

Redeemer REVIEW



REDEEMER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD CHICO, CALIFORNIA NOVEMBER 2021 Vol. 35 No. 9

from the Pastor...

Rev. Donald Jordan

FACING JUDGMENT WITH CONFIDENCE

“Love has been perfected among us in this; that we may have boldness in the day of judgment.” – I John 4:17.

“He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end” - Nicene Creed

The end of the church year is fast approaching on November 27. All things as we know them in this temporal life are wasting away and disintegrating. We wait for the final consummation when Jesus will return in glory to claim his children, to raise all the dead, and to sit in judgment over you and me, and all people.

Judgment day will be a terrible end to this earth, with fire and destruction, and condemnation to hell for all unbelievers, those who spurned Jesus and rejected Him.

For believers, those who trust in Christ and are found justified in His precious blood, it will be a great and glorious day when we are welcomed into the eternal kingdom, the place of eternal rest in body and soul, where we will see Jesus as He is. Christians, look forward to being in the nearer presence of Christ on that great and joyous day.

In the meantime, we live our days in this world that is fraught with so many problems, issues, and sadness. Many are living in fear and trepidation. Many have spurned the Lord's church and absent themselves from His means of grace. Many have become anxious and worried over the conditions of the world. This is not good. Living in fear is an awful way to live.

Fear of man, virus, or anything in this world is natural. Admit it. There are threats to you that



bring the potential of negative consequences.

You and I need not fear the judgment of God because “perfect love casts out fear.” Fear has to do with punishment.

Therefore, we do not need to fear anything else because we have the perfect love of Christ. You and I do not need to fear the punishment of God because we are in Christ and all sin has been placed on Jesus. He was punished for you and you need not fear God's wrath or any earthly consequence.

God loves you and me, thereby providing all that we need for body and soul. Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. We are bold to pray to our Father daily in the Lord's Prayer. We are bold to confess what He has done for us and we tell others. We are bold to sing his praises for the salvation he has won for us on the cross. We are bold to believe that our baptism saves us, and that Holy Communion gives us forgiveness of sins. We are bold to love God and our neighbor because He first loved us.

We are perfect in Christ. There is no fear or anything to fear in this life. Our trust is in the Lord who does all things well.

Fear or boldness? Which is it for the Christian? The Bible is clear and to the point. So often our Lord admonishes us to “have no fear.”

Thanks be to God for giving us boldness and confidence, faith over fear, and eternal joy in Christ, our Lord, who lived with great boldness and confidence, never fearing man nor the things of this world, but placing all His confidence in His Father, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Jordan



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

02 KATHLEEN WEAVER
 04 SHARON SCHAFFERT
 11 KAREN ALMAND
 13 REV. ROBERT ROBERTS
 13 LINDA SWEET
 16 FINNELLY WEINREICH
 22 DON THURMAN
 23 ELEANORE BINGEN
 25 LAYLA HOFFMAN
 25 LIAM HOFFMAN



NOVEMBER BAPTISMS

00 AMANDA ALMAND
 00 KAREN ALMAND
 13 KEITH SIEMENS
 17 RANDY SIEMENS
 18 BRIAN MARSHALL
 23 MEGAN ALMAND
 23 ZACHARY ALMAND
 23 ASHLYN POTEET
 24 YUFEI WENSLAFF
 26 BELLA THORSON
 27 CANDACE THURMAN
 27 ALICIA SCOTT

NOVEMBER SERVANTS

ACOLYTE:
 AARON ASHWORTH

ALTAR GUILD:
 CAROLYN FIORILLO
 LORI JORDAN
 LINDA REAN
 LOUISE URNESS

ELDER OF THE MONTH
 MATTHEW THOMASON

USHERS:
 BRUCE HOLDERBEIN
 TIMOTHY WENSLAFF

COUNTER:
 PAT LILLIE

VAN DRIVERS:
 JAY ERWIN
 BRUCE HOLDERBEIN
 KURT JORDAN
 DARYL SMITH

CHURCH STAFF

REV. DONALD JORDAN, PASTOR
 JACKIE VIEIRA, OFFICE MANAGER
 REV. DAVID BUNTING, ORGANIST
 JAY ERWIN, ORGANIST SUB

OFFICERS

FRED SHERMAN, III, PRESIDENT
 JERRY BRANDT, VICE PRESIDENT
 VACANT, TREASURER
 R. J. JOKSCH, SECRETARY

BOARD OF ELDERS

ROBERT ENGELKEN
 * JAY ERWIN
 ROBERT REAN
 DARYL SMITH
 MATTHEW THOMASON
 TIMOTHY WENSLAFF

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

* BRUCE HOLDERBEIN
 ROBERT REAN
 KEITH SIEMENS

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

WALTER GODSIL

BOARD OF EVANGELISM

* DARYL SMITH

BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP

SHERRY GODSIL
 DIANE SCOTT
 CAROL VARLEY
 SHIRLEY WILSON

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & BOARD OF YOUNG PEOPLES WORK

*DIANE SCOTT

*BOARD CHAIR

Thursday Bible Study
 9:30 a.m.
 Study of
 Book of Revelation



Submission Deadline
 for the
**December Redeemer
 Review**

November 20

Email submissions to:
[redeemerchicooffice@gmail.com](mailto:redemerchicooffice@gmail.com)

ELDER ASSIGNMENTS

ROBERT REAN:
 TIM WENSLAFF:
 JAY ERWIN:
 MATTHEW THOMASON:
 ROBERT ENGELKEN:
 DARYL SMITH:

*Ashworth - Crane
 DeGarmo - Holderbein
 Hunt - May
 McCann - Schukei
 Scott - Thompson
 Thorson - Ziegler*

HOMEBOUND



Altar flower sponsors are needed weekly.

2021 Dates Available:
Thanksgiving Eve:
November 24
All of December

Eternal Candle
sponsors needed
monthly
\$15



The 2022 sign-up charts are posted in the narthex.

FIRST AID/MEDICAL

Are you trained and certified in Basic Life Support, CPR, AED, or First Aid? We have a first aid kit in the narthex, parish hall, and van. There are two AEDs, one in the parish hall and one in the narthex. We are striving to improve our medical response and training by identifying those with these skills.

Contact Matthew Thomason

(864)590-3272

stmatth2003@yahoo.com



Submit prayer requests to Pastor Jordan by email, text, voice mail, or in writing, using the form in the pew rack.

pastordonaldjordan@gmail.com

(530) 513-1284

(530) 342-6085 Opt. 1

William Baving
1200 Springfield #316
Chico, CA 95928

Brenda Bell
1901 Dayton Rd #176
Chico, CA 95928

Irene Bevers
1803 Parkview Dr
Twin Falls, ID 83301

Eleanore Bingen
1199 Diablo Ave #115
Chico, CA 95973-7893

Patricia Bodi
650 Manzanita Ave #115
Chico, CA 95926

Sonya Brown
3049 Esplanade #403
Chico, CA 95973

Ann Carney
1200 Springfield Dr
Chico, CA 95928

Paul DeGarmo
2770 Sierra Ladera
Chico, CA 95928

Jackie Eichelberger
1199 Diablo #117
Chico, CA 95973

Ursula Fratallone
1369 E Lindo Ave #42
Chico, CA 95926-7396

LaVera Hansen
31741 Rancho Viejo Rd. #106
San Juan Capistrano
CA 92675

Esther Henry
14 Discovery Way
Chico, CA 95926

Roy & Marge Holderbein
1901 Dayton Rd Spc 162
Chico, CA 95928

Marian May
1741 Citrus
Chico, CA 95926

Catherine Skahan
375 Cohasset Rd
Chico, CA 95926

Bella Thorson
10 Ilahee Lane #27
Chico, CA 95973

Kathleen Weaver
2270 Ridge Run Rd
Quincy, CA 95971

AMAZONSMILE

Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

How it works:

- 1. Open the Amazon app on your phone*
- 2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features*
- 3. Select "Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church" as your charity*
- 4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app*

To date, Redeemer has received \$314.28.

Ride the Van

An accessible van is available each Sunday morning to transport those who need a ride to Divine Service. Call Jerry Brandt at 636-4392 before Saturday noon to arrange a ride for the following Sunday service.



REDEEMER FINANCIAL SUMMARY

January 1, 2021 - September 30, 2021

INCOME/EXPENSE – ACTUAL:

ORDINARY INCOME:	\$130,973.50
EXPENSES:	\$142,550.71
NET ORDINARY INCOME	\$ -11,613.21
FACILITY RENT INCOME	250.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ -11,363.21
RETAINED EARNINGS	\$ 36,532.42
BALANCE (Total Equity)	\$ 25,169.21

DIGITAL DAILY DEVOTIONS

Lutheran Hour Ministries:

<https://www.lhm.org/dailydevotions>

Higher Things:

<https://higherthings.org/content/reflections>

Portals of Prayer:

<https://www1.cph.org/portals/default.aspx>

LUTHERAN PUBLIC RADIO

Listen to good Lutheran radio programs at Lutheran Public Radio, Issues Etc., KFUE, St. Louis. 94.3 The Bridge.

PASTOR ON THE RADIO

Pastor Jordan is a regular guest on "Live Talk with Jerry Olenyn" every Friday on KKXX radio. 8:30 a.m. & 2:00 p.m. AM 930, FM 103.9 www.tunein.com



PASTOR JORDAN'S SERMONS

KKXX.net - Tunein.com KKXX 930 AM, 103.9 FM
Saturday & Sunday 1:00 & 5:00 PM

MERCY/HEALTH MINISTRY

LOOK BEFORE YOU PLANT THEM!

This is in reference to our feet. As maturity sets in, many of us experience loss of balance and feeling in our feet. Some even get a diagnosis of neuropathy.

Have you ever felt like you could trip on a feather? It is not a joke. Each year, so many experience falls. Falls are responsible for many injuries and sometimes even death.

In our homes, we can remove rugs and other items that may cause us to stumble. We need to be ever aware of where we are stepping. Night lights in our sleeping areas are essential. When the time comes that we realize our balance isn't what it once was, we need not be too proud to use a cane or walker.

The list of safety measures are numerous but being aware of where our feet are planted will be a place to begin.

Elders and mercy servants numbering around ten members have been making visitations. There are so many needs during these times of loneliness and isolation.

In Philippians 2:4 we are commanded to care for others. "Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to interest of others".

If any are aware of special needs not being addressed, please notify the church office. Thank you.

Blood donations are always needed. Appointments are to be made directly with VITALANT, 893-5433 or www.vitalant.org. Donors must be in good health, weigh at least 110# and be well hydrated. There is no upper age limit.

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

Lutheran Women's Missionary League supports many mission projects in the US and world wide. The most recent grant was #9 for the sum of \$5000. It was for Leadership Center for Religious Liberty.



Thank you to all who make contributions in the box in the narthex. Please take a box for your convenience in your home.

BLESSINGS IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!!!

THE LUTHERAN HOUR

KKXX.net - Tunein.com KKXX 930 AM, 103.9 FM
Saturday & Sunday 1:30 PM



TECHNOLOGY



Technology Timeline

Many are becoming increasingly aware of the changes ahead in technology. Some can be alarming and some are meant to plant doubt. Some of the “warnings” posted about your technology can cause concern and anxiety.

Recently you may have noticed that you are receiving notices that your computer does not meet the requirements for Windows 11. Is that true? Probably, to some extent, however, that does not mean you need to rush out and buy a new computer.

If you have been using a computer for any length of time you are aware that software has a lifecycle and you may have been through several versions of various software programs. Windows 10 is no exception. For the last several months you have probably noticed increased advertising for Windows 11 but within the last month or so the upgrade notices have moved into the “warnings” mode. That being that your computer does not meet the requirements to run the new version.

Researching the lifecycle of Windows 10 on several sites as well as the Microsoft site itself the following date is listed for support expiration of Windows 10: October 14, 2025. Does this mean you cannot continue to use Windows 10? No. It does mean that you won't get any more security updates after that date.

So, bottom line: If you do need a new computer, then Windows 11 will be in your future. If you do not need a new computer right now, just ignore the messages you get about your computer not being able to run Windows 11.

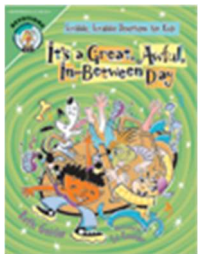
As you continue to use your technology in a godly manner, continue to also evaluate the financial resources necessary for newer and better technology.

*This applies to PC platform.

And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. (Deut 6: 6-7 ESV)

On Sale Now!

Digging into some older resources produced this book: *It's a Great, Awful, in-Between Day* meant for early elementary students, Grades 1-4. The bonus is that pages can be reproduced for classroom or group use. So if you are homeschooling you can reproduce pages for each child rather than needing a book for each child.



There are 52 devotions plus a “Good News to Remember” statement, personal faith activity, a short prayer and an action statement.

Another reproducible book from a few years back but for older elementary, Grades 3-7 is *Bible Alphabet Puzzles*.



Beginning with the letter “A” all the way through “Z” there are codes, math problems, drawings, word search and crossword activities. The solution to each puzzle is a Bible verse.

Both of these books are available at Concordia Publishing House website right now for \$1.00 each. So if you are looking for some resources to have on hand check these out.

2021 MISSIONS SUPPORT

- 1Q Redeemer Charity Fund - \$6,003.02; Faith Lutheran Church, Ukiah, California - \$6,003.02.
- 2Q Missionary Mark Rabe, Ethiopia - \$2,380.24, Missionary Dennis Meeker - \$2,380.23, Kenya, Missionary Daniel Conrad, Mexico - \$2,380.24
- 3Q Lutheran Heritage Foundation - \$2,938.36; Lutheran Deaf Ministry, Pastor Seeger - \$2,938.35
- 4Q Women's Resource Clinic,; KKXX Sermons; The Lutheran Hour; Issues, Etc.

Grants are funded by the Mission Trust Fund interest, 30% school rent income, and your mission gifts.

2022 PROPOSED BUDGET

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

2022 Proposed Budget		
Category	21 Budget	22 Proposed
ADMINISTRATION		
Altar Worship	\$ 800.00	\$ 600.00
Bookkeeping	\$ 250.00	\$ 275.00
Conferences	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Elders	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Office Expenses		
Bank/Checking Fees & Supplies	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Copy Machine Expense	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,000.00
Information Technology	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
Licenses and permits	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Office Supplies	\$ 850.00	\$ 600.00
Periodicals	\$ 700.00	\$ 550.00
Postage	\$ 300.00	\$ 325.00
Payroll - Guest Pastor		
Wages	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00
Payroll - Office Manager		
Health Insurance Supplement	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00
Retirement/Disability	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 1,950.00
Wages	\$17,472.00	\$18,346.00
FICA	\$1,337.00	\$1,425.00
Payroll - Organist		
Mileage	\$ 3,762.50	\$ 3,762.50
Wages	\$ 5,250.00	\$ 5,250.00
Payroll - Pastor		
Car Allowance	\$ 4,600.00	\$ 4,600.00
Continuing Education	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Health Insurance	\$ 29,102.00	\$ 29,102.00
Retirement/Disability	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
Salary	\$ 76,299.00	\$ 80,114.00
Total ADMINISTRATION	\$163,422.50	\$ 166,899.00
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$ 500.00	\$ 300.00
EVANGELISM	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
FELLOWSHIP	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
STEWARDSHIP	\$ 500.00	\$ 400.00
TRUSTEES		
Property Tax & Assessment	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 1,260.00
Church Maintenance	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Garbage	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00
Grounds Maintenance	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Insurance - Liability	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 12,000.00
Insurance - Work Comp	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,875.00
Janitorial Service	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 3,500.00
Janitorial Supplies	\$ 250.00	\$ 150.00
Telephone	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 975.00
Utilities	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 8,300.00
Van Expense		
DMV/Insurance	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00
Gas Expense	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
Repairs	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Total TRUSTEES	\$36,260.00	\$ 36,110.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$201,682.50	\$ 204,709.50

Greetings and God's Blessings to all.

I am encouraging all of our parishioners to consider serving as an officer or board member for our congregation for the coming new year. If you have an interest in serving the congregation in any of the following roles, please consider submitting your name for consideration. (No experience is necessary. Training will be provided.) If interested, contact me, one of our officers, board chairs, or pastor.

President – presides at all church council and voters meetings.

Vice President – substitutes for president when absent and handles special assignments.

Secretary – records minutes of meetings.

Financial Manager*** – ensures proper practices are followed for handling church finances.

Board of Elders (chair or member) – assists pastor in all matters pertaining to the spiritual welfare of the congregation and mercy work.

Board of Trustees (chair or member) – oversees the maintenance of church facilities and grounds.

Board of Stewardship (chair*** or member) – initiates programs to involve parishioners in contributing their time, talents, and treasures for the glory of Christ's kingdom.

Board of Evangelism (chair or member) – integrates new members into the life and work of the church and attends to the outreach and invitation to the church.

Board of Fellowship (chair or member) – develops activities to strengthen of the fellowship between congregation members spiritually and socially.

Board of Youth Activities (chair or member) – plans and facilitates educational programs and activities for the youth of the congregation.

***Denotes vacant positions for which we do not have any current nominations.

Please refer to [Job Descriptions](#) (located on the Website) for more information about each of these positions.

Fred Sherman
President, Redeemer Lutheran Congregation
fwsherman@gmail.com

Proposed Changes to the Church's Constitution and Bylaws

Our next Voters Assembly (Meeting) is scheduled for November 14th, after Sunday service. At this meeting, we will decide whether or not to make changes to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Church. The current versions of the Constitution and Bylaws have not been altered for several years and should be updated to address the changing nature of our congregation. In short, we as a congregation, have become smaller and a bit older, and as a result, the way we are currently organized does not allow us to conduct the business of the congregation efficiently. Changes to the Constitution require approval from the Voters Assembly at two consecutive meetings. Changes to the Bylaws require approval from the Voters Assembly at one meeting. The proposed changes are summarized below:

Changes to the Constitution:

The name of the church is changed from the *Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church of Chico, California* to the *Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, Chico, California* to be in conformance with the Articles of Incorporation.

Changes to the Bylaws:

- The requirement for new members to sign the Constitution and Bylaws to be able to vote is eliminated. (We haven't been doing this for years.)
- The requirement for new members to attend one Voters Assembly prior to the Voters Assembly at which they are eligible to vote is eliminated.
- The requirement to hold Voters Assemblies during May and November is replaced with a requirement to hold at least one meeting annually and possibly more often at the discretion of the Church Council.
- Notice of [upcoming Voters Assemblies](#) may be made through verbal announcements at services, bulletin announcements, newsletter announcements, phone tree messages, or electronic notifications (such as Flocknote, email, Webpage, etc.)
- A quorum at a Voters Assembly shall consist of fifteen (instead of twenty) members of the voting membership, with two (instead of three) legal officers present.
- Regarding legal officers, the *Treasurer* position is eliminated. The *Financial Secretary* position is renamed *Financial Manager*.
- The *Board of Parish Fellowship* is renamed the *Board of Fellowship*. The *Board of Public Relations* is eliminated. The *Board of Youth* replaces both the *Board of Young Peoples Work* and the *Board of Christian Education (Parochial School, Pre-school/Day Care, and Sunday School)*.
- The President may appoint congregational members to fill vacant positions and establish committees not listed in the Bylaws with approval from the Church Council.
- The term of office for all officers is one year.
- The requirement for the Church Council to meet six times a year is eliminated. The church council shall meet at the discretion of the President, with consultation from the Church Council.
- Electronic voting (text, email, etc.) is authorized for Church Council agenda items when needed at the discretion of the President.
- Church Council meetings may be held face to face or by video / audio conference (or any combination thereof), provided that all council members have access to attend the meetings.
- Distribution guidance for the Scholarship Endowment Trust Fund is adjusted to reflect supporting students attending a LCMS university or seminary. (Recent addition)

If you have any questions regarding these proposed changes, contact one of the church officers. All suggestions are welcomed. You can find a copy of our current Constitution and Bylaws on the Web at this [link](#). These changes will also be posted on the Website under *Announcements*.

Thanks for reading and God's blessings to all of you.

Fred Sherman
President

Special Services 2021 - 2022

Eve of National Day of Thanksgiving

Wednesday, November 24
Matins, 12:00 PM

Advent Services

Wednesdays, December 1, 8, 15
Matins, 12:00 PM

The Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24
Candlelight Service, 7:00 PM

The Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas Day

Saturday, December 25
Divine Service, 10:00 AM

New Year's Eve - Eve of the Name of Jesus

Friday, December 31
Matins, 12:00 PM

Epiphany of Our Lord

Thursday, January 6
Matins, 12:00 PM
NO Bible Class



ASLEEP IN JESUS



DONALD D. MILLER

NOVEMBER 20, 1934 - OCTOBER 11, 2021

July 19-22, 2022

Montana State University
Bozeman, MT

Higher Things Youth Conference is
July 19-22, 2022, Montana State
University, Bozeman Montana.

Contact Pastor Jordan or Diane
Scott if you are interested in
attending.

Registration opens November 1.

CRV RECYCLE

- Separate plastic bottles, with the lids removed, from aluminum cans and place in separate plastic bags.
- Opaque bottles should be separated from clear bottles.
- Place bags in the appropriate bins in the Parish Hall storage closet.
- No Glass or non-CRV.

*Proceeds go to the
Charity Fund.*

*Thank you for your
support.*



DOWN SYNDROME SHOULD NEVER BE A DEATH SENTENCE

Shockingly, the left cheers as 67% of Down syndrome babies are aborted in the womb

By Jason Law - - Tuesday, October 19, 2021

OPINION:

In 1927, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Buck v. Bell* to uphold the state of Virginia's "right" to forcibly sterilize Carrie Buck, a victim of sexual abuse and exploitation whom the state had deemed too "feble-minded" to deserve to reproduce. After this ruling, states across the country went on to forcibly sterilize over 70,000 Americans with disabilities.

Today, Americans look back on this dark history of eugenics and discrimination with shame and regret. We rightly abhor the obvious coercion on display and the hatred and disrespect of people with disabilities that it presumes.

But hateful and deadly discrimination against people with

differing abilities persists today, and the abortion industry fuels it. Today, America doesn't sterilize the disabled; instead, America kills them in the womb.

Every year, there are approximately 6,000 babies born in the U.S. with Down syndrome, the most common chromosomal abnormality. But what many people don't realize is that these 6,000 babies are rare survivors.

We must understand why. While Down syndrome can, in some cases, lead to fatal complications later in life, most children born with Down syndrome can grow up to live long, happy and beautiful lives; 99% of people with Down syndrome say they are happy with their lives and love their families.

The problem is that the abortion industry doesn't want these lives to be lived. In the United States, roughly 67% of all preborn children diagnosed with Down syndrome while in the womb are aborted. While these statistics are shocking enough, the most disturbing part isn't the number of lives lost; it's how this discriminatory violence is encouraged and celebrated by our culture.

When Texas passed S.B. 8, its Heartbeat Act, there was uproar from the abortion industry and the pro-choice lobby. Protecting preborn lives doesn't sit right with a business that is rooted in and continues to perpetuate today the principles of the eugenics movement.

But as the father of a daughter with Down syndrome, what was most shocking to me was the

voices decrying how S.B. 8 might lead to an increase in the number of babies born with Down syndrome.

Our culture's dehumanizing disdain for children with Down syndrome is starkly reflected in the way we talk about Down syndrome, too. The media runs articles discussing how "successful" countries like Iceland are at "eliminating Down Syndrome."

All of this is a grim and, frankly, unconscionable euphemism.

Down syndrome is not a disease, like polio or measles, that can be eliminated through medical interventions, vaccines or treatments. When people talk euphemistically about "reducing," "eliminating," or even "eradicating" Down syndrome, what they are talking about is the targeted, discriminatory and intentional killing of people with Down syndrome. We might as well talk about "eliminating" shortness, blue eyes, or a certain skin color.

Our culture of death tries to hide this eugenicist, discriminatory campaign against human life behind a facade of compassion and care for the "hardships" children born with Down syndrome might face later in life.

But it's all based on lies. My daughter Josie will surely face hardships as she grows up with Down syndrome. But the biggest hardship of all will come, not from her diagnosis, but from confronting a culture that falsely tells her, we would have been better off if she was killed in the womb.

October is Down syndrome awareness month. And while there's a lot that people need to know about what it is like to live with Down syndrome – including the joy and the goodness of loving and parenting children with Down syndrome – what our culture most needs is a wake-up call.

Right now, a diagnosis of Down syndrome is a death sentence for 67% of the babies who have this relatively common condition. That has to change. Every human being, regardless of their ability or disability, deserves the right to live. The abortion industry wants to make money off of denying this basic fact of human dignity. We can't allow that to continue.

• Jason Law is the director of communications for Human Coalition, one of the largest pro-life organizations in the nation, which operates a growing network of Telecare and Brick-and-Mortar Women's Care Clinics across the nation

[Source: World Health Organization](#)

[Cindy Miller Fulbright](#)

LUTHERANISM 101: THE HISTORY OF COMMUNION



One of the best things about becoming a confessional Lutheran was receiving a greater appreciation for the sacraments. The first time I attended Divine Service at Redeemer, I was surprised to see communion occurring. I asked the couple next to me, "You're having communion today? It must be a special occasion." to which they replied "Oh no, we have communion every Sunday." I was intrigued by this.

The constant theme of the Bible - front to back and beginning to end - is Jesus, so it became no surprise to me as I studied communion, I recalled a few times I had read where Jesus actually facilitated a type of communion before He had even instituted the sacrament. For example, if you read Matthew 14, Jesus broke bread and fish and fed 5,000 men not including the women and children accompanying them.

The most interesting one to me however, is all the way back in Genesis 14 when Melchizedek the king of Salem (later to become Jerusalem) brought out bread and wine to Abraham (then named Abram) and blessed him. In return Abram gave a tenth of all that he had to Melchizedek. Who was Melchizedek anyway? In Hebrews 7, the writer talks about the priestly order of Melchizedek and that Jesus was from his priestly line because Melchizedek had no beginning or end. No earthly generational line. Melchizedek was indestructible and even David acknowledges this in Psalm 110 when prophesying the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

In the Old Testament, the Hebrews offered up animal sacrifices facilitated by the Levites for which they fed and clothed them. Today we support our pastors and missionaries through tithes and donations. Because of Christ's priesthood, we have also been called to be priests with Him in His infinitely uncreated priesthood that has no beginning or end. The interesting thing about communion is that we are receiving the benefits of His perfect sacrifice - the body and blood of the Lamb of God. Communion feeds and clothes us just as the Levites were by the Hebrews through their old covenant with God. but in perfect righteousness. Communion is the new covenant and fulfillment of God's promise to His people.

Next month I will go into why confessional

Lutherans believe in closed communion and why this is important.

Aaron Ashworth

LUTHER QUOTE

Luther: *"But we Christians, who have been redeemed from all this by the dear blood of the Son of God, should by faith train and accustom ourselves to despise death and to regard it as a deep, strong, and sweet sleep, to regard the coffin as nothing but paradise and the bosom of our Lord Christ, and the grave as a soft couch or sofa, which it really is in the sight of God; for he says, John 11 (:11), "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep," and Matthew 9(:24), "The girl is not dead but sleeping."*

LECTIONARY SUMMARY

THANKSGIVING DAY (25 November 2021)

Deuteronomy 8:1-10

Philippians 4:6-20 or 1 Timothy 2:1-4

Luke 17:11-19

We Praise God for Sustaining Life in and through His Word

The nation resounds with thanksgiving for the earth's bountiful harvest, crops of wheat and grains, all beneath the canopy of God's almighty care. But "man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD" (Deut. 8:1-10). The Church is the vessel through which the Word of God penetrates the world with its Law and Gospel. It is this divine Word that proclaims Jesus as the sole source of life, health and wholeness. It is Jesus who heals lepers with His Word: "Go and show yourselves to the priests" (Luke 17:11-19). Of the 10 cleansed, only one expresses thanksgiving back to Jesus. But true gratitude proceeds from a heart sustained by faith. Jesus bids this one Samaritan to "rise and go your way; your faith has made you well." So also, we are sent from the Divine Service, bolstered in our faith by baptismal and Eucharist blessings to be thankful in our circumstances of plenty and hunger, abundance and need (Phil. 4:6-20).

LECTIONARY SUMMARIES

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
(Proper 27B) (7 November 2021)

1 Kings 17:8–16
Hebrews 9:24–28
Mark 12:38–44

The Lord Freely Feeds and Provides for Us with Everything He Has

Those who contribute “large sums” from “out of their abundance” have done very little. They cannot purchase God’s favor with their money. But the “poor widow” with her two small coins, who “out of her poverty has put in everything she had,” entrusts herself and her life to the mercy of God (Mark 12:41–44). Such faith is not disappointed, for the Lord is faithful, and He provides for His people by His grace. Thus was the poor widow of Zarephath able to feed the prophet Elijah “for many days,” as well as herself and her household, “according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah” (1 Kings 17:15–16). He feeds us, too, by His Word, not only with daily bread for this body and life, but unto the life everlasting in Christ Jesus. “By the sacrifice of himself,” by the giving of His body and life and all that He had, He has entered “into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf” (Heb. 9:24–26). He is our great High Priest and the Temple of God, as well as the priestly food with which He feeds us.

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
(Proper 28B) (14 November 2021)

Daniel 12:1–3
Hebrews 10:11–25
Mark 13:1–13

The Crucified and Risen Body of Christ Jesus Is the True Temple of God

Despite its “wonderful stones” and “great buildings,” the Jerusalem temple would be torn down, with not one stone left upon another, just as this present world and its kingdoms will come to an end (Mark 13:1–8). But that temple pointed beyond itself to Christ, to His sacrifice upon the cross and to the resurrection of His body as the true Temple of God. In the midst of sin and death, by the proclamation of the Gospel, He now gathers disciples into His body, wherein “the one who endures to the end will be saved” (Mark 13:10–13). For He is “a great priest over the house of God,” who “will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” By the pure water of His Baptism, they “draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith,” and by His flesh and blood, they enter the Holy of Holies (Heb. 10:17–22). Thus are His people delivered, “everyone whose name shall be found written in the book.” For by the wisdom of His Gospel, He turns “many to righteousness,” so that “many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake” to everlasting life (Dan. 12:1–3).

LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR
(Proper 29B) (21 November 2021)

Isaiah 51:4–6 or Daniel 7:9–10, 13–14
Jude 20–25 or Revelation 1:4b–8
Mark 13:24–37 or John 18:33–37

In Repentance We Are Alert to the Coming of Christ

The signs of the end are all around us, constant reminders that “heaven and earth will pass away.” But all of these signs are centered in the cross of Christ, whereby He has conquered sin and death, that we might be raised with Him in righteousness through His Word of the Gospel, which “will not pass away” (Mark 13:31). He is “the firstborn of the dead,” who in His great love “has freed us from our sins by his blood” (Rev. 1:5). His salvation is certain because “his dominion is an everlasting dominion” and His kingdom “shall not be destroyed” (Dan. 7:14). For this purpose He came into the world, to reign in love through His voice of the Gospel, which is the truth (John 18:37). So is the righteousness of Christ “a light to the peoples,” which “will never be dismayed” because it is the justice of His cross and resurrection (Is. 51:4–6). As He “is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory,” so wait upon “the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life” (Jude 20–24)

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT (28 November 2021)

Jeremiah 33:14–16
1 Thessalonians 3:9–13
Luke 19:28–40 or Luke 21:25–36

The Lord Jesus Comes in Humility to Redeem Us

The season of Advent focuses on the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and this first Sunday establishes this theme for the rest of the season. The Son of God came long ago to be our Savior, “a righteous Branch” descended from David (Jer. 33:15). As He then came into Jerusalem, riding on a lowly donkey to sacrifice Himself for the sins of the world (Luke 19:28–40), so does He come to His Church today in the humility of Word and Sacrament to deliver the fruits of His Passion: the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. He absolves us and establishes our hearts “blameless in holiness before our God and Father” (1 Thess. 3:13). The same Lord Jesus, who came to Jerusalem then and who comes to us now in peace, will come again with power and great glory on the Last Day. Then there will be “distress of nations in perplexity,” with “people fainting with fear.” Yet, as we anticipate that great and terrible day, He bids us to rest securely in Him: “Raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near” (Luke 21:25, 26, 28)

CELEBRATION OF LIFE?

Celebration of Life. This phrase has become more commonly used in past years, probably because our sensitive hearts can't handle words like "funeral," which makes sense. It does come from the Latin word for "dearth," after all. That word is far too negative. Far too final. Far too dark. Far too real. It doesn't evoke positive emotion but is far more tied to grief and sorrow. Emotions aren't enjoyable, so why would it make sense to call it something that is tied to grief. Let's celebrate instead. Celebrating is joyful, fun, and is reminiscent of better days when the deceased was still breathing. So, let's just celebrate. Don't mind the corpse lying in the box. Or the ashes in the urn. Don't mind the elephant in the room named death. Instead, let's celebrate life, let's smile, laugh, and remember how good a person this was.

But I have a question about these celebrations, if they were so great, so good, so loving and caring, why are they dead? Of course, at the celebration of life, no one celebrates the deceased and their faults and failures. No one celebrates the fact that they were a bad parent who neglected their children. No one celebrates the fact that occasionally they drank too much. No one celebrates the fact that they were a gossip, or a poor friend, untrustworthy, a thief, an addict, or whatever other failure everyone knows about but chooses to paint over with makeup like the one in the casket. The reality is there isn't much to celebrate, at least not about that person lying there before you. They were a failure. They sinned, fell short, and failed in their vocations time and again. Of course, they are loved. Even more so then, let's not ignore the reality of death. Instead, let's face it head-on.

A funeral is to greet death. Don't get me wrong, funerals are celebratory... But not of the life that was lived and is now lost. Instead, they are celebratory only when they are in Christ. Funerals are meant to acknowledge death, not hide from him or gloss over it with sweet stories and empty platitudes. Funerals are meant for grieving people to come and be comforted not by reminiscing (although it's not a bad thing) but by hearing the proclamation that death is defeated and conquered enemy. Funerals are for the hope of an



empty grave and new life in the presence of God in the new creation. Funerals are where death is defeated and no longer rule and reign. For funerals are where Christ's death and resurrection are proclaimed, not a eulogy with a list of works that are like filthy rags. Now don't get me wrong, there is a time and a place for eulogies, fond memories, and laughs remembering beloved deceased. But the funeral, the funeral is where Christ is central. Where his life, death and resurrection, and imminent return are the focus. For those are the only things that save.

So, set aside this phrase. It is therapeutic at best but doesn't bring much comfort. It doesn't focus on the one person who lived that can truly bring those who have died back to life. It focuses on someone that could not save themselves. Stick with "funeral" for there you will greet death and look at it face to face. You will hear of death's defeat; you will hear of it being swallowed up forever. At a funeral, you will grieve as one should, for greeting death comes with acknowledging what it is, a curse, an enemy, and evil. Yet, at a funeral, you will not grieve without hope. For here you will hear of the one person who has lived, the God-man, who lived, died, and rose, for you. So, I suppose if you must celebrate, make it a Celebration of Resurrection. For Christ will return, and he will return soon, and he will raise all those dear children from their graves, and they will be alive, celebrating in the presence of God and the Lamb. Forever.

From "The Jagged Word" blog. Caleb Wright, author

November 2021

November 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	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				

December 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	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 31	Nov 1	2	3	4	5	6
	[F] All Saints' Day (W) Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off 5:00pm Theater Group Rehearsal (PH)			9:30am Bible Class 5:00pm Theater Group Rehearsal (PH)	Office Closed 8:30am Live Talk KXXX 2:00pm Live Talk KXXX	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
[F] All Saints' Day (Observed) (W) - Mites 24th Sunday after Pentecost Daylight Savings Ends 8:45am SS/ABS (PH) 10:00am Divine Service 11:00am Fellowship (PH)	[C] Johannes von Staupitz, Luther's Father-Confessor Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off 5:00pm Theater Group Rehearsal (PH)	[C] Martin Chemnitz (birth), Pastor and Confessor	[Other] Martin Luther's Birthday	[C] Martin of Tours, Pastor Veterans Day 9:30am Bible Class	Office Closed 8:30am Live Talk KXXX 2:00pm Live Talk KXXX	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
[C] Emperor Justinian, Christian Ruler and 25th Sunday after Pentecost - 8:45am SS/ABS (PH) 10:00am Divine Service 11:00am Fellowship (PH) 11:30am Voters' Meeting	Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off			9:30am Bible Class	[C] Elizabeth of Hungary Office Closed 8:30am Live Talk KXXX 2:00pm Live Talk KXXX	Newsletter Deadline
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Last Sunday of the Church Year (G) - Mites 8:45am SS/ABS (PH) 10:00am Divine Service 11:00am Fellowship (PH)	Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off	[C] Clement of Rome, Pastor	12:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Matins (Sanctuary)	Day of National Thanksgiving NO Bible Class	Office Closed 8:30am Live Talk KXXX 2:00pm Live Talk KXXX	
28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3	4
First Sunday in Advent 8:45am SS/ABS (PH) 10:00am Divine Service 11:00am Fellowship (PH)	Noah Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off	St. Andrew, Apostle				

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Our Mission Statement

Welcome to Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, a community of believers saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

As a people enabled by the Spirit, we are committed to regular worship and the use of the sacraments, studying and teaching the Bible, praying, using our gifts and talents in God's service, for the caring and nurturing of others and sharing the message of God's salvation so that God is glorified and all people may know Jesus as their Savior and Lord.

November 2021

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