



Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World
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Happy Birthday
June Birthdays

Joan Volden	June	2
Lucy Fitch	June	5
Betty Lucero	June	7
Barbara Schuyler	June	8
Evelyn Crawford	June	17
Leslie Parker	June	18
Jerry Brady	June	23
Clarence Urban	June	25
Loretta Gilbert	June	27

CALENDAR NOTES

Sundays

10:30 a.m. Communion Service

June

June 1 – 17: Pastor Lisa out of town

June 15: 2:30 p.m. Council Meeting

June 18: Father's Day

June 20: Newsletter Articles Due

June Anniversaries

Ron and Linda Robertson	June	7
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In Thanks

Cedric Elmer wishes to thank all who sent me prayers, sympathy cards and e-mails relating to Lynda's passing on April 15th. And for your attendance and sharing of memories at her Celebration of Life Memorial on May



21st.

Emergency Pastoral Care: From June 1 until June 18, if you are in need of emergency pastoral care, please call Jerry Brady at (714) 534-2673. After that you can go back to calling Pastor Lisa at (714) 833-7332.

“June Gloom? June Joy!”

Though we’re experiencing an intense “June gloom” as we get socked in with the cloudy and cooling marine layer, June is traditionally celebrated as the month when the *joys of summer* get into full swing. Remember the joy of the last day of school in June when all the crazy, hazy days of summer were in front of you? From graduations to weddings to Father’s Day barbecues, there is much to be celebrated and joy to be found in June.

As there is much joy to be found in our church by our faith. When we add the gifts of 3 faithful men together over the centuries — King David, Ludwig Van Beethoven, and Henry Van Dyke — we have our blessed seasonal hymn for June: “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”.

It is a hymn that has its roots in Psalm 71. Writing in the later twilight years of his life, David speaks of trusting God in all aspects of his life, with steadfast endurance in one's final years. In old age he sought God's help as his own strength waned:

Psalm 71 (NRSV) — Prayer for Lifelong Protection and Help

¹*In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.*

²*In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
incline your ear to me and save me.*

³*Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress....*

⁹*Do not cast me off in the time of old age;
do not forsake me when my strength is spent....*

¹²*O God, do not be far from me;
O my God, make haste to help me!*

¹⁷*O God, from my youth you have taught me,
and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.*

¹⁸*So even to old age and grey hairs,
O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might
to all the generations to come. Your power*

¹⁹*and your righteousness, O God,
reach the high heavens. You who have done great things,
O God, who is like you?*

²⁰*You who have made me see many troubles and calamities
will revive me again;
from the depths of the earth you will bring me up again.*

²¹*You will increase my honor,
and comfort me once again.*

²²*I will also praise you with the harp
for your faithfulness, O my God;*

I will sing praises to you with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel.

²³***My lips will shout for joy
when I sing praises to you;
my soul also, which you have rescued.***

It is Psalm 71, verse 23 that the poet Henry Van Dyke based “The Hymn of Joy” in 1907 with the intention of musically setting it to the famous “Ode to Joy” melody of the final movement of Ludwig van Beethoven's final symphony, Symphony No. 9. The lyrics were first published in 1911 in Van Dyke's *Book of Poems*.

Van Dyke himself described his hymn: “These verses are simple expressions of common Christian feelings and desires in this present time — hymns of today that may be sung together by people who know the thought of the age, and are not afraid that any truth of science will destroy religion, or any revolution on earth overthrow the kingdom of heaven. Therefore this is a hymn of trust and joy and hope.” Another hymnologist wrote: “This hymn is generally considered by hymnologists to be one of the most joyous expressions of hymn lyrics in the English language.”

Beethoven did not write any of his compositions for congregational use, but various arrangers adapted some of his musical themes as hymn tunes — the most famous being “Ode to Joy” from the Ninth Symphony which he wrote in 1824. As one biographer wrote: “Although it would appear that the great calamity of Beethoven’s life was his loss of hearing, which turned to total deafness during the last decade of his life, he composed his greatest works during this period.”

So let us join King David, Beethoven, and Van Dyke across the centuries as they created a hymn for the ages, in their older years. Posting it on our refrigerator and our hearts, let us live into “the joy of my Lord is our strength.” May we reflect and sing of the joy of God for giving us age, faith, and trust knowing our God who is with us always (and especially in the light and

joy of June :) — *Pastor Lisa*

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Op'ning to the Sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day!

Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou the Father, Christ our Brother,
all who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy Divine.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals join the mighty chorus,
which the morning stars began;
Father-love is reigning o'er us,
brother-love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife,
joyful music lifts us sunward
in the triumph song of life.

Message from Our President...

Dear Christian Family:

We had an impressive number of attendees for our initial meeting of Redeemer's 60th Anniversary Committee chaired by Carmen Leslie. Plans were discussed for the October event including the Service itself when Bishop David Nagler will preach and the celebration Anniversary Luncheon which will follow. More details will be announced soon.

Another big event upcoming soon will be the observance of Pastor Gil Moore's 70th Anniversary of Ordination in the Ministry of Serving the Lord. It will be a special service on September 17, with his family in attendance. Again, more details will be announced soon.

The Memorial Moment and Service for Pastor Lynda Elmer on Sunday, May 21, was an inspiring and moving experience. Our prayers continue for Cedric and his family.

Since Pastor Lisa was unable to take her scheduled Sunday off in May because of events necessities (Mother's Day, Pastor Lynda's Service, Pentecost, etc.) I suggested to her that she take a two week break in June (something she has never done since her installation as our Pastor.) She agreed to this, so Pastor Jennifer Zahnow will preach and preside on Sunday, June 4 and yours truly will do the same on Sunday, June 11. Pastor Lisa will be back in the pulpit on Father's Day, June 18.

The balance of the year 2023 will be a busy and most exciting time in the life of our congregation.

God Bless,

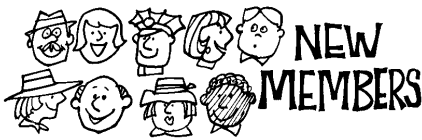
Jerry Brady
Council President

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.

New Members



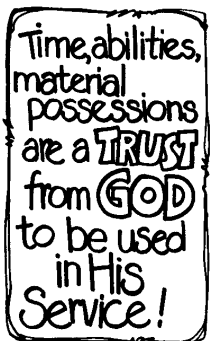
We thank all of the new people who have been joining us in worship and fellowship. While your attendance is a wonderful thing, we would also like to welcome you all as formal members of our congregation. If you are interested in formally joining Redeemer Lutheran Church, please speak with Pastor Lisa. She is starting to plan for an orientation class and a welcome service for new members.

Sharing Communion



Communion — the bread, wine and grape juice of the vine — is offered in the communion cups/chalices. *If you desire to take Communion to share with others, please speak with Pastor Lisa about joining the Eucharistic Ministry team.*

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

April 30, 2023



Operating Expense of	\$7,720.01
exceeded Operating Income of	<u>\$8,132.41</u>
by	\$412.40

Year to Date: April 30, 2023

we see the following comparing **Actual to Budgeted** for the first 4 months of 2023

Our Budgeted income of	\$33,364.00	Our Budgeted Expenses of	\$33,364.00
exceeded our Actual Income of	<u>\$24,924.64</u>	exceeded our Actual Expenses of	<u>\$31,474.18</u>
by	(\$8,439.36)	by	\$1,889.82

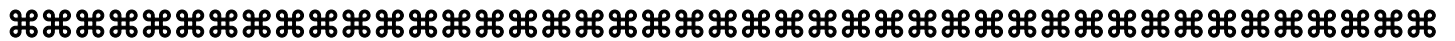
We took in less than budgeted.

We spent less than budgeted.

We ended these four months spending \$6,549.54 more than we took in looking at the ACTUAL amounts.

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

HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY THROUGH FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 4, 2023 – *The Holy Trinity*

Genesis 1:1—2:4a
 Psalm 8
 2 Corinthians 13:11-13
 Matthew 28:16-20

June 18, 2023 – *Third Sunday after Pentecost*

Genesis 18:1-15 [21:1-7]
 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
 Romans 5:1-8
 Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

June 11, 2023 – *Second Sunday after Pentecost*

Genesis 12:1-9
 Psalm 33:1-12
 Romans 4:13-25
 Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

June 25, 2023 – *Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

Genesis 21:8-21
 Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17
 Romans 6:1b-11
 Matthew 10:24-39

Worship and Discipleship by Margo Geesing

“Ready, Set, GO”

Faith in fullness is an action word. You can have faith, but to truly live your faith you are really called to DO. In James 2:26 we read, *“For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”* In the Gospels for the month of June Jesus in fact directs us into action.

On the first Sunday of June [Holy Trinity Sunday], we have Jesus commissioning the eleven: *“¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.”* Matthew 28:16-20. This is the continuing action of the church. Jesus’s followers, just as we, are sent to make disciples. The way we do that is through our actions and our words. I can **tell** you all about Jesus, and God the Father, and the Holy Spirit but that will not convince you that faith in the Trinity is a good thing. My actions, how I treat others; my words, how I speak about and to others; shows how my faith in the Trinity changes me. Having faith is hard. Living faith is harder. All those warning and such that Jesus constantly speaks of to his followers – they still happen. Living your faith can be dangerous – just look at who we follow and where he ended his human life. Faith, living faith, is not for the faint of heart [but the final reward is great!].

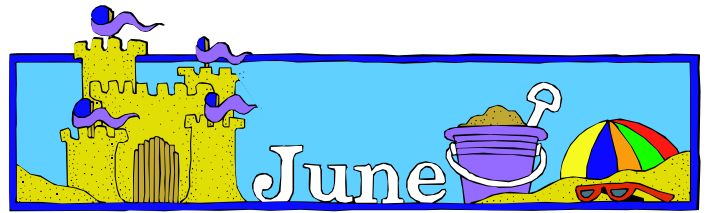
The second Sunday of June we have the calling of Matthew, and Jesus challenging the status quo. Jesus was willing to talk with and eat with those who society saw as less than. Jesus came for all of us. We all need his salvation and redemption. The issue is with those who don’t realize they need him. Jesus humbled himself to become human. He wishes us to do the same. *“¹³Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.”* Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26. When we acknowledge our own need for mercy, we can learn to be merciful. Jesus calls us all to live out his mercy with others. This Gospel lesson has Jesus showing mercy to those who were less than in society: a child and a woman with hemorrhages. The faith of both the synagogue leader and the woman is what Jesus looked for. The faith and trust in him.

The third Sunday of June [Father’s Day] Jesus sends his followers out to preach. *“^{10:7}As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’”* Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]. The issue with his sending: he sent them with nothing. No money, no extra clothes, no reservations on where to stay. The only thing they had to take was his words and actions. The absolute trust they had in him to go. Leaving everything behind: family, friends, and livelihood to trust in the kindness of strangers. Now days, you would hardly walk out of the house without your wallet, keys, jacket, perhaps a snack, and a map [or cell phone] if you

were going somewhere you didn't know. And you would definitely make a few hotel reservations so you knew where you would be sleeping at night! And does he tell them that all will be well? Of course not! He tells them that they may run into trouble, they may get hurt and betrayed. And then he says, don't worry about it: trust me! And now, thousands of years later, we too are being sent to go and preach the good news. We are sent into the world not knowing what is going to happen when we speak the truth of God. Jesus's followers are still being hurt and betrayed. And again, we are only equipped with Jesus's words and actions to share; and our trust and faith in him. As we go through our life, we are indeed bringing the kingdom of heaven nearer.

Jesus continues to challenge his followers in the Gospel lesson for the fourth Sunday of June. He again warns them that following him will not lead to a easy carefree life. In fact, just the opposite! Jesus came to show the way back to the Father. He did not come to say, believe and everything will be easy. He showed through his own life, following the will of the Father is hard. We each have our own cross to carry. At times that burden seems too heavy to bear, but bear it we must to reach the reward at the end. ³⁸ *...and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me.* Matthew 10:24-39. Jesus carried his cross even though he did not deserve it. But just as Jesus had Simon to help with his cross, we also have one another to help when our own cross gets too heavy. This leads us back to the concept of mercy. We are here not only to carry our own cross but also to help others. When we get caught up in our own lives and burdens, we fail to see what others are enduring. Sharing the weight helps both. Sometimes we need to reach out and ask for help and sometimes we are the ones being asked. The "go" order for this Sunday is a bit more subtle: go, carry your burden; share with others when you need to, help others to carry their burden, walk the journey in support of one another.

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 website: www.redeemerlutheransealbeach.com
 Pastor: Lisa Rotchford



2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 <i>Pastor Lisa away until June 18</i>	2	3
4 10:30 Communion Service <i>Pastor Jennifer Zahnow Preaching</i>	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 10:30 Communion Service <i>Jerry Brady Preaching</i>	12	13	14 FLAG DAY	15 2:30 p.m. – Council Meeting	16	17
18 FATHER'S DAY 10:30 Communion Service	19	20 Newsletter Articles Due for July / August	21	22	23	24
25 10:30 Communion Service Birthdays Celebrated	26	27	28	29	30	