

THE MESSENGER

Newsletter for Redeemer Lutheran Church and Preschool



LWML Update

Thank you, Redeemer!

I've recently dispatched two substantial packages to Matthew 25 Ministries, containing your generous donations of empty pill bottles and needle packs destined for Africa. Regrettably, this marks the conclusion of our collection efforts for these items. I extend my heartfelt gratitude once more.

This year, we've amassed \$1027 in contributions, designated for Chesapeake District to aid ministries in the U.S. and globally. Our ongoing support for seminarian Adam Nieting at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana, persists thanks to your remarkable generosity. Your kindness is genuinely valued.

In His Name,
Laurie Mayer

IN THIS ISSUE

LETTER FROM PASTOR DAVE

pg. 2

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SPECIAL SERVICES

pg. 3

IMPORTANT LINKS

pg. 4

QUESTIONS?

Inquiries may be sent to
info@redeemerfxbg.org

"God's Powerful...We Are Not" (Mark 4:35-41)

Have you noticed? The world is in some stage of transition. Careers are in transition. Families are in transition. Our communities are in transition. Even here within our church family we experience transition: Pastor John and Darlene to retirement, the call to Pastor Bredeson, and now Laura transitioning to an exciting opportunity in Houston, Texas. Transition seems to be everywhere.

There is no doubt that transition is a way of life. To say that we all face transitions is not a revolutionary comment. It just is. Which means that as Christians, we must learn how-to live-in transition, and transitions are not always negative. Salvation, which is transition in God's sight, achieved only by grace, allows God to work in us even during our fear and trembling as Paul put it in Philippians 2:12-13. What does the Christian strive for during transition? Very simply – God's will and God's power to find God's will.

We are powerless over our transitions. The disciples did not know the storm was coming, but they had been through storms before. As fishermen, they have experienced big waves before, and they knew what to do when the weather changed.

But this time was different. They still did not know Jesus that well. Their relationship with Jesus was in transition. But they knew what their outcome was going to be without Jesus. They knew that they were powerless and that the guy sleeping in the boat was powerful. They did not make excuses, but amid their transition, took the first step and called upon Jesus, the Christ. We must admit that we are powerless over transitions. They happen whether we want them to or not.

Transition without God is unmanageable. Once we admit we are powerless, we also need to admit that we cannot go through it alone. Without God, we are alone. We cannot rely on our will exclusively. We cannot expect that amid transition, we have all the answers or the ability to handle each challenge on our own. Proverbs 28:26 says, "He who trusts in himself is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom is kept safe." We need God and his power to help us calm the storm, to give us direction amid apparent indirections. We must admit that transition without God's power is unmanageable.

God has a greater power than we do to make the most of our transitions. Once we accept that transitions happen, that our power is insufficient, and that things become unmanageable without God, we then can move forward together as the family of Christ. In one of the few recorded times when Christ spoke directly to Paul, he said "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in your weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:9)

When we give up our struggle for control and put our lives into God's hands, we find His strength sufficient for any transition in our lives. We need God's power amid transition. God wants to make the most of our transitions.

As we bid farewell, but not good-bye to Laura, who blessed us while here, we remember that throughout Scripture God offers his people, often amid transition, to get it together. And there's only way, one truth, one life in which we can turn to make that happen.

Each time we move through transition with God's help, we prove that God's power is greater than ours, our faith becomes stronger, and we begin to see that God does "work his will and acts according to His purpose."

Let us pray together, Lord, grant each of us strength and discernment amid uncertainty, help us to be honest with ourselves, admitting we need Your mercy and grace, help us to forgive and be forgiven, instill humility and a sense of Your priority, so that we may accept the transition that is before us. Lord may your will be done. Amen.

Pastor David Miner

Redeemer Men's Breakfast

Redeemer's Men meet for breakfast and fellowship on **Saturday, November 18 at 8 AM** at Jimmy the Greek Restaurant, 3401 Lafayette Blvd. The subject of discussion will be "The Spirit is With Us When Prayers Come Hard." All are welcome to come.

The wives are also invited to join Grumpy Sue for breakfast.

Quilting Group

Our Quilting group meets on the third Saturday of each month from **9 AM - 12 PM** (this month: **November 18**). We can always use clean flat cotton, poly/cotton sheets for backs. Please contact Anna Jennings with any questions at 540-412-5373 (home) or 540-842-7920 (cell).

Special Services

Our **Thanksgiving services** will be held on Wednesday, **November 22 at 12:30 and 7 PM.**

Advent Services will be held on three Wednesdays in **December: the 6, 13, and 20.** There will be a **traditional service at 12:30 pm** and a **Family-style service at 7 pm** service with **dinner at 5:30 pm.**

Stewardship Message for November A.D. 2023

Earth and Sea and All God's Creatures

We are all on God's earth for a purpose and we should listen and learn and protect all. God is the sustainer of all life in every minute.

But ask the beasts, and they will teach you; the birds of the heavens, and they will tell you; or the bushes of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind. Job 12:7-10



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

You'll find all you need:

- Weekly Devotions
- Service Scripts
- And More!

www.redeemerfxbg.org



November Birthdays and Anniversaries



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30 Debbie Blatchford's birthday Thomas and Linda Church's anniversary	31	1 Holly Thomas's birthday Matthew Bogle's birthday	2 Aiden Koehler's birthday	3	4 Juvonnie Kinchen-Schneider's birthday
5 Mark and Wanda Fife's anniversary	6 Ed Kenlon III's birthday John Hinz's birthday	7 John Sullivan's birthday	8 Donna Verbosky's birthday Susan Bugg's birthday	9 Stephen Tutchings' birthday	10 Les Wagner's birthday Samantha Carafiol's birthday	11 John Karpiscak's birthday Linda Church's birthday
12 Kathy Bogle's birthday	13 Kristan Jedlicka's birthday	14 Thomas Brown's birthday	15	16	17 Steve Clifford's birthday	18 Rich and Michelle Gasperoni's anniversary
19 Kaylee Pinkas's birthday	20 Julia Schwenger's birthday	21 Cheryl Gibson's birthday Steve Schwenger's birthday	22	23 Harriet Schumann's birthday	24 Craig Ashby's birthday	25
26 Anthony Richey's birthday Charles DeLeon's birthday David and Cathy Butz's anniversary	27 Kathy Gerbert's birthday Ty Bartel's birthday	28 Bill Gellerman Jr.'s birthday Charlotte Bartel's birthday Steve Tehovnik's birthday	29	30 Renee Swager's birthday	1 Bill Demarest III's birthday	2 Raylan Kuehner's birthday

Worship Attendance & Contributions

	Attend. Total	Average Attend.	Gen. Offering	YTD Gen. Offering
October 2023	1120	255	\$64,860	\$595,035
Last Year	1092	248	\$65,502	\$592,060