

THE REDEEMER READER

April A+D 2020

Volume 96, Issue 4



OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

420 W. Breitung Ave.
Kingsford, MI 49802
(906) 774-1844

www.ourredeemerkingsford.org

Divine Service every Sunday
9:00 A.M.

Sunday School
(Sept.-May) 10:30 A.M.

Sunday Bible Study
(Year-Round) 10:30 A.M.

Thursday Bible Study
(Year-Round) 10:00 A.M.


THE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
MISSOURI
SYNOD

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

- John 16:33 (NKJV)

April means Easter is nearly upon us. Easter: Jesus' victory over the grave for those overcome by death. That means you. Jesus has overcome the grave for you. Death can't keep you in its grasp for Jesus has triumphed over the grave. We are those who even though we die, we will live. Our bodies that die will on the Last Day spring to life. Glorious, resurrected life.

On Maundy Thursday, before He had been arrested...put on trial...flogged...nailed to the cross...put to death: Jesus told His disciples, "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." In one sense, He hadn't yet. He hadn't yet died and risen in glory. But He would. That was the plan from the beginning...all the way back in the Garden, when Adam ate the forbidden fruit, it was told that the one born of woman would crush the head of the serpent (Genesis 3:15). Even though Jesus' victory over sin, death, and the devil hadn't been fully realized, it was "in the bag."

Jesus overcame the world. The same world that is crushing us on every side at this very moment has already been overcome by the Lord of life. I mean...sure...we may have COVID-19, economic depression, and widespread fear creeping in on us...closer and closer at every moment. But the battle...the *war* has been won. Jesus lives. Death is defeated. *Nothing* that comes at you in this world can undo what Jesus has already overcome.

Dear friends, as this Holy Week and Easter approaches us—a Holy Week and Easter unlike we've ever experienced—remember who you are. You are baptized into Christ. And He has overcome the world. He's overcome coronavirus. He's overcome whatever the markets do to your 401(k). He's overcome the panic that has overtaken so many other people. It won't overtake you. You are His. And He is yours. He is your Lord who has overcome the world.

It's a little uncertain what Holy Week and Easter 2020 will look like for our congregation. Our services may have to be held in unconventional ways. We may be participating in worship more and more via the screens of our phones and computers than we're comfortable with doing. We may be weeks and weeks from having taken part in the Table of Christ's Body and Blood.

This won't change: Jesus has overcome the world.

It's done. In His own words, "It is *finished*." (John 19:30)

"Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won! Death no longer can appall me." (LSB 490, st. 1)

In Christ our Lord,

Pastor Ruesch

Pastor Ruesch

Board of Missions

Hello,

Helping Hands is a committee of members under the auspices of the Board of Missions. Its mission is to serve members of our congregation and the community through providing assistance for minor home repairs, yard work, wheelchair ramps, and other small projects. Helping Hands also funds the annual Thanksgiving Baskets.

Currently, we have a fund balance for Helping Hands of \$2258. In the past, we have raised money for Helping Hands through our annual Rummage Sale, which provided us with another \$2500 or more for the coming year. Because we no longer have enough volunteers for the rummage sale, we will be unable to hold that event this year. So, we are asking that you consider any amount of donation during the coming year. You may make out a check to Our Redeemer Helping Hands or donate cash and give this to our Church Secretary at your convenience. We hope you will prayerfully consider this donation.

ALL MEETINGS ARE POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Sincerely in Christ,
Carol T., Board of Missions Chair

THANK YOU CONGREGATION FOR A SUCCESSFUL GIVING BEAN COFFEE SALE. With the sales and some contributions, we were able to make \$888.40. You can still buy direct and support Helping Hands year-round by going to www.givingbean.com/store/home.php?partner=c5d39 Thank you again from the Board of Missions.

PLEASE NOTE: THIS SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE. PLEASE FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK OR CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.

Be sure to join us for the holiest of weeks as we gather around the gifts of our Lord for the services of Holy Week.

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Palm Sunday, April 5, 2020	9:00 A.M.	"Drive-In" Service
Holy Thursday, April 9, 2020	6:00 P.M.	"Drive-In" Service
Good Friday, April 10, 2020	6:00 P.M.	"Drive-In" Service
Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020	7:00 A.M.	Easter Sunrise "Drive-In" Service
Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020	9:00 A.M.	Easter Day "Drive-In" Service

OFFICIAL ACTS OF THE CHURCH

Wedding

Bellmore/Woller February 29, 2020

Transfers In

Erin Forsberg February 27, 2020
Joanna Forsberg February 27, 2020
Eric Lorenzen February 27, 2020
Thomas Mackey February 27, 2020
Shirley Mackey February 27, 2020

Adult Confirmation

Kathleen Ball March 8, 2020
Rob Kuehl March 8, 2020
Ashley Lorenzen March 8, 2020

Transfer Out

Austin Murdock March 4, 2020

ECONO/SUPER ONE RECEIPTS

Have you been saving grocery slips? Have you been turning them into Our Redeemer? There is a large white bucket under the LWML card table labeled for Econo/Super One slips. We receive 1% of each \$1.00 you spend on groceries through their rebate programs. Sherry C. has graciously been tallying them up. The money goes into the Youth Program checking account. We use the money to sponsor our Compassion Child which is \$480 a year. There is also a container for stamps & ink cartridges however, they only accept Inkjets (they DO NOT accept Laser/Toner cartridges). Your support is greatly appreciated. **We no longer take Campbells soup labels as Campbells has discontinued its labels for education program.**



LWML-LADIES' GUILD

"Serve the Lord with Gladness"

Welcome – "I love to tell the story" – by Mary Harrington. March Bible Study by Barb C. "Burning Hearts & Opened Eyes" Mite devotion by Gloria S. Mites Jan. \$41.10 & Feb \$71.63. (extra from cong. In large mite box in fellowship hall) Thanks to all! Sec. & Treas. Reports approved as read. Four ladies plan to attend Camp Luther Retreat on April 18. Heather Keynote Speaker. Four ladies to attend Zone 2 Rally in Munising on April 18.

Plans are continuing for Ladies Spring Banquet May 4th.

All planned events are contingent on Corona Virus cancellations and /or postponements. Will keep you posted.

The Swedish Meatball Dinner was postponed form March 15. Watch for further details.

Military boxes were filled and packed for shipping – we pray they will be blessed by our expression of love and care. God Bless them for their service.

We encourage other ladies in the congregation to join us at any time. Next meeting will be April 13th – 1 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Call Caren 774-0182 or church 774-1844 if in need of a ride.

LWML DATES to KEEP in MIND.

April 13, 2020— **TENTATIVE!** Monthly Meeting 1 p.m.

April 18—**CANCELLED!** Camp Luther Retreat

April 18—**CANCELLED!** Zone 2 Rally—Munising

June 14-16—NWD Convention—Green Bay, WI

2021 Nat. LWML Convention—Lexington, KY

2022 NWD Convention—Marquette, MI

2023 Nat. LWML Convention

Mites always welcome and greatly appreciated!

Cards are available on the LWML table in the Fellowship hall.

Serving the Lord with gladness
Sisters to Christ
LWML Ladies and Caren E., President

Our Redeemer Children, Youth and Family Ministries

ALL OF THESE CHURCH EVENTS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

- Sunday School Every Sunday @ 10:30 a.m. Sept. through May. All children are welcome!
- Youth Confirmation Class Wednesdays 5:30 p.m. Sept. through May
- Bible Study Opportunities Sundays, 10:30 following fellowship. Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.



NEW 2020 BROCHURES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WELCOME KIOSK OR VISIT WWW.CAMPLUTHER.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THESE WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITIES.

SUMMER STAFF NEEDED Camp Luther is still in need of summer staff to work as kitchen and maintenance assistants this upcoming summer. You only need to be 18 years old – unlike counselors, you do not need to have completed a year of college. Apply now for Summer Staff 2020!

CAMP LUTHER SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION NOW OPEN! Registration for summer camps opened January 1! Check out the website to learn everything you need to know about registration. We hope to see you in the summer!

VOLUNTEER WEEK April 20-24. Use your skills to make a difference in the completion of the NEW Fort Village, Community Center and other crucial projects! Join Camp Luther and Johnson Brothers Construction of Munising, MI for this week of service and fellowship. Come for all or a portion of the week or stay through our April Workbee Weekend! Call 715-546-3647 or email office@cmapluther.com to register!

APRIL WORKBEE WEENENDS Join us April 24-26 & May 8-10. Help keep Camp Luther looking and working its best by bringing your family and friends to their April Workbee! Free food and housing for all volunteers. For more details and registration, visit their website under family-events.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND FAMILY RETREAT Enjoy a flexible and relaxing schedule with your family and other families during this holiday weekend. Activities include pontoon rides, kayaking, trail biking, cookouts, Bible study, and so much more! Start a new family tradition this year!

4TH OF JULY FAMILY CAMP AT CAMP LUTHER Bring the whole family to celebrate the 4th of July Northwoods style! Enjoy an incredible weekend at camp, with awesome activities like kayaking, swimming, cooking out over a fire, and campfire devotions. In addition, enjoy a fun-filled 4th of July parade in the nearby town of Three Lakes and a truly spectacular display of fireworks on Saturday night.

SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: MIDDLE SCHOOL AWESOMENESS Want to do something awesome this summer? Check out Camp Luther's Trailblazer Specialty camps. They include all the fun you've come to know and love at camp, while adding an exciting activity to your camp experience. (July 5-10) **Rockets and Robots:** Use your ingenuity and mad scientist skills to build your own rocket AND robot. What could be MORE AWESOME? **High Ropes Adventure:** This is an opportunity for you to explore Camp Luther's ropes course and zip line with your group. The week ends with an off-site high ropes adventure. **MasterCRAFTS:** Use this chance to put your creativity to work in a week filled with the best arts and crafting. You'll make awesome projects fueled by even more awesome imaginations. (July 26-31) **Survivor:** Learn about fire building, outdoor cooking, shelter construction, off-trail navigation, and other wilderness skills as you have a blast trying to SURVIVE in the woods. **Sailing:** You'll learn how to sail and ride the wind and the waves throughout the week. Sailing is the best way to travel!

MEN'S RETREAT September 25-27, 2020. MEN, this one is for you! Come to Camp Luther this fall and join with other men who want to strengthen their faith and become stronger husbands, fathers, and men of God. This weekend is packed full of stuff just for guys, including tournaments, break out sessions, amazing food, and time in God's Word geared toward refocusing us to become the intentional men of God our families deserve.

EVERY KID TO CAMP MATCH If Camp is blessed with \$20,000 in donations for Every Kid to Camp by April 30, 2020, our friends at MCL, Inc. of Pulaski, WI will provide an additional \$20,000 towards helping kids go to Camp Luther and Keweenaw Base Camp.

FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT CAMPAIGN Camp Luther is in the midst of their \$5 million, five-year, comprehensive campaign supporting the Outdoor Ministry Fund, Every Kid to Camp, and capital improvement projects. Your involvement in this campaign as an investor, volunteer, or champion in your congregation, is a wonderful blessing to Camp! To find information, resources, and updates on the campaign, visit the campaign website, <http://filledwiththespirit.org>

Camp Luther is a subsidiary ministry of the North Wisconsin District-LCMS. Our mission is to build up believers in Christ for service to the church and witness to the world.

**DIVINE SERVICES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED
INDEFINATELY! PLEASE WATCH OUR
WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE FOR
UPDATES!**



Serving in God's House This Month

Sunday Divine Service 9:00 am †

April 5 "Drive-In" Service

Elders: Mark M., Gary P.

April 12 "Drive-In" Service

Elder: Mark M., Ed T.

April 19

Elders: Gary P., Damian T.

Ushers: Michael K.

Organist: Marian V.

Coffee Host/Hostess: Volunteers

Nursery: Sharon T.

Greeters: Needed

Acolyte: Maddex S.

April 26

Elders: Dana B., Brent W.

Ushers: Michael K.

Organist: Don H.

Coffee Host/Hostess: Volunteers

Nursery: Sharon T.

Greeters: Needed

Acolyte: Jaden T.

Lenten/Easter Services

Wednesday, April 1 Cancelled

Thursday, April 9 (6:00 PM) "Drive-In" Service

Elder: Dave M.

Friday, April 10 (6:00 PM) "Drive-In" Service

Elder: Ed T., Damian T.

Saturday, April 11 (5:00 PM) Cancelled

Sunday, April 12 (7:00 AM) "Drive-In" Service

Elder: Dave M.

ATTENDANCE TOTALS

Sunday, February 16 (9:00 AM)	114
Sunday, February 23 (9:00 AM)	106
Ash Wednesday, February 26 (7:00 PM)	78
Sunday, March 1 (9:00 AM)	99
Wednesday, March 4 (7:00 PM)	43
Sunday, March 8 (9:00 AM)	97
Wednesday, March 11 (7:00 PM)	41
Sunday, March 15 (9:00 AM)	86
Wednesday, March 18 (7:00 PM)-CANCELLED	
Sunday, March 22 (9:00 AM)	32
Wednesday, March 25 (7:00 PM)-CANCELLED	



Health and Wellness Ministry

April

What every congregation needs to know about domestic violence...

What is domestic violence? Domestic violence refers to a pattern of violent and coercive behavior exercised by one adult in an intimate relationship over another. It is not "marital conflict," "mutual abuse," "a lovers' quarrel," or "a private family matter." It may consist of repeated, severe beatings, or more subtle forms of abuse, including threats, and control.

Who are the victims of domestic violence? Statistics reflect that 95% of domestic violence victims are women, although men may also be victims. But regardless of who is being victimized, domestic violence is a serious problem that needs to be addressed by religious communities.

How prevalent is domestic violence? Surveys from the U.S. and Canada indicate that domestic violence occurs in 28% of all marriages. Researchers believe this estimate is too low since most domestic violence incidents are unreported.

What are the four basic types of domestic violence?

- **Physical Assault** Includes, shoving, pushing, restraining, hitting, or kicking. Physical assaults may occur frequently or infrequently, but in many cases they tend to escalate in severity and frequency over time
- **Sexual Assault** Any time one partner forces sexual acts which are unwanted or declined by the other partner.
- **Psychological Assault** Includes isolation from family and friends, forced financial dependence, verbal and emotional abuse, threats, intimidation, and control over where the partner can go and what she can do.
- **Attacks Against Property and Pets** Destruction of property which may include household objects of treasured objects belonging to the victim, hitting the walls, or abusing or killing beloved pets.

How do I know if someone is a victim of domestic violence? Women who are being battered are as different from each other as non-battered women. They come from all walks of life, all races, all educational backgrounds, and all religions. A battered woman might be the Vice-President of your local bank, your child's Sunday School teacher, your beautician or your dentist. Anyone experiencing any of the patterns of abuse listed above is a victim of domestic violence.

Why does she stay? She stays because she is terrified that he will become more violent if she leaves, that he will try to take the children, that she can't make it on her own.

What should I do if I believe I am a victim of domestic violence?

- Trust your instincts and seek help from a domestic violence program in your community.
- Recognize that the abuse is not your fault.
- Know that you are not alone and that help is available.
- Talk in confidence with someone you trust: a relative, a friend, or, if you feel comfortable, a religious leader.
- If you choose to remain in the situation for now, set up a safety plan of action (for example, hide a car key and some money in a safe place, locate somewhere to go in case of emergency).

Who are batterers? Just as with battered women, men who batter fall into no specific categories. They also come from all class backgrounds, races, religions, and walks of life. They may be unemployed or highly-paid professionals. The batterer may be a good provider, a sober and upstanding member of the community, and a respected member of his congregation.

How do I know if I'm a batterer?

- If you are extremely jealous,
- If you control your partner's activities,
- If you use physical force to solve problems, and
- If you believe that you are the head of the household and should not be challenged,
- then you are probably hurting the people you love and you should get help from someone who will hold you accountable. Acknowledge that the abuse is your problem and have the courage to seek help.

For more information call:

National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-SAFE or www.hdvh.org

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence at 1-800-537-2238 or www.pcadv.org



ATTENTION: Blood pressure checks will be taken after worship at 10:15 a.m. on the first Sunday of each month by our Parish Nurses in the conference room in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!



LCMS- Stewardship-Ministry-Newsletter Article—April 2020

On the topic of stewardship, one of the most common questions a person might ask is *not* whether a Christian should give to their church. Everyone knows this. Of course, Christians should give to their church.

The most common question: “How much should I give?” But what they really mean is this: “Should Christians give a tithe of their income to their local congregation?” So, let’s look at why you should or should not tithe.

Following are some reasons often offered for why Christians *shouldn’t* give a tithe to their church.

Some say you shouldn’t tithe because it isn’t expressly commanded in the New Testament. Lacking that command, there is no “Thus saith the Lord” and no “should” for giving a tithe to your congregation.

Others say that Christians give to their congregation in ways much broader than money. They give of their time and their talents, and these, together with treasures (money), add up to more than a tithe.

Still others say they give of their treasures to other things besides their congregation, and they want to support those things alongside their church.

And there are those who think Christians shouldn’t tithe because of fear. If they tithe, they are afraid their gift will be misused, and they are afraid they won’t have enough to get the things they use, want, or need.

Following are some reasons for why Christians *should* give a tithe to their church.

Even though the New Testament doesn’t specifically command Christians to give a tithe, the Old Testament people were commanded to tithe and did. On top of this, St. Paul often describes the giving Christians are to do in similar terms as a tithe: a regular and generous proportion of the first fruits of their income (1 Cor. 6:1–2; 2 Cor. 8:7–23; 2 Cor. 9:2–7).

But here’s another way to think about it. What was the point of the tithe in the Old Testament? Where did it go? The reason for the Old Testament tithe was to support the full ministry of the Levites. They were not given any land because they had no time to farm; their full-time job was the ministry.

What does it say in the New Testament? “The Lord has commanded that those who preach the Gospel should make their living from the Gospel” (1 Cor. 9:14). This is the verse that Luther put in the *Small Catechism’s* Table of Duties to cover what Christians owe to the support of the ministry.

It seems clear from both the Old and the New Testaments that the tithe is the goal of Christians in their giving. But what if we’re not there yet? How should we handle this? What are we to do?

Let’s answer this by asking a different question about something entirely different. What would you say to your adult children who only attended church quarterly or once a month? There, is after all, no passage in the New Testament that requires Christians to go to church weekly. Hebrews 10:25 is the closest we have, and it states simply for Christians to not neglect gathering together. Even though there is no passage that commands Christians to gather weekly, that is the implicit expectation throughout the Old and New Testaments. It is the goal.

So, what would you say to that son or daughter? I’d expect that conversation would be something like this: “I’m glad you’re still going to church. It is a wonderful blessing to hear God’s promises of forgiveness, life, and salvation, and to receive His gifts in the Word and the Sacraments. But you can do better, and it will only be a blessing to you. There is a better way, and I’d really like you to try to attain it.”

This same conversation is how we should approach the topic of the tithe. It’s not specifically commanded in the New Testament, but it sure seems like the implicit expectation of both the Old and New Testaments. So, the church is ecstatic that you’re giving when you’re giving in all these ways – time, talents, and treasures.



April Birthdays

- 2 John L.
Keen S., Jr.
Muriel W.
- 3 Jaymin H.
Landon T.
- 6 Maddison S.
- 7 Bob R.
- 10 Stacey P.
Steven T.
- 11 Chelsea R.
Sue R.
- 12 Aniyah B.
Penelope B.
Brynlee C.
Anna P.
- 13 Jan L.
- 14 EmmiLyn B.
Jeanne H.
Willard P.
- 15 Jeffrey T.
Edward T.
- 17 Earl S.
- 19 Cullen T.
- 20 Matthew G.
Darren P.
- 21 Scott B.
- 23 Gloria S.
Lillie W.
- 24 Erin F.
- 25 Charlie K.
Sue P.
- 26 Shawn M.

“Rejoice with those who Rejoice”
-Romans 12:15

- 27 Calyn M.
Lynn T.
Izabel V.
- 29 Bruce B.
Linda G.
Gary S.
Mackenzie T.

Anniversary Prayer

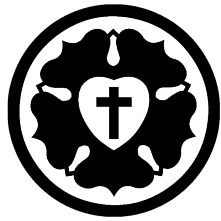
O Lord, Your mercies are new every morning. We thank you for another year of life together for those we mention before you. We ask you to keep them open to receive always more of your love that their love for each other may never grow weary but deepen and grow through every joy and sorrow shared; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



April Anniversaries

- 06 Harry & Sally G.
- 15 Tony & Sherry C.

**If any dates have been published
incorrectly or have been omitted, please
contact the Church Office.**



OUR REDEEMER

LUTHERAN CHURCH

April 2020

Church Office Hours:

N/A INDEFINITELY

Pastor Ruesch's Office Hours:

N/A INDEFINITELY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><u>Underlined Events Subject to Change</u> <u>Due to COVID-19:</u> <u>Check Website and Facebook for Details</u></p>			1	2	3	4
<p>5 Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion (Palmarum) 9:00 A.M. "Drive-In" Service</p>	6	7	8	<p>9 Holy Thursday 6:00 P.M. "Drive-In" Service</p>	<p>10 Good Friday 6:00 P.M. "Drive-In" Service</p>	<p>11 Holy Saturday</p>
<p>12 Easter Day 7:00 A.M. "Drive-In" Service 9:00 A.M. "Drive-In" Service</p>	<p>13 <u>1:00 P.M. Ladies' Guild</u></p>	<p>14 <u>8:30 A.M. Circuit Pastors Meeting</u></p>	<p>15 <u>10:00 A.M. Altar Guild</u> <u>5:30 P.M. Confirmation</u></p>	<p>16 <u>10:00 A.M. Bible Study</u></p>	<p>17 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i></p>	18
<p>19 2nd S. of Easter (Quasimodo Geniti) 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* <u>10:15 A.M. Fellowship</u> <u>10:30 A.M. Bible Study & Sunday School</u></p>	<p>20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> <u>6:30 P.M. Church Council</u></p>	21	<p>22 <u>5:30 P.M. Confirmation</u></p>	<p>23 <u>10:00 A.M. Bible Study</u></p>	<p>24 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i></p>	25
<p>26 3rd S. of Easter (Misericordias Domini) 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* <u>10:15 A.M. Fellowship</u> <u>10:30 A.M. Quarterly Voters' Meeting</u> <u>6:00 P.M. Youth Group Meeting</u></p>	27	28	<p>29 <u>5:30 P.M. Confirmation</u></p>	<p>30 <u>10:00 A.M. Bible Study</u></p>		

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
420 West Breitung Avenue
Kingsford, MI 49802



Ministry Staff

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Here to Serve!