

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH CELEBRATING 111 YEARS OF MINISTRY



Redeemer Lutheran Church  
The Rev. Richard A. Mathisen Interim Pastor

Hulmeville and Woodland Avenues  
Penndel, PA 19047  
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00am-1:00pm

Phone: 215-757-2724 Fax: 215-757-7199 Handicapped Accessible Via a Lift

Email: [Redeemerlutheranchurchpenndel@verizon.net](mailto:Redeemerlutheranchurchpenndel@verizon.net)  
On the Web: [redeemerlutheranpenndel.org](http://redeemerlutheranpenndel.org)

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## Pastor's Page



### The Easter Season!

Sometimes church members think that Easter is only one Sunday, which occurs this year on March 27. After that Sunday, then Easter is over. But, actually, Easter is an entire season! It extends for seven Sundays through Sunday, May 8. All seven Sundays are considered “Sundays in Easter”! It actually extends right up to Pentecost Sunday on May 15, which is the climax of the Easter season.

What does this mean? It means that the Christ Candle will be lit during Sunday services for that entire period of Easter, to celebrate Easter Season. The Christ Candle is traditionally lit for baptisms, funerals, and during Easter Season. It means we will be singing Easter hymns throughout the Easter season. It means that we will say, repeatedly, “Christ is risen!” to which the congregation responds, “Christ is risen indeed! Allelujah!” This will continue throughout the Easter season.

But, most importantly, we should be celebrating! After the 40 days of Lent and our Mid-week Lenten Soup Dinners and Lenten Dramas, after Holy Week with Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services, now we want to celebrate. Easter is truly the high point of the Christian year. Easter is so important that the Church devotes seven weeks to celebrating it!

Wishing you a very happy Easter season!

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Pastor Richard Mathisen

### Visioning Groups Continue, Sunday Schedule Change

We have now succeeded in starting all six Visioning Groups, as explained in a letter sent to all members and friends of Redeemer Lutheran Church. However, it is not too late to become involved. Please contact Pastor Mathisen or the church office if you would still like to join a group!

Also, there is one schedule change for Sunday groups. Visioning Group #5 meets on Sundays at 11:00 am – 12:30 am as previously announced. However, Visioning Group #6 now meets on Sunday *evenings* at 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm. This adjustment was made to accommodate bell practice.



# *Spring has arrived at Redeemer!*

*Spring has arrived at Redeemer!*



Thank you to Linda  
Winter who took these  
pictures!

## April Events



**Meeting Sunday 4/3/16 11:00am**



**Tuesday April 5, 2016 6pm**



**Flea Market on the 2nd Saturday of the month  
beginning in April and continuing through October.**

**Begins 4/9/16 8am-1pm**



**April Meeting: April 19, 2016 7pm**

## Finance Update

<u>Financial Condition for the period ending</u>	<u>February 29th</u>
Current Fund Income	\$ 17,883
Donations/Reimbursements	\$ 1,493
Expenses	<u>\$ 23,193</u>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ (3,817)</b>

### RESTRICTED FUND BALANCES

Building Maintenance	\$4978.00
Raise the Roof	\$13,235.00
Search Fund	\$51.00

Respectfully,  
Kim Overbagh, Treasurer

## Past Events

We had a busy month in March

### **Shared Meal:**

We served 79 people on Tuesday March 1st at our Shared Meal Ministry.

### **Soup Suppers:**

Everyone enjoyed soups and breads and desserts at our Wednesday soup suppers held on 3/2, 3/9, 3/16.

### **Midweeks:**

Our midweek services presented "Watchers on the Hill" sharing perspectives from onlookers at Golgotha. On 3/2 Abigail and Lydia spoke, on 3/9 Marius and Lucius, Roman guards, and on 3/16 Mary Magdalene and Nicodemus.

Thanks to all our talented actors who participated in all the services; Karen Kondrk, John Slaughter, Cindy Oser, Diane Anderson, Mike Dunn and John Schwenk. Thanks also to Gail Blinstrub who served as Worship Leader on 3/2.

### **Palm Sunday**

Redeemer celebrated with a procession of Palms and music and the reading of the Passion Story according to St. Luke. The children carried Palm prayers and celebrated Jesus' triumphant entry into the city.

### **Maundy Thursday and Good Friday**

Members worshiped on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Pastor Mathisen preached at the Ecumenical Good Friday service at Langhorne United Methodist Church following the Cross walk, and then again at Redeemer's Tenebrae service on Good Friday.

### **Easter Worship at Redeemer**

Jesus Christ Is Risen! Worshippers are celebrating at 3 separate services with singing, ringing and releasing the buried Alleluia's to place in the sanctuary.

## Council Highlights

Church Council met on Tuesday, March 8th. In addition to overseeing routine church activities/operations, the status of the Call Process was reviewed. Visioning Groups have begun to meet. Members of a Transition Team will be selected from participants in these sessions. If you have not signed up, it is still not too late to join in. Please do not miss this important opportunity to shape Redeemer Lutheran's future ministries. If you need accommodation getting to the meetings, please call Holly or Pastor Mathisen to let your specific needs be known.





## Parish Register News and Notes!

### WELCA Meeting

Tuesday, April 19 – 7:00 PM

**Devotions:** Katherine Patelunas    **Refreshments:** Edna Schwenk and Mary Lou Robinson  
Thank you to everyone who helped with Easter bags for our homebound members. Whether you provided gifts for inside the bags or helped with visiting and delivering. Our members appreciate being remembered.

### Community Day Flea Market –Saturday, June 4

Women of Redeemer will participate in the Penndel Community Flea Market on Saturday, June 4, 2016. We will be offering: flea market “spaces,” coffee and breakfast foods early in the day, a bake table, a chance table, and several flea market tables. We would very much appreciate **your donations of flea market items** for community day. As you do your spring-cleaning, take the opportunity to “de-clutter” and help us at the same time. Please place your flea market donations in the library/stage area any time.



New Address

Denise Goccia  
5145 Roseberry Drive  
Doylestown, Pa. 18902  
(same phone number)

Shirley & Darwin Brendlinger  
612 Christ's Home Drive  
Warminster, PA 18974  
267-387-6355      effective 4/1/16

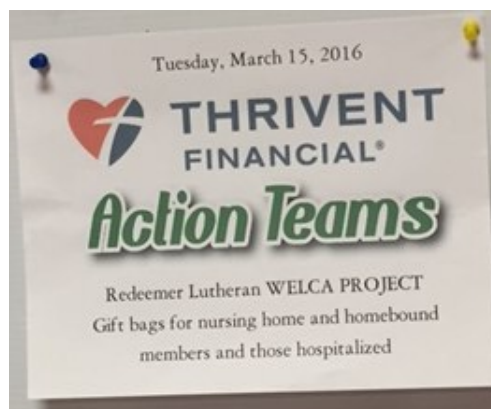


To Redeemer Congregation,

It was so thoughtful of you!  
I'm looking forward to a lobster dinner.

Love,  
Ruth Schwartz

## WELCA Gift Bags for Shut-ins



Thank you to Thrivent Financial and the members of WELCA for their help preparing Easter gift bags for our shut ins and others in need. These bags, containing a variety of items, are intended to show our care as well as give them a pick me up with fun activity books, personal items and snacks.



## WELCA Tea Party



*Everyone had a good time at the Tea Party. Even Pastor Mathisen joined the women for tea.*



## Prayer Concerns

**Members:** Dee Grover, Jane and Lynn Leppo, Ruth Schwartz, Marty Ditcher, Alice Skinner, Jean Lippincott, Helen and Jim Susko, Sharon Degen, Blake Thomas, Toni Carra, Cindy Oser.

**Relatives and Friends of our Members:** Ray Gould, John Hrywnak, William and Maryjane Engle, Lawrence Patelunas, Carol Seuffert, Holly Gibbons, Lee Delano, Patti Hiller, Bernadine & Jerry Messenger, Dennis Green.

**Relatives and Friends of our Members Serving in the Military:** Ron Skoczylas, Chad Durban, Bryan Oser, Joseph Piel, Derrick Stone, Mason Burgess.



**Remember in Your Prayers Pastor and staff of Redeemer, and our Nations Leaders:**

Pres. Barack Obama, Our U.S. Senators, The Supreme Court, and the House of Representatives.

## Prayer Initiative for April

On Sunday April 10th we will pray for: Kay Robinson, Delores Hoppe, Amanda Trapani, Anthony Trapani, Ruth Samuels, Carol Samuel-Stout, Michael & Kelly Sanchez and son Jack, Charlie & Karen Sauls and children Matthew and Krystin, Ruth Schwartz and Heidi Morgan

On Sunday April 24th we will pray for: Brian & Meghan Schmidt and children Hailey and Natalie, Walter & Margaret Schulze, John & Edna Schwenk, Karen Kondrk, John Slaughter, John & Danielle Slaughter and son Tyler, Robert & Carey Trumpler and son Evan.





# Vacation Bible School

**DON'T FORGET TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS**  
**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, JULY 18-22, 2016**



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS - CAVE QUEST

There will be a meeting for all those interested in helping with VBS in any capacity Sunday, **April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11 am**, location in the church building to be determined depending on the room usages. We are in the planning stages and could use fresh ideas to make this the best program possible.

If you want to see more of CAVE QUEST VBS, Google the title or search for Group, Cave quest VBS. The site has videos with decorating ideas as well as the program for each day. VBS is always a great community program to offer and the excitement is building!

**The congregation can help with---- contact Denise Robinson if you will donate ---**

Empty prescription pill bottles with lid about 2 ½ to 3 inches tall by 1 ½ inches wide

Rolls of brown wrapping paper to construct cave walls (\$ tree item)

Left over house paint in grays, brown, purple, blue, white or any color you think might give the illusion of deep caves

Rolls of Clear colored cellophane assorted jewel tones (\$ tree item)

**BUT MOST OF ALL YOUR PRAYERS AND YOUR HELP CREATING OUR VBS  
ENVIRONMENT**

## Christian Education/Sunday School

Hope you all had a very blessed Easter and took the opportunity to worship at Redeemer during Holy Week.

Our Sunday school children presented the call to worship as well as participating in the Palm procession on Palm Sunday and upon returning to class they experienced the Easter story followed by our annual youth group sponsored Egg hunt.

April brings the story of Noah to life for our elementary students. You won't want your children or grandchildren to miss a moment of this fascinating bible story.

If you love the story of Noah and would like to help, please contact Denise Robinson, 215-752-0664 for more information.

Youth in Worship Sunday we will continue to collect for Gods Global Barnyard. Thank you for your continued support with this ministry.

Adult bible studies are Monday evening at 7 pm and the second and fourth Wednesday at 10am. It's never too late to drop by for some faith building!

**Please continue to support our service project for SCHOOL SUPPLIES to be donated to the Bucks County Housing group. During VBS the children will be stuffing book bags with the items. You can make a monetary donation by labeling it "SCS service School supplies" and placing it in the offering plate.**

### DATES TO REMEMBER FOR APRIL

5<sup>th</sup> – Shared meal; 6 pm

3<sup>rd</sup> – NOAH; ***VACTION BIBLE SCHOOL MEETING AT 11 AM. All interested in helping behind the scenes Or the week of are encouraged to attend***

9<sup>th</sup> - Redeemer Flea market

10<sup>th</sup> – Youth in Worship Sunday; God's Global Barnyard Appeal

17<sup>th</sup> – Noah continued

24<sup>th</sup> – work on Mother's day service/ project; finish up Noah if needed



## Legacy Story– John Slaughter



John Slaughter was born January 15, 1953 at Jeanes Hospital in Philadelphia and was raised on Gillam Ave. in Langhorne. His mother Mildred Slaughter was a first grade teacher at Samuel Everett Elementary School in Levittown for over twenty years before her retirement. His father Edward Slaughter was a purchasing agent, retiring from the University of Pennsylvania. John was very active at the Langhorne Presbyterian Church, located a couple blocks up the street, and on Sundays, the whole family would walk up the street together to attend Sunday School and Church. John has an older brother Ed who lives in Millville, NJ and a sister Peggy, a retired elementary school teacher, who lives near Lebanon, PA.

Growing up in Langhorne was quite different back then than it is today. Langhorne was part of small town America as were the other surrounding communities. Everyone knew each other through school, church and other community activities. John recalled walking to school, first to Pine Street Elementary, and then Cherry Street. Gillam Avenue used to end at the church and he then walked across two farm fields to reach school. He often cut through Davenport's Chrysler shop and stopped by the little stores in "uptown " Langhorne on the way home. John attended Neshaminy Jr. High School the first year it was opened and after school



\*\*\*\*\*  
\* walked down the Neshaminy Creek with his friends, across the golf \*  
\* course and back into Langhorne to reach home. They also hitch-hiked up \*  
\* and down Rt. 413 to go up to Newtown, to visit the various little shops, or \*  
\* to go to the movie theater. Kids had a different amount of freedom in \*  
\* those days. As kids, they were able to be on their own after school as \*  
\* long as they got home in time for dinner, and many weekends were spent \*  
\* camping up along the Neshaminy Creek with friends. John always en- \*  
\* joyed the outdoors, going hunting, fishing, canoeing and camping. In \*  
\* school John enjoyed running on the track team as a sprinter, and he also \*  
\* was on the wrestling team. \*  
\*  
\* John started working when he was twelve, delivering papers for the \*  
\* Bulletin and also mowing lawns throughout Langhorne Manor. As a \*  
\* young teen, weekends were spent between working at the Penndel \*  
\* carwash and roller skating at the Mammoth Casino Skating Rink located \*  
\* where Penndel's Burger King is now. \*  
\*  
\* Another thing Langhorne was known for was racing. There was Lang- \*  
\* horne Speedway as well as Road-winders and Pilgrims motorcycle scam- \*  
\* ble tracks on the North end of town. John grew up watching all sorts of \*  
\* racing and ended up participating in riding scrambles and eventually drag \*  
\* racing Kawasaki Motor Cycles for the shop he worked in as Parts Manag- \*  
\* er. John's racing career was short lived as it became too time consuming, \*  
\* with only modest rewards, and he had met Linda who was to become his \*  
\* wife and the mother of his two children, John (JD) and Kate. As a young \*  
\* family man, John's time became consumed by working, raising a family \*  
\* and attending night school to advance his career, first studying welding \*  
\* and other associated metal fabrication skills, and then business manage- \*  
\* ment at Bucks County Community College. John started working as a \*  
\* welding apprentice for a small Bucks County firm named Cartex. After a \*  
\* few years working in the shop, John became the Supervisor of the weld- \*  
\* ing and maintenance departments. At that time, the company was \*  
\* bought out by a much larger Canadian owned company called Wood- \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

bridge. John was one of the few who survived the new company's "takeover" and was fortunate enough to become supervisor and later department manager of brand new much larger shop at the new plant Woodbridge opened. John's career with Woodbridge lasted for thirty years. During this time, John moved into the corporate group as a Project Manager, first traveling around North America for different projects and later around the world to Woodbridge's fifty plus locations. This career came to an end in 2007 as the automotive industry took a major downturn, with Woodbridge and the automotive industry as a whole closing numerous plants around the world, especially on the East Coast where there is no longer even one automotive assembly plant left.

John also lost his wife after a long battle with cancer in 2006. This became a time of much change in his life. John had joined Redeemer Lutheran Church one year prior, after attending several other churches. His church family had given him much support and hope during his difficult times. John became involved with the Evangelism Committee and it was here he had met Edna and John Schwenk. He had heard them talk about their daughter Karen who works at Penndel Borough. John was a regular volunteer at the Shared Meal Ministry dinner and Karen came to volunteer. John met her and started asking her some questions about borough regulations. They got to chatting and as it is said, the rest is history. John and Karen have many common interests including fishing, canoeing, going to yard sales, running the Redeemer's food pantry and spoiling their grandchildren. Karen has a grandson Evan and John's son JD has a son Tyler and a daughter Kylie. John's daughter Kate has a daughter Hazel and is expecting a son in May.

John's message to the young people is to stay involved with the church and bring your children to Sunday school so they can learn about Christianity. If they miss that part, it is something they may not get the chance to learn and understand about later. They are the future of the church. Without them, some day there won't be a church to attend.

Submitted by: Karen Kondrk

## April Server Schedule

April 2016	9:30am Worship
<b>4/3/2016</b>	<b>Setting 3 Communion</b>
Acolyte/Crucifer	Patti Finn
Lay Assistant	Lori Meola
Altar Guild	Gail Blinstrub, Joan Dunn
Counters	Arlene Shecter, Jean Lippincott
<b>4/10/2016</b>	<b>Service of the Word, Youth Worship</b>
Acolyte/Crucifer	Patrick O'Connell, Billy Clark
Lay Assistant	Brian O'Connell
Reader 1	Georgia Woodford
Psalm	Ariel Schuette
Reader 2	Alan Ryan
Altar Guild	Ilene Kersten, Arlene Shecter
Counters	Arlene Shecter, Jean Lippincott
<b>4/17/2016</b>	<b>Setting 10 Communion</b>
Acolyte/Crucifer	Scott Ditcher
Lay Assistant	Gail Blinstrub
Altar Guild	Ilene Kersten, Arlene Shecter
Counters	Kim Overbagh, Marge Einkenkel
<b>4/24/2016</b>	<b>Service of the Word</b>
Acolyte/Crucifer	Brian O'Connell
Lay Assistant	Cindy Oser
Altar Guild	Rita Solt, Linda Winter
Counters	Kim Overbagh, Marge Einkenkel



# Sharing God's Bounty

## April

### The End of the Story?

The six-week season of Lent draws to a close. We have heard our Savior's prayer for himself, his disciples, and all of us (John 17). We have been distressed by the disciples' betrayal (Mark 14:50). We have been horrified by the treatment Jesus, an innocent man, received at the hands of his own people and the Roman governor and his soldiers. Our minds have heard the cries, "*Crucify him! Crucify him!*" (Luke 23:21). Up the hill to Calvary we have trudged with the King of Kings where he was placed on a cross like any criminal, where he spoke words of compassion for others and asked for forgiveness for his enemies, where he died for our sins. We have sat, dejected, like his followers of old – but not quite, for we have an advantage. We know how the story ends!

It ends with Easter! Yet it is not an ending but a beginning! We race to the tomb with Peter and John (John 20:3-9) and rejoice that "*He is not here; He has risen!*" (Luke 24:6). Like the women who were the first to learn of this most miraculous, most marvelous, most salutary event, we run to tell others. We want to share this Good News. We know it's hard to believe. Like Paul says, "*Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners Christ died for us*" (Romans 5:7-8). And lives for us! "*Do you believe this?*" Jesus asked Martha, and with her we confidently answer, "*I believe that [he] is the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world*" (John 11:24-27).

*"Death has been swallowed up in victory. Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain"* (1 Corinthians 15:54, 57-58).

*The attitude of Christian Stewardship recognizes that one's own special talents were given by God. These skills could have been given to someone also. But they were given to you to use for God's purpose. The same attitude of stewardship recognizes time as a loan made by God to his children. Manage time well.*

## Here's Where Your Pennies Go

Luke  
10:37

*"Which of these three was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him,.....*

....GO AND DO  
LIKEWISE

Thank you for generously supporting the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. With our gifts and with prayers, service, and advocacy, we answer Christ's call to "Go and do likewise." This "going and doing" makes a life-saving difference for neighbors near and far. ELCA World Hunger is a connected, comprehensive, and compassionate program that helps individuals and communities break the cycle of hunger and poverty. Your gifts make a difference in our fight to end hunger. Each gift to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal is a promise to our neighbors around the world and around the corner that they are not forgotten, that their hunger and thirst will not go unnoticed. God Bless and keep you as you, **"Go and do likewise."**



A spring is a place where groundwater naturally gushes or seeps from the earth. It might take the form of a stream of water that flows from a fissure in a rock, or a persistent puddle in a low spot in a field.

Water may be clean when it emerges from the earth, but it can easily be contaminated before use. Animals can walk through the persistent puddle; leaves and insects can fall into it; it may flow through a contaminated area.

However, if the spring is protected, the water stays clean. A spring box is an

economical and effective way to protect a spring.

These covered concrete boxes simply enclose the spring so that debris cannot fall into it and animals cannot walk through it. The spring fills the box from the bottom or from one side, and a pipe built into the side of the box at a convenient height allows people to fill their containers. A well-built concrete spring box can last for decades with only the simplest occasional maintenance: The concrete lid can be lifted to reach the inside of the box for cleaning.

These spring boxes are not just shipped in and installed though. Instead they are constructed by members of the community who become participants in their own development. This practice honors local leadership and involvement and acknowledges the skills within the community: essential marks of accompaniment.

## LITTLE LAMBS

Make these cute treats as a reminder that Jesus our Savior is also the Lamb of God.




### What you need:

- Vanilla cupcakes
- Vanilla frosting
- Butter knife
- Mini marshmallows
- Jellybeans
- Red licorice

### What you do:

1. Bake and frost the cupcakes.
2. Place marshmallows around the edge of each cupcake.
3. Cut green or blue jellybeans in half and place two on each cupcake as eyes. Cut pink jellybeans in half and place one below each pair of eyes as a nose.
4. Cut thin strips of licorice, and place one on each cupcake as a mouth.
5. Enjoy!



# Lamb of God

John the Baptist knew Jesus was the Messiah — and offered a special greeting when he saw Jesus.

*Directions: Cut apart the squares and arrange them in a rectangle in numerical order, starting with #1 in the top left and going across to #7. Continue building four more rows of seven squares each, to reveal John 1:29, NIV.*

1	2 "Look	25	4 Lamb	30	16 sin
8	33	27	12 the	23	18 the
29	6 God,	32	20	10 takes	34
26	17 of	5 of	19 world!	22	11 away
3	31	28	9 who	13	15
54	7	24	35	21	



## March Birthday's and Anniversaries

### April Birthdays

2<sup>nd</sup> Debbie Farnham  
4<sup>th</sup> Marge Einenkel  
Kelly Sanchez  
Brian Schmidt  
6<sup>th</sup> Daniel Clark  
7<sup>th</sup> Kevin Jones  
Trey Grover  
Jeff Lippincott  
Cindy O'Connell  
11<sup>th</sup> Patti Balasco  
12<sup>th</sup> John Slaughter  
Mason Martinsen  
13<sup>th</sup> Scott Ditcher  
John Schwenk  
14<sup>th</sup> Patrick Eckel  
Jacob Eckel  
15<sup>th</sup> Patricia Ryan  
16<sup>th</sup> Andy Martinsen  
Derek Thomas  
18<sup>th</sup> Stacy Hardy Anderson  
20<sup>th</sup> Blake Logan Thomas  
21<sup>st</sup> Alyssa Lee Stout  
Marilyn Hrywnak  
22<sup>nd</sup> Lydia Cochran  
25<sup>th</sup> Johann Callan  
Michaela Anne Hemphill  
Edith Williams  
26<sup>th</sup> Donna Sue Parfitt-Herbert  
27<sup>th</sup> David Feldbauer

### April Wedding Anniversaries

4/6/74 Jeannie and William Vitale  
4/20/58 Edna and John Schwenk  
4/26/13 Erik and Danielle Martinsen  
4/29/78 Lori and Sam Meola  
4/30/03 Michael and Kelly Sanchez



**Visitors and Neighbors:  
Welcome to Redeemer Lutheran Church!**

***Our door is open to you!  
We would be happy to have you join us as  
a Partner in prayer, in song, and in the  
hearing of God's word.***



## **MISSION STATEMENT**

**Redeemer Lutheran Church is a caring community of baptized believers, confessing Jesus Christ as our Lord and savior. As a forgiven community, we gather in faith around God's table to hear God's word and participate in the life giving sacraments, which God has instituted through His Son Jesus Christ. Responding in faith we are called to joyfully proclaim the Gospel of our Lord in word and deed in the wider community.**