

THE REDEEMER READER

SEPTEMBER A+D 2023

VOLUME 100, ISSUE 9



OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

www.ourredeemerkingsford.org
Facebook: /ourredeemerkingsford

Sunday Schedule:

Fellowship	8:30 A.M.
Divine Service	9:00 A.M.
Bible Study	10:30 A.M.

Wednesday Schedule:

Catechism Vespers	5:30 P.M.
Divine Service	7:00 P.M.

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

"But those who are unwilling to learn (the catechism) should be told that they deny Christ and are no Christians, neither should they be admitted to the Sacrament, accepted as sponsors at baptism, nor exercise any part of Christian liberty, but should simply be turned back to the Pope and his officials, yea, to the devil himself. Moreover, their parents and employers should refuse them food and drink, and [they would also do well if they were to] notify them that the prince will drive such rude people from the country, etc."

- Luther's Preface to the Small Catechism, 11-12



September means back to school...and therefore a return to "learning." We're resuming Sunday school this month and our youth are starting up their Sunday Bible study again. Our confirmation program resumes, albeit in a different format than in the past. Every Wednesday evening at 5:30 P.M., we'll be holding a "Catechism Vespers" service. "Vespers" is the traditional order of Evening Prayer in the Church...and in place of a sermon, there will be a lesson on part of Luther's Small Catechism. These services will be open to those of any age who want to either prepare for confirmation in the Lutheran Church...or who simply want to be refreshed on the teachings of the Small Catechism.

Martin Luther had very harsh words for those who don't want to learn the Catechism (see above). When he says that "those who are unwilling to learn it should be told that they deny Christ and are no Christians," Luther isn't saying that a person is saved by memorizing a list of Bible verses and texts. He's saying that the idea that someone who has faith in Christ wouldn't desire to know Christian truth is incomprehensible.

Every Christian is called to *confess* his or her faith. The word "confess" literally means "to say the same thing." When we confess our faith, we join our voices to the Church throughout the world and throughout time in speaking about Jesus and what He has done for us and for everyone. Jesus says, "So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven." (Matt. 10:32-33, ESV)

My hope and prayer is that these "Catechism Vespers" services will be a valuable tool in teaching not just our young people, but all of us to confess Jesus as Lord and to speak to others about the mighty work of God in saving us, His children. Please consider joining us every Wednesday at 5:30 P.M.!

In Christ our Lord,

Pastor Ruesch

Pastor Ruesch



A CATECHISM VESPERS SERVICE will be offered on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 P.M. beginning on September 6th. These services will teach a lesson on the Small Catechism each week. Everyone is invited! **WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES RESUME** on September 6th at 7:00 P.M. Please note that Wednesday services are a repeat of the *previous* Sunday's service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH BIBLE STUDY resume on Sunday, September 10th at 10:30 A.M. **ADULT BIBLE STUDY** will continue its study on the book of 1 Corinthians. We have study opportunities for Christians of every age!



BUILDING FUND UPDATE: Thank you *again* to Jeff Swanson for his demo work on the two small bathrooms in the hallway between the offices and to Rob Kuehl for renovation work! We're looking forward to these updates! Please use the restrooms at the back of the fellowship hall while the work is being finished!

Our new furnaces have been installed in both the basement and the back furnace room! This project was made possible by memorials in honor of Jack & Gladys Barthels and Ray & Betty Bourassa, along with your building fund donations.

Your gifts to our building fund remain a necessary and vital part of our going forward for the "next 100 years" here at Our Redeemer. God has been incredibly gracious to us and He has filled a lot of people with a lot of love for what He does here in our congregation!

OFFICIAL ACTS OF THE CHURCH

Baptism

No official acts for August

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.**

As summer comes to an end and Sept. comes—so do many activities—School, sports, Church, Bible Studies, Confirmation—1st Communion and LWML activities!!

Upcoming events:

2023

Sept. 7-8-9, Camp Luther Retreat. Details in Summer *Mission Tidings*. Deadline by is interesting call members in info to check!

Sept. 11—Regular LWML meeting 1 pm in fellowship hall

Oct. 1—LWML Sunday

Oct. 7—Zone 2 Fall Rally. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Munising, MI

Nov. 11—Christian Life Workshop, Rib Mountain, WI

2024

June 13-15—LWML North Wis. District Convention, Paper Valley Hilton, Appleton WI



LWML-LADIES' GUILD

"Serve the Lord with Gladness"

As fall activities start in full—I thought it might be interesting to hear how several of our LWML gals felt when they answer: "What does LWML mean to you!!" Thought it might encourage more of our ladies from the congregation to join us!! We would certainly welcome you! Think about it!

"Have attended Lutheran Ladies Guild for 63 years. What A joy! From Michigan as a young mother to Virginia and back to Michigan. Working and praying together, hearing Gods Word and singing His raises, bring peace and joy to me. The wonderful work accomplished with our Mites amazes me. I'm so happy to be apart of a group of women serving God and making a difference to so many." Nancy W.

"Being able to bond with sisters in Christ to serve others." Maridol B.

"LWML was an auxiliary to the Church. To back up and participate whatever the church was involved in" Roxie M.

"Making good friends while serving our Lord in many ways."

Sherry C. Sherry is treasurer—in charge of sending mites—25% to National & 75% to NWD as well as local charities to give at Christmas—St. Vincent, Caring House, and many more.

"LWML means connecting to me. Connecting to the past when my mom & her friends were in LWML & worked together. So, it helps me honor them and continue their example. Connecting to the present with my sisters in Christ here for fellowship & Bible Study. And unites us to accomplish projects we would struggle to do on our own. Finally connecting with our small mites along with other LWML to funds needs worldwide which always amazes & humbles me. Take Care," Joan L.

"I look forward to our LWML meetings each month to meet with sisters in Christ. We have a Bible Study, fellowship and plan mission projects within our church, community, and country. What a blessing all of these things bring to us and others! Praise God!" Gloria S. V.P.

"While contemplating my response—I remember when I first started in LWML—in early 60's when I was "stay at home" mom with three kids under school age—I was youngest member of LWML and got to spend time and get to know the Ladies for the Original Our Redeemer Church on Emmet & Maple. Felt real special! Now I'm one of the oldest—have been president way too long but sure have enjoyed it all! Was blessed to be delegate at National LWML Convention in Mobile AL in 2000. Attendee at several NWD Conventions and Zone 2 Rallies throughout UP plus Camp Luther Retreats. With all the wonderful Christian women I've met—"My gals" at Our Redeemer Kingsford are the best! With every activity we are involved in—hosting rallies, helping at funerals, banquets, special days, LWML Sunday etc. They are there! God Bless all! Their love of God shows in all they do! HAVE to say highlight of all—is hearing the personal experiences that our LWML missionaries accomplished by our mites!! (We were 2nd highest contributor in our Zone!!)" Caren E.

"LWML means recognizing that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the greatest treasure there is!" Rev. Matthew R.

ALL WOMEN WELCOME TO ALL ACTIVITIES!!

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.
-

Youth Group Update

9/10 Youth Group Kickoff, 10:30AM after Sunday Service located in the choir loft upstairs. Yes, the fridge will be stocked! We will share our summer memories, discuss the next Youth event for 2024. Grades 6-12 are welcome to attend.

10/7 Movie Night, 6:30PM – Free will offering for the Youth Group, save the date to watch a family friendly movie hosted by the Youth Group. Popcorn included!

THANK YOU!!! Because of your support we were able to send 4 teens and 2 chaperones to Mackinaw Island this summer for the Michigan High School Youth Gathering. Located at Mission Point Resort, for 4 days the group listened to national Christian speakers, worshiped with live Christian music, laughed to Christian comedy act and even experienced live Christian poetry reading. For our servant work the teens helped paint the seawall at Sheplers St Ignace Dock, and accidentally painted themselves as well. Pictures of the Youth Gathering can be seen on Our Redeemer Facebook page. Thank you for your continuing support for Youth Group activities!

Saturday Fun Days

Come to Camp Luther for an incredible day out with your family! Enjoy all of camp's awesome activities and make lasting memories together as you explore, play, and relax at camp. Have a blast doing kayaking, paddleboarding, swimming, disc golf, hiking, mountain biking, archery, and more!

Labor Day Weekend

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. SEPT. 1-4, 2023 | FAMILIES | 3 NIGHTS & 7 MEALS

Retreat Center Housing and Meals are still available \$150 (Adult); \$125 (Age 5-17); Free (Age 0-4)
Cottage Housing (Full)

Support our Every Kid to Camp Program

Each year we host a Golf Classic to raise funds for our Every Kid to Camp Program which offers a week of summer camp to any first-time camper at **no cost to them!** Click on the Picture to Learn more about how to support this event.

Camp Gift Certificates

Good for the Canteen, a Summer Camp, or a Cottage Rental!

Available in any amount. Just tell us how many you would like.

Please call Camp at 715-546-3647. We can have your gift certificate out in a day or two.

Wishlist

There is always a need for items on our Wishlist! These supplies could range from program items for new games at camp to new tools for our volunteers to use on projects.

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



**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.

September 3

9:00 am Elder: Dana B.
Ushers: Volunteers
Digital Music

September 10

9:00 am Elder: Jeremy P.
Ushers: Volunteers
Digital Music

September 17

9:00 am Elder: Jim R.
Ushers: Volunteers
Organist: Marian V.

September 24

9:00 am Elder: Jeremey P.
Ushers: Volunteers
Digital Music

Altar Guild

Maridol B. & Dana B.

Wednesday Divine Service 7:00 P.M.
Digital Music

September 6

Elder: Dana B.

September 13

Elder: Gary P.

September 20

Elder: Jim R.

September 27

Elder: Gary P.

ATTENDANCE TOTALS

Sunday, July 30 (9:00 AM)	90
Sunday, August 6 (9:00 AM)	59
Sunday, August 13 (9:00 AM)	91
Sunday, August 20 (9:00 AM)	97
Sunday, August 27 (9:00 AM)	86

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

LIFE NEWS



LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE

lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

Abortion pill dispensaries are on the increase following the Supreme Court's ruling in *Dobbs* overturning *Roe v. Wade*. Since that time, facilities offering chemical abortions also increased—and prescribers continue to flout approved FDA gestational limits. In addition, due to so-called shield laws, abortion pill prescribers and Honeybee Health pharmacy are threatening to ship the drugs into states that protect preborn children, while law enforcement ignores abortion pills flooding into the United States from unregulated, unapproved sources. In April of 2021, under the guise of the COVID-19 pandemic, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration expanded its safety regulations known as REMS to allow for limited mail-order pharmacy distribution ... the Biden FDA had further weakened the REMS by eliminating the in-person dispensing requirement and enabling the abortion pill to be permanently shipped by mail. Then, in January 2023, the Biden FDA further gutted the FDA's safety protocols on the drug by announcing it would allow retail pharmacies to dispense it. Today, abortion pill prescribers continue to flout the FDA's safety regulations by prescribing the pills well past the FDA-approved gestational limit, promoting unapproved protocols or veering away from FDA-approved rules by dispensing abortion pills to women who are not pregnant—and sometimes leaving women to deal with dangerous ectopic pregnancies on their own. (*Live Action News*, 7/27/23)

Speaking up For Life

"God's Son began His life weak and helpless, laid in a feeding trough. He began His ministry weak and tempted, vulnerable in the desert. In a weakened state from the scourging, Jesus died on the cross, making you right with God, filling you with His strength. And when God supplies your strength, you are strong, indeed." *Marie MacPherson, author*

"Why bother living today as a child of God, striving to follow the Lord's will in words and actions in spite of trials? Why bother showing love and forgiveness toward those who hurt you? Why share the news of a Savior when it seems to have little effect? Because we live in the light of Jesus' love. Our sins are paid for and gone. Jesus' victory is ours. He promises: 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life' (John 8:12). In His light every difficulty, no matter how intimidating in our eyes, fades away. Problems become opportunities for His glory to shine all the more!" *Daily Devotion, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, Michigan*

"Fostering may result from brokenness, but it also provides opportunity for Gospel-motivated courage and compassion." *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life*

lutheransforlife.org/resources/life-quotes



ORDER LFL RESOURCES AT
WWW.CPH.ORG



LCMS- Stewardship-Ministry-Newsletter Article—SEPTEMBER

Stewardship in the First Commandment

The greatest gift that Martin Luther gave to us was his Small Catechism. The word “enchiridion” is part of the original title of this work. This is the Greek word for “handbook.” The Small Catechism is a handbook of the Bible. All the basic knowledge that a Christian needs to understand the faith and live a godly life has been taken from the Bible and distilled into this beautiful little book of Christian piety.

Luther starts with the Ten Commandments.

The First Commandment:

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things. (SC I)

We have a God above us. He is the Lord God and we are not. He is Almighty and in control. He is righteous and good. And therefore, we should fear Him.

This God is also our heavenly Father. He wants us to be saved. He does not want us to suffer His just wrath. He has provided salvation for us in His Son, Jesus Christ. And therefore, we should love Him.

Our heavenly Father will never leave us nor forsake us. He has promised as much — and the Bible shows us that He always keeps His promises. So, we should trust Him.

In the Large Catechism, Luther explains how money and possessions form one of the greatest temptations against the First Commandment:

This I must unfold somewhat more plainly, that it may be understood and perceived by ordinary examples of the contrary. Many a one thinks that he has God and everything in abundance when he has money and possessions; he trusts in them and boasts of them with such firmness and assurance as to care for no one. Lo, such a man also has a god, Mammon by name, i.e., money and possessions, on which he sets all his heart, and which is also the most common idol on earth. He who has money and possessions feels secure, and is joyful and undismayed as though he were sitting in the midst of Paradise. On the other hand, he who has no doubts and is despondent, as though he knew of no God. For very few are to be found who are of good cheer, and who neither mourn nor complain if they have not Mammon. This [care and desire for money] sticks and clings to our nature, even to the grave. (LC I 5–9)

These words of Dr. Luther should call us to repentance; sometimes, we live and act like we don't have a Father in heaven. We seek our comfort and peace outside of His gracious promises. But we do have a Father in heaven. He does love us. All His promises are true. And the Lord will surely provide. If that is our belief, then our outward lives will reflect our belief in our acts of generosity and mercy. We will see money and possessions not as gods but rather as tools for doing God's work.



September Birthdays

- 2 Robert G.
- 4 Jacob L.
- 7 Carol L.
- 8 Betty S.
- 9 Charlotte B.
Darla H.
Mary L.
Vicki W.
- 10 Glenn J.
Carrie V.
- 11 Laura M.
- 13 Michael K.
Adrienne T.
- 14 Carmen L.
Mike P.
- 16 Paul O.
Chloe P.
Zach P.
Maddex S.
- 17 Hannah L.
- 19 Zaeda B.
- 20 Gilbert K.
Christyl S.
- 22 Julia A.
Joan L.
Adrienne T.
- 23 Rudy V.
- 25 Brynley G.
- 26 Cloe L.
- 28 Jen P.
Kathy P.
- 29 Kayla J.
Lisa R.
- 30 Dean G. II
Jennifer P.

**“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.

September Anniversaries



- 4 Chris & Renee W.
- 7 Christopher & Allison K.
- 10 Preston & Jean T.
- 13 Bernie & Judi P.
- 19 Gary & Julie M.
Steve & Tracy T.
- 23 Ken & Sara B.
- 25 Roger & Tricia O.
- 26 Michael & Kendra T.
- 29 Kevin & Kris M.
Roger & Carrie V.
- 30 Pastor Tom and Shirley M.

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



OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2023

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

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>					1 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	2
3 <i>14th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 8:30 A.M. Coffee & Fellowship 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:30 A.M. 1 Corinthians Bible Study	4 <i>Labor Day</i> <i>Church Office Closed</i>	5 6:30 P.M. Board of Elders	6 9:00 A.M. Service at Optalis Care & Rehab. 5:30 P.M. Gsus Singers 5:30 P.M. Catechism Vespers 7:00 P.M. Midweek Divine Service*	7 10:00 A.M. Proverbs Bible Study	8 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	9 10:00 A.M. First Communion Class
10 <i>15th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 8:30 A.M. Coffee & Fellowship 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:30 A.M. Sunday School, 1 Corinthians Bible Study, & Youth Group	11 1:00 P.M. Ladies' Guild	12 8:00 A.M. Circuit Pastors' Meeting at ORLC	13 5:30 P.M. Gsus Singers 5:30 P.M. Catechism Vespers 7:00 P.M. Midweek Divine Service*	14 10:00 A.M. Proverbs Bible Study	15 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	16 10:00 A.M. First Communion Class
17 <i>16th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 8:30 A.M. Coffee & Fellowship 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:30 A.M. Sunday School, 1 Corinthians Bible Study, & Youth Group	18 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	19	20 10:00 A.M. Altar Guild 5:30 P.M. Gsus Singers 5:30 P.M. Catechism Vespers 7:00 P.M. Midweek Divine Service*	21 10:00 A.M. Proverbs Bible Study	22 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	23 7:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast & Ephesians Bible Study 10:00 A.M. First Communion Class
24 <i>17th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 8:30 A.M. Coffee & Fellowship 9:00 A.M. Divine Service* 10:30 A.M. Sunday School, 1 Corinthians Bible Study, & Youth Group	25	26	27 5:30 P.M. Gsus Singers 5:30 P.M. Catechism Vespers 7:00 P.M. Midweek Divine Service*	28 10:00 A.M. Proverbs Bible Study	29 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	30 10:00 A.M. First Communion Class

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
420 West Breitung Avenue
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Hours: Tues., Weds., Thurs. 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Here to Serve!