



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

To be followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...

An adventure for *life!*

Reflections

(614) 237-1263

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February 15, 2010

Whole Lives that Are Thoroughly Blessed

OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here
in the name of Jesus

Pastor - F. Allan Debelak

Secretary - Kurt Goshen

Lay Ministry Coordinator -

Kelley Scott

Organist/Senior Choir Director -

Kathy Rapp

Chimes Choir Director - Karen

Kent

Youth REJOYSing - Julie

Larson

Youth Director -

CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

President - Gage Gosnell

Vice Pres. - Steve Winner

Treasurer - Eileen Day

Financial Secretary - Bruce

Collins

Secretary - Kay Ernsthansen

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPS.

Church in Society - Kathy

Denhard

Evangelism - Jon Disbro

Fellowship - Donna Schmidt

Finance - Brad Phillips

Member Care - Carol Heacock

Parish Ed - Heidi Stover

Property - Maureen Callahan

Stewardship - John Kennedy

Worship - Michelle Clemence

Youth - Jennifer Young

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

Chairman - Robin Stokes

Treasurer - David Reinhoeh

Secretary - Ashley Bird

Member - Helen Brunston

Member - William McCulley

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Michele Disbro

MIC STUDENTS

2nd year - Jared Witt

1st year - Joe Brosious

What if "blessed" meant more than having things go our way ... or having life be good ... or having the day turn out how we would want it? **Well, blessed does mean more than that ... much more.**

We are blessed because we have been invited to take part in the life of God's Reign. It does not mean that we have an agenda to complete in order to be blessed. Rather, it means that we have heard a word about 'who we are' from our God. This word is true and eternal. To be called the beloved of God - before any other word is spoken to us and no matter what other word is spoken about us - means that we are part of a people handed a life that is seasoned with intentionality.

We are blessed and beloved, and that reality marks every part of our lives and has the power to shape our day-to-day living. No longer do we build our lives based on what will do well by *me*. We have been blessed and called beloved for the sake of the whole world. That is why we continue to speak of love of neighbor and love of enemy - our lives are meant to bless the whole world.

In Sunday worship in the Season of Lent (beginning February 21), we will offer a simple blessing for all who come. One week we will bless our hands and feet ... on another we will bless our lips ... then our hearts ... then our shoulders and then our foreheads. By Holy Week, our whole lives will have been blessed for a journey. That journey follows the way of our liberating and reconciling God, who we say is revealed in the life of Jesus. Join us and be reminded how blessed we are and for what we have been blessed - it is an intentional life that is a blessing for all.

The way we will incorporate these moments of blessing will be at the point of our liturgy when we baptize. That is, right after the hymn-of-the-day that follows the sermon. We will position four to six people at "stations" around the perimeter of the sanctuary. You will be invited to go to a station for the blessing of the day. These people will recite a brief blessing (let's say of our hands) and a cross will be traced on people's hands. When we bless our hearts - a cross will be traced in the air in front of our chests. When we bless our lips - that same cross traced in the air with the accompanying words of blessing. **Participation in these rites is voluntary.**

When the weeks of Lent come to an end with the events of Holy Week and we walk to the day of our Lord's Resurrection, we will all be reminded of how our whole lives are blessed and how we become living witnesses of God's peaceable Reign. Most dramatic will be on Easter Sunday when people will be baptized, all of us will renew our baptismal covenant, and we will be sent out - as always - to be only what we are ... blessed by God as beloved children. It is as these blessed children of God that we go out and follow the way of Jesus ... a way that seeks out and works for the welfare of all God's people. It is a transforming way to live in our world.

Christ's Peace! pastoral

GETTING READY FOR SUNDAY

1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

LESSONS

Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ORDER OF WORSHIP – EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

8:30 AM Holy Communion (Setting 2)

11:00 AM Holy Communion (Setting 2)

INTERCESSIONS & THANKSGIVINGS

+ For the people of Gethsemane Luthran Church.

+ For Redeemer member Estella Kuemmel.

+ *Each week we remember in our prayers in worship those who cannot be with us and those with special needs and concerns:* Pearl Aggas, Doris Bell, Jan Bouman, Rose Varga, Doretha Holland, Georgia Wegmeyer, Barb Atkinson, Betty Hoops, Bebe McCoy, Ellen Kunce, Evelyn Fitch, Theresa Frazier, Vernon Schleppe, Julianne Johnson, Robin Stokes and Redeemer visitors.

WORSHIP LEADERS

	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Assisting Minister	Jared Witt	Joe Brosious
Acolyte	Eric Vivens	Daniel Pawlowski
Reader	Georgene Slagle	TBA
Cantor	Katie Kent Smith	Jennifer Young
Coordinator	Dick Kautz	Bruce Collins
Ushers	Earl Bradley Kurt Goshen	Tom Mimplitch Marilyn Roberts
Welcoming Team	Michele Disbro Katie McCleaf	Becky Fisher Karen Wilson
Hospitality	TBA	Margie Frazier Dave Lippert
Nursery	Michele Disbro Eileen Day (9:45)	Sarah Fisher

Communion Set-up Tammy McFarland & Becky Fisher

RESPONSE TO VISITORS

Baked Goods Baker	Kathy Mimplitch
Baked Goods Deliverer	Kathy Zwanziger
Note-writer	Edwina Bradley

Food Pantry Delivery Nancy & Kathie Ehrich

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Prayer: Intimacy with God –

Pastor Al

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

FEBRUARY 17-FEBRUARY 23

Wednesday

- 7:00 AM Worship (shortened)
- 4-6:30 PM Tutoring – Room 2
- 5-7 PM Youth Expressions – Rm. 4
- 7:00 PM Worship
- 7:00 PM Beacon of Hope/Seventh Day Adventists – Room 2
- 8:30 PM OCA (Obsessive Compulsive Anonymous)

Thursday

- 10:00 AM Food Pantry
- 7:30 PM SPMHOTN – Barley's Brew Pub

Friday

- 7:00 PM FRIEDE - Redeemer

Saturday

- 9 AM-3 PM Beacon of Hope/Seventh Day Adventists

Sunday

- 8:30 AM Holy Communion
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Holy Communion
- 12:15 PM Worship Committee

Monday

- 3:30-8 PM Cello Lessons
- 4-6:30 PM Tutoring – Room 2
- 5-7 PM Youth Expressions – Rm. 5
- 6:00 PM Fellowship Committee
- 6:00 PM Brownie Troop – Room 3
- 6:00 PM Daisy's – Room 4
- 6:30 PM Juniors – Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 PM Condo Association – Rm 1
- 7:00 PM Coffee & Theology – Cup O Joes

Tuesday

- 1:00 PM Bible Study
- 6:15 PM Chimes Choir
- 7:15 PM Mutual Ministry
- 7:30 PM Senior Choir

PRAYERS & PERSONALS

Prayers are asked for **Bob Frazier** who is now in a rehab center.

+++

The following noted has been received from former RLC member **Elsie Draughn**: "Thank you for your prayers, cards and telephone calls. They have given us the courage and faith that is needed during this difficult time." It is posted on the kiosk in the Narthex.

REDEEMER COMMUNITY NEWS

Pancake Supper Set for Feb. 16

This year's Lenten Soup Suppers kick off with the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, February 16 in the Fellowship Hall. The last fling before the start of Lent the next day, the supper celebrates all the toppings possible for pancakes.

Think that is limited to maple syrup?? Ha! Bring your own favorite topping and join the Fellowship Committee beginning at 6:15 p.m. that night.

Thereafter, the soup suppers will be held on the five Wednesdays of Lent, beginning at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, February 24. There is a sign up list on the kiosk for people to volunteer to provide a soup or bread for these weeks.

Early Morning & Evening Ashes

On the morning of Ash Wednesday, February 17, Redeemer will offer an abbreviated liturgy with Ashes and Holy Communion. A number of people are not able to make it out to the evening service for the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion and therefore the worship committee has set up this 7 a.m. brief rite for people on their way to work or school.

The regular Ash Wednesday service will be held that evening at 7 p.m. – an earlier time than historically to accommodate Redeemer's families.

Offer A Blessing This Lent

During each time of worship on Sundays in the season of Lent Redeemer will offer a time of blessing beginning on Sunday, February 21. In preparation for the baptismal renewal on Easter morning, we will be reminded of how we are marked with the cross of Christ forever. We will do this each week following the hymn after the sermon. Six stations will be set up around the sanctuary. At each station a person will be waiting to mark you with a cross that will encourage us all to be mindful of how all the parts of our lives are blessed as we follow Jesus in the world.

We need six volunteers who will serve as agents of blessing from these stations each week. You may volunteer for one week or two or all of them. There will be a simple one line blessing each week that you will say to those who come to your station. In addition to the verbal blessing, you will trace the cross on or over representative parts of our lives: eyes, ears, feet, hands, shoulders, and heart.

To serve as one of the people offering blessings, you may sign up at the kiosk.

FRIEDE to Hold Euchre Night

The FRIEDE (Females of Redeemer Involved in Eating, Dialogue and Entertainment) Group will hold a Euchre Night on Friday, February 19 at 7 p.m. in Redeemer's Narthex. Folks are asked to bring a snack to share. Beverages will be provided.

Questions should be directed to **Becky Fisher** at 321-6164. Everyone is welcome to join the group!!

'Journey' Heads to Motts Museum

The Interesting Journey group will be going to the Motts Military Museum on Sunday, February 21. A tour guide will take the group through the museum dedicated to preserving the

memory of all individuals who served in the United States military.

Each item displayed carries with it a personal story that will help visitors remember the price paid for our freedom.

The group will meet after the 11 a.m. church service to carpool to Shoney's Big Boy for lunch before heading to the museum. Please RSVP to **LaVerna Reinoehl** at (614) 236-5687 or lreinoeh@insight.r.com if you would like to go on this journey.

Readers Needed for Worship Services

Volunteers to read for the Sunday worship services are needed for February 21 through Sunday, May 23.

A sign-up sheet is on the kiosk. The readings are sent out the week before and there is a pronunciation guide posted on the kiosk to assist with some of the more difficult Biblical names.

RLC Collects Coupons for Military Families

Redeemer continues to collect unexpired coupons with **bar codes** to send to military families. Please save any unused ones and deposit them in the marked box in Redeemer's Narthex.

John Steiner, who is heading up the effort, stressed how much this can mean for military families who have a difficult time making ends meet. Coupons are often inserted in the Sunday paper.

RLC Collects Box Tops for Education

Redeemer also continues to collect "Box Tops for Education" which can be found on a variety of products. These will be contributed to Berwick School.

Saints Win Super, Souper Bowls!!

Not only did the New Orleans Saints win the Super Bowl, they also won Redeemer's Souper Bowl collection for the Lutheran Social Services Food Pantry. Commercials were a distant second.

Redeemer members contributed a total of \$1,112.07 in the Souper Bowl offering. With the addition of the \$900 in matching funds from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, that means a total of \$2,012.07 will be sent the food pantry.

The score, according to coordinator **Kathy Zwanziger**, broke down as follows: Saints: \$769.27; Colts: \$47; and commercials: \$295.80.

Thanks go out to everyone who contributed and to **Ty Pawlowski** who made the signs.

RLC Requests Updates for Directory

Redeemer is currently in the process of updating its **Membership Directory** and asks members to please contact the church with any changes they may have.

Along with any new information regarding street address, phone numbers and email addresses, it would also be helpful if we could remove defunct email addresses from the list. Please email your changes to info@RedeemerLuth.com with "Directory Update" in the subject line or call the church office at 237-1263 between 9 a.m. and noon, Monday through Friday. You can also leave a voice mail message anytime at this same number.

Funeral/Memorial Guide Available

The small group on planning a Christian funeral or memorial service, which met from October to January, has made available

a form to be used as a guide. This form is available by calling Kurt in the church office at 237-1263, or from **Pastor Al, Ruth Murray** or **Karen Collins**.

Copies of the completed form can then be filed in the church office where they will be available to the pastor. Copies should also be given to family members.

LOMO Information Now Available

Information from Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Ohio (LOMO) about its summer programs at its four Ohio camps is now available. Flyers with the summer schedule can be picked up in the Narthex while more detailed information can be found online at www.lomocamps.org.

This year, LOMO is offering a reduced fee (\$50) for those registering online. In addition, Redeemer offers scholarships towards the camp fees: \$50 for a full week and \$25 for a half week. To participate, please contact the church office by March 31 to let Kurt know what week your child will attend which camp so Redeemer can issue the check.

Please provide a copy of either the registration form or the confirmation email from the online registration to the church secretary. Questions? Contact **Becky Fisher** at 321-6164 or **Michele Disbro** at 451-3642.

2010 Flower Chart

The chart for altar flowers for 2010 is on the kiosk. The cost per vase remains at \$20. Please put a checkmark next to your name when you sign up to indicate you intend to take your flowers with you after the services. Otherwise the flowers will either be taken to one of Redeemer's shut-ins or used in the Narthex.

The Wider Church

St. James Offers Free Supper on Tuesdays

St. James Lutheran Church [5660 Trabue Rd. (across from Walmart)] said it will begin offering a free supper on Tuesdays to anyone who would like to attend. The dinners begin February 16.

Questions should be directed to **Margaret Planck** at 276-8757.

LWR Continues Relief Efforts in Haiti

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) reports that not only is it and its partners continuing to help those affected by the Haitian earthquake in the capitol city of Port-au-Prince, it is also working in rural regions – areas it says few aid organizations are working.

In the immediate wake of the crisis, LWR responded as a member of the Action by Churches Together (ACT) International global aid alliance, supporting local partner Lutheran World Federation to deliver water, food and shelter materials. Through other partners, LWR is also helping to ensure sanitation for thousands of displaced people. Along with partners Church World Service and International Relief and Development, LWR has delivered 2,325 health kits, 1,500 layettes and 11,265 quilts for distribution.

To help provide immediate relief, and to prepare for longer-term recovery work, LWR has partnered with Partenariat pour le Développement Local (Partnership for Local Development or PLD), a local Haitian organization that helps communities grow food, earn income, improve health and manage their natural resources.

“LWR has worked in Haiti for 14 years, helping to improve health, food production and income in rural communities,” says **Michael Watt**, LWR's regional director for Latin America programs. “That long standing presence made LWR well poised to act on behalf of communities that are often overlooked by traditional relief efforts.”

Overall, LWR has committed \$2.25 million to relief work in Haiti and is planning to remain at least three to five years to help communities recover.

Additional information on LWR's relief efforts in Haiti can be found online at www.lwr.org/Haiti. In addition, contributions can also be made by texting LWR at 40579 and a \$10 donation will be added to the cell phone bill.

ELCA Youth Return to New Orleans in 2012

The Youth Gathering of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) will return to New Orleans in 2012. Returning to a host city consecutively is unprecedented in the history of ELCA Youth Gatherings, according to **Heidi Hagstrom**, director for youth gatherings, ELCA Vocation and Education. The gathering will take place July 18-22, 2012.

The Community Beyond

Census Collects Info on Same-Gender Couples

According to Phil Soucy, director of communications for Lutherans Concerned/North America (LC/NA), “The U.S. Census Bureau, which will be collecting information for the first time on the number of same-gender couples in the United States, will report both the number of same-gender couples that consider their relationship to be that of spouses and those that consider their relationship to be that of unmarried partners.

Soucy noted that, “In both cases the reports will be based on what people consider their relationships to be, not whether they are married/partnered in the eyes of the law. It is the perception of the couple that counts, not whether there is a marriage license or legal document with their names on it. It does not matter whether or not the local jurisdiction recognizes the relationship in any way at all.

“These are the same rules and manner under which heterosexual couples report their relationships.”

He went on to say, “The form you will get in the mail asks how many people live in the residence. It asks that one person be designated Person 1 and then that the relationship of others in the household to Person 1 be reported, along with demographic data like gender. If Person 2 is indicated as ‘husband/wife,’ the bureau will count them as a married couple. If Person 2 is indicated as ‘unmarried partner,’ the bureau will count them as living together in a relationship not as committed as married. If the genders of the reported couple are the same, that relationship will be reported as same-gender.

“Gender, race/ethnicity, married/partnered, all are how the persons think of themselves, regardless of what legal documents may say or whether the relationship is recognized by any legal or religious authority.

“The information you report to the Census Bureau is by law kept confidential and may not be released in any way that could point directly to you or your household. Therefore, you are encouraged to report information about your household as accurately as you are comfortable doing,” Soucy concluded.