



**Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World and
St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church**
13564 St. Andrews Drive; Seal Beach, CA 90740
Phone (562) 598-8697; FAX (562) 598-8697
e-mail: redeemer_lutheran@verizon.net

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Happy Birthday

April Birthdays

<i>Beverly Anderson</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Sharon Heck</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Lynne Retmier</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Linda Wilson</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Murray Finck</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Margaret Mejra</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Julia Watson</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Steven Goodson</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>29</i>

Emergency Pastoral Care: Whenever you are in need of emergency pastoral care, please call the office and leave a message (562) 598-8697 or contact Interim Pastor Finck at (714) 345-2791.

CALENDAR NOTES

Sundays

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service

Wednesdays

12:00 Noon to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours

12:00 Noon to 1:15 p.m. Bible Study

April

April 2: 10:30 a.m. **Maundy Thursday**
Holy Communion Service

April 3: 10:30 a.m. **Good Friday** Service

April 5: 10:30 a.m. **EASTER SUNDAY**
Holy Communion Service

April 6: 10:00 a.m. Bazaar Crafting

April 8: 3:00 p.m. Bishop Service and
Supper

12:00 Noon to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours

April 12: 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion
Service

April 13: 10:00 a.m. Bazaar Crafting

April 15: 12:00 Noon to 2:00 p.m. Office
Hours

April 19: 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion
Service

April 20: 10:00 a.m. Bazaar Crafting

April 22: 12:00 Noon to 1:15 p.m. Bible
Study

12:00 Noon to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours

1:30 p.m. Council Meeting

April 26: 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion
Service

April 27: 10:00 a.m. Bazaar Crafting

April 29: 12:00 Noon to 1:15 p.m. Bible
Study

12:00 Noon to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours

April 30: Spring Bazaar 9:00 a.m. to 3:00
p.m.

Message from the Interim Pastor:

“A Month of Hope and Promise”

The month of April offers the members and friends of Redeemer/St. Theodore as well as the whole community some wonderful and unique times of worship, learning, fellowship, and witness. It will be a month that brings us hope as we hear again of God’s eternal love for us and for the world God created. We enjoy opportunities to gather for worship and celebration, learning and teaching, fellowship and support one for another. Here are some of the highlights for April 2026...

HOLY WEEK AND THE DAY OF RESURRECTION – While the first day of Holy Week, Palm Sunday, fell in March this year, as we worship and re-tell the passion story of Jesus, we will gather for three very important moments in the first week of April. All of our services will be at 10:30 a.m.

+MAUNDY THURSDAY (Thursday, April 2) we will hear the story of Jesus gathering with his disciples in the Upper Room and instituting the sacrament of the Lord’s Table (also called the Last Supper or Holy Communion.) It the night before he was crucified and the story of that day is important and powerful.

+GOOD FRIDAY (Friday, April 3) brings us together to hear and participate in a reading of the entire passion narrative, a compilation taken from all four of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. During the reading, we will sing hymns and hear anthems telling more of the story of that Friday our Savior and Lord was crucified.

+THE DAY OF RESURRECTION (Easter Sunday, April 5) On this holiest of days, we will join with Christians around the world to celebrate and give thanks for Jesus’ resurrection, when he came forth from the tomb promising forgiveness and a life with God today and forever. We will again be singing the glad “Alleluias” and giving thanks for the grace and love of God. The Sa-Rang congregation is offering all of our worshippers an Easter box lunch after our worship service this joyous day.

Holy Communion will be offered on Thursday and Sunday. (We do not commune on Good Friday.) We have been hearing during these past Lenten weeks a number of *“Voices Along the Way”* from people who were involved in Jesus’ life, ministry and passion. This week we will hear the voice of **Malchus** on Thursday, **Dismas** on Friday, and **Mary Magdalene** on Sunday.

AN AFTERNOON WITH TWO BISHOPS – Our Lutheran/Episcopalian congregation will have a very rare and wonderful moment on **Wednesday, April 8th, beginning at 3:00 p.m.** as we will have both our **Lutheran Bishop (David Nagler)** and our **Episcopalian Bishop (John Taylor)** with us at the same time on the same afternoon. I encourage all members and friends of the congregation to be there for this gathering. We will begin with a brief worship time in the sanctuary, followed by a time of hearing from and having conversation with our two Bishops. At **4:30 p.m.**, we will go downstairs for a **catered dinner** with the Bishops in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome and invited. If you are attending, it will be important to hear from you, so we know for sure how many meals to have prepared. The last time one Bishop was with the congregation was September 2023, and the last time both an Episcopalian and Lutheran Bishop came at the same time was in the year 2000. It is a very extra-ordinary occasion! **Again, I strongly urge you to participate in this unique moment in the life of this congregation!**

I give thanks for all of you, for all your work and support of this congregation's ministry, and for the witness you give as the Body of Christ here in Leisure World.

God be with you all!

+Pastor Murray

+The Rev. Murray D. Finck, Interim Pastor

Message from Our President...

Dear Members and Friends,

LENTEN SUPPERS: Our Voices From the Cross Lenten Suppers presented by Pastor Murray, have been truly inspirational-leaving us eager to know more, and have been very well attended. The delicious dinners generously provided by our members have added so much to this special time. We are deeply grateful for their willingness to volunteer, and make this such a meaningful and memorable season in the life of our church.

SERVICE AND DINNER WITH THE BISHOPS: Please be sure to attend **Wednesday April 8 at 3:00 pm** for a special Service and Dinner with Bishop David Nagler of the Pacifica Synod, and Bishop John Taylor of the Episcopal Diocese. We are truly fortunate that both bishops are taking the time to be with us, and we hope to honor their visit with a strong showing from our congregation.

RSVP: We encourage you to invite friends who may be interested in hearing these inspiring leaders. If you need help with transportation, please let me know. As this is a catered dinner, please be sure to sign the RSVP sheet or call me at (818) 470-0480.

CHURCH IMPROVEMENT: Some of you may remember when the cross on the roof of our church was lit each night. Dale Diesslin recently approached me with the suggestion to have it repaired, along with his generous offer to cover the expense. The electrician who updated our electrical panels, together with Mickey Costello, investigated the issue, and determined what was needed. Along with the lighting, he relocated the time clock from the attic to the office, and repaired the back door light. Our cross and the stained-glass window of Jesus are now lit every night!

Many thanks to Dale Diesslin and Carol and Mickey Costello for covering the cost of all of these repairs. It will be such a beautiful inspiration to our community every night.

CHURCH UPGRADES: As recommended by the insurance company, we have replaced our hot water heaters. A water detection system is ordered for both of them to avoid any water damage.

SOUND SYSTEM: The Council has voted to approve the Sa-Rang Korean Church's proposal to install a new sound system. This system will ensure every word of Pastor Murray's message will be clearly heard from everywhere in the Sanctuary. We are very grateful for their generosity to improve our church.

EASTER LUNCH: We also thank the Sa-Rang Korean Church for hosting our Easter lunch. It is such a thoughtful and generous gesture.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The Council has set April 12 after our worship service for a Congregational Meeting at which we will present the Sa-Rang Korean Church's offer to install an audio-visual system. Please be sure to attend this important decision-making meeting. As always, fellowship will follow the meeting.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for our church.

God's Blessings,

Kay Pushman
Council President



Lenten Study and Supper

Our Lenten Journey is coming to an end. March 29 was Passion – Palm Sunday and was the beginning of Holy Week. There are still a few important gatherings before Easter Sunday!

Holy Week: No Lenten Supper

Maundy Thursday April 2 10:30 a.m. Hand Washing and Holy Communion Service

Good Friday, April 3 10:30 a.m. Passion and Holy Communion Service

Easter: April 5 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service. Please, remember to wear your Easter hat on Sunday!

Thank You for Our Lenten Journey to Easter

Thank you, everyone, for joining us on this year's Lenten Journey. We are grateful to everyone who participated in this journey of faith this year: the providers of suppers, those who clean-up, those who decorated the Sanctuary, those who paid for the lilies, those who attended our Lenten Reflections, those who attended our special Holy Week Services, and you, who are joining us on this most holy and special of days. A special thank you to The Rev. Murray Finck for leading us in the dessert of these 40 days of Lent and Holy Week. And thanks to those who wore their beautiful Easter hats on Easter! *A special Thank You to Sa-Rang Korean Church for providing lunch after our Easter Service!*

Reception of New Members

The reception of new members took place on March 22. We were honored to receive into membership Ellen Larsen and Julia Watson. If you still desire membership, please speak to Pastor Finck or a member of the Church Council.

Special Service and Dinner

Reverend Murray has invited Bishop David Nagler of The Pacifica Synod and Bishop John Harvey Taylor of the Los Angeles Episcopalian Diocese to a gathering and dinner in their honor on Wednesday, April 8 at 3:00 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the Sanctuary so we have a count of people to prepare for or call Kay at (818) 470-0480 to **RSVP**.

Special Congregational Meeting

The Council is calling a Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, April 12 after our Holy Communion Service where the congregation will be presented the Sa-Rang Korean Church's offer to install an audio-visual system. Please be sure to attend this important meeting. Fellowship will follow the meeting.

Spring Bazaar

The Bazaar committee has decided to have **every Monday** get-together in April for the assembly of crafts at 10:00 a.m. The meetings will be: **Monday, April 6, 13, 20, and 27.** We will meet downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. We have preplanned projects for you with directions, guidance, and all the materials! All we need is **YOU!** Come join us! This is our final preparations for our **Spring Bazaar on April 30 to May 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.!** This is a fundraiser, so please support your church by attending with friends and neighbors.

Building Improvements

We have completed the necessary building improvements for our insurance. One of our electrical panels was upgraded and we have installed a new hot water heater. Water detection devices will also be installed. Please note in the President's article that Dale Diesslin and Mickey and Carol Costello have arranged and paid for the lighting of our cross and a safety light by our office entrance door.

Outside Memorial Cross Wall

It was decided to turn one wall of the Outside Cross Chapel into a Cross Memorial Wall. We are opening this up to our membership if they would like to include a loved one on this wall. Because we do want to keep it somewhat uniform, the Church will order the plaques but you will have options for the symbol on it of a Lutheran Rose, an Episcopal Flag (like the one on the bench for Betty Hobbs in the Cross Chapel), a simple Cross, or no symbol at all. We also have appropriate options for a cross to be hung if you do not want to go through finding and ordering your own. The suggested donation if you provide the cross is a minimum of \$150.00 or if the Church also provides the cross the suggested donation is \$200.00. The Church will place the cross and plaque on the wall. If you would like more information about this project, please feel free to speak to the Council President, Kay Pushman.

Free Dollar Donations

We work with Ralph's to be one of their choices for their community giving program. If you shop at Ralph's, even just occasionally, we would like to invite you to participate in this free program to help the church financially. There are flyers on the bulletin board on how to sign up for this program and there are members willing to help you to sign-up, if you need it. You can speak to Kay Pushman if you want more information on this no cost to you program. There is also Thrivent Choice Dollars that Redeemer Lutheran can be designated to receive if you bank with Thrivent. We thank all who have participated in these programs and have designated Redeemer as their charity of choice.



**FINANCE REPORT
REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
ST. THEODORE OF CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**ACTUAL INCOME & EXPENSES
FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

<u>Income</u>	<u>One Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Current Offering	\$8400.72	\$15420.72
Fundraiser-Boutique	39.00	84.00
Fundraiser-Bake Sale	0.00	0.00
Fundraiser-Bazaar	0.00	0.00
Fundraiser-Ralphs	0.00	0.00
Memorial	0.00	0.00
Memorial Wall	0.00*	0.00 *
Sa-Rang Church Donation	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>4,000.00</u>
Total Operating Income	\$10,439.72	\$19,504.72
Total Operating Income	\$10,439.72	\$19,504.72
Total Expenses	<u>7,965.53</u>	<u>18,531.10</u>
Gain/(Loss)	\$2,474.19	\$973.62
	(Less than Income)	(Less than Income)

* Memorial Wall Net (Income less Expenses)

YEAR TO DATE BUDGET INCOME & EXPENSES FEBRUARY 28, 2026

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Budget	\$10,621.00	\$10,621.00
Actual	<u>10,439.72</u>	<u>7,965.53</u>
Gain/(Loss)	(\$181.28)	\$2,655.47
	(Less than Budget)	Less than budget

OTHER INCOME & EXPENSES

Income	Expenses
0	0

Respectfully Submitted,
Doris Weinert
Finance Chair

**CYCLE A – Year of Matthew
PASSION – PALM SUNDAY
THROUGH PENTECOST SUNDAY**

March 29, 2026 – *Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday*

Procession with Palms: Matthew 21:1-11
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14—27:66 or
Matthew 27:11-54

April 2, 2026 – *Maundy Thursday*

Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 3, 2026 – *Good Friday*

Isaiah 52:13—53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25 or
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
John 18:1—19:42

April 5, 2026 – *Resurrection of Our Lord Easter Day*

Acts 10:34-43 or
Jeremiah 31:1-6
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3:1-4 or
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 28:1-10 or John 20:1-18

April 12, 2026 – *Second Sunday of Easter*

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

April 19, 2026 – *Third Sunday of Easter*

Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35

April 26, 2026 – *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

May 3, 2026 – *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

May 10, 2026 – *Sixth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21

May 17, 2026 – *Seventh Sunday of Easter*

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 (4)
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

May 24, 2026 – *Day of Pentecost*

Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b (30)
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21
John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

Worship and Discipleship by Margo Geesing

"Time of Easter"

One Solitary Life by James Allan Francis

He was born in an obscure village the child of a peasant woman

He grew up in another obscure village where he worked in a carpenter shop until he was thirty.

He never wrote a book, he never held an office, he never went to college, he never visited a big city, he never travelled more than two hundred miles from the place where he was born

He did none of the things usually associated with greatness

He had no credentials but himself

He was only thirty-three

His friends ran away, one of them denied him

He was turned over to his enemies and went through the mockery of a trial.

He was nailed to a cross between two thieves

While dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing the only property he had on earth.

When he was dead he was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen centuries have come and gone and today Jesus is the central figure of the human race.

And the leader of mankind's progress.

All the armies that have ever marched all the navies that have ever sailed all the parliaments that have ever sat all the kings that have ever reigned put together

Have not affected the life of mankind on earth as powerfully as that one solitary life.

This was written in 1926. The above poem came to my mind and I wanted to share it, again, with you. I figure you have all read it before but it is a beautiful reminder of who and what Jesus is to the world. We are honored to be his followers! It gives us a moment to reflect on Holy Week. To reflect on *why* Jesus did what he did. He came to change the world with love.

March 29, 2026 – *Passion - Palm Sunday*

The Gospel Lesson is from Matthew chapter 26 verse 14 to chapter 27 verse 66

We ended March with Passion / Palm Sunday. A week. What can happen in a week? Palm Sunday found Jesus entering Jerusalem almost as a conquering king. A week later, his followers find an empty tomb. And what of his followers? They have gone on a rollercoaster of emotions. Joy, confusion, pain, grief, fear, disbelief, and more confusion. Remember, they haven't seen the Resurrected Jesus yet. Sounds a lot like our own lives. We have an advantage over his followers of the time, we have their witness to the resurrection but, what does that mean to us today? If we believe in the resurrection, if we embrace faith in the Risen Lord, if we call Him Lord and Savior, if we call His Father, "*Father*", if we have the Gifts of the Holy Spirit within us, if we have the gift of faith, if we have the Breath of Life within us, if we allow Him to have a claim on us then there needs to be a response from us. The one thing we cannot say; we should not say is, "*Yes, I believe*" and then walk through our lives as if we did not.

April 5, 2026 – Easter Sunday

The Gospel Lesson is from Matthew chapter 28 verse 1 – 10

First Sunday of April is EASTER!!! This is the most important day of our Church year. It is more important than Christmas, after all we were all born! And we will all die someday. What we all will not do is rise from the death through our own power! This is what makes Jesus different. He is God. There are two Gospel choices. The amazing thing about both of them is that it is announced to WOMEN first that Jesus has risen. And we are back to the confused, scared, and sorrow leading into joy. We seem unable to understand or experience joy without going through sorrow first. In one Gospel they are met with disbelief and in the other Peter goes out to check. So, those times when things are going wrong, realize, joy is to follow!

April 12, 2026 – Second Sunday of Easter

The Gospel Lesson is from John chapter 20 verse 19 – 31

There are times in the Gospels when I can see myself in the place of one of them. Sometimes it's Peter because he is so often willing to just plunge right in and frequently gets called out by Jesus. Then, there is Thomas in this week's Gospel. He was probably sent out for a food run and then comes back the other disciples said to him, "*We have seen the Lord.*" And his reaction is much like what mine would have been, I won't believe it until I see it. For us, we don't get that option. We don't get to see Jesus walking around. This requires faith which is helped by community. The difficulty of trying to go it alone in faith is that we only see ourselves – our own thoughts, reflection, wants, and needs. For Church to happen, we need a community. There are times in our own lives where we do not see the Lord working and we need the community to say, "*We have seen the Lord.*" And sometimes we need to be the one to say it to others. Then we get to: Touching Jesus. How can we dare? Even when He says we should. We need to. We need to so we can come to an understanding, flawed as it may be, of the Risen Lord. We need to be Word and Sacrament to one another in the world. YOU may be the only way someone else has of touching Jesus.

April 19, 2026 – Third Sunday of Easter

The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 24 verse 13 – 35

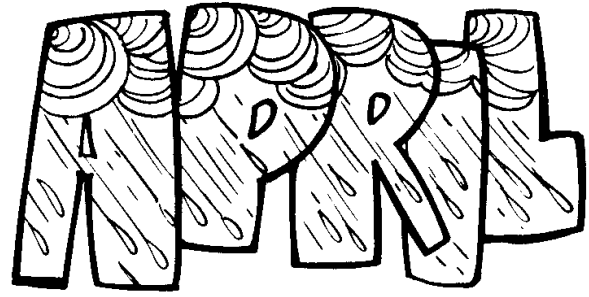
The fourth Sunday of April we have one of my favorite Gospel lessons. The Road to Emmaus! I could do an entire article on the Road to Emmaus. There is so much in those short 22 verses. They are about being so caught up in your excitement that, although you may be tired, you get back on the road to share the news with others. They had already walked about 7 miles that day. It's evening. It's getting dark. What do they do when they recognize Jesus in the breaking of the bread, they get up and walk another 7 miles back to Jerusalem! In the dark. Where there are no street lights. To share the good news that Jesus is alive with their friends. This lesson is about the faith journey. When was the last time you were so excited about something in your faith life that you couldn't wait to share it with someone else? We need to be bold in faith. We need to travel together and support each other in times of sorrow and in times of joy.

April 26, 2026 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Gospel Lesson is from John chapter 10 verse 1 – 10

The last Sunday in April Jesus again compares himself to a shepherd. He explains the different between a Shepherd vs Hired Hand. Who do we look to be our shepherd? What do we look for? We need a shepherd who is just; protective; understanding; brave; looking out for the weak, poor, outcast, and lost; the one willing to lay down his life for the smallest sheep. There are a lot of people in leadership positions that give minimal effort, pursue their own agenda, ignore the common good, to whom the poor, weak, infirmed are invisible, get out when the getting is good for them – these are hired hands. We are blessed with a Shepherd!

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 E-Mail: redeemer_lutheran@verizon.net
 website: www.redeemerlutheransealbeach.com



Interim Pastor: Bishop Murray Finck, Bishop Emeritus

2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours	2 MAUNDY THURSDAY 10:30 a.m. Maundy Thursday Holy Communion and Hand Washing Service	3 GOOD FRIDAY 10:30 a.m. Good Friday Holy Communion Service	4 HOLY SATURDAY VIGIL OF EASTER
5 EASTER SUNDAY 10:30 Holy Communion Service	6 10:00 a.m. Bazaar Crafting Get together	7	8 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours Special Service with Bishops 3:00 p.m. with dinner to follow	9	10	11
12 10:30 Holy Communion Service <i>Special Congregational Meeting</i>	13 10:00 a.m. Bazaar Crafting Get together	14	15 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours	16	17	18
19 10:30 Holy Communion Service	20 10:00 a.m. Bazaar Crafting Get together Newsletter Articles Due	21	22 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 12:00 Noon – 1:15 p.m. Bible Study 1:30 p.m. Council Meeting	23	24	25
26 10:30 Holy Communion <i>Birthdays Celebrated</i>	27 10:00 a.m. Bazaar Crafting Get together	28	29 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 12:00 Noon – 1:15 p.m. Bible Study	30 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Spring Bazaar	May 1 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Spring Bazaar	May 2 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Spring Bazaar



HE IS RISEN, ALLELUIA!

