



**Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World**  
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**Happy Birthday**

**October Birthdays**

<i>Patricia Hall</i>	<i>October</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Veronica Powell</i>	<i>October</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Karen Ford</i>	<i>October</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Danuta Lambert</i>	<i>October</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Ellen Larsen</i>	<i>October</i>	<i>31</i>

**CALENDAR NOTES**

**Sundays**

**10:30 a.m. Communion Service**

**October**

**October 15:** Redeemer's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

**October 19:** 2:30 p.m. Council Meeting

**Happy Anniversary**

**October Anniversaries**

*Carl and Jessica Keene*    *October 13*

**Emergency Pastoral Care:**

If you are in need of **emergency** pastoral care, please call Jerry Brady at (714) 534-2673.

For anything else, please call the Church number: (562) 598-8697 and leave a message. Messages are checked frequently.

*Message from Our President...*

Dear Redeemer Family:

We are all looking forward to Redeemer Lutheran Church's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of serving Leisure World with the powerful message of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Savior. It will be held in our Worship Service on Sunday, October 15 at 10:30 a.m. with our new Bishop, David Nagler preaching and presiding.

Immediately following, a celebration luncheon will be held downstairs in our Fellowship Hall.

Unfortunately, our beloved Pastor, Lisa Rotchford will be unable to attend as she is still in rehab at this writing recuperating from her recent health problems. The good news is that she is doing much better, is getting stronger and is anxious to return to her congregation. Please keep her in your prayers.

If you haven't filled out the form that will update our Church records, please do so. It will help us greatly with information that may have changed over the years.

I want to repeat something I said in my sermon on October 1. We have an additional obstacle in our adding new Church members with the absence of our Pastor for an extended time, but that should increase our efforts and zeal. No matter who is in the Pulpit, God's precious Word will be preached faithfully. With your continued prayers and your support, this congregation will thrive and we will reach the people here in Leisure World who really need to hear the wonderful news – the message that Jesus Christ died for our sins and the path to Heaven has been achieved.

Here's to another 60 years of our Lord's blessings!

God Bless You,

***Jerry Brady***  
Council President

## Sunday Services



While we have not reimplemented mask requirements, we do strongly encourage everyone to wear them. We have colds, flus, and other respiratory illnesses that are easily caught. *We thank those who have continued to wear their masks and want everyone to know that masks are available at the entrance of the Church. We **HIGHLY** recommend continuing masking. As we are the most*

*vulnerable population and we have many within the congregation that are immunocompromised, Staff will continue masking with everyone's safety in mind.* Those who elect to wear masks, should do so freely. It is the expectation that individual preferences be respected and supported for either choice with no justification required.

## 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will be Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> beginning with our Holy Communion Service presided over by Bishop David Nagler. It will continue with a pot luck luncheon. As always, many hands make for lighter work. We will be setting up on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. There is a sign-up sheet in the entryway for those who want to volunteer. We also need people willing to bring food for this event. The Church will be providing the main dish. Sign-up sheets are also available for this.

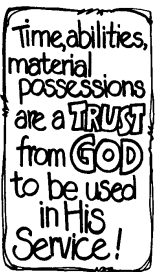
## Thank You!



A great thank you goes to all who helped make Pastor Gil's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and 96<sup>th</sup> Birthday such a beautiful day. From those who did much work to prepare the Fellowship Hall for its reopening; to those who helped plan, set-up, decorated, and prepare the food and drinks; to those who cleaned up; and the Worship team that planned and participated in the Liturgy. We also thank those who brought Pastor Gil cards to brighten his days in the future and send him good wishes. And we wish to thank all those who came and shared their love for Pastor Gil in their presence in the Service and at the reception afterwards. We were honored by the presence of Bishop Murray

Finck who presided at the Service and spoke so beautifully about Pastor Gil's service to the Church and to our Lord.

## Sharing Your Gifts



In the back of the Annual Report, there is a list of Opportunities for Service that we are asking you to fill out and return. Extra sheets are in the entryway. It can be mailed to the office or turned in on Sundays in the offering plate. Stewardship is not only about money. Stewardship is also about sharing your time and talents in the service of others and the church. God has given you many gifts, how you use them is your gift back to God in thanksgiving. Please consider prayerfully how you can make the Kingdom of God present here.

**FINANCE REPORT**  
**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**FINANCE REPORT August 31, 2023**



Operating Expense of	\$12,336.14
exceeded Operating Income of	<u>\$4,186.00</u>
by	\$8,750.14

*Our Income of \$4,186.00 was not enough to cover our normal Operating Expenses for the month. Our Budgeted Income for each month is \$8,341.00*

**Year to Date: August 31, 2023**

We see the following comparing **Actual** to **Budgeted** for the first 8 months of 2023

Our Budgeted income of	\$66,728.00
exceeded our Actual Income of	<u>\$52,221.79*</u>
by	(\$14,506.21)

*We took in less than budgeted.*

Our Budgeted Expenses of	\$66,728.00
was under our Actual Expenses of	<u>\$75,788.12</u>
by	(\$9,060.12)

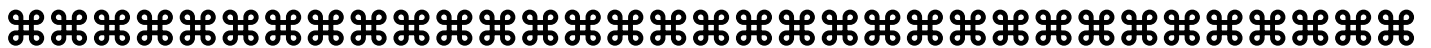
*We spent more than budgeted.*

*We ended these eight months spending \$23,566.33 more than we took in looking at the ACTUAL amounts and including the annual gift.*

\*In these annual figures in income, we received \$12,400 from St. Theodore's, \$122.08 Fundraising, \$1,240.00 Memorials and \$7,000.00 annual donation from a member.

Respectfully submitted by,  
 Kay Pushman, Finance Chair

*We are trying to include a weekly update of our income in the bulletin so everyone knows our current financial status.*



**CYCLE A – Year of Matthew**  
**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST THROUGH**  
**CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY**

**October 1, 2023 – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32  
Psalm 25:1-9  
Philippians 2:1-13  
Matthew 21:23-32

**October 8, 2023 – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Isaiah 5:1-7  
Psalm 80:7-15  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
Matthew 21:33-46

**October 15, 2023 – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

Isaiah 25:1-9  
Psalm 23  
Philippians 4:1-9  
Matthew 22:1-14

**October 22, 2023 – Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost**

Isaiah 45:1-7  
Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22

**October 29, 2023 – Reformation Sunday**

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Psalm 46  
Romans 3:19-28  
John 8:31-36

**November 5, 2023 – All Saints Sunday**

Revelation 7:9-17  
Psalm 34:1-10, 22  
1 John 3:1-3  
Matthew 5:1-12

**November 5, 2023 – Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

Micah 3:5-12  
Psalm 43  
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13  
Matthew 23:1-12

**November 19, 2023 – Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18  
Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12  
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
Matthew 25:14-30

**November 26, 2023 – Christ the King**

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24  
Psalm 95:1-7a  
Ephesians 1:15-23  
Matthew 25:31-46

## *Worship and Discipleship by Margo Geesing*

### *“Storytelling Jesus”*

This month we get parables from Jesus. Jesus seems to be a storyteller at heart. The first Sunday in October we have Jesus being questioned by the chief priests and elders. He answers with a question and then tells the parable of the two sons: the first says no but does what was asked; the second says yes to his father and doesn't do what was asked. Jesus ends by asking which had done the will of the father. Everyone answered the first one did the will of the father. There is a connection between these two things and a few points to ponder. First, our presumption: we presume that what we do/did was God's will. Not saying it wasn't, in this case it really is something God wants us to do. We are called to care for God's creation and to feed the hungry. But ... (you all knew that was coming!) how often do we use that phrase, “God's Will” (usually when something bad happens, by the way)? As with the parable that Jesus told, we all assume that the father's will was that the sons went to the vineyard but was that truly the father's will? Maybe the father's will was that his sons told him the truth of what would happen. In that case, neither of them did the father's will. Or maybe they both did the father's will because they answered honestly what their intention was at the time. How can we know the mind of the father or God at any point? We don't. We need to remember that God doesn't need us. In fact, God seems to work quite well all by himself and more often, in spite of us helping. What we need to remember is that God **ALLOWS** us to be instruments in his will.

This also seems to be the month of tweak the religious leaders! The second Sunday we again have the chief priests and the Pharisees realizing that Jesus is talking about them. And, again we have a vineyard but this one erupts in violence and, as Christians, we recognize the relationship of the parable to what happened to Jesus and thereafter, the world. It can also be a call to us to look honestly at ourselves. How do we react when we hear something that doesn't sit right with our views? Or is difficult to hear? Or requires us to change? Even today God prods us out of our set ways and challenges us to change.

The third week we have not a vineyard but a wedding banquet. A few years ago, weddings abounding in my life [now it's little ones]. My children were of an age where my eldest and a bunch of their friends are getting married. In a 3-year period there were 10 weddings! And the RSVP issues are insane! You send out invitations. You give a date for a response. You call to remind people to respond. Then they don't show up! Or they say no / don't answer and still show up expecting to be welcomed. So, I feel for the groom's father. God is like that. He gives us all invitations. He's excited and how do we react: Egh. I'll show up or not. If I'm not busy. If I have nothing else to do. If I don't get a better offer. If it's not too hard. If I'm not required to do anything. So, God goes out and finds others, but even these

are required to make the effort, to meet minimum standards. We really need to find the JOY and the URGENCY in God's invitation to be a part of the celebration.

*Render unto Caesar what is Caesar's and unto God what is God's.* We have all heard it but we generally don't do it. We fudge on our taxes, we don't vote, we don't take an interest or active role in what's going on unless we are personally affected. We miss worship, we don't volunteer, we don't support financially as well as we could, we skip prayer, we don't do things to build us spiritually. And we wonder why things aren't going well. So, what do we owe to Caesar compared to what we owe to God? In this case I am going to cheat and steal a little of what would be the 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Pentecost Gospel (we will be doing Reformation Sunday instead) to answer and just do what we owe to God. I believe that if we give to God what is God's, then Caesar will be just fine! The steal part is: *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."* This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: *"You shall love your neighbor as yourself"* Matthew 22:37-40. If we truly act from a **generous** love of God all else will fall in place. You will love yourself [Which is a downfall of many. We either love ourselves too much or not enough] and will love your neighbor. And the answer part: *1 Corinthians 13:4-7* is what it means to love generously: *"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."* If this is what we act on, we would do well.

The last Sunday of October we will celebrate Reformation Sunday and we get a Gospel from John. Jesus speaks of the connection between truth and freedom. He is referring to God's truth. The more we align ourselves and our will to what God wants the more freedom we have. We hear this theme throughout the Gospels. Jesus calls us to share his yoke for his burden is light [Matthew 11:28-30]. He calls us to trust in him, and our answers to our accusers will be given to us [Mark 13:11]. He calls us to be poor in spirit, to mourn, to be meek, to hunger and thirst for justice, to be merciful, to be pure of heart, to be peacemakers, and to be righteous [Matthew 5:3-10]. When we are living in the truth, we do not have to fear. We do not have to be afraid. There is great freedom in living a life without fear. When we live this kind of life: not steeped in sin, not being afraid, and walking with and towards Jesus we are free. We are called to walk in the light and to be light to others. We journey in faith together, in trust and freedom.

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Pastor: Lisa Rotchford

2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY											
<b>1</b> 10:30 Communion Service <i>Jerry Brady</i> <i>Presiding</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>											
<b>8</b> 10:30 Communion Service <i>Bishop Murray Finck</i> <i>Presiding</i>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>											
<b>15</b> 10:30 Communion Service <i>60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration</i> <i>Bishop David Nagle</i> <i>Presiding</i> <i>Luncheon to follow</i>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 2:30 p.m. – Council Meeting	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>											
<b>22</b> 10:30 Communion Service <i>Kelly Frankiewicz, M. Div. Preaching</i> <i>Jerry Brady</i> <i>Presiding</i>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Articles for November Newsletter Due!	<b>24</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>											
<b>29</b> <b>REFORMATION SUNDAY</b> 10:30 Communion Service <i>Bishop Murray Finck</i> <i>Presiding</i> Birthdays Celebrated	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <b>ALL HOLLOWS EVE</b>	<div data-bbox="755 1507 1550 1900" data-label="Complex-Block"> <p><b>The Five Solas of the Reformation</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><i>Sola Scriptura</i></td> <td rowspan="5"> </td> <td>Scripture <i>alone</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Sola Gratia</i></td> <td>By grace <i>alone</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Sola Fide</i></td> <td>Through faith <i>alone</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Solus Christus</i></td> <td>In Christ <i>alone</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Soli Deo Gloria</i></td> <td>For God's glory <i>alone</i></td> </tr> </table> </div>				<i>Sola Scriptura</i>		Scripture <i>alone</i>	<i>Sola Gratia</i>	By grace <i>alone</i>	<i>Sola Fide</i>	Through faith <i>alone</i>	<i>Solus Christus</i>	In Christ <i>alone</i>	<i>Soli Deo Gloria</i>	For God's glory <i>alone</i>
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