

THE REDEEMER READER

December A+D 2021

Volume 98, Issue 12



OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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

Schedule of Services

Sundays:

Divine Service	9:00 A.M.
Fellowship	10:15 A.M.
Sunday School, Youth Group & Bible Study	10:30 A.M.

Wednesdays:

Midweek Advent Service	7:00 P.M.
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Our Redeemer 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](https://www.facebook.com/TheLCMS).

From the Pastor's Desk

"Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

- Philippians 2:5-11 (ESV)

At this time of year, we're perhaps a bit more mindful than normal that it's appropriate to worship our Lord Jesus Christ. We find time apart from Sunday mornings for attending services. We post on Facebook about Jesus as the true "reason for the season." We display our nativity sets and delight in Christmas carols that herald the Savior's birth.

Jesus is indeed worthy of worship. He is, after all, King of kings and Lord of lords. But the "spirit" of Christmas isn't our worship of Christ (fitting as it is). The "spirit" of Christmas is found in Jesus' *humility*. As St. Paul writes in Philippians 2, "He (Jesus) humbled himself." Don't be misled by that word *humbled*. Jesus' *humility* isn't that He was born in a little town like Bethlehem. It isn't that He was laid in a manger. It isn't that He was worshiped by shepherds and wise men. His *humility* is in His taking on humanity in every regard. The great and mighty God of heaven and earth—worthy of all worship, honor, glory, and praise—sets aside His power and might and embraces our human life as one of us.

It is fitting at Christmas to be mindful of what we should offer to Jesus our King. As Paul says, "At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." Yet the "spirit" of Christmas is in what Jesus offers to us. He sets aside what He is owed as the God and Creator of all in order to be the Redeemer of creation.

Each and every celebration of the Church, be it Christmas or Easter or Pentecost or any day in between is best spent doing what the Church does: receiving good things from the One who takes on "the form of a servant." Jesus is born, the humble Servant, to serve you with forgiveness, life, and salvation.

So do what the Church does this Christmas. Be forgiven by the Word spoken over you. Receive life in the body and blood of Jesus poured out for you. Take comfort in the salvation that is yours because the One worthy of all praise has humbled Himself for you.

In Christ our Lord,

Pastor Ruesch

****IMPORTANT NOTICE****

**December 2021 will be the last newsletter that will be mailed out!!
We will continue to mail the newsletters to our shut-ins and snowbirds.**

**You may find the newsletter on our website,
www.ourredeemerkingsford.org. Click on the resources tab and then on
newsletter.**

**Beginning January 2022, newsletters will be available for pick-up at the
church. They will be located on the welcome kiosk in the Narthex by the
beginning of the month.**

**Don't forget to "like" and "follow" us on facebook, Our Redeemer
Lutheran Church, Kingsford, MI. You can keep up with all the current
activities.**

Thank you!!!!

Board of Missions

Our Swedish Luncheon is cancelled and will be rescheduled after the new year.

Consider our ongoing fundraising at Giving Bean Coffee and Rada Cutlery. Giving Bean coffee can be accessed at the ORLC website under Helping Hands. Rada Cutlery can be accessed at 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. Thank you for your continued support. Please call the church office if you have any needs that Helping Hands may assist with. Helping Hands would like to thank members who ordered from Rada Cutlery's Our Redeemer Fund page so far. We raised \$279!

Next Meeting: Will be announced

Yours in Christ,

Carol T., Board of Missions Chair

OFFICIAL ACTS OF THE CHURCH

Release

Adam Ruesch	November 11, 2021
Brad Ruesch	November 30, 2021
Ketan Gargash	November 30, 2021
Parker Ruesch	November 30, 2021
Easton Ruesch	November 30, 2021

87 released at the Nov 14, 2021 voters meeting for inactivity.

Transfer Out

Matthew Weiss	November 30, 2021
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Transfer In

David McFarland	November 30, 2021
Kimberly McFarland	November 30, 2021
Logan McFarland	November 30, 2021
Hayden McFarland	November 30, 2021
Katie McFarland	November 30, 2021

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"

Our LWML Ladies had several quilting bees and completed ten beautiful quilts to be shipped to Grace Lutheran Church in Houma LA. Barb C. coordinated the project and made it happen. Quilts were dedicated both at the LWML Nov. meeting and following church service by pastor Matt Ruesch on Nov. 14th. They will be packed and mailed this week. They will be a very welcome Thanksgiving for disaster victims. Barb had had personal conversations with Pastor Richard Rudnik and will personally distribute to special recipients. Thanks again Barb and gals for all your efforts.

Dec. 13th will be the Annual Christmas Luncheon, party, and program. Always a fun event to celebrate the real meaning of Christmas. Boxed luncheon (\$12 per dinner) and will be served at noon in the fellowship hall. Please sign the SIGN-UP sheet with meal choice in the Narthex.

A LWML Christmas sale will be held Dec. 5th before and after church service with assist items—especially gorgeous jewelry donated by Dorothy J. Proceeds will be added to the LOVE OFFERING taken at the Christmas luncheon.

Much discussion took place regarding the new flooring (in entry) to be extended into the Narthex. Motion was made to present to voters meeting Nov. 14th to raise funding, estimates were presented, and motion was made to use Building Fund money (to be replaced with flooring fund raiser). Progress will be displayed on a graph chart to encourage giving. We aim to beautify the Narthex to welcome members and visitors to our church. Earmark your Building Fund money to Flooring Fund! Nonslip will also be purchased for entry to preserve flooring and prevent slipping and falling.

Upcoming events in 2022:

- Hosting Zone 2 LWML Rally—details announced soon. Apr/May
- Ladies Spring Banquet to return (spring instead of late summer) Plans are being formulated. Watch for further news!

As always, we encourage other ladies to join us.

Wishing all a wonderful Christmas Season celebrating the birth of Jesus as the real reason for the Season. Join us at the special Advent Wed 7 pm services, Christmas Eve/Children's Christmas Program and Christmas Day.

God Bless,
Caren and LWML gals
Serve the Lord with Gladness



Our Redeemer Children, Youth and Family Ministries

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

VISIT WWW.CAMPLUTHER.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THESE WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITIES.



CAMP LUTHER WINTER BLAST YOUTH RETREATS *January 14-16, 21-23, & 28-30*

It's not too early to consider joining one of Camp Luther's many Winter Blast Youth Retreats this winter! Bring a middle school or high school group to experience a weekend in the Northwoods that's full of adventure, laughter, and some amazing hot chocolate. More than that, this weekend will provide your group with the opportunity to recharge and be reminded again of who they are in Jesus Christ.

CAMP LUTHER SUMMER STAFF 2022 *Application Now Open!* A summer at camp can change your life in a way that not many jobs can. You'll get paid to do things like kayak, go on hikes, dance around the campfire, roast s'mores, and talk to kids about Jesus. You'll wake up every morning knowing you get a chance to make a difference and experience the rhythms of a life centered around faith, community, and incredible fun. Apply today! For more details on being a part of a life-changing summer, check out campluther.com/summerstaff

JC APPLICATIONS SUMMER 2022 *Application Now Open!* Our Junior Counselor program is for high school students who are in 10th-12th grade. As a Junior Counselor, you will spend two weeks volunteering at camp, working with our summer staff to help lead a small group of campers. You'll be mentored and encouraged as you follow Jesus Christ, and you'll get to be part of an unforgettable community of your fellow JC's. Applications are open at campluther.com/juniorcounselor and due by February 1st! Come serve at camp!

SUMMER REGISTRATION 2022 *opens Jan. 4th* Camp Luther summer youth camps provide an incredible, faith-filled experience for campers from Kindergarten all the way through High School. It's our goal that everyone who attends Camp Luther is encouraged and strengthened in their faith through authentic community, outstanding staff, experiential activities, and intentional faith building. Come experience the power of camp this summer!

AMAZON WISH LIST Camp Luther's Wish List is a continually updated listing of current improvements needed at camp. You can purchase items directly from our Amazon Wish List! Choose what pre-selected items you'd like to give. Add them to your cart and proceed to checkout as usual. The items will be mailed directly to us. Thank you for the ways you continue to support Camp Luther! Check out the wishlist at campluther.com/wishlist

Successful Golf Classic! Thank You! Thank you to all of you who golfed, those who won auction items, and all sponsors of the 2021 Golf Classic in June! It's because of YOU that 52 kids will be able to come to Camp Luther for their first time, thank you. Over \$26,000 was raised at this year's Golf Classic. Save the date! Next summer's Golf Classic will be: **June 17, 2022!**

Check out our website for all the wonderful opportunities to enjoy Camp to it's fullest. We have retreats and cabin rentals. Fall is a great time to enjoy the great outdoors. There are also great opportunities at KBC, you will find all the information on our website.

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected everyone, including Camp Luther. Your financial gifts are especially appreciated during this time.



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

Serving in God's House This Month

The 9:00 a.m. Divine Service is being live streamed on the Our Redeemer Facebook page www.facebook.com/ourredeemerkingsford.

A link to the bulletin will be available as well.

December 5

9:00 am Elders: Gary P. & Mark M.

Organist: Don H.

Acolyte: Nora R.

December 12

9:00 am Elders: Jim R. & Ed T.

Organist: Don H.

Acolyte: Jesse G.

December 19

9:00 am Elders: Gary P. & Ed T.

Organist: Marian V.

Acolyte: Jacob H.

December 26

9:00 am Elders: Mark M. & Ed T.

Organist: Don H.

Acolyte: Aiden L.

Altar Guild for December:

Maridol B. & Nancy W.

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.

Wednesday Divine Service 7:00 P.M.

Digital Music

December 1

Elder: Damian T.

Acolyte: Zaeda B.

December 8

Elder: Dana B.

Acolyte: Analise M.

December 15

Elder: Dana B.

Acolyte: Lillie W.

December 24, Christmas Eve

7:00 pm Elder: Jim R.

Acolyte: Jeremiah W.

11:00 pm Elder: Jim R.

December 25, Christmas Day

9:00 am Elder: Jim R.

Acolyte: Logan F.

December 31, New Years' Eve 7:00 pm

Elder: Damian T.

Acolyte: Zaeda B.

ATTENDANCE TOTALS

Wednesday, October 27 (7:00 PM)	13
Sunday, October 31 (9:00 AM)	106
Wednesday, November 3 (7:00 PM)	20
Sunday, November 7 (9:00 AM)	101
Wednesday, November 10 (7:00 PM)	17
Sunday, November 14 (9:00 AM)	96
Wednesday, November 17 (7:00 PM)	14
Sunday, November 21 (9:00 AM)	69
Wednesday, November 24 (7:00 PM)	24
Sunday, November 28 (9:00 AM)	81

December is National Safe Toys and Gifts Month

In recent years, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has created a robust toy safety system, by requiring testing by independent, third-party testing laboratories around the world; enforcing stringent lead and phthalates limits for toys; imposing some of the most stringent toy standards in the world; and stopping violative and dangerous toys at the ports and in the marketplace before they reach children's hands. These combined efforts continue to foster the confidence of American families as they prepare to shop for toys this holiday season.

Safety tips to keep in mind this holiday season:

Balloons

Children can choke or suffocate on deflated or broken balloons. Keep deflated balloons away from children younger than eight years old. Discard broken balloons immediately.

Small balls and other toys with small parts

For children younger than age three, avoid toys with small parts, which can cause choking.

Scooters and other riding toys

Riding toys, skateboards and in-line skates go fast, and falls could be deadly. Helmets and safety gear should be worn properly at all times and they should be sized to fit.

Magnets

High-powered magnet sets are dangerous and should be kept away from children. Whether marketed for children or adults, building and play sets with small magnets should also be kept away from small children.

Once gifts are open:

- Immediately discard plastic wrapping or other toy packaging before the wrapping and packaging become dangerous playthings.
- Keep toys appropriate for older children away from younger siblings.
- Battery charging should be supervised by adults. Chargers and adapters can pose thermal burn hazards to young children. Pay attention to instructions and warnings on battery chargers. Some chargers lack any mechanism to prevent overcharging.

Toy Safety Guides

The CPSC provides free safety alerts, guides, posters, brochures, handbooks and other materials which you can use to help spread consumer product safety information in your community.

- [Choking Hazard: Plastic Film on Toys and Other Children's Products »](#)
- [Strings and Straps on Toys Can Strangle Young Children »](#)
- [Ingested Magnets Can Cause Serious Intestinal Injuries »](#)
- [Balloons Can be Suffocation Danger to Kids »](#)
- [Caps for Toy Guns »](#)
- [Electric Toy Safety »](#)
- [Child Safety Protection Act Fact Sheet »](#)
- [CPSC Warns Consumers of Dangers with Toy Chest Lids »](#)
- [Button Battery Safety Quiz »](#)



LCMS- Stewardship-Ministry-Newsletter Article—December

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the great physician of both body and soul, healed a man with dropsy by His Word on the Sabbath (Luke 14:1–6). Dropsy is a paradoxical ailment, with an unquenchable craving for drink even though the body is over inflated with fluid, a craving that, when indulged, served not to ease but to feed the disease.

And so, if a man drinks a great deal but is never filled, he sees a doctor to inquire about what ails him, what is wrong with his body, and how to remedy it. For that is not thirst but a disease (Seneca, *Consolation to His Mother Helvia*, 11.3).

But if the owner of five couches goes looking for 10, or the owner of 10 tables buys up as many again, and even though he has plenty of land and money, he remains unsatisfied and desires yet more, losing sleep and always in discontent, does he not also require a physician to diagnose the cause of this distress?

For this is not want or lack, it's a disease (Aristippus, quoted in Plutarch, *Love of Wealth*, 524b). As St. Augustine of Hippo wrote, “we may rightly compare the dropsical man to a covetous rich man: For the more the one is swollen with excess of water, the more he thirsts; so also the other: The more he abounds in riches ... the more eagerly he desires them” (*The Sunday Sermons of the Great Fathers*, 4:135). Both require physicians. Both require diagnosis and medicine applied from the outside to the inward being. For these are not desires to be fulfilled but diseases to be cured.

This is why our Lord instructs us to not to be consumed by money. “No one can serve two masters ... You cannot serve God and money” (Matt. 6:24; Luke 16:13). Our desire for money, like the disease dropsy, is never satisfied. We always desire more. We think, “If I just had this much then I would be happy.”

But even when that much comes, which God gladly gives, happiness evades us. The desire for more is never satisfied. It demands our constant energy, either in procuring more or protecting what we already have. When this happens, God, in His mercy, shows us that the money that He has given is no longer serving us, but we it. We have another master.

To overcome this, we need a physician's diagnosis and a physician's remedy. And our Lord Jesus Christ, our great physician of both body and soul, applies His Word to us as He did to the man healed of dropsy. He shows us how we have put our fear, love, and trust in our money and not feared, loved, and trusted in Him above all things.

In essence, He says, “Stop chasing after these fleeting things. They are vanity. They are the things that moth and rust destroy. You cannot have two masters. Repent!” And in seeing our great error, we are sorry that we have not fully feared, loved, and trusted in God above all things. And, in the mercy and grace that He earned for us on the cross, He takes away this sin, restores us to health, and bids us to live.

But then what? What do we do with this healing balm and care that our great physician has given? Do we simply go back to our old ways? “By no means!” St. Paul says (Rom. 3:31; 6:2). We do not just go back to the old ways, the ways that lead us to death. No, we live a new life, a life filled with the grace, mercy and love of God toward us. And God's great mercy, grace, and love toward is so abundant that it overflows and pours out onto those around us.

So we no longer hoard money and possessions. We no longer scrape and crawl our way to amass more. We give to those around us, as God in Christ has given to us. We press our money and possessions into service for those who need it: our family, our society and our church. For money is God's gift to us to serve us and others. Not the other way around. It serves us because it is a gift from our Father in heaven.



December Birthdays

- 2 Liam F.
- 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.
- 16 Gabi V.
- 17 Mike C.
Paul R.
- 19 Carole E.
Emma S.
- 21 Jamie B.
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

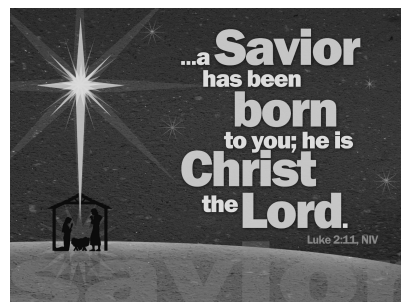
O Lord, Your mercies are new every morning. We thank you for another year of life together for those we mention before you. We ask you to keep them open to receive always more of your love that their love for each other may never grow weary but deepen and grow through every joy and sorrow shared; for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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Worship Services in bold print.</p> <p>Holy Communion is offered at every Divine Service. (Marked with an asterisk*)</p>			<p>1 <i>Midweek of Advent 1</i> 9:00 A.M. Service at Maryhill Manor 5:30 P.M. Youth Confirmation 7:00 P.M. Midweek Advent Service</p>	<p>2 10:00 A.M. Bible Study</p>	<p>3 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i></p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 <i>2nd S. in Advent</i> 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:15 A.M. Fellowship 10:30 A.M. Bible Study, Youth Group, & Sunday School</p>	<p>6 6:30 P.M. Board of Elders</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 <i>Midweek of Advent 2</i> 5:30 P.M. Youth Confirmation 7:00 P.M. Midweek Advent Service</p>	<p>9 10:00 A.M. Bible Study</p>	<p>10 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i></p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 <i>3rd S. in Advent</i> 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:15 A.M. Fellowship 10:30 A.M. Bible Study, Youth Group, & Sunday School</p>	<p>13 12:00 P.M. LWML Christmas Luncheon 6:30 P.M. Church Council</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 <i>Midweek of Advent 3</i> 5:30 P.M. Youth Confirmation 7:00 P.M. Midweek Advent Service</p>	<p>16 10:00 A.M. Bible Study</p>	<p>17 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i></p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 <i>4th S. in Advent</i> 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:15 A.M. Fellowship 10:30 A.M. Bible Study, Youth Group, & Sunday School</p>	<p>20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i></p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> 7:00 P.M. Candlelight Vespers & Children's Program 11:00 P.M. Divine Service*</p>	<p>25 <i>Christmas Day</i> 9:00 A.M. Divine Service*</p>
<p>26 <i>1st S. after Christmas</i> 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:15 A.M. Fellowship</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 <i>New Year's Eve</i> 7:00 P.M. Divine Service*</p>	

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
420 West Breitung Avenue
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Ministry Staff

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Here to Serve!