

THE REDEEMER READER

MARCH A+D 2023

VOLUME 100, ISSUE 3



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

"When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent' (Mt 4:17), he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance."

- Martin Luther, 95 Theses

"Repentance" is such a *Lenten* word, isn't it? I mean, after all, isn't Lent when we're supposed to take our sin seriously? Isn't when we give up things like chocolate, alcohol, and Facebook for forty days? Isn't it when we focus on Jesus' cross where He takes away all our sin?

I'm now hopeful that you, dear reader, are well-versed enough in Holy Scripture and Lutheran doctrine to know that *all year* is fitting for taking sin seriously, controlling your vices, and looking to the cross of Jesus. Even *repentance*, in both the eyes of Martin Luther *and of Jesus Himself*, is something that always begs our attention.

In the verse that Luther quotes above in the very first of the 95 Theses, Jesus' entire preaching is summarized with that word: REPENT. But rather than contemplating repentance as this dour, gloomy exercise, let me encourage you to see *joy* in the call to repentance.

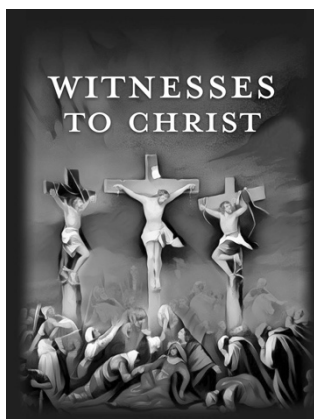
The word 'repent,' means (literally) 'to turn.' When we repent, we not only are sorry for our sins, but we 'turn in a different direction.' Repentance is call to remember who you are in your Baptism. Repentance is a reminder that you are a child of God and that He calls you to live according to the ways of His children. The works of repentance are what St. Paul calls "the fruit of the Spirit": love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. (Gal. 5:22-23) What you "turn" from sin to do comes from the beautiful gift of the Holy Spirit that was given you when you were baptized!

Lent isn't a time of doom and gloom over our sin. Lent is a time of joyful hope! The Father, through the Son and by Spirit, calls us out of our sin and back into our right relationship with Him! In fact, did you know the word *Lent* means "spring?" Rather than thinking of the grey clouds and chilly weather of February and early March, Lent gives us the hope of spring...the hope of Easter! Lent serves to remind us of our identity as baptized children of the Triune God. We are the ones rescued and redeemed by Good Friday and Easter! This season, as is the case with every season, is all about Christ *for you!* So repent! Live as the children God has made you to be!

In Christ our Lord,

Pastor Ruesch

Pastor Ruesch



Midweek Lenten Suppers & Services

The Holy Season of Lent continues—as is our custom at Our Redeemer—we will mark the season with a supper every Wednesday evening, followed by a Lenten service. Our theme this year is “Witnesses to Christ” and will look at our Lord’s passion and death through the eyes of those who were there for the events of Jesus’ ministry, suffering, crucifixion, and resurrection.

Supper will be served at 6:00 P.M. and Service will follow at 7:00 P.M.
Weds., Mar. 1st – Midweek Lenten Service – “Mary, the Sister of Lazarus and Martha”

Weds., Mar. 8th – Midweek Lenten Service – “Malchus”

Weds., Mar. 15th – Midweek Lenten Service – “Peter”

Weds., Mar. 22nd – Midweek Lenten Service – “Barabbas”

Weds., Mar. 29th – Midweek Lenten Service – “Pontius Pilate”

Lenten Dinners Serving Schedule

Mar. 1st – Confirmation Class

Mar. 8th – Church Council

Mar. 15th – Altar Guild

Mar. 22nd – Elders

Mar 29th – Potluck



Palm Sunday, April 2, Divine Service 9:00 a.m.

Holy Thursday, April 6, Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 7, 1:00 p.m.

Easter Sunrise, April 9, Divine Service 6:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast, April 9, 7:30-8:30 a.m.

Easter Sunday, April 9, Divine Service 9:00 a.m.

OFFICIAL ACTS OF THE CHURCH

Funeral

Helen Nantell January 30, 2023

TADYCH'S/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"

Feb. 13th our LWML Ladies were greeted with a cheerful Valentines theme—candies, cookies, doilies, bible word search books, and with a very interesting appropriate Bible Study presented by Bard C. "God's Valentine to us". Love is a very popular word, and we have a valentine waiting for us. A love letter from God just waiting for us to open and read it! That love letter is our Bible! Our study was on Ruth and her two daughters-in-law. Book of Ruth only four chapters long—READ and enjoy!!

Feb. 22nd, Ash Wednesday, LWML served Lenten Supper—Barbeque, soup, and desserts. Hope many joined us and enjoyed food and fellowship as part of Lenten Suppers and Services preparing for Easter April 9th. Supper served at 6 p.m.—service at 7 p.m.

The Spring Retreat at Camp Luther, Title: "How God has Gifted Us—What's your story?" will be held April 15th. Application and details on page 10 of the Jan. 2023 *Mission Tidings*. Registration fee is \$30, deadline is Mar. 15th. If you don't have your copy of *Mission Tidings* copies are available from Barb C. Please advise Caren if planning to attend so we can arrange rides, etc.

Lively discussion was held about the 2023 Spring Ladies Banquet. Main theme being pursued is "Where Friends Gather". Ideas were flying for decorations, speakers, entertainment, menu choices, etc. We are all very excited. Date set for May 8th (Monday) meal at 6 p.m. Gathering @ 5:30. Other details to follow—also if anyone has ideas—Please share!! Mark your calendar and invite friends. Always a nice affair!!

June 21-25, 2023—Milwaukee LWML National Convention. Read all about it in *Lutheran Women's Quarterly* (LWQ) Winter 2022 issue and *Mission Tiding* (MT) Jan. 2023. (Included volunteer opportunities, bus transportation, etc.) Lots to read and familiarize yourself with. Watch for deadline dates—reg. costs, meals, programs, etc. Sad to say, lots must be done on the computer, so we'll do what we can to get help if you need it! (I know I do!!)

Spring is really shaping up to be a busy time for our ladies—We encourage ALL to become involved!! We have not received word on Zone 2 Spring Rally yet. We'll pass on as soon as we do!!

I know winter is not over by any means but it was sure a joy to set and write my newsletter with the winter sun shining in the window.

God is good and we bless Him for all our blessings.

Upcoming events:

March 13, 2023, meeting, 1 p.m.

April 15, 2023, Spring Retreat @ Camp Luther

May 8th, 2023, Ladies Spring Banquet

June 21-25, 2023, National Convention in Milwaukee, WI

Serve the Lord with Gladness

Sincerely,

Caren and LWML Gals

Our Redeemer Children, Youth and Family Ministries

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

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



Golf Classic June 16th, 2023

Join us this summer for the 19th annual Golf Classic! All proceeds from this event go to our Every Kid to Camp program. This amazing program covers registration cost for any first time camper at Camp Luther. We love being able to provide this opportunity for all kids, but we can't do it without your help!

Register today to help send more kids to camp!

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

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



Youth Announcement

This summer LCMS Michigan District will be hosting a High School Youth Gathering at Mission Point resort on Mackinac Island. The theme is Anchored in Hope, Romans 5:1-8

When: June 25-28

Who can attend: current 8th graders – 12th grade

There will be Christian speakers and entertainers at the event including Bryan Osborne from Answers in Genesis, Flame, 321 Improv and many more.

Cost, it's \$395 per attendee which includes 3-night stay at Mission Point Resort, 7 meals, ferry round trip, luggage transfer and a Gathering T-shirt.

We will continue to fundraise for this event: bottle recycle collection, hosting coffee the 1st and 2nd Sunday of the month and other fundraisers to come. You may also sponsor a teen to attend the event as well.

For more information contact Dave McFarland, email: damkrm@hotmail.com. Link to the High School Youth Gathering is

<https://michigandistrict.org/event/senior-high-youth-gathering-2023/>

Thank you for your support!

**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.

March 5

9:00 am Elders: Gary P. & Jim R.
Ushers: Michael K. & Volunteer
Organist: Marian V.
Acolyte: Jeremiah W.

March 12

9:00 am Elders: Jeremy P. & Jim R.
Ushers: Volunteers
Digital Music
Acolyte: Jack B.

March 19

9:00 am Elders: Jason L. & Ed T.
Ushers: Michael K. & Volunteer
Organist: Marian V.
Acolyte: Pearl K.

March 26

7:00 pm Elders: Jeremy P. & Jason L.
Ushers: Volunteers
Digital Music
Acolyte: Jaidyn L.

Altar Guild for March:

Carol T. & Ed T.

Wednesday Divine Service 7:00 P.M.

Digital Music

March 1

Elder: Damian T.

March 8

Elder: Damian T.

March 15

Elder: Damian T.

March 22

Elder: Jim R.

March 22

Elder: Gary P.

ATTENDANCE TOTALS

Wednesday, January 25 (7:00 PM)	15
Sunday, January 29 (9:00 AM)	105
Wednesday, February 1 (7:00 PM)	20
Sunday, February 5 (9:00 AM)	86
Wednesday, February 8 (7:00 PM)	15
Sunday, February 12 (9:00 AM)	99
Wednesday, February 15 (7:00 PM)	13
Sunday, February 19 (9:00 AM)	75
Wednesday, February 22 (7:00 PM)	63

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.

Equipping Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life



lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

On January 13, attorneys general from 22 different states signed a letter to the Federal Drug Administration (FDA), requesting that it reverse its recent decision to expand access to the abortion pill through direct pharmacy distribution. In the letter to FDA Commissioner Dr. Robert Califf, attorneys general from states including Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Kentucky urged a reversal. “The Food and Drug Administration’s decision to abandon commonsense restrictions on remotely prescribing and administering abortion-inducing drugs is both illegal and dangerous,” the letter reads. “In direct contravention of longstanding FDA practice and congressional mandate, the FDA’s rollback of important safety restrictions ignores both women’s health and straightforward federal statutes. We urge you to reverse your decision.” Earlier in January, Danco Laboratories, the U.S. manufacturer of the abortion pill, announced that pharmacies can now become certified to dispense Mifeprex® (mifepristone)—the first drug in the abortion pill regimen—directly to patients. Prior to this, women were required to obtain mifepristone from a licensed clinic or medical facility, but are no longer required to do so despite the fact that studies have shown the abortion pill to be four times more dangerous than a first-trimester surgical abortion. (*Live Action News*, 1/17/23; *CLR LifeWire*, 1/19/23)

Speaking up For Life

“Say, ‘Congratulations and thanks be to God!’ Pregnancy is never a sin, and motherhood, even amid afflictions, is always a blessing. Our Lord has honored her with this holy vocation. She and her baby belong to Him from this time forth and forevermore!” *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life*

“The Church can become a place of belonging for everyone. As much as a person feels invisible in their loneliness, the Church has a place for them. Your church can be a place where each person finds they are indispensable to the Body of Christ.” *Mona Fuerstenau*

“Jesus Christ has made every human life indispensable.” *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life*

“There’s so much work to be done, so many lives to protect. The unborn, the mentally ill, the hungry, the broken, and many others still need to hear about our hope in Christ and the love He has for us, and it’s our duty to bring it to them.” *Katie Reid, 2021 Y4Life intern*



**Order LFL Resources
at www.cph.org**

**Since 1973: 64,443,118
abortions in America**

Source: www.lifenews.com/2023/01/09/64443118-babies-have-been-killed-in-abortions-since-roe-v-wade-in-1973



LCMS- Stewardship-Ministry-Newsletter Article—MARCH

Lenten Discipline: Denying the Self

We are at the beginning of Lent. During the Lenten season, the church calls to our attention the sufficiency of what God gives. It points to the sufficiency of God's grace in the atoning work of Jesus. It shows us the sufficiency of faith in Jesus' work for us. It makes known the sufficiency of God's Word in faith and life.

But Lent doesn't just remind us of the sufficiency of God's spiritual gifts — the gifts that pertain to our redemption and salvation. Lent also reminds us of the sufficiency of the physical, temporal gifts of God which pertain to this body and life. In other words, it reminds us of the importance of godly contentment and of outward discipline and training of the body.

This outward training of the body teaches us not to give in to every desire of our flesh, but to learn to say no to them. And it does this in such a way that if you fail, it is no sin. It is a way to practice without putting yourself into a compromising situation.

Fasting is a good example of this outward training. When you fast, you are practicing saying no to the desires of your body. But if you fail in this, if you break your fast, you have not sinned. But you have learned something about how your flesh works, how difficult it is to fight against it, and how you need help from above to discipline the desires of your body.

Another example is almsgiving. An increase in giving to the church and its mission during Lent is also a form of outward training. We all know that our flesh finds security in money and stuff. By committing to give more to the church, you are training your flesh. You are, by this outward discipline, training yourself to be content with what God gives. You are practicing saying "no" to your desires. Again, if you fail, you have not sinned. But you've learned just how powerful your flesh is — it leads you instead of you leading it. You've learned how you need help from above in being content with what God gives.

This is why St. Paul instructs young Pastor Timothy in this way:

But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. (1 Tim. 6:6–10)

Our sufficiency is not of ourselves; it is in God. Let us learn this without sin by training our flesh this Lenten season.



March Birthdays

- 1 Harry G.
- 3 Lindsay S.
- 5 Gary B.
- 6 Jack B.
- 7 Brian R.
- 12 Paula B.
Jeremiah W.
- 13 Kim M.
- 14 Carolyn M.
Damian T.
- 15 Heather B.
- 16 Zoey B.
Logan F.
William G.
- 20 Bella M.
Jade P.
- 21 Aryana B.
Brianna L.
Mark M.
- 22 BreeAnna P.
- 23 Judy W.
- 26 Kate P.
- 30 Elijah P.
- 31 Jason L.
Cody M.

"Rejoice with those who Rejoice"

-Romans 12:

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.

March Anniversaries



- 07 Jeremy & Kristi P.
- 10 Jamie & Nikki B.
- 14 Rick & Lynda H.
- 17 Rob & Vicki K.

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



MARCH 2023

Church Office Hours:
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship Services in bold print. Holy Communion is offered at every Divine Service. (Marked with an asterisk*)			1 <i>Midweek of Lent 1</i> 5:30 P.M. Gsus Singers 6:00 P.M. Lenten Supper 7:00 P.M. Divine Service*	2 10:00 A.M. Bible Study	3 <div>Pastor Ruesch on Vacation</div>	4
5 <i>2nd S. in Lent</i> 8:30 A.M. Fellowship 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:30 A.M. Sunday School, Bible Study, & Youth Group	6	7	8 <i>Midweek of Lent 2</i> 5:30 P.M. Gsus Singers 6:00 P.M. Lenten Supper 7:00 P.M. Divine Service*	9	10	11
<div>Pastor Ruesch on Vacation</div>						18
12 <i>3rd S. in Lent</i> 8:30 A.M. Fellowship 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:30 A.M. Sunday School, Bible Study, & Youth Group	13 1:00 P.M. Ladies' Guild 6:30 P.M. Board of Elders	14	15 <i>Midweek of Lent 3</i> 5:30 P.M. Confirmation 5:30 P.M. Gsus Singers 6:00 P.M. Lenten Supper 7:00 P.M. Divine Service*	16 10:00 A.M. Bible Study	17 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	18 9:00 A.M. Altar Guild Workshop
19 <i>4th S. in Lent</i> 8:30 A.M. Fellowship 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:30 A.M. Sunday School, Bible Study, & Youth Group	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	21	22 <i>Midweek of Lent 4</i> 5:30 P.M. Confirmation 5:30 P.M. Gsus Singers 6:00 P.M. Lenten Supper 7:00 P.M. Divine Service*	23 10:00 A.M. Bible Study	24 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	25
26 <i>5th S. in Lent</i> 8:30 A.M. Fellowship 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:30 A.M. Sunday School, Bible Study, & Youth Group	27	28	29 <i>Midweek of Lent 5</i> 5:30 P.M. Confirmation 5:30 P.M. Gsus Singers 6:00 P.M. Lenten Supper 7:00 P.M. Divine Service*	30	31	

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
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Here to Serve!