



October 2021

Redeemer Lutheran Church

360.384.5923



**858 WEST SMITH ROAD
BELLINGHAM, WA 98226
360.384.5923**

www.redeemberbellingham.com — Website
office@redeemberbellingham.com — Email

Sunday Worship Service Schedule

9:15 AM: Adult Bible Study

10:30 AM: Worship Service

November Newsletter deadline is
Wednesday, October 20, 2021

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Vicar's Pen
- Stewardship
- October Birthdays and Anniversaries
- Bulletin Board Announcements
- Altar Flower sign-up
- Poem
- Servicemember Spotlight
- Sunday School news
- Preschool News
- Council Briefs

From the Vicar's Pen



I'm not sure why I signed up for Facebook. I think it had something to do with a growing number of online sites, blogs, and other venues telling me "You can see/get more at our Facebook page" and since I didn't have one...I couldn't "get more." I'm beginning to believe that "less is more!"

Social media has become a big part of most people's daily lives. Remember when it used to be just email? Now we tweet on Twitter, post on Instagram and Facebook, watch YouTube, chat on Snapchat, and do whatever on TikTok. It's as if we live in two different worlds: one, the genuine physical world; the other a digital world. One made by God; the other made by man.

The digital world certainly has been a blessing to many. During the Covid lockdowns it became the means by which many "went to church." For those who cannot get out and about, for whatever reason, it provides a way to connect. When my daughter and family were living in Hong Kong, it was how we visited with each other. But like any blessing made by man, it can have a downside. Digital communication is not the same as being in the actual presence of the other. Seeing and talking to my daughter on WhatsApp is not the same as sitting at the table with her. Going to church digitally is not the same as actually being there either. I have shown many people the photos and videos of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Austin, TX where Dee and I visited, but it's not the same as being in that magnificent sanctuary, hearing the people of God sing and experiencing that massive pipe organ in person. If you think I'm off base here, just ask anyone who has been to the Grand Canyon if the photos and videos they saw before they actually went does it justice. They will, without fail, tell you "Absolutely not!"

As Christians, we do live in two different worlds, but it's not physical and digital: it's physical and spiritual. Both are made by God. If you've been around the Lutheran church very long you've heard talk about the "Right Hand Kingdom" and the "Left Hand Kingdom." We Lutheran Christians believe, teach, and confess that God rules both of these kingdoms, but in different ways. He rules the left-hand kingdom, the natural world, with laws of physics, biology, and human governments, and the right-hand kingdom, the spiritual world with his Word.

The digital world is a left-hand kingdom invention. While it is possible to get digital representations of some right-hand kingdom things, like hearing God's Word being read or preached to you; it's not the same as "being there." Just like being at the Grand Canyon, or being at St. Paul Lutheran Church, there is something different, something real about being in the presence of the other. And for us Lutheran Christians, presence, real presence is a big thing.

So, what's all this got to do with Facebook, social media, and the digital world? Go ahead and use your digital technology for the blessings it can give you. But remember, it's a right-hand kingdom thing. It cannot, and does not, take the place of getting together with real people, to hear real words spoken, real words proclaimed, real children squirming in the pew, real music reverberating in your chest, and the real body and blood of our Lord placed into your real mouths. That's left-hand kingdom stuff you can only get when you gather in real time, at a real place, with real people.

See you in church,

Vicar Rex Watt



September 2021 Council Meeting Briefs

Opening prayer by Vicar Watt

Devotional was read by Vicar Watt

Treasurer's Report: August ended with a giving surplus of \$6,271.29. Year-to-date giving surplus is \$29,203.91.

Elder's Report: Collin Grabish will be starting a study of Ephesians on Thursdays starting Sept. 30th. Voter's meeting scheduled for Oct. 10th to call Vicar Rex to be Pastor of Redeemer.

Stewardship Report: Barb took input for Opportunity Fair sign up sheets. Opportunity Fair is October 3rd. Outdoor yard party is still scheduled for Sept 25th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Property Report: Outdoor faucet by the preschool needs repair. Les to inspect to see if simple repair or if plumber needed. Also, leftover mulch suggested to be placed on weeded areas after Casoron application.

Education Report: Heidi reported that the Sunday School Rally with the Kuljis and Anderson children was successful. She plans to continue the 2nd and 4th Sundays, hoping for a volunteer to come from the Opportunity Fair to help with the older kids. Preschool enrollment, as of 09.14.21 was 17 children on M/W/F and 4 on T/Th, with first day of M/W/F on Sept 15th.

Unfinished Business: Continued discussion of Benevolent Fund. Will continue discussion next month. Vicar Watt and Les will collaborate and create a committee to update the wedding and funeral policies.

New Business: Vicar Watt presented the registration for a pastors conference in Oak Harbor. The church received a donation to replace the aging and partially inoperable stoves/ovens in the church kitchen. A committee will be formed to decide how to best go about using the money as there will most likely be money left over after ovens are installed.

Vicar Watt closed in prayer

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.



Why do we give? Is it simply because God commands us to? Or is there more to it? To be sure, the Word and instruction of God in the Bible says we should give, and this is sufficient to encourage us to give (Luke 6:38; Acts 20:35; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 8:7; Gal. 6:6).

But there's more to it than just obligation. We're not just trying to fulfill a work of the law. We are bearing fruits of the Spirit given to us by our Father in heaven through His Son our Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, we're not just doing what our Father said, we're also doing what He did.

Children emulate their parents. When they grow up, they often carry many of the same mannerisms and characteristics as their parents. But there is more to it than that. Children copy their parents even on a more mundane level. They watch how their parents cross their legs, how they fold their hands, how they stand and sit and walk, and how they do and say most everything. Then children try to copy it.

This can be quite humorous when caught in the act. They do this even when parents don't want them to. Everyone has been in the uncomfortable – and embarrassing situation – where a child does or says something one of their parents have done or said that is less than polite. Sitcoms thrive on these. It only works because of the truth that children emulate their parents, and they do it because they want to be like them.

We are the children of God – by grace through faith. In Holy Baptism, God the Father declares of us what He declared of Jesus at His Baptism in the Jordan, “You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” God the Father claims us as His own. He takes away all our sins. In exchange, He gives us His righteousness, His purity, His holiness, and His Spirit – by which we cry out, “Abba, Father.”

We are born again – born from above, born of water and the Spirit – to a new life in Christ as His children. We are sons of God in Christ through Baptism. Since we are sons, we are heirs who share in the glory of the Son of God. The inheritance is ours because of the Father's grace, mercy, and generosity in sending His Son in time to save us for all eternity.

This is why we give generously of our income to the work of the church. We want to be like our heavenly Father. We want to emulate His generosity by being generous ourselves. We

give to the work of the church because we have witnessed the generous giving of our Father in heaven.

More than that, we are recipients of it. It is because we have received our Father's gifts that we desire to give ourselves. His gifts are not just spiritual. They are temporal and earthly as well. As *Luther's Small Catechism* teaches in the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer:

Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread? Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

In other words, He gives us everything that we need for the care of both body and soul. His generosity knows no bounds.

Therefore, we sit down at the beginning of the year, the beginning of the month, or the beginning of the week and set aside a generous portion of God's daily bread for His work in the church. This is not done because He has commanded us so to do but rather because we, as His children by grace, want to emulate His generosity in our own lives. He is our Father; we are His children. And children want to be like their parents.

**LCMS Stewardship Ministry
Newsletter article – October 2021**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					01	02
03 9:15 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship Opportunity fair/ Potluck	04	05 6:30 pm: Elders	06 Bulletin Deadline	07 7:00 pm: Ephesians Bible Study	09	09
10 9:15 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion with Children's Ministry Voter's Meeting	11	12 6:30 pm: Council	13 Bulletin Deadline	14 7:00 pm: Ephesians Bible Study	15	16
17 9:15 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship	18	19	20 Bulletin Deadline Saltshaker Deadline	21 7:00 pm: Ephesians Bible Study	22	23
24 9:15 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion with Children's Ministry	25	26	27 Bulletin Deadline	28 7:00 pm: Ephesians Bible Study	29	30
31 9:15 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship Reformation Sunday /Potluck						



October Birthdays

10/06 Sue Urbanec
10/08 Linda Reinikka
10/10 Darryl Edin
10/10 Rowan Hogle
10/12 Connor Dupuis
10/12 Elsie Werre
10/13 Margaret Frost
10/13 Les Anderson
10/13 Vera Littke
10/31 Diane Bowen

November Birthdays

11/02 Karl Noste
11/06 Spiro Pappacostas
11/07 Kari Marttila
11/11 Annie Thorsen
11/12 Jason Gansler
11/16 Micah Potvin
11/18 Dave McKay
11/21 Draven Cobb
11/25 Randy Bowen



Elder Care List

A—Hah: Larry Schell
Hal—Leg: Ross Abbe
Leo—P: Kari Marttila
R—Wri: Patrick O'Connor

October & November Anniversaries

10/17 Rex & Deanna Watt



*As the angels sing heavenly praises for our God above,
As the dawn touches the Earth with its soft rays,
As another chapter of your life starts anew,
I wish that God will grant you your heart's greatest desire
And your presence endows peace to others
as refreshing as the morning dew.
Have a blessed and wonderful birthday or anniversary!*

Note: If your birthday or wedding anniversary is not listed on this page **or** if it is incorrect, please contact the church office so we can make the correction.

Shut-ins: Virginia Blackmore, Ken Hindman

Fellowship Host/Hostess Volunteer Schedule

Oct. 03 Opportunity Fair Potluck
Oct. 10 Cheryl Kortlever & Jamie DuPuis
Oct. 17 Marianne Giusti & Sally Pinski
Oct. 24 The Stamps & Dee Watt
Oct. 31 Fall Harvest Potluck

ASSISTING US IN WORSHIP – OCTOBER

Altar Care

Arenda Hovde

THE VOLUNTEER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

	<u>ELDER</u>	<u>LAY READER</u>	<u>SOUNDBOARD</u>	<u>COUNTERS</u>
Oct. 03	Larry Schell	Joe DuPuis	Anthony McLeod	Cristi L./Ron W.
Oct. 10	Ross Abbe	Rex Watt	Kari Marttila	Barb A./Anthony M.
Oct. 17	Patrick O'Connor	Corrine Thorsen	Rod Hanson	Cheryl K./Cristi L.
Oct. 24	Larry Schell	Rex Watt	Anthony McLeod	Barb A./Ron W.
Oct. 31	Kari Marttila	Sally Pinski	Kari Marttila	Cheryl K./Anthony M.

Should you have any questions, please contact Dee for Host/Hostesses and Tabatha for the rest.
Thank you!

The Bulletin Board

TITHE ENVELOPES — Thank you for your continued tithe offerings. Just a reminder to write out **Redeemer Lutheran Church** on your check. Thank you. You may continue to drop off your tithe envelopes to the secure Prayer Box.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY MEETS AT 9:15 am: LHM Video Bible Study “Forgiveness”, led by Larry Schell. We will examine how forgiveness received and forgiveness offered to others are central to our lives as Christians.

DEVOTIONALS: “Our Daily Bread” for Sept.-Nov. and “Portals of Prayer” for Oct.-Dec. are available at the bulletin table and the mailbox table.

2021 ALTAR FLOWERS SIGN-UP SHEET is posted on the bulletin board by the office. This is an opportunity for you to have flowers placed on the altar in honor of a birthday, anniversary, memory, etc. If you would like to place flowers on the altar for a special occasion, please place your name and phone number on the line corresponding with the date on the altar flower sign-up sheet. If you would like Lynnata to purchase flowers for you, please contact her - 360-318-5298.

TUNE INTO THE LUTHERAN HOUR: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, Lutheran Hour Speaker, gives a sermon each Sunday. The program also features hymns and reflections on the texts.

Online: www.kfuo.org

Radio: 550AM KARI 11:30 am

VOTERS MEETING: There will be a voter’s meeting on **Sunday, October 10th**, following the morning worship service to officially extend a “call” to Vicar Watt to be the pastor of Redeemer. Also to approve the preschool budget for the 2021-2022 school year.

BIBLE STUDY: A bible study on the book of Ephesians will be held here at church on Thursday evenings starting at 7:00 pm.



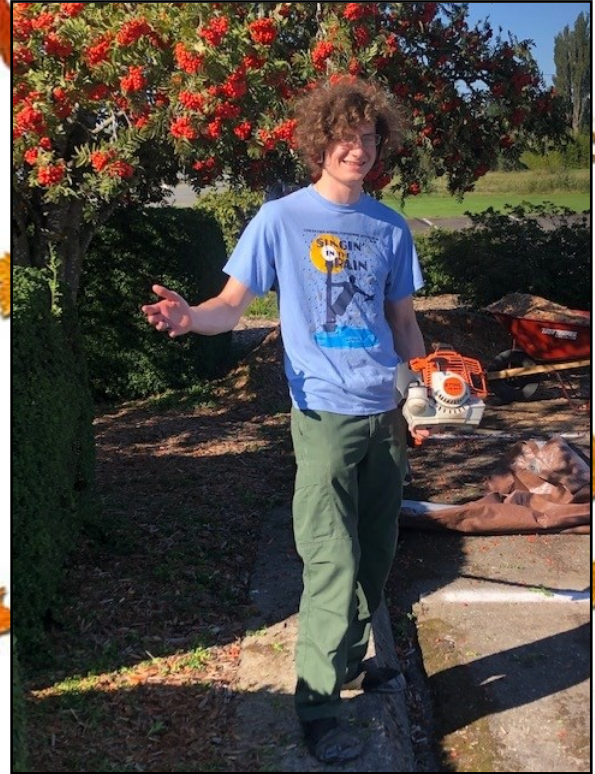
Reformation Sunday, Fall Potluck

Something different, a true potluck to recognize REFORMATION SUNDAY, October 31st. Bring a favorite Fall Harvest dish to share...could be a dessert, salad, hot dish, bread or snack or appetizer. No sign-up sheet, just bring what you will and we'll see what we get. Questions...ask Dee or Barb.



Fall Yard Work Party



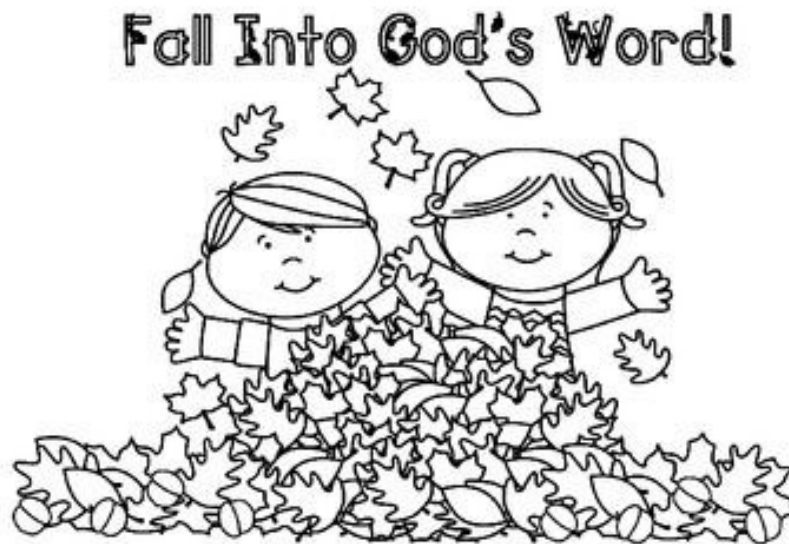


**Thank you to
everyone that
came out to help!
Your hard work is
appreciated.**





Sunday School will be on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month for elementary aged children. If you would like to help out with Sunday School or teach, please let Heidi know!



Wish List for the 2021-2022 Preschool Year

24 pack of Crayola crayons **(18 boxes)**

Construction Paper 12 x 18in **(2 packs each)**

-black

-white

-tan

Pom poms **(assorted colors and sizes)**

6 qt Sterilite bins – clear bins with colored lids **(8 bins)**

16 qt Sterilite bins – clear bins with colored lids **(8 bins)**

Pipe Cleaners 50pk **(1 pack each)**

-orange

-yellow

-brown

-white

-purple

-black

-green

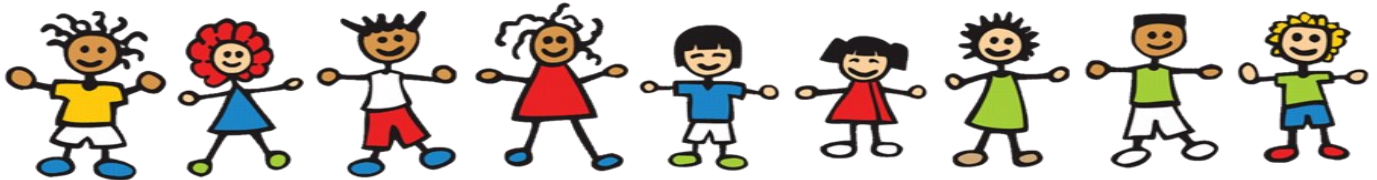
-blue

GIFT CARDS: Dollar Tree, Hobby Lobby, Michaels

Redeemer Lutheran Preschool



Redeemer Lutheran Preschool
858 W. Smith Road
Bellingham, WA 98226



We are off to an exciting start in preschool. Our M/W/F class is a busy one with 18 students. There are 4 students in the T/TH class so it's a bit quieter! The children seem to be excited to be here to play and learn!

We have started on our letters, recognizing and writing them, we started Bible stories with God's creation and Adam and Eve. We had our first field trip to Bellewood Acres and will go the Stoneyridge Farm for our pumpkin patch field trip.

Thank you to all of you who have contributed to our preschool. I appreciate it beyond words and feel blessed to have so many giving hearts in our church family. Your continued prayers for a blessed and healthy year are felt and help me get through each year!

Thank you to Cindy, Marsha & Sue for your continued support and much needed knowledge and helping hearts! I wouldn't be doing this without you!

Much Love,
Heidi

Tuesday/Thursday Class



Monday/Wednesday/Friday Class

NO RESERVATION

I swept my heart of bitterness,
Then hung a sign, "For Rent,"
And every room was occupied
Before the day was spent.

The first I gave to Gallantry—
I always shall be glad;
To Worship and to Prayer I gave
The finest rooms I had.

Service took one apartment, but
I saved the space above
For Faith and Purity and Hope,
For Wisdom, Truth, and Love.

And old acquaintance came at dusk—
I turned the sign about.
"My heart is very full," I said.
"I've no room for you, Doubt."


Nina Styles

Submitted
by



Marianne Giusti

Blessed are they that have the gift of making friends, for it is one of God's best gifts. It involves many things, but above all, the power of going out of one's self, and appreciating whatever is noble and loving in another.

-For a friend 

Servicemember Spotlight

Niko Marttila

Son of Kari and Lynnata Marttila

United States Army
Special Forces
Green Beret

Stationed in Okinawa, Japan



Niko requests prayer for safety for him and his team, for God to use them for His glory, for them to complete the tasks presented to them in a professional manner in service to God and our Country.

Gift cards for Subway and Chili's, bags of mini candy for the team room, beef jerky and nuts are items that would be greatly appreciated.

Please keep Niko in your thoughts and prayers.



New Ministry Opportunity

Military “Care Packages”

We are now collecting items for care packages to go out in December. Please see the table in fellowship hall to find out more about the servicemembers we are supporting and get some ideas on items they would like to receive. The boxes are on display and ready for donations, also notecards are available to write a note of encouragement. If you are interested in participating in this ministry by contributing items or donating funds, or if you have any questions, please contact Carl or Mary Ann Olsen at 360-510-3056. Thank you!





OPPORTUNITY FAIR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3rd

Potluck Lunch

(sign-up in narthex)

COME AND SEE...

**Where your gifts, talents and interests can be
used for God's work here at Redeemer**

**You will have opportunity to:
Visit tables designated for various areas of need**

Ask questions and gather more information

Meet and greet others

Share a meal with your Redeemer family

**Complete and return forms regarding your area(s)
of interest in serving**

As you prayerfully consider your time and talent for the Lord's work here at Redeemer,
may He richly bless your hearts and hands into His service with joy.

*"Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not
men..." Ephesians 6:7*



Advent By Candlelight



SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday ~ November 28, 2021 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Annual Advent By Candlelight

An Evening for ALL ages that includes an Advent Devotion, Special Program of Music, a Dessert Buffet, a Community Outreach Project and Fellowship.

Sign-ups for table hostess, for attending and for providing a dessert for the buffet will begin in November. Anyone interested in assisting with planning and organizing (decorations, food/kitchen help, program, publicity) please contact Dee Watt or Barb Abbe.

Invite your friends and neighbors to join us for this special opportunity to celebrate Advent Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

“Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel”





Lutheran's For Life Quote: October 31

"So follow Daniel ... Martin Luther ... the believers of ages past who have stood firm on Scripture alone, by faith alone, and by God's grace alone no matter what the cost. Spread the Word. Preach the truth. Defend your faith. Pass it on to your children. God will bless you and keep you firm in the one true faith. With that comfort you can proclaim, 'Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise. God help me. Amen!'"

Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Stay connected to the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

IF YOU WANT HELP UNDERSTANDING the world from a Lutheran perspective:

The Lutheran Witness (lcms.org/witness)

IF YOU LIKE HEARING directly from the president and other members of the president's office: Witness, Mercy, Life Together blog (wmltblog.org)

IF YOU WANT TO CONNECT with other LCMS Lutherans: LCMS Facebook (facebook.com/thelcms), Twitter (@thelcms), Instagram (thelcms) and Periscope

IF YOU WANT TO HEAR from LCMS leadership: Leader blog (blogs.lcms.org, category/leader-blog)

IF YOU'RE SEARCHING for stories of the Church in action:

Lutherans Engage the World (lcms.org/lutheransengage)

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR NEWS: *Reporter* (blogs.lcms.org/reporter)

IF YOU CAN'T GET ENOUGH of all things mission:

Journal of Lutheran Mission (lcms.org/journaloflutheranmission)

IF YOU WANT IT ALL: LCMS News and Publications (blogs.lcms.org)



Free Cards



SHARE GOD'S WORD BY USING FREE GIDEON CARDS

How would you like to extend the missionary outreach of our church to some 200 countries around the world? You are encouraged to use Gideon cards to send the Word and Change a Life!

Every time you send a Gideon card, your donation for Bibles will send God's Word to someone who desperately needs it—perhaps in your own neighborhood or somewhere else around the world.

Gideon cards can be given in the memory of someone special (sympathy cards) or for any special occasion, and that's a life-changing difference!

Check out the display of free Gideon cards in our church. Where are they? They are on the wooden shelf at the back wall in the fellowship room. Help yourself. Then, let these cards acknowledge your gift in memory or in honor of someone, and provide Bibles, helping fulfill the Great Commission. Thank you for sharing God's Word around the world.