

**NEWSLETTER 2018**

On the eaves of winter,  
hangs depression and gloom  
where my thoughts drip of Spring  
and the sights of its bloom.

I can hardly wait,  
for these cold days to be gone  
so I can rise with the robin  
and listen to Springtime's song.

On the dawn of Spring,  
are the shadows of new life  
putting an end to the bitter chill  
and the ache of winter's strife.

Spring is just around the corner  
but I'm not sure if I can wait  
and I pray every day to God . . .  
"Oh, please don't let Spring be late!"

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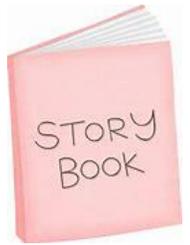
*Song of Solomon 2: 11-12*  
*King James Version*

*"For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land."*

## FROM THE VICAR

Parents hear this all the time when their children are young: Tell us a good story!

But what exactly is a good story? If a good story is a something that reaches over generations and thus becomes what we might call "a classic tale," then it is most often a formula like this: A helpless human being is hit by something evil, and when everything looks most hopeless, then the helpless one is rescued by courage, self-discovery, and of course love — and they always live happily ever after.



This basic way of story-telling runs through all good stories from the comics, to magazines, novels and films. We seem never to get tired of hearing about ordinary people who get into trouble, only to be discovered, selected and saved. And it's usually always love which is the power that leads to the happy ending.

The reason why we seem never to get tired of this narrative pattern might be because we unconsciously recognize a truth about ourselves and our relationship to God in it! Because what was Jesus actually doing for us when He died on the cross? Well, that is the fantastic tale of Easter, which in importance for us humans by far outshines the already quite tinsel-coated tale of Christmas. In the first chapters of the Bible we read about how God longs for man. So he creates him in his own image and let him live in a fantastic world without evil and selfishness. Just like the King and Queen who are longing for a child in the story of "Sleeping Beauty" (a story originally from France in the 1300s, named Perceforest), and just as their happiness would have no end when Sleeping Beauty is born, so the Bible too describes how God is thrilled for each individual he creates.

In the Bible, the story continues with how evil, in the shape of a snake, creeps into the Garden of Eden and how the desire for possessions grabs Adam and Eve, so they have to leave the Garden of Eden and go out into the world where everything eventually comes to an end, and where they one day will die! In the story of Sleeping Beauty it is the evil fairy who crushes the happiness at the castle by saying that Sleeping Beauty will die when she is 18! A good fairy was only able to mitigate the prophecy, so "Sleeping Beauty" and the entire castle with her will instead of dying will have to sleep. And so they do — for 100 years, until a prince breaks the curse with a kiss on the lips of Sleeping Beauty. Although the vast majority of us live longer than 18th years, we know that someday death will put a limit to our life — a limit that can destroy the joy of life even in the midst of life. This evil, which destroys our joy and our life, God has engaged in battle with. Into this world which is afflicted by the curse of death, he sends Jesus, His son, the son of the Creator of the universe, the Living Word Himself. His is truly a prince. In this world, Jesus meets a hedge of selfishness and greed, which in the church, is called sin.

This hedge has gradually grown so high inside of us humans, that we think that it is completely natural and normal for us to think of ourselves and of those we know first and then others may fight over the leftovers of the rich man's table, if there *are* any leftovers when we're done — me, myself and mine! But into this hedge Jesus hacks a hole in order to get into the sleeping castle. In the story of Easter we hear how Jesus gets a branch of the hedge pressed down as a crown of thorns round his head and die nailed to a cross. But by dying a seemingly meaningless death, he took our sins upon himself and thereby lifted the curse that hung like a death sentence over each one of us. And so, Jesus died our death and when he 3 days later, by the power of God, triumphed over the evil of death, then each of us got a share in His life, which is the prize of the victory! Easter is therefore, the story of how we humans like "Sleeping Beauty" have been torn out of the curse of death and put into a new and eternal life of love; thanks to Jesus' love for us. That's the fundamentally good and true story about us humans, of God and of the necessity of a liberator, as Paul briefly summarizes it in his letter to the Romans, "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us!" Do you want to have this amazing story further unfolded for you — well, then come and join us as we progress through Lent and into Easter!

*Vicar Michael*



## Church Service Schedule

- March 4 - Vicar Michael  
March 7 - Lenten Worship  
Potluck Supper at 5:30 p.m. and Service at 6:30 p.m.  
March 11 - Pastor Lentz for Holy Communion Service  
March 14 - Lenten Worship  
Potluck Supper at 5:30 p.m. and Service at 6:30 p.m.  
March 18 - Vicar Michael  
March 21 - Lenten Worship  
Potluck at 5:30 p.m. and Service at 6:30 p.m.



PALM SUNDAY

March 25 - Pastor Darren – Palm Sunday Holy Communion and Potluck

March 29 – Maundy Thursday with Holy Communion at 7:00 p.m.



March 30 – Good Friday Worship at 7:00 p.m.



### PASSION DRAMA

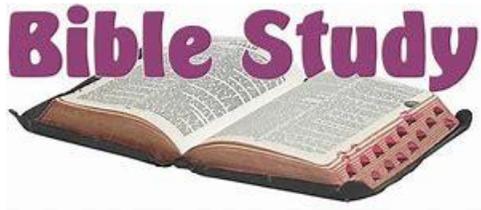
March 24 and 25  
3:00 p.m.

Mark March 24 & 25, 2018 on your calendars!



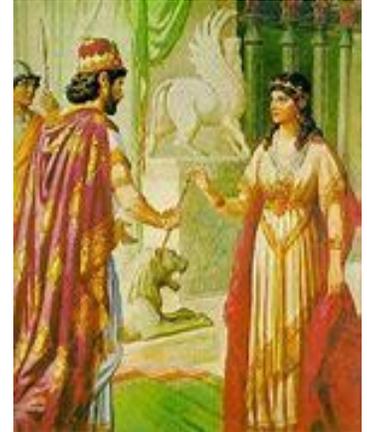
That is Passion Play time and we need people to sign up to take part, if we want to present this Play this year!

Please contact either: Wes & Pam Thomas or Bev Regner



Sunday Morning at 9:30 a.m.  
History of Jerusalem  
in view of the events of today.

Tuesday Bible Study  
Exercise at 1:30 p.m.  
Bible Study at 2:00 p.m.  
The Book of Esther

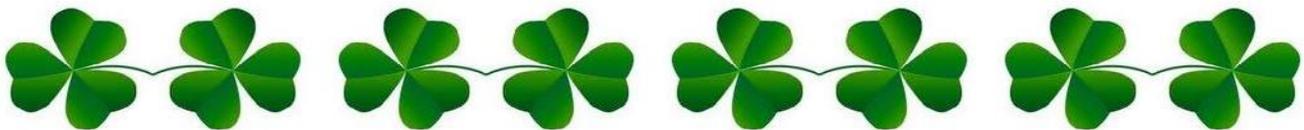


### LWMLC REPORT

The next meeting is March 12 at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room.  
We have Bible study, a bit of a meeting and prayer time.  
Please join us for some fellowship.



Please note that Red Deer is in need of clothes and household items for new immigrants that are moving in weekly. Remember this when you are doing your closet clean out, etc. Thanks!



### MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Tuesday, March 13 , 9:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m.  
Redeemer Church Gym

Feature: Dr. Julie Miller, Naturopath

Music: Rhonda Short

Guest Speaker: Laura Klassen, "Beauty for Ashes"

\$7 per person (free childcare)

Reservations - Ann: 403-335-8444 or 403-559-8818





**May 24, 25, 26**

Thursday, Friday, Saturday

9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Redeemer Lutheran Gym

Anyone wanting to help us set-up would be welcomed and appreciated.  
Times for set-up will be determined closer to the event.  
Please ask Bev Regner or Dianna Levagood if you have any questions.



## **VOTER'S MEETING**

April 15

After Worship Service

(Meeting will be held in the Fireside Room)



Sunday School  
meets

First & Third Sundays of the month

## Youth – February

There was only one Youth Event held in February due to the cancellation of COP Tubing on February 3, 2018. It has now been rescheduled for March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 (see below).

On February 16, 2018 we held our Beach Volleyball and Pizza Party, along with a Hungry Hippo Competition (just like the game except with real people). Accurate scores were hard to come by, but Fun was had by all. We had a total of six (6) youth in attendance. The youth were surprised that Redeemer had a real volleyball net.

### Upcoming Youth Events for March:

March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 – COP Tubing – Price for Tubing is \$18.88, plus lunch money, as we are hoping to stop for lunch on the way home. We will meet at the Church at 8:30 a.m. **Please confirm your attendance, so we can have enough means of transportation.**

March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Bowling in Olds – Meet at the Church at 6:45 p.m., as we have to leave by 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$5.00/each. **Please confirm your attendance, so we can have enough means of transportation.**

March 24 & 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Passion Drama – Servant Event – **Please confirm your attendance.**





# Redeemer Lutheran Church

## Didsbury, Alberta

### March 2018

| Sun.                                                                                                                                                                                | Mon.                                              | Tue.                                                                             | Wed.                                         | Thu.                                                                                                                                             | Fri.                                                                                                                                | Sat.                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                   |                                                                                  |                                              | 1<br>P.P.C. Meeting<br>7:00                                                                                                                      | 2                                                                                                                                   | 3<br>Youth - Tubing                                                                                              |
| 4<br>Bible Class 9:30<br>Worship 10:30<br>Sunday School                                                                                                                             | 5<br>Confirmation<br>Class 3:30                   | 6<br>Exercise and<br>Bible Study 1:30                                            | 7<br>Potluck 5:30<br>Lenten Worship<br>6:30  | 8                                                                                                                                                | 9                                                                                                                                   | 10                                                                                                               |
| 11<br>Bible Class 9:30<br>Holy Communion<br>10:30                                                                                                                                   | 12<br>L.W.M.L. 9:30<br>Confirmation<br>Class 3:30 | 13<br>Christian<br>Women's<br>Breakfast 9:30<br>Exercise and<br>Bible Study 1:30 | 14<br>Potluck 5:30<br>Lenten Worship<br>6:30 | 15                                                                                                                                               | 16<br>Youth - Bowling                                                                                                               | 17<br>St. Patrick's Day<br> |
| 18<br>Bible Class 9:30<br>Worship 10:30<br>Sunday School                                                                                                                            | 19<br>Confirmation<br>Class 3:30                  | 20<br>Exercise and<br>Bible Study 1:30<br>NEWSLETTER<br>ARTICLES DUE             | 21<br>Potluck 5:30<br>Lenten Worship<br>6:30 | 22                                                                                                                                               | 23                                                                                                                                  | 24<br>PASSION<br>DRAMA 3 PM                                                                                      |
| 25<br>Bible Class 9:30<br>Holy Communion<br>10:30<br>Pot Luck Lunch<br><br>PASSION DRAMA<br>3 PM | 26<br>Confirmation<br>Class 3:30                  | 27<br>Exercise and<br>Bible Study 1:30                                           | 28                                           | 29<br>Maundy<br>Thursday<br>Holy Communion<br>at 7:00 PM<br> | 30<br>Good Friday<br>Worship at 7:00<br>PM<br> | 31                                                                                                               |

notes

Easter – April 1. Worship with Holy Communion at 10:30 A.M.

Celebrate the  
resurrection of  
our Lord!

Happy  
EASTER

