

REDEEMER REPORTER

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH & CHILD CARE - SEPTEMBER 2013

“LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCE”

For as long as I can remember I have always enjoyed engaging in conversation with the elderly. When growing up as a child or teenager, many of us have had wonderful relationships with grandparents. However, my interaction with seniors early on in my life goes well beyond the family unit.

After shoveling snow, raking leaves, or cutting grass for the elderly on the South-side of Chicago in the Mt. Greenwood neighborhood, often I was invited in for a cup of hot chocolate to warm up or a can of pop to cool down. I was a shy young man, so most of the time I sat and listened to them.

Will Rogers was quoted as saying, “I never met a man I didn’t like.” Well for me, I would say, “I never met a senior I didn’t enjoy listening to.” I have always been fascinated with what they experienced as a child or as an adult. Certainly some of them became very good at telling their story – a little embellishment here and little stretch of the truth there – but I believe there was much for me to learn by listening about what they had to say.

I have spent many hours listening to the elderly tell their stories about what it was like for them growing up or about their experience serving our country in battle or other sacrifices made for their family in order to keep a roof over their head and food on the table. I can remember their faces, looking into their eyes, the sound of their voice, and yes, I can even remember their names.

Personally, I’m not a great story teller. Perhaps it’s because I’m not a senior. Although I have some adult children and some friends who kid around about my age – or is it because of all the grey hair? Regardless, to this day, I still find myself continually attracted to listening to the stories told by the elderly.

God did well calling me into the Office of the Holy Ministry. As a shepherd of God’s sheep, my ear is almost always listening to the voice of an elderly man or woman. The stories, however, are a little different than when I listened as a young Chicagoan. They tell me of their pain and suffering. They tell me of their loneliness and feeling as though they no longer serve a purpose in life. One even explained to me what the word invalid (in’və-lid) really means: no longer valid; worthless; without meaning or purpose.

It dawned on me that what he said was that nearly his entire life he felt valid, effective, purposeful, and what he did as a

husband, as a father, as an employee, and as a Christian was validated in his daily living. However, no-longer able to accomplish what seemed routine before; the elderly person has a different attitude about life and living out the remainder of his days.



In reply to his friend Zophar, who thought Job deserved far worse than he did, Job says, “Does not the ear test words as the palate tastes food? Wisdom is with the aged, and understanding in length of days. With God are wisdom and might; He has counsel and understanding” (Job 12:11-13).

Recently my wife, Lisa, underwent foot surgery which required her to be off her feet for 2-3 weeks. This meant that I, Pastor Kress, would need to do many of the things around the house that she would do and has done very, very well for 26 years. I found myself asking her many questions about things which seemed from appearance easy to do until I was the one responsible for turning on the stove or dishwasher or wash machine and dryer. Oh, I’m sure I could have succeeded in accomplishing any of those important and necessary tasks, but it was made easy simply by listening to the one who had all the experience, Lisa. Listening to her helped meals taste good, dishes sparkle, and clothes clean and smelling fresh. This was all possible because I took the time to listen and learn from experience.

A few weeks ago following the Feeding of the Lambs, I encouraged the children to return to their pews and tell the people seated with them that, “Jesus loves you.” A number of the children did and their message was heard. What I should now encourage our youth and young parents to do is to take time to sit and listen to the stories of the elderly. Whether it’s a grandparent or a member of the church, they have so much experience and so much to offer the generations that follow them. After all, how did they survive the depression, a number of wars, or a fuel crisis? Ask them. Help them see that their lives are still precious and valid to us. In doing so, we can learn from their experience. We need them. We love them.

In His Service,
Pastor Kress

Pastor	Rev. James Kress
Seasonal Pastor	Rev. Mark Steinke
LHM Ambassador	Rev. Earl Schmidt
Child Care Director	Wendy Horvath
Office Secretary	Susan Moore
Organists	Bill Bowers Lanette Schmidt
Director of Music	Bill Bowers
Choir Director	Collins Sita
Newsletter Editor	Susan Moore
<u>OFFICERS</u>	
President	Rich Kueker
Vice President	Brian Abel
Treasurer	Judy Murphy
Secretary	Betty Clemens
<u>BOARDS</u>	
Head Elder	Tim Byrne
Assimilation	Deb Kueker
Property Mgmt	
Christian Ed.	Pam Replinger
Human Care	Carol Carlos
Outreach	Ty Schulte
School Board	Bill Bowers
Stewardship	
Youth	Dan & Rebecca Fernandez
Financial Secretary	Karen Kirkland
<u>CLUBS/GUILDS</u>	
Ladies Guild	Sally Zierdt
Men's Group	Bob Mortenson

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It must be true; time does go by faster the older one gets. It seem as though our northern friends have just left and summer was just beginning yet the kids are already back in school. Our friends from up north will be joining us soon in our paradise that we call home. Redeemer stands ready to welcome them back with open arms.

The vision path experience of August 24 reiterated the fact that Redeemer is a warm, loving family of Christians who care about their neighbors and each other. It makes me sad, however, to think of how many in our area are missing this type of relationship with each other and with Christ. How can they know what "real" paradise is? Our goal should always be about reaching out in every way possible to our neighbors and community with the "GOOD NEWS" that Jesus died for their sins also and for their future salvation in true Paradise with Him.

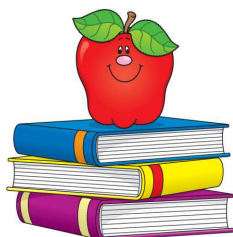
With God's help, may we always strive to fulfill this mission.

Rich

THANK YOU

Dear Redeemer Family,
We thank you so very much for all your prayers and concerns regarding our daughter, Debbie Speer Smith, who has been courageously fighting cancer for two years now. We ask for continued prayers.

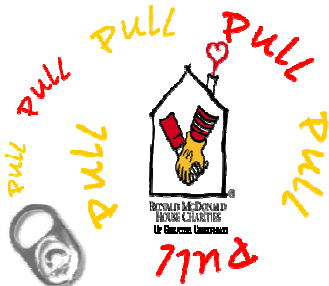
In Christian Love,
Vern & Ruth Speer and the entire family



PLEASE HELP!!!!

Wanted: Soda Can Tabs!!

Soda can tabs are being collected for a child who has Leukemia. The tabs will be given to The Ronald McDonald house to cash in at a recycling center. The money raised will be used to help defray the cost of treatment for the child. The tabs may be dropped off in the office. If you have any questions, please contact Jenni Dolphin.



OLD INK CARTRIDGES

If anyone has any old ink or toner cartridges, rather than throw them away you can donate them to the church. By recycling of empty ink cartridges and toner cartridges, we are able to save money on purchases that are made through Staples. In this economy, every penny we can save will benefit Redeemer. There will be a box on the Visitor's table in the Narthex to drop off any that you would like to donate, or you may drop them off to Susan in the office during the week. Thank you! *Submitted by Susan Moore, Church Secretary*



VISION PATH DEVELOPMENT TEAM

In an attempt to approach the 2007 working document of the Long-Range Planning Committee, the Church Council agreed to use a tool of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) called the VisionPath Experience. A survey was conducted; a meeting was held; and as a result of our VisionPath Experience a development team was assembled. The team elected Bud Harty as Chairman and Brian Abel as Vice-Chairman. Other members of the team include Tim Byrne, Joe Carlos, Ted Simis, Tricia Hopkins, Tim Frees, Sarah Borza, and Mary Kay Straw. President Rich Kueker and Pastor Jim Kress will also serve as members of the team by virtue of their office. The team has agreed to meet on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 PM. They will make every effort to keep the Church Council and the members of Redeemer up to date on their progress. They ask that you keep them in your prayers and that they remain faithful in their work.



ASSIMILATION

Received an email message from Susan, just like clockwork, that yet another article for the newsletter was due. How could that be possible already and to boot, there really was nothing new to report during our summer hiatus. Praise the Lord, indeed for our new members entering our congregation this past August 18th. But, I knew, their pictures and information were already covered.

And then it 'hit me', as I began to think about our traditional Fellowship Time here at Redeemer. As I observe the comfortable chatter taking place in the Narthex, I am always thankful for our Coffee Hour and the blessed mingling that transpires. What a wonderful place to share conversation with one's fellow Christians. A time and place of yes, safety, where one can, for a short time, forget that crazy world of ours out there. How very lucky we are to have this tradition to rely on, week after week.

We Lutherans like our traditions. It is often said, stubbornly so. We like 'things' to remain as they always were. It brings one peace, comfort, in knowing all will be as it should be at Redeemer. Everyone, fears change and the unknown it might bring. We are even told of people remaining in horrific places, just because of that fear. Better to know the present enemy, as opposed to what might be ever so worse, if one should escape. So, it is extremely difficult to even open one's heart to a new possibility.

I have been hearing those 'fears' connected with our present VisionPath. Folks thinking perhaps the ground is going to be cleared tomorrow for a school and gym, rather than simply what it is, a vision to consider. I am so reminded of what the Lord truly commands us to do in scripture (Mark 10:14, Luke 17:2). Our church should indeed be a personal refuge, an escape from a crazy world, but, the Lord does indeed command us to share His promise of salvation. We, as adult members have that promise, and we know where we are going, don't we? But what about His precious children? Better to have a milstone hung around one's neck, and cast into the sea, than to cause one of these little ones to sin....

The school is not breaking ground tomorrow, as we have a pre-school that needs also to be taken care of prior to any significant plans for a new school transpire...this vision may not even come to fruition in any of our life time expectancy here presently. But, I do believe, totally, that it is a vision given to us from the Lord that fulfills His command for us, as Christians. Scary??? I would say terrifying. Where indeed will all that money come from, etc. But, to deny that vision, is to tell the Lord personally, we not only reject what He commands us, but also that we have NO faith.

Submitted by Deb Kueker, Chairperson



Sept. 1st: Sally Zierdt
 Sept. 8th: Olga Nagel
 Sept. 15th: Cathy Mielke
 Sept. 22nd: Sabrina Boles
 Sept. 29th: Clare Kieselburg

Submitted by Assimilation



Sept. 1st: Brian & Mickie Abel
 Sept. 8th: Dick & Betty Clemens
 Sept. 15th: Sabrina Boles & Susan Moore
 Sept. 22nd: Arlene Harden & Clare Kieselburg
 Sept. 29th: Linda Rogers & Clara Jo Toth

Submitted by Assimilation

FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK



July 2013

Income
\$10,975.08

Expense
\$15,974.25



PROPERTY APPRECIATION DAY



Please join us for our next monthly "Property Appreciation" Day on the second Saturday of the month, September 14th!!! We begin at 8:00 AM and continue until the last person has to go for the day. Join us in keeping our buildings and properties beautiful. There's a little something to do for anyone who is willing to help... We would like to thank everyone for all their hard work each month. THANK YOU!

Submitted by The Board of Property Management



LOST AND FOUND

If anyone is missing any items, namely eyeglasses, gloves, umbrellas, etc., please check the Lost & Found box located in the narthex.

*The deadline for the October Newsletter is September 15th.
Please have all your submissions sent to REDEEMERFL@VERIZON.NET
by the time indicated above.*

Thank you.

SINGLES LUNCHEON

The Singles lunch will be on Tuesday, September 10th at 11:30 AM at **Zekes Bayside Grill**, 779 W. Wentworth, Englewood. The interest in this lunch has dropped off except for four to six persons. It has been close to a year now and maybe people are not interested. This was started in order to give persons, who live alone, the chance to get out of the house and lunch with friends. We will continue until the northern folk return and make a decision. If you would like to join us -- please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. Sign up sheet is on the Visitor's table in the Narthex. Please sign up no later than Sunday, September 8th.

Submitted by Lessie Kirch



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – JULY 8, 2013

PRESENT: Pastor Kress, Rich Kueker, Karen Kirkland, Judy Murphy, Tim Byrne, Deb Kueker, Pam Replinger, Ty Schulte, Bill Bowers, Betty Clemens and Guest, Brian Abel

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Rich Kueker.

Pastor Kress opened the meeting by reading Proverbs 11:14 "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety." He then said a prayer.

MINUTES of the June 10, 2013 meeting were presented. PAM MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED. TIM SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

CALENDAR for August was presented. One change was made for August 4th. No Sunday School on Rally Day.

REPORTS

PASTOR: Report attached.

The National Offering for LCMS will take place at the convention. They hope to collect one million dollars. Pastor suggested our church donate \$250. TIM MADE A MOTION TO OFFER \$500 FROM OUR CONGREGATION IN ADDITION TO THE CONGREGATION'S COLLECTION. JUDY SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

PRESIDENT:

A committee has been appointed for our Vision & Mission: Joe Carlos, Bud Harty, Carol Vovcsko, Sarah Borza, Tim Byrne, Tricia Hopkins and Ted Simis. They will meet sometime next month.

Pastor said we will schedule a date in August (either the 24th or 31st) to plan a half day event for congregation members with Max Biesenthal from LCEF. Prior to this our members will receive 8 to 10 written questions to be answered and returned. These will be summarized by Mr. Biesenthal and presented at the August event.

BOARD OF ELDERS: Report attached. The replacement of individual glass cups in place of the plastic ones for communion is being looked into.

TREASURER: Report attached. Judy reported everything is in balance.

HUMAN CARE BOARD: No Report

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT: No Report

YOUTH: No Report

ASSIMILATION: Report attached. Thanks to Bob Buie, Susan Moore and Pastor Kress for our new member page for the Pictorial Directory. A heavier permanent copy of this page will be available in the Narthex soon.

COMMUNITY & PARISH FELLOWSHIP: Report attached. Ty Schulte reported the collection for the 4th of July was \$230 and this will be put back into the dedicated funds.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: No Report. Pam said there are 42 children enrolled in VBS.

SCHOOL BOARD: Report attached. Bill said he contacted Kirky Roofing to repair a leak at the childcare building. He is looking into our original repair to see if a warranty will cover this minor repair.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Rich handed out a Budget Form for 2014.

Ty said the swing set is falling apart and should be taken down before someone gets hurt. Rich will contact Tim Frees about this.

TIM MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. JUDY SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 with a prayer by Pastor Kress and everyone joining hands and singing the Doxology.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betty Clemens, Congressional Secretary

PRAYERS



God Hear Our Prayers

SHUT-INS: Marjorie Boliere, Evelyn Etheridge, Erv Maki, and Ruth Sutley.

HEALING: Members: Bob Aldene, Stacy Bowers, Elma Cancellieri, Ed Doenges, Fred Fernald, Sharon Harris, Bernice Heppner, Erwin Janke, Lisa Kress, Peg Leverenz, Jim Libke, Sandi McGrath, Marilyn Melcher, Helen Perry, Carolyn Plesner, Ron Ratzlaff, Michael Sanders, Duwayne Schoeneck, Sandy Sita, Marie Talley, Fred Toth, Inge Tringali, Arlene Wiley, Randy Winters, Ronald Woller, and Eileen Zwick.

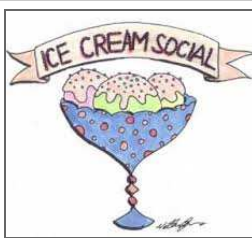
Friends & Relatives: Michael Aldene, Linny Aspery, Jean Bajner, Gioconda Barlow, Shirley Bloom, Grace Blum, Dennis Burchell, Georgia Bush, Jack & Cathy Carlos, Debbie Carr, Esther Clapham, Bobbett Clark, Wayne Coulter, Martin Cressman, Renee Dempsey, Irene DiTommaso, James Dodge, Barb Dumeah, Chuck & Barbara Ebert, Maggie Edberg, Dorothy Evans, Nick Fernandez, Manual Galan, Glenn Galway, Nancy Gleis, Brittany Hammerberg, Lucas Hall, Debbie Harrison, John Haupt, Larry Headun, Claudette Hendershot, Judy Hein, Joel Heppner, Walter Heppner, Glory Herget, Robin Hincman, David Hirtle, Tom Holt, John Hunter, Linda Hunter, Sharon Hunter, Stanley & Lynne Jablonski, Frank Janke, Carl Jennejahn, Heather Johnson, Betty Kabert, Rachel Kagay, John Kearns, Jackie Klinger, Mary Krueger, Jim Lane, Ray Likowski, Denise Line, Don Luffingwell, Sean Maki, Elsie Malecki, Joe Manson, Pete Mogg, Linda Mohr, Mike Morrissey, Kaye Gene Mortenson, Ann Maureen Nesvacil, Dan Niemann, Katie Timmins-Ohlsen and baby Mikael, Darwin & Noreen Oliver, Charles Pentecost Jr., Richard Perise, Mary Raines, Tucker Robert, Doris Rudewicz, Cookie Schneider, Ty Schulte's mother and step-father, Ryan Sheahan, Nancy Sly, Debbie Speer Smith, Virginia Stanley, Marj Sterriker, Gary Stokes, Eva Tabbitas, Charles Tolley, Samantha Jo Ann Toth, Don Unsworth, George Vespa, Pat Vovcsko, Caitlin Wagner, Steven Walker, Heath Weichmann, Helen Weishaar, Gordan Winkel, Reece Withers, Family & friends of George Yocum, Angel Zavala

Military Personnel: Mark Baranowsky, Michael Broughton, Michael Canavan, Brian Jackson, Brett Keck, Michael Monson.

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.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



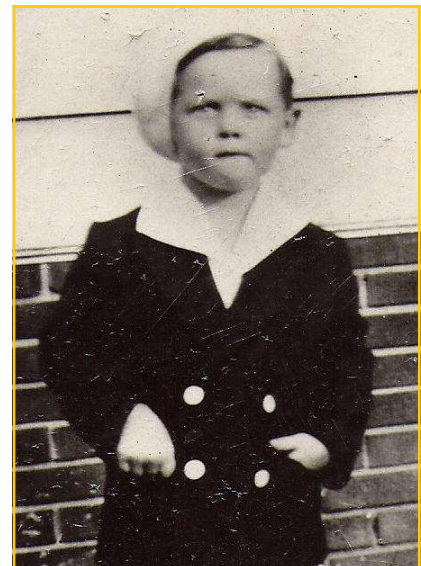
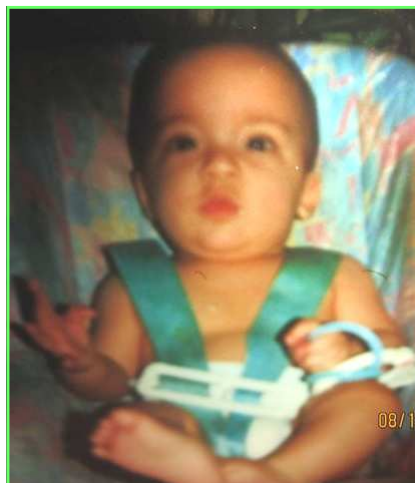
A BIG THANK YOU to all who came out in support of our youth at our last Rally Day held on August 11th. The children had a blast! The Child Care will be holding their annual Ice Cream Social on Sunday, September 16th from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Bring the family and friends for an afternoon of ice-cream and fun! Please sign up on the sheet located in the Narthex on the visitors table so we know how many will be coming. Thanks!

Submitted by The Board of Christian Education

“CAN YOU GUESS WHO THESE PEOPLE ARE”

Welcome to my “Guess Who This Is” section. If you would like to be a part of this, please submit a childhood photo to me either by email or by dropping by the office so that I may make a copy of it. So, for Round 3...Guess Who????!!! Can you figure out who each of these people are? The first person to correctly give me the answer for all three will win a prize!!! Good Luck!! Answers will appear next month.

Submitted by Susan Moore, Church Secretary



Last month's pictures were (listed in order): Karen Kirkland, Charlie & Pat Finkenbine, & Martha Winternheimer. How did you do?

\$\$\$\$ CLASSIFIEDS \$\$\$\$

Sales—Rentals

Pineapple Gulf Properties—Glenda McDorman, Owner/Broker (Lessie Kirch's Daughter), 350 S. Indiana Road Englewood, FL 34223.
Office: 941-473-0300, Cell: 941-330-7922.

Cleaning Services

Free estimates! Please contact Sheila Murphy at 941-473-1747.

Lawn Care

Call Todd Armstrong at 941-961-7584 for your lawn care needs.

Construction

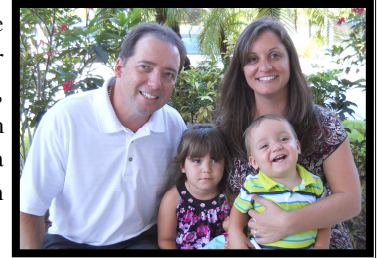
Call Rob Long! A.C.S., Inc. - Licensed General Contractor - Anything from full remodels, full lanai's, window and door installation and ALL phases of construction. State certified licensed and insured. Please call for a free estimate at 941-475-5008 or 941-232-6606!

Real Estate

SURF & SAND REALTY - Pat Whipple, Realtor 2350 N. Beach Road, Unit 3B, Englewood, 34223. I'd love to help you find your perfect home or sell it, because I really care. Please contact me at 941-882-2725 or (941) 474-7755!

NEW MEMBERS

Leah Payne: : Leah was born in Springfield, MA but grew up in Columbia, SC where she attended Irmo High School and Midlands Tech College. After moving to Florida with her family, she met her husband, Ted and they are the proud parents of two adorable children, Kylee (3 yrs. Old) and Braxton (1 yr. old). Kylee is a student at our Child Care Center. Leah works for Millennium Physician Group as an X-ray technician. Although very happy being a caring, doting mother, she also enjoys the beach; one of her favorite things about living in Florida. The Payne's reside at 276 Albatross Road, Rotonda West, FL 33947.



Sabrina Boles: Sabrina comes to us from Texas. However, she was born in Guntersblum, Germany, and raised in Miami, FL. She graduated from Miami Carol City High School. Sabrina enjoys swimming, reading, poetry, arts, and volunteer work (heads up for all you committee chairs). The best part about living in Florida is being with family. She resides at 163 Cedar Street, Englewood, FL 34223.

Dick & Ann Voelker: Dick & Ann are transferring to Redeemer from St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Lexington, MI. They have been married for 62 years. Dick grew up in Detroit and attended Lincoln High in Warren, MI. Dick worked as a lab technician for a prestigious company for many years. He is retired and now enjoys more comfortably woodworking, golfing, biking, and walking. Ann also grew up in Detroit and Warren, MI. She attended the same high school as Dick, Lincoln High. Ann was a bank employee, but is now retired. She enjoys reading and sewing. And for both Dick & Ann, they love Florida for its abundant sun-shiny days. They have two children, a son who lives in Michigan, and a daughter, Sandra, who lives here in North Port with her husband. Ann is the sister of Mary Citrone and aunt of Nola Muscolino. Dick & Ann live temporarily in North Port waiting for their home to be completed. Their temporary address is 1920 Nimbus Dr. North Port, FL 34287.



Paul Brown: Paul grew up in New Bedford, MA where he also attended Durfee High School. He attended Southeastern Massachusetts University majoring in history & education. Paul is married to June, who became a member of the Redeemer family in May of this year by Profession of Faith. Paul served in the Air Force during the Korean War. Following service to our country, he was a salesman for a paperboard company until 1990 when he opened his own screen printing company. Paul finally retired in 2006. He enjoys flying large scale model radio controlled planes as well as building them. He likes to golf and fish. For Paul, the best part about living in Florida is the abundance of sun and that he doesn't, ever, have to shovel snow. Paul is also the proud father of 2 sons and 5 grandchildren. Paul & June reside at 10846 Lerwick Circle, Englewood, FL 34223.

Leah Norton: Leah was born in Ambridge, PA and Baptized into Christ at St. John's Lutheran Church. She grew up in Seabrook, MD and moved to Boca Raton with her family in 1984. She attended Spanish River Community H.S. and also attended Palm Beach Community College. Leah is an accounting manager at Lightspeed Voice. She is a foster parent for Khloe (2 yrs. old) and Zoe (1 yr. old). Both children attend our Child Care Center. Leah has been using Redeemer for more than 6 years as a child care facility when fostering children. Outside of caring for children, Leah loves horseback riding, cooking, and her pets. And for Leah, the best part about living in Florida is being around family and friends. Leah and her foster children live at 17421 Sabrina Circle, Port Charlotte, FL 33948.



REDEEMER CHOIR



If you love to sing, prayerfully consider joining the choir. There is always room for more singers! Rehearsals are every Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM in the Choir Room. If you are interested in becoming a member of the choir, please contact Collins Sita for more information.

KID SPOT

1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									

Read Matthew 21:1-11, then fill in the correct words using the numbered clues below. Find out what the crowds shouted to Jesus when He was on the road to Jerusalem. The answer will be in the red squares.

1. What did the people cut down from the trees? (verse 8)
2. Who answered, "This is Jesus the prophet from Nazareth?" (verse 11)
3. The whole city was stirred when Jesus entered what city? (verse 10)
4. What did the crowds spread on the road? (verse 8)
5. Who would come gentle and riding a donkey? Your _____ (verse 5)
6. What did Jesus ride along the road to Jerusalem? (verse 7)
7. Where did the crowds spread their cloaks? (verse 8)

What did the crowds shout when Jesus rode past them on a donkey? _____

ENGLEWOOD HELPING HANDS



The Pantry Part of Helping Hands is operated by volunteers from several local churches. The volunteers receive donations, check all food for expired dates, and stock the food on the shelves. They also pre-pack bags for food going out to those in need. It is not hard work, and there is no heavy lifting. Redeemer's next week to volunteer is September 16th through 19th. We need two volunteers for each of the four days to serve from 9:30 AM till 2:30 PM. If you would like to volunteer, please call Dale Whipple at (941) 786-6116, or catch him at church. This is a good way to serve our Lord and to be of help to those who are in need.



Submitted by Dale Whipple

STEPHEN MINISTRY

WHAT IS A STEPHEN MINISTER??

A Stephen Minister is someone who has been assigned to a person in crisis and needs caring support. There is only one Stephen Minister to only one person in need. Most Stephen Ministers meet once a week with their care receivers for about an hour. Most care receivers simply need someone to really listen to their difficulties. We deal with feelings, share Christian resources, focus on the process of caregiving and rely on God to achieve results, maintain boundaries, and relate assertively. Above all, we maintain confidentiality. No one knows who the care receivers are or what they have said.

Our training is 50 hours and usually it is 2 hours per week. It is insightful for a person going through the training. The ministers can feel confident in their skills. We have fun in the training. After the training we have meetings the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month to give encouragement to each other. The encouragement we receive at these meetings lets us know we are not alone in this responsibility.

After the 50 hour training the Minister is commissioned at a worship service. This allows our church members to recognize their effort and to affirm and support their ministry along with praying for their caring ministry.

We are in need of Stephen Ministers. We have had to turn away people in need due to the lack of Ministers. Please pray about your gift and God will let you know if Stephen Ministry is right for you.

For more information please speak to Carol Carlos 941-255-3354 or Carol Haupt 941-460-8830.

"Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep". ~ John 21:16



HUMAN CARE

Twenty people were donors at our last blood drive. Sixteen units of blood were collected aiding 48 lives. WAY TO GO REDEEMER! A big thank you goes to Carol Sheahan who has put her heart into this endeavor and has made it a success. Get ready and roll up your sleeves again for our next blood drive which is October 6th. Let's double that 16 units.

The next meeting of the human care board will be on Wednesday, Sept. 4th at 10am in the Narthex. We invite anyone in the congregation who may be interested to attend the meeting. A summary of what we do: visit members in facilities, offer care notes to our members, senior fellowship, Redeemer singles luncheon, caring network, Stephen Ministry, Blood donation, health advocacy, greeting cards sent to military and shut ins, jail ministry, small group Bible study. Wonder what all this means? Talk to Carol Carlos in church or call 941-255-3354.

We will begin a new endeavor called "Relay for Life" in the fall. We will be helping cancer patients through various projects. We are looking for people that may have been stricken with cancer or have a family history of cancer or are interested in aiding cancer patients.

WE NEED HELP! Find out more about our group, then pray about how your spiritual gift could benefit someone. Remember, your spiritual gift benefits you the most when you apply that gift to life.

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Hebrews 13:16

STEWARDSHIP

In September we observe Labor Day, a legal holiday in honor of labor. The Bible deals with labor in a variety of ways. In Genesis 2:15 we read that ***“The Lord God took the man and put him into the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.” (NIV)*** It was part of God’s plan of creation to make human beings for work and provide work for them.

Work is important for us. It is important enough that we often answer questions like who or what we are by referring to our work. We may answer in a number of different ways like I’m a teacher, or a plumber, or a carpenter, or an office manager, or a business owner, or a pastor, or a doctor, or one

of many other vocations. No wonder people get depressed when they are without jobs and meaningful work to do. Much of our self esteem is tied in closely with our work.

As God’s redeemed stewards we recognize that God has entrusted to us many things to manage and work with according to His will and plan. To not be willing to work and still expect to receive good things is like stealing. Ephesians 4:28 says, ***“He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.” (NIV)***

Honest labor provides us with a sense of fulfillment and provides for our own needs and something

extra to share with others who are in need. The book of Ecclesiastes includes a number of passages like 2:24; 3:12-13; 22; 5:18-20 that encourage us to find joy in our work. Work is a blessing from God and He gives us the time, talent and resources to do

our work in a way that honors God and blesses others as well as ourselves. The words of Hebrews 13:20-21 affirm this truth: ***“May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and***

ever. Amen.” (NIV)

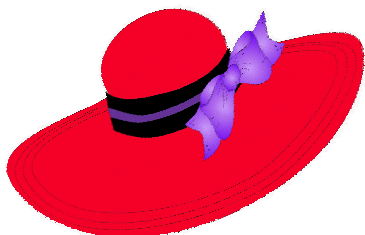
So this September as many things like vacations are over and new things start up again—school, mission and ministry efforts in our congregations as well as other September activities—let’s remember that with the power of the Holy Spirit we can live and work as God’s redeemed stewards who freely and joyfully manage all of life and life’s resources for His purposes. May we always be encouraged to give our very best when it comes to our financial gifts of love, our use of time and talents, and our willing service at home, in the workplace, in our communities and in our congregations.

The Board of Stewardship



God has put Adam into the Garden of Eden

REDEEMER RED HATS



DATE CHANGE

The Redeemer Red Hats will have their luncheon on Wednesday, September 25th at 12:00 Noon. Please see the sign up sheet in the Narthex for more information.



Bible Lessons

Chapel is on Tuesdays
at 3:45 PM

9/3 God Made Me

Genesis 1-2

9/10 God Made The
World

Genesis 1

9/17 The Flood

Genesis 6:11-8:22

9/24 Abraham's Call

Genesis 12:1-9



Dear God,
Through the power of
Your word, you
created such a
beautiful world. Thank
You for it! Amen.

Submitted by Wendy Harvath

Birthdays

9/1 Jacob

9/2 Ms. Miranda

9/10 Ayden

9/15 Kellen

9/16 Matthew

9/21 Alyssa



Special Days in September

9/2 Labor Day - Child
Care is CLOSED

9/8 Ice Cream Social

9/8 Children Singing at
the Church Service

9/22 First day of
Autumn



What We Are Learning



9/2 God Gives Life to
the World

9/9 Creation Is God's
Gift for Us to Enjoy

9/16 God Remembers
and Cares for Us

9/30 God Keeps His
Promises

Welcome to Redeemer!

Felipe, Nazareth,
Jason, Lizzie, Nevaeh,
Aria, Jacob, Matthew,
Kellen, Ashton, Amelia
and Landen

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REV. JAMES T. KRESS, SR.

REDEEMER REPORTER

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WORSHIP SERVICES:

May—October: 9:15 AM

Sunday School: 9:15 AM

Bible Study: 8:30 AM

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 941-475-2410

We, the members of Redeemer Lutheran Church are called into the service of our Lord by accepting His command (Matthew 28:18-20):

- *Making disciples of all nations / peoples.*
- *Baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*
 - *Proclaiming the Gospel and teaching the Word.*

Christ's love for us compels us to serve our neighbors as He served us.