



**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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Happy Birthday

November Birthdays

<i>Doris Weinert</i>	<i>November</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Barry Thomsen</i>	<i>November</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Christina Paek</i>	<i>November</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Ernie Dinkle</i>	<i>November</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Jessica Keene</i>	<i>November</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>Mike Vanvales</i>	<i>November</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>Lorna Miller-Kaplan</i>	<i>November</i>	<i>29</i>

Happy Anniversary

November Anniversaries

Mickey and Carol Costello November 19

CALENDAR NOTES

Sundays

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service

Wednesdays

12:00 Noon to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
12:00 noon Bible Study in the Fellowship
Hall

NOVEMBER

November 3: All Saints' Sunday
Daylight Savings Time Ends
November 6: 12:00 Noon Bible Study
November 10: Annual Congregational
Meeting Part 1
November 13: 12:00 Noon Bible Study
November 14: from 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Holiday Bazaar
November 15: from 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Holiday Bazaar continues
November 17: Annual Pledge Drive
Begins
November 20: 1:30 p.m. Council Meeting
November 24: Last Day of the Church
Year – Christ the King Sunday
November 25: Newsletter Articles Due
November 27: Office is Closed
November 28: Thanksgiving Day

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.

Message from the Interim Pastor:

November 2024

“O give thanks unto the Lord, for God is good. The Lord’s mercy endures forever” Psalm 136:1

Reviewing the November calendar for Redeemer and St. Theodore of Canterbury, it looks as if we are being invited to a great potluck or smorgasbord--a feast of possibilities and gatherings is being spread out before us in this month where the time changes and so many other offerings are being placed before us. We have opportunities to worship, to fellowship, to study, to carry on the congregation’s ministry and mission, to fund raise, to remember, and to give thanks. Our spiritual and social time together is like a great Fall banquet with course upon course being set before us.

We begin the month gathering to worship on the high festival day of All Saints Sunday. We will remember those who have gone before us in the faith, and we will give thanks for the saints among us who bless our day to day living within the Body of Christ. On the second Sunday of November, the Holy Scriptures will reintroduce us to two most amazing, yet unnamed women, whose lives of faith and generosity have made them renown in the pages of holy history. That weekend we will also give thanks for the Veterans who served our nation and defended our precious democracy. The last two Sundays of November remind us that Jesus has promised to return again, and we are encouraged to always be ready and filled with both thanksgiving and expectation. Pastor Brad Stienstra will lead worship again on the last Sunday of the month, the day called “Christ the King Sunday.” It is the last day in the Christian Church calendar.

In between these main courses that feed our hearts and souls, our abundantly filled tables will offer us an opportunity to meet on November 10th after worship for a brief congregational meeting as we make decisions how best to be Christ’s Church in the year ahead. The following week, everyone is invited to the Holiday Bazaar (Nov. 14-15) in the Fellowship Hall as tables, overflowing with many treasured items, will be perused by those looking for that “special something.”

During this month, the Wednesday Bible Study will continue its conversation and learning about the Ten Commandments. We meet each week in the Fellowship Hall at 12:00 noon for 75-90 minutes. At the end of November, the national holiday of Thanksgiving on November 28th gives us special opportunities to be filled with gratitude (and perhaps we will gather with family and/or friends, and may even watch a parade or a football game.)

It promises to be a wonderful month. Leaves are changing their colors and dropping to the ground. The temperature is cooling. We set our clocks back one hour on November 3rd and get the gift of an extra hour of rest. The daylight grows shorter, and the night are longer. In the midst of all the changes and with such a feast of activities and possibilities before, we are assured that our Lord God walks with us, caring for each of us, forgiving us, loving us, watching over us, saving us, and giving us great reason and opportunities to give thanks. God bless and keep you this month of November 2024!

+Pastor Murray D. Finck

The Rev Murray D. Finck, Bishop Emeritus

Message from Our President...

Dear Members and Friends,

The Council has passed the criteria for our Memorial Cross Wall, and that is printed in the newsletter separately. There are signup sheets in the narthex if you would like to memorialize your loved ones in a permanent way, and, also, beautify our outside Prayer Chapel. As a neighbor of our church, I have seen people stopping to sit on the bench spending time in prayer.

Please be sure to attend our first of two Congregational Meetings on November 10th. We will be presenting the Council for 2025, which includes the nomination by the Council of three new members: Susan Avila, Carol Costello, and Linda Peters. Also presented will be the Proposed Budget for 2025 for the congregation's approval. We will meet in the Sanctuary immediately following the service. The meeting usually takes about 10 minutes, and we will have fellowship downstairs after the meeting.

We are working on our Holiday Bazaar which will be advertised in the Leisure World News for our community to take advantage of the many tables of holiday gifts, homemade baked goods, and our Boutique tables. It's time to look through your home for items for the Boutique, bake some goodies, or sign up for a table. We appreciate all of your donations, as this event will be a major fundraiser for our church. For information, the chair is Carmen Leslie (562) 430-6950.

As we get closer to the holidays, and our calendars are filling up, please be sure to add these dates to yours.

Advent Suppers in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays: December 11 and December 18 at 3:00 p.m.

Christmas Service

December 24 at 10:30 a.m. with brunch following the service

There will be signup sheets for these events as we get closer to the dates.

Our church directory is in the narthex. I apologize for any information that is incorrect, so if there is any, please make the correction on the form in the pew pockets, and put it in the collection plate. The correction(s) and / or addition(s) will be completed in the next printing of the directory.

On the cover of our directory, you will find our church's motto, "The Church with a Heart, In the Heart of Leisure World". Thank you also much for making sure that our members and visitors are welcome in our friendly church.

I am always grateful for the opportunity to serve our congregation.

Kay Pushman

Council President



Daylight Savings Time Ends

This is just a quick reminder as we begin November! On November 3rd at 2:00 a.m., we “fall back”. Don’t forget to reset your clocks on Saturday, November 2nd before bedtime!

Annual Congregational Meeting Part 1

The Church Council has planned for the Annual Meeting Part 1 for Sunday, November 10th right after the Sunday Service. Please plan on attending this important meeting. The budget for 2025 will be presented and members of the Church Council will be elected. The Annual Congregational Meeting Part 2 will be held on February 23, 2025. Annual Reports will be presented at that time along with the choosing of delegates to the 2025 Pacifica Synod Assembly to be held on Friday, May 16 to Saturday, May 17, 2025, at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Dana Point.

Fall Bazaar!

Mark your calendars for November 14 and 15 from 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. as we will be offering our Fall Bazaar, again! We will be featuring arts and crafts, baked goods, gently used treasures, jewelry, ceramics and more. There is a sign-up sheet if you would like a table to offer your wares. This is an opportunity to get a start on any holiday gift buying or even find a new treasure for yourself! Part of the proceeds will go to the church. If you have any questions, please call Carmen Leslie, at (562) 430-6950 or Betty at (310) 713-3821.

Bible Study

Bible Study will only be meeting on November 6 and 13 this month. We meet in the Fellowship Hall from noon to about 1:15 p.m. You can bring friends, your Bible, and your lunch, if you wish! There are drinks available to share. There is also, usually, a sweet treat or two to share. NOW is a great time to join us as we will be finish up the study of the Ten Commandments. Bishop Murray Finck will be leading the discussion. This is a great way to meet members and friends to share an understanding of faith and the Holy Scriptures.

Sealed Pledge Drive

Once again, we are bringing back our Sealed Pledge Drive. We did not do it during the pandemic because we all had enough on our minds. Now that we have returned to a new normal, we are encouraging you to share your time, talents, and treasures with the Church to further the work of the Lord. You will be receiving a pledge card to be returned, a copy of that pledge card for you to keep as a reminder, and a return envelope that can be mailed back or returned in the offering plate. Do not include any gifts in that envelope because they are not opened, it’s a SEALED pledge; it is between you and God. It will include a space for you to

put in how you would like to share your time and talents, a space for evangelization, and a financial commitment. Please, pray about what commitments you can make.

Outside Memorial Cross Wall

The Council has been discussing a way to honor members, friends, family, and other loved ones. It was decided to turn one wall of the Outside Cross Chapel into a Cross Memorial Wall. Currently we will be placing a cross and plaque for Pasto Gil. The Church is providing the plaque and the Moore family have chosen a cross. We will also be putting up a plaque and cross for Jerry Brady with a donation provided by Jerry's family. 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

As many know, during the pandemic we arranged free donation dollars from Smile.Amazon through your choice to have Redeemer Lutheran designated as your charity of choice. That program ended. At the same time, we also worked with Ralph's to be one of their choices for their community giving program. To date this year, we have received \$84.89 with only 4 households participating. 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 have received \$863.00 from Thrivent Choice this year. We thank all who have participated in these programs and have designated Redeemer as their charity of choice.

Special Christmas Gift

Would you like to contribute to a monetary Christmas gift for Bishop Finck? If you would, please give your gift **in an envelope with Bishop Finck's name on it** by December 22. You can put it in the offering plate, give it directly to me, or drop it in my mail. I live at 13560 Saint Andrews Drive 3C; just 4 doors down from the church. If you wish to write a check, please make it out to Kay Pushman (do not make it out to the church). I know Bishop Finck will be so happy to know the members are thinking of him. Thank you.

Kay Pushman

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
ST. THEODORE OF CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
FINANCE REPORT
Month Ending September 30, 2024**

FINANCES FOR THE MONTH of September 2024

Operating Expenses of	\$7,734.00	Exceeded
Operating Income of	<u>\$7,192.00</u>	
By	(\$542.00)	

[we spent more than we took in]

For the year to September 30, 2024

Operating Expenses of	\$74,882.00	Exceeded
Operating Income of	<u>\$70,543.00</u>	
by	(\$4,339.00)	

[we spent more than we took in]

Comparing Budgeted to Actual for 2024:

Actual Income of	\$70,543.00	Exceeded
Budgeted Income of	<u>\$65,772.00</u>	
by	\$4,771.00	

[we took in more than our budget anticipated]

Actual Expense of	\$74,882.00	Exceeded
Budgeted Expense of	<u>\$65,772.00</u>	
by	(\$9,110.00)	

[we spent more than our budget anticipated]

Other Income and Expenses for the Year:

<u>Income:</u>		<u>Expenses:</u>
Memorial	\$3,240.00 (\$2,700 Sept)	\$257.00
Memorial Wall	\$100.00	
Fundraising – Boutique	\$174.00	
Fundraising - Pump	\$663.00	
Fundraising – Bake Sale	<u>\$162.00</u>	
Total:	\$4,339.00	

Respectfully submitted,
Doris Weinert
Finance Chairman

CYCLE B – Year of Mark
ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY THROUGH THANKSGIVING DAY
CYCLE C – Year of Luke
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT THROUGH CHRISTMAS DAY

November 3, 2024 – *All Saints Sunday*

Isaiah 25:6-9
Wisdom 3:1-9 (Alternate)
Psalm 24
Revelation 21:1-6a
John 11:32-44

December 1, 2024 – *First Sunday of Advent*

Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

November 3, 2024 – *Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

Deuteronomy 6:1-9
Psalm 119:1-8
Hebrews 9:11-14
Mark 12:28-34

December 8, 2024 – *Second Sunday of Advent*

Malachi 3:1-4 or Baruch 5:1-9
Luke 1:68-79
Philippians 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6

November 10, 2024 – *Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost*

1 Kings 17:8-16
Psalm 146
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44

December 15, 2024 – *Third Sunday of Advent*

Zephaniah 3:14-20
Isaiah 12:2-6
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18

November 17, 2024 – *Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost*

Daniel 12:1-3
Psalm 16
Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25
Mark 13:1-8

December 22, 2024 – *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

Micah 5:2-5a
Luke 1: 46b-55 or Psalm 80:1-7
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

November 24, 2024 – *Christ the King*

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14
Psalm 93
Revelation 1:4b-8
John 18:33-37

December 24, 2024 – *Christmas Eve*

Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

November 28, 2024 – *Day of Thanksgiving*

Joel 2:21-27
Psalm 126
1 Timothy 2:1-7
Matthew 6:25-33

December 25, 2024 – *Christmas Day*

Isaiah 62:6-12 or Isaiah 52:7-10
Psalm 97 or Psalm 98
Titus 3:4-7 or Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]
Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20 or John 1:1-14

Worship and Discipleship by Margo Geesing
“Challenges to Face: How Do You Show Love?”

The first Sunday of November is All Saints’ Day when we hear the story of the Raising of Lazarus. In this narrative, we have Jesus in his human glory. He is perceived to have let down his friend’s family. He weeps for the death of his friend. He prays. But he also teaches. He has purposefully stayed away so that he could give glory to the Father. He teaches about trust and faith. He teaches about prayer. *How do you approach God in prayer? Do you have the confidence that God hears you? How do you accept the answer to those prayers?*

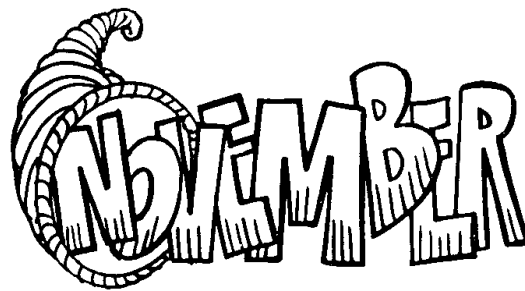
The first Sunday of November is also the Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost. It is an optional day on the calendar. The Gospel lesson for that day is from the Gospel of Mark. Jesus is asked what is the greatest Commandment. As we have been studying the Ten Commandments in Bible Study, it is appropriate to look at this idea: What is the Greatest Commandment? Jesus says, “*The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one;’³⁰ you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’³¹ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There are no other commandments greater than these.*” [Mark 12:29-31]. When we look at the Ten Commandments, we see the broad outline of: Worship God, Use God’s Name and Symbols with Respect, Give God Your Time, Respect Authority, Treasure Life, Respect Marriage and Your Sexuality, Respect Other’s Property and Ideas, Speak Only the Truth. Jesus simplified this list to: LOVE. *How do you show your love for God in your own life? How do you show your love for yourself? How do you show your love for others?*

On the second Sunday of November, we get to see what is important to Jesus. It is also the Sunday that we are having our Congregational Annual Meeting. Jesus has been engaging with the leaders of the Temple over how they are treating others, which is an ongoing issue in all of society. What is done for show compared to what should be done. In this case, he is watching people going into the Temple and putting money in the treasury. He saw people who had monetary wealth giving large sums. He was not impressed by the amounts they were giving. He also observed a widow giving just two copper coins. This is the person he called his disciples to pay attention to. He was more honored by this widow’s gift because she gave even though she was in need. The wealthy were giving from their excess. The widow from her need. Jesus seems to not like the wealthy very much. There are many instances where Jesus warns those who “have” to share with those who “have not”. Here again is the call to love others as ourselves. To love God. To be aware of our dear neighbor. To reach out. To share. *How are you going to share your time, talents, and treasure with others? How are you going to share your time, talents, and treasure with God; the giver of all good gifts?*

When was the last time you heard that we are in the end times?!? The third Sunday has Jesus warning his followers not to be taken in by people saying the end times are here and not to be afraid if they are. It was predicted so many times. First predictions were in 66-77 AD, then a few more, then in the years between 993-995, then the year 1000. Move ahead many years and predictions later. Then it we were going to end at the turn of the Century (was that 1999, 2000, or 2001 – who knows). Then in 2012 when the Mayan calendar ended. Take a dart and throw it at a calendar and you too can pick a date. We don't know. We aren't supposed to know. We have all lived through trials and tribulations and, if we are lucky, we will live through many more. Our job, our goal, is to have faith and trust in God. To stay steady and steadfast in our belief. *How wrapped up in doom and gloom do you get? How much do you let it control your actions and thoughts?*

The last Sunday of November we celebrate the last Sunday in the Church year, Christ the King. The Gospel lesson is from John and does not show Jesus as a King but rather as a prisoner before Pilate. Two different men who act with their power in very different ways. Pilate acts out of fear: fear of the Jews, fear of the crowd, fear of losing face, fear of those in power over him, fear of the unknown. Jesus acts out of love: love for Pilate, love of the Jews, love of the crowd calling for his death, love of truth, love for his Father, love of mankind. *When you are asked about what you believe or when you have to make a stand for something, how do you answer? Do you answer with love and the truth or do you let others sway your stance?*

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 website: www.redeemerlutheransealbeach.com



Interim Pastor: Bishop Murray Finck, Bishop Emeritus

2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY 10:30 Holy Communion Service <i>Daylight Savings Time ENDS</i>	4	5	6 12:00 p.m. Bible Study 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours	7	8	9
10 10:30 Holy Communion Service <i>Annual Congregational Meeting Part 1</i>	11	12	13 12:00 p.m. Bible Study 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours	14 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. - Holiday Bazaar	15 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. - Holiday Bazaar	16
17 10:30 Holy Communion Service <i>Sealed Pledge Drive Begins</i>	18 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	19	20 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 1:30 p.m. – Council Meeting	21	22	23
24 CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY 10:30 Holy Communion Service Birthdays Celebrated	25	26	27 OFFICE IS CLOSED TODAY	28 THANKSGIVING DAY	29	30

