

•INSPIRE•

Bible Studies

Sunday Adult Bible Study

Monday Women's Bible Study

Wednesday Noon

Women's Monday Bible Study

(will resume January 6)
Mondays 6:30pm here at church in the Narthex. Study will be based on Ephesians, a letter from Paul. Please see Kellee Skaggs for additional information.

Wednesday Noon Bible Study

The book of James, half-brother of Jesus, a letter to the church is written to Jewish believers in his day, but the content of the letter is timeless and timely. James writes that we should turn to God in our trials and live our faith in God's Word. He casts an unfavorable eye on the ways of the world, and calls on believers favoritism in the church and an unhealthy view of money. Finally, he calls all believers to pursue Jesus's Grace and Mercy with passion.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Join Pastor Mike Sunday morning for a bible study on the book of Genesis - "The Beginning".

Altar Flowers 2020

Have a specific date(s) you would like to dedicate flowers? Please fill out the bulletin insert and place it in Carol Plew's mail box. *FYI-If the date is already filled, Carol will move you to the next closest date.*

have a date in mind? Look at the chart on the bulletin board to see what is available.

•GROW•

Youth Confirmation Class

Parents & Students
Class has begun! Wednesdays, at 6:30pm. Questions? contact Pastor Mike
pastor_mike@redeemerwarsaw.org
cell:574-527-9483

Class will resume on January 8th

•Change•

Property Purchase

At the Special Voter's Assembly held on August 22, the Voter's approved to purchase the property next door via a mortgage from the current owner. We now look to put this purchase to work for Him. Next will be the conversation as to how this will be accomplished.

Debt Reduction Envelopes are available at the welcome center

Lincoln School Part Time Tutor

Lincoln School Principal Cathy Snyder is looking for someone to be a tutor Monday thru Friday from 1:30-3:30. They would work 1 on 1 or with a small group on math or reading. Lincoln School will train. This is a paid position. Please call Cathy at 267-7474 for an interview.



Redeemer Volunteering & Events

Sign up sheet

(Please place sign-ups in the Office mailbox)

Name: _____

☐ I'd like to donate to the Altar Flowers (\$25)

in honor of: _____ on this date: _____

Please use this insert and place in Carol Plew's mail box

I'd like to join an awesome Bible Study! attend as many as you like!

☐ Sunday Morning Bible Study Monday Evening Women's Bible Study

☐ Wednesday Noon Bible Study

☐ I would like assistance from the Youth Group
(yard work, cleaning, a visit ...)

☐ I would like to help with Sunday School, IMPACT, nursery

☐ Volunteering at Lincoln School & Little Steps Daycare.
I am interested in learning about the many opportunities on how to implement our Vision Statement.

* **Christmas Eve Service Practice:** *If you are part of the program—*
Praise Band please arrive by 4:30pm for set-up.
Participants-5pm for practice.

Broken Christmas

It was obvious to Joseph, something had happened to his fiancée, she was pregnant, and not by him.

Now, “*Joseph... an honorable man...didn’t want to disgrace her publicly. So he decided to break the marriage agreement with her secretly.*” (Matthew 1:19 GW)

A) But, he tried to get some sleep and talk to the Rabbi in the morning...

1) But that night, Joseph wouldn’t be alone...

An _____ spoke to him in a dream: “*Joseph, descendant of David, don’t be afraid to take Mary as your wife. She is pregnant by the Holy Spirit.*” (vs. 21)

2) This child was from _____, from His Spirit. Wait, that means this child is...

_____!” “*She will give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus [He Saves], because he will save his people...*” (vs. 22)

3) His name is Jesus, or Yeshua, meaning _____!

He must have remembered the words of Isaiah the prophet, “*A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and she will name him Immanuel [God Is With Us].*” (Is. 7:14 GW)

B) It’s a story we love for so many reasons.

1) A story that starts in brokenness and fear but ends with a baby born healthy to a young couple, so ordinary, so dependent on _____.

2) And THEY had been given this huge _____.

3) It was God’s _____ unfolding before their eyes.

C) There were all kinds of people gathered around that manger that night.

1) _____, the protector, provider, the step-father to the Prince of Peace.

2) We see _____ there too; So many changes in such a short time.

•Nine months earlier, she was considered a maiden, a young girl.

•Now, she found herself a grown woman, a wife, a mother.

3) Soon, _____ would visit, saying; ‘An angel from the Lord suddenly appeared to (us). The glory of the Lord filled the area with light, and they were terrified. The angel said to (us), “Don’t be afraid!

I have good news for you, a message that will fill everyone with joy.

Today your Savior, Christ the Lord, was born in David’s city.

This is how you will recognize him: You will find an infant wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly, a large army of angels appeared with the angel. They were praising God by saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those who have his good will!”

Then the angels left (us) and went back to heaven.” (Luke 2:9-15a GW)

Close: This is the picture of Christmas! It’s our story, that starts in brokenness and ends in joy, and promise, and hope.

"How?"

TEXT: And Mary said to the angel, "*How will this be, since I am a virgin?*" And the angel answered her, "*The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you ...*" (Luke 1:34-35a)

It was a very unexpected visit. Not only did the angel drop in suddenly, but he came with a message the Bible normally reserves for childless women married for years, like Sarah or Hannah: "*You will conceive in your womb and bear a Son*" (Luke 1:31a). That wasn't what Mary expected to hear!

So she questioned it-not disbelieving, but rather wanting to know how this was going to work out, given that she was a virgin. Should she get married suddenly, or what? And the angel respected that and answered her-Yes, we are talking about a miracle here. The Spirit of God will make it happen. And the baby will be holy, the Son of God.

How different this is from Zechariah's meeting with the same angel! He also asked the question "How?" How could he be sure it would really happen since he and his wife were too old to have children? But his "how" was a how of doubt; he just couldn't wrap his mind around the idea. And the angel, with complete justice, pointed out that hey, you're talking to an angel right this minute, and not just any angel-one that stands in the presence of God. Isn't that enough proof for you? And promptly gave him nine months of silence to think about the error of his ways.

It is hard to go on believing without seeing, day after day after day. And yet God does keep His promises at the proper time. The Lord works His wonders according to His promise, whether we trust like Mary or doubt like Zechariah. Our doubts may lead to trouble for us, but they will never prevent God from keeping His promises of salvation.

How? God says: "*Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you*" (Isaiah 35:4b). He comes as a newborn baby, lying in a manger. He comes as a man, walking to suffering and death in Jerusalem. He comes as the risen Christ who promises to be with us always.

THE PRAYER: Dear Father, thank You for working out salvation for us in spite of our fears and doubts. Help me to trust in You with all my heart. Amen.