

# THE REDEEMER READER

June A+D 2020

Volume 96, Issue 6



## **"OUR REDEEMER ON BREITUNG"**

Our Redeemer  
Lutheran Church  
420 W. Breitung Ave.  
Kingsford, MI 49802  
(906) 774-1844

[www.ourredeemerkingsford.org](http://www.ourredeemerkingsford.org)

## **Schedule of Services (as of May 31<sup>st</sup>):**

### **Sundays:**

**Divine Service with  
Holy Communion**

**8:00 A.M.**

**"Drive-In" Service  
in Parking Lot**

**9:15 A.M.**

**Divine Service with  
Holy Communion**

**10:30 A.M.**

### **Wednesdays:**

**Divine Service with  
Holy Communion**

**7:00 P.M.**

## **From the Pastor's Desk**

*"Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

- Matthew 28:20b (ESV)

As we prepare to reenter the house of the Lord ... to gather as His people once again before His altar (albeit with some very different practices in place), perhaps it's a good time to remind ourselves why it is that we gather in such a way. Some gather in churches because they feel that it's appropriate to acknowledge God at the start of the week and this sets thing off on the right foot. There are those who think that they should be there to offer the Lord the worship and praise that He is due; their gathering is a sacrifice that they offer to Him. Others gather together because they believe it will keep God's judgment at bay ... almost like a good-luck charm. Still others look at being in church as a social gathering, a place to be with like-minded people and to enjoy community with one another.

There are countless other reasons why people go to church on Sunday mornings and many of them have a kernel of truth to them. It *is* a good practice to start your week off in church. It *is* appropriate to offer God a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. It *is* good to be together with fellow Christians. But none of those are at the heart of why we gather.

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, He made a promise to His disciples. He had commanded them to go out and "make disciples." He told them to do it by "baptizing" and "teaching." And as they went, He gave them this guarantee: "Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20b, ESV) Through hatred ... government opposition ... contagious disease ... war ... persecution ... the early Church—and generations of it after—gathered together with the conviction that Jesus keeps His Word. He is with His Church. The Church gathers because Jesus has risen from the dead and remains with His Church.

Why do we gather? We gather because Jesus is with us. He's in the Word because He *is* the Word. He's with us in the Sacraments where the Word is joined to water ... or to bread and wine. We gather around these things because when everything is falling down around you, where else would you rather be than where Jesus is?

I want to thank you for your patient enduring with us over the past two months as we've navigated the COVID-19 pandemic. We will continue to do so with care for all those who enter our doors, as well as those who remain outside of them. Obviously, the Church can make no guarantees about the physical safety of its worshipers. We can take precautions. We can use sound judgment. But our lives are in the Lord's hands. But one thing we *can* guarantee: Jesus is with His Church. Jesus is with us. He continues to forgive by means of the blood that He shed for us. He continues to be with us in His Supper, as often as we gather to receive it. He continues to dwell in His Word, delivering to us all the promises of our heavenly Father.

It's good to be back! Thanks be to God, Jesus never left.

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

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Our plans are to reopen for Services on May 31. Our 8:00 am and 10:30 am Services will be Divine Service which we will offer Holy Communion. We will continue with our drive-in Services at **9:15** for those who are more comfortable not congregating inside the church. We will also offer a Divine Service on Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm which will also offer Holy Communion.

With a variety of Services, we are hopeful this will allow for Worship in smaller numbers.

Elders will be disinfecting pews between Services. We plan to take all precautions available to insure a safe environment for all of us.

Please continue to check our website and Facebook page for updates.

**PROTECTING EACH OTHER DURING COVID-19**

As we return to worship services, we all need to do our part to safeguard our neighbors. It is who we are as Christians. When attending service, please plan on doing the following:

- ☐ Stay home if you have ANY of these symptoms:
  - o A fever
  - o Chills
  - o A dry cough
  - o Shortness of breath
  - o Sore throat
  - o New loss of taste &/or smell
- ☐ Wear a mask if you feel the need.
- ☐ Stop at the Welcome Kiosk hand washing station to wash your hands and pick up bulletin.
- ☐ Sit in designated pews marked with blue tape, with your family members.

After service, exit by the office door to the parking lot. The Sanctuary will be cleaned by the Elder on duty between services for your safety.

## OFFICIAL ACTS OF THE CHURCH

No official acts to report

## 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 DATES to KEEP in MIND.

2022—NWD Convention—Green Bay, WI  
Sept 10-12—Fall Retreat—Camp Luther  
2021 Nat. LWML Convention—Lexington, KY  
2022 NWD Convention—Marquette, MI  
2023 Nat. LWML Convention



## LWML-LADIES' GUILD

### ***"Serve the Lord with Gladness"***

"All is changing, God Does Not Change." That's the title of devotion in the Spring *Mission Tidings*—written by Rev. Jonathan Wessel—Sr. Counselor NWD LWML. Also, 2018-2020 NWD Mission Grant Goal of \$107,000 was fully funded and surpassed!!! Final monies totaled \$109,500. Praise the Lord! Thank you to all of their mite contributions!

*Mission Tidings* were sent to all active LWML members and I encourage all to read these inspiring articles—along with proposed Grants & Officer candidates for NWD Convention. At present—plans are going forward for NWD Convention on June 14-16 BUT if plans change, it will be necessary to vote. Barb, Sherry and I will be delegates and will have to vote (don't know process yet) so please give us your choices so we can vote per your wishes.

Due to COVID—our April/May regular LWML meetings were cancelled and the Ladies Spring Banquet is postponed. We hope we can reschedule instead of cancel. We will keep you informed!

Special thanks and praise to Pastor Ruesch, family and Elders for the wonderful drive-in and social media coverage. Your efforts are greatly appreciated by all!

I am closing with a prayer from Christian Life chairman, Sue Pfeil, NWD. (May need a few adjustments due to COVID situation! But great thoughts.

### **Always Say A Prayer:**

There's work to do, deadlines to meet;

You've got no time to spare,  
But as you hurry and scurry,

### **A.S.A.P.—Always Say a Prayer.**

In the midst of family chaos,  
"Quality time" is rare.

Do your best; let God do the rest,

### **A.S.A.P.—Always Say a Prayer.**

It may seem like your worries  
Are more than you can bear.

Slow down and take a breather,

### **A.S.A.P.—Always Say a Prayer.**

God knows how stressful life can be;

He wants to ease your cares, and

He'll respond to all your needs,

### **A.S.A.P.—Always Say a Prayer.**

(Adapted) Author: Unknown

God's blessings and remember ASAP!

We encourage other ladies in the congregation to join us as soon as we can resume our gatherings. Call Caren 774-0182 or church 774-1844 if in need of a ride.

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

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Our Redeemer Children, Youth and Family Ministries

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- 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 Thursdays, 6:00 p.m. (Zoom)



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Camp Luther Update from Woody, Executive Director

At this time of great concern for us all, I sincerely hope that you and your loved ones are in good health. Thank you for the many prayers for all of us at camp! Your generosity and encouragement continue to be such an inspiration for our entire year-round staff. Through the abundance of His mercy, God continues to be faithful through His people. The words of encouragement we receive are truly a daily reminder of our Lord's presence during these uncertain times. Your kindness gives us hope!

Like you and your family, Camp is going through some challenging times. But there has been some great news that has lifted our spirits! Let this be an encouragement to you as well:

- So far in April, gifts have been received at Camp that total over \$40,000! Praise the Lord for this help when we need it most!
- A friend of Camp Luther contacted me about a \$10,688 Matching Gift! He and his family want to offer an opportunity for others to give right now. They believe that sharing the hope of Christ is more important now more than ever. Even their kids pooled their money to help! Every gift to camp right now will be matched dollar for dollar through this matching gift.
- Some families have extended their commitment for the Filled with the Spirit Campaign one more year with their gift going to the Outdoor Ministry Fund this year.
- Many who support camp who usually give at the end of the year are giving to camp now so that ministry can continue.
- Our North Wisconsin District LCMS continues to support the Camp Luther ministry with their monthly subsidy and Line of Credit. We give thanks to God for the strong partnership with our district!

What an example of living generously! God works through His people so that the ministry at Camp Luther continues to thrive now and for generations.

An update about Camp Luther:

- The staff continues to think of creative ways to be impactful to others and live out their mission. Camp @ Home has been a wonderful success so far and the staff continues to think of creative ways to build up all people in Christ.
- The online canteen was launched on April 4 and in two days received \$2000 sales. It's another way you can support camp. You can find clothing, hats, and other Canteen items for sale on their Facebook page.
- They continue to plan for Summer 2020 at Camp Luther and Keweenaw Base Camp. They intend to offer camps and programs this summer, if allowed to do so and can care for the health and well-being of everyone involved. Continue to pray that the "curve will be flattened", that fewer and fewer people will become sick from COVID 19, and that they can serve you and your family again in the near future.

Thank you to God for each of you who continue to lift the spirits of all of us here at Camp Luther and KBC. It is a wonderful reminder as we consider our 2020 theme verse, "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:14

*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.*

**PLEASE WATCH OUR WEBSITE AND  
FACEBOOK PAGE FOR UPDATES!**



## Serving in God's House This Month

Sunday Divine Service: 8:00 and 10:30 A.M.  
"Drive-In" Service 9:15 A.M.

## ELDERS SCHEDULE: TO BE DETERMINED

### May 31

8:00 am Organist: Don H.  
9:15 am Organist: *Digital Music*  
10:30 am Organist: Don H.

### June 7

8:00 am Organist: Don H.  
9:15 am Organist: *Digital Music*  
10:30 am Organist: Don H.

### June 14

8:00 am Organist: Don H.  
9:15 am Organist: *Digital Music*  
10:30 am Organist: Don H.

### June 21

8:00 am Organist: Marian V.  
9:15 am Organist: *Digital Music*  
10:30 am Organist: Marian V.

### June 28

8:00 am Organist: Don H.  
9:15 am Organist: *Digital Music*  
10:30 am Organist: Don H.

Wednesday Divine Service 7:00 P.M.

### June 3

7:00 pm Organist: *Digital Music*

### June 10

7:00 pm Organist: *Digital Music*

### June 17

7:00 pm Organist: *Digital Music*

### June 24

7:00 pm Organist: *Digital Music*

## ATTENDANCE TOTALS

Sunday, March 29 (9:00 AM)	110
Sunday, April 5 (9:00 AM)	128
Maundy Thursday, April 9 (6:00 PM)	46
Good Friday, April 10 (6:00 PM)	90
Easter Sunday, April 12 (7:00 AM)	14
Easter Sunday, April 12 (9:00 AM)	131
Sunday, April 19 (9:00 AM)	109
Sunday, April 26 (9:00 AM)	113
Sunday, May 3 (9:00 AM)	104
Sunday, May 10 (9:00 AM)	105
Sunday, May 17 (9:00 AM)	105



Health and Wellness Ministry

June

**What is high blood pressure?** High blood pressure (also referred to as HBP, or hypertension) is when your blood pressure, the force of blood flowing through your blood vessels, is consistently too high. If you have high blood pressure, you are not alone—nearly half of American adults have high blood pressure. (Many don't even know they have it.)

The best way to know if you have high blood pressure is to have your blood pressure checked.

**Know your numbers** Learn about your blood pressure numbers and what they mean. High blood pressure is a “silent killer” Most of the time there are no obvious symptoms. Certain physical traits and lifestyle choices can put you at a greater risk for high blood pressure. When left untreated, the damage that high blood pressure does to your circulatory system is a significant contributing factor to heart attack, stroke and other health threats.

**Preventing and managing HBP** This is one time that the old adage, “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure,” is particularly apt. It's best to avoid high blood pressure altogether. Healthy lifestyle choices are a great place to start. With proper treatment and management, you can control your blood pressure to help you live a long and healthy life. High blood pressure threatens your health and quality of life. In most cases, the damage done by high blood pressure (HBP, or hypertension) takes place over time. Left undetected (or uncontrolled), high blood pressure can lead to:

**Heart attack** — High blood pressure damages arteries that can become blocked and prevent blood flow to the heart muscle.

**Stroke** — High blood pressure can cause blood vessels in the brain to clog more easily or even burst.

**Heart failure** — The increased workload from high blood pressure can cause the heart to enlarge and fail to supply blood to the body.

**Kidney disease or failure** — High blood pressure can damage the arteries around the kidneys and interfere with their ability to filter blood effectively.

**Vision loss** — High blood pressure can strain or damage blood vessels in the eyes.

**Sexual dysfunction** — High blood pressure can lead to erectile dysfunction in men or lower libido in women.

**Angina** — Over time, high blood pressure can lead to heart disease or microvascular disease (MVD). Angina, or chest pain, is a common symptom.

**Peripheral artery disease (PAD)** — Atherosclerosis caused by high blood pressure can cause a narrowing of arteries in the legs, arms, stomach and head, causing pain or fatigue.

Can hypertension cause other problems?

When your blood pressure is too high for too long, it damages your blood vessels – and LDL (bad) cholesterol begins to accumulate along tears in your artery walls. This increases the workload of your circulatory system while decreasing its efficiency.

As a result, high blood pressure puts you at greater risk for developing life-changing and potentially life-threatening conditions.

Your best protection is knowledge, management and prevention

**Know your numbers** — The best way to know if you have high blood pressure is to have your blood pressure checked.

**Understand the symptoms and risks** — Learn what factors could make you more likely to develop high blood pressure and put you at risk for serious medical problems.

**Make changes that matter** — Take steps to reduce your risk and manage your blood pressure. Make heart-healthy lifestyle changes, take any medication as prescribed and work in partnership with your doctor.

High blood pressure and hypertensive crisis

If your blood pressure readings suddenly exceed 180/120 mm Hg, wait five minutes and then test your blood pressure again. If your readings are still unusually high, contact your doctor immediately. You could be experiencing a hypertensive crisis.



## LCMS- Stewardship-Ministry-Newsletter Article—June 2020

The sin of the world is paid for. God's Law has been kept perfectly on our behalf. The prophecies have all been fulfilled. Jesus Christ has finished it all! And that, dear Christians, should fill us with complete confidence in our salvation. Since Jesus has finished all these things in His self-sacrifice, we can be fully certain our sins are forgiven, and we have everlasting life!

St. Paul wrote: "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." (Rom. 12:1)

We hear the same teaching in 1 Peter. "As you come to him, a living stone, rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves, like living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 2:4-5)

It's the very thing Malachi foretold of the Lord, that He would come and purify His priestly people, that they may offer to Him an offering in righteousness. (Mal. 3:3)

So, what does this mean? In view of God's mercies – that is, because Jesus sacrificed Himself to make us pure, giving His entire self into death – Paul said that we are to sacrifice ourselves entirely to God, offering Him our whole lives. For our Savior did not give Himself for us in part. So, we do not give back to Him in part.

We don't offer ourselves to God just on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings, for example. Rather, we give Him our whole selves, all the time. We understand that offering ourselves to God as living sacrifices involves the giving of our time. It requires us to be faithful stewards of the time He has given us. Yes, it means we devote to our Savior all our time. Otherwise we are not sacrificing our whole lives.

You see, God both teaches us, and has graciously qualified us, to present ourselves to Him as living sacrifices – to live as His holy priests, who offer Him acceptable sacrifices through Jesus Christ, all day, every day, in our various callings.

In the passages from Romans and 1 Peter, we hear several examples of Christian self-sacrifice: serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, leading, showing mercy, living peaceably with others, submitting to governing authorities and those over us in the workplace, wives submitting to husbands, husbands honoring wives, showing compassion, and suffering patiently in doing good.

In all these things, and in all our other everyday activities, we sacrifice ourselves by using our time, not just for our own benefit, but also and especially for the well-being of others. Work time, school time, exercise time, study time, mealtime, chore time, recreation and relaxation time, even sleep time – it's all God's gift to us to use for purposes that please and honor Him.

This challenges us to think about the way we spend our time, how we utilize our talents, and the way we spend our treasures. Whatever it is I'm doing, am I doing it "for the Lord"? (Col. 3:23) Am I presenting God a living sacrifice? Am I conducting myself as a holy priest, whose sacrifice is acceptable to God?

Because our Lord sacrificed Himself wholly for us, we offer ourselves wholly to Him as living sacrifices. This is following Jesus in self-sacrifice. By His saving mercy, yes, our sacrifice is acceptable to God. For the sake of Jesus' finished work, God is pleased with us.



## June Birthdays

- 1 Casey A.  
Bradley H.
- 2 Sally G.  
Stefni H.  
Todd L.
- 3 Eli S.
- 5 Cynthia K.  
Heather R.  
Laurence M.
- 8 Myles M.
- 9 Don H.  
Lori L.  
Crystal N.
- 10 Dorothy J.  
Candy S.
- 11 Mary B.  
Maridol B.  
Amanda P.
- 12 Kim B.  
Stephanie B.  
Aliyah G.  
Mike W.
- 13 Julie M.  
David M.
- 15 Russell K.
- 16 William P.  
Olivia T.
- 19 Tyler B.  
Ronda J.  
Eric R.  
Brian T.
- 20 Steven K.  
Shelly T.  
Gene T.  
Nancy W.
- 21 Allyn N.  
Riley P.
- 22 Tracy V.

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

- 23 Maxwell P.  
Natalie P.
- 24 Barbara T.
- 25 John B.  
David W.
- 26 Sebastian T.
- 29 Tyler R.
- 30 Chloe H.

### 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.*



## June Anniversaries

- 4 Bruce & Kathy B.
- 8 Gilbert & Diane K.
- 12 Rodney & Barbara H.  
Don & Roxanne M.
- 15 Ken & Lori K.
- 16 David & Kathy P.
- 17 Paul & Kate M.
- 18 Robert & Jessica G.  
Ed & Carol T.
- 19 David & Sue P.
- 21 John & Carole E.  
Mark & Laura M.
- 23 Mike & Lynn C.
- 26 Richard & Teri S.
- 28 David & Sharon A.  
Eric & Heather K.
- 30 David & Heather S.

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



## June 2020

**Church Office Hours:**  
Office Closed Indefinitely  
**Pastor Ruesch's Office Hours:**  
By Appointment Only

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 6:30 P.M. Board of Elders (Zoom)	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>7:00 P.M. Divine Service*</b>	<b>4</b> 6:00 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>5</b> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <i>The Holy Trinity</i> <b>8:00 A.M. Divine Service*</b> <b>9:15 A.M. "Drive-In" Service</b> <b>10:30 A.M. Divine Service*</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> <b>7:00 P.M. Divine Service*</b>	<b>11</b> 6:00 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>12</b> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <i>1<sup>st</sup> S. after Trinity</i> <b>8:00 A.M. Divine Service*</b> <b>9:15 A.M. "Drive-In" Service</b> <b>10:30 A.M. Divine Service*</b>	<b>15</b> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 6:30 P.M. Church Council (Zoom)	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>7:00 P.M. Divine Service*</b>	<b>18</b> 6:00 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>19</b> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<b>20</b> <b>1:00 P.M. Linsmeyer-Antonissen Wedding</b>
<b>21</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> S. after Trinity</i> <b>8:00 A.M. Divine Service*</b> <b>9:15 A.M. "Drive-In" Service</b> <b>10:30 A.M. Divine Service*</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>7:00 P.M. Divine Service*</b>	<b>25</b> 6:00 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>26</b> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> S. after Trinity</i> <b>8:00 A.M. Divine Service*</b> <b>9:15 A.M. "Drive-In" Service</b> <b>10:30 A.M. Divine Service*</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<p>Worship Services in bold print.</p> <p>Holy Communion is offered at every Divine Service. (Marked with an asterisk*)</p>			

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

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
IRON MOUNTAIN, MI  
PERMIT NO. 196

**ELECTRONIC SERVICE  
REQUESTED**

## Ministry Staff

**Rev. Matthew Ruesch**      w: 906-774-1844      c: 906-396-7401  
Pastor      E-mail: [pastor@ourredeemerkingsford.org](mailto:pastor@ourredeemerkingsford.org)

**Renee Wilson**      w: 906-774-1844  
Secretary      E-mail: [secretary@ourredeemerkingsford.org](mailto:secretary@ourredeemerkingsford.org)  
Hours: Mon., Weds., Thurs. 8:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

**Tricia Osterberg, RN**      h: 715-589-3335  
Parish Nurse      E-mail: [parishnurse@ourredeemerkingsford.org](mailto:parishnurse@ourredeemerkingsford.org)

*Here to Serve!*

