



**Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World and
St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church**
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Message from Our President...

Dear Members and Friends,

While we were very fortunate to have excellent Pastors filling in for Bishop Finck, we are so happy that he is back. It was so wonderful that he came out of retirement to serve as our Interim Pastor, and we are very grateful for that, so we wrote in his contract that he has one Sunday a month off, and, since he didn't take those Sundays off, he has used them for the trips he and Rhoda took in April and June. They spent a wonderful two weeks with their daughter and her family which included a darling one-year old grandson. Yes, there are pictures that I'm sure they will love to share. As you know, he continued to send us his mid-week communiques. Also, while away, he was kept abreast of news at Redeemer, and made pastoral phone calls. Upon his return, he started making personal calls. Please remember to keep Jerry Brady, Erich Obersteiner, Dee Sessa, Alma Zamzow, and Pastor Lisa in your prayers.

Sylvia Makus has found a company that believes they can fix our furnace. So, the Council voted to have them come out to diagnose the problem, and give us an estimate of what it would cost to repair it. Wouldn't it be wonderful to have heat in the church again?

The Bishop, Doris Weinert and I were privileged to attend the Pacifica Synod Assembly on May 18 at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Dana Point, and on June 15 via a zoom call. For Doris and me, it was especially interesting as we found out how much the Synod accomplishes. In order for the Synod to exist and perform all that it does, it relies on donations from the church congregations. We had always tithed to the Synod through November 2021. I would like to mention that we continued to tithe even through the Covid years. However, in 2022, our contributions were not enough to cover our church's expenses, so we had to discontinue. Since our finances have been on the positive side for quite a while, at our June 19, 2024 Council Meeting, we passed a motion to start giving 10% of our contributions to the Synod again.

The church council also decided to implement "Sharing the Peace" starting in July to see if this will work well in our congregation. It is meant, as it states, to take a moment to share the peace verbally with the people directly in front, beside, and behind you.

We are so very blessed to have a wonderful congregation that is very quick to fill in when someone is away. Volunteerism gives a good feeling to both the recipient and the giver. I do hope, if asked, that you will seriously consider giving a little extra time to your church. You won't regret it.

As always, I am so very grateful that you are allowing me the opportunity to serve as your President.

Respectfully,

Kay Pushman

Council President