



**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](mailto:redeemer_lutheran@verizon.net)

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### *Message from Our President...*

Dear Members and Friends,

Happy New Year! 2024, as in all years, brought our church many blessings and some sadness. We have been so fortunate that Bishop Finck has agreed to be our interim pastor, has re-instituted our Bible Study, and our attendance on Sunday has increased significantly since he came. We have had people come to membership, have brought back some members that had not been active, and many Sundays we have visitors attending. Our finances are in good shape, as we have several people that have blessed us with large donations some year-end, and some monthly. Indeed, we have much to be thankful for. However, the saddest time in 2024 was the passing of our dear Pastor Gil, who led our congregation lovingly for 17 years. We are so very fortunate to have known him, and had him as our Pastor. We also mourned the loss of Jerry Brady, who served as the leadership of our Church for so many years.

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas with friends and family. Our Advent Suppers and Christmas Eve service were especially meaningful. We have learned so much from Bishop Finck's teaching, and they always lead into such thought-provoking comments. Adding to that the time visiting and sharing a delicious meal was particularly rewarding. Unfortunately, we have had several members with a long-lasting virus, and a few that have had injuries. It's always so sad when some of us cannot be there during this special time of the church year. Many thanks to all of the volunteers that help to make our Christmas season so successful. Each of you is sincerely appreciated.

We have several issues with regard to our property. The wonderful rain brings with it water seeping into our Fellowship Hall. To help alleviate that problem, Orange County Pump has done some preventative maintenance on our pumps, and found one is not working. We are waiting on an estimate of repair or replacement. My son, who has a good understanding of sound systems, has set our speakers to the correct level, and will move one of the speakers to give us better sound. We are hoping this will help our members hear every word of Bishop Finck's inspirational messages. The loss of our furnace brings us on Sunday mornings to a very chilly sanctuary. We are looking into how we can replace our heating system, and will keep you informed as we move along in this project.

When this newsletter reaches you, it will be the beginning of a new year; a time of reflection and new opportunities. You will be receiving your sealed pledge card asking you to prayerfully consider all of your gifts to your church including your time and talents. If you are able, I hope you will find a way to be more involved in the working of your church. There are some of you that have been very active in the past, and cannot serve any longer. For those years of dedication, we are so very grateful, and we have others that will help to fill those needs.

It was an honor to have served as your President in 2024. I am so fortunate that I had such an amazing congregation that were always ready to help, and support me whenever they could, a wise, hard-working Council, a church secretary that always helps to make things run smoothly, a dedicated organist and choir that add so much to our worship service, and, of course, the opportunity to work with a dedicated man like Reverend Finck, who brought such life back to Redeemer and St. Theodore's.

As always, thank you for allowing me to serve.

***Kay Pushman***

Council President