

THE REDEEMER READER

January A+D 2021

Volume 97, Issue 1



OUR REDEEMER ON BREITUNG

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

420 W. Breitung Ave.

Kingsford, MI 49802

(906) 774-1844

www.ourredeemerkingsford.org

Facebook: /ourredeemerkingsford

Schedule of Services:

Sundays:

Divine Service 8:00 A.M.

Bible Study & Sunday 9:15 A.M.

School

Divine Service* 10:30 A.M.

Wednesdays:

Divine Service 7:00 P.M.

**This service will also be streamed on Facebook Live. Access the livestream by visiting us at 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 or on Facebook at facebook.com/TheLCMS.

From the Pastor's Desk

"But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."

- 2 Peter 3:8-9 (ESV)

"I can't wait for 2020 to be over!"

Have you had a thought like that go through your mind as the old year draws to a close and a new year approaches? The past year has definitely been one that we will remember...as individuals, as families, and as a congregation. It has brought struggles that we never dreamed we would have to face in our lifetimes.

And yet, I think we're all shrewd enough to know that the election being over, a vaccine being distributed, and a new calendar hanging on the wall doesn't change the reality that we live in a fallen world, tainted and corrupted by sin and Satan's schemes. If we think that merely turning the page from 2020 to 2021 will somehow solve the problems of our world and our lives, then we are fools.

Holy Scripture reminds us that it is our Lord God who orders our days and rules over time. Think about it: God is *beyond* time. He is the *Maker* of time. He is eternal...without beginning and without end. He is not bound by calendars...He isn't bound by months and years...He isn't bound by hours and seconds.

God is *beyond* time, but He does work *in time*. It was in the course of human history that God the Father sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to be born of a virgin in Bethlehem. It was through the unfolding of human events that He hung His Son to die upon a cross. He *has saved* you through events that happened in the past. He *is saving* you in the here and now as He comes to you with His precious gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. He *will save* you on the Last Day when Christ returns to judge the living and the dead.

St. Peter says that "with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." (2 Peter 3:8) He is not swayed or moved by the events of our world. He rules above it all in glory and might. And yet, as Peter reminds us, "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise." (2 Peter 3:9) He intervenes in time to save us with His loving grace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

My prayer for you is that in the year 2021 that the Lord God will do for you what He has always done: pour out His mercy upon you in the gifts given freely in Christ our Lord. And as He does that, I pray that you will be filled with hope and joy...no matter what the next year throws our way!

In Christ our Lord,

Pastor Ruesch

Our Redeemer Helping Hands Fundraiser

Rada Cutlery is ready for your order to benefit Helping Hands. We get 40% of the purchase.

Go to www.radafundraising.com and click on 'select your fundraising group' in the blue menu. Enter Our Redeemer into the group field and Kingsford MI for the location. You can shop for cutlery, gift sets, kitchen utensils and much more. Thank you to Kristi P. and Kathy P. for initiating this fundraiser and of course, for your support.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

We will continue with our Divine Service on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 P.M. with Holy Communion.

Our Sunday Schedule will be as follows: 8:00 A.M., Divine Service in the
Sanctuary with Holy Communion

10:30 A.M. Divine Service in the
Sanctuary with Holy Communion.

The 10:30 Service will also be transmitted into the parking lot for those who are more comfortable not congregating inside the church. Those in the parking lot will then be offered the option to come into the church afterwards to Commune. It will also continue to be live streamed on the Our Redeemer Facebook page.

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
- ☐ We encourage wearing a mask. Masks are available on the Welcome Kiosk
- ☐ 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.

Board of Missions

Hello,

Just a reminder that the Helping Hands of the Board of Missions is here to serve members of our congregation and the community through providing assistance for minor home repairs, yard work, and other small projects (wheelchair ramps are referred to Habitat for Humanity). Helping Hands also provides funding for our annual Thanksgiving Baskets.

Currently, we have a fund balance for Helping Hands of \$1807. We currently have a fundraiser going with Rada Cutlery, please refer to page two for details.

Please consider making a donation of any amount during this year. You may make out a check to Our Redeemer Helping Hands and mail it to the church or drop it in the collection basket after services. We hope you will prayerfully consider this donation.

Meetings are suspended until further notice.

Yours in Christ,

Carol T., Board of Missions Chair

OFFICIAL ACTS OF THE CHURCH

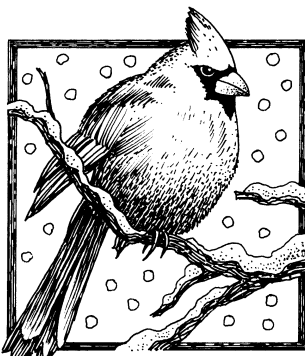
Change in Membership

Robert Rumpf

(DOD) December 9, 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.**



Winter



LWML-LADIES' GUILD

"Serve the Lord with Gladness"

Season's Greetings—Our Dec. LWML Meeting was opened with a special prayer: *"Always pray To have eyes that see the best in people, a heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad, and a soul that never loses faith in God."* In attendance at the meeting were Nancy W., Maridol B., Sherry C., Pastor, and we welcomed a new member: Kathy B. We had an abbreviated Bible Study on *"Live a Sparkling Life"* then addressed Christmas cards to our shut-ins. As in past years we gathered a Love offering of \$100 for the Bread of Life and Salvation Army Food Pantry. We also collected mites, shared stories, craft ideas and enjoyed a few Christmas cookies.

As we look forward to a better, healthier 2021 I'd like to share a special poem—*"Recipe for a Happy New Year"*

Take 12 whole months; remove all bitterness, hatred, and jealousy. Wash them in love, light, and life.

Then cut each into 28, 30 or 31 pieces, as desired. Set aside all but one portion. Prepare the daily portion, one day at a time, by adding the following ingredients: 1-part faith, 1-part patience, 1-part courage and 1-part honest work. Mix well.

Add to each day 1-part hope, faithfulness, generosity, and kindness. Blend with 7 parts prayers and 2 parts meditation. Add at least 1 good deed.

Season the whole with a dash of good spirits, a sprinkle of fun, a pinch of play and a cup of good humor. Carefully fold in friends and family until thoroughly combined.

Pour all ingredients into a vessel well oiled with harmony. Cook thoroughly over radiant accord until your heart tests warm and tender. Garnish with a smile and serve with quiet unselfishness and unending happiness. Yield: A Happy New Year filled with joy, peace, hope and love.

We pray all of you have had a wonderful holiday season celebrating the Joy and Blessings of our Lord Jesus in spite of the trials and heartaches of the Covid restriction.

Hopefully, many of you have attended Christmas & New Years services and enjoyed the beauty of Our Redeemer's Sanctuary—highlighted Manger & camels. Sure is a welcome sight to all believers. Thanks to all who made it happen!

Praise God for our many blessings and we look forward to a better, healthier New Year.

Blessings to all—
Caren, LWML Pres.

Our Redeemer Children, Youth and Family Ministries

- 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 FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THESE WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITIES.

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!**

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER 2021 OPENS ON JANUARY 1ST @ 8:00am!

To find out more details about this summer, including the steps we plan to take if necessary to safeguard the health and well-being of our campers during their time at Camp Luther, go to campluther.com/summer2021

PROGRAM CHANGES:

We're currently planning to limit the number of on-site campers each week to 60% of our normal capacity. This change means that we've reduced the number of specialty programs we plan to offer this summer. You can learn more about our Summer 2021 program schedule, including session dates and prices, on our website, here. Some important changes we want everyone to be aware of:

- No Retreat Center weekend programs this summer (to accommodate additional cleaning requirements in between different weeks of camp). We still want to give the youngest campers an opportunity to come to camp, so check out our weekday Explorer sessions (Grades 1-3) and our weekend Kindercamp Villages program (ages 4-7).
- No KBC camper programs, but high schoolers can check out our awesome High School Week for intentional community, crazy awesome activities, and deep faith talks.
- Village Glamping and Family Fun Days on various weekends throughout the summer, so the whole family can get in on the fun!
- Since the 4th of July is on a Sunday this year, we're offering a special Monday-Friday Pathfinder session July 5-9. This could be a good option if your camper is testing the waters of a week-long camp for the first time.

How to Register:

Our registration process has moved completely online. Register, fill out your forms, and pay your balance all in one place! Visit our website to access online registration and read our full registration policies. If you have already created an account for our online registration system, please use that account to complete the registration process. (You'll receive a reminder email with your log-in details on December 28th.) Otherwise, you will need to create a new account. Once in the system, follow the instructions to register for your chosen program.

If you rolled over your Summer 2020 payment or received an Every Kid to Camp certificate in 2020, you will be receiving a separate email explaining how to redeem those for Summer 2021.

Lastly, please don't hesitate to let us know if you encounter any problems with the registration process. You can email office@campluther.com or call our office at 715-546-3647. We're here to help! Our office will be closed December 31-January 3. If you call or email during that time, we'll get back to you as soon as we can starting on January 4th.

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
 Tune your radio to 107.1 FM

January 3

8:00 am Elder: Ed T.
Organist: Don H.

10:30 am Elder: Mark M.
Organist: Don H.

January 10

8:00 am Elder: Gary P.
Organist: Don H.

10:30 am Elder: Damian T.
Organist: Don H.

January 17

8:00 am Elder: Gary P.
Organist: Marian V.

10:30 am Elder: Mark M.
Organist: Marian V.

January 24

8:00 am Elder: Ed T.
Organist: Don H.

10:30 am Elder: Damian T.,
Organist: Don H.

January 31

8:00 am Elder: Ed T.
Organist: Don H.

10:30 am Elder: Jim R.
Organist: Don H.

Altar Guild for January:

Wednesday Divine Service 7:00 P.M.
Digital Music

January 6, 7:00 pm
Elder: David M.

January 13, 7:00 pm
Elder: David M.

January 20, 7:00 pm
Elder: Dana B.

January 27, 7:00 pm
Elder: Dana B.

ATTENDANCE TOTALS

Wednesday, December 2 (7:00 PM)	26
Sunday, December 6 (8:00 AM)	37
In (10:30 AM)	46
Out (10:30 AM)	4
Wednesday, December 9 (7:00 PM)	17
Sunday, December 13 (8:00 AM)	27
In (10:30 AM)	48
Out (10:30 AM)	8
Wednesday, December 16 (7:00 PM)	21
Sunday, December 20 (8:00 AM)	28
In (10:30 AM)	52
Out (10:30 AM)	2
Christmas Eve, December 24 (5:00 PM) (7:00 PM)	64 77
Christmas Day, December 25 (9:15 AM)	21
Sunday, December 27 (8:00 AM)	17
In (10:30 AM)	51
Out (10:30 AM)	0

Health and Wellness Ministry

January



Our Redeemer will have a "Baby Shower for Jesus" this year. The crib will be placed in the entryway on Jan. 10th. We appreciate such items as diapers, wipes, toys, baby clothes, Bibles, books, and whatever you would use for an infant.

GLAUCOMA What is glaucoma? It is a group of diseases that can damage the eye's optic nerve and result in vision loss and blindness. However, with early treatment, you can often protect your eyes against serious loss.

What is the optic nerve? The optic nerve is a bundle of more than 1 million nerve fibers. It connects the retina to the brain. The retina is the light-sensitive tissue at the back of the eye. A healthy optic nerve is necessary for good vision. When the optic nerve is damaged from increased pressure, open-angle glaucoma-and vision loss-may result . That's why controlling pressure inside the eye is important.

Does increased eye pressure mean that I have glaucoma? Not necessarily, it means you are at risk for glaucoma. A person has glaucoma only if the optic nerve is damaged.
Can I develop glaucoma if I have increased eye pressure? Not necessarily, not every person with increased eye pressure will develop glaucoma. Some people can tolerate higher eye pressure better than others.

Can I develop glaucoma without an increase in my eye pressure? Yes. Glaucoma can develop without increased eye pressure. This form of glaucoma is called low-tension or normal-tension glaucoma. It is not as common as open-angle glaucoma.

What is the risk for open-angle glaucoma? Anyone can develop glaucoma. Some people are at higher risk than others. They include African Americans over the age of 40; everyone over the age of 60, especially Mexican Americans; people with a family history of glaucoma.

What are the symptoms of glaucoma? At first, open-angle glaucoma has no symptoms. It causes no pain. Vision stays normal. As glaucoma remains untreated, people may miss objects to the side and out of the corner of their eye. Without treatment, people will slowly lose their peripheral vision. They seem to look through a tunnel.

Can glaucoma be cured? No. There is no cure for glaucoma.

Can glaucoma be treated? Yes. Immediate treatment for early stage, open-angle glaucoma can delay progression of the disease. Treatments include medicines, laser trabeculoplasty, conventional surgery, or a combination of any of these,



LCMS- Stewardship-Ministry-Newsletter Article—January

It's a new year. It's a time when we take stock of the year past in order to improve the year to come. It's a time when we sit down to plan and implement what we want to accomplish and even change. Part of that is planning our stewardship for the coming year.

Often, we find this difficult and daunting and even joyless, but it doesn't have to be. In fact, it is really quite simple and full of joy. So, here are some tips to make that planning less stressful. You begin by answering these three questions:

- Who are you?
- To whom do I give?
- And how much?

So, who are you? The Table of Duties in the *Luther's Small Catechism* informs us. Are you a hearer of God's Word? Are you a citizen of society? Are you a member of a family? Stewardship covers these three estates: church, society, and family. We don't particularly struggle to give to society or family. Our struggles, our difficulties, and our questions arise in giving to the Church.

So, what is our duty as members of the Church with regard to giving? Again, the Table of Duties, gives us a guide. If you are a hearer – a member of the Church who receives instruction – St. Paul taught: "Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches" (Gal. 6:6). This means the local congregation is primary.

Your pastor is the one called to preach the Gospel to you and administer the Lord's blessed sacraments to you. Your congregation is the place where those things happen. Thus, when God calls us to give to the Church, He has the local congregation in mind. For "the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel" (1 Cor. 9:14).

How much do we give to the local congregation? Our only instructions are to give:

- Regularly (1 Cor. 6:1–2);
- Proportionally (1 Cor. 16:1–2; 2 Cor. 8:12);
- Generously (2 Cor. 8:20);
- Of our first fruits (Gen. 4:4; Prov. 3:9; Lev. 27:30); and
- With a spirit of eagerness (2 Cor. 9:2), earnestness (2 Cor. 8:7), cheerfulness (2 Cor. 9:7), and love (2 Cor. 8:23).

In other words, giving to the Church is not to be an afterthought, given after everything else is spent. In this way, it is deliberate. We give regularly – weekly, biweekly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly – keeping in mind our own strengths, weaknesses, and limitations. We set it aside beforehand – before anything else is spent.

From those first fruits, we set aside a proportionate and generous amount. Ten percent was the standard for the Israelites. This was a command for the ancient Israelites. We can give as much as we want, but ask yourself: Do we really want to be less generous than was commanded of the Israelites? Is the job of the New Testament Church bigger or smaller than the job given to Israel?

And how are we to give it? We give it with eagerness and earnestness. We give it cheerfully and with love, not out of compulsion. For through the preaching of the Gospel and the administration of the sacraments, God has made us His children, forgiven us all our sins, given us grace upon grace, promised us life everlasting with Him in His kingdom, and filled us with His own Spirit, the Holy Spirit. This makes giving a joy, as Jesus said, "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

It's that easy. And it is joyful. For in stewardship, our gracious and giving Lord invites us to take part in the work that He accomplishes here on earth, providing for the ongoing preaching of the Gospel as well as those who are in need. Taking part in that makes all our work holy – work that is done in service to the Lord as priestly members of His kingdom.



January Birthdays

- 1 Jim C.
- 2 Heavyn B.
Devin J.
Katie P.
Anna V.
- 3 Kaitlynn E.
Gary P.
- 4 Kevin M.
- 5 Michael T.
- 6 Jim H.
- 7 Caren E.
Tracy T.
- 9 Arden S.
- 11 Ryan H.
Kathleen M.
Parker R.
Cody T.
- 12 Eric L.
Rev. Matthew R.
- 13 Amanda S.
- 15 Eric K.
- 16 Brett S.
- 17 Katrina S.
- 18 Shirley M.
Andy R.
Alexis R.
- 20 Cat O.
Jon O.
Donna T.
- 22 Conlan C.
Chelsea N.
Everett O.

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

- 23 Barb M.
- 24 Nora R.
- 25 Michael M. II
- 27 David A.
Kelsey K.
- 30 Brenda S.

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.

January Anniversaries

- 3 Gary and Marsha S.
- 20 David and Kathleen M.
- 22 Sally and Terry C.
- 27 Andrew and Claire V.



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



January 2021

*****NOTE*****
 PLEASE CHECK THE CHURCH WEBSITE AT
OURREDEEMERKINGSFORD.ORG OR THE
 FACEBOOK PAGE AT
FACEBOOK.COM/OURREDEEMERKINGSFORD
 FOR COVID-19 RELATED UPDATES.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 <i>2nd S. after Christmas</i> 8:00 A.M. Divine Service* 9:15 A.M. Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Divine Service*	4 6:30 P.M. Board of Elders	5	6 <i>The Epiphany of Our Lord</i> 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	7	1 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	3
					8	9
				Pastor Ruesch on Vacation		
10 <i>The Baptism of Our Lord</i> 8:00 A.M. Divine Service* 9:15 A.M. Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Divine Service*	11 1:00 P.M. Ladies' Guild	12	13 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	14	15	16
Pastor Ruesch on Vacation						
17 <i>2nd S. after the Epiphany</i> 8:00 A.M. Divine Service* 9:15 A.M. Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Divine Service*	18 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 6:30 P.M. Church Council	19	20 10:00 A.M. Altar Guild 5:30 P.M. Confirmation 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	21 10:00 A.M. Bible Study	22 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	23
24 <i>The Transfiguration of Our Lord</i> 8:00 A.M. Divine Service* 9:15 A.M. Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Divine Service* 6:30 P.M. Quarterly Voters Meeting	25	26	27 5:30 P.M. Confirmation 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	28 10:00 A.M. Bible Study	29 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	30
31 <i>Septuagesima</i> 8:00 A.M. Divine Service* 9:15 A.M. Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Divine Service*	Worship Services in bold print. Holy Communion is offered at every Divine Service. (Marked with an asterisk*)					

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

Renee Wilson w: 906-774-1844
Secretary E-mail: 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

Here to Serve!

