

Redeemer REVIEW



REDEEMER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

CHICO, CALIFORNIA NOVEMBER 2016

VOL. 30 No. 9

from the Pastor...

Rev. Donald Jordan

PROMISES, PLEDGES, VOWS

Lutheran congregations believe that God creates and gathers His Church by the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ. The church grows only by the Gospel of Jesus Christ and sinners come to saving faith only through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In order that God accomplish this, He has established the Office of the Holy Ministry and places pastors into this ministry of Word and Sacrament. Pastors are called, not hired. Pastors take holy orders in their ordination. Pastors are set apart by prayer and the laying on of hands of fellow pastors in their ordination.

In a perfect world, one would never need to make a promise, since one would fulfill everything perfectly and without sin. We make promises, pledges, and vows as we assume the office of physician, soldier, peace officer, elected/appointed leader, husband/wife, and, yes, as pastor. Since we are sinners, promises and oaths must be made in order to bind us to the will of God in all things.

Consider the sacred vows of your pastor in his ordination and installation as he made a pledge to God and to the body of Christ, the church.

+ Do you acknowledge that the Lord has called you through His Church into the ministry of Word and Sacrament?

No pastor is self-appointed or chooses to be a pastor. God calls sinful men through the Church, through careful training in seminary, theological examination for fitness of duty, and calls pastors through the congregations to serve in the ministry of the Word and Sacraments of Jesus. A pastor is not called to serve as a counselor, social worker, or spiritual advisor. He serves the world and church with Jesus, His Gospel, and His Sacraments. The pastor delivers the forgiveness of sins from Jesus by the means of salvation that Jesus has appointed. In short, the pastor's call is from God, a divine call, and should be honored as a called servant.

+ Do you believe and confess the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments to be the inspired Word of God and the only infallible rule of faith and practice?

The pastor must believe the Bible to be the inspired, inerrant Word of God as totally trustworthy and infallible. The Bible, not the pastor's opinions or the opinions of



others guides all teaching, doctrine, and practice in the church.

+ Do you believe and confess the three Ecumenical Creeds, namely the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds, as faithful testimonies to the truth of the Holy Scriptures, and do you reject all the errors which they condemn?

The Lutheran Church has all the history and none of the heresy, or false teachings that Satan would promote. In the course of the history of the Church creeds were developed which stand as true confessions of the Bible, that unite

the church in catholic, not sectarian, teachings that govern the whole church. These creeds were not only written to assert the truth of Scripture, but also to rebuke and reject false teachings. Our pastors teach the truth, but they also are bound to reject error.

+ Do you confess the Unaltered Augsburg Confession to be a true exposition of Holy Scripture and a correct exhibition of the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church? And do you confess that the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Small and Large Catechisms of Martin Luther, the Smalcald Articles, the Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope, and the Formula of Concord — as these are contained in the Book of Concord — are also in agreement with this one scriptural faith?

The Lutheran pastor freely and willingly binds his teaching and practice to the Book of Concord. We are a confessional church that has a body of doctrine summarized and articulated in the Lutheran Confessions. The Lutheran pastor does not make up or devise teachings. All that we confess is stated, written, and known to the whole world and to the church in these writings which are true summaries of the Bible. It is, therefore, vital that laymen also acquaint themselves and know the Book of Concord, as the Lutheran pastor's vow is unconditional and without ambiguity.

+ Do you promise that you will perform the duties of your office in accordance with these Confessions, and that all your preaching and teaching and your administration of the Sacraments will be in conformity with Holy Scripture and with these

Continued on Page 2

REDEEMER FINANCIAL SUMMARY

January 1, 2016 – September 30, 2016

INCOME/EXPENSE – ACTUAL:

TOTAL INCOME:	\$138,640.35
EXPENSES:	
Administration	\$104,999.94
Christian Education	358.44
Evangelism	37.18
Fellowship	70.24
Public Relations	1,017.10
Stewardship	0.00
Trustees	<u>\$27,149.19</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES:	<u>\$133,632.09</u>
BALANCE:	5,008.26
CHURCH FACILITY RENT INCOME	<u>981.30</u>
TOTAL INCOME	5,989.56
RETAINED EARNINGS	<u>\$18,650.56</u>
FINAL INC./EXP. BALANCE	\$24,905.62
ASSETS/LIABILITIES:	
CHURCH	
Directed Funds (TCB)	\$86,677.01
Operating Funds (TCB)	\$24,905.62
Mission Trust Fund (Thornburg)	\$245,550.71
Scholarship Fund (Stifel Nicolaus)	<u>\$282,891.10</u>
TOTAL CHURCH ASSETS/LIAB.:	\$640,024.44
TOTAL SCHOOL ASSETS:	<u>\$21,869.45</u>
TOTAL ASSETS/LIABILITIES:	\$661,893.89
SCHOOL INCOME	\$65,508.00
35% to Miss. Trust Inc. 3,000 Miss.	\$22,927.80
30% to Scholarship Fund	\$19,652.40
20% to Facilities Reserve Fund	\$13,101.60
10% to School Reserve Fund	\$6,550.80
5% to Musician & Concert	\$3,275.40

MISSION SUPPORT 4Q 2016

QUARTER 4 - LOCAL MISSION

KKXX Sermons, Lutheran Hour (Partner with OSLC Paradise), Issues Etc.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

for the December Redeemer Review is Tuesday,
November 22, 4:00 p.m.
Your articles and photos are welcome!

FROM THE PASTOR, CONTINUED...

Confessions?

As the pastor carries out his duties of preaching, teaching, and providing pastoral care, he will do all things in accord with these confessions so there will be faithfulness to law and gospel, to word and sacrament. The congregation will then be assured of true teaching and practice.

+ Will you faithfully instruct both young and old in the chief articles of Christian doctrine, will you forgive the sins of those who repent, and will you promise never to divulge the sins confessed to you? Will you minister faithfully to the sick and dying, and will you demonstrate to the Church a constant and ready ministry centered in the Gospel? Will you admonish and encourage the people to a lively confidence in Christ and in holy living?

The pastor is described as a pastor and teacher in Ephesians 4 and I Timothy 3 indicates he must be “apt to teach.” Your pastor is a “rabbi,” a teacher of all. He also administers the office of the keys by faithfully administering holy absolution to penitent sinners. The pastor serves the sick and dying in their homes and hospital. The pastor is always at the ready, 24/7, to serve all based upon and focused upon Jesus Christ and His salvation. And the pastor also points the people of the church to Christ in all things, that both pastor and people would serve only Jesus in word and deed.

+ Finally, will you honor and adorn the Office of the Holy Ministry with a holy life? Will you be diligent in the study of Holy Scripture and the Confessions? And will you be constant in prayer for those under your pastoral care?

A pastor serves as an example to the flock in both his life, conduct, and in being a student of doctrine. He occupies a room called the “Pastor’s Study.” This is a place of study, meditation, prayer, and preparation in the Scriptures for the good of the flock. And, the pastor carries his flock in his prayers at all times, bearing the burdens of the people, and showing true love for the flock as he provides pastoral care from Jesus.

Thank God for these sacred vows that pastors make in their ordination and which are repeated in subsequent installations as pastor of the congregation. These vows are vital as they are not mere words, but actually are put into practice. Does a pastor keep his vows perfectly? No. He is always in need of mercy and forgiveness. Your pastor is always in need of repentance, forgiveness, and amendment of life. But, your pastor, like you, lives under the mercy of Christ who supplies all that we need.

A pastor has not promised to be your friend, to make the church grow, to bring in more money, to be popular, to please people, to be successful, to be a nice guy, or anything of the sort. But, he has made a clear and succinct promise to be faithful as God judges all things.

And, above all, let us receive what our pastors deliver to us, as coming from Christ himself, the faithful pastor who lived, died, and rose for us and our salvation.

Pastor Jordan

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Claire Trockel 809-3585
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Kathleen Weaver
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Chico, CA 95926
566-9466



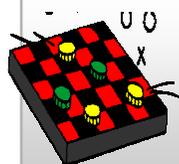
NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

04 SHARON SCHAFFERT
06 TEAL THOMPSON
10 ROSEMARY SMITH
11 KARYN ALMAND
13 REV. ROBERT R. ROBERTS
13 LINDA SWEET
14 ELAINE SWEITZER
15 JUDY SMITH
18 LUCIE WOOLERY
19 TRACY WOOLERY
20 DONALD MILLER
22 DON THURMAN
23 ELEANORE BINGEN
27 BROCK EASTMAN, JR.



NOVEMBER BAPTISMAL DATES

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13 KEITH SIEMENS
17 RANDY SIEMENS
18 BRIAN MARSHALL
19 JOAN ROBERTSON
23 ZACHARY ALMAND
24 YUFEI WENSLAFF
26 BELLA THORSON
27 ALICIA SCOTT
27 CANDY THURMAN
29 CATHLEEN YOUNG



Game Night!

Friday, 7:00 p.m.
November 21st
Bring your favorite game!

CHURCH STAFF

REV. DONALD JORDAN, PASTOR
JACKIE VIEIRA, OFFICE MANAGER
REV. DAVID BUNTING, ORGANIST
SHARON SCHAFFERT,
HANDBELL CHOIR DIRECTOR

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Technology Gifts

How can technology be useful to somebody who doesn't want to learn about using devices of any sort? Do they like to receive pictures? Would they like to listen to the sermons from their church? Do they like to listen to great choral Christian music?

Giving gifts to mom/grandma/great-grandma can sometimes be difficult. They have probably reached the point in their life where they really and truly don't want more stuff! What they really want is to have you visit them and yet the family might be scattered across the country so other than once a year or even every few years getting the family together just doesn't work. Besides, the sheer numbers of visitors at one time can be overwhelming and then the loss when everybody leaves.

Pictures are wonderful, but today most pictures are digital—they are shared on social media, sent as attachments to emails, put in blogs etc. Once again this leaves many out of the loop.

Technology that has been around for a few years, but greatly improved is the digital picture frame. Another item to consider is Wi-Fi radio.

If your loved one lives in an assisted care facility almost all of them have good Wi-Fi capabilities. If still living in their own home, there are ways of getting them connected with Wi-Fi without the cost being too expensive.

This could be a gift that the whole family goes in on bringing the generations together. Perhaps one member of the family lives close by who could handle the actual "installation" and occasional maintenance the device might require.

Research the various digital picture frames available (Amazon is a good place to start then visit a local store to actually see a digital photo frame) and you might find that the features available for some frames can meet all the digital needs including internet based radio, weather, calendar, appointment alerts, cloud storage, USB support, memory card, and more. Prices vary according to features as well as ease of use, so do research carefully. Having a built in photo-email account is a plus because then each family can send pictures to this account and keep grandma supplied with the latest photos of family events.

Pastor Jordan has first-hand experience with

installing technology for his mom and how the family is using this. Here is his story:

An outreach of our congregation is the broadcast of Sunday sermons on KKXX AM/FM radio. These sermons, also streamed on the internet, are a great blessing to those who are unable to attend services.

My mother expressed interest in hearing the sermons from Redeemer, but she lives in Hawthorne, California and, obviously, cannot receive a radio signal.

Since the sermons are streamed on the internet, I suggested she access them with a Wi-Fi radio.

In order to do this, she first had cable internet (Time-Warner) installed in her house and pays a monthly fee of \$15 for basic internet.

She purchased a modem from Staples, rather than rent one from the cable company. The modem cost \$80.

Then, a Wi-Fi router was installed in order to send a wireless signal. This device cost \$70.

The final component needed was an internet radio and she purchased a Bose radio, which has great sound quality. Internet radio prices range from \$100 - \$400, depending on features and quality.

Once all was purchased and installed, receiving the broadcasts on KKXX, Lutheran Public Radio, and other stations was easy and the sound quality and clarity is outstanding.

For those who live in a building with Wi-Fi access, all one would need is an internet radio in order to receive broadcasts.

So, for young and old, I would heartily recommend internet service in order to receive good Lutheran broadcasts wherever you live.

A nice gift for grandma or grandpa would be to have basic internet service installed and/or purchase an internet radio so the Word of God and the joy of Christ's church can come into their home. They will need your help to guide them through this process, which is not difficult, and once it is in place, he/she will be grateful.

A special thank you is extended to the members of Redeemer who generously support the broadcast of the sermons with their mission offerings.

This is certainly a wise and godly use of technology that the Holy Spirit has blessed us with as we spread the Gospel to all throughout the world.

*Soli Deo Gloria
Pastor Jordan*

WOMEN'S KAFFEEKLATSCH



Monday, November 17
10:00 A.M. - 12:00 NOON
Come and join us!

TECHNOLOGY



Dare to be Lutheran! How did you react to that statement when it was pointed out in the last article? Have you changed your mind after digging some into the Higher Things website? Are you starting to feel like an archeologist?

If you didn't bookmark the website here it is again: <http://higherthings.org>

Last month when you opened the website you were directed right away to the "Home" tab and explored some of the things there and why the sections under the "Home" tab are important. This month don't go anyplace just yet. What you first see is what is often called the main page, or home page, or depending on how the site was designed maybe even the splash page.

Higher Things uses this first opening of the website to do a couple of things. You will notice pictures that scroll and at the bottom right or left there is a red box with a word in it, and a black box with a bit more explanation. A picture is worth a thousand words right!

At some websites that would be all there is on the home page. But scroll down and look at the other things. This is kind of like a preview. Go ahead and click on the various elements and notice that they all have a [read more] notation. Explore the "more."

Next click on the "Conference" tab back at the top of the homepage and poke around a bit. Click on HT: We Confess. Just before you get to the various speakers (and you might want to listen to some of these), click on "Download the We Confess 2016 PDF Booklet" a pdf file. What you find is the conference booklet including Vespers and Evening Prayer. If you had a child/grandchild/niece or nephew attending this conference you could follow along with the conference schedule and be praying for the speakers and for the students. Think back to times when your children went to camp or a conference and when they got home and you asked them about camp, their response was "it was good." This gives you background and the ability to comment on a specific talk or two.

What if you don't have a family member going to one of these conferences? Could you download the conference booklet anyway and during those days of the conference pray for those students who are attending as well as the speakers? Ask Pastor Jordan if he knows of any student going and then contact that student and his/her family to let them know you will be praying for them and that you have downloaded the conference booklet. And if you don't have a computer but are still interested in doing this, contact the office and ask if the booklet could be printed out for you as you want to be praying during the conference.

There is much more to look at on this website and you are encouraged to do a thorough job of investigating; however, there is one more tab to consider and that is the Magazine tab. Under that tab are various options but click on the one that says "Free Apologetics Issue." It would be a good idea to bookmark this page.

Notice that on the right-hand side there is a heading that says "This Section" with several articles listed. Clicking on one of these brings up a page with an article that is well written and then on that page on the right-hand side are related articles. You can find a treasure trove of information here.

These are the very topics that youth are confronted with and too many times they don't know what to say, how to defend their faith, and sadly this can actually be the fork in the road that leads to a loss of faith or at least a decided drifting away. And as much as you, a parent or grandparent, may want to help, you may feel unprepared and inadequate. Reading these articles may give you the basics you need.

You can create an account at HT. Creating the account is free but if you want to access any of the premium services the cost is \$25.00 per year. You might want to explore what is available to help you decide if you want to take this step.

If you didn't already feel like an archeologist you probably do now after all this digging. And there is still more you can dig into on your own. Over these next few months we will look more in-depth at various places online and some may take more than one article, not that we will look at every tab or page but just that there may be a myriad of content to highlight. The object is to give you places where you can find, look at, retrieve, and print out if you want content that is solid, confessional Lutheran writing.

Working through this site has probably helped you learn to use a few more tools and hopefully you are feeling a little more confident that technology is a tool that can be godly.

INSTALLATION SERVICE

PASTOR BRIAN CUMMINS
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, REDDING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2016



Picture from left: Rev. Dallas Dubke - Red Bluff & Corning, Rev. Donald Jordan - Chico, Rev. Robert Roberts (retired) - Chico, Rev. James Cavener (retired) Yreka, Rev. Brian Cummins - Redding, Rev. Brandon Merrick - Paradise, Rev. Robert Hinckley - Redding, Rev. Walter Schedler - Colusa, Rev. Philip Zabell - Willows & Artois.

THE DING-A-LINGS ARE BACK!

The handbell ringers are finally back together after a summer's hiatus. We all agree it is good to be back praising the Lord with the music of the handbells as we offer up those beautiful hymns of Christianity.

This year's ringers are Linda Allen, Jerry Brandt, Robert Engelken, Carol Hall, Marsha Hoffman, Bruce and Cyndie Holderbein, Sharon Schaffert, Diane Scott, and Lucie Woolery.

We have one position open. A very important position as we have discovered as we try to pick up these bells along with our own two bells! These are the very tiny, high bells. It is a good position for a beginner and has been used for that purpose many times in the past. If you would like to try your hand at playing the handbells, this position is ideal for you. We will teach you how to count music and you only need to learn the location of three notes.

We practice for an hour every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. If you are interested or have questions, just speak to the director, Sharon Schaffert, any choir member, or just come to practice.

We welcome the young (at least age 13) to those older ones who can still climb those notorious stairs to the choir loft. Don't be timid. We were all beginners at some time and you are needed. Here is another great way to praise the Lord!

To God be the glory, Sharon Schaffert.

THANK YOU

Dear Elders of Redeemer Lutheran Church,

Thank you very much for the generous scholarship awarded to me as I studied to pursue a career as a professional church worker in the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.

In April, I accepted a call to serve as a second grade teacher at Zion Lutheran School in Brighton, Colorado. The school year began in August, and I have enjoyed my active ministry role in both the school and church. Zion Lutheran School is a thriving Lutheran elementary school with a wonderful reputation in the Brighton and greater Denver communities.

My studies at Concordia University Irvine prepared me for my role in professional church work. I am very thankful for the scholarship, which enabled me to graduate summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies.

Bryce and I are doing well and enjoying Brighton. Bryce is currently attending fire academy at Community College of Aurora and is actively pursuing a career in firefighting.

Thank you again for the very generous scholarship, your support, and prayers.

Sincerely, Lianna Nilsson



HYMNS THAT SING OF CHRIST: LSB 343
“PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY”

Prepare the royal highway;
The king of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley
A level road appear!
Then greet the King of Glory
Foretold in sacred story:
*Hosanna to the Lord
For He fulfills God's Word!*

God's people, see Him coming:
Your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before Him!
Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you!
No more shall doubt assail you!
*Hosanna to the Lord
For He fulfills God's Word!*

Then fling the gates wide open
To greet your promised king!
You king, yet ev'ry nation
Its tribute too should bring.
All lands, bow down before Him!
All nation, now adore Him!
*Hosanna to the Lord
For He fulfills God's Word!*

His is no earthly kingdom;
It comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom
And justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding
For kindness so abounding:
*Hosanna to the Lord
For He fulfills God's Word!*

No wonder this hymn has been placed in the Advent section of our hymnal. It leads the worshipper in praise, thanksgiving, and adoration of the King of Kings who is coming to His people. This hymn is so rich in scriptural allusions.

The text is by Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847). He was born at Uleaborg, Finland, of Swedish parentage. After earning a Master's degree at the Abo Academy, he entered the University of Upssala to pursue a Doctor of Philosophy degree. He was professor in the history of literature at Abo. When, in the Napoleonic wars, Sweden lost Finland to Russia, Franzen returned to Sweden, becoming pastor of the Kumla parish. He contributed 29 hymns in the preparation of *Svenska Psalm-Boken* of 1819, a masterpiece from the golden age of Swedish hymnody. He was pastor of St. Clara Church, Stockholm, in 1825 and was soon elected secretary of the Swedish Academy, appointed bishop of the diocese of Harnosand. He worked tirelessly as pastor until his death.

The tune, *Bereden Vag For Harran* is a Swedish hymn. The form of the tune used in Lutheran Book of Worship appeared in the 1697 tune edition of the Svedberg Hymnal, a revision of Jesper Svedberg's offering to the Swedish Church of a year earlier. According to the *Koralbok for Svenska Kyrkan* (1939), the form of the tune used there is from an 18th century manuscript of the Ovikens Church in Jamtland.

DIRECTORY & MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

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Dottie Tefelski
514-4912

TRANSFER OUT

LEE & CARMEN BROSE
TRANSFER TO ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
RED BLUFF

DEAR PARENTS: YOUR TEENS DON'T NEED CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

September 28, 2016 by Jonathon Aigner - From "Patheos Blog" (Ponder Anew – Discussions About Worship for Thinking People)

CALL TO WORSHIP

I get comments from a lot of parents (and other adults) who are convinced that the key to keeping their children engaged in church is a service with lots of energy and excitement.

These are parents, who usually for the most honorable of reasons believe that they need to put their kids in contemporary worship. After all, it's easy, it's entertaining, it seems relevant, and it doesn't ask for much in return. And then, a sense of panic sets in: if we don't get them hooked on church when they're young, we'll never get them back!

But parents, hear me. We owe your kids more than contemporary worship. They deserve something better.

You might not have heard it, but listen!

Kids are crying out for something that lasts. They feel the paucity in their bones, they sense the divide in their hearts, they know the numbness in their minds. Even with all their electronic gadgetry, their generation is hopelessly disconnected from each other. The church and its worship can be a real alternative to that. Not the entrancing commercial pop music. Not the three-points-and-a-take-home topical sermon series. Not the rock concert and self-help message. Not the lights and the stage and the special effects.

I'm not going to lie to you and tell you this kind of contemporary worship will absolutely, positively never hook in any of your kids. It might.

But they deserve better.

They deserve to be awakened out of their media-fed self-absorption by a liturgical role.

They deserve to not be targeted as the church's most coveted demographic.

They deserve to inherit a sacramental theology that doesn't hold up a commercial, musical manipulation as a replacement for the sacred meal.

They deserve to sing the songs of the saints, not the ditties of the day.

They deserve to learn to tell the Christian story as their own.

They deserve to worship with older brothers and sisters who refuse to patronize them, to bait-and-switch them with an individualistic gospel.

Yes, they deserve better, and woe to us who continue to fight for their right to temporary pseudo-spiritual diversion, while ignoring their need for nourishment in community.

Of course the jesusy entertainment of contemporary worship might give some of them enough incentive to crawl out of bed early on a Sunday morning without much griping.

But let me share with you what I've seen in my own experience.

A SOBERING SERMON

I have seen a few kids get hooked enough on contemporary worship to stick around in church. A few. The majority haven't. It just doesn't work on them. They can smell the inauthenticity a mile away.

The marketing makes them run the opposite direction. The music is a silly pseudo-pious parody of their older brother or sister's mainstream favorites. The promises of emotionally entrancing worship "experiences" eventually ring hollow. The disconnect between contemporary commercial worship and the gospel of Christ is awkwardly, embarrassingly apparent.

Eventually, most of them wise up to the empty promises, and the endless parroting of pop-worship cliches ring hollow in most of their ears.

And even if it does work for a time, even if we do get some kids to buy in, if all we do is give them a rock concert and a "relevant" sermon, we've sold them on a modern recreation of church life. Liturgy is the way the church worships publicly: its calendar and script, it's praying, meditating, singing, and proclaiming.

Watching the Los Angeles Dodgers' recent tribute to the great Vin Scully reminded me of the way Vin compares the gridiron to the diamond: "Football is to baseball as blackjack is to bridge. One is the quick jolt. The other the deliberate, slow-paced game of skill." Dare I say it, I think the comparison fits nicely between



Continued Page 10

DEAR PARENTS: YOUR TEENS DON'T NEED CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

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the worship of our modern creation and the historic liturgy of the church. One is the weekly search for the high, the quick jolt of limbic reactivity, the dynamic speaker that woos us with jesusy generalities; the other is the weekly discipline of remembering, speaking, and enacting God's story together.

In contemporary worship, we seek out that which will amuse us and excite us, believing it's done to facilitate our own personal, mystical connection with God.

In liturgy, we unite ourselves as God's covenant people to remember who we are and what God has done for us, to be transformed by Word and Sacrament, and to corporately submit to the beauty of the gospel and its hold on our lives. Through the repetition of this weekly work, by praying, singing, storytelling, and dining together thoughtfully, meditatively, and truthfully, we become equipped to live lives that speak truthfully about the love of God revealed in Jesus the Christ.

Some of the things demanded of us are difficult, yes. That's the thing about the liturgy. It sometimes requires more thought and conviction and honesty than any of us have to give, kids or adults. And a lot of it won't appeal to casual outsiders, either. We need to make ourselves believe that's okay.

The key to keeping anyone engaged in church, especially kids, isn't creating a show they don't want to miss, but in believing that what Jesus does there for his people is enough.

A CHANGED CHARGE

So don't push for contemporary worship for your kids' sake. The church's job isn't to craft a custom-tailored "worship" experience for every generation. It's not our mission to phony up a bunch of excitement that is vaguely related to Jesus. That's an idol of our own creation. We've made worship in our image. We've decided we can get more people in the seats with our gifts of electronic music and casual, often careless religious doublespeak.

And a few such churches grow. The rest shrink. Children continue to grow up and leave, and they're leaving faster than ever before.

Should we really be surprised?

Is it any wonder?

Have we not yet learned from our mistakes?

Parents, please listen. I know you want the best for your kids. But we all know that the things that are most worthwhile in life are the things that require the most out of us. The church's worship offers the perfect alternative to the cultural obsession with convenience and instant gratification.

Let this reality take root in you.

Instead of championing for your kids to get worship their way, show them a better way.

Model it for them. Live it in front of them.

It will be different than what they're used to. It will take more concentration and discipline. But if it takes hold in their lives, in the end, it will help them internalize the truth and beauty of the gospel in a way that amusement worship simply cannot.

MERCY IN KENYA

Please keep all our East African missionaries and those they serve in your prayers. The Gospel reaches around the world. We serve our brothers and sisters both near and far.

Scripture verses to ponder: Luke 15:4-7: *"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance."*

The next mercy trip to Kenya will be in 2018. The annual St. Patrick's Day luncheon will be held in March, 2017.

Your Sister in Christ, Kathy Sweet

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

CHRISTMAS WREATHS

The youth will offer Christmas wreaths again this year. They are the same great wreaths as last year from Christmas Forest and will be available using the EZ Plan for direct ordering. You can order online at www.ChristmasForest.com. Enter RLYG in the club code field at check out. Wreaths will be delivered directly to the addresses you enter online. Redeemer Youth Group will earn a portion of each sale.

2017 CALENDARS

Also available are 2017 "God's Creation" calendars. Several youth are planning to attend the Higher Things gathering in Bozeman, Montana this summer. Funds from these sales and from the wreath sales will go towards trips to Higher Things conferences. Cost of calendars is \$7 each. You may purchase on Sunday mornings in the parish hall. See Dianne Scott or Lori Jordan for more information.

ASSISTED OR INDEPENDENT LIVING

WHEN moving into an assisted or independent living facility (Windchimes, Prestige, Oakmont, etc.) indicate that you received a referral from Pastor Jordan - Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the church will receive a referral reward. This must be done prior to signing.

"Here I Stand"

2017 YOUTH CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

If there are confirmed youth interested in attending the Higher Things Youth Conference in Bozeman, Montana, July 18-21, 2017, please contact Pastor Jordan prior to November 1, which is the opening of registration.

These confessional Lutheran conferences are primarily intended for junior-senior high youth and college students.

Our church's youth and leaders have participated in these conferences in the past and we hope to resume participation again.

Our youth fund has resources to assist with the costs.

Contact Pastor Jordan for information.

THANK YOU FROM ISSUES, ETC.

For by grace you have been saved through faith and this is not your own doing. It is the gift of God. Not a result of works, so that no one may boast for we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Thank you for your support of the worldwide outreach of Issues, Etc. Real Reformation Radio.

And for remembering us in 2017



LWML NOTES

A jewelry sale took the place of our second Saturday meeting of October. The jewelry sale was a two day display in the fireside room.

People found treasures and rediscovered some. We wish to thank all those who donated things, food, time, talent, or all of the above. Thank you to all who shopped. There was some good fellowship time as people stopped by to partake of refreshments while shopping. The sale netted \$518.00 to missions supported through LWML.

The LWML Zone 12 Rally took place on Saturday, October 22nd, in Redding at Trinity Lutheran Church. The theme was "Pass it On." A Bible study was led by Pastor Brian Cummins, Trinity's newly installed pastor. We shared a salad luncheon with our prayer partners.

A display table for memorabilia relating to church and the LWML, which was supplied by ladies in Redding and some of us traveling to join them. We watched the DVD, "The First Rosa," Rosa Young. A tour through their Helping Hands ministry was available. The ministry serves the community with needed children's clothes and Arch books to share the Gospel. This ministry received funds as a mission grant of the district LWML.

Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, November 12th, at 9:30 am.

Your Sister in Christ, President, Kathy Sweet

BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP

The Board of Fellowship wishes to thank you for your participation, food offerings and monetary gifts for the recent annual dinner. It is wonderful to be able to celebrate Reformation together with our family. We will be providing a light lunch at the voters meeting on November 5th. Since December is such a busy month, we will forego the soup suppers before Advent services but will plan to have several soup suppers in Lent 2017.

LISTEN TO SERMONS FROM REDEEMER

www.kkxx.net (live and podcasts)

KKXX Chico, CA 930 AM Saturday/Sunday 1:00 PM

KKXX Chico, CA 104.5 FM Saturday/Sunday 1:00 PM

LISTEN TO THE LUTHERAN HOUR

www.kkxx.net (live and podcasts)

KKXX Chico, CA 930 AM Saturday/Sunday 1:30 PM

KKXX Chico, CA 104.5 FM Saturday/Sunday 1:30 PM



BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, November 13
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Parish Hall
750 Moss Ave

For information or to make an appointment,
please contact Shirley Wilson @ 864-0022

All participants will receive a FREE t-shirt &
earn MyBloodSource Rewards!

Please eat and drink plenty of fluids, bring Donor Card or
photo ID, minimum 110 pounds and generally healthy, 18
years old (16-17 with parental consent.)

SPECIAL SERVICES AND EVENTS 2016 - 2017

Thanksgiving Eve
Evening Prayer
Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
November 23

Advent Services
Evening Prayer
Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.
November 30, December 7, 14

Christmas Caroling at Nursing Homes
Windsor Chico Creek, 4:00 p.m.
587 Rio Lindo Ave
Windsor Chico Care Center, 4:30 p.m.
188 Cohasset Lane
Sunday, December 18

The Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Saturday, 7:00 p.m.
December 24

Christmas Day Divine Service
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.
(No Bible Class)
December 25

New Year's Eve
**Eve of the Circumcision and Name of
Jesus**
Hymn Sing, 6:30 p.m.
Evening Prayer, 7:00 p.m.
Saturday
December 31

Epiphany of Our Lord
Matins
Friday, 10:00 a.m.
January 6

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Advent

From the First Sunday in Advent through December 24th

The Theme

Advent is the beginning of the church year. Beginnings are exciting! God, in His mercy, has given us a little more time to prepare for His coming. "Advent" means "coming of the Lord." This refers not only to Christ's historical coming but more especially to His present and future coming. The Palm Sunday cry resonates in this season as well: "Behold! Your King comes, to you, lowly and humble."

There are three "comings" intertwined in the celebration of Advent. The First Sunday--Jesus will come at the end of time to usher in the Kingdom of Glory; 2nd Sunday--He comes in the present, in His Word; 3rd Sunday--again concerns His coming in the present, in His Sacraments; 4th Sunday--His coming into the world at His Conception (not Birth). These three are not kept separate, but are blended into a continual "coming."

The Mood

You don't begin a party before the guest of honor arrives; you make preparations. Advent is a time of preparation, not celebration. Preparation involves repentance. There is also a sense of anticipation of something tremendous about to happen. The penitential aspect is indicated by the omission of the *Gloria in Excelsis* in the liturgy until Christmas Eve. The hymns throughout the season are of Advent and not of Christmas.

An exception to the penitential mood may be made on the 3rd Sunday, marking the half-way point in our journey to the manger; the color rose traditionally is used, signifying eager hope and longing for Christ's coming; Rose-colored flowers may be used. This subduing of the penitential mood is to encourage anticipation of the coming Christmas celebration.

To build anticipation for the Feast of the Nativity, an Advent wreath may be set up, with three blue candles and one rose candle. A candle is lit the 1st Sunday, two the 2nd Sunday, two blue and the rose one on the 3rd Sunday, and all four on the last Sunday. Another practice in some churches is to set up the stable on the first Sunday, and place only a blue candle in the center of it where the manger will go; the 2nd Sunday the ox and ass are added; the 3rd some sheep join them; and the 4th Mary and Joseph are placed on either side of the candle. Then at the Christmas Eve mass, the candle is replaced by the manger and Christ Child. Both the wreath and the stable ideas are appropriate in the home as well as in the church. The wreath is removed after the last mass on the 4th Sunday, and a tree is erected in its place. If no tree is used, then the wreath may be used, but the 4 colored candles are removed, and a white candle is lighted in the center to represent Christ, the light of the world, born on Christmas Day.

The Colors

The color for Advent is blue with the meaning of joy, expectation, heaven. and the Virgin Mary. The exception may be the use of rose on the 3rd Sunday, as explained above. In the absence of rose paraments and vestments, the blue is used. The emphasis of this Sunday being brought out by flowers, the 3rd candle on the Wreath, and perhaps rose colored ribbons hanging from pulpit and lectern as book markers.

It is best to refrain from singing Christmas carols, or holding Christmas parties or dinners during Advent. The Sunday(s) after Christmas or the Epiphany are appropriate times to do those things. That is also the time for any Christmas Sunday School programs or pageants. In Church, the Christmas Tree and decorations are to be put up after the last mass of Advent, or on Christmas Eve in the home and not lighted until Christmas Eve.

November 2016

November 2016

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2016

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Oct 30	31	Nov 1	2	3	4	5
Twenty-fifth Sunday after 8:45am SS/Adult Bible Class 10:00am Divine Service 11:15am Fellowship (Parish) 11:30am Voters Meeting 5:00pm College/Young Adult	Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off	All Saints' Day 9:30am Matins (Sanctuary) 10:00am Circuit Pastors Meeting (Fireside Room)	Clement of Rome, Pastor Eve of Thanksgiving Office Manager's Vacation 7:00pm Evening Prayer	9:30am Bible Class (Fireside Room) 6:30pm Bell Choir Practice (Choir Loft)	Office Manager's Day Off	Reiniking Family Reunion (Parish Hall) 8:00am Men's Bible Study (Fireside Room) 1:00pm KKKX Sermon 1:30pm Lutheran Hour
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Twenty-sixth Sunday after 8:45am SS/Adult Bible Class 10:00am Divine Service 11:00am Blood Drive (Parish) 11:15am Fellowship (Parish) 1:00pm KKKX Sermon	Emperor Justinian, Christian Ruler and Confessor of Christ Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off	Election Day Johannes von Staupitz, Luther's Father Confessor 9:00am Quilters	St. Andrew, Apostle 7:00pm Advent Evening Prayer (Sanctuary)	Martin Luther's Birthday 1483 9:30am Bible Class (Fireside Room) 6:30pm Bell Choir Practice (Choir Loft)	Martin of Tours, Pastor Office Manager's Day Off Veterans' Day	9:30am LWML Mary/Martha Opt. Bus. Mtg. (Fireside) 10:30am LWML Mary/Martha 11:00am LWML Mary/Martha 1:00pm KKKX Sermon 1:30pm Lutheran Hour
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Twenty-sixth Sunday after 8:45am SS/Adult Bible Class 10:00am Divine Service 11:00am Blood Drive (Parish) 11:15am Fellowship (Parish) 1:00pm KKKX Sermon	Emperor Justinian, Christian Ruler and Confessor of Christ Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off	Office Manager's Vacation 9:00am Quilters 4:00pm December Reformer Review Deadline	Day of Thanksgiving Office Closed	9:30am Bible Class (Fireside Room) 6:00pm Car Club (Fireside Room) 6:30pm Bell Choir Practice (Choir Loft)	Office Manager's Day Off 7:00pm Game Night (Parish Hall)	Elizabeth of Hungary 1:00pm KKKX Sermon 1:30pm Lutheran Hour
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Last Sunday of the Church 8:45am SS/Adult Bible Class 10:00am Divine Service 11:15am Fellowship (Parish) 1:00pm KKKX Sermon 1:30pm Lutheran Hour	Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off 10:00am Women's Karfreitag (Sharon Schafferts)	Office Manager's Vacation 9:00am Quilters 4:00pm December Reformer Review Deadline	Office Manager's Vacation 7:00pm Evening Prayer	Day of Thanksgiving Office Closed	Office Manager's Day Off	1:00pm KKKX Sermon 1:30pm Lutheran Hour
27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3
First Sunday in Advent 8:45am SS/Adult Bible Class 10:00am Divine Service 11:15am Fellowship (Parish) 1:00pm KKKX Sermon 1:30pm Lutheran Hour	Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off	Noah	St. Andrew, Apostle 7:00pm Advent Evening Prayer (Sanctuary)	Dec 1	Dec 2	Dec 3

OFFICE MANAGER'S HOURS	TUE - THU	8:30AM - 4:30PM (1/2 to 1 hr. lunch)
PHONE:		530-342-6085
EMAIL:		redeemerchicooffice@gmail.com
PASTOR'S EMAIL:		pastordonaldjordan@gmail.com
WEB ADDRESS:		www.redeemerchico.org
Facebook:		facebook.com/RedeemerLutheranChico

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November 2016

November 2016



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