



**Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World and
St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church**
13564 St. Andrews Drive; Seal Beach, CA 90740
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In This Issue ... August 2025

Article	Page
Birthdays	1
Calendar Notes	1
Emergency Pastoral Care	1
Message from the Pastor	2-3
President's Message	4-5
Announcements	5-6
B2B2B Update	7
Finance Report	8
Lessons to Study	9
Worship and Discipleship	10-11
Monthly Calendar	12

Happy Birthday ***August Birthdays***

<i>Emil Miorelli</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Dee Worku</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Susan Avila</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Carol Kelly</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Martha Ziegler</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Anne Walshe</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Ken Lancaster</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Juanita Townsend</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Shirlene Bradrick</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Bruce Young</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Flo Nesland</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>John Robinson</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>Ray Friedrichsen</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>Delrie Hobbs</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>Ron Robertson</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>Steven Tegtmeier</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>Donna Michelson</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>31</i>

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

AUGUST

August 6: 12:00 Noon Bible Study

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

August 10: Special Congregational Meeting

August 13: 12:00 Noon Bible Study

1:30 p.m. New Member Meeting

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

August 20: 12:00 Noon Bible Study

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

1:30 p.m. Council Meeting

August 25: Newsletter Articles Due

August 27: 12:00 Noon Bible Study

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

August 31: Birthdays Celebrated at Fellowship

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.

Decisions, Decisions

We find ourselves in a hopeful and important time of making several significant congregational and personal decisions and plans for the days and years ahead. It is good to have before us new possibilities that may move us in new ways into the days ahead or re-affirm what we are currently doing. God made plans for the future. According to Jeremiah 29, God spoke through the prophet, saying...

“For surely I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord, “plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give a future with hope.”

God was telling the people of God that new days were dawning. Here are four decisions our congregation and our friends and members have before us these summer days.

ONE -- A CONGREGATIONAL DECISION... We recently voted to move forward with a plan to replace the old and no-longer-working heating system that fills an entire room in the lower level of the building. When the City of Seal Beach gives us the permits (and green lights) to move forward, **new heating and air conditioning (HVAC) units will be installed** in the sanctuary, the fellowship hall, the meeting room, and both offices in the back of the building. Each area will be zoned in such a way that they may be turned on or off completely independently. Thank you for helping us make that decision several weeks ago.

TWO -- A PERSONAL DECISION... As we have shared earlier, the Pacifica Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles have given us a total of \$37,500 in ministry grants and another \$12,500 in an interest-free loan that will allow us to dedicate some of our current operating funds toward the purchase of the new HVAC system. Now we individually have the ability to cover the rest of the needed funding for this system with over-and-above giving. **The Council is extending a special fund-raising appeal, entitled B2B2B—Blessed To Be Two Blessings, to the friends and members of the congregation to raise at least \$15,000.** That amount, along with the \$50,000 in grants and loans will allow us to complete the project with a very low monthly payment to repay the interest-free loan. Please prayerfully consider making a decision to support this effort as you are able.

THREE – ANOTHER CONGREGATIONAL DECISION... On August 10th, following worship, the congregation will be asked to **consider the request of Seal Beach Sa-Rang Church to use parts of our campus for their congregation.** Currently, this Korean-speaking congregation is meeting in Clubhouse 3. They wish to use our facilities on Sunday afternoon for worship, Wednesday evenings for Bible Study, and Tuesday through Saturday from 6:00-7:00

a.m. for prayer. None of those times conflict with the current use of our facilities by our congregation. The Council is bringing this before the congregation for discussion, sharing of additional information, and a congregational vote on August 10, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.

FOUR – YET ANOTHER PERSONAL DECISION... A wide variety of people participate regularly in the life and ministry of this congregation, and we give thanks for each and every one of you. Some are members of either the Lutheran or the Episcopal congregations. Some are associate members. Some are friends. Each person is a blessing to our community of faith. **Are some of you considering membership?** When people choose to become members, they then are able to serve on the Council and help us make the monthly decisions that govern the congregation between Congregational Meetings. They also are considered Voting Members who then are welcomed to attend all Congregational Meetings to approve congregational decisions, budgets, and other ministry and mission plans upon which the congregation is deciding. **If you are not a member, but wish to become one, there will be a gathering in the Meeting Room on Wednesday, August 13th at 1:30 p.m. to talk together about that.** A New Member Reception will take place during the worship service in mid-September. We invite any and all friends and associate members to consider officially joining the membership of the congregation. Attending the information meeting on August 13th would hopefully be helpful toward making that important decision.

Decisions, decisions... much to think about these summer days as God is moving among us, challenging us, giving us opportunities to grow and move forward as the Body of Christ. During the days of Jeremiah, God had plans for God's people's future. During these days, God also has plans for us now and in the days before us. May God bless our discernment and decision-making!

+Pastor Murray D. Finck

The Rev Murray D. Finck, Bishop Emeritus

Message from Our President...

Dear Members and Friends,

July has been a very exciting month for at our July 13, 2025 Congregational Meeting, we unanimously voted to accept the Council's Resolution to have Greenwood Heating and Air install HVAC systems in our Sanctuary, offices, and fellowship hall. We sincerely owe Reverend Finck a debt of gratitude, as this wouldn't have happened without his diligence. He alone worked with vendors, and went to the Pacifica Synod and the Episcopalian Diocese for financial help. Consequently, after their help, we are working to raise the final \$15,000 using the "Blessed To Be Two Blessings" (B2B2B), which was voted on and accepted by the Church Council at the July 16, 2025 meeting. 90% will be applied toward our HVAC system cost, and 10% of the funds raised will be donated to the non-profit Leisure World Cares Fund, which is helping vetted persons that are having trouble paying the increased association dues in Leisure World. As of July 27, we have raised \$6,510 toward our \$15,000 goal thanks to many generous donations.

Again, many thanks to Reverend Finck. We will be thanking you many times over as we have heat in the winter, and cooling in the summer. We are waiting for the building permits from the City of Seal Beach, and anticipate the installation of the systems to begin soon.

As with any building, particularly one that was built in 1965, there are problems that occur. Over this month, we have had a termite infestation in our Electrical Room, which is off the outside Memorial Cross Wall. We did hire a company to take care of this infestation. Thank you to Sylvia Makus, who cleaned up the mess after them. We had GRF do some needed maintenance which included replacing tubes in overhead lighting fixtures to led tubes which cost \$156. We also needed to replace the refrigerator in the kitchen which cost \$873.01. Thanks to a generous donation from a member, our actual cost of the replacement is only \$178.01. Also, we had a slow running faucet in the kitchen. The Council was all set to call a plumber, and Reverend Finck stepped in and said, let me look at it. He fixed it. Thank you again.

There is another Congregational Meeting scheduled for August 10 after our Worship Service. We have been approached by the Sa Rang Congregation, a non-denominational church to use our facility for a donation of at least \$2,000 a month. They carry their own insurance liability and will indemnify Redeemer / St. Theodore. The Council has passed a motion for them to use the facility for a 12:30 Sunday Worship, Bible Study on Wednesday from 6:00pm-7:00pm, and Prayer meetings Tuesday-Saturday from 6:00 am-7:00 am. The Congregation will be voting on this recommendation from the Church Council at this special meeting. Please plan on attending.

Pastor Murray will be offering another New Member Reception in September. We would love to have you join, but, if not, we are so glad you are choosing to worship with us. If this is something you have been praying about, and have any questions or concerns, please speak to him.

Reverend Finck is working on developing a program whereby lay people would serve as Eucharistic Ministers that would bring the Sacrament from the altar to our homebound members and friends.

As you all know, Reverend Finck is an interim Pastor for us, and truly a blessing. However, we are required to be actively looking for a permanent pastor. At this point, the Synod has not presented us with any pastors. A letter is being mailed to all the Bishops in the United States which tells of all of the benefits of Leisure World, and offering a part-time position to any pastor that would choose to move to California, and perhaps live in Leisure World.

As always, many thanks for your continued prayers for my full recovery.

God's Blessings,

Kay Pushman

Council President



Special Congregational Meeting-August 10

The Council President, Kay Pushman is calling for a Special Congregation Meeting on August 10, 2025 after the Sunday Service in regards to facility use by the congregation of Seal Beach Sa-Rang Church.

Blessed To Be Two Blessings — (B2B2B)

We recently voted to move forward with a plan to replace the old and no-longer-working heating system that fills the maintenance room in the basement. Both the Lutheran Pacifica Synod and the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles have donated funds to this project. The Church Council has begun a special fund-raising appeal, entitled “*Blessed To Be Two Blessings — B2B2B*” to raise **at least** \$15,000. The raised monies will be split 90% to the cost of the heating system and 10% donated to the non-profit Leisure World Cares Fund. If we can raise more than the \$15,000, we can take out a smaller loan or pay off the loan faster. It would also be a blessing to donate additional funds to the Leisure World Cares Fund.

New Member's Meeting

Are **YOU** considering membership? If you are not a member, but wish to become one, there will be a gathering in the Conference Room on Wednesday, August 13th at 1:30 p.m. to talk together about what it means to become a member of either Redeemer Lutheran Church or St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church. A New Member Reception will take place during the worship service in mid-September. We invite any and all friends and associate members to consider officially joining the membership of the congregation. Attending the information meeting on August 13th would hopefully be helpful toward making that important decision.

Bible Study

The Bible Study meets on Wednesdays at noon in the Fellowship Hall to continue the study of the **Women of the Bible**. You are invited to bring your lunch. There are drinks available and usually some baked goods for a small dessert. Please attend, bring friends or neighbors, and your Bible! Come and see what is happening next! Bishop Murray Finck will be leading the discussion. This is a great way to meet members and friends and to share an understanding of our faith and the Holy Scriptures.

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.

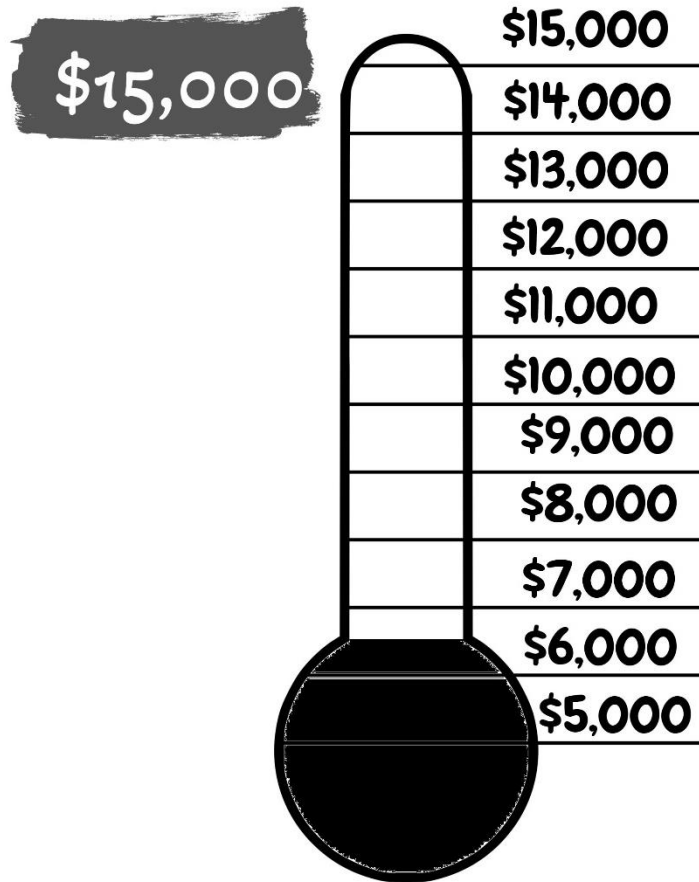


B2B2B CAMPAIGN DONORS

We are grateful to our members and friends who have given to our:
“Blessed To Be Two Blessings — (B2B2B)” Campaign

Gloria Curry
Kathy Strople
Shirlene Bradrick
Hiroko Minei
Dale Diesslin
Rod Sciborski
Julia Watson
Darleen Gardner
Annie Williquier
Barbara Long
Ellen Larsen
Susan Avila
Donna Cho
Linda Peters
Nancy Anderson
Rev. Murray and Rhoda Finck

B2B2B





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

ACTUAL INCOME AND EXPENSES THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025

<u>Income</u>	<u>One Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Current Offering	\$8,704.00	\$48,932.81
Fundraiser-Boutique	\$28.00	\$237.25
Fundraiser-Bake Sale	0.00	\$40.00
Fundraiser – Bazaar	\$0.00	\$2,518.55
Memorial	0.00	\$500.00
Memorial Wall	<u>150.00</u>	<u>\$350.00</u>
Total Operating Income	\$8,882.00	\$52,578.61
Total Operating Income	\$8,882.00	\$52,578.61
Total Expenses	<u>\$10,354.30</u>	<u>\$55,033.98</u>
Gain/(Loss)	(\$1,472.30)	(\$1,081.98)
	(Exceed Income)	(Exceed Income)

BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENSES through June 30, 2025

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Budget	\$53,952.00	\$53,952.00
Actual	<u>\$52,578.61</u>	<u>\$55,033.98</u>
Gain/(Loss)	(\$1,373.39)	(\$1081.98)
	(Less than Budget)	(More than Budget)

OTHER INCOME & EXPENSES

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Disaster Relief	\$500.00	\$500.00 (In & Out)
World Hunger	\$300.00	\$0.00

Respectfully Submitted
Doris Weinert
Finance Chair

CYCLE C – Year of Luke
THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
THROUGH THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 3, 2025 — *Eighth Sunday after Pentecost*

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23
Psalm 49:1-12 (3)
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

August 10, 2025 — *Ninth Sunday after Pentecost*

Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm 33:12-22 (22)
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

August 17, 2025 — *Tenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Jeremiah 23:23-29
Psalm 82 (8)
Hebrews 11:29—12:2
Luke 12:49-56

August 24, 2025 — *Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

Isaiah 58:9b-14
Psalm 103:1-8 (4)
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

August 31, 2025 — *Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*

Proverbs 25:6-7
Sirach 10:12-18 {alternate}
Psalm 112 (4)
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14

September 7, 2025 — *Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 1 (3)
Philemon 1-21
Luke 14:25-33

September 14, 2025 — *Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Exodus 32:7-14
Psalm 51:1-10
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10

September 14, 2025 — *Holy Cross Day*

Numbers 21:4b-9
Psalm 98:1-4
1 Corinthians 1:18-24
John 3:13-17

September 21, 2025 — *Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Amos 8:4-7
Psalm 113
1 Timothy 2:1-7
Luke 16:1-13

September 28, 2025 — *Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Amos 6:1a, 4-7
Psalm 146
1 Timothy 6:6-19
Luke 16:19-31

October 5, 2025 — *Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Psalm 37:1-9
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

Worship and Discipleship by Margo Geesing
“Human: Treat with Care, Respect, and Dignity”

August 3, 2025 The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 12 verses 13-21

The first Sunday of August we hear of the story of the land owner who, rather than sharing his wealth, instead chose to build bigger storage to keep his “stuff”. We, as a nation, are among the richest people on earth right now, yet, we have children who go to bed hungry every night; we have people who want to work but cannot find a job with acceptable wages; we have people who live on the streets of our cities because they cannot afford housing; we have people who go without medications and medical care because they cannot afford it and food and rent. No, you as an individual person cannot fix all the woes in our world; or nation; or even our city or neighborhood. Just because you cannot fix everything, does not mean that you cannot help to fix something. It is time to look within and reflect on how you spend your time, talents, and treasure. *What are you building up? What are you saving for “just in case”? Where are your most precious treasures; your riches: in the bank or in God’s hands?*

August 10, 2025 The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 12 verses 32-40

The second Sunday of August we continue the theme of God’s generosity to those who are open and ready for it. Jesus uses the example of a master returning to his house and finding his slaves ready to receive him. Jesus says that the master will, in turn, serve them. God transforms us daily as we interact with Him, with others, and with the world that God created. How often do we actually see the good works of God in our own lives? What miracles do we see but do not recognize? How is God active in your life? What is your response to God as He works within your own life?

August 17, 2025 The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 12 verses 49-56

The third Sunday in August we have a very powerful Gospel lesson. In this lesson we have Jesus stating that he has not come to bring peace. Jesus describing the cost of discipleship, once again. Jesus again warns his followers that living the way of the cross; following God’s call; living in faithfulness; being a disciple; is never an easy path. I try not to actually laugh in people’s faces when they say things like, “*Jesus was all about love and peace.*” or “*Of course I can do this; God wants me to be happy!*” I have no idea what Bible or Gospels they have been reading but mine does not say that. Jesus repeatedly states that following Him is going to cost you. This week Jesus lists the costs (again) including family division. It is a hard Gospel lesson. We love our families. But, when it comes to a choice between being faithful to God or keeping the peace in a family, that is when the choice to follow Jesus truly is hard. *Have you had to make a hard choice in your own life? How did you choose? Was there ever reconciliation? How do you feel about your choice now?*

August 24, 2025 The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 13 verses 10-17

The fourth Sunday in August we hear the story of Jesus curing a woman on the Sabbath. She then praises God for her healing. And it follows that there are the “righteous” men in power that proceed to complain that it was done on the Sabbath! Jesus, in healing this woman, gave her back her innate dignity that comes from being created by a loving God. There are a couple of points I find really important in this lesson. First, is that the Sabbath was made a day of rest by God yet so often we, as “busy” people, do not take a day to rest; to reconnect with God; to be with family or friends; to recenter ourselves on our path, with our cross, to heaven. We need this time to just be in the presence of I AM. The second point that resonates with me is that Jesus called the woman to himself to free her. Then proceeded to rebuke the men of power by reminding them that she is a daughter of Abraham. It is a reminder to all of us that we are born with inherent dignity simply because we are created in the likeness and image of God and are born with the breath of the Holy Spirit in us. This is why we, as people of faith in the risen Jesus Christ, MUST treat each person we encounter with dignity and kindness. We need to look for the face of God within them.

August 31, 2025 The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 14 verses 1, 7-14

The final Sunday in August we have Jesus commenting on a dinner he was invited to. He has a discourse on honor which leads to the question of: how do we value people. Society says that people who are rich, or famous, or political, or own big businesses, or are in agreement with whatever the latest societal trends are: are the important people. Jesus says that we need to be humble; meek and that is what gives us honor in God’s eye. We usually think, yay, Jesus says the exalted will be humbled and those who are humble will be exalted! We always assume we are the latter. We also need to focus on the last paragraph of the Gospel lesson. Here Jesus directs us to include those not able to repay your invitation in your plans. When we were children there was always those cliques in school: the brains, the popular / pretty people, the jocks, the drama people ... and there were always the people that never quite fit in with anyone: the loners. Sadly, this exclusionary behavior does not end in high school. We, as a society, continue with the cliques but dress them up a bit. Jesus reminds us that all are welcome at HIS table. Jesus reminds us that our Christian Vocation is to bring Jesus to everyone we encounter. We are called to break those cliques and welcome all.

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Interim Pastor: Bishop Murray Finck, Bishop Emeritus

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 10:30 Holy Communion Service	4	5	6 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 12:00 Noon to 1:15 p.m. Bible Study	7	8	9
10 10:30 Holy Communion Service <i>Special Congregational Meeting</i>	11	12	13 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 12:00 Noon to 1:15 p.m. Bible Study 1:30 p.m. New Member Meeting	14	15	16
17 10:30 Holy Communion Service	18	19	20 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 12:00 Noon to 1:15 p.m. Bible Study 1:30 p.m. – Council Meeting	21	22	23
24 10:30 Holy Communion Service	25 Newsletter Articles Due for September	26	27 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 12:00 Noon to 1:15 p.m. Bible Study	28	29	30
31 10:30 Holy Communion Service Birthdays Celebrated						