THE MESSENGER

May 13, 2022

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To be a family of fait that has the courage to good neighbors, by	be

reaching out to meet the personal and

spiritual needs in our

community.

Also, you will find on Page 4 of this newsletter, Article VI, Section 1.A. of Redeemer's bylaws which details the procedures for calling a new pastor.

(continued on Page 4)

The Newsletter of Redeemer

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Embraced

**CHURCH UPDATES** 

**Randy Mayer Congregational President** 

Results of the April 24 Special Voters Meeting

The announcement of Pastor John Kassouf's medical retirement has created an emotional time for our congregation, filled with love and concern for Pastor John, while grieving the loss of his presence at Redeemer. During this transition, there has been concern and questions from our members regarding the pastoral call process. Rev. Dr. John Denninger, Southeastern District President, has shared a workbook with Redeemer titled, "The Va-

"The Vacancy Journey" breaks the process into three stages, as follows.

2. A Neutral Zone: Using the transition time for positive growth. During this phase we will develop a congregational profile and create a call

3. A New Beginning: Welcoming the new pastor and starting a new phase

Redeemer is currently in "An Ending" stage, during which your council has been planning a farewell and granting a peaceful release from Pastor Kassouf's call, addressing financial issues, and conducting an exit interview.

Throughout this process, the Southeastern District will be providing help and guidance to us through our circuit visitor and the district's facilitator

• The Call Process for a Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

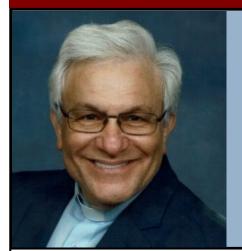
committee:

in Redeemer's ministry.

for mission engagement.

cancy Journey", which addresses this process.

1. An Ending: Bringing closure to the current ministry;



# Recognition of Ministry Service for Pastor John Kassouf

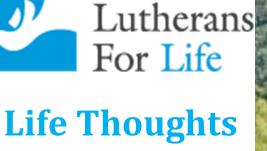
Saturday May 14, 2022, 5:00 p.m. Church Sanctuary

Reception after the Service Fellowship Hall

Randy Mayer Congregational President

Jease join us for a Recognition of Ministry Service on Saturday, May 14, 2022 to recognize Pastor John Kassouf's 30 years of ministry as an ordained pastor and 43 years of ministry and service to our Lord. Service will begin in the sanctuary at 5:00 p.m. Pastor John will deliver the message. The service will also be livestreamed. You will find a link next week on the church website www.embracedbyhim.org.

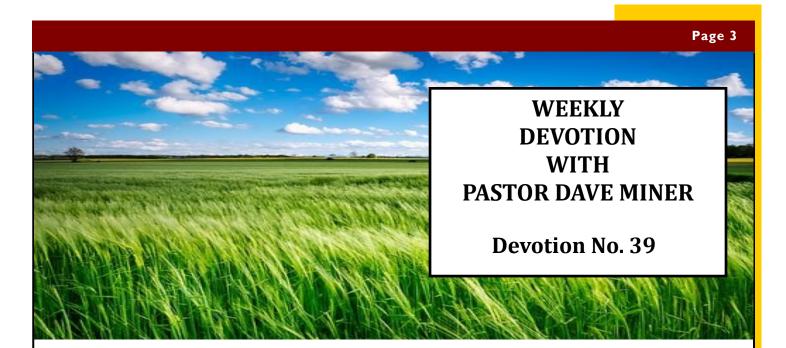
Following the service, we will have a reception for Pastor John and Francine ("Fran") at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall recognizing the 43 years of ministry that they have been blessed to share. The Fellowship committee will be serving hors d'oeuvres and other food that can be eaten while standing, as seating will be limited. The rest of Fellowship hall will be open to allow for more people to join us.



May 15—Easter V

Don't abortion and physician-assisted suicide call common—or worse—what God the Lord has made precious (Acts 11:9)? And should the transitory sorrows of surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis blind us to the joy and hope He has invested in every human being (John 16:21)? May our witness to the sanctity of all human lives begin to wipe away the tears from all eyes (Revelation 21:4) with the Gospel of Christ's salvation!

Page 2



"9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." — John 4:9-10 NIV

In this, the longest of Jesus's conversations recorded in Scripture, we find him talking to a Samaritan woman, an outcast. The subject of her "sins" came up. She had five husbands, and the man she was currently with was not her husband. Does Jesus chide her for her sins? Oddly, he does just the opposite. He takes advantage of the fact that she is drawing water from the well and offers her "living water." And what must she do to obtain this living water? *Simply ask.* 

Have you had a recent conversation with Jesus about your sins? Have things burdened you that you should not have done? Have you felt remorse over the things you have not done that you should have? The remarkable thing about such conversations with Jesus is that, as with the woman at the well, they result in an invitation from him. That invitation is not to try harder next time or to be yourself up over your sins. Nor must you have a priest or anyone else intercede for you. No, the invitation is far simpler: *Ask Jesus for living water*.

Jesus's well never runs dry, no matter how often we come to him with our failures and regrets.

Jesus was an expert at using questions to pique someone's interest. Over the next few days, concentrate on asking questions of people to see if you can draw them out.

# **CHURCH UPDATES**

(continued from Page 1)

### **RESULTS OF SPECIAL VOTERS' MEETING ON APRIL 24TH**

The second update in our church concerns the special voters' meeting that was held on April 24. The meeting was called to follow up on earlier discussions regarding our current facility at Redeemer Lutheran Church, and whether we should maintain our current facility, consider modifying our facility, or construct an additional building to support our future ministerial goals, as well as enhance our facility for our current ministries.

We discussed the next step in this process, which involves hiring an architectural firm to develop a conceptual design. We agreed that we do not have the technical knowledge within our congregation or staff to render this information. Architectural considerations will consider various options based on a new facility or modifying our existing facility. It will also incorporate Redeemer's needs into the design and what the project may look like when it's completed. This information is essential for our members to make an educated decision. The anticipated cost for these professional services is \$25,000. We were also informed that Redeemer has the funds available to pay for this next step. Approval to move forward with hiring an architectural firm was made with a vote of 54 to one in favor of moving forward.

A future vote will be held after the architectural services are completed to determine whether a site plan will be approved. A building committee is also being established, as well as finding a capital campaign company best suited to assist Redeemer with this project. If you are interested in serving on the building committee, please contact Rachelle Moles at hyblgirl@aol.com.

As we move through this journey, I will try to keep everyone apprised of where we are and where we are going. Most importantly, we must all continue in prayer for God's divine guidance for our staff, council, and congregation as we navigate through the calling process and the prospective growth of our church.

God's blessings to all,

Randy Mayer

## Church Bylaws Pastoral Call Process

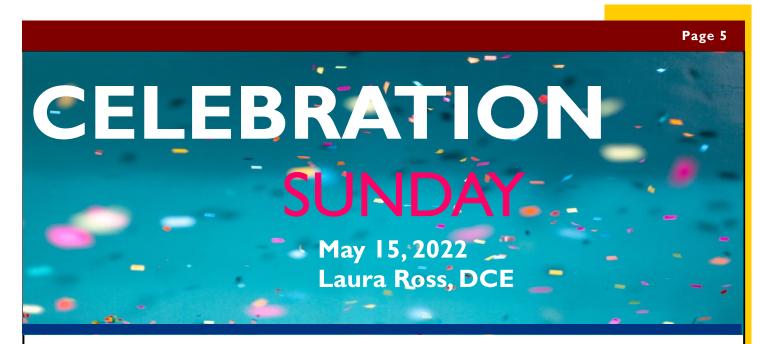
Article VI, Section 1.A. in Redeemer's bylaws provides details on calling a new pastor. It states:

When this congregation calls a minister of religion, ordained or commissioned, the following procedure shall be followed:

When a pastor is to be called, every member of the congregation shall be provided opportunity to suggest one or more names for consideration. A call committee shall be appointed [or an existing board or committee designated] to serve as a screening committee and shall submit all suggested names to the district president for information and evaluation. The committee will then present to the congregation by public announcement its proposed list of candidates and their biographical sketches.

At a voters meeting called for the purpose of calling a new pastor or commissioned minister, the proposed list may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the assembly. When possible, information regarding additional candidates shall be provided by the district president and/or his representative at the meeting.

The election of a pastor from the list of candidates chosen shall be held at a subsequent congregational meeting by ballot. The candidate receiving a two-thirds vote of all votes shall be regarded as selected by the congregation. The selection shall, if possible, be made unanimous, and the call shall be sent to the pastor.



# **CELEBRATION SUNDAY**

Sunday, May 15 is Celebration Sunday! Please join us as we celebrate the wonderful and blessed Sunday school year completed by the children and youth of Redeemer Lutheran Church. Come and enjoy food and fellowship sponsored by the Board of Education.

There will be no more Sunday school for our preschool through high school classes until the next school year begins again in August.



# HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR RECOGNITION



Congratulations to our graduating high school seniors:

Walker Berndt Tristan Loesche Ethan Schwenzer

We will be recognizing our graduating high school seniors during the 11 o'clock church service. If you wish to bring them a card wishing them well, there will be baskets in the narthex to place them.



Please welcome our newest members to our Redeemer Lutheran Church family!

## Laurie Mayer



Wes and Sherry Coleman.

You may have already met Wes and Cherry in Sunday Bible class. They live in the Cosner Corner area, coming from Montclair in Dumfries. They enjoy traveling and motorcycling.



**Bill and Vicki Gellerman** 

Bill and Vicki (Thorpe) Gellerman live in South Stafford. Vicki has been representing Thrivent since 2009. Bill is a big fan of model railroading.



Dennis, Elba & Thomas Gill

The Gill family lives in North Stafford where Thomas attends N. Stafford HS. Elba is originally from Puerto Rico- her family was Air Force. Dennis enjoys photography and Thomas loves trains.



**Roger and Ann Lyons** 

Roger is a former Air Force from Michigan , and Ann is from Alabama. They have settled here at Regency at Chancellor . They love to travel in their motorhome.

# **Parents Night Out**

Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 4:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Laura Ross, DCE

Have you and your spouse been looking to have a date night but just can't find or afford a good babysitter? Do you need a night to yourself without worrying about your wonderful children? We've got good news for you!

On Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 4:30 to 9:00 p.m., Redeemer will be providing you with free childcare so you can go do whatever you want to do. Your kids will have an evening of supervised fun, dinner, and Jesus time while you go spend some well-deserved time for yourselves.

This is a free event! Here's what you have to do to register:

- Email Laura Ross at dce@embracedbyhim.org
- Provide the name of each child you will be bringing
- Let us know whether they will be eating dinner at church.

Drop-off and pick-up any time between 4:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. depending on your needs.



Thank You!

Barbara Buck Eastman

The Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone for their support of the Panda Pantry during this past school year! Your generosity has helped feed local school children in need.

We are packaging our last donations for the school year, but we will return in August!

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IT'S FREE!

# **LEGACY GIVING**

# If you are philanthropically inclined... What is YOUR gift plan??

# Rick Moseley, Legacy Committee

Many people do not believe they have sufficient wealth to leave significant gifts to both their family members and to establish an endowment for their favorite ministry. However, all of us have received gifts from God and even the humblest of gifts will have a positive impact.

A gift plan will provide a structure on how you will leave your assets to your loved ones in a way that often minimizes the taxes on your estate while providing the opportunity to do more with the blessings God as provided to you in your lifetime. Specifically, a gift plan can often provide a similar level of inheritance to your heirs and still let you provide a meaningful gift to the ministry and charities of your choice.

It is our hope that by establishing a gift plan, you will obtain peace of mind for yourselves and your family members; make the most of your God-given gifts and help to assure the future of Redeemer.

Please look for more of these short reminders about Legacy Giving in The Messenger on a regular basis and if you desire more information, please contact the Legacy Gift Committee at <a href="legacygift@embracedbyhim.org">legacygift@embracedbyhim.org</a> and one of our members will do our best to assist you in getting started with your gift plan.



Berry Bake off

One of the ingredients must be strawberries. Please place your entries in the kitchen before 2nd service.

# MAY 15, 2022 FOLLOWING 2ND SERVICE OUTSIDE PAVILION

(OR FELLOWSHIP HALL, WEATHER PERMITTING)

There will be different age groups for judging (Elementary, Kings, Romans, Adults)



There will be prizes for the 1st place person in each category and for a people's choice award! You can sign up in the narthex to bake or judge.

# QUILTERS' MEETING May 21, 2022 | 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Please join us! No experience is necessary.

Thanks to all who donate, cut, sew, pin, tie and drive.

Anna Jennings

540-412-5373 (Leave a message) 540-842-7920 (Feel free to text.)



## PLEASE SEE THE NEW SIGN UP SHEET FOR MAY TO JULY 2022

## Thanks for your support!

- Make Coffee by 9:00 a.m.
- Bring in Treats (about 144 cookies, pastries, etc.)
- Set-up Serving Table before 9 a.m. (tablecloth, utensils, napkins, plates, and coffee service)
- Clean-Up the Fellowship Hall and Kitchen after Sunday Bible Class.

Please use the Sign-Up Sheet in the Kitchen and note if you can also make coffee. Questions? Please con-



Church Howers

Flowers this week are given to the Glory of God by Dave and Dee Allen in celebration of their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

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# for Pastor John and Fran Kassouf

**Organized by Erin Kassouf** 

Erin Kassouf has organized a Meal Train account to benefit Pastor John and Fran. Meal donations begin on May 2. To donate a meal, you must sign-up through the website. Please review the site carefully, which contains dietary restrictions, a list of preferred restaurants, and the opportunity to buy food delivery through GRUBHUB. You may also access a folder of recipes that contain "safe" food that they love!

Please click on the link below to see the Kassouf's meal train page, and be sure to click on for important details.

https://mealtrain.com/e1od4e

Thank you from the Kassouf Family for the outpouring of love, prayers and support for Pastor John and Fran!



# **MEN'S BREAKFAST** Saturday, May 14, 2022, 8:00 a.m. Four Seasons Family Restaurant

John Overbey

Redeemer Men:

Just a reminder that the Men's Breakfast will meet on Saturday, May 14 at 8:00 a.m. Please join us at the Four Seasons Family Restaurant, located at 5201 Jefferson Davis Highway, on Route 1, just south of 4 Mile Fork.

The subject of our devotion will be ""Some Rush and Some See".

If you have not been with us lately, come join us for breakfast and fellowship. If you have never been with us for breakfast, all are welcome.

Hope to see you Saturday morning.

Yours in Christ,

John



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# **Redeemer Lutheran Church** 5120 Harrison Road Fredericksburg, VA 22408

# Summer Day Camp



Come enjoy a summer of fun in a safe, loving, and Christian environment!

For children going into Kindergarten through 8th grade

Monday through Friday Drop off time: 8:00-8:30 Pick up time: 3:30-4:00

\$115 per week per student Application for financial assistance is available

Registration available weekly June 6th through August 12th

Email dce@embracedbyhim.org or call 540-898-4748 Option 9 for more information or to register

> **CANCELLED MEETING** LWML Old Dominion Zone Spring Rally May 14, 2022 | 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Dear Redeemer Women in Mission,

We are cancelling the Zone meeting scheduled for Saturday, May 14, at 8:30 am.

We will be coordinating with the other churches in our zone to reschedule a date, which will probably be in the early fall to include a workshop.

Anita Diederen

The Board of Elders continue to monitor sources regarding the spread of COVID. We do not require masks or social distancing, but please do what is appropriate for you. Redeemer has moved toward a more routine worship service environment. We will inform you of any changes in policies and procedures.

SUNDAY SCHOOL (and Classroom Locations)				
	We are looking forward to another great year of Sunday School for all ages! Sunday School starts at 9:45 a.m. Below are classroom locations.			
SUNDAY SCHOOL	<ul> <li>Parents &amp; Tots: Doub</li> <li>Preschool: Preschool</li> <li>Kindergarten &amp; 1st: Froom</li> <li>2nd &amp; 3rd: Preschool</li> <li>4th &amp; 5th: Preschool</li> </ul>	classroom Preschool class- hallway room • Women's Class: Library		
	RDAY & SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE and BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE			
	Sunday	8:00 a.m. (Traditional) and 11:00 a.m. (Blended)		
	Sunday School and Bible Study	Pastor's Bible Study will meet at 9:45 a.m. in the Fel- lowship Hall and on Zoom.		

## QR Codes Replace Paper Bulletins for Worship Services Use the QR Codes Below or "CLICK HERE" Below for Each Service

Redeemer is using QR Codes to replace paper bulletins. Please use our custom QR Codes below that we are using for the worship services. Once you take a picture of the QR code, and the QR code has been read, it will take you to a link that you can tap or click on to open the bulletin to follow along during church services. If you need help, contact the church office at info@embracedbyhim.org or (540) 898-4748.

If you would prefer not to use a QR Code to see the Bulletin, please click on **CLICK HERE** located under the day and time of the worship service you will attend.

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Service	Sunday 11:00 am Service
CLICK HERE	CLICK HERE

The Messeng	er

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# Stay Connected with Redeemer **Lutheran Church**

DAY	TIME	ТОРІС	ZOOM LOGIN
sun	9:45 am	Sunday Bible Study Meeting ID: 894 0301 0091 <b>Password:</b> 512022408	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89403010091? pwd=TVZBS2dXb1YwWVVJdG5OTTJxUUFWQT09
SUN	9:45 am	Women's Bible Study Meeting ID: 837 5561 2880 Passcode: 94Kvb6	Join Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83755612880? pwd=YVJmUmIGc2tZS1FDeXIPNjZiZU5NQT09 Contact Jennifer Koehler: (540) 603-6496
MON (Istand 3rd ofeach month)	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Visual Faith Women's Bible Study(Join in person at Donna Verbosky's home)	Contact Donna Verbosky at (540) 538-2204 or by email at djverbosky@aol.com
MON	07:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Monday Night Bible Study Journey Through the Bible Meeting ID: 828 7232 2552 Password: 514704	In-Person Meeting in Double Classroom or join via Zoom (Contact: Rick Moseley 703-201-6037) https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82872322552? pwd=YkFGdzd3RE1YaTZnY2w0VGVmNFhiUT09
WED	10:30 am - 12:00 pm	Pastor's Bible Study Meeting ID: 883 8132 1403 Password: 512022408	Join In-Person in the Fellowship Hall or by Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88381321403? pwd=QWtMM2hVV01yQmc4NU5paUVUL3BuZz09

REDEEMER GIVING - WAYS TO GIVE				
ONLINE	PHONE	APPS	AMAZON SMILE	IN-PERSON
Use Redeemer's secure web link below to our WebPay donation page: <u>https://</u> www.eservicepayments.c	<ul> <li>Text amount to 540-779-1759 or</li> <li>Scan the QR Code:</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Using App Store or Google Play</li> <li>Find "Vanco Mo- bile Faith En- gagement" to</li> </ul>	Did you know that if you order from Amazon, you can sign up for Amazon Smile, select Redeemer as a charity, and Amazon	Tithes and offer- ings are collected during worship services.
om/cgi-bin/ Vanco_ver3.vps?	Coue.	download for FREE, and follow the easy	will give 5% of your order	MAIL
ap- pver3=wWsk24ZWJSTZ KsGd1RMKlg0BDvsSG3 VIWQCPJNNxD8upkiY7 JIDavDsozUE7KG0nFx2 NSo8LdUKGuGuF396vb VxsRA5jH4jGaS17CrroE UMiYnTg5dP4O6rpX5Q vPEWIBhHDN59kLZFffw KfYERpQpIrfdSPMnKiL1z jl_Pdv_8=andver=3		instructions.	back to Redeemer? Please click on link below to sign up. <u>Amazon.com. Spend less.</u> <u>Smile more.</u>	Mail your check to: Redeemer Lutheran Church 5120 Harrison Rd. Fredericksburg VA 22408 (No cash please)

Redeemer Lutheran Church | Church Office (540) 898-4748

Pastoral Service: Call the church office for assistance. Prayer Chain: Email: ligagion@gmail.com

Website: https://www.embracebyhim.org

Facebook: Redeemer Lutheran Church and Preschool

Remind Text Application: <u>https://www.remind.com/join/rlcms</u> • Sign-up as a student, Class Name: Redeemer Members | If you are unable to join, contact the church office for assistance.

**Church News and Updates:** Call the church office to be placed on the list to receive **30 Second Updates** and The Messenger (church newsletter).

#### The Messenger

ON YOUR

BIRTHDAY

Blessings



Redeemer Lutheran Church 5120 Harrison Road Fredericksburg, VA 22408 540-898-4748

#### Contact Us! Redeemer Staff:

Special Ministry Pastor: Pastor Dave Miner PastorAdmin@embracedbyhim.org

Church Secretary: Carrie Frank info@embracedbyhim.org 540-898-4748

Choir Director: Lea Wiltenmuth music@embracedbyhim.org

Director of Christian Education Laura Ross, DCE dce@embracedbyhim.org

**Organist:** Darlene Hardy organist@ embracedbyhim.org

Preschool Director: Ellen Church preschool@embracedbyhim.org

**Treasurer:** Susan Biscamp treasurer@embracedbyhim.org

Worship Team Leader Jennifer Miller worshipteam@embracedbyhim.org

**Volunteer Newsletter Editor** Susan Antonelli newsletter@embracedbyhim.org

#### Online Directory Staff and Council Members

https://embracedbyhim.org/ redeemer-lutheran-church-emailsummary/

Church Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m.

## FOR OUR NEIGHBORS' SAKE—SECOND QUARTER REQUESTS FOR DONATIONS OR GIVING

If you want to ask the Redeemer congregation for contributions or donations for worthy causes, please contact Mike Evenson via info@embracedbyhim.org to have the dates put on the calendar.

Ongoing (2022 School Year)	<b>Panda Pantry food collection</b> helps feed school children in need. (Contact: Rachelle Moles, Chair, Board of Outreach)
0 0 0	<b>LWML Mites</b> —Change collected throughout the month and donated on the last Sunday of each month to support LWML ministries. Contact: Anita Diederen

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES (May 13-19, 2022)

### **BIRTHDAYS**

May 13	Tommy	Tutchings
May 13	Bonnie	Wagner
May 15	Daniel	Frank
May 15	Bettye	Garner
May 15	Caleb	Ross
May 16	Rita	Flohrs
May 16	Jacob	Woollard
May 17	Tiffany	Brown
May 17	Rosemary	Gregor
May 18	Jay	Chamberlain
May 18	Abigail	Champney
May 18	Anna	Jennings

#### **ANNIVERSARIES**

May 16	Rick & Barb	Moseley
May 19	Mark & Vicki	Sullivan

	Attendance Total	Average Attendance	General Offerings	Year-to-Date General Offerings
May 8, 2022	234	282	\$16,970	\$272,642
Last Year	211	243	\$14,430	\$252,794