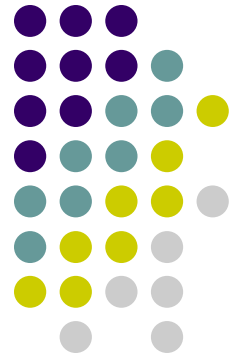


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Redeemer's Christian Connection

May Newsletter

Pastor's Page



During this month of May, in addition to thanking God for our mothers (Mother's Day is May 14th); our armed forces (Armed Forces Day is May 20th), and for the men and women who have died while serving in the military (Memorial Day is May 29th), we as the family of God also thank God for:

May 1 - St. Philip and St. James - St. Philip is mentioned in the lists of the apostles (Matthew 10:3; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:14; Acts 1:13), but only in John's Gospel is more told about him. Philip was from Bethsaida in Galilee and one of the first disciples called after Peter and Andrew. Philip also was instrumental in bringing Nathanael to Jesus (John 1:43-51). It was to Philip that Jesus posed the question about where to buy bread to feed five thousand men (John 6:5). During Holy Week, Philip with Andrew brought some inquiring Greeks to Jesus (John 12:20-22). And on Maundy Thursday evening, Philip asked Jesus to show the Father to him and to the rest of the disciples (John 14:8). A tomb believed to be that of St. Philip the Apostle was unearthed in 2011 during excavations in the ancient Turkish city of Hierapolis. Italian professor Francesco D'Andria said, "We have been looking for Saint Philip's tomb for years. We finally found it in the ruins of a church which we excavated a month ago. The structure of a tomb found there, and the writings on the wall, proved it belonged to St. Philip." St. Philip, recognized as one of Christianity's martyrs, is thought to have died in Hierapolis, in the southwest province of Denizli, in around 80AD.

St. James was a son of Alphaeus and was called "the Younger" (to distinguish him from James, the son of Zebedee, "the Elder"). His mother, Mary, was one of the faithful women who stood at the cross of Jesus (Matthew 27:56; Mark 15:40). James is mentioned in the same apostolic lists as Philip, but there is no other mention of him in the New Testament. There is also no information regarding his field of labor or the circumstances of his death, except that he may have been martyred by being sawed in two.

May 2 - Athanasius of Alexandria, Pastor and Confessor - Athanasius of Alexandria was born in Alexandria in Egypt around AD 295. He served as a church leader in a time of great controversy and ecclesiastical disagreement. At the Council of Nicaea in AD 325, Athanasius defended Christian orthodoxy against the proponents of the Arian heresy, which denied the full divinity of Jesus Christ. During his forty-five-year tenure as bishop of Alexandria, Athanasius wrote numerous works that defended the orthodox teaching. His enemies had him exiled five times; on two occasions he was almost murdered. Yet Athanasius remained steadfast and ended his days restored fully to his ecclesiastical responsibilities. The Athanasian Creed though not composed by Athanasius, is named in his honor because it confesses the doctrinal orthodoxy he championed throughout his life.

May 4 - Friedrich Wyneken, Pastor and Missionary - Friedrich Wyneken is one of the founding fathers of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, along with C.F.W. Walther and Wilhelm Sihler. Born in 1810 in Germany, Wyneken came to Baltimore, Maryland, in 1838 and shortly thereafter accepted a call to be the pastor of congregations in Friedheim and Fort Wayne, Indiana. Supported by Wilhelm Loehe's mission society, Wyneken served as an itinerant missionary in Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan, particularly among Native Americans. Together with Loehe and Sihler, he founded Concordia Theological Seminary in 1846 in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Wyneken later served as the second president of the LCMS during a period of significant growth (1850-64). His leadership strongly influenced the confessional character of the LCMS and its commitment to an authentic Lutheran witness.

May 5 - Frederick the Wise, Christian Ruler - Frederick the Wise, elector of Saxony from 1486 to 1525, was Martin Luther's sovereign in the early years of the Reformation. Were it not for Frederick, there might not have been a Lutheran Reformation. Born in Torgau, Germany, in 1463, Frederick became so well known for his skill in political diplomacy and his sense of justice and fairness that he was called "the Wise" by his subjects. Although he never met Luther, Frederick repeatedly protected and provided for him. In all likelihood, he saved the reformer from a martyr's fate when he refused the pope's demand to extradite Luther to Rome for a heresy trial in 1518. When Emperor Charles V declared Luther an outlaw in 1521 at the Diet of Worms, Frederick provided sanctuary for Luther at Wartburg Castle. On his deathbed, Frederick received the Lord's Supper in both kinds—a clear confession of the evangelical faith.

May 7 - C.F.W. Walther, Theologian - Carl Ferdinand Wilhelm Walther (1811-87), the father of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, emigrated from Saxony, Germany, with other Lutherans in 1839 and settled in Missouri. He served as pastor of several congregations in St. Louis, founded Concordia Seminary, and in 1847 was instrumental in the formation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (then called the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States). Walther served as the Synod's first president from 1847 to 1850 and again from 1864 to 1878. Walther worked tirelessly to promote confessional Lutheran teaching and doctrinal agreement among all Lutherans in the United States. He was a prolific writer and speaker, and among his most influential works are *Church and Ministry* and *The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel*.

May 9 - Job - Job was a blameless and upright man who came from Uz (Job 1:1), a land northeast of Canaan. The Book of Job examines the depths of his faith, which was severely tested through the sufferings God permitted. Despite the sudden death of his ten children and the loss of all his wealth and his health, Job refused to curse God, saying: "*Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return; the LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD*" (Job 1:21). Still, in the midst of his tribulations Job questioned the meaning and purpose of suffering to the point of asserting his own righteousness (Job 34:5-6). Finally, the Lord revealed that a man cannot know the mysteries of God (Job 38-41). Job's faith in his Redeemer and the resurrection prevailed (Job 19:25-27). In the end, the Lord restored Job's wealth and blessed him with another seven sons and three daughters.

May 11 - Cyril and Methodius, Missionaries to the Slavs - Cyril (AD 826-69) and Methodius (ca. 815-85) were brothers who came from a Greek family in Thessalonica and were both ordained as priests. After ordination, Cyril became a librarian at the Church of Holy Wisdom (Hagia Sophia) in Constantinople. In AD 862, the brothers were sent by the emperor as missionaries to what is now the Czech republic, where they taught in the native Slavic tongue. Cyril invented the alphabet known today as "Cyrillic," which provided a written language for the liturgy and Scriptures for the Slavic peoples. This use of the vernacular established an important principle for evangelical missions.

May 21 - Emperor Constantine, Christian Ruler, and Helena, Mother of Constantine - Constantine I served as Roman emperor from AD 306 to 337. During his reign, the persecution of Christians was forbidden by the Edict of Milan in AD 313, and, ultimately, the faith gained full imperial support. Constantine took an active interest in the life and teachings of the Church and in AD 325 called the Council of Nicaea, at which orthodox Christianity was defined and defended. His mother, Helena (ca. AD 255-329), strongly influenced Constantine. Her great interest in locating the holy sites of the Christian faith led her to become one of the first Christian pilgrims to the Holy Land. Her research led to the identification of biblical locations in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and beyond, which are still maintained as places of worship today.

May 24 - Esther - Esther is the heroine of the biblical book that bears her name. Her Jewish name was Hadassah, which means “myrtle.” Her beauty, charm, and courage served her well as queen to King Ahasuerus. In that role, she was able to save her people from the mass extermination that Haman, the king’s chief advisor, had planned (Esther 2:19-4:17). Esther’s efforts to uncover the plot resulted in the hanging of Haman on the very same gallows that he had built for Mordecai, her uncle and guardian. Following this, the king named Mordecai minister of state in Haman’s place. This story is an example of how God intervenes on behalf of His people to deliver them from evil, as here through Esther He preserved the Old Testament people through whom the Messiah would come.

May 25 - Bede the Venerable, Theologian - Bede (AD 673-735) was the last of the Early Church Fathers and the first to compile the history of the English church. Born in Northumbria, Bede’s parents placed him in a monastery in northern England at the age of seven. He rarely left the monastery and devoted the rest of his life to teaching and writing. The most learned man of his time, he was a prolific writer of history, whose careful use of sources provided a model for historians in the Middle Ages. Known best for his book *The Ecclesiastical History of the English People*, he was also a profound interpreter of Scripture; his commentaries are still fresh today. His most famous disciple, Cuthbert, reported that Bede was working on a translation of John’s Gospel into English when death came and that he died with the words of the *Gloria Patri* on his lips. He received the title “Venerable” within two generations of his death and is buried in Durham Cathedral as one of England’s greatest saints.

May 31 - The Visitation - John the Baptizer and Jesus, the two great figures of salvation history, now come together in the visit to Elizabeth by the Virgin Mary (Luke 1:39-45), both of whom conceived their children under miraculous circumstances. Thus John is brought into the presence of Jesus while they are still in their mothers’ wombs. This presence of the Lord causes a response by the child John as he leaps in Elizabeth’s womb. John’s response in the presence of Jesus, the Messiah, foreshadows John’s own role as forerunner. Already now, a new creation is beginning, and a baby still in the womb hails the new creation’s inception. Foreshadowed in John’s leap are the miracles of Jesus, who will cause all creation to leap at His presence: “The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers and cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached them” (Luke 7:22). The incarnate presence of the Messiah also evokes a response from Elizabeth, who proclaims Mary’s blessedness. Mary’s Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) provides the theological significance of this meeting as Mary sums up her place in salvation history. Mary’s song is a hymn to God for His gracious gifts to the least in this world, whom He has lifted up out of lowliness solely because of His grace and mercy.

[Adapted from Treasury of Daily Prayer, CPH 2008]

PARISH SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

A special General Assembly meeting will be held on Sunday, May 7, after the worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on the school expansion plan proposed by the Building Committee and proceeding with construction of the new school building.

Informational packets were distributed by email (if your email address is listed in our Church 360 program), or in church mail boxes, or by U.S. mail, or by hand delivery. These packets contain detailed plans prepared by the Building Committee with a project budget of \$969,000. In addition to the building itself, this figure includes the costs for classroom furnishings, fencing and other items listed on the detailed project budget page in the packet. Printed packets are available in the church office if you need one.

Pledges and giving now total \$650,700. Upon approval of the building project by the General Assembly, we will begin asking for contributions outside of our congregation as well as from members of our church.

Pre-enrollment for the upcoming school year is currently at 46 students (Kindergarten through Grade 6), an increase of 14 students. We will be adding a teacher for Grades 3&4 due to class sizes. We are in much need for more classroom space! The balcony will again be used as a classroom, and we are working on identifying a suitable location for the 3rd & 4th grade classroom.

If you have questions or comments about the proposed building project and capital campaign, you will have the opportunity to talk with Parish School Board and Building Committee members after Bible Class on Sunday, April 30, or on Tuesday, May 2 at 5:30 p.m., as there will be limited discussion at the special G.A. meeting due to time constraints.

HYMN OF THE MONTH



LSB 473: “Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free”

The last hymn Martin Franzmann wrote that appears in LSB is his Easter hymn “Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free.” Written in 1974, two years before his death.

This hymn is based on 1 Corinthians 5:7–8 - *“Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.”*

Ephesians 5:2 - *“And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”*

Romans 12:1-2 - *“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”*

Like Franzman’s hymns “Thy Strong Word” and “O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth,” this hymn draws connections between Old Testament prophecies and narratives and their New Testament fulfillment in the life and work of Christ.

Spring 2023 What’s Happening at Tiny Treasures

Tiny Treasures Preschool, as an early childhood education provider, considers the staff to be partners in the children’s activities and learning rather than just a supervisor. Throughout the day, we work to form caring relationships with the children, support their play ideas, share control with them, focus on the individual strengths and needs of each child and promote a problem solving approach to social conflict.

The assessments for the spring continue to grow the children in their cognitive and physical development. March focuses on approaches to learning: completing tasks, staying with a self selected activity for 10 minutes, adding variety to their daily routine, and independently problem solving. In April we move to a clear testing of fine motor skills while in May we will focus on our gross motor skill testing as the weather gets much warmer.

We also start planning for the summer and the fall during the springtime. Tiny Treasures is open during the summer, so if you are interested in having your child continue through the summer, please speak with Mr. Holden as soon as possible. Current children get to secure a spot first, but we open up registration to the general public right after spring break. Also, if your child is going to attend Redeemer Lutheran School in the fall, please register before March 31, to keep the current tuition. Registrations after April 1, 2023 will increase to \$4400 for the 2023-24 school year. Finally, some upcoming dates to remember. NO school on Good Friday, April 7. Spring Break is April 17-21. Preschool graduation is Friday, May 12th at 6pm. The last day of preschool is Friday, May 19. The preschool is closed the last week of Redeemer Lutheran School, May 22-26. The preschool summer session starts on Tuesday, May 30.



Redeemer Lutheran Church and School in Delta, CO
Join us for Vacation Bible School this summer!

WHEN:

Monday July 10th through Thursday July 13th
8:30 am to 11:30 am

WHERE:

Redeemer Lutheran Church and School
1000 Pioneer Rd Delta, CO 81416

AGES:

Preschool through 5th grade

CONTACT:

Janell, VBS Director 970-778-1134
janelloberheu@gmail.com

REGISTER:

www.myvbs.org/redeemerlutheranchurchdelta
Please register your child to help us know how many to plan for.

Birthdays

Lowell Kindschy—May 1st
Scott Keene—May 3rd
Mark Thiebaud—May 5th
Christopher Miller—May 9th
Bobbi Koppes —May 12th
Ryan Althaus—May 12th
Renee` Orros—May 14th
Macy Weber—May 14th
Jim Gilleece—May 18th
Teresa Sidor—May 23rd
Ellie Oberheu—May 23rd
Char Vastag—May 27th
Alissa Heinecke —May 27th
Paul Althaus—May 29th

Wedding Anniversaries

Jace & Sandy Holden—May 6th
Dale & Carol Rustebakke—May 11th
Ron & Rebecca Cumins—May 14th
Ed & Sue Morris—May 25th
Tom & Kathy Bieth—May 26th

Baptismal Birthdays

Nick Orros—May 3rd
Evan Fischer—May 10th
Christopher Miller—May 13th
David Wacker—May 13th
Gary Nickel—May 20th
Rick Oberheu—May 23rd
Sharon Althaus—May 25th
Jim Black—May 29th
Ellie Oberheu—May 29th

THE LORD'S MINISTRY

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

Date	Attendance	Communicants	Offerings Received Gen./Designated Funds	Needed Operating Budget
4-2-2023	99	68	\$2,990.75/\$854.63	\$4,455.06
4-6-2023			\$555.00	
4-9-2023	149	100	\$5,109.75	\$4,455.06
4-16-2023	90		\$4,923.75/\$200.00	\$4,455-06



Life Thoughts in the Church Year

May 7 – Easter V – The God of the Scriptures displays a decided preference for precisely the kind of lives our world despises. He devotes particular attention to infants and elderly persons (Psalm 146:9), with no thought for who might find them “unwanted” or “burdensome.” He would even have us emulate their dependency upon Him (1 Peter 2:2). And He invites us to know this – and make it known – as real life (John 14:6).

May 14 – Easter VI/Mother’s Day – The reason for the hope that is in us rests upon the Lord’s creating, redeeming, and calling of every human being. The reason for the hope that is in us does not rely on anyone else’s age, appearance, or ability. Advocating for the sanctity of life gives the reason for the hope that is in us, and we declare and demonstrate it with a mother’s tenderness and tenacity (1 Peter 3:15).

May 21 – Easter VII – The demise of Judas (Acts 1:18) confirms death is always the devil’s work (1 Peter 5:8). We are not ashamed to resist its enticements, for the sake of both the Gospel and our neighbors. The work of God, on the other hand, always seeks to adopt even the ones the world discards and number every human life among His household (Psalm 68:5-6). Let us be about the Father’s business!

May 28 – Festival of Pentecost – Almighty God showers His Holy Spirit even upon those otherwise considered unworthy (Numbers 11:26-29). He remembers not the sins of our youth (Psalm 25:6-7), and we get to extend this forgiveness explicitly to those guilty of aborting their own children. If His salvation receives us into this refreshing cleansing, how could we withhold it from anyone else by our silence? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets!

