, she noticed a package addressed to Ivan. It was from Lutheran Church Extension Fund's (LCEF) [Young Investors Club](#) (Y.I. Club). Once inside, she and Ivan opened the package to discover a brand-new stuffed lamb inside. Ivan named the stuffed lamb "Bah." Remembering that Ivan's grandmother had opened a Y.I. Club account for Ivan as a Christmas gift, Steva said, "Grandma sent you a present!" Ivan's eyes lit up, and he hugged his lamb. "The package was so welcome," Steva said. "It came at the nick of time. The lamb meant the world to him."

Y.I. Club as a perfect gift

Beverly Haeflinger, who lives about 10 minutes south of Ivan in Alta Vista, knew she wanted to bless her grandchildren when she received a family inheritance after her mother passed away. She wanted to give the gift as a Christmas present, and being a lifetime Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod member who was aware of LCEF through zone and district conventions, she opened Y.I. Club accounts for all seven of her grandchildren. Haeflinger said, "I just wanted to pass on the inheritance to the children and help the Church." In a lot of ways, it was the perfect gift. If she didn't have the opportunity to [invest through LCEF](#), she said she would "just open a savings account, but the interest rate wasn't very good."

The Lamb of God who loves us

It's been about two years since Ivan received the lamb. He's still a little too young to understand the significance of his investment on behalf of his grandmother, but the lamb named Bah still occupies a prominent place in Ivan's heart and room. "The lamb," Steva said, "sits on his bed with the puppies and bear. Of course, he still sleeps with him."

It won't be long before Ivan understands that saving money and teaching people about Jesus can go hand in hand. The Y.I. Club is all about God's love—witnessed through Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God who came to take away the sins of the world—and the Church's mission to make known that love to the world. For Ivan, it's a message that started with a little, stuffed lamb he named Bah.

Although the Young Investor Club is one of the best accounts around, LCEF has other accounts that help us earn competitive interest at the same time as helping fellow LCMS members and congregations. Go to [LCEF.org](#) to find what is best for you!

***The deadline for the SEPTEMBER Newsletter is August 22nd.
Please have all your submissions sent to patchas123@gmail.com
OR drop them off at the church office by the date indicated above.
Thank You!***

PRAYERS

THERE IS *Nothing* TOO GREAT OR TOO SMALL
FOR PRAYER

SHUT-INS: Judy Clasen, Susan Jahns, Rita Kaufman, Duwayne Schoeneck.

HEALING: Members: Ken Adair, Neva Aldene, Deb Anderson, Carl Bertka, Jean Cote, Jan Detrow, George Dykhuizen, Charlie & Pat Finkenbine, Mike & Judy Guastella, Mark Horvath, Wendy Horvath, Chuck Malecki, Angela Mannato, Paul McDonald, Ken Mielke, Leslie Miles, Glenn & Marlene Mossner, Mike Nagel, Bob Payne, Tom Poyer, Myra Schaub, Russ Spooner, Bob Varone, Robert Vickey, Larry Wiech, Sally Zierdt, and Artie Zipp

FRIENDS & RELATIVES: Linny Aspery, Jean Bajner, Michelle Bernard, Bert Blackford, Grace Blum, Gerry Borwick, Bill Bowers, Jr., Dennis Burchell, Georgia Bush, Jack Carlos, Diane Carr, Sally Chambers, Esther Clapham, Bobbett Clark, Donna Connors, Colleen Conway, Martin Cressman, Molly Criely, Renee Dempsey, Dale & Trudy DesJardins, Ed Detrow, Irene DiTommaso, Barb Dumeah, Anton Durner, Chris Durner, Bruce Everson, Donna Fancher, Darla Finkenbine, Gerald and Mary Fischer, Marla Flores, Lou Fountain, Manual Galan, Liam Garland, Sandra Gettings, Nancy Gleis, Shakeisha Gray, Jim & Mary Ann Guilfoyle,

Shelley Roedel Gutz, Marlene Hagen, Jake Harper, Debbie Harrison, Larry Headun, Dennis Hegarty, Claudette Hendershot, Glory Herget, John Hill, Rick Hill, Robin Hincman, Roger Hinzmann, David Hirtle, Larry Hladun, Linda Holt, John Hunter, Linda Hunter, Chelsea Hutchinson, Stanley and Lynne Jablonski, Deb Jacobson, Bill Jaquest, Heather Johnson, Rachel Kagay, Michelle Kalstrup, John Kearns, Elizabeth Lynn Klopfenstein, Erin Kress, Nancy Lake, Stacey Lampert, Gordon Lewin, Ray Likowski, Janet Lixey, Joe Manson, Candace McGowan, Pete Mogg, Mike Morrissey, Ron Mullins, Esther Murphy, Mariana Murray, Randy & Bev. Parkinson, Charles Pentecost Jr., Julie Pool, Robin Potts, The Family & Friends of Robert Punzel, John Purdy, George Raetzke, Mary Raines, Rev. Ronald Rock, Lois Skinner, Don Stewart, Paul Sullivan, Nancy Sly, Charles Tolley, George Vespa, Steven Walker, Christy Wallace, Helen Weishaar, Gordan Winkel, Wava Zeitlow, and Mary Ann Zipp

Military Personnel: Mark Baranowsky, Michael Broughton, Thomas Francis Styns II, Brian Jackson, Jonathan Koen, David MacLeod, and Charles D. Weishaar

Pastor and members of the church are always willing to pray for you, family members and friends. If a loved one appears on our prayer list above, please call Pastor or the church office to give us a health update so that we may either keep or remove their name. Thank you!

Those who *Serve*



ELDER & COMMUNION ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

Date	Elder & Reader	Communion Asst
Sunday, Aug 5th	Paul Brown	Mark Horvath
Sunday, Aug 12th	Bob Varone	Rev. Mark Steinke
Sunday, Aug 19th	Collins Sita	Steve Horvath
Sunday, Aug 26th	Mike Nagel	Dave Giroux



Date	Crucifier	Acolyte
Sunday, Aug 5th	Mackenzie McDowall	Therine McDowall
Sunday, Aug 12th	Jayden Bishop	Brianna Neef
Sunday, Aug 19th	Alyssa Hancock	Natalie Young
Sunday, Aug 26th	Mykalina Sabol	Bella Fisher

ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE



Date	Set-Up	Clean-Up
Sunday, Aug 5th	Mindy Duncan	Lisa Kress
Sunday, Aug 12th	Bob Varone	Gretchen Armstrong
Sunday, Aug 19th	Gretchen Armstrong	Lisa Kress
Sunday, Aug 26th	Lisa Kress	Bob Varone/ Jean Cote

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4:10



Bible Lessons

Chapel is on Mondays
at 3:45

8/6 Hannah Prays for a child

1 Samuel 1:1-20

8/13 Samuel as a Boy

1 Samuel 1:21-28,3

8/20 David Defeats Goliath

1 Samuel 17

8/27 David and Jonathan

1 Samuel 19:20



Dear Jesus,
Thank You for helping
little people with big
problems. Amen

Registration
Fees/Supply Fees

Accounts will be charged
8/1/18 \$50.00 per child

Birthdays

Ms. Sara 8/4

Ms. Kimberly 8/6

Aycen 8/6

Tucker 8/7

DJ 8/9

Tisyn 8/13

Kacen 8/13

Bella M. 8/14

Kaedyn 8/15

Carson 8/17

Mr. Mark 8/18

Thomas 8/20

Allyson D. 8/30

Rose D. 8/31



Mark your Calendar
Closing Dates

9/3 - Labor Day

9/7 - Teacher In-Service

Update your file

Update if you have new
information please

Redeemer School

Home of The Bears!

Stop by and check out our
new larger classroom!

Open House

Please join us for Open
House on September 4
from 6-7:00pm.

Book Fair



Stop by the cafeteria and
check out the Book Fair.

Books are for all ages.

September 4-11

Congratulations!

Thank you for making a
difference at Redeemer
Child Care!

Ms. Felicia - 1 year

Ms. Ashley - 1 year

Bible Word Search: APOSTLES / DISCIPLES

B J N K F D E A Z T E T G D M
 Y A T O S K L M W H D H K D S
 M S R I O P S E X A I O F S K
 S P M T H Z H P H D E M T F B
 O O C A H T Y V X D E A N H W
 N N E T T O D J I A D S S E P
 S U R A R P L P R E E C U Y M
 S A M B I H H O X U B U H A G
 T O I R A C S I M S E L P T L
 T T N H S O Z F L E Z N U S B
 N L U M T P L I R I W A L A T
 H R J Q T T Z I A D P Q B X P
 N H O J G C A N D R E W R M W
 U M W J F J W M R R D J D W F
 H X Y S U S W L P K R O R E P

SIMON Peter

ANDREW

James ZEBEDEE

JOHN

PHILIP

BARTHOLOMEW

THOMAS

MATTHEW

James ALPHAEUS

THADDAEUS

SIMON

Judas ISCARIOT

MATTHIAS

PAUL

² These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴ Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. Matthew 10:2 (After Judas betrayed Christ, Matthias was chosen by the disciples to take his place.)

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ADDRESS SERVICE

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PLACID, FL
PERMIT 774



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Pastor

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REDEEMER REPORTER

Published monthly for members, Associate Members and Visitors of Redeemer Lutheran Church, a member congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

WORSHIP SERVICES:

Divine Service: 9:15 AM
Bible Class: 10:30 AM
Sunday School: 10:30 AM

The Redeemer Lutheran Church, School & Child Care Family are called into the service of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by His command (Matthew 28:18-20) to:

- ◆*Disciple all nations, that is, all people;*
- ◆*Baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;*
- ◆*Proclaim the Gospel and teach His Word in its truth and purity; and*
- ◆*Never be ashamed of the Gospel—it is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16).*