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Redeemer's Christian Connection

November Newsletter

Pastor's Page



According to weather folklore, a heavy November snow will last until April. Here's some more November Weather Folklore:

If there's ice in November that will bear a duck,
There'll be nothing after but sludge and muck.
November take flail; let ships no more sail.
If trees show buds in November, the winter will last until May.
There is no better month in the year to cut wood than November.
Ice in November brings mud in December.

Thankfully we have the more dependable Word of God, and God's promises through Jesus Christ, with which to plan our future. In Christ, no matter what the weather or worldly forecast, our sunny future is secure. Each day's sunrise, as pictured above, is a reminder of Jesus' resurrection, and ours. To help keep us focused on this Good News, here are some of the highlights of the church year for November:

November 1st - All Saints Day - This feast is the most comprehensive of the days of commemoration, encompassing the entire scope of that great cloud of witnesses with which we are surrounded (Hebrews 12:1). It holds before the eyes of faith that great multitude which no man can number: all the saints of God in Christ—from every nation, race, culture, and language—who have come “out of the great tribulation...who have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb” (Revelation 7:9) As such, it sets before us the full height and depth and breadth and length of our dear Lord's gracious salvation (Ephesians 3:17-19). It shares with Easter a celebration of the resurrection, since all those who have died with Christ Jesus have also been raised with Him (Romans 6:3-8).

It shares with Pentecost a celebration of the in gathering of the entire Church catholic—in heaven and on earth, in all times and places—in the one Body of Christ, in the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Just as we have all been called to the one hope that belongs to our call, “one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all” (Ephesians 4:4-6). And the Feast of All Saints shares with the final Sundays of the Church Year an eschatological focus on the life everlasting and a confessions that “the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us” (Romans 8:18). In all of these emphases, the purpose of this feast is to fix our eyes upon Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, that we might not grow weary or faint hearted (Hebrews 12:2-3).

November 8 - Johannes von Staupitz, Luther’s Father Confessor - Johannes von Staupitz (ca. 1469-1524), vicar-general of the Augustinian Order in Germany and friend of Martin Luther, was born in Saxony. He studied at the universities in Leipzig and Cologne and served on the faculty at Cologne. In 1503, he was called by Frederick the Wise to serve as dean of the theological faculty at the newly founded University of Wittenberg. There Staupitz encouraged Luther to attain a doctorate in theology and appointed Luther as his successor to professor of Bible at the university. During Luther’s early struggles to understand God’s grace, it was Staupitz who counseled Luther to focus on Christ and not on himself.

November 9 - Martin Chemnitz (birth), Pastor and Confessor - Aside from Martin Luther, Martin Chemnitz (1522-86) is regarded as the most important theologian in the history of the Lutheran Church. Chemnitz combined a penetrating intellect and an almost encyclopedic knowledge of Scripture and the Church Fathers with a genuine love for the Church. When various doctrinal disagreements broke out after Luther’s death in 1546, Chemnitz determined to give himself full to the restoration of unity in the Lutheran Church. He became the leading spirit and principal author of the 1577 Formula of Concord, which settled the doctrinal disputes on the basis of Scripture and largely succeeded in restoring unity among Lutherans. Chemnitz also authored the four volume *Examination of the Council of Trent* (1565-73), in which he rigorously subjected the teachings of this Roman Catholic Council to the judgment of Scripture and the ancient Church Fathers. The *Examination* became the definitive Lutheran answer to the Council of Trent, as well as a thorough exposition of the faith of the Augsburg Confession. A theologian and churchman, Chemnitz was truly a gift of God to the Church.

November 11 - Martin of Tours, Pastor - Born into a pagan family, in what is now Hungary, around AD 316, Martin grew up on Lombardy (Italy). Coming to the Christian faith as a young person, he began a career in the Roman army. But sensing a call to a church vocation, Martin left the military and became a monk, affirming that he was “Christ’s soldier.” Eventually Martin was named bishop of Tours in western Gaul (France). He is remembered for his simple lifestyle and his determination to share the Gospel throughout rural Gaul. Incidentally, on St. Martin’s Day in 1483, the one-day-old son of Hans and Margarete Luther was baptized and given the name “Martin” Luther.

November 14 - Emperor Justinian, Christian Ruler and Confessor of Christ - Justinian was emperor of the East from AD 527 to 565, when the Roman Empire was in decline. With his beautiful and capable wife, Theodora, he restored splendor and majesty to the Byzantine court. During his reign, the empire experienced a renaissance, due in large part to his ambition, intelligence, and strong religious convictions. Justinian also attempted to bring unity to a divided Church. He was champion of orthodox Christianity and sought agreement among the parties in the Christological controversies of the day as the groups disputed the relation between the divine and human natures in the person of Christ. The Fifth Ecumenical Council in Constantinople in AD 533 was held during his reign and addressed this dispute. Justinian died in his eighties without having accomplished his desire to forge an empire that was firmly Christian and orthodox.

November 19 - Elizabeth of Hungary - Born in Pressburg, Hungary, in 1207, Elizabeth was the daughter of King Andrew II and his wife, Gertrude. Given as a bride in an arranged political marriage, Elizabeth became the one of Louis of Thuringia in Germany at age fourteen. She had a spirit of Christian generosity and charity, and the home she established for her husband and three children in the Warburg Castle at Eisenach was known for its hospitality and family love. Elizabeth often supervised the care of the sick and needy and at one time even gave up her bed to a leper. Widowed at the age of twenty, she made provisions for her children

and entered into an austere life as a nun in the Order of Saint Francis Her self-denial led to failing health and an early death in 1231 at age twenty-four. Remembered for her self-sacrificing ways, Elizabeth is commemorated through the many hospitals named for her around the world.

November 23 - Clement of Rome, Pastor - Clement (ca. AD 35-100) is remembered for having established the pattern of apostolic authority that governed the Christian Church during the first and second centuries. He also insisted on keeping Christ at the center of the Church's worship and outreach. In a letter to the Christians at Corinth, he emphasized the centrality of Jesus' death and resurrection: "Let us fix our eyes on the blood of Christ, realizing how precious it is to His Father, since it was poured out for our salvation and brought the grace of repentance to the whole world" (1 Clement 6:31). Prior to suffering a martyr's death by drowning, Clement displayed a steadfast, Christlike love for God's redeemed people, serving as an inspiration to future generations to continue to build the Church on the foundation of the prophets and apostles, with Christ as the one and only cornerstone.

November 29 - Noah - Noah, the son of Lamech (Genesis 5:30), was instructed by God to build an ark in which his family would find security from the destructive waters of a devastating flood that God warned would come. Noah built the ark, and the rains descended. The entire earth was flooded, destroying "every living things that was on the face of the ground, man and animals" (Genesis 7:23). After the flood waters subsided, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. When Noah determined it was safe and God confirmed it, Noah, his family, and all the animals disembarked. Then Noah built an altar and offered a sacrifice of thanksgiving to God for having saved his family from destruction A rainbow in the sky was declared by God to be a sign of His promise that never again would a similar flood destroy the entire earth (Genesis 8:20-22; 9:8-17). Noah is remembered and honored for his obedience, believing that God would do what He said He would.

November 30 - St. Andrew, Apostle - St. Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was born in the Galilean village of Bethsaida. Originally a disciple of St. John the Baptist, Andrew then became the first of Jesus' disciples (John 1:35-40). His name regularly appears in the Gospels near the top of the lists of the Twelve. It was he who first introduced his brother Simon to Jesus (John 1:41-42). He was, in a real sense, the first home missionary, as well as the first foreign missionary (John 12:20-22). Tradition says Andrew was martyred by crucifixion on a cross in the form of an X. In AD357, his body is said to have been taken to the Church of the Holy Apostles in Constantinople and later removed to the cathedral of Amalia in Italy. Centuries later, Andrew became the patron saint of Scotland. St. Andrew's Day determines the beginning of the Western Church Year, since the First Sunday in Advent is always the Sunday nearest to St. Andrew's Day.

Hymn of the Month



"When Israel Was in Egypt's Land"



#345 OAR

Before we begin the new Christian year with the coming of Christ our Savior (Advent/Christmas), I thought this hymn (which our Redeemer Lutheran School children enjoy singing) is a good one to remind us not only of our captivity in the wilderness apart from Christ, but also of God's promised deliverance. The coming of Moses to set God's people free from Pharaoh and their slavery in Egypt pointed ahead to the Coming of Jesus Christ to set us free from the devil and our slavery to sin and death.

When Israel was in Egypt's land,
Let my people go.
oppressed so hard they could not stand,
Let my people go.

Refrain:
*Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land;
tell old Pharaoh let my people go.*

2. The Lord told Moses what to do:
Let my people go.
to lead the children of Israel through,
Let my people go.
Refrain

3. The pillar of cloud shall clear the way,
Let my people go.
A fire by night, a shade by day,
Let my people go.
Refrain

4. As Israel stood by the waterside,
Let my people go.
At God's command it did divide,
Let my people go.
Refrain

5. When they had reached the other shore,
Let my people go.
They sang the song of triumph o'er,
let my people go.
Refrain

6. Oh, let us all from bondage flee,
Let my people go.
And let us all in Christ be free,
Let my people go.
Refrain



THANKSGIVING MEAL 2022

Thanksgiving Meal for 2022 is planned for November 20th at 6 p.m. Please use the sign up sheets in the narthex, help to set up, bring food and clean up. Followed by the 'Pie Auction'/. Start baking!

November 2022 What's Happening at Tiny Treasures Preschool

Advent is coming. Advent means coming. Advent is the start of the new festival half of the church year and begins on Sunday, November 27th. The preschoolers have learned about Creation, Abraham and Isaac as we close out the current church year. In October and November they will learn about Joseph, Moses, crossing the Red Sea, building the Tabernacle, David and finally Ruth. They will also get ready for the Live Nativity in December.

The assessments that the preschoolers are working on in October revolve around literacy: book awareness, print awareness and concepts, early writing and an introduction to phonological awareness. As the weather turns cold this fall, please take time to look at books with your children or if you are a member of Redeemer, please consider coming and reading a book to the children. In November, we will move into mathematics, learning about numbers and operations, geometry and spatial sense, and patterns and measurements.

Finally, a few reminders: There is hot lunch on Wednesdays and we are asking for a donation of three dollars per child to help cover costs. The dates to remember that are upcoming are that there is no school on Friday, October 28 and then again from Wednesday, November 23-Friday, November 25 for Thanksgiving. (RLS is closed all week for Thanksgiving). The preschool shares a Live Nativity with the congregation, school families and community on Saturday, December 17th at 6 p.m., so please mark your calendars for this annual tradition.

PARISH SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

God is truly blessing our elementary school and preschool ministries at Redeemer! We are reaching 55 children and their families with the Gospel message. In addition, the children are excelling academically with our Bible-based curriculum and experienced staff.

The Parish School Board has worked closely with the RLC Building Committee as they establish a proposed plan for a future school facility. We support the plan the Building Committee has prepared because of how it fits with our projections and goals.

Our present RLS enrollment stands at 30 students, with 11 students in Kindergarten-1st Grade; 9 students in Grades 2-3; and 10 students in Grades 4-5. We project our growth for RLS to continue at around 10 students per year over the next five years, provided we have the needed space.

We have 25 children enrolled in Tiny Treasures. Our preschool could increase enrollment numbers upon regaining some of the classroom space now being used by RLS.

Our vision is to build RLS to a student enrollment of 70 to 80 children. That enrollment would be spread over Grades K-8, as all the parents of our seven 5th graders have voiced their support and desire to continue their children's education at RLS through 8th grade. Without knowing exact student numbers, we anticipate multi-grade classrooms as follows: K-1, Grades 2&3, Grades 4&5, and Grades 6-8, with a maximum class size of 20 students. The building plan as proposed includes four classrooms and a "flex" room that is multi-functional and could be used as an additional classroom if needed. There also is a proposed teacher workroom with extra space for small groups and one-on-one work.

It currently takes about 13 students to pay the salary and benefits of one teacher.

At the General Assembly meeting on November 6th, the Parish School Board will request that the congregation approve the building plan submitted by the Building Committee so that cost estimates of the building expansion can be prepared and presented in the near future to the congregation for consideration and, God-willing, approval.

If you have questions, please contact Paul Althaus, Parish School Board chairman. We ask that you keep our school, preschool, and congregation in your prayers as we accomplish the Lord's work under His constant guidance and direction. Thank you!

Birthdays

Natalie Jordan—November 5
 Sue Morris—November 6
 Jackie Robirds—November 9
 Chuck Sidor—November 9
 Michael Guerra—November 10
 Mel Mertens—November 11
 Hannah Wacker—November 11
 Marilyn Liebetrau—November 12
 Ralph Seeley—November 22
 Frank Candelaria—November 24
 Samuel Buchman—November 25
 James Brewster—November 25
 Tom Nagoda—November 27
 Marie Buchholz—November 28

Baptismal Birthdays

Gordon Wagner—November 6
 Morgan Andasola—November 7
 Sandy Holden—November 10
 Char Waggoner—November 12
 Mary Miller—November 19
 Jordan Oeltjenbruns—November 20
 Renee` Beck—November 24
 Hannah Wacker—November 24
 Eveli Strassle—November 28

Wedding Anniversaries

Rodney & Karen Karp—November 8
 Herb & Holly Kruger—November 11
 John & Char Vastag—November 26
 Tom & Marguerite Wingfield—November 27



THE LORD'S MINISTRY

Redeemer Lutherans attendance figures and financial blessings that were given for the month of October to further maintain the Lord's ministry.

Date	Attendance	Communicants	Offerings Received	Needed Operating
			Gen./Designated Funds	Budget
10-2 -2022	68	59	\$5,210.00/\$404.00	\$4,455.06
10-9 -2022	95	81	\$5,331.75/\$150.00	\$4,455.06
10-16-2022	77	70	\$6,445.00/\$405.00	\$4,455.06
10-23 -2022	98	75	\$6,805.00/\$545.25	\$4,455.06

Life Thoughts in the Church Year

November 6 – Pentecost XXII (Proper 27) – God intends and imparts life (Luke 20:38). He wills life for every human being. He wills life even where the world witnesses only darkness, despair, and dying (Luke 20:29-32). He works life no matter how young or how old a person may be (Psalm 148:12). He works life that neither we nor anyone and anything else may end. Why would we not want to uncover, approach, and announce such a holy ground (Exodus 3:5) to everybody?

November 13 – Pentecost XXIII (Proper 28) – Parents delivering children to death, as in abortion, indicates the end of the age is near (Luke 21:16). We rejoice that God has given limits to evil, and this will not linger forever. Our neighbors cannot afford for our tongues or talents to grow idle (2 Thessalonians 3:6). The Lord moves in surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis, turning hearts of parents and children to one another (Malachi 4:6). Let us also be about this the Father's business!

November 20 – Last Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 29) – Using death as a solution offers us dominion to spare ourselves from pain. But real kings and queens exercise majesty by saving their people instead (Luke 23:37-39). God's forgiveness and salvation have made us royalty so that we may do the same (Colossians 1:13). Lest our silence miscommunicate arrogance as blessedness, let us give voice to the sacred remembrance that He holds every human life as His own treasured possession (Malachi 3:15-17).

November 27 – Advent I – Beware the sword of abortion, euthanasia, and embryocidal technologies. Those who live by the sword will die by it sooner or later. The words and ways of the Lord our God, however, beat swords into plowshares and pruning hooks (Isaiah 2:4)—a far more beautiful existence. May our words and deeds invite our neighbors to cast off the works of darkness, like sexual immorality, and take hold of the salvation that has drawn near (Romans 13:11-12)!

*Give Thanks to the Lord,
for He is good.
Psalm 107:1*

