

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH CELEBRATING 112 YEARS OF MINISTRY



Redeemer Lutheran Church

Hulmeville and Woodland Avenues  
Penndel, PA 19047

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## Council Update

As the call process requires the Call Committee and Council Members uphold strict confidentiality, a full detailed update is not possible at this point in time. With that being said, please be reassured that progress is being made and we request your patience and trust that the Call Committee and church leadership to be doing the work required with all due diligence.

Don't mistake  
God's patience for  
His absence. His timing is  
perfect, and His  
presence is constant.  
He's always with you!  
Deuteronomy 31:6



### REFORMATION NEWS

#### “Mini” Reformation / Martin Luther Library

Redeemer now has a small collection of books and two movies concerning Martin Luther in the Parish Hall. These materials may be checked out, using the cards included. And, returned after a reasonable time so that the church continues to be able to lend to other members.

“For the world is full of God and his works. He is everywhere present with his gifts.”



..... Martin Luther

## **P r a y e r   C o n c e r n s**

***Members:*** : Marian Hemphill, Sharon Degen, Marty Ditcher, Dee Grover, Ruth Samuels, David Short, Mike Dunn, Christina Jackson.

***Relatives and Friends of our Members:*** Dennis Green, Mary Gruppioni, Kelli Kane, Dottie Nelms, Dimitri Herr, Lazarus Kondyra, Florence Bakich, Linda Tiberi, Larry Krusen, Joel Furman, Amanda Teszek, Jeff Lippincott, Danielle Camilli, Ray Gould.

***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. Donald Trump, Our U.S. Senators, The Supreme Court, and the House of Representatives.



## **P r a y e r   I n i t i a t i v e   f o r   F e b r u a r y**

**On February 12th we will pray for:**

Danny Vile, Jeannie & William Vitale, Gretchen Waldkoenig, Joanne Waldkoenig, Ken Ward, Pearl Ward, Josephine Weiss, Edith Williams, Robert & Phyllis Winkler, Linda & Fred Winter, Fred & Annamarie Winter, and children Ciara and Aaron, and Thomas Zerambo.

**On February 26th we will pray for:**

William & Diane Anderson, William & Stacy Anderson, Jr., David & Stacy Austin and children David and Avery, Walter & Margaret Schulze, Patti Balasco and sons Thomas and Christopher, Linda & Bryan Bartleson and daughters Stacy and Julie, and Sandy Weasner.

## February Events

- ♡ 2/5/17: Worship and Sunday School 9:30am
- ♡ 2/12/17: Worship service led by Youth 9:30am
- ♡ 2/19/17: Worship and Sunday School 9:30am
- ♡ 2/26/17: Worship (Transfiguration Sunday) and Sunday School 9:30 with Burying of the Alleluia's and brunch following worship

## Events Coming in March

- \* 3/1/17: Ash Wednesday; Soup Supper 5:30pm Worship 7pm
- \* 3/5/17: Worship and Sunday School 9:30am
- \* 3/8/17: Soup Supper 5:30pm, Midweek Worship 7pm
- \* 3/12/17: Worship service led by Youth 9:30am
- \* 3/15/17: Soup Supper 5:30pm, Midweek Worship 7pm
- \* 3/19/17: Worship and Sunday School 9:30am
- \* 3/22/17: Soup Supper 5:30pm, Midweek Worship 7pm
- \* 3/26/17: Worship and Sunday School 9:30am
- \* 3/29/17: Worship and Sunday School 9:30am

## Past Events

- \* 57 people attended our Shared Meal Ministry on Tuesday 1/3/17. They enjoyed a delicious meal of sauerkraut and pork donated by Beth Bauder of the Coffee Cup Café.
- \* Forty Members enjoyed delicious food at the Cookoff hosted by the Evangelism Committee on Saturday 1/14/17. See the article and pictures from the event in the Evangelism section of this newsletter.



## Parish Register

Dear Friends of Redeemer Lutheran Church,



BCHG Board of Directors, staff and client families wish to thank you for your generous donation of 30 Christmas gifts you have collected with your Giving Tree for our shelter families; 18 Christmas Ornaments and the \$180 in Redners gift cards for our Penndel shelter.

So many families in our Bucks County community are struggling to make ends meet and your generosity means so much to these families in need. Our mission is to strengthen families that are struggling and help them on the road to self-sufficiency through housing, food and other related social services.

Your support in our mission and choosing BCHG for your donation is greatly appreciated. BCHG has been serving homeless and impoverished residents since 1979. Thank you for your support in helping us to accomplish our work with our less fortunate neighbors.

Sincerely,  
Kathleen Dorrian, Client Resource Coordinator

A Christmas card was received.....

May the Christmas season fill your home with joy,  
Your heart with love and your life with laughter.

Thanks for everything you do. Please thank the mayor for us also!  
God Bless everyone.

The McBride-Addesa Family  
Collin, Camerson, Victoria, Alexandra, Autumn, Dawn and mom-mom  
Carole.

# Thank You

## Parish Register

A Thank You card was received.....

Thanks so much!

It's a nicer world because of thoughtful people like you.

Dear People of Redeemer,

It was such a joy for my family and me to worship with you Christmas Eve. I would like to thank you for your kind and thoughtful gifts and Christmas card.

I hope that you all had a blessed and joyful Christmas and a joy and hope-filled New Years.

I look forward to being with you again in late January.

May the peace and love of Christ Jesus be with you all.

In Christian love,  
Pastor Wende



A Loss  
in our Church  
Family

Our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Alice Skinner who passed away on December 8, 2016. Her service was held at Redeemer on 12/17/2016.

To the Hands for Healing Volunteers at St. Mary's Medical Center:

On behalf of my father and family I'm delighted to write to you even in this time of sorrow. Your Prayer of Blessing and afghan were more warmly received than the average family. Dr. Thomas Halpin, to whom you presented a blue and white afghan, had a favorite one in multi-colors that a patient had made for him probably 30 years or more ago. (probably 40). Anyhow your gift was more than visually appealing and physical warm; it was an enrichment of his day and provoked fond memories in all of us of dad napping with it and making blanket forts.



## Parish Register

In a few days Dad had moved to oncology and the volunteers returned to offer much appreciated neck pillow that was helping him breathe 24 hours later to present they are comforting Mrs. Halpin in her time of mourning.

Bless you each and everyone who produce more comfort than you will ever hear of from patients friends and family alike who are also inspired by your generosity.

Best Regards,  
Jeanne Marie Halpin Nakano, grateful daughter and  
The Halpin family

### *Stitching Angels*

You just read a letter that was sent to St. Mary's Hospital about how thankful the family was to have received the blanket and pillow. Although it may not have been stitched by the Stitching Angels of Redeemer it helps to describe the emotions felt by the family who receives these items. Stitching Angels makes an impact.

Please join us on Thursday evenings at 7pm in the church.



## Parish Register

Redeemer Lutheran Church is still collecting tapes from Redner Supermarkets and Brown's Shop Rite Stores. We do receive a percentage of money from these tapes which goes to the Current Fund. Please try to keep them current. There is a basket on the shelf in the Narthex for the tapes.

Thank you for your help.

Katherine Patelunas



**Redeemer Youth  
will be collecting  
for this event on  
Sunday 2/5/17.**

### **Mission Statement**

Using the energy of the Super Bowl to mobilize youth in a united national effort to care for people in their local communities who are hungry and those in need.

### **Vision Statement**

Transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

We believe:

- The idea for Souper Bowl of Caring is a gift from God
- Young people have the ability to serve and should be given opportunities to lead their communities in helping others
- Every dollar collected through Souper Bowl of Caring should be donated directly to a charity selected by each participating group
- People of all backgrounds and beliefs can work together
- Hunger and poverty have a negative impact on individuals and the communities in which they live, yet there is joy in serving and giving to those in need

The excitement and energy surrounding the Super Bowl can be used to engage young people in service while producing lasting hope for all people



## Transfiguration Sunday

### Matthew 17 1-8 The Transfiguration

**17** Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I<sup>[a]</sup> will make three dwellings<sup>[b]</sup> here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved;<sup>[c]</sup> with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup> And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.



Jesus' Transfiguration

On Sunday, February 29, 2017 the congregation is invited to worship service beginning at 9:30am followed by a Brunch at 10:30am. Our Brunch has been part of our "Fat Sunday" celebration for the past fourteen years which is organized in order to draw our attention to the Lenten Season that begins on March 1st with a Soup supper at 5:30pm followed by the Ash Wednesday service at 7pm.

If you plan to attend the Brunch on February 29<sup>th</sup>, please complete the reservation slip and place it in the box located in the Narthex.

------(cut along here)-----

I plan to attend the Pancake Brunch  
February 29, 2017

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

No. attending: \_\_\_\_\_



## Evangelism

In honor of the 500 year Reformation this year's Annual Cook-off held Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup> had a German theme. The cook-off was well attended and the vast variety of food was delicious. Marty Ditcher made the Luther Roses that we used to decorate and Rita Solt made the centerpieces which contained the German Flag and a picture of Martin Luther, making the social hall festive. One of the highlights of the evening was an interactive power point presentation by Christopher Palladino who discussed the history of the Luther Reformation. Thank you Chris for sharing your knowledge with us and we look forward to hearing the continuation of your presentation at another event.

As always, everyone who attended the cook-off had the pleasure of tasting all of the delicious food and voted for the best appetizer, entrée and dessert. This year each winner received a gift bag containing cookies and candy from Germany. Thank you Karen for going shopping with me to pick-up the supplies.

The lucky winners were:

Best Appetizer – Karen Kondrk for her German Cucumber Salad

Best Entrée – Dolores Danielson for her Pork & Sauerkraut

Best Dessert - Dot Keller for her Apple Raisin Crisp

Honorable mention to Alexis (Dolores & Marty's granddaughter) for the German Chocolate Cake she helped make.... it was very good.

Special thanks to the Evangelism Committee (John, Edna, John, Karen, Gail, Linda and Rita) for hosting the event and thank you to everyone who attended making this Annual Cook-off a successful Thrivent sponsored event.

Respectfully submitted  
Sandy Weasner  
Evangelism Chair



## WELCA

### WELCA NEWS

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Devotions: Kay Robinson

Refreshments: Kay Robinson and Dolores Hoppe

# February Server Schedule

February 2017	9:30am Worship	Notes
<b>2/5/2017</b>	<b>Setting 3 Communion</b>	Pastor Wende Bleam
Acolyte/Crucifer	Patti Finn	
Lay Assistant	Bill Anderson	
Altar Guild	Ilene Kersten, Arlene Shecter	
Counters	Marsie McMullen, Marilyn Hrywnak	
<b>2/12/2017</b>	<b>Service of the Word</b>	Youth Sunday/ Pastor Schmidt-Lange
Acolyte/Crucifer	Georgia Woodford, Damian Thomas	
Lay Assistant	Patrick O'Connell	
Readers	Tyler Thomas, Abby Clark, Alan Ryan	
Altar Guild	Ilene Kersten, Arlene Shecter	
Counters	Diane Anderson, Bill & Stacy Anderson	
<b>2/19/2017</b>	<b>Setting 10 Communion</b>	Pastor Schmidt-Lange
Acolyte/Crucifer	Billy Clark	
Lay Assistant	Marty Ditcher	
Altar Guild	Gail Blinstrub, Joan Dunn	
Counters	Diane Anderson, Bill & Stacy Anderson	
<b>2/26/2017</b>	<b>Service of the Word</b>	Burying the Alleluia's Pastor Wende Bleam
Acolyte/Crucifer	Georgia Woodford, Damian Thomas	
Lay Assistant	Lori Meola	
Altar Guild	Gail Blinstrub, Joan Dunn	
Counters	Diane Anderson, Bill & Stacy Anderson	

## Christian Education

It's February and the children of Redeemer Sunday school are very busy planning and preparing for youth in worship and Transfiguration Sunday!

As you know Transfiguration is the day Jesus took Peter, James and his brother John up a high mountain, where Jesus face shone and Moses and Elijah appeared talking to Jesus.

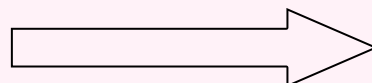
It is also the day we begin preparation for Lent by burying the Alleluias. This has become a tradition at Redeemer where you, the congregation, as you enter the church and are seated, pray about the upcoming Lenten season and color your Alleluia to reflect the journey of Lent and the joyful celebration of Jesus' resurrection. On EASTER, the Alleluias will be resurrected and adorn our worship space as a sign of Jesus' rising from the dead.

Our lesson this month for the elementary classes will focus on Joseph imprisoned and interpreting dreams. Pre -school will be meeting for class and participate in worship following the SCS schedule. Confirmation students will report to class February 5<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> and will serve in worship the 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

Families of 5<sup>th</sup> graders and up who wish to receive First Holy Communion instruction will meet on Sunday February 26<sup>th</sup> after SCS at 11 am with Trish and Chris Ryan and Denise Robinson for a brief welcome, and hear what to expect in regards to the program. Please inform Denise Robinson of your desire to participate.

Adult bible studies are going well led by Diane Anderson Monday evenings at 7 pm and Ilene Kersten on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays at 10 am. Both groups always welcome anyone interested in learning about and discussing the bible with their peers.

**February 5<sup>th</sup> is the SOUPER BOWL OF CARING** when we will once again have a free will offering to be donated to our hunger initiative.



## LOOKING AHEAD ---

Mark your calendar for **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL- JULY 24-28, 2017, 6-8:15 PM, More information coming soon; Stay tuned!**

## DATES TO REMEMBER

5<sup>th</sup> Joseph and interpreting dreams; Genesis 37: 1-11 (Technicolor dream coat) **VBS meeting at 11 am**

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING COLLECTION

7<sup>th</sup> shared meal ministry

12<sup>th</sup> Youth in worship

19<sup>th</sup> Joseph and his dreams; Genesis 37: 1-11 (Technicolor dream coat)

26<sup>th</sup> Transfiguration Sunday –burying the alleluias; **First Holy Communion meeting at 11 am**

### VE MY VALENTINE

(a Runny Babbit Poem by Alice Skinner)

I love you in the munshine I love you under the soon,  
I love you in the norming and in the nafternoon.



I love you in the spall I love you in the fring,  
I love you in the sinter and in the wummering.



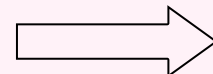
Band 'acause I love you all the tay and all the dime  
Today I'm asking you to  
**VE MY VALENTINE!**



Again, thanks for inspiration to Shel Silverstein and his "Runny Babbit A Billy Sook" published by HarperCollins in 2005. Illustration is from the poem "Runny's Rig Bomanse" in that book. (Alice Skinner, January 17, 2012)

**Written by:  
Alice Skinner**

**Shared with all of  
you in loving  
memory of  
Alice.**



## Learning about God at Redeemer





# Sharing God's Bounty

## February

### Have a Heart

February: the month devoted to love. Stores are filled with heart-shaped boxes of candy and heart-shaped cards and vases of flowers with heart-shaped gift tags. All this is available for the consumer so that he can find the appropriate expression of his devotion to his loved one. If that expression of love has been preceded by a year of thoughtful and loving words and deeds, it is welcomed and cherished by the recipient. If not, it is just an empty ritual, done out of duty rather than true devotion.

Our relationship to the Lord is similar. God, too, desires our sincere devotion, not empty lip service. *"The Lord says: 'These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me' "* (Isaiah 29:13).

Stewardship is serving, helping, giving, but love is the basis for stewardship. Without love, our good deeds are empty and without merit. The first act of true stewardship is to *"love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength"* (Deuteronomy 6:5). Jesus called this the most important commandment (Mark 12:29, 30). With that love for the Lord in us, we are enabled to be good stewards. Then we can do acts of good stewardship, acts of true devotion. We are enabled to . . .

*"Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart"* (Deuteronomy 15:10).

*"Carefully observe [his decrees and laws] with all your heart and with all your soul"* (Deuteronomy 26:16).

*"Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality"* (Romans 12:13).

*"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men"* (Colossians 3:23).



God, through Ezekiel, promised, *“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws”* (Ezekiel 36:26-27). This promise he has fulfilled in his Son, Jesus, who has followed his Father’s decrees and kept his laws for us. As we strive to live fruitful lives of stewardship, at the same time, we rest in Christ who has been the perfect steward for us.

*Tithing is an outgrowth of a sense of thankfulness. Since God’s mercies are constant and unfailing, our response should be of the same nature in proportion to our ability. The “grace of gratitude” has high rating in the Christian standard of virtues. It is developed by saying “Thank you” to God. At the entrance to life abounding stands the cross of self-denial.*

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## Finance

### Financial Condition for the period ending December 31, 2016

Current Fund Income	\$109,819
Donations/Reimbursements	\$ 14,177
Expenses	<u>\$125,925</u>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ (1,929)</b>

### Restricted Fund Balances

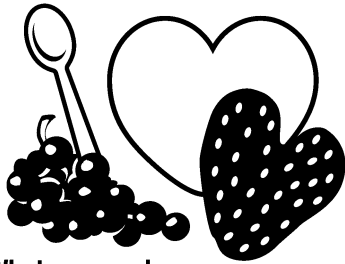
Building Maintenance	\$5972.00
Raise The Roof	\$17,745.00
Search Fund	\$470.00

Respectfully, Kim Overbagh, Treasurer

## February Kids Pages

### Heart FRUIT SALAD

Make this cute, healthy snack for your loved ones on Valentine's Day.

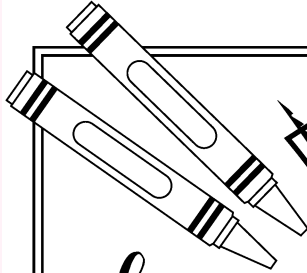


#### What you need:

- Adult help
- Washed fruit (watermelon, cantaloupe, strawberries, grapes)
- Knife and cutting board
- Small heart-shaped cookie cutter
- Bowl and spoon
- Mint leaves (optional)

#### What you do:

1. Slice the watermelon and use the cookie cutter to make heart shapes.
2. Slice the cantaloupe and cut chunks into heart shapes.
3. Remove strawberry stems and cut berries in half. Cut a small V atop each half to form a heart.
4. Cut grapes in half.
5. Place fruit in bowl and stir. Sprinkle strips on the salad. Enjoy!



### PUZZLE

#### Love your neighbor as yourself

Valentine's Day is the perfect opportunity to live out God's love. How does Jesus say we should treat other people?

**Directions:** Find a hidden word in each sentence. For example, "the" is hidden here: (12) "It's Harry's hat he stole." The (12) means the hidden word starts on the 12<sup>th</sup> letter (ignore punctuation). Use the answers to complete Matthew 19:19, NIV.

(1) You really like ice cream! \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

(16) Carly has a really fat hermit crab. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

(21) My favorite animals are moth, ermine and eels. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

(4) "Hello, Vera!" called Joseph. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

(11) When horses neigh, boredom reigns. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

(17) Their daughter, Kara, sat patiently. \_ \_ \_

(6) "That's yours, elf!" the fairy yelled. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_



"Honor \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ and  
\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ , and \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ your



\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ."

Matthew 19:19, NIV

Answer: "Honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 19:19, NIV

## February Birthday's and Anniversaries

1<sup>st</sup> Anthony Trapani, Jr.  
Cathy Hemphill  
4<sup>th</sup> Joan Dunn  
6<sup>th</sup> Kylie Slaughter  
8<sup>th</sup> Helen Susko  
Donald Robinson  
9<sup>th</sup> Barbara Kissinger  
10<sup>th</sup> Sandy Feldbauer  
Michael William Ruth  
11<sup>th</sup> Kendra Mason  
15<sup>th</sup> Michael Griffith  
16<sup>th</sup> Lisa Thomas  
17<sup>th</sup> Charles Kissinger  
21<sup>st</sup> Lois Rinehimer  
Ashley Thomas  
22<sup>nd</sup> Gretchen Waldkoenig  
23<sup>rd</sup> Trevor Brownlee  
24<sup>th</sup> Lois Hershberger  
26<sup>th</sup> William Parfitt

### February Anniversaries

2/28/1970 Fred and Linda Winter



**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.**