

THE REDEEMER READER

February A+D 2022

Volume 99, Issue 2



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.
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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.

The Greatest Gift Ever Given

"And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord') and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.'"

- Luke 2:22-24 (ESV)

It's the beginning of February, so a Merry "Candlemas" to each and every one of you! Perhaps you've never heard of "Candlemas"...it's a name given to the "40th day of Christmas" when historically the candles were blessed. On this day, forty days after Christ's birth, Mary's time of ritual purification would be over and her and Joseph would have brought their sacrifices to the temple in order to "redeem" (or "buy back") their firstborn son. Luke reminds us of the teaching from Leviticus that "every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord." Since Jesus—as a firstborn son—belonged to the Lord, His parents would have "bought Him back" with their sacrifices.

It seems rather bizarre that Mary and Joseph would need to "buy back" this child from the Lord who is truly "the Son of God." But here we see Mary and Joseph's faithfulness in keeping the Law as it pertains to Jesus. They "buy back" their Son...but He will return to the temple. Not the temple of stone and incense and smoke. He will go to the temple of the cross. The One who was "redeemed" by the gifts of His earthly parents becomes the Gift that redeems all of humanity.

The word "worship" is a little misleading because it's very focused on *our* actions. If you ask someone to define worship, they will often say it involves things like praying...singing...giving thanks...praising. All things that we direct toward God. Those things are *good*. And they are commanded by God.

But it wasn't bringing two birds to the temple that redeemed Mary and Joseph. It was ultimately the gift of the One who went back to Jerusalem as a sacrifice Himself that redeemed Mary and Joseph...that redeemed you and me.

Jesus is the Gift given for you. He gave Himself for you upon His cross and rose victorious from the grave to give you life. The best worship of all is for you to receive Him...to be given this tremendous gift over and over and over.

Dear Christians...you know where He is found. Come and receive the gift!

In Christ our Lord,

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

HELP NEEDED! The Our Redeemer Altar Guild is in need of new members! The Altar Guild is responsible for preparing the Lord’s Supper for our services and maintaining the upkeep of the sanctuary. Anyone who is interested should contact the Church Office to be put in touch with an Altar Guild member. 906-774-1844.



OFFICIAL ACTS OF THE CHURCH

There were no official acts for January.

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"***

Sincere thanks to all the volunteers who assisted in our new beautiful Narthex. Sat. the old carpet came up quickly and was disposed of. Repair on the concrete under the carpet was taken care of promptly and ready for planking. Sun. After church, Bible Class, and thank you lunch served by LWML, our workers got to work; they were so efficient. The whole Narthex was completed by 2:30 p.m. AND looks wonderful. All accessories will be replaced very soon. Thanks to all!! There is a flooring fund chart posted in the Narthex to keep track of funds to reimburse the Building Fund.

Valentines will be sent to our college students with a \$10 Subway card to let them know they are remembered and in our prayers.

Mission Tidings were distributed and had lots of news of past and upcoming LWML events.

Picture from our Ladies Banquet last August with nice article.

Sympathy tribute to NWD Pres. Becky H.

2022 NWD Spring Retreat—Camp Luther on April 1-2.

Kingsford LWML will be hosting the Zone 2 Rally—April 23rd. Plans underway.

May 9th is the date for the Spring Banquet. Theme—Thrift Store Shopping for Treasure Hunting. Plans also under discussion for that. SAVE the Date! Should be a fun exciting evening.

Remember ALL Ladies of the congregation can attend special events even if they do not attend our monthly meetings.

Next Meeting—Feb. 14—1p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

As Always—We Serve the Lord with Gladness

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.



Summer Staff 2022 *Application Deadline February 20th!*

Is there a young adult you know who you might be able to nudge to consider a summer of ministry at camp? We encourage you to think about young adults in your life who you can encourage to consider serving at camp this summer. We make the majority of our hiring decisions in February. Apply by February 20 to be considered in our initial round of hiring decisions.

Register for Summer *Registration open!*

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!

Every Kid to Camp

Every Kid to Camp is a ministry that sends kids to camp at no expense to their parents (except transportation). Our goal is that every child in the North Wisconsin District and beyond is given the opportunity to attend one of our summer camp programs before they graduate high school. The only qualification for being a part of this program is that the recipient has never attended one of Camp Luther's summer camp programs before. If you know someone who you believe would benefit from receiving an Every Kid to Camp award, please contact the Camp Luther office at 715-546-3647.

Volunteer Week *April 18-23*

"Have you signed up for Volunteer Week yet?! It's April 18-23, you can come for all or part of the week, and there's no registration fee. We made a pros/cons list to help you decide:

Pros: Get outside and get your hands dirty. Make a tangible difference. Meet some really cool people. Eat great food. Impact the ministry of Camp Luther and the thousands of guests and campers that come each year. Serve the Lord with your time and talents.

Cons: You might get sore. (But you'll feel like it was totally worth it and you had a great time, and soreness is really just a reminder that you are ALIVE, so we'll count this as a pro too)

Now that you've decided to help serve at camp during Volunteer Week, head to campluther.com/volunteer to get all the details.

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.

February 6

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

February 13

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

February 20

9:00 am Elder: Jason L. & Ed T.
Organist: Marian V.
Acolyte: Jacob H.

February 27

9:00 am Elder: Jim R. & Gary P.
Organist: Don H.
Acolyte: Logan F.

Altar Guild for February:

Carol L.

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.

Digital Music

February 2

Elder: Jim R.
Acolyte: Analise M.

February 9

Elder: Ed T.
Acolyte: Lillie W.

February 16

Elder: Damian T.
Acolyte: Jeremiah W.

February 23

Elder: Gary P.
Acolyte: Zaeda B.

ATTENDANCE TOTALS

Sunday, January 2 (9:00 AM)	80
Wednesday, January 5 (7:00 PM)	9
Sunday, January 9 (9:00 AM)	88
Wednesday, January 12 (7:00 PM)	8
Sunday, January 16 (9:00 AM)	92
Wednesday, January 19 (7:00 PM)	11
Sunday, January 23 (9:00 AM)	98
Wednesday, January 26 (9:00 AM)	12



Wednesday Divine Service 7:00 P.M.

Health and Wellness Ministry

February

February is American Heart Month, a time when all people can focus on their cardiovascular health. The Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention is shining a light on hypertension (high blood pressure), a leading risk factor for heart disease and stroke.

Why do we observe American Heart Month every February? Well, every year more than 600,000 Americans die from heart disease. The number one cause of deaths for most groups, heart disease affects all ages, genders, and ethnicities. Risk factors include high cholesterol, high blood pressure, smoking, diabetes, and excessive alcohol use.

Do you know how to keep your heart healthy? You can take an active role in reducing your risk for heart disease by eating a healthy diet, engaging in physical activity, and managing your cholesterol and blood pressure. This is a great chance to start some heart-healthy habits!

The human heart is responsible for pumping blood throughout our body, supplying oxygen and nutrients and removing toxins and waste. Weighing between 8 and 12 ounces, the heart is a mighty organ divided into four chambers that work together to pump blood in and out. The heart gets oxygenated blood from the lungs and pumps it throughout the rest of the body. It does this by contracting at a rhythmic pace, about 60-80 times per minute, thanks to electrical cells called “pacemakers.” When the heart ceases to perform its regular function, a medical device also called a pacemaker can be implanted to assist the heart.

Heart disease occurs when the arteries leading to the heart become clogged. Although heart disease has been around for thousands of years, we do know that many aspects of modern life exacerbate risk factors and make people more prone to heart disease and heart failure. Today, one in four deaths in the U.S. is attributable to heart disease. Heart disease can affect everyone, but taking stock of your prior health risks, activities and diet can help you reduce your risk.

Although we’ve learned a lot about how the heart works, there are still many unanswered questions about heart health and the cardiovascular system. As far as we know, the best way to protect your heart is to stay active, eat a healthy and balanced diet, and reduce your daily stress. To celebrate American Heart Month, take some time to learn about heart health risks, find your favorite heart-healthy activities, and cook some healthy meals with your family.

5 INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT HEART HEALTH

1. **Heart attacks can be silent**

One in five heart attacks occurs without the person even knowing they had one.

2. **Heart attacks affect women differently**

Women may experience different symptoms than men. These include pain in the back, arm, neck, or shoulder; nausea; fatigue; shortness of breath; and vomiting.

3. **Young women are at higher risk than men**

Women under the age of 50 are twice as likely to die of a heart attack as men in the same age group.

4. **Another reason to hate Mondays**

Heart attacks are more likely to occur on Monday mornings than other days of the week. Scientists attribute this to the disruption in our circadian rhythm over the weekend which leads to increased blood pressure and other changes to the nervous system.

5. **Diet soda raises heart attack risk**

If you drink one or more diet sodas a day, your chances of having a heart attack are 43% higher than those who drink regular soda or none at all.



LCMS- Stewardship-Ministry-Newsletter Article—February

The season of Epiphany focuses on how God was made manifest in the flesh of Jesus. The church spends time hearing of the miracles, signs, and wonders of Jesus in the world. And this made plain to all that Jesus really is who He said He was. He is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, the only begotten Son of the Father, in the flesh. For “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:14).

It is revealed for all the world to see that Jesus is God in the flesh. It is made manifest by His words and His work, by what He said and by what He did. And these belong together, for “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” Jesus is the Word and will of God in the flesh, that is, He is the walking, talking enactment of God’s Word.

It is no different for us. We are called not just to believe in God in hearts but also to trust in God in word and deed. As James wrote: “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves” (James 1:22), and again, “What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? ... So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ... Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. ... For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead” (James 2:14, 17–18, 26).

Our faith is lived out in works for our neighbor. Our trust in the Word and will of God is lived out not in word only but also in deed and in truth. In other words, the Epiphany of the Lord creates in us an epiphany of our faith in our works of obedience to God who commanded them. By this, our faith is made manifest to the world. It is, as Luther wrote of faith:

Faith is a divine work in us. It changes us and makes us to be born anew of God (John 1). It kills the old Adam and makes altogether different people, in heart and spirit and mind and powers, and it brings with it the Holy Spirit.

Oh, it is a living, busy, active, mighty thing, this faith. And so it is impossible for it not to do good works incessantly. It does not ask whether there are good works to do, but before the question rises, it has already done them, and is always at the doing of them.

He who does not these works is a faithless man. He gropes and looks about after faith and good works and knows neither what faith is nor what good works are, though he talks and talks, with many words about faith and good works.

Faith is a living, daring confidence in God’s grace, so sure and certain that a man would stake his life on it a thousand times. This confidence in God’s grace and knowledge of it makes men glad and bold and happy in dealing with God and all His creatures. And this is the work of the Holy Spirit in faith. Hence a man is ready and glad, without compulsion, to do good to everyone, to serve everyone, to suffer everything, in love and praise to God, who has shown him this grace.

And thus it is impossible to separate works from faith, quite as impossible as to separate burning and shining from fire. Beware, therefore, of your own false notions and of the idle talkers, who would be wise enough to make decisions about faith and good works, and yet are the greatest fools. (*Preface to the Book of Romans*)

So, then, let our faith be active by God’s power in the Word through the Holy Spirit. And let then our faith be made manifest to the world by what this faith does: serving our neighbor – in church, in the family, and society – with the works of faith in time, talents, and treasures.



February Birthdays

- 1 Wyatt H.
Vic W.
- 2 Brody G.
- 4 Joe H.
- 5 Jennifer W.
- 6 Gina H.
- 7 Ed W.
- 8 Lachlan F.
William P. II
- 9 Tami O.
- 12 Sullivan M.
- 13 Courtney W.
- 14 Jeff S.
- 16 Toni W.
- 17 Carol S.
- 18 Bob P.
Kyle T.
Cindy W.
- 19 Layla M.
Tom W
- 21 Bev H.
Michael O.
- 23 Eliza O.
- 25 Sharon T.
- 27 Rob K.
- 28 Keegan C.

"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.



February Anniversaries

- 1 Raymond & Vic W.
- 14 Curtis & Tracy V.
- 17 Robert & Sharon T.
- 25 Robert & Carol G.
Eric & Ashley L.

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 5:30 P.M. Confirmation 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	3 10:00 A.M. Bible Study	4 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	5 10:00 A.M. New Members Class
6 <i>5th 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 6:30 P.M. Board of Elders	7	8	9 5:30 P.M. Confirmation 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	10 10:00 A.M. Bible Study	11 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	12 10:00 A.M. New Members Class
13 <i>6th 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	14 1:00 P.M. Ladies' Guild	15	16 10:00 A.M. Altar Guild 5:30 P.M. Confirmation 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	17 10:00 A.M. Bible Study	18 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	19 10:00 A.M. New Members Class
20 <i>7th 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	21 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 6:30 P.M. Church Council	22	23 5:30 P.M. Confirmation 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	24 10:00 A.M. Bible Study	25 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	26 10:00 A.M. New Members Class
27 <i>The Transfiguration 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	28	<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
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Ministry Staff

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Hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Here to Serve!