

**Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
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## Redeemer's Christian Connection

### Pastor's Page

## JUNE, a month



In the history of the Church, some of the people we thank God for include many who were willing to humbly sacrifice their lives for the sake of letting others know about our Savior from sin, death, and the devil, Jesus Christ. This is completely opposite of the recent movement to make June "Pride Month," where people are proud of their rejection of God's Word.

**June 1 - Justin, Martyr** - Born at the beginning of the second century, Justin was raised in a pagan family. He was a student of philosophy who converted to the Christian faith and became a teacher in Ephesus and Rome. After refusing to make pagan sacrifices, he was arrested, tried, and executed, along with six other believers. The official Roman court proceedings of his trial before Rusticius, a Roman prelate, document his confession of faith. The account of his martyrdom became a source of great encouragement to the early Christian community. **Much of what we know of early liturgical practice comes from Justin.**

**June 5 - Boniface of Mainz, Missionary to the Germans** - Boniface was born in the late seventh century in England. Although he was educated, became a monk, and was ordained as a presbyter in England, he was inspired by the example of others to become a missionary. Upon receiving a papal commission in AD 719 to work in Germany, Boniface devoted himself to planting, organizing, and reforming churches and monasteries in Hesse, Thuringia, and Bavaria. After becoming an archbishop, Boniface was assigned to the See of Mainz in AD 743. Ten years later, he resigned his position to engage in mission work in the Netherlands. On June 5, 754, while awaiting a group of converts for confirmation, Boniface and his companions were murdered by a band of pagans. Boniface is known as the apostle and missionary to the Germans.

**June 11 - St. Barnabas, Apostle** - St. Barnabas was a Levite from Cyprus who sold some land and gave the proceeds to the early Christian community in Jerusalem (Acts 4:36-37). St. Paul informs us that he was a cousin of John Mark (Colossians 4:10). Barnabas was sent by the Jerusalem Church to oversee the

young Church in Antioch (Acts 11:22). While there, he went to Tarsus and brought Paul back to Antioch to help him (Acts 11:25-26). It was this Church in Antioch that commissioned and sent Barnabas and Paul on the first missionary journey (Acts 13:2-3). When it was time for the second missionary journey, however, Barnabas and Paul disagreed about taking along John Mark. Barnabas took Mark and went to Cyprus; Paul took Silas and headed north through Syria and Cilicia (Acts 15:36-41). Nothing more is known of the activities of Barnabas, except that he was apparently known to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 9:6). Tradition relates that Barnabas died a martyr's death in Cyprus by being stoned.

**June 12 - The Ecumenical Council of Nicaea, AD 325** - The first council of Nicaea was convened in the early summer of AD 325 by Roman Emperor Constantine at what is today Iznik, Turkey. The emperor presided at the opening of the council. The council ruled against the Arians, who taught that Jesus was not the eternal Son of God but was created by the Father and was called Son of God because of His righteousness. The chief opponents of the Arians were Alexander, bishop of Alexandria and his deacon, Athanasius. The council confessed the eternal divinity of Jesus and adopted the earliest version of the Nicene Creed, which in its entirety was adopted at the council of Constantinople in AD 381.

**June 14 - Elisha** - Elisha, son of Shaphat of the tribe of Issachar, was the prophet of God to the Northern Kingdom of Israel around 849-786 BC. Upon seeing his mentor, Elijah, taken up into heaven, Elisha assumed the prophetic office and took up the mantle of his predecessor. Like Elijah, Elisha played an active role in political affairs. He also performed many miracles, such as curing the Syrian army commander Naaman of his leprosy (2 Kings 5) and restoring life to the son of a Shunammite woman (2 Kings 4:8-37). A vocal opponent of Baal worship, Elisha lived up to his name, which means "my God is salvation."

**June 24 - The Nativity of St. John the Baptist** - St. John the Baptizer, the son of Zechariah and Elizabeth, was born into a priestly family. His birth was miraculously announced to his father by an angel of the Lord (Luke 1:5-23), and on the occasion of his birth, his aged father proclaimed a hymn of praise (Luke 1:67-79). This hymn is entitled the Benedictus and serves as the traditional Gospel Canticule in the Church's Service of Morning Prayer. Events of John's life and his teaching are known from accounts in all four of the Gospels. In the wilderness of Judea, near the Jordan River, John began to preach a call to repentance and baptismal washing, and he told the crowds, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29). John denounced the immoral life of the Herodian rulers, with the result that Herod Antipas, the tetrarch of Galilee, had him arrested and imprisoned in the huge fortress of Machaerus near the Dead Sea. There Herod had him beheaded (Mark 6:17-29). John is remembered and honored as the one who with his preaching pointed to "the Lamb of God" and "prepared the way" for the coming of the Messiah.

**June 25 - Presentation of the Augsburg Confession** - The Augsburg Confession, the principal doctrinal statement of the theology of Martin Luther and the Lutheran reformers, was written largely by Philip Melancthon. At its heart, it confesses the justification of sinners by grace alone, through faith alone, for the sake of Christ alone. Signed by leaders of many German cities and regions, the confession was formally presented to Holy Roman Emperor Charles V at Augsburg, Germany, on June 25, 1530. A few weeks later, Roman Catholic authorities rejected the Confession, which Melancthon defended in the Apology/Defense of the Augsburg Confession (1531). In 1580, the Unaltered Augsburg Confession was included in the Book of Concord.

**June 26 - Jeremiah** - The prophet Jeremiah was active as God's prophet to the southern kingdom of Judah around 627 to 582 BC. As a prophet he predicted, witnessed, and lived through the Babylonian siege and eventual destruction of Jerusalem in 587BC. In his preaching, he often used symbols, such as an almond rod and a boiling pot (Jeremiah 1:11-14), wine jars (13:12-14), and a potter at work (18:1-17). His entire prophetic ministry was a sermon, communicating through word and deed God's anger

toward His rebellious people. Jeremiah suffered repeated rejection and persecution by his countrymen. As far as can be known, Jeremiah died in Egypt, having been taken there forcibly. He is remembered and honored for fearlessly calling God's people to repentance.

**June 27 - Cyril of Alexandria, Pastor and Confessor** - Cyril (ca. 376-444) became archbishop of Alexandria, Egypt, in AD 412. Throughout his career, he defended a number of orthodox doctrines, among them the teaching that Mary, the mother of Jesus, is "rightly called and truly is the Mother of God"—Theotokos, "The God-bearer" (Formula of Concord VIII 12). In AD 431 the Council of Ephesus affirmed this teaching that the Son of Mary is also true God. The writings of Cyril on the doctrines of the Trinity and the person of Christ reveal him to be one of the most able theologians of his time. Cyril's Christology influenced subsequent Church councils and was a primary source for Lutheran confessional writings.

**June 28 - Irenaeus of Lyons, Pastor** - Irenaeus (ca. AD 130-200), believed to be a native of Smyrna (modern Izmir, Turkey), studied in Rome and later became pastor in Lyons, France. Around AD 177, while Irenaeus was away from Lyons, a fierce persecution of Christians led the martyrdom of his bishop. Upon Irenaeus's return, he became bishop of Lyons. Among his most famous writings is a work condemning heresies, especially Gnosticism, which denied the goodness of creation. In opposition, Irenaeus confessed that God has redeemed His creation through the incarnation of the Son. Irenaeus also affirmed the teachings of the Scriptures handed down to and through him as being normative for the Church.

**June 29 - St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles** - The festival of St. Peter and St. Paul is probably the oldest of the saints' observances (dating from about the middle of the third century). An early tradition held that these two pillars of the New Testament Church were martyred on the same day in Rome during the persecution under Nero. In addition to this joint commemoration of their deaths, both apostles are commemorated separately: Peter on January 18 for his confession of Jesus as the Christ (Matthew 16:13-16) and Paul on January 25 for his conversion (Acts 9:1-19).

The New Testament tells us much about both apostles. Peter was with Jesus from the beginning of His ministry and served as a leader among the disciples. Despite his steadfast faith, Scripture also records some of his failures, such as his rebuke of Jesus (Matthew 16:21-23) and his threefold denial of his Lord (Matthew 26:69-75). Following Jesus' ascension, Peter continued as a leader in the Church (Acts 1:15; 2:14; 15:7).

Paul, a devout Jew also known as Saul, entered the scene as a persecutor of the Church. Following his miraculous conversion, in which the risen Christ Himself appeared to him, Paul became a powerful preacher of the grace of God. During his three missionary journeys (Acts 13-14; 16-18; 18-21), Paul traveled throughout modern-day Turkey and Greece. The New Testament account of his life ends with Paul under house arrest in Rome (Acts 28:16), though tradition holds that he went on to Spain before returning to Rome.

[Adapted from Treasury of Daily Prayer, CPH 2008]



## RAISE THE RAMS' ROOF

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, members of Redeemer voted to move forward with plans to construct a new school building. The Building Committee is hard at work with the initial phases of the project. We now are requesting pledges or donations from both inside and outside our congregation to raise an additional \$300,000 to reach our financial goal of \$969,028.

As you consider how you can assist in furthering this ministry of Redeemer Lutheran Church, please take time to read the following, which was taken from a recent devotion in *Portals of Prayer*:

### THE GIFT OF GENEROSITY

“You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.” 2 Corinthians 9:11

Managing well what God gives us is our sacrifice of thanksgiving to God. It ensures that God's people are taken care of. However, there are many more opportunities God wants to give us.

God's generosity is evident. He did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us. We can trust that He will give us all things needful. As we open our hearts and hands more and more to others, God supplies us with more and more to give. When others see our generosity and see that it comes through our faith in Jesus and God's promised provision, they too will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving to God. Generosity results in thanksgiving.

Generosity is the catalyst that keeps a ministry going. Generosity is contagious because cheerful givers are inspiring. People are inspired to pray for a generous ministry. People are inspired to give to a generous ministry. Generosity blesses the receiver as well as the giver. It's the gift that keeps on giving.

Christ-centered education has never been more important. May God continue to work through our gifts and prayers to keep our mission strong. Through the work of the Holy Spirit and you, our members, seeds are being planted for God to harvest for His kingdom.

Lord God, make us cheerful givers, sowing seeds of generosity out of thankfulness for all Your good gifts. Use our giving to Your glory. In Jesus' name. Amen.



## NEWS FROM REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Approximately 160 people were in attendance for a fun and entertaining presentation by our students as they looked back to the decade of the 1920's. The end-of-the-year program included singing, acting, dancing, musical instruments, costumes, recitations, patriotic decorations, clothing and household items from the Roaring Twenties era, and more. The students learned a lot about inventions, changes and events that took place 100 years ago. Most importantly, they reminded us that in the present era of uncertainty, if you know the King of Kings, you know who holds the future in His hands, and He can be trusted!

MANY thanks to all who helped with the presentation and the costumes. Special thanks to Mrs. Barb Nagoda for accompanying the singing, to Mr. Eric Egan for his professional reading of the poem, "Casey at the Bat," and to Mrs. Sue Kindschy for teaching the students how to dance the Charleston. We were blessed to have many helping hands for the meal afterwards. Thanks to all who helped in any way!

Educational field trips in the month of May included a trip to the Museum of the West and the Eureka Museum of Science in Grand Junction, and the Montrose Botanic Gardens.

We are grateful for our teachers and our 32 students and their families. It is exciting to expand our ministry to even more students in the coming years as we integrate God's Word into every aspect of the school day! Thank you for your continued support of RLS!





## Birthdays

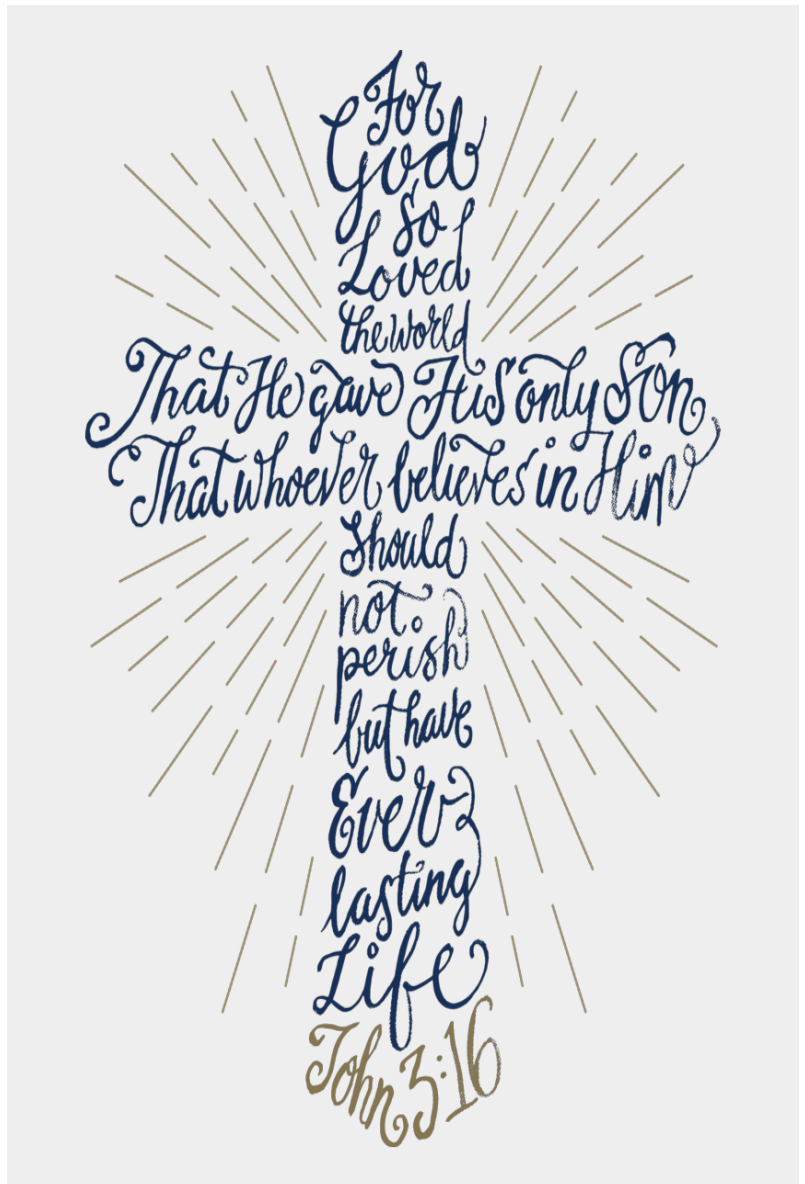
Stephanie Buchman—June 2nd  
Kathy Bieth—June 7th  
Doug Scarbrough—June 10th  
Beth Gilleece—June 10th  
Jace Holden—June 10th  
Jim Black—June 15th  
Linda Wacker—June 16th  
Gary Nickel—June 16th  
Tyler Jordan—June 17th  
Phyllis Reeder—June 18th  
Gladys Sunderland—June 20th  
Vicki Candelaria—June 20th  
Sarah Weber—June 23rd  
Bob Oeltjenbruns—June 24th  
Aaron Miller—June 24th  
Samantha Steinbach—June 26th  
Bill Sinner—June 27th

## Baptismal Birthdays

John Vastag—June 3rd  
Lisa Althaus—June 3rd  
Ryan Althaus—June 3rd  
Steve Burnick—June 4th  
Klaus Winkelmann—June 6th  
Michelle Scarbrough—June 8th  
Alissa Heinecke—June 14th  
Teresa Sidor—June 18th  
Karen Jetley—June 21st  
Scott Keene—June 21st  
Drew Miller—June 22nd  
Char Vastag—June 26th

## Wedding Anniversaries

Chuck & Teresa Sidor—June 1st  
Drew & Mary Miller—June 10th  
Dennis & Tina Oeltjenbruns—June 13th  
Lowell & Sue Kindschy—June 17th  
Jacob & Janell Oberheu—June 20th  
Hartland & Michelle Clubb—June 22nd  
Tom & Barb Nagoda—June 28th  
Phillip & Doreen Dwyer—June 29th  
Michael & Lisa Althaus—June 30th





**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](http://www.myvbs.org/redeemerlutheranchurchdelta)

Please register your child to help us know how many to plan for.

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## ***THE LORD'S MINISTRY***

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

Date	Attendance	Communicants	Offerings Received Gen./Designated Funds	Needed Operating Budget
5-7-2023	95	79	\$3,218.00/\$638.00	\$4,455.06
5-14-2023	102	79	\$3,791.75/\$40.00	\$4,455.06
5-21-2023	82	62	\$5,811.50/\$526.01	\$4,455.06
5-28-2023	95	78	\$3,727.00/\$937.00	\$4,455.06

### **“Life Thoughts in the Church Year”**

**June 4 – Festival of the Holy Trinity** – The care that Father, Son, and Spirit enact by creating humankind in His image makes every member of our race precious (Genesis 11:26-27). He reserves for Himself alone the right to decide how they live and when they die. Ultimate authority belongs to Jesus alone (Acts 2:36). We get the privilege and responsibility of teaching everyone that they also may believe it (Matthew 28:20)!

**June 11 – Pentecost II (Proper 5A)** – Abortion and assisted suicide attempt a salvation based on self-made assessments and efforts (Romans 4:13). Yet our God and Father would have even the most despised human life called into His kingdom (Matthew 9:9-11). Jesus on earth and in the flesh confirms this sanctity already and not just eventually. Let us bring the weak ones a healer instead of a hangman.

**June 18 – Pentecost III (Proper 6A)/Father's Day** – Godly fatherhood involves protecting the vulnerable like a shepherd guards his sheep (Matthew 9:36). This makes abortion more than a personal matter or a women's issue. Compassion for the weak (Romans 5:6) in both words and works is God's concern, a Gospel affair, and a Christian issue. Since the Lord has spoken it, we need not hesitate to do it (Exodus 19:8).

**June 25 – Pentecost IV (Proper 7A)** – Our witness to the worth and purpose God assigns to every human life doesn't have to be timid. Let the joy of life's gift (Romans 6:23) have fire (Jeremiah 20:9) in our hands, and let its hope have volume (Matthew 10:27) from our mouths, to lift up the humble and turn back the proud. We enter the spiritual battle with courage, compassion, and Christ Jesus (Psalm 91:3-6)!