



The Redeemer Report

SPRING / SUMMER
ISSUE

April-July 2016



Redeemer Lutheran Church
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A Message From Pastor

Living Easter

It would be really easy to give in to frustration and anger at a lot of what we see going on in the world around us. Hate spawned by a lack of caring and a self-serving ethic of total self-interest seems to be what is driving many in our world and our own country. There is a decided lack of Easter. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is proof of a kind of love which is foreign to mankind. Mankind's love is selfish self-satisfaction. God's love in Christ is giving and forgiving. This is true love. God sending His Son to die on the cross for the sins of everyone. We could not expect or demand this from God. We are the ones who have offended Him with our sinful self-serving natures. Believing in Jesus as our savior changes everything. We have the opportunity to serve rather than be served. We have the opportunity to live Easter. What does that look like? Perhaps the words God gave St. Paul to write in Galatians 5:22-33 will help. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

Looking Ahead ***Upcoming Topics and Scriptures***

5/1/2016

Jesus Speaks Plainly

Acts 16:9-15

Psalms 67

Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27

John 16:23-33

5/8/2016

Jesus' Soliloquy

Acts 1:12-26

Psalms 133

Revelation 22:1-6, 12-20

John 17:20-26

5/15/2016

Pentecost

Genesis 11:1-9

Psalms 143

Acts 1:1-21

John 14:23-31

5/29/2016

Do Not Be Fooled

1 Kings 8:22-24, 27-29, 42-43

Psalms 96:1-9

Galatians 1:1-12

Luke 7:1-10

5/22/2016

The Holy Trinity

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Psalms 8

Acts: 2:14a, 22-36

John 8:48-59



Mark your calendars!

Our annual church picnic will be held on September 11, 2016 at Emerson Park in Lodi

Board of Properties



You may have noticed the first phase of the tree trimming has begun. The board chairman, Mike Kinkle, has created a 5-year plan for the purpose of maintaining the buildings and grounds in a financially responsible manner. Here is a list of projects that will be worked on this year.

- * Replace Freezer-donated, no cost
 - * Tree Maintenance-1st phase begins
 - * Exterior Lighting-replace timer and upgrade to LED where applicable.
 - * Handicap Access-replace ramp at Fireside entry.
 - * Dry rot-repair or replace as needed
- If you notice an area that needs to be addressed for repairs, please speak to Mike.

What's going on...



The Lutheran Women's Missionary League

The LWML California Nevada Hawaii Conventions was held April 15-17 in Visalia, CA. The theme was "overcome...By Him" based on John 16:30. "I have told you these things so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart. I have overcome the world."

This was a time of inspiration, mission outreach and fellowship. LWML National President, Patti Ross was with us and *Convention Music and Praise was lead by our very own Redeemer Music and Praise Leader, Carol Kirst.*

LWML Community Outreach

Please remember our ongoing project of food for Lodi Community Center. Drop your donations in the baskets in the narthex. Also, please bring your CVR cans and bottles to benefit sponsorship for youth attending Summer Camps programs. This recycling program is for the benefit of Building Blocks, a Christian-based organization in Lodi that serves families in need. The receptacle for these CRV items is in the church kitchen.



Redeemer Women's Bible Fellowship will resume meeting on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month beginning April 21. Carol Fennern will be our study leader.

Redeemer Men's Bible Fellowship
We are currently doing a short study on "Women of Faith." This will be followed by a study on "Ephesians." Attendance has been very consistent, as we enjoy being in the Word with Fellowship! All men are welcome to join us!

Thrivent

Did you know, if you are a Thrivent member, you are eligible to apply for two \$250 grants annually? Applications are available. This is a great way to raise funds for our Serenity Garden and other projects and needs. For more information contact the Member Connection Center at 800-847-4836. Use the prompt: "Fateral." or email fraternal@thrivent.com. For faster service, please have your member ID or contract number available.



Church Council Meeting

2nd Wednesday monthly

6pm-Fireside Room

Birthday Luncheon

3rd Thursday of monthly

11:30am-Location to be announced

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

3rd Tuesday of monthly

1pm-Fireside Room

Summer schedule: April 19, May 17 and June 21

Woman's Bible Fellowship

1st and 3rd Thursday monthly

beginning April 21

1pm-Fireside Room

Men's Bible Fellowship

7pm - 1st, 2nd and 3rd Tuesday monthly

6pm on the 4th Tuesday

Fireside room

Second Quarter Mission Outreach

Women's Center

Youth and Family Services-

Lodi Chapter

A bit of Trivia

6,781 is the number of times "Lord" appears in the King James Version of the Bible.

Did you know?



The Altar Guild is currently working on brightening up the Narthex of the church with a new light fixture and decorations.

Our church banners are showing a lot of wear and tear and are in need of replacing. Good news here....Marlene Luhn and Carol Fennern are interested in forming a group to create new ones. No experience necessary! If you can use a pair of scissors or can use an iron, we can use your help or if you just want to join us for a bit of fun and fellowship, please contact Carol or Marlene.

The funds earned through the LWML Super Bowl Sunday bakes sale will cover the cost of the banners and a new banner stand.

If you have any information or comments for the Redeemer Report, please contact Diane Amaral. The deadline is August 1, 2016.

Our prayers have power!

Our Lord could carry out His purposes for our world without us. But in grace He has chosen to make us partners with Him. What an honor! Please keep our church and loved ones in your prayers.

- ◇ Julie Ashbaugh
- ◇ Ida Bentz
- ◇ Marlene Purdhel

Evangelism

If you are aware of someone who is ill or absent from church, and would like us to send a card or a note; please contact Betty Hartwig. FYI-Betty also takes care of notifying the Lodi New Sentinel with any information we would like published regarding the church.



Pastor Bruce is working on our church website. What would you like to see included? Do you have any ideas? Please speak to Pastor.

Projects

The Serenity Garden

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

Over the next few years, a small parcel of land just south of the rear parking lot and west of the storage shop will be developed into a small garden for prayer, meditation and reflection. The estimated cost to complete the garden is approximately \$5,000. It will be financed through fundraisers and donations and will be completed in stages as our funds allow. A sketch of the garden will be posted on the bulletin board for your review. Any and all suggestions are welcome. \$226.00 has been donated so far. If you would like to donate towards this project, please contact Diane Amaral.

Volunteer Opportunities

- ◇ Altar Guild
- ◇ Changing of the Banners
- ◇ Reading Scriptures
- ◇ Fellowship Coffee
- ◇ Ushers
- ◇ Acolytes
- ◇ Prayer Chain

For information, please see Carol Kirst