

THE REDEEMER READER

January A+D 2022

Volume 99, Issue 1



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

Wednesdays:

Divine Service	7:00 P.M.
(1/12, 1/19, 1/26)	

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.

Bringing to Light What is “Hidden”

“To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.”

- Ephesians 3:8-10 (ESV)

Epiphany gets overwhelmed by Christmas on our Church Year Calendar. Christmas is such a big deal culturally in the United States with time off from work, family plans, and decorations in the stores as soon as Halloween is done...is it any wonder that people are ready for a break? The culture basically celebrates Christmas from Thanksgiving right up until Christmas Day. Then the trees are yanked down, the lights are unplugged, and all the decorations are stuffed away until the following year.

But in the Church, Christmas doesn't begin until December 25th (the first of the “12 Days of Christmas”). This season of Christmas actually *culminates* in the celebration of Epiphany on January 6th. In many Latin American countries, “Christmas” is celebrated well into January and Epiphany is known as “Three Kings Day” and children put out boxes of grass for the kings’ camels. The kings then leave gifts for the children, just as they bring gifts to the newborn King, Jesus Christ.

The word “Epiphany” means “revelation” or “uncovering.” At Epiphany, we celebrate that Jesus is born not only to be the Savior of the Jews. He’s born to be *your Savior*. He’s born to be *my Savior*. He is the One who is not only *from* God...He *is* God. He is revealed to have all power, might, and majesty...even though that power, might, and majesty are “hidden” in the form of a baby.

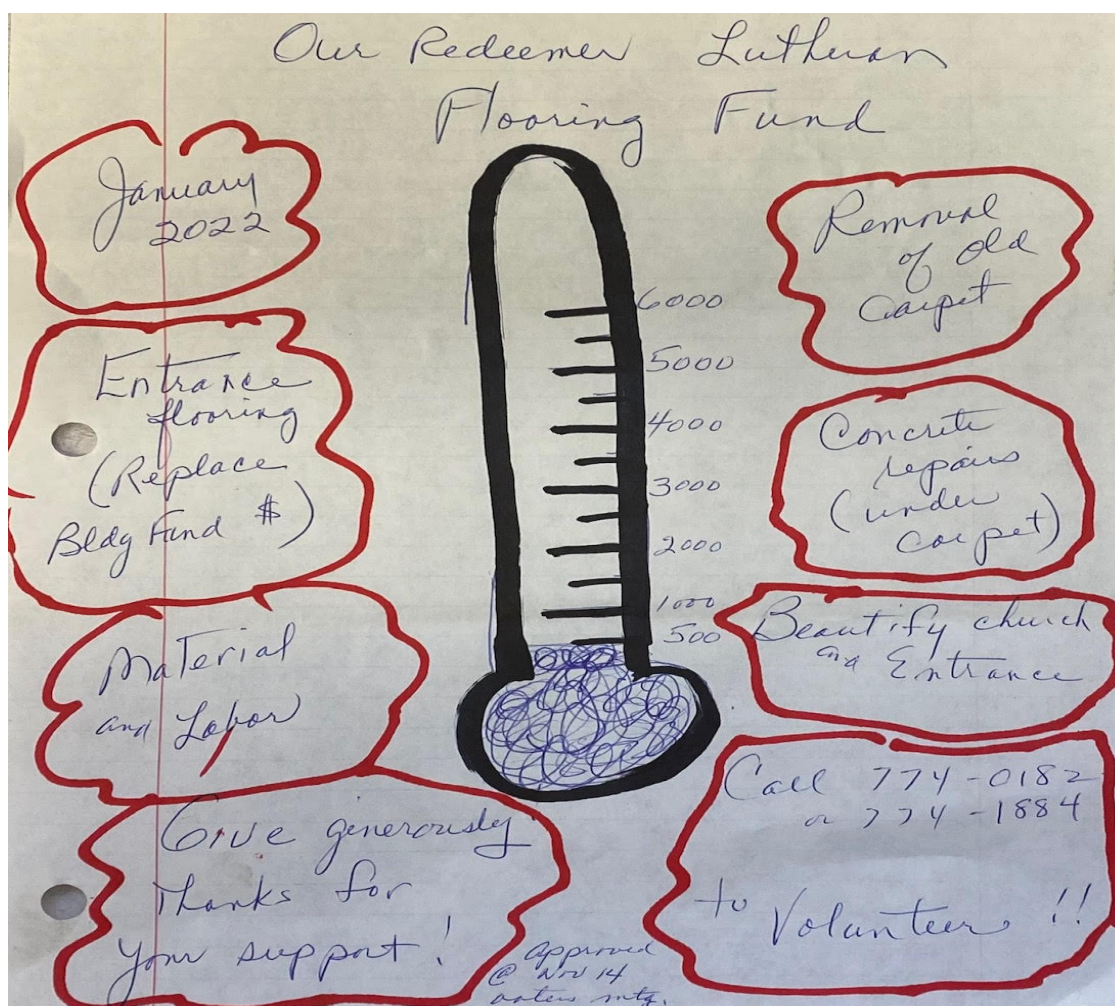
Epiphany celebrates that Jesus Christ is “the Light of the world” who overcomes the darkness of sin, death, and the devil. As the wise men followed the light of the star, so we look to the Light that is Christ to scatter the darkness of this evil existence.

I hope you'll consider joining us on Thursday, January 6th for the Divine Service at 7:00 P.M. where we'll look to Jesus, our Epiphany Light, who “hides” Himself in the bread and the wine, but is revealed by the Word.

In Christ our Lord,

Pastor Ruesch

Pastor Ruesch



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

Baptism

Vivian VanDusen December 12, 2021

Funeral

Roger Weinert December 18, 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.**

STAMPS FOR MISSIONS

Our Lutheran women's Missionary League began collecting used postage stamps in 1993 when The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod office in St. Louis, Missouri, ended this project. Our North Wisconsin District has worked with many different gentlemen over the years to sell our stamps. We are currently taking our stamps to a gentleman in Green Bay.

Our stamps were sold five different times in 1994 and the total amount sold to help support our missions was \$345.49. The year-to-date total now is \$13,897.66 Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Please continue to collect your stamps within your societies and encourage others from your church to join. Please share with them how to trim the stamps leaving a quarter inch around the stamp. The perforation on the stamp must be intact, if the perforation is missing the stamps cannot be sold.

What a blessing to have the opportunity to collect our stamps and help those in need. Please continue in this mission as we serve the Lord with gladness! In Christ, *Shirley H. & Mary S.*

Please place the stamps in the LWML MITE box!! Thank so much!



LWML-LADIES' GUILD

"Serve the Lord with Gladness"

Happy New Year everyone! Wishing all a healthier & happier 2022. Pray everyone shared the Love & Birth of Jesus with family, friends, & fellowship!

Our Christmas Ladies Luncheon was held dec. 13th in the fellowship hall with box lunches—chicken pot pie or barbequed pulled pork sandwiches catered by Patti Eberstch. Delish as usual. Our program was explaining "The 12 days of Christmas" It originated in England in 1500's with code words to teach the children their catechism. 1-Christ Child 2-Old & New Testament 3-Faith Hope and Love, etc. Very interesting. Other Christmas articles were read. A Special gift of jewelry was shared with members to enjoy from Dorothy J. God Bless Her! Our Love Offering of \$500 was a special blessing to one of our own members in need. Thanks to all who made it possible. Profits from our Christmas sale were included in that amount.

At our Jan 10th meeting we plan to honor our college and military members. Plans are also beginning for our Ladies Spring banquet. It will be held May 9th. Further details coming soon.

Out homemade quilts were received in Houma LA and really appreciated. Again, many hands make light work, and we praise esp. Barb C. as THE coordinator extraordinaire. Thanks so much to all! Also, thanks to Mission Board for paying postage. We are blessed.

Biggest news is our flooring projects in Jan. We Love our entry flooring and runner and will be continued into Narthex. Volunteers are NEEDED to complete this job! Removing old carpet, haul rubbish, etc. etc. If interested in learning to lay flooring, jobs for all! If you are willing and able, please call Caren E. 774-0182 or church 774-1844. Pastor Mackey and Rob K. have agreed to coordinate the venture and will contact members to arrange work bee and times etc. Donations to be made to Building Fund-earmarked to Flooring Project to cover expenses. Watch the progress on our graph! (See image on page 2). The 1st \$500 donation was already received. This flooring project will really beautify our entrance and let everyone know how much we care about our church. We look forward to your help in this wonderful improvement!

As Always—We Serve the Lord with Gladness

P.S. LWML and Our Redeemer members would like to extend sincere sympathy, love & prayers to the family and friends in the loss of Becky H., NWD LWML Pres. who passed away in Nov. She was a joy to know and love and certainly showed her love of Our Lord in all she did. God Bless All.

Sincerely,
Caren & LWML Gals.

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 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!

How to Register:

1. Head over to our website for more information about our summer programs and registration process. On January 4th, click the button that says **Register Now** to start the registration process.
2. After clicking **Register Now** you will be taken to the online registration log-in page. 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 27th.) Otherwise, you will need to create a new account.
3. Once you are logged in, you will be able to add new campers and register existing campers for our summer camp programs!

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.

January 2

9:00 am Elder: Gary P.
Organist: Don H.
Acolyte: Nora R.

January 9

9:00 am Elders: Ed T.
Organist: Don H.
Acolyte: Jesse G.

January 16

9:00 am Elder: Gary P.
Organist: Marian V.
Acolyte: Jacob H.

January 23

9:00 am Elder: Ed T.
Organist: Don H.
Acolyte: Logan F.

January 30

9:00 am Elder: Jason L.
Organist: Don H.
Acolyte: Aiden L.

Altar Guild for January:

Sue R. & Tracy V.

Wednesday Divine Service 7:00 P.M.

Digital Music

Thursday, January 6

Elder: Jim R.
Acolyte: Analise M.

January 12

Elder: Damian T.
Acolyte: Lillie W.

January 19

Elder: Damian T.
Acolyte: Jeremiah W.

January 26

Elder: Jim R.
Acolyte: Zaeda B.

ATTENDANCE TOTALS

Wednesday, December 1 (7:00 PM)	32
Sunday, December 5 (9:00 AM)	70
Wednesday, December 8 (7:00 PM)	21
Sunday, December 12 (9:00 AM)	114
Wednesday, December 15 (7:00 PM)	6
Sunday, December 19 (9:00 AM)	100
Friday, December 24 (7:00 PM)	121
Friday, December 24 (11:00 PM)	20
Saturday, December 25 (9:00 AM)	46
Sunday, December 26 (9:00 AM)	53

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.

Health and Wellness Ministry

January

INFLUENZA: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Vaccination can protect individuals, families and communities from the ravages of influenza. This year two additional factors will make influenza vaccination even more important. First, the lack of exposure to influenza last year means that immunity may have waned, making individuals more susceptible than usual. Second, the expected co-circulation of influenza and COVID-19 may cause extreme demands on the medical system,

What is influenza? Influenza is a virus that infects the nose, throat, windpipe and lungs. The virus is highly contagious and is spread from one person to another by coughing, sneezing or talking. Influenza typically occur between October and April.

What are the symptoms of influenza? Typical symptoms include fever, chills, muscle aches, congestion, cough, runny nose and difficulty breathing. COVID-19 can cause similar symptoms. Influenza virus is a more common cause of severe, fatal pneumonia, particularly in adults older than 65. Children younger than 4 years of age often require hospitalization because of high fever, wheezing, croup or pneumonia. Influenza is a virus and can't be successfully treated with antibiotics. Some antiviral medications are available by prescription.

Who should get the influenza vaccine? The influenza vaccine is recommended for everyone 6 months and older.

Does the influenza vaccine work? The influenza vaccine typically prevents about 70 of every 100 people who receive it from developing moderate-to-severe influenza infection.

When should I get the influenza vaccine? Immunizations should be administered starting as soon as the vaccine supplies become available.

If I got the influenza vaccine last year, do I need this year's vaccine? Yes. First, some people are not protected after getting the vaccine, so another dose will increase their chance of being protected. Second, antibody levels wane, particularly in the elderly, so another dose will boost antibody levels. Finally, sometimes influenza viruses change significantly from one year to the next, so immunization or natural infection the previous year is not protective.

Are influenza vaccines safe? Yes. Influenza vaccine shots can cause pain, redness or tenderness at the site of the injection as well as muscle aches and low-grade fever, but because the vaccine viruses are completely inactivated or the vaccine contains only individual proteins, they cannot possibly cause influenza. The nasal spray version can cause runny nose, congestion or sore throat. Although the viruses in the nasal spray version are live, they have been weakened and cannot cause influenza either.

Can pregnant women get the influenza vaccine? Yes. Because pregnant women are more likely to experience complications and hospitalization as a result of infection with influenza, it is important for them to be immunized. In addition, studies have shown that babies of women immunized with influenza vaccine during pregnancy are less likely to be infected with influenza during the first six months of life, before they are old enough to be vaccinated.



LCMS- Stewardship-Ministry-Newsletter Article—January

'Tis More Blessed to Give Than to Receive

“In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” (Acts 20:35)

And indeed, it is. Does this not strike a chord that resonates in us all? Which of us can’t recall the look of surprise and thanks for the Christmas gifts that we labored to give to those whom we love? And the joy written on their face when that gift is received with thanksgiving means more than all the gifts we have received. It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Our Lord knew this because He practiced it. He gave of Himself – sparing not even His life in death – in order to give us back to our Father in heaven. He knew that in giving you get more because joy is multiplied in giving. The one who receives and the one who gives both rejoice in what is given and received. And, what is more, the one who receives only wants to give back to the one who gave so generously in thanksgiving.

So it is with our tithes and offerings in church. We want to give because we have received from God all that we are and all that we have. Our giving does not originate in what we must do to earn God’s favor. We have God’s favor because of His gift of His Son, given through Word and Sacrament. Thus, we are made free from the compulsion of giving so that our tithes and offering are freely given in thanksgiving for what God has so generously given to us.

Why then does the church struggle to make budgets? Why does the church always seem stretched so thin when it is the place where God continually gives us His forgiveness of sins? Why does the church struggle when God, out of love for us, generously pours out His grace and mercy?

It is because we are sinners. Our fallen nature makes us selfish and miserly. It leads us to believe that we can have our cake and eat it, too. Because of sin, we want God’s grace and mercy; we want His blessings of body and soul. But we don’t want to share it with those around us. We want to remain comfortable in our own self-contained, neat, and tidy lives – without the headaches of loving those around us by helping them in their time of need.

“Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” Remember that God has placed you in a church, not only to receive His grace and mercy, but to press His eternal and temporal blessings into service to your neighbor.

Your tithes and offerings ensure that those around you have a pastor to preach the life-saving and life-giving Word of God. They ensure that the lights, heat, and air-conditioning are working. They ensure there is water for Holy Baptism as well as bread and wine for Holy Communion. They even ensure that your pastor has food and clothing and presents for his own family. The gifts of God are immeasurable. They multiply and redound to everyone’s good as the fish and loaves in the feeding of the five thousand.

So, remember the words of the Lord Jesus: “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” And remember the joy that attended the gifts you gave at Christmas. This same joy attends your gifts to the church.



January Birthdays

- 1 Jim C.
- 2 Heavyn B.
Devin J.
Katie P.
- 3 Kaitlynn E.
Gary P.
- 4 Kevin M.
- 5 Michael T.
- 6 Jim H.
- 7 Caren E.
- 9 Arden S.
- 11 Kathleen M.
Cody T.
- 12 Eric L.
Rev. Matthew R.
- 13 Amanda S.
- 16 Brett S.
- 18 Shirley M.
- 20 Bradley H.
Cat O.
Jon O.
Donna T.
- 22 Conlan C.
Chelsea N.
Everett O.
- 23 Barb M.

"Rejoice with those who Rejoice"
-Romans 12:15

- 24 Nora R.
- 25 Michael M. II
- 27 David A.
Kelsey K.
- 30 Ezra Mortl

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.

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 <i>2nd S. after Christmas</i> 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:15 A.M. Fellowship 10:30 A.M. Sunday School, Bible Study, & Youth Group	3 6:30 P.M. Board of Elders	4	5 5:30 P.M. Confirmation	6 <i>The Epiphany of Our Lord</i> 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	7 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	1 8
9 <i>The Baptism of Our Lord</i> 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:15 A.M. Fellowship 10:30 A.M. Sunday School, Bible Study, & Youth Group	10 1:00 P.M. Ladies' Guild	11	12 5:30 P.M. Confirmation 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	13	14 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	15 10:00 A.M. New Members Class
16 <i>2nd S. after the Epiphany</i> 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:15 A.M. Fellowship 10:30 A.M. Sunday School, Bible Study, & Youth Group	17 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 6:30 P.M. Church Council	18	19 5:30 P.M. Confirmation 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	20 10:00 A.M. Bible Study	21 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	22 10:00 A.M. New Members Class
23 <i>3rd S. after the Epiphany</i> 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:15 A.M. Fellowship 10:30 A.M. Quarterly Voters Meeting 10:30 A.M. Sunday School & Youth Group	24	25	26 5:30 P.M. Confirmation 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	27 10:00 A.M. Bible Study	28 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	29 10:00 A.M. New Members Class
30 <i>4th S. after the Epiphany</i> 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:15 A.M. Fellowship 10:30 A.M. Sunday School, Bible Study, & Youth Group	31	<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



Ministry Staff

Rev. Matthew Ruesch w: 774-1844 c: (906)396-7401
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Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00p.m.
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Here to Serve!