



Redeemer
L u t h e r a n C h u r c h

JULY 2025
Newsletter



Wednesday Schedule

Bible Study | 9:30am

Worship | 7pm

Sunday Schedule

Worship Service | 9am

Adult Bible Study | 10:30a

No Kids Sunday Class until fall

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 - Freedom in Christ and Freedom in Our Nation

Reflections for Independence Day



As we prepare to celebrate July 4th, we give thanks to God for the freedoms we enjoy as citizens of the United States—freedoms that include the right to worship, to speak, to assemble, and to live according to our conscience. We are grateful for those who sacrificed to secure these freedoms, and we recognize that liberty is a gift not to be taken for granted.

But as Christians, we know that the greatest freedom is not granted by any human government. It is the freedom won for us by Jesus Christ, who sets us free from sin, death, and the power of the devil. The Apostle Paul wrote, “It is for freedom that Christ has set us free” (Galatians 5:1). This freedom was first proclaimed publicly and boldly at Pentecost, as recorded in the book of Acts. There, Peter and the apostles, filled with the Holy Spirit, declared the Gospel in the heart of Jerusalem. That moment marked the birth of the Church, and it ignited a movement that would eventually reach the ends of the earth—including our own nation.

The early Christians lived under Roman rule, a government that did not always tolerate their faith. Yet they did not withdraw from society; nor did they seek to overthrow it. Instead, they lived faithfully within it, proclaiming Christ crucified and risen, loving their neighbors, and honoring governing authorities—even as they declared that “we must obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29) when the two came into conflict.



In the same spirit, we too are called to be faithful citizens of both the kingdom of heaven and the nations where God has placed us. Jesus said, “You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven” (Matthew 5:14,16). In our time, that means being involved in our

communities, praying for our leaders, standing for truth with grace, and bearing witness to the hope we have in Christ.

Let us use our freedom not as a license for selfishness, but as an opportunity for service (Galatians 5:13). And let us remember, especially this July 4th, that our highest allegiance is not to any flag or country, but to the cross of Christ and the Kingdom of God.

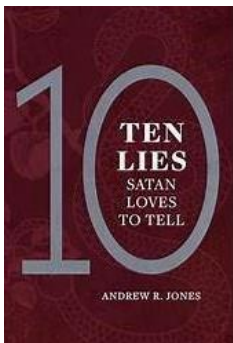
So fly your flag. Enjoy the fireworks. Give thanks for this nation. But most of all, rejoice in the freedom that is eternal—the freedom of sins forgiven, of peace with God, and the sure hope of life everlasting in Christ Jesus.



In Christ,

Pastor Todd

SUMMER SERMON SERIES CONTINUES – TEN LIES SATAN LOVES TO TELL



June 29 – Lie #2 - "Your Value is Based on Your Performance"

July 6 – Lie #3 - "You Need and Deserve More"

July 13 – Lie #4 - "Life Will Be Better if You Seize More Control"

July 20 – Lie #5 - "You Are Exempt"

July 27 – Lie #6 - "You Should Cover Up Your Sins"

Aug. 3 – Lie #7 - "God Does Not love You"

Aug. 10 – Lie #8 - "You Can and Must Save Yourself"

Aug. 17 – Lie #9 - "You Are Alone"

Aug. 24 – Lie #10 - "You Are Too Dirty/Broken/Flawed/Sinful to Be Forgiven"

ELDER'S CORNER

We are all familiar with the story of the good Samaritan, from Luke 10:25-36:

"A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'" Jesus told this story to an expert of the law who was testing Jesus, inquiring "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus asked him "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" He replied, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" The man asked "And who is my neighbor."

Throughout his ministry Jesus was often criticized by the Pharisees for the people he associated with. In Mark Chapter 2 we read the account of the calling of Levi, a tax collector, a class of people who were looked down upon by the Pharisees as "sinners." ¹³Once again Jesus went out beside the lake. A large crowd came to him, and he began to teach them. ¹⁴As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," Jesus told him, and Levi got up and followed him. ¹⁵While Jesus was having dinner at Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. ¹⁶When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹⁷On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

All throughout Jesus' ministry, He reached out to those who needed Him. He conversed with a shunned Samaritan woman at a well (*John 4:7-26*). He accepted the offerings of an immoral woman and forgave her sin (*Luke 7:36-50*). He touched a leper and healed him (*Luke 5:12-15*). He entered the house of Zacchaeus, a despised tax collector, and dined with him (*Luke 19:1-9*). Again and again, Jesus touched the untouchable and loved the unlovely.

In Matthew 25:31-40, Jesus tells the parable of the sheep and the goats, an account of the Tribulation, when all mankind will be brought before the Lord for judgment and will be separated into those saved (the sheep) and those unsaved (the goats). The sheep are blessed because "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me" (verses 35-36). They will not understand. When did they see Jesus in such a pitiful condition and help Him? "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me'" (verses 39-40). The goats are cursed because they had opportunity to minister to the Lord, but they did nothing (verses 42-43). They ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?" (verse 44). Jesus replies, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me" (verse 45).

It is easy to turn our faces away from those on the fringes of society, the homeless sleeping in a van on some backstreet, the beggar in the Walmart parking lot, the drug addict, the high school dropout, the person with mental health issues, the neurodiverse person who has difficulty with social connections. But what if we could look at them through the eyes of Jesus? I encourage you to pray for the compassion to see them as Jesus would, to share with them the message of salvation for all through Jesus' love and sacrifice. Perhaps you will be blessed to have the opportunity to look directly into the eyes of Jesus.

Yours in Christ,

Elder Mark Reeder



STEWARDSHIP CORNER – RECEIVING THROUGH GIVING

When we give generously to God to help others, God not only blesses the recipient of the gifts but the giver as well. *"Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you"* (Luke 6:38). In order to give generously, we need to trust God and separate ourselves from a possessive attitude with our money. When we give and reach out to others, we experience the true joy of being a Christian. Being generous does something for our spirit. We live fulfilled lives when we share with those in need. Our giving breaks the selfish attitude that controls many of us. The gifts God gives us as a result of our generosity are much greater than what we give Him.

A Korean legend tells of a noble warrior who died. When he arrived at the heavenly portals, he asked to see what hell looked like before entering the celestial area. He was amazed to be shown a magnificent chamber. A huge table was heaped with bountiful foods, but all the people in the room were cursing and screaming in anger. The guide explained the problem. They were all trying to eat with chopsticks three feet long. They had learned how to pick up their food, but the length of the chopsticks prevented them from getting the food to their mouths. When the warrior got back to heaven, he saw the same kind of room, the same kind of table, and the same kind of eating utensils. Here, however, there was laughter and joy. What made the difference? Here, the people had learned to feed each other. In giving, they received.

When we give faithfully, God is glorified, those in need are provided for, and the giver is blessed. May God grant us all the desire to give faithfully and generously.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Summary of Sunday, June 22, 2025 Voters' Meeting Presentation

Rachelle Ward made a short presentation to voters at the June 22, 2025 Voters' Meeting. She said School Committee members maintained strong momentum this quarter, as they continue to meet twice monthly to lay a firm foundation for the future of Redeemer Lutheran School.

Rachelle said a comprehensive business plan was drafted. She said the plan draws insight from established school models and will be shared with the congregation once internal review comments are incorporated.

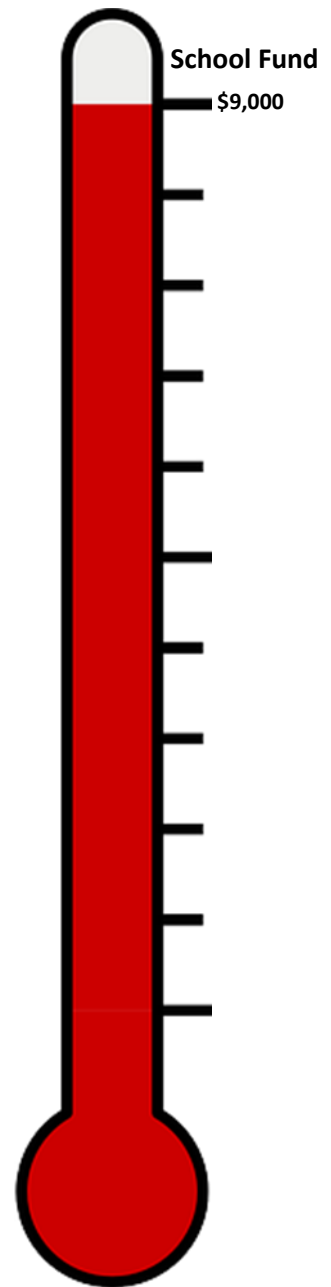
Rachelle said the committee is identifying local startup cost estimates and exploring cost-saving opportunities, such as purchasing classroom furniture through public school district auctions where private schools bid first.

Rachelle said the committee continues to consult legal experts, Calvary School leaders, Bob Nash, and others to choose a wise legal structure for the school. For example, she said the committee is considering whether the school should be a 508(c)(1)(A) or a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

Rachelle said the committee is building a foundation of commitment, as it prepares to gather signed commitments from those who are ready to help build the school and bring it to life. She said the School Fund will be used for school startup and operating costs. Rachelle said the current \$9,000 total reflects faithful weekly church member giving and IRA Required Minimum Distributions. (Church members can ask their financial institutions to send charitable RMD checks to the Redeemer Lutheran Church "School Fund.")

Rachelle said the committee will set up endowments where principals remain intact and interest is used to fund specific school functions.

Rachelle thanked voters for praying, dreaming, and walking with the committee. She said, "With God's guidance and the support of our Redeemer family, we are making meaningful progress toward launching a school rooted in faith, wisdom, and service."



If we don't teach our children to follow Christ, the world will teach them not to.



LADIES, LET'S MAKE A COOKBOOK!

Summer is here when we gather around a good meal and enjoy one another's company. We try new recipes. Each month this summer Lydia Guild will sponsor a potluck in which we bring a dish from one of these categories: hot dish, salad, dessert and fellowship cookies. There will be a poster for each potluck where you can sign up and bring a dish. We will gather pictures of each along with the recipe. (John Strege will take pictures.) At the end of September we will assemble them into binders and offer them for sale with proceeds going to our mite goal of \$2000 (see info below regarding the goal).

WHERE DO MY MITES GO?

Washington/Alaska LWML 2024-2026 mite goal of \$146,075 has paid out \$55,979 as of January of this year. Lydia Guild would like to challenge the congregation to further that amount by raising \$2000 starting this month and going through March of 2026. Each month a mission project will be highlighted. This month we highlight "Concordia Theological Seminary Food Co-op".

Please pick up a mite box, fill it with spare change and return it to the office or give to Terry Strege. Be a Missionary by supporting those who work in the field. Join us and share the love of Christ with others.



Youth Leadership and Service — Connection to Christ and the Church

It is often in the transient time of young adulthood when young people get disconnected from the church. A 2016–2017 survey revealed that only 55% of active LCMS young adults agree that their home congregation ministered to them during times of life transitions. One way to keep young people connected is to give them chances to serve and lead in the church. Yet, even the most engaged of our young adults are not always given these opportunities. We know, too, that engaging and supporting young leaders has a powerful influence on our church body.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's Youth Ministry faithfully leads, serves, provides resources, and networks youth and adults — working through LCMS districts and congregations — with Christ and His gifts at the heart and center of everything. As a way of fulfilling that mission, LCMS Youth Ministry has a long history in providing the programs YouthLead and Servant Events. These programs are designed to train young leaders and give them opportunities to serve.

The LWML \$50,000 mission grant will allow the YouthLead program to increase the number of curriculums written to equip teens to mentor and lead each other and to help support four regional conferences, pilot a new program that would encourage teens and young adults to attend a servant event which includes instruction in leadership development, and to explore ways to better care for Generation Z using a survey and follow up conversations.

Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity (1 Timothy 4:12).

DO YOU LIKE BASEBALL?



Pastor Todd and Jon Lindberg have 3 tickets available for every home game. They would love to share with anyone interested. Go online to view their schedule and pick a home game you would like to attend. Then let Pastor know and he will get the tickets to you.



Thank you for the prayers, cards, hugs and good wishes for my birthday. We have a caring, loving family at Redeemer! I appreciate you all. God continue to bless us.
Kathie Zaloudek

REMINDER:

THERE IS NO FIRST FRIDAY LUNCH IN JULY!

YOUTH GROUP

We had a fun turnout for the pool party for our June get-together. It is fun to see the kids having a good time together!



Several of our youth (Parker Beach, and Everett and Ava Yarbrough) are registered to go to the July 13 Lutherhaven "Pathfinders Camp". Kylie Landrum is on a wait list to

go to the same camp.

There will be no youth group in July as some youth will attend Lutherhaven in Idaho.

JULY 2025 BOARD OF EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School (VBS) was held Monday through Friday, June 23-27, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Redeemer was blessed to have twenty-one children in attendance. The board of education thanks the 28 Redeemer volunteers and several youth who filled roles as guides, crafts, snacks, music, and drama.

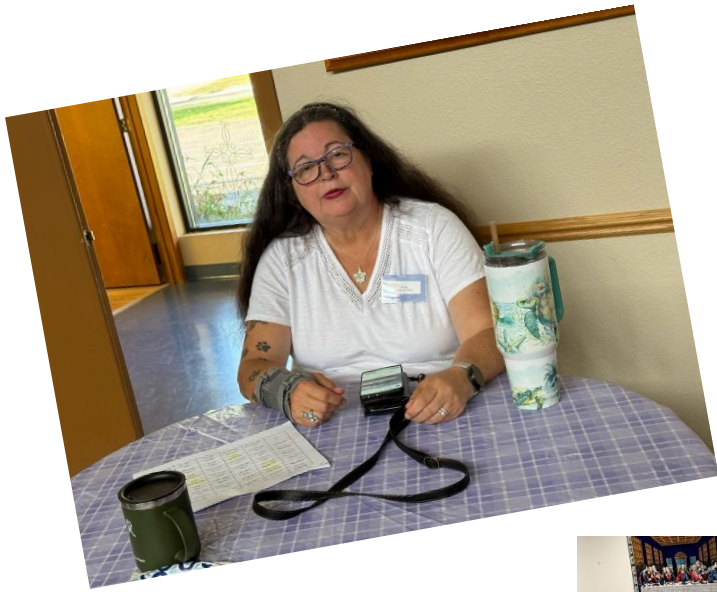


Terry Strege deserves great credit for her flawless orchestration of such a large program. The board of education also thanks Pastor Todd for providing opening and closing devotions and photography each day.



Special thanks are given to Rick and Ramona Engelmann who brought to life the bible stories of God's promises to Moses and the people of Israel, the story of Josua and the nation of Israel entering the holy land, the good Samaritan, and the resurrection and ascension of Jesus.







July Birthdays

- 4 Ken Wendland, Taylor Gant
- 5 Dick Jaquish
- 6 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, Riley Yarbrough, Amelia Rebic
- 15 Angela Landrum, Stephanie Milbrath
- 17 Kylie Landrum
- 19 Jody Schug
- 21 Dan Rogers
- 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, Helen Bonham-Petersen
- 25 Ronda Wolfe, Weston Uhrich, Susan McCoy
- 26 Gail Kroll
- 27 Howard Young
- 28 Grant Beppele, Ken Dobbin, Natalie Whitten
- 30 Kendra Frank

Anniversaries

- 4 Scotty & Carly VanBuren, Bret & Kara Uhrich
- 5 Rich & Shirley Vance
- 6 Det & Val Wegener
- 7 Dan & Kim Riordan, Rick & Margaret Gartner
- 9 Joe & Heidi Rebic
- 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.

HEALTH CONCERNS:

Chuck Fordham
Sally Grego
Miriam Hagedorn
Elaine Kutrowski
Marj Littlejohn
Pearl Raabe
Bernie Simpkins
Eileen Stixrud
Bobbie Van Buren
Bev Wetzler
Ann Young
Gregg Lee* (son of
Barbara Lee)
Jody Schug* (wife of
John Schug)
Phillip Turner*

HOMEBOUND:

Gloria Bentley
Marilyn DeRoche
Cheryl Evenson
Dale Groeber
Miriam Hagedorn
Elaine Kutrowski
Joy Ledgerwood
Marj Littlejohn
Pearl Raabe
Ann Robbins
Bernie Simpkins
Eileen Stixrud
Ken Sump
Dorothy Thieme
Phil Turner
Lynn Weldon
Bev Wetzler

MILITARY:

Brandin Bunch*
Jacob Cagle*
Brandon Gano*
Byron Gano*
Matthew Gano*
James Hare*
Sean Williams*

CANCER:

Bob Littlejohn
Denise Rogers
John Schug
Barbara Connell* (sister-in-law of Sandy Guymon)
Phyllis Delvin (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*

