



Redeemer
Lutheran Church

JULY 2024

Newsletter

Teach | Equip | Serve



Summer Schedule

June 1 - August 31

Weds. bible class 9:30am

Weds. worship 7pm

Sunday worship 9am

Sunday adult bible class

10:30am

No kids Sunday school

for the summer

520 Thayer Drive, Richland, WA 99352

www.richlandredeemer.org

office@richlandredeemer.org

office: 509-943-4967

office hours: Tues - Thurs 7:30 am - 4pm

Friday 7:30 am - 12:00 pm

Closed for lunch 12-1 daily

FROM THE PASTOR – LIVING SACRIFICES



Some of you will remember that during the Second World War there was a very famous poster picturing our good own Uncle Sam. He was pictured wearing a red, white, and blue top hat. It was a poster used by our government and by the military to recruit men and women to serve their country. The man in the poster had a serious and stern look pointing his finger and saying, "I Want You!" I want you to enter the service of your country. Even though this enlistment could mean death, hundreds of thousands of men and women volunteered for service.

We are told by the Apostle Paul in Romans 12:1 that God "Wants you!" "I appeal to you brothers, by the mercies of God to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." It may not sound as serious as laying down your life for your country, but it is! God is saying that He wants you to live and die for Him. He wants you to give your life for Him. God wants you completely. Everything that you are and have should belong to Him. God wants all of you.

In our daily routines, we tend not to take this notion of giving everything to God too seriously. However, God's Word clearly wants us to think more about how we can use our lives and our bodies in service to Him. The question to consider is, "Do we use our bodies in ways that honor God?" Let's consider our hands. Do we use them only to serve ourselves or do we use them in service to God. Do we use our eyes, ears, brains, mouths, etc. in service to God? God says every part of us is to be used as an act of worship. Everything we do can be an act of worship:

Do we think of the things that we do in our daily routines as being acts of service? We should consider that activities such as cooking meals, cutting the grass, changing diapers, going to school or going to work can be acts of worship. We can also consider refusing to enter into gossip as an act of worship. When we reach out to help a neighbor, we should see that as an act of worship. God is seeking our total commitment.

In Romans 12:1, we are told, "by the mercies of God, to present our bodies as a living sacrifice." It is God's mercy and love that motivate us to offer our lives in commitment to Him. Because God loves, God enables us to give all that we are and have.

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STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Talk is cheap. We may honor God with our lips, but it is a bit more difficult to honor Him with our money, especially when money is in short supply. When we don't seem to have all the money we would like to have, our human nature is to tell ourselves that we'll give to God when He gives us more. Have you found yourself making deals with God? Have you ever told God that if you were to get a raise, a job promotion, or an inheritance, you will give more? Satan uses these thoughts to remove our desire to give. Satan knows that, through our giving, we worship God and express our trust in and our love for Him. Satan rejoices when we are selfish and are kept from giving. However, God's grace can and does make it possible for us to give freely, joyfully, and generously.

ELDERS CORNER – JULY 2024

The subject of faith is crucial, for this is the point of personal appropriation of eternal life. Theologians have rightly pointed out that there are three elements to saving faith: knowledge, assent and trust. One may have the knowledge that the Bible teaches that man is a sinner who cannot save himself, without assenting to the truth of this statement. Thus, to knowledge must be added assent to the facts of our historic faith. However, one can know about and assent to many historical facts without trusting them. Added to knowledge and assent is what Luther termed fiducia: trust.

Saving faith is not mere intellectual assent. Many people and even the demons believe in God's existence, but simply assenting to that fact will not take them to heaven. Saving faith is not mere temporal faith, such as trusting Christ for temporary emergencies or needs of this life, such as for sickness, financial pressures, traveling dangers, or major decisions. Such faith is good, as far as it goes, but it saves no one.

Saving faith is trusting Jesus Christ alone for our salvation and eternal life. Jesus' final words recorded in John chapter 19 are "it is finished." The Greek word Tetelestai meaning "it is finished" is also used to indicate something is paid in full, which is, our debt of sin has been paid in full by Christ. We need not, nor can we, add anything more to what Christ has done for us to earn our salvation and victory over our sin, our death and the evil one. Responding to this with good works and joy and witnessing should be the result of our salvation, as it is not the cause of our salvation.

Ephesians chapter 2 verses 8-10 state "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

Thank you, dear Jesus, that your sacrifice and grace are sufficient for us and our salvation. May we joyfully and eagerly proclaim this in our words and our actions in our daily lives.

Yours in Christ,
Matt Schorzman



Friday, July 5 is the first Friday lunch at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome! Bring your appetite.

Printer available – if anyone is in need of a printer that is compatible with Windows 10 and below, the office has one available. It is NOT compatible with Windows 11. It is an HP Laserjet P1102w. There is nothing wrong with it. When the office computer was upgraded to Windows 11, we realized the printer was no longer compatible. Contact the office if interested.



welcome!

Everyone is invited to an afternoon of Bunco on Sunday, July 14 from 2-4 pm in the Fellowship Hall. A free will offering will go toward the Lydia Guild local mission projects for the upcoming year. Suggestions for mission projects are always

Redeemer Lutheran School Exploratory Committee

Fall Special Voters' Meeting

As the Redeemer Lutheran School Exploratory Committee plans for a fall Special Voters' Meeting, it is important to know what the school committee will and will not be asking of voters, and how the school committee has prepared for this moment in time.

What the school committee will and will not be asking of voters at the Special Voters' Meeting

The school committee will not be asking voters for money. The committee will be asking voters for two things.

1. Approval to begin gathering signed commitments from people interested in funding the construction and operation of Redeemer Lutheran School,
2. And once 75% of the signed commitments needed are in place, approval to begin the process of building the school (e.g., abating the Parsonage, removing the top floor of the Parsonage, working with an architect to complete architectural drawings, and so on).

How the school committee has prepared for the fall Special Voters' Meeting

Redeemer's 75th Anniversary was focused on the *past* and *present*. Following anniversary festivities, Pastor Todd solicited member input for defining visions for the church's *future*. For a variety of reasons, a group of Redeemer members felt God calling them to start a school.

On January 27, 2023, school vision members began meeting informally to discuss a bright, new future for Redeemer Lutheran Church – a new way to “share and teach God's Word so that people become believers and committed Disciples of Christ.”

On February 27, 2023, a school vision member wrote to John Strege, “Hope you and Terry are still enjoying your vacation. Things are busy here. Wanted to let you know, at our last school vision meeting, we talked about all kinds of options for starting a school – grades to offer, number of education professionals to employ, curriculum to offer, facilities to use or build, and much more. Facility options ranged from using current Sunday School rooms to constructing a new building. In between was the possibility of gutting, re-configuring, and upgrading to code the Parsonage. We decided we need more information. We need to understand what is feasible, reasonable...”

By April 1, 2023, the school vision committee had developed vision and mission statements.

By May 18, 2023 the committee had become a Church Council Special Committee exploring the viability of opening an LCMS Christian School at Redeemer.

By August 14, 2023, the school committee had received two bids for demolishing the Parsonage.

By October 26, 2023 PBS had been hired to survey the Parsonage for hazardous materials. Redeemer Memorial Funds paid this expense – because whether Redeemer decided to tear the Parsonage down and level the ground or Redeemer decided to let the school committee remodel the Parsonage for a school, hazardous materials needed to be identified and addressed.

By December 1, 2023, “Redeemer Lutheran School” had been added to online giving.

By February 2, 2024, a “not-to-exceed” proposal for a *Preliminary Design Plan/Feasibility Study* had been signed with Archibald & Company Architects. The school committee paid this expense.

On March 20, 2024, the school committee received Archibald’s final *Preliminary Design Plan/Feasibility Study* drawings and Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) cost estimates.

Since its inception, the school committee has listened to expert advice from a variety of subject-matter-experts; including, but not limited to, LCMS NW District Director of Schools Jim Scriven, Calvary Christian School Principal Bobi Whinery, and PNW Christian College President Bob Nash.

Since its inception, the school committee has endeavored to keep the congregation informed of its progress via regular Church Council Meeting updates, regular Voters’ Meeting updates, and regular newsletter articles.

The school committee looks forward to sharing printed Question/Answer fact sheets and informal information meetings about the proposed school with the congregation ahead



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH - FEASIBILITY PLANNING

ARCHIBALD & CO

of the Special Voters’ Meeting. The school committee looks forward to discussing the proposed school with the congregation at the Special Voters’ Meeting.



Terry Strege recently returned from the Washington-Alaska District LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League) convention where they voted on new Mite Projects for the 2024-2026 Biennium. You can read about these projects by going to www.wa-aklwml.org. Below are the new mission grants:

2024-2026 Mission Grants -- \$80,000

- Aid to Washington Alaska District Scholarship Fund. (\$16,000)
(Last Biennium we sponsored 4 - some choosing to be Pastors or church workers.)
- Pastor Parsonage – Soldotna - (\$7,000)
- Second Harvest Mobile Food Truck – Republic, Washington - (\$6,000)
- Aid to Washington Alaska District Women for short Term Missions - (\$5,000)
- Bring Hope, Help & Healing to Pastors, Ministry Workers & Spouses
- Shepard's Canyon Retreat, Arizona – (\$3,000)
- Seeing Christ through Dots of Love – Lutheran Braille Workers - (\$5,000)
- Concordia Theological Seminary Food & Clothing Co-op – (\$1,000)
- Expanding Gospel Proclamation Worldwide Concordia Seminary, St. Louis – (\$1,000)
- Orphan Grain Train – Mercy Meals – (\$10,000)
- Orphan Grain Train – Reaching Out to Ukrainians – (\$5,000)
- 55 x 55 initiative – LAMP, British Columbia, Canada – (\$1,000)
- Strip Church Ministries – Seattle, Washington – (\$3,000)
- Lutheran Ministry Services Northwest – Adopt a Care Center – (\$3,500)
- Feeding Haitian Children for the Kingdom - (\$10,000)
- Concordia international Radio Saves Lives spiritually & physically Haiti – (\$2,000)
- Walking Together in the Mission Field – Alliance Missionaries – (\$1,500)

WANT TO BE A MISSIONARY?

PICK UP A MITE BOX

Your spare change and dollars will spread the gospel to those in need and equip many to do God's work. During the recent Washington-Alaska district convention held in Everett, WA, the LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League) adopted Mite Grants totaling \$80,000 for the 2024-26 biennium. At the convention, a Mite Walk raised \$2,015 and the Friday evening worship service offering totaled \$2,508.28. Combined, these will give the district a great start toward their mite goals. Visit the Redeemer Lydia Guild bulletin board in the hallway to learn more about the Mite Grant projects.

We have work to do! So be a missionary and pick up a mite box. When it's full, you may give it to our treasurer, Ronda Wolfe or President, Terry Strege.

During the convention items were collected for the local (Everett, WA) Carl Gibson organization. These items will aid Ukraine migrants trying to rebuild their lives. Some of the items collected: 585 (\$50) gift cards, 43 sheet sets, 4 pillow covers, 9 pillows, 33 blankets, 42 pots and pans, 10 four-piece silverware sets, 4 eight-piece sets, 78 dish towels, coffee mugs, tumblers, towels, and much more.

The Blue Mountain Zone includes churches in Richland, Kennewick, Hermiston, and La Grande. Mites collected in 2022-24 biennium by church are below. Let's double it in 2024-26!

Richland, WA	\$1,194.62
Kennewick, WA	\$3,981.99
Hermiston, WA	\$963.10
La Grande, OR	\$109.47

Young and old – if you want to be active in our organization there are many opportunities to spread the gospel by working on committees and offices, from president, to vice president of Christian Life, special focus ministries, gospel outreach and many more. Please see Terry Strege if interested.

July Birthdays

- 4 Ken Wendland, Taylor Gant
- 5 Dick Jaquish, Ronda Frank
- 6 Ray Boecker, John Paul
- 7 Marlene Paris-Ufkes
- 8 Kathy Fisher
- 9 John Schug
- 10 Karl Mundt
- 11 Paul Mellick
- 13 Ona Meyer
- 14 Valarie Milbrath, Bernie Simpkins, Anthony Frank, Riley Yarbrough, Amelia Rebic
- 15 Angela Landrum, Stephanie Milbrath
- 17 Kylie Landrum
- 19 Jody Schug
- 20 Lonnie Turner
- 25 Roland Niemuth, Denise Rogers
- 26 Ginny Wendland
- 29 Ashleigh Beach
- 30 Kim Dykeman



July Anniversaries

- 1 Ed & Beth Ruff
- 3 Thom & Judy Nash
- 7 Brian & Stephanie Milbrath, Howard & Jamie Young
- 10 Will & Angela Landrum
- 12 Vic & Heather Garza
- 15 Robert & Elsa Beppe
- 16 Axel & Mary Gruen
- 18 Rick & Ramona Engelmann
- 25 Riley & Kelsey Yarbrough
- 29 Paul & Deb Werner
- 31 Pastor Laurence & Ona Meyer

August Birthdays

- 1 Elaine Kutrowski
- 3 Barbara Swears
- 6 Pearl Raabe, Ian Strege
- 7 Marsha Eirich
- 10 Linda Einspahr
- 13 Elmer Petersen, Charlotte Uhrich
- 14 Scotty Van Buren, Heidi Rebic
- 15 Bill Clarkson
- 16 Peggy McDorman, Axel Gruen
- 18 Laurette Beitz, Dan Rogers
- 19 Angie Pitman
- 20 Val Wegener
- 21 James Bond
- 24 Ed Ruff, Greg Romaniuk, Helen Bonham-Petersen
- 25 Ronda Wolfe, Weston Uhrich, Susan McCoy
- 26 Gail Kroll, Ethan Ritzmann
- 27 Howard Young
- 28 Grant Beppe, Ken Dobbin, Natalie Whitten
- 30 Kendra Frank

August Anniversaries

- 4 Scotty & Carly Van Buren, Bret & Kara Uhrich
- 5 Rich & Shirley Vance
- 6 Det & Val Wegener
- 7 Paul & Shirley Mellick, Dan & Kim Riordan, Rick & Margaret Gartner
- 9 Joe & Heidi Rebic
- 11 Myrl & Linda Briggs
- 12 Ken & Jacque Wendland
- 14 Taylor & Jordan Gant
- 21 Michael & Kaylee Sorensen (Kroll)
- 27 John & Terry Strege
- 28 Wayne & Sandy Guymon, Elmer & Helen Petersen
- 30 Brian & Wanda Krumland
- 31 Ken & Carla Thieme

PRAYERS – Please let the office know of any changes to the prayer page by calling 943-4967 or emailing office@richlandredeemer.org. *Indicates friends/family.

HOMEBOUND:

Gloria Bently
Marilyn DeRoche
Bob & Cheryl Evenson
Dale Groeber
Miriam Hagedorn
Elaine Kutrowski
Joy Ledgerwood
Marj Littlejohn
Shirley Mellick
Pearl Raabe
Ann Robbins
Ruth Shook
Reta Siefken
Bernie Simpkins
Eileen Stixrud
Ken Sump
Dorothy Thieme
Phil Turner
Lynn Weldon
Bev Wetzler

CANCER:

Myrl Briggs
Bob Littlejohn
John Schug
Barbara Connell* (sister-in-law of Sandy Guymon)

Phyllis Ruff (daughter of Wally Ruff)
Rev. James & Ann Gier* (son & daughter-in-law of Marlene Paris-Ufkes)
Kevin Raabe* (son of Pearl Raabe)
Sandi Sheeley* (sister of Karin Nickola)
Deanna Snider*

HEALTH CONCERNS:

Ray Boecker
Bob & Cheryl Evenson
Chuck Fordham
Sally Grego
Miriam Hagedorn
Elaine Kutrowski
Marj Littlejohn
Pearl Raabe
Ruth Shook
Reta Siefken
Bernie Simpkins
Eileen Stixrud
Bobbie Van Buren
Bev Wetzler
Gregg Lee* (son of Barbara Lee)

Jody Schug* (wife of John Schug)
Phillip Turner*

MILITARY:

Sam Willhoite
Darion Woodall
Brandin Bunch*
Jacob Cagle*
Brandon Gano*
Byron Gano*
Matthew Gano*
James Hare*
Sean Williams*

