

# THE REDEEMER READER

December A+D 2020

Volume 96, Issue 12



## OUR REDEEMER ON BREITUNG

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

420 W. Breitung Ave.

Kingsford, MI 49802

(906) 774-1844

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

Facebook: [ourredeemerkingsford](https://www.facebook.com/ourredeemerkingsford)

### Schedule of Services:

#### Sundays:

Divine Service	8:00 A.M.
Bible Study & Sunday School	9:15 A.M.
Divine Service*	10:30 A.M.

#### Wednesdays

(12/2, 12/9, & 12/16):

Service of Prayer and Preaching	7:00 P.M.
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*\*This service will also be streamed on Facebook Live. Access the livestream by visiting us at [facebook.com/ourredeemerkingsford](https://www.facebook.com/ourredeemerkingsford).*

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church is a congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, a denomination of nearly 2 million members in the United States and Canada. Learn more about The LCMS by visiting its website at [lcms.org](http://lcms.org) or on Facebook at [facebook.com/TheLCMS](https://www.facebook.com/TheLCMS).

## From the Pastor's Desk

*"Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world."*

- Hebrews 1:1-2 (ESV)

God is still speaking to His Church. Really.

If so, then what is He saying?

Well...what He's always been saying! He's convicting sinners of their guilt. He's freeing them in the blood of His Son shed upon the cross. In this Word that speaks to His Church, Jesus is with us.

Martin Luther, in the introduction to his German translation of the Old Testament, wrote, "The Bible is the cradle wherein Christ is laid." Luther rightly equated God's Word with Jesus. When God speaks to His people, Jesus is there. He is "the Word made flesh," as John's Gospel reminds us. (John 1:14)

I've been preoccupied over the last couple months with what Christmas will look like at Our Redeemer this year. Part of the problem is that I'm not just reflecting on three years at Our Redeemer as her pastor. I have a whole history of Christmases in this congregation that flood to mind whenever I think of December 24<sup>th</sup> spent at 420 W. Breitung Ave. Of course, it's clear to me that there's no way in which this Christmas will be like all the others. It will be undoubtedly different.

Or will it? Is Christmas about being able to sit shoulder to shoulder with a sanctuary packed full of people? Is it about following the same traditions each year? Is it about who can come to our homes or whether or not we can travel to the places we usually go?

Absolutely *not*. Christmas is about God with His people. And He's with His people in His Word. That's the essential thing. That's what ties together every Christmas before this one and every Christmas after this one. That's what ties all of God's people together, no matter where they are or where they gather. God's Word gives us Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins and the promise of eternal life with Him. Through that Word, God "has spoken to us by his Son." (Hebrews 1:2)

This Christmas, gather at the manger...the manger of *the Word*. I hope and pray that more and more of you will join us in gathering at the manger of God's Word during our Advent and Christmas services. And if you continue to be unable to come to the Lord's house for services, reach out to me so I can help connect you to the manger of the Word this Christmas in some other way!

In Christ our Lord,

Pastor Ruesch

2020 Advent, Christmas, & New Year's Schedule  
*(Please wear masks & social/distance at all services)*



**Midweek Advent Worship**

Wednesdays (12/2, 12/9, & 12/16) at 7:00 P.M.

**Christmas Eve Worship**

Thursday, 12/24 at 5:00 & 7:00 P.M.

**Christmas Day Divine Service (w/ Holy Communion)**

Friday, 12/25 at 9:15 A.M.

**New Year's Eve Divine Service (w/ Holy Communion)**

Thursday, 12/31 at 7:00 P.M.

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Board of Missions

Thank you to those who have made recent donations to Helping Hands. We made \$1056 on the Swedish Luncheon in August. Our balance for Helping Hands before the cost of the Thanksgiving Baskets and food pantry donations is \$3288.79.

**Gifts for Christmas;** consider our Giving Bean and Rada Cutlery fundraising groups. Giving Bean coffee can be accessed at the ORLC website under Helping Hands. Rada Cutlery can be accessed at [www.radafundraising.com](http://www.radafundraising.com) and selecting "your fundraising group" as Our Redeemer Michigan. There are also catalogues of the cutlery with order blanks on the table in the narthex. A blessed Christmas to all.

**Meetings are suspended until further notice.**

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

## OFFICIAL ACTS OF THE CHURCH

### Transfer In

Jason Lundy	October 28, 2020
Carol Lundy	October 28, 2020
Carmen Lundy	October 28, 2020
Cloe Lundy	October 28, 2020
Miles Lundy	October 28, 2020
Heather Berg	November 19, 2020

### Affirmation of Faith

Joseph Marcy	November 10, 2020
Paula Marcy	November 10, 2020
Wyatt Marcy	November 10, 2020
Ely Marcy	November 10, 2020

### Adult Confirmation

Thomas Loomis	November 1, 2020
Wendy Loomis	November 1, 2020
Jacob Lobner	November 1, 2020
Joseph Heyrman	November 1, 2020
Ann Guy	November 1, 2020
Hope Steinmetz	November 4, 2020
Patricia Thaler	November 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"*

Greetings to all—By the time you get this newsletter article we will have enjoyed the beauty and splendor of autumn; especially the spectacular views of foliage and sunsets, hunting season, and thanksgiving—the best we could—due to COVID-19 precautions!

Now its December and time to turn our thoughts and prayers to Advent and the birth of Baby Jesus. Please pay particular attention to schedules in the newsletter for special services—whether you attend in person, Zoom, Facebook or whatever (I'm not tech-savvy on all the proper terms.)

At this time the LWML gals are not planning our annual Christmas Luncheon but do plan a regular meeting Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall at 1 p.m. All ladies are welcome. Care packages were sent to out college students at our November meeting.

We especially encourage all to reach out to our shut-ins, sick and elderly with Christmas greetings, prayers, and memories. "Count your Blessings" and share them with others. You will be blessed in return!

National LWML chose Sept. 15 as their Giving Tuesday this year. All other organizations will have their normal "Giving Tuesday" on Dec. 1 which is the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving. NWD LWML thought we could have a "Giving Tuesday". What greater way to increase our mite offerings this year since we have not been able to be together for any events. Please submit your mite offerings and we can flood our District Financial Secretary's mailbox. Thank you for your support.

All of us in LWML wish all of you and your families and friends a Blessed Christmas—remembering "Jesus is the Reason for the Season". Also, continue to pray for our missionaries, church workers, and mission grants by filling Mite boxes and placing them in the large mite box in the Narthex. There is also a new supply of greeting and Christmas cards. Check the card supply table.

Best wishes for a wonderful Christmas season! Stay safe and stay healthy!

Sincerely, Caren & LWML



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Our Redeemer Children, Youth and Family Ministries

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- Sunday School Every Sunday @ 9:15 a.m. Sept. through May. All children are welcome!
  - Youth Confirmation Class Wednesdays 5:30 p.m. Sept. through May.
  - Bible Study Opportunities Sundays, 9:15 a.m. Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.
- 



**VISIT [WWW.CAMPLUTHER.COM](http://WWW.CAMPLUTHER.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THESE WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITIES.**

**GIVING TUESDAY** Giving Tuesday is a global day of generosity that started as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. The official date for Giving Tuesday 2020 is December 1, however, here at camp we are celebrating it November 22 – December 4! Also, this year we have a \$5,000 match, which means your gift is doubled!

You can ensure that Camp Luther continues to build up all people in Christ in a variety of ways:

- Pray – thank God for this great opportunity and that the support and gifts come in to meet our \$10,000 goal.
- Make a donation to the Outdoor Ministry Fund November 22 – December 4. You can give online here (choose Giving Tuesday in the “Fund” dropdown) or mail a check into camp between November 22 – December 4.
- \$100 will go towards the match for every act of kindness posted on Facebook or Instagram with #CampLutherActsofKindness and #GivingTuesday November 22 – December 4.
- Donate to Camp Luther through Facebook November 22 – December 4, 2020.

Mark your calendars for November 22 – December 4 and help meet our match for a total of \$10,000 raised!

***And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds...Hebrews 10:24***

**WINTER BLAST YOUTH & FAMILY RETREATS** January 8-10, January 15-17, January 22-24, and January 29-31. Families loved our fall retreats (and we loved hosting them), so we’re doing it again this winter! And this time, we’re opening them to youth groups as well. Housing, meals, and outdoor activities like cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and tubing are provided.

**JUNIOR COUNSELOR APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN** As a Junior Counselor, you will spend two weeks volunteering at camp. They will be some of the hardest and best weeks of your life. We’ve made some changes to our Junior Counselor program for Summer 2021, but you can be sure the incredible faith growth, personal development, and lasting friendships will remain.

**APPLY NOW FOR SUMMER STAFF 2021** We have a plan to bring kids back onsite for Summer 2021 – now we need you. Serving at camp is one of the most impactful, life-changing jobs you’ll ever have. Be the person you needed when you were younger. Join a close-knit community of people led by full-time staff committed to your personal development and support. The life that changes just might be your own. We’re currently hiring around 35 college-aged staff to serve as Counselors, Leadership Staff, and Support Staff (kitchen & maintenance). **APPLY TODAY!**

**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 Transmitted into the  
parking lot during the 10:30 A.M. Service

### December 6

**8:00 am** Elder: Ed T.  
Organist: Don H.  
**10:30 am** Elder: Damian T.  
Organist: Don H.

### December 13

**8:00 am** Elder: Gary P.  
Organist: Don H.  
**10:30 am** Elder: Mark M.  
Organist: Don H.

### December 20

**8:00 am** Elder: Ed T.  
Organist: Marian V.  
**10:30 am** Elder: Damian T.  
Organist: Marian V.

### December 27

**8:00 am** Elder: Dana B.  
Organist: Don H.  
**10:30 am** Elder: Mark M.  
Organist: Don H.

### Christmas Eve, December 24

**5:00 pm** Elder: Mark M.  
Organist: Don H.  
**7:00 pm** Elder: Dana B.  
Organist: Don H.

### Christmas Day, December 25

**9:15 am** Elder: Ed T.

### New Year's Eve, December 31

**7:00 pm** Elder: Gary P.

**Altar Guild for December:**

All Altar Guild Members

Wednesday Divine Service 7:00 P.M.

### Digital Music

**December 2, 7:00 pm**

**Elder:** Damian T.

**December 9, 7:00 pm**

**Elder:** David M.

**December 16, 7:00 pm**

**Elder:** David M.

### ATTENDANCE TOTALS

Wednesday, October 28 (7:00 PM)	10
Sunday, November 1 (8:00 AM)	31
In (10:30 AM)	36
Out (10:30 AM)	0
Wednesday, November 4 (7:00 PM)	11
Sunday, November 8 (8:00 AM)	39
In (10:30 AM)	26
Out (10:30 AM)	7
Wednesday, November 11 (7:00 PM)	9
Sunday, November 15 (8:00 AM)	25
In (10:30 AM)	34
Out (10:30 AM)	5
Wednesday, November 18 (7:00 PM)	3
Sunday, November 22 (8:00 AM)	41
In (10:30 AM)	25
Out (10:30 AM)	2
Wednesday, November 18 (7:00 PM)	3
Sunday, November 22 (8:00 AM)	41
In (10:30 AM)	25
Out (10:30 AM)	2
Wednesday, November 25 (7:00 PM)	32
Sunday, November 29 (8:00 AM)	32
In (10:30 AM)	49
Out (10:30 AM)	5

Health and Wellness Ministry

December

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## **Shingles: What you should know**

**What is shingles?** Shingles is a disease caused by the same virus that cause chickenpox; it's actually a reawakening of an old chickenpox infection. Shingles most often occurs in elderly people and people of any age with weakened immune systems. Common symptoms of shingles include a rash, usually in a band-line pattern on one side of the body, and severe pain. Sometimes the nerve pain can last for months or years.

**How common is shingles?** Every year in the United States, shingles affects approximately one million people. Individuals have about 20-30 % chance of getting shingles during their lifetime.

**How do you get shingles?** People don't catch shingles from other people. Only people who have had chickenpox can get shingles. Shingles occurs when chickenpox virus, which can live silently in the nervous system for decades, reawakens. This can be caused by a weakening of the immune system, most commonly from advancing age, but also from other causes such as the AIDS virus, or from immune-suppressive drugs used to treat cancers. Most often cases of shingles occur among adults who are otherwise healthy.

**Is shingles dangerous?** Yes. Although people almost never die from shingles, they can be severely hurt by it. Perhaps the most common complication is persistent, long-lived, debilitating nerve pain. The pain of shingles is typically severe and unrelenting and, unfortunately, is largely untreatable. Shingles can also affect the nerves around the eye area in approximately 15% of the people with the disease, occasionally causing reduced vision or even blindness.

**Is shingles contagious?** Yes. Although people with shingles cannot give someone else shingles, they can pass chickenpox virus to others through direct contact with the rash. If the rash has yet to develop or has crusted, it is not likely to be contagious.

**How can you avoid shingles?** Once a person has had chickenpox, he can get shingles. The only way to prevent it is with the shingles vaccine.

**Who should get the shingles vaccine?** People who are 60 years of age and older should receive the vaccine. Research shows the vaccine protects more than half of the recipients from getting shingles and about 2/3 from getting long-lasting shingles pain. Common side effects include redness, pain, swelling and itching at the injection site. Experiencing an episode of shingles in the past doesn't prevent someone from getting shingles in the future.



**LCMS- Stewardship-Ministry-Newsletter Article—December 2020**

Christmas is coming. It is a joyous time of feasting. The Church feasts upon the Word of God in sermon, song, and sacrament.

We hear the proclamation of the message of the angels: “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11). We mingle our voices with theirs as we sing, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased” (Luke 2:14)! We receive the proclaimed Savior, Christ the Lord, not wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in manger but wrapped in bread and wine placed into our mouths for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. We feast in great joy indeed because of this great blessing from our Lord and God.

God’s people in ancient Israel also feasted with great joy. The Lord showered His abundant blessing on His people. And He commanded them to feast upon it (Deuteronomy 16). The people were to go to the place appointed, where the Lord would make His name dwell, and give offerings, each man as he was able, according to the blessing of the Lord that He had given them (Deut. 16:10, 15, 17).

And there the Lord would bless them with joy as they feasted upon what the Lord had provided. They ate of the choice parts of their offerings. They enjoyed the company of all the people of God as they together heard His promises of blessing, sang of His bountiful goodness, and partook of what He gave.

We feast on the Word who became flesh to dwell among us, not just during Christmas but throughout all the year. We feast not just on the salvation He has wrought for us in His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, but we feast also on all the temporal blessings that God gives out of His fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us. We enjoy the rich bounty that God provides, not only in Word and Sacrament, but also in house and home, property and income, family and friends.

Let us then, as did our brothers in the faith from ancient Israel, give as we are able, according to the blessing of the Lord our God that He has given us. Let us, like them, give generously of the first fruits of our income, which He gives, so that all may know and enjoy the salvation He gives and the joy we have in the Savior born in the city of David, who is Christ the Lord.



## December Birthdays

- 2 Liam F.
- 7 Michael G.
- 8 Carol C.
- 9 Aiden L.  
Paul M.  
Trent P.
- 10 Lynn D.  
Jake S.
- 11 Don M.  
Emily M.  
Elizabeth P.
- 12 James M.  
Warren W.
- 14 Ryan C.
- 15 Jeremy P.  
Roger V.  
Matt W.
- 16 Gabi V.
- 17 Mike C.  
Paul R.
- 19 Carole E.  
Emma S.
- 21 Kacey P.  
Joseph M.  
Carol T.
- 22 Gary L.  
Roxie M.
- 25 Merri B.
- 26 Pauline L.
- 27 AJ G.
- 28 Robert T.
- 31 Becky B.  
Barb H.  
Kris M.

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

### Anniversary Prayer

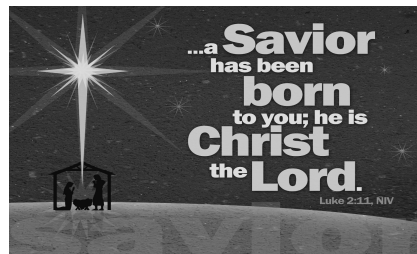
*O Lord, Your mercies are new every morning. We thank you for another year of life together for those we mention before you. We ask you to keep them open to receive always more of your love that their love for each other may never grow weary but deepen and grow through every joy and sorrow shared; for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



## December Anniversaries

- 1 Bill and Sheila B.  
Bob and Kathy P.
- 5 Gary and Jane L.
- 15 Rob and Rachel M.  
Jim and Vicki W.
- 16 Scott and Jacki B.
- 26 Glenn and Dorothy J.
- 27 Dana and Maridol B.
- 30 Bradley and Gina H.
- 31 Greg and Sandy H.

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







# December 2020

**\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\***  
 PLEASE CHECK THE CHURCH WEBSITE AT  
[OURREDEEMERKINGSFORD.ORG](http://OURREDEEMERKINGSFORD.ORG) OR THE  
 FACEBOOK PAGE AT  
[FACEBOOK.COM/OURREDEEMERKINGSFORD](https://www.facebook.com/OURREDEEMERKINGSFORD)  
 FOR COVID-19 RELATED UPDATES.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship Services in bold print.  Holy Communion is offered at every Divine Service. (Marked with an asterisk*)		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <i>Midweek of Ad Te Levavi</i> 5:30 P.M. Confirmation <b>7:00 P.M. Evening Prayer</b>	<b>3</b> 10:00 A.M. Bible Study	<b>4</b> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> S. in Advent (Populus Zion)</i> <b>8:00 A.M. Divine Service*</b> 9:15 A.M. Bible Study & Sunday School <b>10:30 A.M. Divine Service*</b>	<b>7</b> 6:30 P.M. Board of Elders	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <i>Midweek of Populus Zion</i> 5:30 P.M. Confirmation <b>7:00 P.M. Evening Prayer</b>	<b>10</b> 10:00 A.M. Bible Study	<b>11</b> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> S. in Advent (Gaudete)</i> <b>8:00 A.M. Divine Service*</b> 9:15 A.M. Bible Study & Sunday School <b>10:30 A.M. Divine Service*</b>	<b>14</b> 1:00 P.M. Ladies' Guild	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <i>Midweek of Gaudete</i> 10:00 A.M. Altar Guild 5:30 P.M. Confirmation <b>7:00 P.M. Evening Prayer</b>	<b>17</b> 10:00 A.M. Bible Study	<b>18</b> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> S. in Advent (Rorate Coeli)</i> <b>8:00 A.M. Divine Service*</b> 9:15 A.M. Bible Study & Sunday School <b>10:30 A.M. Divine Service*</b>	<b>21</b> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 6:30 P.M. Church Council	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <i>No Confirmation</i>	<b>24</b> <i>Christmas Eve</i> <b>5:00 P.M. Candlelight Evening Prayer</b> <b>7:00 P.M. Candlelight Evening Prayer</b>	<b>25</b> <i>Christmas Day</i> <b>9:15 A.M. Divine Service*</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <i>1<sup>st</sup> S. after Christmas</i> <b>8:00 A.M. Divine Service*</b> <b>10:30 A.M. Divine Service*</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <i>No Confirmation</i>	<b>31</b> <i>New Year's Eve</i> <b>7:00 P.M. Divine Service*</b>		

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

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IRON MOUNTAIN, MI  
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**ELECTRONIC SERVICE  
REQUESTED**



## Ministry Staff

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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.

*Here to Serve!*