



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

OCTOBER 2025 Newsletter



Wednesday Schedule

Bible Study | 9:30am

Worship | 7pm

Sunday Schedule

Worship Service | 9am

Adult Bible Study | 10:30a

**Sunday School/Confirmation |
10:15a**

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

"LIFE LESSONS AND QUIET SERVANT"

As October begins, so does a new season in our life together as a congregation. Cooler air, changing leaves, and shorter days all remind us that time moves quickly—and so do the seasons of life.

That's exactly why we're launching a new sermon series this month titled "Life Lessons from Ecclesiastes: Finding Meaning in a Temporary World." Ecclesiastes is one of the most honest, reflective books in the Bible. It wrestles with questions we all ask: What's the point? Why does life feel so fleeting? What really matters in the end? Through this series, we'll explore the wisdom God gives through Ecclesiastes—about time, work, grief, joy, faith, and legacy. It may seem like a somber book at first glance, but it ultimately points us to what is lasting and meaningful: a life rooted in reverent trust in God and in receiving each day as a gift.

We hope you'll make plans to join us each Sunday as we walk through these "life lessons" together. Ecclesiastes speaks to those who are searching, questioning, tired, or just trying to make sense of a fast-moving world. In many ways, it speaks to all of us.

And speaking of people who give meaning and joy to Redeemer, I want to offer a word of thanks to the many volunteers in our congregation. So much of what happens at church—meals prepared, floors swept, reports prepared, lessons taught, prayers offered, technology run, communion prepared, the community served through Compassion Kitchen, and so much more—is done by people who ask for no recognition and rarely receive it. You give quietly, cheerfully, and faithfully.

If that's you—thank you. You reflect the servant heart of Jesus more than you know. Your presence, your help, and your spirit matter more than you realize.

I extend my deepest gratitude to the teachers and facilitators of our Wednesday Bible class and Sunday morning adult study. I also want to express my sincere appreciation to the dedicated elders who faithfully lead our confirmation instruction. This year, we have one student in preconfirmation, two in their first year of confirmation, and nine in their second year of confirmation class.

These are vital ministries that form the faith of all ages, and your service does not go unnoticed.

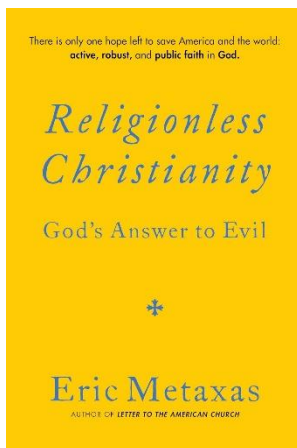
Let's enter this new month with eyes wide open—not chasing the wind, but learning to treasure what God has already placed in our hands.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Todd

UPCOMING BOOK STUDY

On Tuesday, October 7 at 6:30 p.m., we will begin reading and discussing *Religionless Christianity: God's Answer to Evil* by Eric Metaxas. This timely and thought-provoking book invites us to wrestle with how Christians are called to live out their faith in a world filled with challenges, doubts, and struggles against evil.



In this book, Metaxas explores how faith is not confined to Sunday mornings but is lived out in every part of life. He draws from the life and writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, highlighting how the German pastor stood firm against the evil of Nazi Germany. The book challenges us to consider how the Church today can respond with courage, truth, and love in the face of cultural pressures, moral confusion, and suffering, always pointing to the hope we have in Christ.

Together, we'll explore what it means to follow Christ faithfully in today's culture, strengthen our understanding of God's Word, and encourage one another in the hope that is ours in Jesus.

If you would like a copy of the book, please contact Ronda in the church office. We hope you will join us for an engaging and faith-building conversation!



STEWARDSHIP CORNER – GIVING CHEERFULLY

In the Old Testament, the people knew what God expected them to give because He commanded the people to tithe, which required the people to give one-tenth of their harvest or produce (income) to the Lord. As New Covenant Christians, we have the freedom to decide what to give, but we are expected to give cheerfully. "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (*2 Corinthians 9:7*). Giving is not to be based strictly by the percentage we give to the Lord but by the largeness of our hearts toward God. God appreciates bighearted people who give their money to Him cheerfully. It's not always easy to give cheerfully, because we need to spend money on rent or mortgages, food, and clothing, and we would like to take some nice family vacations or drive newer cars, etc. It is tempting to scrimp on generosity or to give with a frown.

Our human spirit has been profoundly twisted by Adam's sin, and this present world is a hard place to live. There is only one way that we can rise above those circumstances to live a new life where generous and cheerful giving is the norm and not the exception. In order for us to do this, we must have a personal faith relationship with Jesus Christ and day after day tap into God's rich supply of life-changing grace. The only power that can consistently overcome the sin nature that still clings to each of us is the cross of Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul declared this Gospel truth in Galatians 2:20. He emphasized, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me." If we believe in Jesus as our Savior and Lord, then our sinful flesh has been nailed to the cross with Christ, and the self-absorbed and fearful human ego no longer has any right or power to direct how we as Christians live. We can take this truth and apply it to the way we give. Through faith, we are empowered to withstand our flesh and the world who wants us to spend more of our money on things of this world and to give less to God. When we place our trust in God, we can honor Him by giving cheerfully.

As new covenant Christians, we give under grace so we are free to decide in our hearts and minds how much to give. Cheerful givers experience giving as a privilege. Giving changes from a "got to" give to a "want to" give. Cheerful giving comes from new hearts that God through His Holy Spirit has changed. Giving is to be inspired and voluntary, not an obligation or only out of necessity or possible

recognition. Giving is an outward expression based on an inner conviction. Through faith, we understand that we are God's instruments through whom He works to help people in need, to support His Church, and to extend His kingdom. May God find us willing and cheerful to use our time and money to do His work.

ELDER'S CORNER - GRACE

It seems that everyone has heard of grace. Perhaps it is the most frequently used concept in Christian circles. Tragically, however, few can tell you what grace means. The non-Christian adage, "God helps those who help themselves," is deeply embedded in the American mind. Because our ancestors dug and clawed a nation out of the wilderness, the American traditionally wants to stand on his own two feet. He feels he must carry his share of the load. All of this is commendable. However, if this spirit carries over into an understanding of grace, it can be eternally fatal.

God has revealed Himself as "the help of the helpless." As long as a person thinks he must contribute his own efforts to the work of God, he does not understand his true condition or the work of Christ. He does not realize that sin has incapacitated him so that he cannot do anything meritorious in God's sight. Neither does he know the sufficiency of Christ's sacrifice. By adding his supposed goodness to the work of our Lord, he is saying he believes Christ's work was insufficient.

Paul's teaching in Romans 11:6 is that grace and works are mutually exclusive: "If by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then it is no more grace: otherwise work is no more work."

It has been said, "Grace is not the thread of gold decorating the garment; rather, like the ancient mercy seat, it is gold, pure gold, through and through."

Christianity proclaims that God's favor, His blessings, and heaven itself are offered as free gifts through His grace, and that the debt of our sin has been Paid In Full, by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

GRACE- God's Riches at Christ's Expense.
The Lord's blessings and grace to you all.

Matt Schorzman (Head Elder)



PARKING IN FRONT OF OFFICE

We kindly ask that you refrain from parking *along the grass* by the office as this has led to damaged sprinkler heads that have needed replacing. If there are no parking slots available in the front parking lot, feel free to park on the street or use the parking lot in the back of the church. Thank you for understanding.



FIRST FRIDAY LUNCH is on Oct. 3 at noon. Everyone welcome! Bring your appetites!



MEN'S GROUP BREAKFAST resumes on Saturday, Oct. 11 at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall. Come hungry; get fed!

BOARD OF EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL

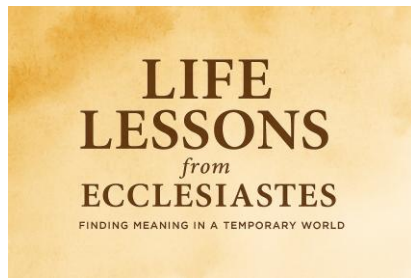
Sunday school is off to a great start. We have nine students enrolled. We are taking the step to hold 3 Sunday school classes. Now there will be 2 Early Childhood classes with LaVada Mundt and Robin Buck teaching the 2 classes. We are in need of additional Sunday school teachers. Volunteers are encouraged to step forward. Plans are being made for future Sunday school activities.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS:

For our September get-together, we did some service work for Gary Beebe, a retired Vietnam veteran. The youth laid down tiles in preparation for a wheelchair ramp. Thank you to all the youth and parents who made this happen. We couldn't do this without you and your support! Stay tuned for our next event in October!



NEW SERMON SERIES IN OCTOBER: LIFE LESSONS FROM ECCLESIASTES



This October we begin a new sermon series called Life Lessons from Ecclesiastes. The wisdom of Ecclesiastes speaks honestly about the challenges of life, the fleeting nature of earthly pursuits, and the deep hope we have in God who gives meaning and purpose. Each week we'll see how God's Word points us away from empty striving and toward His eternal promises fulfilled in Christ.

October 5 – Life Is a Vapor

Ecclesiastes reminds us how quickly life passes. Our days are a gift from God and only in Him do they find lasting value.

October 12 – Chasing the Wind

We often strive after possessions, pleasure, or recognition—but apart from God these pursuits leave us empty. True contentment is found in Him alone.

October 26 – Fear God, Not Men (Reformation Sunday)

As Luther stood on the truth of God's Word, we are called to fear, love, and trust in God above all things. His Word endures forever.

November 2 – Legacy and Mourning (All Saints' Day Observed)

We reflect on the lives of those who have gone before us in faith. Our legacy is not in earthly accomplishments but in Christ, who gives eternal life.

November 9 – Be Ready in the Dark Days

Ecclesiastes warns of times of difficulty and uncertainty. Yet in Christ, we are equipped to live with hope and perseverance.

November 16 – Invest Wisely

Life is short, and how we spend our time, resources, and energy matters. God calls us to invest in what is eternal.

November 23 – The End of the Matter (Christ the King Sunday)

The final word from Ecclesiastes is clear: "Fear God and keep His commandments." This is life's true purpose, fulfilled in Christ our King.

In His Image

A Christian Conversation on Navigating
Identity and Sexuality in a Confused World



Sat. Nov. 15th from 9 am - 3 pm

Registration Deadline October, 31st 2025



Rev. David K. Fleming



Dr. Beverly Yanke
Clinical Psychologist

Hosted by Doxology, a Registered Service
Organization of the LCMS

October Birthdays

- 1 Brooke Bond
- 4 Robert Bepple, Edgar Buck
- 6 Twilene Shanks
- 7 Miriam Hagedorn
- 11 Barbara Lee, Mark Reeder
- 13 Elliott Rebic
- 16 Aubrey Bepple, Susie Lindberg, Chuck Fordham
- 19 Will Landrum
- 20 Wayne Roundy, Shirley Clarkson
- 26 Tanner Beach
- 27 Elsa Bepple, Kim Riordan, Lacey Turner
- 29 Roy Wolfe
- 30 Gunner Grall, Steve Gano
- 31 Gary Sebade

Anniversaries

- 4 John & Karin Cagle
- 19 Ben & Gail Kroll



November Birthdays

- 3 Gloria Bentley
- 4 Linda Briggs, Matt Schorzman, Elizabeth Ripley
- 5 Diane Zaloudek, Pam Roundy
- 7 Det Wegener
- 10 June Jaquish
- 12 Robin Buck, Mary Gruen
- 13 Casey Gant
- 16 Rich Vance
- 17 Marci Grall
- 24 John Beitz, Bret Uhrich
- 25 Kara Uhrich
- 26 Gary Fisher
- 27 Millie Dubbs
- 28 Rebecca Redeker

Anniversaries

- 9 Curt & Jerrine Gjerdevig
- 10 Bob & Marj Littlejohn
- 22 Dan & Lisa Niebuhr

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
Bernie Simpkins
Eileen Stixrud
Bobbie Van Buren
Bev Wetzler
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
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
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*

