

## •INSPIRE•

### Bible Studies

Sunday Adult Bible Study

Monday Women's Bible Study

Wednesday Noon

### Women's Monday Bible Study

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 the office 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@redeemer warsaw.org cell:574-527-9483

## •Change•

### Property Purchase

We have a new tenant, Leigh Baier, and her business The Learning Lab which tutors children, has signed a one year lease for one of the offices in our building. Lease Term starts on 02/01/2020 and runs thru 01/31/2021, with a monthly lease amount of \$400.

### Debt Reduction Envelopes are available at the welcome center

### Building Loan

When we purchased the property next door, the total price was \$152,000. Through your efforts, and generosity were able to pay off \$25,437.73 in 2019. This leaves a total of \$126,562.27. Our 2020 budget aims at paying down the mortgage at a five year rate. With your continued support and generosity, this goal can and will be easily achieved!



## 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 the church 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.

• **Church Directory** we are still in need of several photos. If you have not submitted a pic to the office, please do so-thank you. You can go to the members only website anytime to update your family info, view church members addresses, phone numbers, emails, etc. *However, since only members can see this info, an "invitation" needs to be initiated by the office.* Please contact the office to receive this "invitation". In a few weeks, copies of the directory will be printed for those who would rather have a paper copy.

• **Rummage Sale 2021** Barb appreciates the Rummage Sale contributions. She asked that no additional items be brought into church as storage space is limited. As this is a huge undertaking, we organize the sale every other year. The next Rummage Sale will be in 2021

### More Than Mary's Little Lamb

*"Mary had a little lamb his fleece was white as...snow."*

Jesus is the Lamb of God who paid for the sin of the world.

#### **A) \_\_\_\_\_ are weak and they aren't very smart.**

- 1) But, John wasn't insulting Jesus: *"This is the one I meant when I said, 'A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'"* (Jn. 1:30)
- 2) John didn't have to guess Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_: *"I saw the Spirit come down as a dove from heaven and stay on him. I didn't know who he was. But God, who sent me to baptize with water, had told me, 'When you see the Spirit come down and stay on someone, you'll know that person is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' I have seen this and have declared that this is the Son of God."* (John 1:32-34 GW)
- 3) Jesus isn't just Mary's son; He is the Son of \_\_\_\_\_!

#### **B) Jesus is called the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, because it's a description of what He came for.**

- 1) In the Old Testament, God required his people to sacrifice lambs to \_\_\_\_\_ for their sins.
- 2) He did it to \_\_\_\_\_ His people that he doesn't take sin lightly.
  - Animal sacrifices were only \_\_\_\_\_ that put off paying the real debt of sin.
  - God's Son became Mary's son because He had the right exchange, human flesh and blood.
  - The lambs offered to God were to be without any physical \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Jesus was that kind of lamb.

#### **C) Jesus's perfect \_\_\_\_\_ covers our sins and protects us from God's anger.**

- How can we be sure that Mary's little lamb has broken the world's fall?
- 1) He's the Lamb, the Son of God who has the \_\_\_\_\_ to carry the world's sin.
  - 2) That's why we can be confident when we fall from of God's expectations.
    - And why we can't keep Jesus to ourselves.
  - 3) Like John the Baptist, we need to \_\_\_\_\_ point others to Him. It's actually God who does the work; before, during & after the baptism.

**Close:** So, keep looking to him, yourself, and pointing other's to him.

### "Little Stones"

Isaiah 53:7 - *He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.*

Not long ago, the evening news told of a man who had spent a year hitchhiking from coast to coast.

The young man, who was trying to "discover the real America," came away from the experience with a number of stories which he hopes to cobble into a book. In his interview, he spoke of seeing communities which were cold and those which went out of their way for a stranger. His thoughts seemed to center on the kind, the caring, and the compassionate of America's citizenry.

Although he had planned on mooching rides as he made his way from the West Coast to the East, there were times when rides were scarce and he had to hoof it. "Those were the lonely times," the young man reflected. Still, the part of the interview I remember the most was when he was asked "What was the most difficult thing you had to endure?"

His reply surprised the interviewer (and me).

I thought he would say his greatest problem had come in the thin air of the mountains or the hot sun of the deserts. Those items were never mentioned. He did recall how, during a three-day period, when nobody had given him a lift, he had felt some degree of loneliness. So, what was the biggest difficulty he had endured? What was it that bothered him most?

"The biggest pain I endured," the young man said, "was caused by the small stones in my shoes. Given a chance those small things could become painful discouraging big things." I wonder what Jesus would say was the hardest thing for Him to endure as He walked this earth?

\* Most certainly, the six hours He spent on His Black Friday cross would appear on the list. To endure the mockery coming from the mouths of those He was dying to save had to have been most painful.

\* Then there was the time He had spent in prayer at the Garden of Gethsemane. Feeling the weight of the world's sins would have been almost overwhelming, even for the Son of God. But that was not the only hurt He felt. He had asked His disciples to pray with Him and they fell asleep. Soon they would desert Him and flee into the dark. One of His hand-picked disciples was about to betray Him, and before the night was over, another would three times swear He had never met the Savior.

\* Yes, those times had been painful -- painful in the extreme. But I wonder if the small stones in his sandals might not have been just as painful. You know, the small stones of not having nine of the lepers offering up thanks for their healing or the Jerusalem crowds which would welcome Him on Sunday and call for His death on Friday.

The truth is I don't know the biggest pain Jesus endured. I don't know, because He never said. Isaiah had it right. From start to finish, Jesus never opened His mouth in complaint. Little stones and big boulders were all endured. Why? He was, as the Baptizer had said, the Lamb of God who was taking away the sins of the world (see John 1:29).

**THE PRAYER BEFORE THE CROSS:** Lord Jesus, I give thanks that You endured many things which no individual should suffer. This You did to win my forgiveness and salvation. No matter what stumbling stones show up in my life, may my days be a song of unending praise. In Your Name I ask it. Amen.