

Redeemer's Christian Connection

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March Newsletter

Pastor's Page



During this season of Lent, as we consider the sacrifices our Lord has made for us, especially on the cross, let us consider these words from the Augsburg Confession (XXVI 31-44): [Our teachers] have always taught that Christians are to bear the cross [Matthew 16:24] by enduring afflictions. This is genuine and sincere subduing of the flesh [1 Peter 2:11], to be crucified with Christ through various afflictions. Furthermore, they teach that every Christian ought to train and subdue himself with bodily restraints, or bodily exercises and labors. Then neither over-indulgence nor laziness may tempt him to sin. But [our teachers] do not teach that we may merit grace or make satisfaction for sins by such exercises. Such outward discipline ought to be taught at all times, not only on a few set days. Christ commands, *"Watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness"* (Luke 21:34)... Paul also says, *"I discipline my body and keep it under control"* (1 Corinthians 9:27). Here he clearly shows that he was keeping his body under control, not to merit forgiveness of sins by that discipline, but to keep his body in subjection and prepared for spiritual things, for carrying out the duties of his calling. Therefore, we do not condemn fasting in itself [Isaiah 58:3-7], but the traditions that require certain days and certain meats, with peril of conscience, as though such works were a necessary service.

Nevertheless, we keep many traditions that are leading to good order [1 Corinthians 14:40] in the Church, such as the order of Scripture lessons in the Mass and the chief holy days. At the same time, we warn people that such observances do not justify us before God, and that it is not sinful if we omit such things, without causing offense. The Fathers knew of such freedom in human ceremonies. In the East they kept Easter at another time than at Rome. When the Romans accused the Eastern Church of schism, they were told by others that such practices do not need to be the same everywhere. Irenaeus says, "Diversity concerning fasting does not destroy the harmony of faith."



During our Lenten midweek services (7pm each Wednesday in March [1, 8, 15, 22, 29], preceded by Soup and Sandwiches at 6pm) we will be focusing on:

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.
He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

PARISH SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

We are blessed to have 32 students from 25 families attending our elementary school, and 29 students attending Tiny Treasures and a waiting list. Ten students are from our congregation.

The Parish School Board is preparing written information to share with all members of Redeemer related to enrollment projections and the need for classroom space, etc. The Building Committee has been tirelessly reviewing plans and working on cost estimates for a new school building to accommodate additional students. We anticipate requesting a special meeting of the General Assembly for approval to move forward with the expansion of our school facilities.

We are getting closer to reaching our fundraising goal for the *Raise the Rams' Roof* capital campaign! Current funds and pledges total \$630,000. You can double the impact of your donation/pledge through a \$40,000 gift-matching challenge. Keep checking the thermometer display in the narthex for updated information. Only 21 RLC families have turned in pledge forms. We are asking the remaining members to prayerfully consider completing a pledge form to share in this important ministry. Our children need Jesus every day and in every way, just as we do.

We ask for your continued prayers that all of our efforts may be to the glory of God and for the growth of His kingdom.

NEWS FROM REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL

It has been a real joy seeing our students grow this school year in their knowledge of God and their love for Him. We are especially thrilled that this month three of our students--Cezar, Case, and Abby--will become heirs of heaven through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism! We hope that you will be able to share in this special occasion on March 5th.

Our Bible-based curriculum is rigorous, and our students are benefiting from the flexibility our teachers have in place to address the specific academic needs of each child. March 17th marks the end of the third quarter, with parent/teacher conferences scheduled for March 20th. In mid-February we had an unexpected day off, due to the heavy snowfall and icy roads.

We truly appreciate your ongoing support for our school! We are grateful to all of our volunteers, including those who prepare and serve hot lunches every Wednesday and the substitute van drivers--Pastor Van, Pastor Lowell Kindschy, and parent Michael Pierce. Music teacher Rob Wolcott is turning our 3rd through 5th graders into young musicians. He volunteers every Thursday and is working on rhythm and note recognition while also teaching them to play the ukelele!

If you have talents to share with our students, please talk with Jace Holden or one of our teachers. We are grateful to those who faithfully pray for our students and staff at RLS and Tiny Treasures!

EASTER BRUNCH 2023

LAST NAMES BEGINNING WITH A - M BRING BREAKFAST
CASSEROLES

LAST NAMES BEGINNING WITH N - Z BRING FRUIT SALADS

OR if you prefer, bring a gluten free dish of ham, fruit or salad.

GLUTEN FREE DISHES (please label gluten free)
HAM

FRUIT

BREAD (bread rolls and cinnamon rolls)

We have coffee/tea/water and other juice at church.

DRINKS NEEDED
Minute Maid orange juice

COFFEE CREAMERS NEEDED
2 regular 2 flavored



HELP TO CLEAN UP.
Centerpieces to cupboard.
Tablecloths take home to wash/dry/iron. Return to church.
Sweep family life center floor and kitchen.
Trash out to the dumpster.
Tables back for bible study and school..

Please take casserole dishes home.

KITCHEN
Wipe clean all surfaces.
Serving tables wipe clean.
Trash to dumpster.
Ovens turned off.
Coffee pots empty and rinsed.
Carts returned to the kitchen.
Sweep the kitchen floor.
Spot mop the floor if needed.

THANKYOU!



Birthdays

John Moseman—March 8
Juniper Kruger—March 10
Jordan Oeltjenbruns—March 13
David Wacker—March 15th
Teagan Scarbrough—March 15
Kenny Andasola—March 16
Holly Kruger—March 17
Elsa Winkelmann—March 19
Andrea Van Fossan—March 19
Klaus Winkelmann—March 23
Lauren Jordan—March 25
Ken Weber—March 28
Jeanne Nelson—March 30
Emmett Weber— March 30
Char Waggoner—March 31



Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 12th, so don't forget to "Spring Ahead" on Saturday night before retiring.

Baptismal Birthdays

Ruby Weber—March 15
Joseph Cumins—March 24
Benjamin Cumins—March 24
Jim Gilleece—March 25

Wedding Anniversary

Shaun & Regina Howell—March 17

THE LORD'S MINISTRY

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

Date	Attendance	Communicants	Offerings Received Gen./Designated Funds	Needed Operating Budget
2-5 - 2023	96	69	\$4,062.75/\$375.00	\$4,455.06
2-12 -2023	100	70	\$3,382.00/\$10,597,51	\$4,455.06

“Life Thoughts in the Church Year”

March 5 – Lent II – Father Abraham was justified (Romans 4:2-3); that is, he had a reason for coming into being and continuing to live. Abraham was not justified by works, that is; this reason arose from elsewhere than his own origin, appearance, or ability. Abraham was justified by grace; that is, God’s creating, redeeming, and calling defined his identity. The Gospel proclaims the sanctity of life to all Abraham’s offspring (Romans 4:16)!

March 12 – Lent III – Jesus delights to invite the Samaritan woman into His fellowship and forgiveness for her sordid past (John 4:13-18). So He has received each of us, notwithstanding our mistakes and failures. And so He insists we know the joy and hope of explicitly articulating the same grace to any who suffer the guilt and grief of aborting their own children. He holds their lives as precious as those already lost.

March 19 – Lent IV – Jesus clearly instructs us not to regard physical impairment as reason for condemnation to death (John 9:3). Yet our culture often uses disability as excuse for abortion and euthanasia. The Lord our God works wonders through our neighbors’ brokenesses just as He does through our own. So we may cheerfully, compassionately, courageously persuade our communities to turn away from doctor-assisted deaths.

March 26 – Lent V – Almighty God wondrously and abundantly brings forth life where we only behold despair and darkness (Ezekiel 37:3-6). How much more dear does He hold embryonic neighbors, impaired persons, and aging ones than piles of bones? And would we not witness—and deliver!—miracles in voicing it to them and for them, especially amid surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis?

Mary Martha



LADIES LUNCHEON 2023

April 1st 11 a.m.

Here At Redeemer Lutheran Church

You are invited to join us for

DEVOTION

HELPING MAKE/CREATE OUR EASTER TABLE DECORATIONS

FELLOWSHIP

BRING AND SHARE SALADS FOR LUNCH

BABY SITTING AVAILABLE

EASTER SUNDAY (BRUNCH/BREAKFAST) IS APRIL 12TH