

REDEEMER LUTHERAN 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

215-757-2724

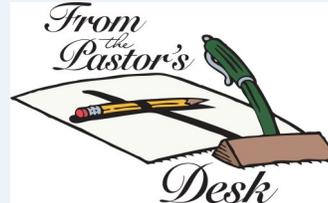
Email: redeemerlutheranchurchpenndel@verizon.net

Website: redeemerlutheranpenndel.org



Pastor's Page

Update on the Transition Process



There is a lot of progress to report about the transition process, as Redeemer Lutheran moves toward the selection of the next permanent pastor.

Visioning Process. The Visioning Process is now completed. Of the 44 persons participating in the Visioning Process, 36 were able to attend the Plenary Session on May 22. The results are shown elsewhere in this newsletter: the prioritized "Vision" for Redeemer in 3 to 5 years and the prioritized "Pastoral Profile" for the next permanent pastor. Those proposals will be submitted to a special congregational meeting on June 19 for official approval. Many thanks to all who participated!

Congregation Profile (Paperwork Needed for Synod). Council has been working intensively in preparing the Congregational Profile for the synod. John Slaughter is coordinating this effort on behalf of council. This council work included two special meetings devoted entirely to transition matters. Council is assisted by a Transition Team chaired by Patricia Gallagher. Many thanks to council for its efforts and to the members of the Transition Team (Pat Gallagher, Denise Brad, Wayne Degen, Marty Ditcher, Karen Kondrk, and John Slaughter) for their work.

Call Committee. Council has spent much time on the selection of a Call Committee, first deciding what characteristics it needed for members of the Call Committee and then choosing and approaching the members of the six-member committee. The Call Committee consists of Marge Einkenkel, Gail Blinstrub, Marty Ditcher, Chris Ryan, Patricia Gallagher, and Denise Robinson, with Brian Schmidt as alternate. Please keep them in your prayers.

Council's goal is to submit the completed Congregational Profile to the synod as soon as possible, hopefully in July. This will require a lot of further work by council and the Transition Team but they are working very

hard. We think it can be accomplished in July.

Personally, I was gratified to see the amount of energy and application displayed in each of the six Visioning Groups. The results of that work were on display at the Plenary Session May 22. Afterwards, a Polishing Committee did further work to produce the final draft of the proposed "Vision" and "Pastoral Profile" included in this newsletter. That Polishing Committee was composed of two representatives from each Visioning Group (Diane Anderson, Christopher Ryan, Cindy Oser, Lori Meola, Karen Kondrk, Gail Blinstrub, Dolores Danielson, Deb Farnham, Denise Goccia, Marty Ditcher, Beth Bowe, Henry Pfeil). Again, many thanks to all who worked so hard.

I urge all members and friends of Redeemer to continue to pray for the members of church council. I especially urge prayers for those members of Redeemer who have accepted the challenging task of serving on the Call Committee.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Richard Mathisen

Notes on Worship Matters from Pastor Mathisen

I want to thank many individuals who have approached me with comments and suggestions about worship matters. These contacts have led to actions, or at least discussions, that have been helpful. For example, there were concerns about difficulty in hearing announcements or prayer requests made by members, so we now ask persons to stand up when possible so they can be heard better. We now ring a bell at 9:20 to allow conversation to continue but also recognize that other members may be preparing their minds and hearts for worship, with the Prelude marking the start of worship. Communion is served at the altar rail on 1st and 5th Sundays as has been Redeemer's policy. I've been working on the coordination of getting worship started on time. And there are other items under discussion in the Worship and Music Committee and in Council. All of these were responses to comments or suggestions from members. These may seem like minor matters, but we do seek to provide the best possible worship experience to worship our Lord. Your feedback is always appreciated!

Pastor Mathisen

June Events

6/4/16: Saturday, Community Fair and Flea Market in Penndel and at Redeemer.

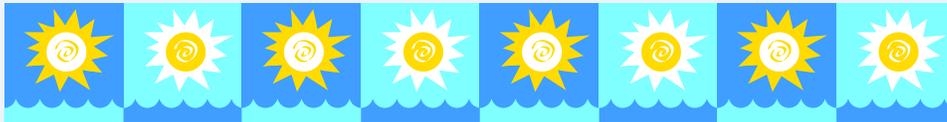
6/5/16: Worship 9:30am, Communion

6/12/16: Worship 9:30am Service of the Word

6/18/16: World Wide Knit in Public Day at Redeemer 11-2

6/19/16: Worship with communion, followed by picnic and congregational meeting to share visioning results. Father's Day, and graduate recognition.

6/26/16: Worship 9:30am, Service of the Word, Baptism



Events Coming in July

7/3/16: Worship 9:30am, communion

7/10/16: Worship 9:30am (service of the word) followed by Anniversary Brunch (112 years!)

7/17/16: Worship 9:30am, communion

7/18/16-7/22/16: VBS, Cave Quest 6-8:15pm

7/24/16: Worship 9:30am, service of the word

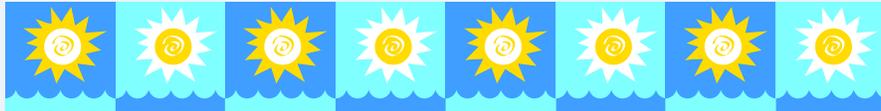
7/31/16: Worship 9:30am, communion

Pastor News

Pastor Mathisen will be away Monday, June 6, through Monday, June 13, for continuing education. He is attending two national conferences of interim pastors, the National Association of Lutheran Interim Pastors (NALIP), for which he chairs the NALIP Curriculum Review Task Force, and the Interim Ministry Network (IMN), an interdenominational group of interim pastors. He has arranged for a supply pastor for June 12 and for pastoral coverage as neces-

Past Events

- ◆ Shared Meal served 66 people on May 3, 2016.
- ◆ Pastor Mathisen attended the Synod Assembly on 5/6 and 5/7/16.
- ◆ The Food Pantry received a large donation of food items collected by the Letter Carriers on May 14th.
- ◆ Visioning groups (6) were completed and Plenary Session held on May 22nd.
- ◆ Redeemer Youth participated in the Penndel/Hulmeville Memorial Day Parade on May 28, 2016 and collected donations for our military troops



Council Highlights

The Six Visioning Groups finished up in early May. On May 22nd Visioning participants gathered to review their Visions for the Church, and their Pastoral Profiles. Discussions took place and a final vote was cast. The finalized versions of the Vision and the Pastoral Profile are listed on the following pages for your review.

On June 19th we gather as a church group for worship, celebration of our graduates, Father's Day, the church picnic and a congregational meeting. At that time the congregation will be presented with the final vision and profile.

See Pastor Mathisen's Pages for additional information on all the detail of the Transition process.

Everyone is working very hard, and we thank the congregation for your ongoing support!

**Prioritized “VISION”
for
Redeemer Lutheran Church**

Overall: An Environment for Christian Spirituality

1st Priority: Increase attendance / membership

- a. Improve website / technology
- b. Build membership through diversity

2nd Priority: Building maintenance / replace roof

3rd Priority: Keep children involved / increase SCS attendance

4th Priority: Maintain and expand traditions and activities, such as:

- a. Community outreach
- b. Social ministry
- c. Music programs

5th Priority: Increase financial stability

[From May 22 Plenary Session, edited by Polishing Committee]



Prioritized “PASTORAL PROFILE”

for

Redeemer Lutheran Church

1st Priority: Committed to Redeemer’s vision and members

- a. A calling, not a job
- b. Actively involved

2nd Priority: Compassionate / Attentive to the needs of the congregation

- a. Visitation
- b. Phone Calls
- c. Regular Office Hours

3rd Priority: Interesting and engaging preacher / Bible-based sermons relating to our lives

4th Priority: Able to relate to all ages and various backgrounds

5th Priority: Personality traits

- a. Sense of humor, upbeat, friendly, positive outlook
- b. Creative and innovative, fresh ideas, engaging

6th Priority: Deal with conflict in a positive way

7th Priority: Reaching out to unchurched persons, bringing them to a Christian understanding

[From May 22 Plenary Session, edited by Polishing Committee]

Prayer Concerns

Members: Doris Parfitt, Marian Hemphill, Marsie McMullen, Christina Jackson, Danny Vile, Lillian Vile, Sharon Degen, Toni Carra, Ruth Schwartz, Marty Ditcher, Alice Skinner, Dee Grover.

Relatives and Friends of our Members: John Hrywnak, Lawrence Patelunas, Dennis Green, John Dilorio, Mary Gruppioni.

Relatives and Friends of our Members Serving in the Military: Ron Skoczy-las, 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 June

On June 12th we will pray for: Ashley Thomas, Derek & Lisa Thomas and children Damian, Tyler and Blake, Ronald & Dawn Thomas, Thelma Thorsen, Danny Vile, Jeannie Vitale, Gretchen Waldkoenig, Joanne Waldkoenig, Ken Ward, Pearl Ward, Sandy Weasner, and Josephine Weiss.

On June 26th we will pray for: Charlene Williams, Robert & Phyllis Winkler, Linda & Fred Winter, Fred & Annmarie Winter, Jr. and children Ciara and Aaron, Tony & Jocelyn Yepello, Thomas Zerambo, Bill & Diane Anderson, Bill & Stacy Anderson, Jr. Patti, Balasco, Christopher Balasco and Tom Balasco.

Committee Reports - Finance

<u>Financial Condition for the period ending</u>	<u>May 15, 2016</u>
Current Fund Income	\$43,473
Donations/Reimbursements	\$ 4800
Expenses	<u>\$51,643</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (3,370)

Roof Fund Current Amount: \$14,441

Please prayerfully consider the needs of Redeemer.

Respectfully, Kim Overbagh, Treasurer

Committee Reports

WELCA

THIS SUMMER WELCA will meet on June 21, July 19, and August 16 (the third Tuesday of the month) at 7:00 PM in the parish hall to make crafts to be sold at the bazaar on November 5, 2016. No formal meetings – just chatting and crafts. Please join us!!!

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at 7:00 PM

Best Wishes for a Great Summer,
Rita Solt, President

Youth Group

Thanks to Mike Parker, Denise Goccia and Pastor Mathisen the skit on Mother's day was awesome. Great JOB everyone.

We collected monetary donations and items at the Memorial Day Parade on May 28th. We will be sending out several boxes to the troops overseas. Thanks to all who walked with us and help collect the items/monetary donations along the parade route.

We will be selling water, soda, chips and pretzels on June 4 for the Penndel Community Day.

Thanks for all the continued love & support

Jessica Piel

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Summer is here! At least that is what the calendar says! Sunday school will celebrate their last day June 5th with a service project and final lesson on discipleship.

It's been a great year for the kids at Sunday school, they have grown and shined in class and in their leadership skills in the worship service. We are all very honored to be part of their journey with Jesus.

As you go about your summer fun, remember Redeemer is here for worship Sunday mornings and June 19th is our annual picnic.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for CAVE QUEST VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL; JULY 18-22, 2016; 6PM TO 8:15 PM. At Cave Quest the kids will go deep into the bible to learn about the light of Jesus. There will be fun things to do in games, stories and the science lab along with snacks and funny skits and great songs. **Redeemer is planning a great week so please invite your friends to come join the fun. Look for the registration form in this newsletter.**

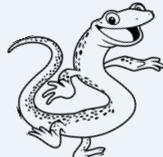
**Cave Quest Vacation Bible School: Monday - Friday 7/18-7/22/16
6:00pm-8:15pm. Call the church office at 215-757-2724 or send an
email to redemerlutheranchurchpenndel@verizon.net for more
information or to register.**

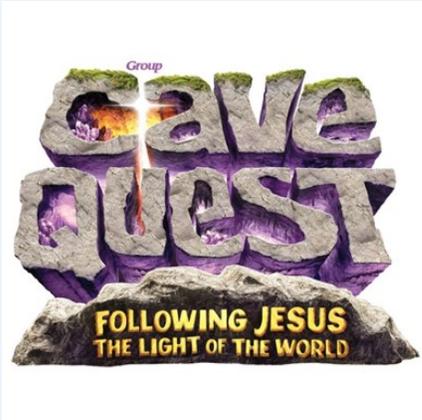
To register online go to the following site.

<https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/redemerpenndel>



Registration \$10 per child; \$25- 3 or more siblings





REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
HULMEVILLE AND WOODLAND
AVENUES
PENNDDEL PA 19047
215-757-2724
JULY 18-22, 2016 FROM 6-8:15 PM
REGISTER ONLINE AT
[HTTPS://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/redeemerpenndel](https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/redeemerpenndel)

CAVE QUEST VBS JULY 18-22, 2016 REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

NAME _____ AGE _____

GRADE FINISHED _____

ADDRESS

PARENT

PHONE _____

CONTACT PERSON IF DIFFERENT FROM PARENT

PHONE _____

DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE ANY ALLERGIES?

PHYSICAL RESTRICTIONS WE SHOULD BE AWARE AWARE OF:

REGISTRATION \$10 _____ \$25 _____ (3 or more siblings)

News and Notes and Thank You's

Dear Redeemer Choir,

I would like to thank Tony Otlowski and his choir for singing every Sunday at the church services. It really is very nice to listen to them. It adds to the church service and I appreciate their time and devotion to this endeavor. Thank you. You sound great!



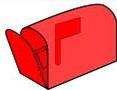
Edna Schwenk

Dear Redeemer Bell Choir,

I would like to thank the bell choirs for their continued ringing and to Marty Ditcher and her directing. The bells sound great and Marty has such patience with the choir and the ringers. I really do appreciate her working with them. Keep up the good work!



Edna Schwenk



PLEASE NOTE THE
NEW ADDRESS &
PHONE NUMBER

Ruth Samuels
11 Treeline Road
Holland, PA 18866
267-688-2481

Carol Samuels-Stout
11 Treeline Road
Holland, PA 18866
267-688-2481



News and Notes



On Saturday, March 26, a crew of Redeemer's people worked very hard to beautify the church grounds for Easter and spring. Weeds were pulled, dead leaves, pine cones, and sticker balls were cleaned away. Then black mulch - which makes all our daffodils and hyacinths look their best - was put down. Grass was mowed. Thank you to these people who gave up their Saturday for cleaning the yard and flower beds so they are ready for Easter morning and the nice weather to come.

Andy Martinsen	Don Solt	Rita Solt
Brian Schmidt	Scott Ditcher	Karen Kondrk
Lou Oser	Diane Anderson	John Schwenk

Stitching Angels

The following items were blessed on April 24, 2016 during worship. The ladies of the Stitching Angels created these items.

6	Bereavement blanket
1	Bereavement blanket with hat
6	Blankets of all sizes
12	Hats with booties
51	Hats of all sizes
6	Hospice blankets
14	Scarves for the homeless
96	Total items



Stitching Angels, continued

Today we attended the volunteer luncheon at Williamson's Restaurant in Willow Grove. I think Marty Ditcher will also send pics. Attendees: Linda Winter, Rita Solt, Dolores Danielson, Edna Schwenk, Marty Ditcher and Helen Susko.



Calendar Luncheon

On Saturday April 30, 2016 135 members and friends joined together for a fun lunch fundraiser for Redeemer. Each table was assigned a month, and then the hostess/hostesses/host/hosts decorated the table with a theme. This event raised \$1943.00 for Redeemer's current fund.



More Calendar Luncheon pictures



The tables were decorated beautifully, the food was delicious and the friends and hospitality was AWESOME!

WELCA Trip



On Tuesday April 12th several members of WELCA visited Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament and National Shrine of Saint Katharine Drexel in Bensalem.

Pictured are: Ilene Kersten, Marilyn Hrywnak, Dolores Danielson, Rita Solt, Edna Schwenk, Linda Winter, Peg Manrodt, Diane Anderson and Helen Susko.

Mallmark Bell Tour

May 4th nine members from Redeemer toured the Malmark English handbell factory in Plumsteadville, PA. Everyone enjoyed the informative tour, then we stopped for lunch at the Pineville Tavern. Pictured below: Lissy Ditcher, Marty Ditcher, Diane Anderson, Cindy O'Connell, Jordan Ditcher, Beth Connolly, Scott Ditcher, Joanne Waldkoenig, Deb Farnham.



Bells come in all sizes!. From the smallest to the largest!

As another Handbell season is over I want to thank all the ringers for their patience and dedication. The first half of the year was rough, but we made it through with flying colors. Thanks to Tony for stepping in as director, and I especially want to thank the congregation for their continued support of the Handbell program.

Ringingly,

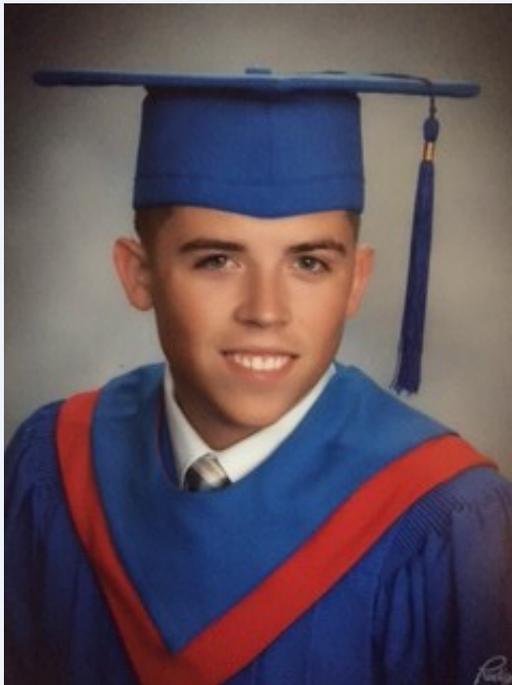
Marty Ditcher

Redeemer Graduates



Julie Bartleson

Julie Anne Bartleson graduated from Bloomsburg University on Saturday May 7th with a degree in Marketing. She will be leaving for a 6 month internship at Walt Disney world in Orlando, Florida on August 20th. She is the daughter of Bryan and Linda Bartleson. Please keep her in your prayers as she explores career opportunities.



Nicholas Morris

Nicholas Morris is graduating from Neshaminy Hgh School and will be attending Penn State University in the fall. He will be attending Smeal College of Business at Penn State and pursuing a degree in Finance. He is the son of Michelle and Garnett Morris, and grandson of Marian Hemphill.

Redeemer Graduates



Kyra O'Connell

Kyra is graduating from Neshaminy High School and will be attending Temple University in the fall.

Kyra is an active member of the Neshaminy High School Band. She is the daughter of Richard and Jennifer O'Connell.



William Parfitt

William is graduating from Neshaminy High School this year. He is going to attend Bucks County Community College in the fall.

William is the son of Anne Parfitt-Clee and John Clee. He is the grandson of Doris Parfitt.

Food Pantry Updates

New Appliance in the Food Pantry

Back in January, we received notification from the Bucks County Opportunity Council that they had received funding from the Pierce Family Foundation to purchase 18 refrigerators for food distribution sites in Bucks County. The project is called the Keeping Food Fresh initiative and the goal of the project is to increase the amount of fresh produce being distributed to low income families. The refrigerator is valued at approximately \$800.00. If we were interested, we could fill out the paperwork to receive one. I decided that since there are bigger food pantries that serve more people, I would not apply so that they could receive one. In March we received another notification that they still had 3 left. At this point we decided, why not! So I applied and we were lucky enough to get one of the last units. It is a brand new unit. What is really neat about it is that during the time when produce is in season and being distributed, we now have a place to put everything so that it lasts longer. The even nicer thing about the unit is that, like right now, when there is no produce being distributed, it turns into a freezer! This means we can pick up more frozen meat when they have distributions. It really is a wonderful addition to our food pantry!

Karen Kondrk & John Slaughter



Legacy Story - Jeannie Vitale



Jeannie was born in Baltimore, Maryland. Her father worked for a trucking company there and was transferred to Pennsylvania when she was four years old. They moved to Levittown when the homes were first built, in the Highland Park section.

Jeannie graduated from Neshaminy High School in 1971 and went to work for a physician right out of school.

Jeannie met her husband, Bill, while in high school and they were married in 1974. They have two children, Dana and Bill. They have three grandchildren, who most of you have met, Evie, Seamus and Rogue Olivia.

Jeannie decided to return to school and graduated from nursing school in 1994. She worked nights at St. Mary Medical Center for four years but decided that night work was not for her. She was not a "day sleeper". After working in a nursing center, Manor Care, in Yardley for two

years, she had the opportunity to work with Heartland Hospice. She worked with Heartland Hospice in the nursing center and then transferred to work with them full time. She was a RN Liaison for Hospice for twelve years.

While working with Heartland Hospice, she was asked to seek out an opportunity to do a presentation on hospice care to either a church or senior center. She knew about Redeemer Lutheran Church as her children went to Our Lady of Grace School, which is right across the street. She decided to stop at the church office one day. She met with Pastor Esther and Pastor gave her the name of the woman to call to set up a presentation. She did the presentation at WELCA, and met so many wonderful people, and Linda Winter invited her to attend church and bible study. She did both and joined Redeemer Lutheran Church shortly after.

Jeannie had not been attending church and she was baptized Lutheran, then went to the Catholic church while her children were in school, but felt she needed to return to "her Lutheran" upbringing. She was so glad she had to seek out Redeemer Lutheran Church for her Heartland Hospice presentation!

While working at Heartland, one of the places she called on to discuss hospice care was St. Mary Medical Center. She worked with the Palliative Care team to give them information on hospice care in the community. She knew these girls well, as she had worked with them in the past and she felt that if the opportunity came again, she would love to return to the hospital setting. On one of her visits to St. Mary Medical Center she asked if they thought there would ever be an opportunity for her to work with them in the Palliative Care Department. She had

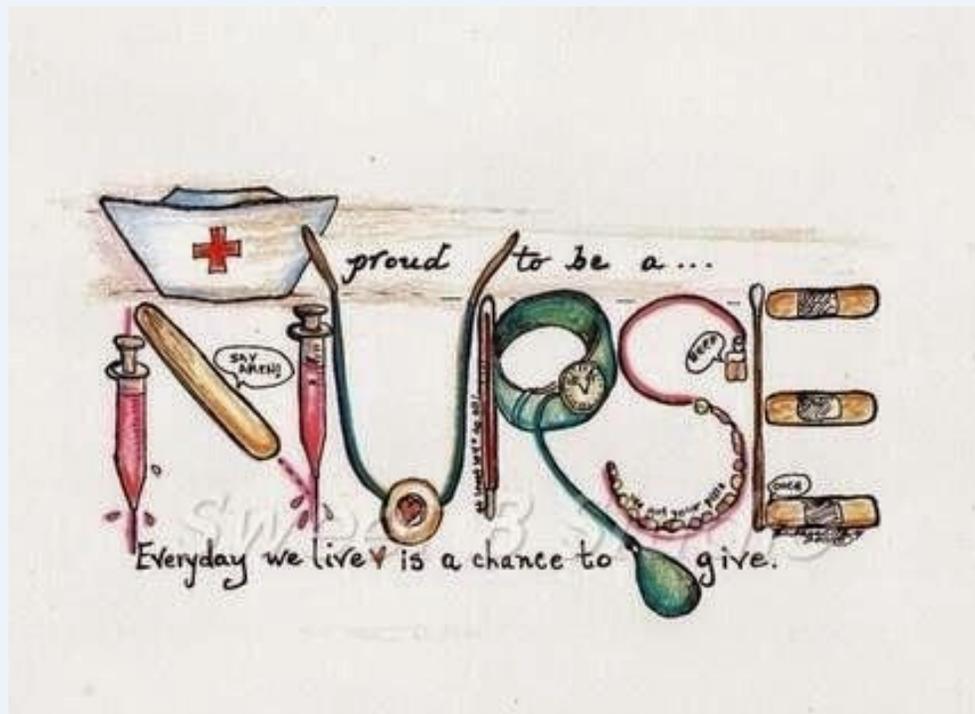
the opportunity in 2008 to return to St. Mary Medical Center and work in the Palliative Care Department. She felt like this was a calling for her. Jeannie plans to stay in the Palliative Care Department at St. Mary Medical Center until she is able to retire.

Jeannie feels that Redeemer Lutheran Church continues to reach out to the younger generation. She does see more young people attending church. She thinks the plans to continue to reach out to the community are wonderful.

Jeannie is so thankful for all her friends at Redeemer Lutheran Church. She feels blessed to be a member of Redeemer Lutheran Church. We are very happy that Jeannie joined Redeemer as she has been very helpful in different ways.

Submitted by

Edna and John Schwenk



June 2016	9:30am Worship
6/5/2016	Setting 3 Communion
Acolyte/Crucifer	Billy Clark
Lay Assistant	Andy Martinsen
Altar Guild	Lori Meola, Cindy Oser, Bunny Elinich
Counters	Gail Blinstrub, Pat Gallagher
6/12/2016	Service of the Word
Acolyte/Crucifer	Wayne Degen
Lay Assistant	Cindy Oser
Altar Guild	Lori Meola, Cindy Oser, Bunny Elinich
Counters	Gail Blinstrub, Pat Gallagher
6/19/2016	Setting 10 Communion, Congregational Meeting, Picnic, Graduate Recognition
Acolyte/Crucifer	Patti Finn
Lay Assistant	Gail Blinstrub
Altar Guild	Lori Meola, Cindy Oser, Bunny Elinich
Counters	Gail Blinstrub, Pat Gallagher
6/26/2016	Service of the Word
Acolyte/Crucifer	Scott Ditcher
Lay Assistant	Deb Farnham
Altar Guild	Lori Meola, Cindy Oser, Bunny Elinich
Counters	Andy Martinsen, John & Edna Schwenk

Kid's Pages

In my
FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS



Make this keepsake to express love for your dad or another special man this Father's Day.

What you need:

- White construction paper (11" x 13" sheet)
- Pencil
- Black permanent marker
- Crayons or paint

What you do:

1. In the center of the paper, trace your foot in pencil. Darken the outline with marker.
2. Color or paint the footprint. Let it dry.
3. Trace your father's foot (same one) on top of your footprint (with yours in the middle of his).
4. Color or paint his footprint. Let it dry.
5. Sign your names and the date at the bottom.

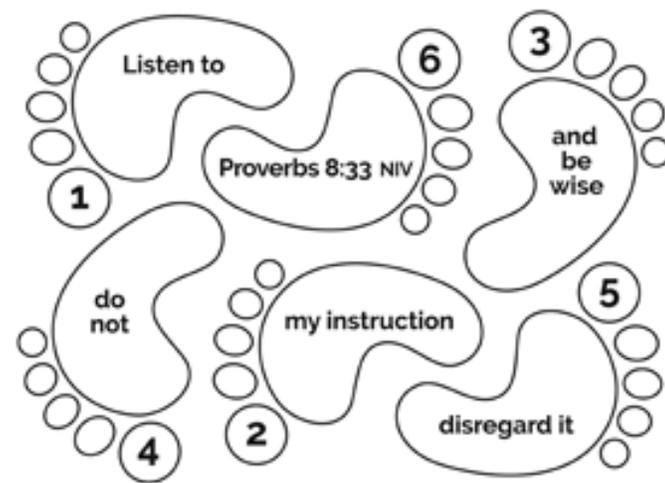


PUZZLE

FOLLOW OUR FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS

In the book of Proverbs, a father urges his son to listen to his wisdom, which he received from his heavenly Father.

Directions: Starting at 1, follow the footsteps and write the words in order on the blanks below.



“ _____

_____.”

_____ : _____

Answer: "Listen to my instruction and be wise; do not disregard it." Proverbs 8:33, NIV

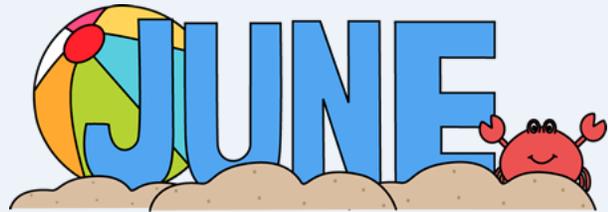
June Birthday's and Anniversaries

June Birthdays

3rd Georgette Escardille
4th Alan Ryan
5th John Seyferhelt
6th James McMullen
Edwina Seyferhelt
8th Lissy Ditcher
Jessica Piel
10th Marsie McMullen
Josephine Weiss
15th Peggy Manrodt
18th Bill Anderson, Jr.
20th Abby Clark
21st Meghan Schmidt
22nd Steven Szymanek
25th Winnie Ferguson
Myles Mecutchen
Madison Latko
Thomas Hyndman
26th Ciara Winter
28th Jennifer O'Connell
Lauren Mariano
30th Charles Jones

June Wedding Anniversaries

6/8 Patricia and Tom Finn
6/10/95 Rick & Jennifer O'Connell
6/22/74 Marilyn & John Hrywnak



**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.