

THE REDEEMER READER

August A+D 2022

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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.
Bible Study	10:30 A.M.

Wednesdays:

Midweek 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.

From the Pastor's Desk

*"The simple step of a **courageous** individual is not to partake in the lie. One word of truth outweighs the whole world."*

- Alexander Solzhenitsyn

"Pastor, have you read all of those books?" If I had a nickel for every time I've been asked that question...

"No." I don't pretend to have read all the books in my study, or the hundreds that remain in boxes in my basement. Most of them are there for reference. But I do have a select few on the end of one shelf...and a couple more sitting on my desk...that I really, really *want* to find the time to read.

One book that I did find the time to read recently (and I commend to all of you) is *Live Not by Lies* by political commentator Rod Dreher. Dreher takes the title of his book from *The Gulag Archipelago* by famed Soviet dissident Alexander Solzhenitsyn. Solzhenitsyn was known for his resistance to the Communist regime and his dedication to speaking truth against the lies of his age. Dreher's book identifies how we live in a culture where—much like in the days of communist tyranny—we are being compelled to accept and even celebrate lies that media, politicians, and big businesses are trying to perpetrate. Lies regarding the family...marriage...the unborn...gender...and pernicious falsehoods that cast the Church as an enemy of the people.

The people of God need to be on guard against the lies of the world. Jesus called the devil "the father of lies." (John 8:44) We can be certain that Satan is at work in the lies of the world, meaning Christian duty calls us to resist. That's a scary proposition...speaking truth in all the places where lies run rampant. But silence in the face of lies makes us complicit in the devil's meddling.

Thanks be to God, we not only have "one word of truth" as Solzhenitsyn said in the quote above. We have *the* Word of Truth. Jesus is both the Word made flesh (John 1:14) and "The Truth." (John 14:6) The battles in which we find ourselves are not battles fought alone. In fact, as the great Reformation hymn "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" reminds, "for us fights the Valiant One. ... Ask ye, 'Who is this?' Jesus Christ it is!" (*LSB* 656) Though all of our freedoms be stripped away...though life be made uncomfortable...though "take they our life, goods, fame, child, and wife...though these all be gone, our vict'ry has been won. The kingdom ours remaineth!"

Battles abound, dear Christians. We will indeed suffer...perhaps in small ways or maybe even at some point in big ways. But fear not: the Lord God fights on your side and He has already been victorious! *The* Word of Truth always overcomes the world's lies and their devilish father!

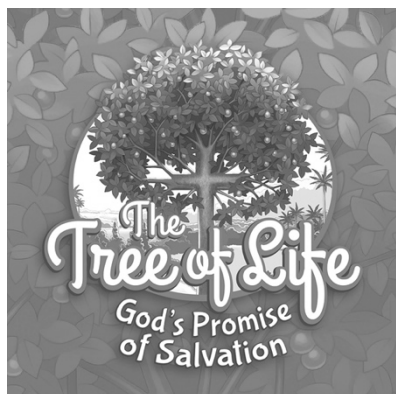
In Christ our Lord,

Pastor Ruesch

Pastor Ruesch



ALTAR GUILD NEEDS MORE MEMBERS! If you are interested in helping keep the sanctuary beautiful, please contact Carol Thornton at 282-8740. Orientation will be provided. Meetings are scheduled for the third Wednesday of the month at 10 AM, but attendance is not mandatory.



VBS 2022 ONE DAY EVENT All kids in preschool through 6th grade (2021-22 school year) are welcome to join us. There is no cost for this event. Kids will learn Bible stories, do crafts, play games, learn songs, eat snacks, and enjoy being with other kids as the good news of our salvation in Jesus Christ is proclaimed! **AUGUST 5TH 9:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AS WELL!!!!

**REGISTER AT WWW.OURREDEEMERKINGSFORD.ORG –
CLICK ON 'VBS' IN THE MENU.**



People of all ages are invited to join the Our Redeemer community on Sunday, August 7th at 10:30 a.m. for an **OUTDOOR SERVICE IN FRONT OF THE CHURCH, WHICH WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A PICNIC.** Attendees are welcome to bring their own lawn chair for the service, but folding chairs will be available as well. The picnic meal will be served potluck-style with meat and beverages being provided.

OFFICIAL ACTS OF THE CHURCH

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"

LWML will not be meeting for business meetings thru the summer—See you in the fall—Sept. 12th. 1:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Enjoy the summer but be cautious in the heat!

If at all possible—start now planning to attend the National LWML Convention in Milwaukee WI next year, 2023. You will come back revived and energized to Serve the Lord with gladness—June 22-25.

Sorry we didn't get to local museums as a group but hopefully you can visit on your own with family. Very interesting!!

Enjoy your summer and we look forward to having you join us in the fall.

Upcoming events:

Sept. 12—1 p.m.—1st meeting

Oct. 2—9 a.m. LWML Sunday

Oct. 10—1 p.m.—2nd meeting

Serve the Lord with Gladness
God Bless,
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.



Volunteer Village

What is Volunteer Village? We are in the process of building rustic cabins for volunteers to utilize in the summer to add to our volunteer program and increase the ministry impact that happens at camp. Each cabin will have space for 5 people to sleep, with 2 bunkbeds in a full-twin and twin-twin format. Additional information about the program and the application are available on our web-site. For any further information please reach out via email to volunteer@campluther.com

Camp Luther Cottages

Life is hectic with constant change and new information that leaves you wondering what is right and what is wrong. The anxiety and stress pile up. It isn't supposed to be this way. We get it. And we want to help. Book a cottage at Camp Luther and escape the noise of the world for a few days. Find peace, restore joy, and return home healthier and more equipped to handle the next change that comes your way.

Each of our 15 lakeside cottages features:

- Bathroom with shower
- Living Room
- Kitchen with stove, refrigerator, and small kitchen appliances
- Picnic Table
- Charcoal Grill
- 12' Rowboat
- Walk-Out Pier
- Access to Camp Luther's recreational equipment free of charge

Labor Day Weekend SEPT. 2-5, 2022 | FAMILIES | 3 NIGHTS & 7 MEALS

Enjoy a flexible and relaxing schedule with your family and other families during this holiday weekend. Adults and kids have age-appropriate Bible study sessions, with the adults led by a guest pastor and kids led by camp staff. Start a new family tradition this year! There'll be time for pontoon rides, kayaking, trail biking, swimming, cookouts, softball, disc golf, Bible study, and campfire devotions.

Retreat Center Housing and Meals are still available

\$150 (Adult); \$125 (Age 5-17); Free (Age 0-4)

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.

August 7

8:00 am Elder: Damian T.
Ushers: Bob R. & Michael K.
Organist: Don H.

Outdoor Service

10:30 am Elder: Jim R.
Usher: Brian R.

August 14

9:00 am Elders: Jason L. & Ed T.
Ushers: Bob R. & Preston T.
Organist: Don H.

August 21

9:00 am Elders: Gary P. & Jim R.
Ushers: Bob R. & Michael K.
Organist: Marian V.

August 28

9:00 am Elders: Jason L. & Ed T.
Ushers: Bob R. & Volunteer
Organist: Don H.

Altar Guild for August:

Sue R. & Tracy V.

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
- ☐ Masks are available on the Welcome Kiosk as well as hand sanitizer for anyone who wishes to use them.

Wednesday Divine Service 7:00 P.M.

Digital Music

August 3

Elder: Damian T.

August 10

Elder: Gary P.

August 17

Elder: Damian T.

August 24

Elder: Damian T.

August 31

Elder: Gary P.

ATTENDANCE TOTALS

Wednesday, June 29 (7:00 PM)	22
Sunday, July 3 (9:00 AM)	101
Wednesday, July 6 (7:00 PM)	11
Sunday, July 10 (9:00 AM)	61
Wednesday, July 13 (7:00 PM)	Cancelled
Sunday, July 17 (9:00 AM)	81
Wednesday, July 20 (7:00 PM)	8
Sunday, July 24 (9:00 AM)	75

Health and Wellness Ministry

August

What is diabetic retinopathy? Diabetic retinopathy is a complication of diabetes and a leading cause of blindness. It occurs when diabetes damages the tiny blood vessels inside the retina, the light-sensitive tissue at the back of the eye. A healthy retina is necessary for good vision. If you have diabetic retinopathy, at first you may notice no changes to your vision loss. Diabetic retinopathy usually affects both eyes.

What are the stages of diabetic retinopathy? Diabetic retinopathy has four stages.

1. Mild non-proliferative retinopathy is the earliest stage where micro aneurysms occur. They are small areas of balloon-like swelling in the retina's tiny blood vessels.
2. Moderate non-proliferative retinopathy where some blood vessels that nourish the retina are blocked.
3. Severe non-proliferative retinopathy where many more blood vessels are blocked, depriving several areas of the retina with their blood supply. These areas of the retina send signals to the body to grow new blood vessels for nourishment.
4. Proliferative retinopathy is the advanced stage. The signals sent by the retina for nourishment trigger the growth of new blood vessels. These new blood vessels are abnormal and fragile. They grow along the retina and along the surface of the clear, vitreous gel that fills the inside of the eye. By themselves, these blood vessels do not cause symptoms or vision loss. However, they have thin, fragile walls. If they leak blood, severe vision loss and even blindness can result.

All diabetics are at risk. That is why everyone with diabetes should get a comprehensive dilated eye exam at least once a year.

Blood vessels damaged from diabetic retinopathy can cause vision loss in two ways:

1. Fragile abnormal blood vessels can develop and leak blood into the center of the eye, blurring vision. This is proliferative retinopathy and is the fourth and most advanced stage of the disease.
2. Fluid can leak into the center of the macula, the part of the eye where sharp, straight-ahead vision occurs. The fluid makes the macula swell, blurring vision. This condition is called macular edema. It can occur at any stage of diabetic retinopathy, although it is more likely to occur as the disease progresses. About half of the people with proliferative retinopathy also have macular edema.

Diabetic retinopathy often has no early warning signs. At first, you will see a few specks of blood, or spots, "floating" in your vision. If spots occur, see your eye care professional as soon as possible. You may need treatment before more serious bleeding occurs. Hemorrhages tend to happen more than once, often during sleep. If left untreated it can cause severe vision loss and even blindness. Also, the earlier you receive treatment, the more likely treatment will be effective.

Macular edema is treated with laser surgery. This slows the leakage of fluid and reduces the amount of fluid in the retina. A patient may need laser surgery more than once to control the leaking fluid. If you have macular edema in both eyes generally only one eye will be treated at a time, usually several weeks apart.

Diabetic retinopathy is treated for the fourth stage, proliferative retinopathy. It is also treated with laser surgery. To complete the treatment, two or more sessions usually are required. You may notice some loss of your side vision. It may also slightly reduce your color and night vision.



LCMS- Stewardship-Ministry-Newsletter Article—August

The Ceremony of the Offertory

Have you ever noticed the subtle ceremony involved in receiving the offerings during the Divine Service? After all the offerings have been collected, they are brought forward and given to the pastor or one of his assistants. The pastor then turns toward the altar, and as he slightly bows his head, the collection plates with the offerings in them are raised slightly to the Lord and then placed either on the altar or a table for the offerings. Why do we do have this ceremony? And what does it teach us? For that is what ceremony does; it teaches, as the Augsburg Confession tells us, what we need to know about Christ (AC XXIV, 1–3).

Originally, this ceremony included more than simply bringing forward what was collected in the offering plates. The elements for the Holy Communion—the bread and the wine—were brought forward along with the offering plates. As the offering plates and the elements were lifted toward the Lord, and placed upon the altar, the elements would be put in the center and the altar, now made a table, would be set for the Lord's Supper.

These gifts brought to the altar came from the sweat of the people's brow. It is the bread and wine, the fruits of the peoples' labor in this fallen world. After six days of labor and toil, the people would bring a generous proportion for the Lord's work. It was set upon the altar and offered to the Lord for Him to take up and press into His service for His gracious work in and among them.

For what they offered to the Lord from the sweat of their brow, the bread of anxious toil, came back to them as the bread of life, the bread come down from heaven that whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup would receive life through the forgiveness of their sins.

This is not unlike what the Lord did for His people in the Old Testament:

You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always. And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the Lord your God chooses, to set his name there, then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses and spend the money for whatever you desire—oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice, you and your household.

What a blessing! God provides for us in all things. He provides bread from the sweat of our brows, and He receives this from us in the first fruits offerings we give to Him in thanksgiving and praise. He receives and turns it into spiritual bread, heavenly bread, the bread of eternal life and gives it back to us so that we might have joy. So, the next time you are in the Divine Service, watch this ceremony in wonder, that the Lord gives back to us, what we have given to Him so that we may rejoice in the salvation He has won upon the cross and gives to us in His supper.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:30 P.M. Board of Elders	2	3 5:30 P.M. "Gsus Singers" 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	4	5 9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. "The Tree of Life" Vacation Bible School	6
7 9 th S. after Pentecost 8:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:30 A.M. Outdoor Service 11:30 A.M. Church Picnic	8	9	10 5:30 P.M. "Gsus Singers" <i>No Divine Service</i>	11	12	13
Pastor Ruesch on Vacation						
14 10 th S. after Pentecost 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:15 A.M. Fellowship 10:30 A.M. Bible Study	15 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	16	17 5:30 P.M. "Gsus Singers" <i>No Divine Service</i>	18	19	20
Pastor Ruesch on Vacation						
21 11 th S. after Pentecost 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:15 A.M. Fellowship 10:30 A.M. Bible Study	22	23	24 5:30 P.M. "Gsus Singers" 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	25	26	27
Pastor Ruesch on Vacation						
28 12 th S. after Pentecost 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:15 A.M. Fellowship 10:30 A.M. Bible Study	29	30	31 5:30 P.M. "Gsus Singers" 7:00 P.M Divine Service*	<p>Worship Services in bold print.</p> <p>Holy Communion is offered at every Divine Service. (Marked with an asterisk*)</p>		