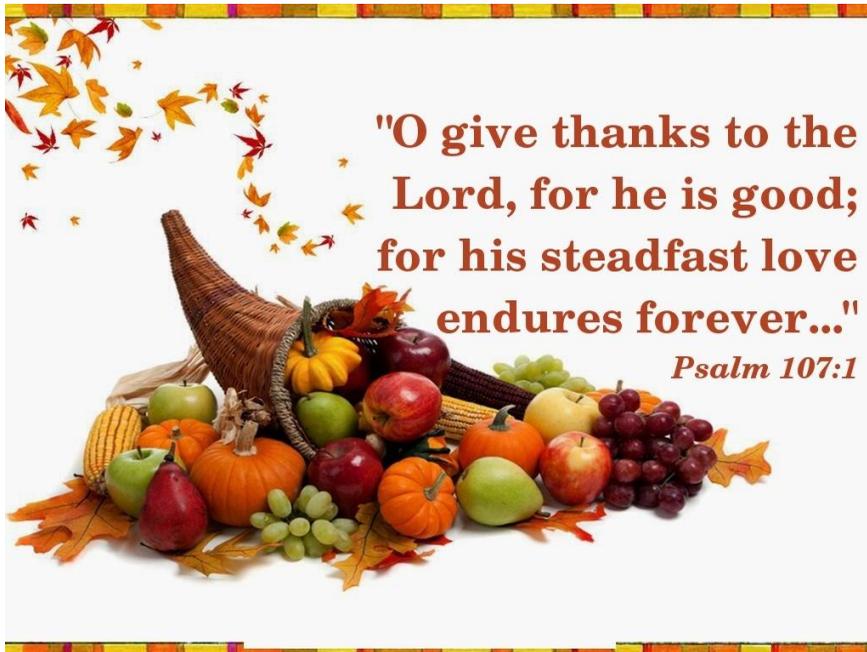


The Monthly Messenger Redeemer Lutheran Church



November

2022

Pastor's Message

Dear friends in Christ,

I have been using this space over the course of 2022 to talk about spiritual and devotional practices that can aid our prayer lives. This month, I want to tell you about two additions at Redeemer that you might find meaningful, and a third practice that you can use anywhere.

First, a prayer table has been set up in the parlor. On the wall is a large icon of Mary and the Christ child that was given to Pastor Carl as a gift from one of Redeemer's neighbors many years ago. Below the icon is a table with candles. There are matches in the drawer of the table. You are welcome to sit, light a candle or candles for people you are praying for, reflect on the icon and on the miracle of Christ becoming human for us, and pray as long as you like. (Just be sure to remember to blow out the candles at the end of your prayer time!)

Second, Alex Ebersole has donated to Redeemer a painting based on Galatians 3:27: "As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourself with Christ." This painting now hangs on the pillar in the narthex, and is paired with a bowl of water on a table beneath. You are invited to dip your finger into the water and make the sign of the cross on your forehead or the back of your hand as a reminder of your baptism. The bowl will be filled with water before worship on Saturdays and Sundays.

The third practice is called *visio divina*, or "holy seeing". Just as *lectio divina* (discussed in an earlier newsletter) involves slow, careful interaction with scripture through meditation and prayer, *visio divina* involves slow, careful interaction with an object or image (such as the icon and painting mentioned above or even a photo in a magazine) through meditation and prayer. It can be practiced alone or with others, and can be done anywhere and any time that you have a few minutes of quiet for contemplation. The steps are simple:

1. Pick an image or object as the focus of your contemplation. Looking at the image, what is the first thing you notice? Let your eyes stay with that first thing for a minute or so, as you breathe deeply.
2. Let your eyes take in the rest of the image, a part at a time, and then the whole, maintaining a deep, regular rhythm of breath. Take as much time as you need to soak in the image.
3. Consider the following questions:
 - a. What do you feel as you look at the image? What emotions does it stir up for you?
 - b. What thoughts, ideas, or words come to your mind as you look at it?
 - c. Do you feel moved to pray as you gaze at the image? If so, let those prayers bubble to the surface. Offer them to God silently, aloud, or in writing.
4. Sit silently with the image for a few more minutes, taking it in again, listening for what God might be saying to you through it. Conclude with a brief prayer of thanksgiving for the experience.

As always, not every practice will resonate with every person. If these don't resonate with you, perhaps some others will. In any case, remember that even attempting to pray is itself a prayer, and that when we open ourselves to God, God has promised to draw near to us.

Prayerfully yours,
Pastor Bob



The Seminarian Report

Greetings all,

I have officially made it to the halfway point of the fall semester and classes are going great! I have started the participation processes after a couple of weeks of observation at my Ministerial Fieldwork location, Tree of Life Lutheran in Harrisburg, and am beginning to feel more comfortable in the worshipping role. It is one thing to be a congregant during worship, but it is a whole other world from a leadership/active participant perspective. I have made great connections with the two pastors of the church and am learning many things from both. I am thankful that I am taking my introduction to worship course the same time as Fieldwork, allowing me to make reason of why we do the things we do in the church and all the little things in between that I haven't thought so much about or paid mind to before (from book to practicality as there are many "ah ha" moments).

"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." - Jeremiah 29:11

Peace,
Tiger Sprout



We Need YOU!

The Choirs are in need of singers and the only resource we have is YOU! THIS NEEDS WORK

Wait - you say it's too much of a commitment? So is being a Christian - and what better way to express your love of the Lord than singing about it! Besides, we have at LEAST one Sunday off a month, and while we rehearse every Thursday, if you have occasional conflicts, we all understand! AND everyone helps one another learn the parts. We have a seat waiting for you, so share your God-given gift of singing - or playing - with us! The pay won't weigh down your wallet, but it will truly enrich you! Here is rehearsal information for those who wish to be more active in our music ministry.

Jubilate Ringers (handbells) play once a month and rehearse on Thursday evenings from 6:00-6:45 (musical instruction is offered - think "on the job training" - for anyone interested in learning to play the bells) in the Sanctuary.

Youth Choir sings once a month at the 11AM service and rehearses most Sundays at 9:00 in the Social Hall.

Matins Choir sings once a month at the 8AM service. We rehearse from 9:15-10:15 each Sunday in the Choir Room.

Senior Choir sings at the 11AM service and rehearses Thursday evenings from 7:00-7:45 in the Choir Room.

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

Advent Lessons and Carols

Dec. 18 at 9:30 AM Redeemer's Advent Lessons and Carols is returning in a slightly different format. On the 4th and final Sunday of Advent, December 18, the Choirs will be part of the regular Sunday morning service, with one anthem divided into short sections, and interspersed with appropriate lessons. We will have a short sermon, Holy Communion, and coffee and treats following the service! **THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE SERVICE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, AT 9:30 AM.** This service is a wonderfully reflective opportunity to slow down and prepare for the celebration of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. What better way to get you into the true spirit of the Christmas season!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Christmas Eve Services -Time Changes to 3, 6, and 9

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24, offers a variety of service options. All services will include Holy Communion, one or more of our musical ensembles, musical soloists, traditional carols, the Biblical telling of the birth of God's son, and Candle Lighting with Silent Night.

The 3 PM service is still being offered as an option for those who don't like to drive after dark, or have other family commitments, and will include the Jubilate Ringers.

The NEW 6 PM service will combine the 5 and 7 PM services. This service is designed for families and features the Youth Choir. The new time allows an early dinner, and still time to read "Twas the Night Before Christmas" to the little ones after church!

9 PM is the traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with the Matins and Senior Choirs. What a beautiful way to celebrate the true Reason for the Season! We hope to see all of you at one of these inspiring services! Don't forget Christmas morning at 9:30 AM - all portions of the service will be sung using Christmas carol tunes, and THAT is a glorious celebration, indeed!

NO SERVICES ON NEW YEARS EVE

New Year's Eve NO service; New Year's Day a 9:30 AM service New Year's Eve is on Saturday so we will not be having a service that evening. However, join us on **New Year's Day at 9:30** to welcome 2023 with your family in Christ, singing the liturgy to Christmas carol tunes and worshipping our God!



Travel Size Toiletries

for our Community Gathering Guests Social Ministry will be collecting travel-sized items for Christmas gift bags for the guests whom we host at the Community Gathering meals each week. There is a decorated box in the narthex showing sample items needed for these bags. We are looking for **UNUSED AND UNOPENED** small shampoo, conditioner, lotion, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, eye makeup, face cream, eye cream, nail polish, emery boards, shaving lotion (men or women), disposable razors, headbands/clips, and shower caps. Thank you! Please bring your donations to Redeemer by Sunday, December 11. Contact Leigh-Ann Powers with any questions.



Angel Tree

The Angel Tree Christmas tree will be on display in the narthex starting November 19. Each angel represents a prisoner's child. You can help to connect an incarcerated parent with his or her child and strengthen that relationship.

When you select an angel, please remove the small tag. Write your name & phone number on the tag and drop it in the basket hanging on the tree.

The Angel Tree Ministry has set a spending limit of \$25. Please return your gifts to the church by Sunday, December 4. We will deliver the gifts Sunday, December 11, immediately following the late service, and we can use your help.

If you have questions, contact Mary Jean Liller.



Refugee Family Update

Our family is doing well and working hard to become self-sufficient. We will still be responsible to provide financial help for rent and utilities for the next two months. The mother's vision problems could not be corrected with eyeglasses. She has cataracts. Her ESL classes are on hold until she has the surgery. The younger kids continue to do well in school.

Please continue to support our family. Look for the donation envelopes on the narthex table.



Harvest Home Weekend

We celebrate Harvest Home the weekend of November 19 & 20. Please remember to bring your donations of canned goods and non-perishable foods. Monetary gifts will also be accepted. Please use the Harvest Home envelope or a clearly marked envelope. **The food donations and monetary gifts will go to the Lancaster County Food Hub.**



Advent Family Afternoon, November 27th, following the 11:00 service.

What to bring: Lunch for your family and a dessert for snack to share. Church will provide: Supplies and Candles to make your wreath. Coffee, tea, water, lemonade.

Please sign up by November 13th, so we have time to purchase the materials for this wonderful event.

Any questions? Contact Deb Carello.



December Monthly Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the next monthly messenger are due by Monday, November 21.



Please keep Jane Kelec in your prayers,
her husband Dennis, entered the church triumphant
on Sunday, October 16.



Tenfold

There are envelopes on the table at the back of the church that say Tenfold – What is Tenfold? It’s a community organization committed to sparking the power in all people to achieve equitable housing and financial security through a broad continuum of services. There is a pamphlet on the table describing more in detail who they are and what they do. In essence they are us helping our neighbor.

If you would like to be part of the effort to fight homelessness, you can use either envelope – by donating through our church or directly mail to Tenfold. Any questions: Contact Ivy Williams.



Compline – Wednesdays on YouTube

In order to make the Wednesday evening Compline service accessible to people who don’t use Facebook, it will be live on Redeemer’s YouTube channel at 10 pm. Please join us for this reflective Service as a midweek “reset”.



Volunteers Needed

“We are in need of acolytes! All ages welcome! Please use the link to sign up. Training will be provided! Please type in the web address below or see Redeemer’s Facebook page for a clickable link.” <https://tinyurl.com/3spkxe8x>



November – Homebound Birthdays

7 - Marshall Anderson
23 - Gerald Stetter
28 – John Kober



Redeemer Bus

To schedule our bus for events beyond Sunday morning services (weddings, funerals, *etc.*) please contact Bill Powers or Kim Grabusky in the church office.

Also, if you are able to serve as a bus driver, please contact Bill at the addresses above or simply speak to him on a Sunday morning. No previous large vehicle experience needed, just the desire to transport folks from Wheatland Middle School to the church and back!



Social Ministry Committee

You see post-it notes on white boards asking for donations which include school supplies, personal care items and baby care items. This is a part of Social Ministry.

Then you have the Women's Quilting Group which does incredible work,

Community Gathering meals every Thursday evening, Senior Luncheon, Angel Tree, Heifer International, Crop Walk, Harvest Home, Funeral Luncheons and many more. This year has been a big undertaking with the commitment of Refugee resettlement for the Ali family. This is a huge responsibility but Redeemer again met the challenge. As difficult as it has been at times the reward of being involved is beyond words.

Without typing out the complete Constitutional definition of what Social Ministry is responsible for, the simple explanation is to extend Christian compassion and helpfulness to persons of all ages in need of aid for body, mind and spirit. This includes people in our church, our neighborhood, the local community, state, country and worldwide. Some of these things are done thru our own church committees, Food Hub, Lutheran World Relief and the ELCA and many other organizations. A great deal of our work is done with feet on the ground physically doing the work and also a lot of behind the scene planning.

Social Ministry is always looking for more help and ideas. If you feel that nagging little call in your mind (that is Jesus) to help in this rewarding ministry let the church office know and someone will be in contact with you.

“Peace be with you”

Gary Miller, Social Ministry Committee Member



Faith and Life

We meet at 6:00pm in the library, on Wednesdays. Come and join us. We are studying the book “Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks”. – Ivy Williams



Redeemer's Quilter's Share Thoughts With You

Our devoted quilters want to share several poems and stories that have meant so much to them. We will reprint some of them in the newsletter in newsletters in months to come. We hope you understand better why they do what they do!

THOUGHTS WHILE QUILTING

Blessed are the quilters;
For they piecemakers.

Blessed are the quilters;
For they make ends meet.

Blessed are the quilters;
For they know how to cut corners.

Blessed are the quilters;
For they keep you in stitches.

Blessed are the quilters;
For they make great comforters

Blessed are the quilters;
For they patch things up.

Blessed are the quilters;
For they pick up the pieces

Blessed are the quilters;
For they save you energy.

Blessed are the quilters;
For they put color in your life.

Ina R. Jacobs

BIBLE WORD SEARCH PUZZLE - THANKSGIVING



Psalm 50:14 Offer to God thanksgiving, And pay your vows to the Most High.

Psalm 69:30 I will praise the name of God with a song, And will magnify Him with thanksgiving.

Psalm 95:2 Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.

Psalm 100:4 Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

Psalm 107:22 Let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, And declare His works with rejoicing.

Psalm 116:17 I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving, And will call upon the name of the LORD.

Psalm 147:7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; Sing praises on the harp to our God,



Find the words in the verses and add the missing letters

O _ _ ER	_ S _ _ M _	_ _ JO _ C _ _ _
PRA _ _ SE	E _ _ _ R	S A _ R _ F _ E
_ AGNI _ _	_ H _ _ _ FUL	_ _ _ _ D
PR _ SE _ _ E	B _ _ _ S	S _ _ _
J _ F _ LL _	D _ C _ _ RE	TH _ _ _ SGI _ _ _ _

Find the words. They're hidden in all directions.

M M D D N L S P S A L M S N C
A O W T E A I A O H G S D J B
G F E L D C M R C S F B O R B
N F N W P Y L E E R V O J H L
I E T U W G B A V K I D I V E
F R E Z G C S S R B Y F V F S
Y T R B V U X Q V E Q L I S S
T H A N K S G I V I N G Q C V
G R E J O I C I N G F J Q H E
M I S A K B Z X E K F B O K K
K L C T P R E S E N C E J Y J
C O U H P D U V K P R A I S E
K R S D G B M B F J P B A Z L
J D L F E T P J O Y F U L L Y
O L T H A N K F U L S Q X U V



Prayers

Please pray for our homebound members and those who have ongoing health concerns and also for the Men and Women serving our country. **Please let me know if someone needs to be added or taken off of the list below.**

Service Men & Women: Jared Albright, Michael Dangro, Matt Eddy, Terry Flanagan, Jimi Griffith, Joel Harding, Michael Marschall, Jim Martin, James Pugh, Nathaniel Riley, Willie Rivera, Tyler Schmid, Doug Snyder, Austin Stoltzfus, Justin Stoltzfus.

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Steve Adams, Dianne Adelman, Marshall Anderson, Jane Aspril, Ron Bachman, Edie Baldwin, Dottie Banner, Dottie Barr, Priscilla Barrow, Millie Bechtold, Charles Bernheisel, Guy Burkholder III, Diane Charles, Cheryl & Dave Clayton, Lois Daily, Bill Dangro, Terri Daniels, Sue Dicely, Denise Dickson, Doug & Joyce Eshleman, Ellie Flickinger, Diane Gegg, Geraldine Gontz, Bonnie Goshen, Richard Hannah, Alvin Harding, Lily Higgins, Margaret Hippey, Harold Hinderdeer, Becky Horn, Jan & John Hughes, Michelle Immel, Barbara Kahler, Judy Keiser, Mike Kloss, Gail Kober, Ron & Florence Lentz, Sam & Dawn Leonard, Peter Levengood, Barry Miller, Charles & Shirley Miller, Ryan Miller, Deb Nazarian, Maria Oblender, June Pfeiffer, Stan & Cindy Rambish, Bunny Rambler, Tina Rambler, Ed Riley, Eleanore Rineer, John Sauders, Jim Scheib, Marie Scheurich, Cleary Benson Schmidt, Doris Schreiner, Betty Spade, Katie Shanley, Donna & Jerry Sherman, Dianne & Harvey Sick, Jack Snyder, Liam Stark, Sterner Family, Gerald & Celeste Stetter, Kathy Vahaly, Janet Wakefield, Janet Williams, Carolyn & Richard Willitts, Sharon Wingenroth, Angelica Zander.



Dear Redeemer Friends!

You are warmly invited to join Pastor Bob and the Social Ministry Committee for the "Senior Luncheon", to be held Wednesday, December 7 at 11 am.

As in the past, members of Redeemer will be at the church to help serve lunch and join in the worship service with you. Pastor Bob will officiate at the service in the sanctuary and then we will all anticipate the fun of sharing a meal together with other Redeemer friends. Many old acquaintances will be renewed at this time. The meal will be served in the social hall after the service and you will be taken there in the elevator.

If you need a ride, please leave a telephone number below. **You'll be contacted concerning your time of pickup.**

The Worship Service will be held on Wednesday, December 7th at 11:30a.m. The Luncheon will follow.

We are looking forward to having you share this time of fellowship with us at our Senior Luncheon.

Sincerely,
Barbara Roberts
Coordinator/Social Ministry

Reservation Slip must be returned by December 4th.

____ I WILL attend the Luncheon Wednesday, December 7th .

____ I NEED Transportation (please write your phone number on line also

PLEASE SIGN YOUR NAME(S) and PHONE NUMBER(S):

If you have any dietary restrictions, or food allergies, please list them below:

Please return to either of the following: Barb Roberts or mail to the church office.

Barbara Roberts

The Redeemer Messenger

Parish Office

Redeemer Lutheran Church

818 Fifth Street

Lancaster, PA 17603

Church Services

Saturday 6:00pm, Holy Communion

Sunday 8:00am, 11:00am, Holy Communion

Church Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30am to 4:30pm.

Fridays CLOSED.

Hours may vary at times, so **Please call first before stopping in.**

Kim – Mondays, Tuesday, Wednesday 9:30am - 4:30pm.

Thursday, 11:00am-6:00pm.

Pastor Bob – Monday-Thursday 9:30am-4:30pm.

Phone Number - 717-394-0651

Email – redeemerluth@yahoo.com

Website – redeemerlutheranchurch.net

Pastor – Pastor Bob Ierien

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