



The Parish Beacon

Volume 36 – No. 3

March 2015

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ!

In spite of the fact that we are sinful people, God wants us to become involved in His work.

Are we willing to use our talents in service to Him?

Jesus did not pick people from society's elite when He chose his workers.

He chose a stammering Moses to lead His people out of bondage.

He chose an unhealthy Paul to be the first great missionary of the Church.

Jesus' disciples were peasants, fishermen, and even a tax collector.

Paul wrote,

"For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong..." (1 Corinthians 1:26-28).

The majority of God's work was done and continues to be done by average people.

Look in our Sanctuary. Our members have put hours into stripping, removing, and prepping the Sanctuary for the flooring project, and even while flooring, pew, and sound companies come to put the Sanctuary back into shape, it is our members who have been painting and building, dusting and washing glass.

However, we need to remember that, even though we may not have any great talents or won any awards, God can transform us into effective workers in His Kingdom.

"[We] can do all things through Him Who strengthens [us]" (Philippians 4:13).

Society gives many accolades to those who succeed, but there is no greater honor or privilege than to be chosen as God's vehicle to spread the Gospel. As John states in his Gospel, it is Jesus Who does the choosing.

*"You did not choose Me, but I chose you
and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit"* (John 15:16).

So why does God elevate those with few talents, the foolish, and the lowly to be His workers?

A reason may be found in 1 Corinthians 1:29:

"so that no human being might boast in the presence of God."

It is only by God's grace that we are saved, called, and equipped to be in His service. If we come into God's work with impressive talents, we risk taking the glory and credit for ourselves. God desires the weak and the lowly. As Paul said,

*"Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.
For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities.
For when I am weak, then I am strong"* (2 Corinthians 12:9-10).

God uses ordinary people to do extra-ordinary things. Are you ready for duty?

God be with you, Pastor Hartwig



OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

2301 East Court Street Iowa City, IA 52245

Phone: 319-338-5626

Email: redeemer@ourredeemer.org

www.ourredeemer.org

MARCH ACTIVITIES

1	Sunday School 9:15am/Bible Class 9:30am Young Adult Bible Study 4:00pm Youth Night 6:30pm	19	Theology 101 7:00pm
2	Greek Club 5:00pm Education Committee 7:00pm Mission Committee 7:00pm	20-21	Congregational Retreat to Honey Creek
3	Human Care 7:00pm	22	Bible Class 9:30am/No Sunday School
4	Lenten Services 1:00pm & 6:10pm Lenten Meal 5:10pm Midweek Classes 7:00pm Properties Committee 7:00pm	23	Greek Club 5:00pm
5	Women's <i>Esther</i> Beth Moore 7:00pm Board of Elders 7:00pm 20/20 Contact Captain Training 8:00pm	24	Women's <i>A Woman's Heart</i> Beth Moore 10am Stephen Ministry —Skip and Marcia 6:30pm LLL Meeting 7:30pm
7	Pancake Day 7:00am to 1:00pm GGG Hy-Vee 1 st Avenue 7:30am Young Adult Movie Night 5:30pm	25	Bible Study 11:00am Lunch Bunch 12:00pm Lenten Services 1:00pm & 6:10pm Lenten Meal 5:10pm Spiritual Growth Event 7:00pm Midweek Classes 7:00pm
8	Sunday School 9:15am/Bible Class 9:30am	27-28	LYF Lock-Out
9	Greek Club 5:00pm Outreach Committee 6:30pm Mission Guild Board 7:00pm Preschool Board 7:00pm	27	Lenten Scavenger Hunt 6:00pm
10	Women's <i>A Woman's Heart</i> Beth Moore 10am Stephen Ministry —Skip and Marcia 6:30pm	28	Men's Bible Study 8:00am
11	Bible Study 11:00am Lunch Bunch 12:00pm Lenten Services 1:00pm & 6:10pm Lenten Meal 5:10pm Midweek Classes 7:00pm	29	Palm Sunday Sunday School 9:15am/Bible Class 9:30am Confirmation at 10:30am service
12	Board of Directors 7:00pm	30	Greek Club 5:00pm
13	Knitting Small Group 1:30pm		
14-22	Iowa City School District Spring Break		
15	Sunday School 9:15am/Bible Class 9:30am		
16	LWML Mission Guild 7:00pm		
17	Assimilation Committee		
18	Lenten Services 1:00pm & 6:10pm Lenten Meal 5:10pm		



March 8

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:30pm Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am

Comfort-Tiers meet Thursdays at 9:00am

*Need more tiers anytime between 9:00 am to noon
No expertise or materials required-Coffee provided*

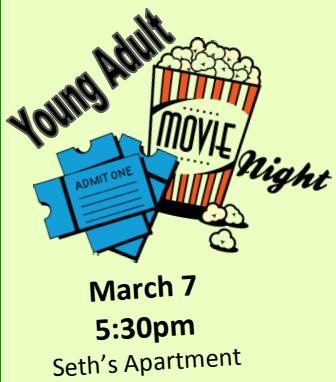
Choir meets Wednesdays—7:00pm

**Praise Team Practice schedule varies—
Contact Myrl Holida myrl-holida@uiowa.edu or
Louise Klopp choirdirector@ourredeemer.org**

Watch *Reflections* for information on:



March 13
1:30 pm
Library

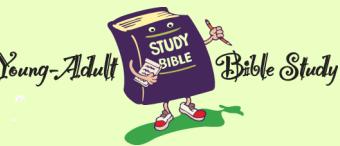


March 7
5:30pm
Seth's Apartment



CHALLENGE

Postponed from
March 8 to May 17



March 1
4:00-6:00pm
Seth's Apartment



LLL Meeting
March 24, 2015
7:30 pm
Fellowship Hall

Feb. 25 - Lent
March 25
Services 1:00 & 6:10 pm
Midweek Meal 5:10 pm
Midweek Class 7:00 pm (No class March 18)
Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm

March 29 Palm Sunday
Palm Sunday Services 8 & 10:30 am
Confirmation at 10:30 am

April 1 Silent Wednesday
Prayer Walk 11 am - 8 pm
No midweek
The Passion of the Christ Movie 8 pm

April 2 Maundy Thursday
Services 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm

April 3 Good Friday
Kiwanis Prayer Breakfast 6:30 am
Services 1:00 & 7:00 pm

April 4
Easter Worship 5:30 pm

April 5 EASTER
Easter Worship 8 & 10:30 am
Easter Breakfast 9:00 am
Easter Egg Hunt 10:00 am



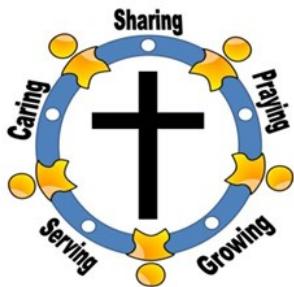
Lent



March 19
7:00pm
Board Room



PANCAKE DAY
March 7
7am to 1pm



Small Group Ministry Mission Statement: *To grow in grace using our spiritual gifts, through good stewardship for the benefit of the group so that the body of Christ may be built up.*

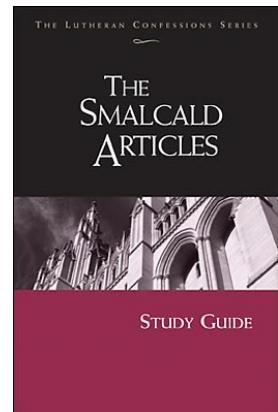
Updates from Small Group Ministry....

Do you know who wrote the Smalcald Articles?

Do you know what the articles are about?

Do you know what the articles are often referred to as?

These are the questions that the “Theology 101” small group has learned the answers to this year as well as learning more about each section of the articles. You are welcome to join us monthly as we continue to study each section of the Smalcald Articles. We will be meeting next on March 19th at 7:00 pm in the Board Room.



Answers to the questions:

The Smalcald Articles were written by Martin Luther in late 1536 and are a summary of the Lutheran doctrine. In the Smalcald Articles, Luther summarized what he regarded to be the most important teaching in Christianity. The articles are often called his “last will and testament” as Luther was very sick with kidney stones at the time he wrote them and was not sure that he would live. He did live another nine years after writing the Smalcald Articles. The Smalcald Articles are in the Book of Concord as one of the Lutheran Confessions of faith.



Pizza Fundraiser for Furnishings Vision 2020:

A big thank you to everyone who enjoyed the pizza luncheon on February 22! We had 90 people enjoy pizza and received \$500.00 in donations for the furnishing funds. A special thanks to Falbos for delivering the great variety and delicious pizzas!!

CHURCH ON A MISSION

MISSION	FEBRUARY PAYMENT
Housing Fellowship	\$ 500.00
Hospice	\$ 375.00
Iowa District/Synod	\$ 4,166.66
UIHC Chaplain Endowment Fund	\$ 416.66
Dr. Lutz/ New Guinea	\$ 500.00
Peace Officer Ministry	\$ 250.00
TOTAL	\$6,208.32

Voter's Meeting-February 8

- ◊ 2014 ended with a surplus of \$107.24 (Total income \$652,549.47, total expenses \$652,442.23)
- ◊ Vaughn Davisson and Arlan Thompson have been appointed as new elders.
- ◊ The District has recommended we add a Marriage Policy statement to our Bylaws regarding same-sex marriage; i.e., that Missouri Synod pastors will not officiate over such marriages because they are inconsistent with LCMS beliefs, nor will the church property be used for same-sex marriage ceremonies or receptions. A sample policy statement was distributed and read. Discussion points:
 - Why do we want this?
 - Has this been reviewed by a lawyer?
 - Can same-sex couples participate, however, in Our Redeemer activities?
 - Do we need our own policy if the Missouri Synod has one?
 - Could we have a Special Voters Meeting to add this before September?
- ◊ Pastor thanked and complimented the many volunteers who are helping with the sanctuary renovation work, and expressed gratitude that OR's Fellowship Hall is adequate for church services and activities while the sanctuary is closed. Current progress was outlined about the Sanctuary Project with expectation for completion by March 7.
- ◊ Pastor is half-way through his doctoral classwork and expects to complete this by 2019.
- ◊ Paper work for a vicar has been completed and sent to Synod offices. Requests outnumber available vicars, however, so there is no guarantee Our Redeemer's request will be honored; an April notification is expected.
- ◊ A Feasibility Study will begin this month with the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) to determine how much money can be raised in a capital campaign; completion of the study expected by July 2.



- ◊ Five coordinators have been assigned positions to aid with the study.
 - Feasibility Study: Jeff Nicholson
 - Communications/Secretarial: Dawn Ealy
 - Forum: Joel Eckman
 - Personal Interview: Diane Burke
 - Hosting/Telephoning: Bob Powers
- ◊ Much activity is going on behind-the-scenes with technology and a complete redoing of the web site is imminent. We are changing providers for hosting our website which will result in financial savings and different software.
- ◊ Staff and committee reports were shared briefly. The 2014 Annual Report is available on the wire rack outside the office for many of those reports in more detail.
- ◊ Eight of eleven Stephen Ministers are currently engaged; there will be no new minister class in 2015.



Not stated at the meeting—

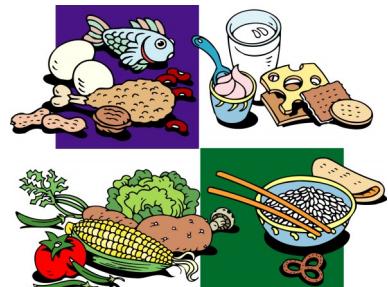
Congregational members will have the opportunity to gather, learn, and know the plans for Vision 20/20 during a Forum meeting in the next few months. At the end of May a survey will gather your thoughts on the plans and the feasibility of Vision 20/20.

Tips to Help the “Winter Blues” – Spring is on the way!

1. **Develop a positive attitude** - people with positive attitudes are apt to be happier, more successful, and better able to handle crisis and stress. And in concert with the positive attitude, get an attitude of gratitude for what you have instead of dwelling on what you don't.
2. **Avoid negative self talk** - laugh at your mistakes and say I'll remember next time.
3. **View a difficult situation as an opportunity** - creative problem solving can expand your options. Try to make a list of good things that could result from the problem you're having to solve.
4. **Laugh** - Humor is a great stress reducer. Studies indicate laughter can make you healthier.
5. **Exercise** - Regular exercise increases energy and releases brain biochemicals to ward off depression and anxiety. Just a 15 minute walk a day will help keep body and soul together.
6. **Improve your diet** - During times of stress you can skip meals or eat junk food. A diet rich in fruit, vegetables and fiber will help you maintain the physical and mental stress you need to deal with the situation.
7. **Get enough rest** - sleep disturbances are common during stress.



5. Exercise - Regular exercise increases energy and releases brain biochemicals to ward off depression and anxiety. Just a 15 minute walk a day will help keep body and soul together.



7. Get enough rest - sleep disturbances are common during stress.

www.mentalhealth.org



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Today the Sunday School students study the account “Jesus Calms a Storm.” Just as Jesus calmed the storm with His Word for the frightened disciples, so He calms and ends the storm of sin and death by taking our sin upon Himself and dying in our place so we may live eternally. Consider discussing, “What did Jesus do to calm the storm? How does Jesus calm the storms in our life?”

Jesus Calms the Storm

WELCOME

New Members



Benjamin Anderson, Grayce & Claire

Benjamin (Ben) Anderson and daughters Grayce (6 years old) and Claire (5) moved to Iowa from Colorado three years ago. Ben is a general contractor and builds homes. He enjoys sports, especially golf, and other outdoor activities. During his leisure time he plays soccer. Grayce is in Kickers soccer and Ben plays with other adults through Kickers.

Greg and Kristin Anfinson and son Vincent (baptized at Our Redeemer in August) met at Wartburg College in Waverly in 2004. Greg is in medical sales and Kristin is a Research Associate at the University of Iowa. After college, Greg took a job in Minneapolis and Kristin in Rochester, Minnesota. They married in 2009, moving to Ankeny, and in 2010 they moved to Iowa City. Native Iowans, Greg was born and raised in Waterloo, while Kristin grew up in Bettendorf. Both are sports enthusiasts, particular happy to cheer for the Hawkeyes. They like to spend time with family and friends.



Greg & Kristin Anfinson, Vincent

Pancake Day 2015

Saturday, March 7th

7:00 am to 1:00 pm



Still volunteer
opportunities!
Signup in office

Proceeds benefit the Crisis Center

Bake sale to benefit the Orphan Grain Train

Tickets available at the door, church (338-5626),

or The Crisis Center (351-0140)

Adults \$6.00

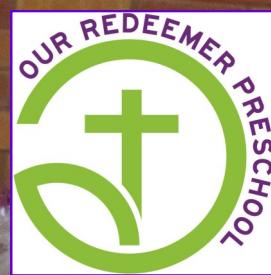
Children (10 & under) \$3.00

Watch *Reflections* for information on sponsoring a basket or participating in the silent auction to raise preschool scholarship funds.

Submit basket theme by April 1

Turn in basket by April 6

Silent Auction April 11/12, 18/19, and 25/26



Return of the Preschool Theme Basket Fundraiser



Stephen Ministry

Last month Marvel Titone shared with you her feelings about being a Stephen Minister. This month I want to spend time sharing what my feelings are as a Stephen Ministry leader.

Quite honestly, when Barb Schanbacher approached me about being a trainer for Stephen Ministry I wasn't really aware of what that all involved. I wasn't sure of the procedures, but I had heard nothing but great positives of what Stephen Ministry can do for a congregation. I said yes before realizing how much work and study and prayer was involved.

Our initial training took us to St. Louis for 5 days. Those were some of the longest, yet most fruitful days I have ever spent. Stephen Ministry takes training very seriously. We had great lectures and wonderful role playing experiences. As part of program, we had to always leave our home table to interact with others from all over the country. What a privilege to grow with other committed Christians in this ministry. Another part of our training was to be paired with a prayer partner. We all grew by praying each day with this fellow Christian we had just met. Ours prayers each day grew in length as we each opened up to each other with things on our hearts.

After our St. Louis experience we returned to Our Redeemer with a plan. First stage, actually teach the initial 18 sessions to a practice group composed of staff. (I think someone volunteered them).

Our feeling was before we taught the program to Our Redeemer members we really should practice and work our way through all the lessons determining which leader could best teach the day's content. The teaching in this test run was done by Pastor, Kevin Sellers, Kathy Schweer, Marvel Titone, and myself.

Our next step was the recruitment of Stephen minister trainees. God has blessed Our Redeemer with 11 Stephen ministers. Our congregation is blessed by the care given by Kevin Sellers, Skip Kempnich, Steve Faga, Arlan Thompson, Marlene Thompson, Marcia Hulse, Kathy Nelson, Shari Sedlacek, Sarah Ghabel, Diane Clark, and Marvel Titone. They all attend small group meetings and in-service training in addition to their caring responsibilities,

Here is a list of the topics we have studied since commissioning; Ministry to the Dying and their families, Caring for People before, during, and after hospitalization, Ministering to those Experiencing Losses Related to Aging, Ministering to Person Needing Long Term Care, Those experiencing Divorce and Crises of Pregnancy and Childbirth. As you can tell these are all heavy duty topics. The group has done a wonderful job staying focused on the care receiver not themselves. Please include the Stephen Ministers and the ministry in your prayers.

We still are recruiting for next class,
Pray about it !

Bill Benson

What Is Stephen Ministry?

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2, NRSV).

Stephen Ministry is the one-to-one lay caring ministry that takes place in congregations that use the Stephen Series system.

Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting.

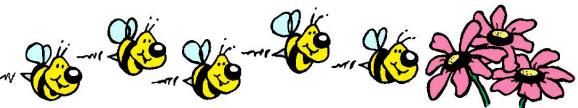
Membership Changes & Official Acts

<u>Baptism</u>	
Bristol Shea Rose Finnegan	2-22-2015
<u>Death</u>	
Patricia Peters	1-31-2015
<u>Transfer In</u>	
Daniel, Cynthia, & Nathaniel Glandorf	2-24-2015

Dear Our Redeemer family,

I want to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, visits, and food brought to me during my recovery from surgery. It was deeply appreciated. Thank you, Pastor Hartwig, for your visits and comforting words and prayers. We are truly blessed to have a caring family at Our Redeemer.

Barb Schanbacher

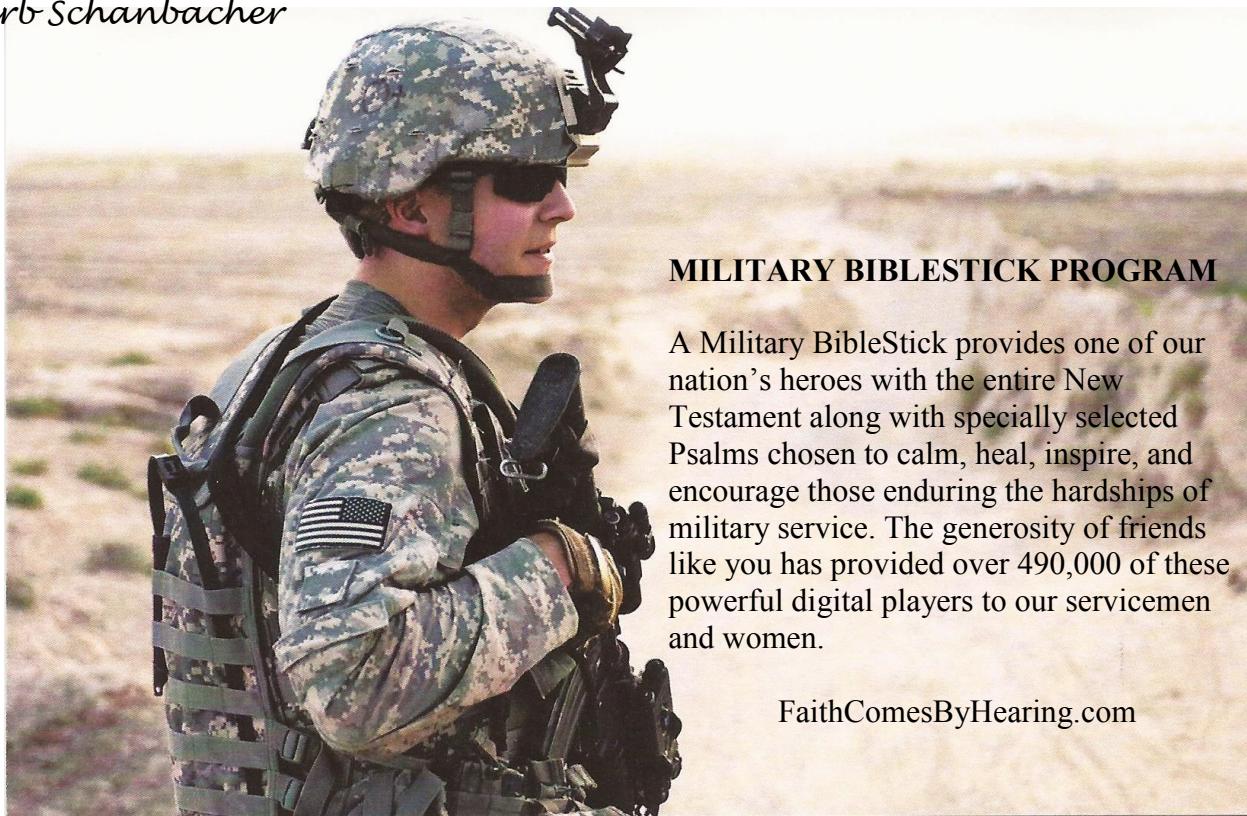
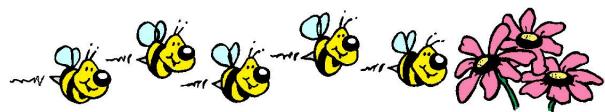


TASTING BEE

The 20th Anniversary of LWML

Tasting Bee is **April 18, 2015**. Theme is “Walk Down Memory Lane”. Signup for table decorators, committee chairs, and collection of recipes has begun!

This is the last year the Sexton ladies will be chairing the Tasting Bee. We are looking for new chairs to start training and get in on all the planning now so they have a smooth transition in planning the 2016 Tasting Bee. Contact anyone of the Sexton ladies to get started. Pat Sexton, Angie Hotz, Sheila Alt, or Samantha Nelson.



MILITARY BIBLESTICK PROGRAM

A Military BibleStick provides one of our nation's heroes with the entire New Testament along with specially selected Psalms chosen to calm, heal, inspire, and encourage those enduring the hardships of military service. The generosity of friends like you has provided over 490,000 of these powerful digital players to our servicemen and women.

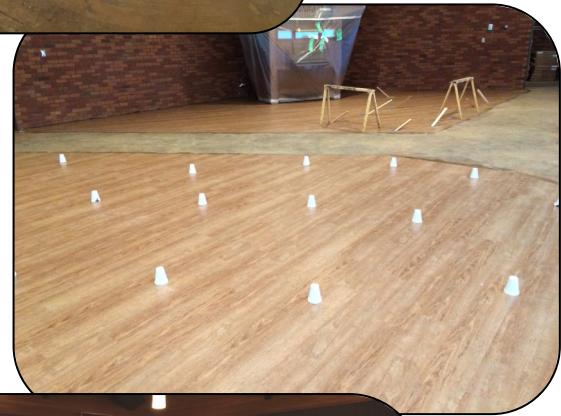
FaithComesByHearing.com

Renovation Nears Completion

The pews are in the Narthex, so please join us downstairs for worship. Out of necessity, we had to begin Phase 1 of the renovation to the Sanctuary. The carpet was buckled and had to be replaced to avoid a dangerous situation. The Vision 20/20 Steering Committee with the Board of Directors approved this “early” Vision 20/20 Project. The congregation approved the expenditure at the November 2014 Voters’ Meeting. Here is the listing of the projects that are being undertaken:

- Sanctuary emptied
- Fellowship Hall arranged for worship
- Carpeting removed
- Chancel dismantled
- Sacristy emptied
- Pews removed, sanded, stained, and varnished
- Sanctuary back wall painted “Lutheran Burgundy”
- Tile removed and asbestos abated
- Paint the floor heat registers
- Paint Sacristy
- Adjust the Chancel lighting
- Panel the tops of the Sanctuary soffits
- Paint the bottom of the Sanctuary soffits
- Rebuild the Chancel, removing the step up to kneel for communion.
- Install new vinyl planking replacing the tile
- Install new communion rail and kneeling pads
- Install sound junction boxes in the floor for Praise Team
- Install new carpeting
- Install pews with new wheelchair cut outs
- Resurface the Altar and Baptismal Font Postponed

The changes in the last weeks have been abundant. The vinyl planking is in, reupholstered pew seats are stacked in the narthex.



The color palette for the Sanctuary adheres to the palette created by Neumann Monson from the 1998 building project. We anticipate returning to the Sanctuary for worship March 7/8. The Vision 20/20 Sanctuary Committee is exploring future projects for the Sanctuary which will eventually complete the refurbishment of this important space. Your prayers, support, and flexibility are appreciated. God be praised as we refresh the Sanctuary!

Mission News of Pastor Michael Parris

January 2015



“But Will God Really Dwell On Earth?”

Perhaps many of you attended a candlelight service on Christmas Eve. Well, if you were in Macau you could have had the same opportunity.

We began the Christmas Eve celebration with a supper at the Center at 7:30 pm. This was followed by the candlelight worship. The service itself included a series of Scripture readings, familiar Christmas carols and a sermon. There were about 30 in attendance.

The sermon touched on the question asked by Solomon in I Kings 8:27 - “But will God really dwell on earth?”

We talked about how the Savior had to be truly God in order to accomplish God’s salvation for us. Man cannot keep the law nor can he adequately atone for sin on the cross. Only God could make it happen.

So the answer to Solomon’s question was, “Yes.” God really did dwell on earth. In the incarnation He became one of us.

The attendees that evening – whether Christian or not – heard about a God who loves them.

Christmas Eve worship at the Macau Lutheran Preaching Station

CONTACT INFO

Pastor Michael Parris, Macau

To support my mission work financially, you may send a tax-deductible gift

LCMS International
Missionary Support
PO Box 790089
St. Louis, MO 63179-0089

Make checks payable to *LCMS International* and write *Parris* on the memo line.

OR

Mission Central
47018 Highway E16
Mapleton, Iowa 51034
712-882-1029

Family, friends and contributors will be on the newsletter list. If you would like to be on the mailing list contact Michael.

My email is Michael.parris84@yahoo.com

Thank you for prayers and donations. You are certainly welcome to share this newsletter with others.

Home Fellowship

Every Thursday evening is Sharon’s Home Fellowship (below). Sharon Owens is an American missionary at the Center. On Thursday nights she hosts a fellowship that includes supper at 7:00 pm with a Bible study to follow. Presently, the Bible study topic is on Job.

Participants at the fellowship include Christian and non-Christian. Some of the Chinese who attend worship on Sunday morning were first introduced through the Home Fellowship.



- *Pray that God will continue to bless Sharon’s Home Fellowship that faith will be kindled in hearts*
- *Praise God for the Chinese who so faithfully help us with translation.*
- *Pray that God will bless the preaching of the Word and the administration of the sacraments.*
- *Presently, we have about five or six Chinese who are potential candidates for baptism. Ask God to bless our efforts toward this end.*



about complete. If not, it's time to pick up the pace and march. Remember to contact Cheryll Davisson (319-648-4660) about a scholarship from Our Redeemer Mission Guild. Convention Logo Polo Shirt mail orders need to be postmarked no later than May 15. The postmark deadline is June 1, to be able to pick up your shirt at the convention. Be looking for your worker assignment packet around the middle of April. Then register per the instructions provided. Pray for all plans to come together, that coordination of events is on schedule and that our focus is on our best service to the One who offers nourishment. Please go to the host websites to view the Host Committee Convention Newsletter *Bountiful Blessings*. The websites are <http://idwlcms.org/lwmlnews.php> or <http://www.lwmlied.org/>.

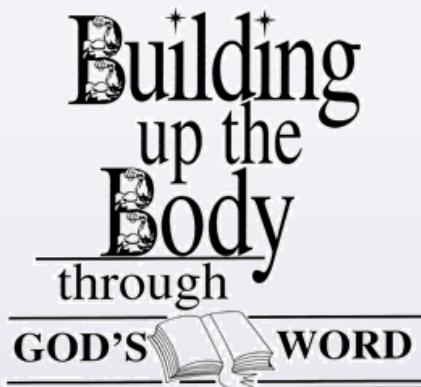
"This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones" (Proverbs 3:8).



GET THE LATEST Member DIRECTORY

New directories are available now—pick yours up today by the door. View the newest pictures that the Assimilation Committee has provided. Please let the church office know if you have any changes so that each printing will be up-to-date. A photo can be added or changed any time, just email a digital photo to redeemer@ourredeemer.org.

March to the HEARTLAND!! Have you decided on your mode of transportation? Check out the possibilities and begin planning. Your convention fund should be



Readings for next week:
Lamentations 2 - Ezekiel 5

Sunday mornings
9:30 – 10:15 am
Fellowship Hall

**READ THE BIBLE IN
TWO YEARS**

Thank You!

Thank you for all the cards,
visits, & prayers.

Florence Calef



TREASURED NEWS



Volume

FEBRUARY 2015

Issue

WHERE IN THE WORLD HAVE OUR MITES GONE??

CHRISTIAN EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN—INDIA \$85,000—PAID IN FULL!

This grant will help to reach 20,000 elementary-aged children in India with the Gospel message through Christian educational resources, provided by Concordia Gospel Outreach.



Our mites are reaching many children in India and Southeast Asia with the Gospel message. Praise God they have this opportunity to learn that Jesus loves them!

LUTHERAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA

PAID \$40,000



This grant will provide Luther's *Small Catechism* and *A Child's Garden of Bible Stories* in languages of Southeast Asia.

This is part of the financial newsletter that is sent to District treasurers and is available at
<http://www.lwml.org/giving/treasured-news.php>
Part of the national website www.lwml.org

Iowa East District LWML website www.lwml-iied.org/

Bible Quiz: Famous Bible Quotations III

1. "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have _____."

- eternal life the light of life the grace of God the light of God

2) "Enter by _____; for the gate is wide, and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter by it." (NAS)

- the word of God the narrow gate faith in Him who sent me the gates of heaven

3) "The spirit indeed is willing, but the _____ is weak."

- mind soul will flesh

4) "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world _____."

- through him from its sins from the evil one by the word of God

5) Which Bible book is this quote from? "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." (NAS)

- Psalms Proverbs Isaiah 1st Corinthians

6) Which Bible book records this quote from the Apostle Paul? "In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" (NIV)

- Isaiah Mark Acts Revelation

7) In _____ are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

- heaven the kingdom of God my Father's house the life to come

8) Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you _____.

- peace rest life eternal the kingdom of God

9) Which Bible book is this quote from? "For dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

- Genesis Exodus John 1st Corinthians

10) "No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and _____." (NIV)

- Satan Baal Buddha money

Genesis (Genesis 3:19), 10. money (Luke 16:13)

him (John 3:17), 5. Proverbs (Proverbs 15:1), 6. Acts (Acts 20:35), 7. my Father's house (John 14:21), 8. rest (Matthew 11:28), 9.

Answers: 1. the light of life (John 8:12), 2. the narrow gate (Matthew 7:13), 3. flesh (Matthew 26:41 and Mark 14:38), 4. through

TOO BUSY TO READ THIS?

for families

FOR FAMILIES:

Of course, you are too busy to read this! Why? Let me guess: work, school obligations, laundry, food preparation, house cleaning, childcare, elder care, carpools, kids' activities, adult activities, schedules that are over-full, exhaustion and sleep deprivation, financial worries, employment worries, health, mental health, chemical use, challenges in relationships ... and on and on and on it goes.

So, what can we possibly do?

PRIORITIZE

Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Lk.12:34

What really matters to your family? Do your calendar and expenditures really align with your values? Have this conversation as a family to examine if all are feeling safe, joyous, loved, and relaxed in time together ... and ask whether or not there is enough time together. Ask each person in your family to name one thing they can do individually to live your family priorities. Ask all to decide on one thing the family can do to live your values.

Where is God in your life? Where is your faith family? How do you love God back in service to God's world?

ELEVATE RELATIONSHIPS

And the Word became flesh and lived among us. John 1:14

God made relationships the top priority when God send Jesus, to be here, to be fully present with us.

Look at each of the people in your life and see a child of God. Make time together a top priority. Be fully present. The number one source of sadness for children, ages 4-18, is that parents look at their smart phones more than at them! Listen to your child with everything you've got - your ears, your eyes, your heart.

Have everyone pitch in to do the tasks that need to be done. Be a community, in which all are essential participants, and in which all enjoy the benefits of time together.

LIMIT COMMITMENTS

Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things. Luke 10:41

Make a list of all of the things your family does and is committed to do. Decide what things you absolutely cherish, that make your life feel abundant. Limit each of you to a smaller number of commitments. Teach your kids to say "no," modeling doing that yourself. Trust me, less is more.

Sabbath time is one of God's commandments. Take time to rest in God.

DEBUNK THE MYTH OF EFFECTIVE MULTI-TASKING

Be still and know that I am God. Psalm 46:10

I thought I was really good, efficient, and effective at multi-tasking ... only to read the research that deflated my smug bubble. In fact, we decrease accomplishments and increase anxiety by multi-tasking.

For one week, try doing just one thing at a time. Turn off multiple screens. Turn off all of the sources of background or foreground noise. Focus. Be fully present with each precious person in your household. I promise, it will be so much easier.

CELEBRATE

... the people, the places, the opportunities, the good things that are already yours. Give thanks to God!

OUR REDEEMER DEVELOPING SHARING GROWING PLAY CRAFT EXPERIENTIAL EXCITING EDUCATIONAL CHRISTIAN JESUS FUN ART COMMUNITY CHILDREN LONG PRESCHOOL

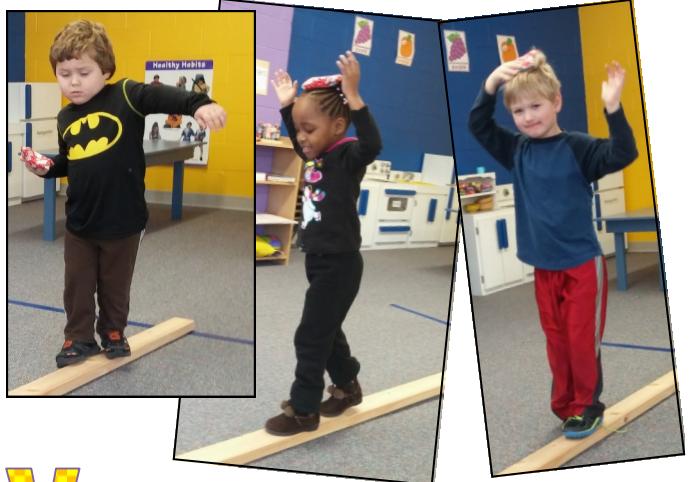


Thank you Mrs. Kara for leading BALANCE TIME this week! We worked on the students static balance (ability to maintain control of a position while remaining stationary). Also we were able to see their dynamic balance (ability to maintain balance and control of the body in motion). We are building synapses in their brains as well as confidence in themselves all while having fun!

In **JESUS TIME** this week, Pastor Hartwig shared with the preschool students about Zacchaeus. We learned that he was a man who was selfish and would steal money. Jesus came to his house one day and his heart was changed. It is easy for us to judge others and not be fair. Christ reminds us that he died for everyone and is willing to demonstrate that by dining with sinners. We, too, get to pray for people and that the Holy Spirit would work in our hearts to forgive others just as Jesus forgave Zacchaeus.



Iowa City Library Children's Librarian Ms. Kathy reads to us about penguins



Y Y

(To If You're Happy and You Know It)

If you think that yams are yummy yell out,
"Yes!"

If you think that yams are yummy, yell out, "Yes!"

If you think that yams are yummy, yell out, "Yes!"
and rub your tummy.

If you think that yams are yummy, yell out, "Yes!"



Great job at standing in line



Youth Ministry! Coffee Shop

ORKS COFFEE & TREATS

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0448A5AE2CA46-coffee18

Youth Night

Plan to join us on Sunday, October 5th from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm as we continue our Sunday Night Youth Night for ORKS and LYF (Fifth grade through high school). We will meet on the first Sunday of every month and explore what love is and how we can share it! We will be walking through the 5 Love Languages and using it to discuss love that we might share with those around us. We will also do some group building activities and large group games.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE

LYF LOCKOUT

Date: March 27th & 28th

Time: 9:30 pm – 7:00 am

Cost: \$20 (*includes a bus for the night*)

Purpose: 8th-12th grade to build better cohesiveness among our group members, and to provide a fun setting for friends.

Activities: Movie, Bowling, Scavenger Hunt, Group Building Games, Service Project, and More.

Required: Updated Medical Release Form.
Goal: 50 People

50 People
(Sign Up on the Youth Room Door)

LYF Post-Winter Retreat

April 25-26

More Information to Come

<u>March</u>						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
1	Youth Night				6:30pm	
7	Pancake Day				6:30pm	
14-22	ICCSD Spring Breaks					
18	No Midweek Classes (Spring Break)					
25	Spiritual Growth Event				7pm	
27-28	LYF Lockout				10pm-7am	
29	Palm Sunday (Confirmation)					

<u>April</u>						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
4	Easter Breakfast Setup				9am	
5	Easter Breakfast				1pm	
8	Confirmation Retreat Meeting				8:10pm	
17-19	Spring Confirmation Retreat					
24	IDE 5th/6th Grade Gathering					
25-26	LYF Post-Winter Retreat					
26	FAST Sports Banquet				12pm	

OUR REDEEMER OFFICE DIRECTORY

Office: 338-5626 Fax: 338-9171 Website: <http://www.ourredeemer.org> Preschool: 338-3949
Prayer Chain: 351-5297 or prayerchain@ourredeemer.org Special Announcements Line: 338-3505

STAFF & EMAIL	PHONE NO.	STAFF & EMAIL	PHONE NO.
Brent Hartwig, Senior Pastor bhartwig@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 337-2403 (home)	Kaja Mueller, Director of Christian Ed. dce@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 541-4827 (cell)
Seth Illich, Director of Christian Ed. dce2@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) (815)-236-9502 (cell)	Kaja Mueller, Preschool Director Kate Ramsey, Assistant preschool@ourredeemer.org	338-3949 (preschool) 338-5626 (church)
Larry Freeman, Bookkeeper bookkeep@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)	Denise Holida Director of Small Group Ministry smallgroups@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 930-0165 (cell)
Louise Klopp, Director of Choirs choirdirector@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)	Marilyn Paetz, Organist organist@ourredeemer.org	351-4262 (home)
Kate Ramsey, Preschool Assistant preschoolassistant@ourredeemer.org	338-3949 (preschool)	Vacancy, Parish Nurse parishnurse@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)
Kevin Sellers, Director of Technology technology@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church) 631-8924	Laurel Sellers, Office Coordinator redeemer@ourredeemer.org	338-5626 (church)

2015 Board of Elders Congregational Assignments

Ryan Haack, Chairman 688-9513

Bill Benson	517-881-9848
Vaughn Davisson	319-648-4660
Ryan Haack	688-9513
Myrl Holida	351-4301
Skip Kempnich	351-5297
Jeff Kucera	512-6789
Denny Schrader	530-1562
Arlan Thompson	338-2938
Marty Wenck	330-2761

Each family of the Our Redeemer flock is assigned alphabetically by last name to an elder to insure each family is prayed for and feels they "have an elder". It is the sincere feeling of the Board of Elders that we are to love and be of service equally to the entire body of believers. We encourage any one of you to contact any one of us so we can share your spiritual journey, ideas or concerns.

DEADLINES

Reflections (printed weekly): Information must be submitted (written, typed, emailed or faxed) each Wednesday by 5:00 p.m.

Beacon Newsletter & Church Activities Calendar (printed monthly): Information must be submitted (written, typed, emailed or faxed) by noon on the 20th of each month.

TELEVISION ~ RADIO

Our Redeemer Worship Service on Public Access TV Channel 18 every Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.

The Lutheran Hour Television Ministries talk show "On Main Street" is shown on Public Access Television Channel 18 on Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. and Sundays at 10:00 p.m.

Lutheran Hour Ministries on Radio—WMT 600 AM Radio on Sunday mornings at 6:30 a.m., and **KXEL 1540 AM Radio** on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND SCREENING

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church has been in ministry with children and youth for over 55 years. Our insurance carrier, Church Mutual, strongly encourages us to promote the safest and most secure environment possible by screening all employees and volunteers, both new and existing, especially those who interact with children. Performing background checks will provide safeguards and peace of mind to our staff, volunteers, parents, youth and children. Additional details will be forthcoming as we put this screening process in motion.

His Peace

2 Thessalonians 3:16



Though worldly woes beset me--
He gives me peace of mind.

When family ties are slipping,
He gives me peace of mind.

My 'friends' make fun of me, but
He gives me peace of mind.

I bring my thoughts to Him and
He gives me peace of mind.

I sin against His Word but
He gives me peace of mind.

He strengthens me when I'm weak
Which gives me peace of mind.

He died for me on the cross
I now have peace of mind.

~~ Carol Schuldert

