

# Redeemer REVIEW



REDEEMER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

CHICO, CALIFORNIA JAN/FEB 2024

VOL. 38 No. 1

*from the Pastor...*

*Rev. Brennan DeForest*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace, mercy, and peace to you in the year of our Lord 2024! I hope you have been enjoying the 12 days of Christmas. It is unfortunate that one of the most joyous seasons of the church year, Christmas, is also the shortest. And because of how Christmas fell on a Monday this year and Epiphany falls on a Saturday, it makes the Christmas season feel even shorter. There was only one Sunday after Christmas. At least in 2025 we can look forward to two Sundays after Christmas. But I'm getting way ahead of myself at this point.

Despite how short it feels, thankfully the joy of the Christmas season continues in the season of Epiphany. There is joy and brightness as we hear about and meditate on miracles, teachings, and other events from Jesus' life in the Epiphany readings and hymns. But this year, because Easter is early, this also means a short Epiphany season. By the time of the next newsletter in fact, we will already be well into the Lenten season. That's the nature of the Christian life, though. It is very cyclical. Daily we die to sin and live to righteousness in our Baptisms. Weekly we repent of our sins and receive God's gifts of forgiveness and salvation in the Divine Service. And seasonally and yearly we move through the Church Year, focusing on the law and the gospel of Christ's ministry and how this affects the Spirit working in our lives.

Now usually in these articles, I try to focus on a central thought or theme. But this time, maybe due to exhaustion from Advent and Christmas, or more than likely from a little bit of procrastination, I simply can't come up with a good central thought. Nonetheless, in the spirit of this being the new year, I'll continue by thinking on things past and things to come.

Regarding things past, I did want to speak briefly about the orientation for the new pastor's program which I attended in the Bay Area all the way back in mid-October. Overall it was nice to connect with other new pastors and just talk about ministry and life away from the seminary. There were many different



presentations, and I would say I learned at least one thing to ponder from each of these presentations. One big part of this program is about doing ministry in our specific context, so I have especially been pondering this as it relates to our context here at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Chico in Northern California.

Also regarding things past, I just want to say thank you again for your monetary gifts at Christmas and also your prayers, encouragement, and patience in my first six months here.

Learning how to be a pastor may start in the seminary, but it can only be finished by the Holy Spirit in the school of experience. I give thanks to God for calling me here to this school of experience, and I give thanks to God for all of you who are encouraging and patient as I gain that experience.

Regarding things to come, Abby and I look forward to getting to know you better this year so that we can best pray for you and so that I can best be Christ's undershepherd to you. We would especially be open to sharing a meal with you somewhere or just sitting and talking with you somewhere in order to get to know you even better. Abby and I also look forward to having a spring and summer where we are not moving so that we can spend time getting to know the area we call home.

Also regarding things to come, not this year but next year, 2025, our congregation will celebrate 100 years of officially being a congregation. In light of that, we may want to begin preparing for a 100th anniversary celebration. In order to do that, we should take time in 2024 to give thanks for our past, continue to receive Christ's gifts of Word and Sacrament in the present, and look forward to the future, and not just a celebration in 2025, but the future work of Christ in this congregation until He comes again. Indeed, though the joyful and bright Christmas and Epiphany seasons of 2024 seem short, the past, present, and future work of Christ in this congregation is bright. May that joy, as well as the light of Christ, be yours in this new year! The Lord be with you,

*~Pastor DeForest*

## 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., KFUO, St. Louis. 94.3 The Bridge.

### PASTOR'S SERMONS

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

### THE LUTHERAN HOUR

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

## BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAY School for children is Sunday, 8:45 a.m.  
 SUNDAY Bible class is 8:45 a.m.  
 THURSDAY Bible class, 9:30 a.m.

## REDEEMER FINANCIAL SUMMARY

January 1 - November 30, 2023

### CHURCH INCOME/EXPENSE – ACTUAL:

|                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| OFFERING INCOME                | 147,397.11       |
| SCHOOL LEASE (5%) GENERAL FUND | 3,746.87         |
| FACILITY USE INCOME            | 960.00           |
| INTEREST INCOME                | <u>4,635.12</u>  |
| TOTAL INCOME                   | 156,739.10       |
| TOTAL EXPENSES                 | 185,156.85       |
| NET INCOME                     | -28,417.75       |
| RETAINED EARNINGS              | <u>83,880.43</u> |
| CURRENT BALANCE                | 55,462.68        |

*See the Office Manager for more information.*

## HELP ON FLOCKNOTE

Provide your current email and phone number for text messages to the office manager.

If you do not have email or text capability, update your phone number for voice messages.

This is important in order to receive prayer requests and announcements.

## HELP WITH THE DIRECTORY

Provide a current photo or have the office manager take your picture.

Tues. - Thurs.  
 9:30. - 4:00

redeerchicooffice@gmail.com

## CHURCH STAFF

REV. BRENNAN DeFOREST, PASTOR  
 JACKIE VIEIRA, OFFICE MANAGER  
 DAVID BUNTING, ORGANIST  
 JAY ERWIN, ORGANIST

### OFFICERS

FRED SHERMAN III, PRESIDENT  
 JERRY BRANDT, VICE PRESIDENT  
 VACANT, FINANCIAL MANAGER  
 VACANT, SECRETARY

### BOARD OF DEACONS

\* JAY ERWIN  
 ROBERT REAN  
 DARYL SMITH  
 TIMOTHY WENSLAFF

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

\* BRUCE HOLDERBEIN  
 KEITH SIEMENS

### BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP

LINDA ALLEN  
 DIANE SCOTT  
 CAROL VARLEY  
 SHIRLEY WILSON

### BOARD OF YOUTH

\*DIANE SCOTT

\*BOARD CHAIR



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

[brennan.deforest@ctsfw.edu](mailto:brennan.deforest@ctsfw.edu)

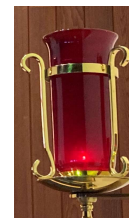
(801) 910-6937

(530) 342-6085 Opt 1

## ALTAR FLOWER/ETERNAL CANDLE SIGN-UP



SPONSOR:  
 Altar Flowers  
 and/or  
 Eternal Candle  
 \$20/MONTH



Sign-up charts are posted in narthex.

## HOMEBOUND

### William Baving

1200 Springfield #110  
Chico, CA 95928

### Brenda Bell

678 Buttonwillow Ln #28  
Chico, CA 95926

### Patricia Bodi

650 Manzanita Ave #115  
Chico, CA 95926

### Sonya Brown

1351 E Lassen, #112  
Chico, CA 95973

### Sophie Collins

587 Rio Lindo Ave  
Chico, CA 95926

### Paul DeGarmo

2770 Sierra Ladera  
Chico, CA 95928

### Jackie Eichelberger

1199 Diablo #232  
Chico, CA 95973

### La Vera Hansen

35481 Camino Capistrano  
Capistrano Beach, CA 92624

### Anita Hartwig

2750 Sierra Sunrise Ter 229  
Chico, CA 95928

### Esther Henry

14 Discovery Way  
Chico, CA 95926

### Roy/Marge Holderbein

1901 Dayton Rd Spc 162  
Chico, CA 95928

### Larry Pohlada

1200 Park Ave, Apt 126  
Chico, CA 95928

### Elaine Rubke

1200 Springfield Dr  
Chico, CA 95928

### Sharon Schaffert

627 Larch St  
Chico, CA 95926

### Emma Siemens

1770 Humboldt Rd #202  
Chico, CA 95928

## SERVANTS

### ACOLYTES:

EVERETT LUTHER  
YUHUAN WENSLAFF

### ALTAR GUILD:

ROBERT ENGELKEN  
BONNIE HUNT  
LINDA REAN  
HAROLD URNESS

LOUISE URNESS

### COUNTER:

PAT LILLIE

### DEACON OF THE MONTH

JANUARY

DARYL SMITH

FEBRUARY

JAY ERWIN

### USHERS:

TIM KRESSIN  
TIM WENSLAFF  
YUHUAN WENSLAFF

### DRIVERS:

JAY ERWIN  
BRUCE HOLDERBEIN  
KURT JORDAN  
DARYL SMITH



## BIRTHDAYS

### JANUARY

02 LINDA ALLEN  
02 REV. DONALD JORDAN  
03 MARY SIEMENS  
06 NOEL KROGH  
10 DAVID SWEET  
10 OLIVER FIORILLO  
14 BRI LOFINK  
14 ANDREW JORDAN  
16 BERYL COTTER  
17 SVETLANA SMITH  
20 LINDA ROWE  
30 TODD THOMPSON

### FEBRUARY

05 AURORA PONCI  
06 THERESA BURCH  
11 AMANDA SIEMENS  
14 DUSTIN SIEMENS  
15 MICHELLE SWEET  
21 SHIRLEY WILSON  
27 ELAINE MIRAMONTES  
28 JULIE MCCANN



## BAPTISMS

### JANUARY

01 LINDA ROWE  
08 CAROLYN FIORILLO  
14 JERRY BRANDT  
14 ELLA MIRAMONTES  
14 KYLA MIRAMONTES  
14 NICHOLAS MIRAMONTES  
14 BRANDON SIEMENS  
19 DIANE SCOTT  
25 HENRY DEGARMO

### FEBRUARY

01 KATHY SWEET  
02 MICHELLE SWEET  
06 LAYLA HOFFMAN  
06 LIAM HOFFMAN  
10 REV. DONALD JORDAN  
11 AURORA PONCI  
13 ALICE DUFFEE  
17 ANDREW JORDAN  
19 GLEN BERGENDAHL  
23 LINDSEY ALLEN  
24 CAROL VARLEY  
27 MICHAEL THOMPSON

## GIVE BLOOD AND SAVE LIVES

Make donations at Vitalant  
555 Rio Lindo Ave.  
And tell them to credit your donation  
to Redeemer Lutheran Church  
vitalant.org for information

In the past year our  
office manager's  
husband has received  
approximately ten  
units of blood.  
Thank you for your  
contributions!



## DEACON ASSIGNMENTS

TIM WENSLAFF: ALLEN - GODSIL  
JAY ERWIN: HANSEN - MASON  
DARYL SMITH: MCCANN - SHERMAN  
ROBERT REAN: SIEMENS - ZIEGLER

## Deadline

March/April Redeemer Review

February 20





# TECHNOLOGY

Technology... something new?

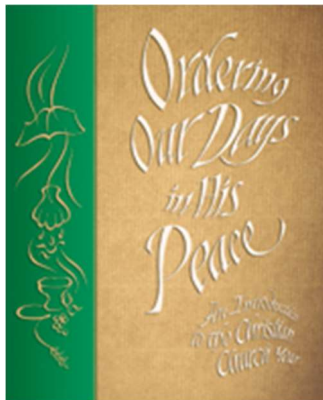


*And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. (Deut 6: 6-7 ESV)*

Happy New Year, again! Your children have all heard people talk about the New Year. They have probably heard about New Year's resolutions and making changes in the New Year. At school their teachers have probably talked about what the class will be learning and doing in the New Year. But...did you and your family talk about Advent being the beginning of the church year?

You may have seen a copy at church, but did you know that you can find the church year calendar and various resources for worship not only at church but also at home? Go to: <https://www.lcms.org/worship/church-year>

This is only a starting point. You might want to print out the calendar for the year so that you can learn more about the colors of the seasons of the church year. Also, at [cph.org](http://cph.org) you can find some useful books for your children. One such book is *Ordering Our Days in His Peace* by Elizabeth Murphy.



While this book is listed in the children's section of Concordia Publishing there will be enough to interest the whole family as the author walks through the church year and why we do the things that we do. It would also be appropriate for an adult who has no background in a liturgical church as it is not written in a childish way but clearly explained.

There are two other books in this series. *Behold the Lamb: An Introduction to the Signs and Symbols of the Church* and *Worshipping with Angels and Archangels: An Introduction to the Devine Service*.

Why not make this year the year you as a family learn more about the why and how and when of our wonderful liturgy? Don't forget to ask your Pastor to explain things to you that you don't understand.

While it is not new, started in 2013, the LCMS Mobile App is worth looking at. Previously you may have had links to various pieces of the app but it now has several sources all in one place: news, media, daily devotional, and locate church or school. There have recently been several small bug fixes so the app is more stable. It is available on both Apple and Android platforms.

For those of you who have and use the app PrayNow it appears that CPH will no longer be supporting this app and it has been removed from sale. If you have it you can continue using it until it stops working. There will be no further updates.

CPH has launched a new app based on Treasury of Daily Prayer, *InPrayer*, but currently it is only available on the Apple platform. An Android version is scheduled for Spring 2024. The cost of this app will be available as a subscription or a one-time purchase. Cost unknown though some research seems to show 3<sup>rd</sup> party free downloads though not sure if that is full version.

As you continue to use your technology in a godly manner — “*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*” (Psalm 119:1)

## MERCY

At the present time, Redeemer visits fifteen homebound or facility-bound people. The goal is to visit each one monthly. Three lay members, deacons, and several other members serve in this capacity.

## 2023 QUARTERLY MISSION REPORT

- 1Q Redeemer Charity Fund \$4,746.09 - Faith Lutheran Church, Ukiah, California: \$4,746.09
- 2Q Missionary Dennis Meeker, Kenya \$3,598.84, Missionary Daniel Conrad, Mexico \$3,598.84, Pamela Boehle-Silva, Always Mercy Kenya \$3,598.84
- 3Q Lutheran Heritage Foundation, \$3,598.84, Lutheran Deaf Ministry, Pastor Seeger \$3,598.84
- 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.*

## ASLEEP IN JESUS



ANN CARNEY

OCTOBER 19  
2023

CLARA IVES

NOVEMBER 23  
2023



GEORGE  
COPELAND

DECEMBER 8, 2023



## BAPTISMS

WARREN BRIAN LOFINK  
NOVEMBER 5, 2023



AVAGAIL VAILEE  
GRADO  
&  
NATHANIAL  
RAYMOND GRADO

NOVEMBER 18,  
2023

## THANK YOU FROM THE STAFF

**Thank you** for your Christmas gifts. I so appreciate how generous this congregation has been to me over the past (going on) 21 years. You truly are a blessing in my life. And I am especially grateful for all your prayers. Jackie Vieira.

**Thank You** for your generous gifts this Christmas season. Your monetary gifts are a blessing, as well as your cards, treats, and encouragement. Abby and I are so thankful for all you have done for us. The Lord be with you. Pastor DeForest

**Thank you** for the generous Christmas gift from the congregation and for providing for two organ lessons a month in 2024. Thank you for your prayers and words of encouragement. In Christ, David Bunting

## LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

Lutheran Women's Missionary League was founded in the 1940's and has touched many throughout the ages. The heart of the organization draws us closer to God through His Word. It reaches out to others through service and fellowship and furthers the spread of the Gospel by our support of missions and ministries through mite box offerings.

The grants selected for 2022 - 2024 were voted on and a total of seventeen were chosen. California/Hawaii/Nevada district has now funded #12 grant for \$107,910. The grant was for Spanish Devotions through Lutheran Heritage Foundation.

The first Sunday of each month is designated as "Mite-Box Sunday." Women, men, and children are encouraged to have their own mite box for coins to deposit in the larger mite box in the narthex. Thank you to all who support the mission projects of LWML.



## THANK YOU FROM PASTOR DONALD & LORI JORDAN

### *Retirement Gift*



*"We would like to express our thanks and appreciation to the body of Christ for your kind and generous retirement gift, a wonderful stay at Little River Inn, Mendocino. We thoroughly enjoyed the respite, food, and beauty of God's creation. Your gift is received with profound gratitude.*

*Your continued prayers are appreciated and we pray for you as you bear the cross of Jesus through this life and into the next.*

*We are most grateful and glorify God for all His gifts to us in body and soul."*

*Pastor Donald & Lori Jordan*



## UPDATE ON MERCY IN KENYA

Rev. Chuchu along with Deaconess Pamela Boehle-Silva and her husband, Dennis gave an update on their mercy work in Kenya, during the November 9th Thursday Bible class.

Pictured from left is Rev. Brennan DeForest, Rev. David Chuchu, Jerry Olenyn, Deaconess Pamela Boehle-Silva, and her husband, Dennis Boehle-Silva.

Deaconess Pamela Boehle-Silva is with Always Mercy, serving the poor in Kenya in partnership with local health advocates, health providers, and the Kenyan government, training volunteers to provide service to home-bound patients.

Pastor Chuchu works in partnership with Always Mercy through his ministry, Rehema Open Door. Rehema in Swahili means Mercy.





Dear Members of Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church,

We pray that you had a blessed Thanksgiving celebration. The Advent season is now upon us. Accordingly, we prepare for the coming of the Lord. The first verse of the Old Testament lesson for the second Sunday of Advent reads: "Comfort ye, Comfort ye my people." (Isaiah 40:1 KJV) The nation of Israel had fallen away from the one true God to worship idols. Consequently, they were defeated by a pagan army and were taken as captives to Babylonia. Yet despite their apostasy God had not abandoned his people. God comforted them with the promise of the Messiah who would save them from their sins. Today the church proclaims the coming of the Messiah during this Advent season to all the nations. His forgiveness and mercy impart hope and salvation to all nations.

The Rev. Sergio Frizzler was recently installed as the new rector of Seminario El Reformador in the Dominican Republic. Rev. Fritzler who hails from Argentina, has been serving as a professor at the seminary for seven years and has been a great blessing! Remember Rector Fritzler in your prayers as he begins his new calling. He replaces the former rector, the Rev. Joel Fritsche, who accepted a call to serve as a professor at Concorida Seminary in St. Louis. We give thanks to Rev. Fritsche for his many years of service in the Dominican Republic. He will be a great blessing at Concordia as he serves in his new calling.

We rejoice in the recent ordination of Mexican national pastor Alvaro Velasquez who serves as the pastor of a mission congregation in Tapachula, Mexico. The Rev. Isaac Garcia, who serves as president of the Lutheran Synod of Mexico, presided at the ordination service. Tapachula is in the state of Chiapas and shares its southern border with Guatemala. This region of Mexico is known for its coffee and most of the members of Alvaro's congregation are coffee growers. Remember pastor Alvaro and the mission congregation in your prayers as they continue to preach the Gospel of Christ in their community.

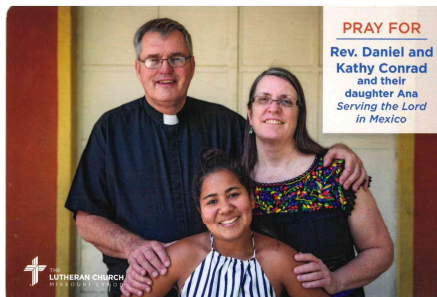
This semester has been a busy one for Dan as he continues to teach Greek and Homiletics. The fall semester at Seminario El Reformador in the Dominican Republic will finish up on the twenty-first of December. The seminarians are now finishing up their assignments and preparing for their final exams. Dan's students represent the countries of: Bolivia, Cuba, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela. Your support and prayers make the preparation of these future pastors possible.

We thank you for your support and prayers. Enclosed please find our prayer card and a photo of Rector Sergio Fritzler with the pastors who participated in his installation service at the seminary. We will send you our updated Dominican Republic prayer card as soon as we get it printed. The giving information on the enclosed card is still current, however. Have a blessed Advent and Christmas season!

*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Ephesians 3:20-21)*

In Christ,

*Rev. Daniel & Kathy Conrad*  
Rev. Daniel and Kathy Conrad



**PRAY FOR**  
**Rev. Daniel and**  
**Kathy Conrad**  
and their  
daughter Ana  
Serving the Lord  
in Mexico

#### Rev. Daniel and Kathy Conrad

Daniel.Conrad@lcms.org  
lcms.org/conrad

**BIRTHDAYS:**  
Daniel - July 6  
Kathy - July 30  
Ana - Oct. 10

**ANNIVERSARY:**  
May 13  
**HOME DISTRICT:**  
California-Nevada-Hawaii

Rev. Daniel and Kathy Conrad serve the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in Mexico, based in Mexico City. In this role, Daniel serves as the coordinator of theological education for the entire country. He works with and mentors national pastors and pastors in formation who are serving throughout Mexico. With the challenges of Mexico City's population being 25 million people and the shortage of national pastors in this country, Daniel provides assistance in sending out workers to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Pray for the Conrads as they serve in Mexico. Ask God to give Daniel strength as he continues to mentor and teach national pastors in the different regions of Mexico. Give God thanks for the national pastors that this country does have and for the future pastors that are in formation. Let us give thanks that the Conrads are serving God's children in Mexico.

**You can support our work for the LCMS in Mexico.**

**ELECTRONIC GIVING**  
To give securely online, scan the QR code or visit [lcms.org/conrad](https://lcms.org/conrad)

**GIVE BY MAIL**  
Send a check to:  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
P.O. Box 66861  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861  
Memo "Conrad-Mexico"





## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JERRY BRANDT

90 Years Young!



Jerry Brandt and his family shared cake and a light lunch with the congregation in celebration of his 90th birthday. Pictured below are Krista Hanlon (youngest), Lauren Gulbranson (middle), Jerry Brandt, Randy Brandt (oldest)



## QUILTERS



January 8th and 22nd are the first two work days of the New Year. February dates are the 12th and 26th. The meetings in the Parish Hall begin at 9:00 a.m. and finish around noon. At present, we have four regular members and we are always welcoming new "willing hands." No special quilting experience is necessary.

Friendship and coffee are served! Questions? Call the office and someone will return your call.



## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Thank you to all who provided poinsettias to grace our chancel during Christmas services:

- ♦ The Rowe, Jones, Hoffie, & Ziegler families in honor of the Ponci Family
- ♦ Beryl Cotter in memory of William Cotter
- ♦ Jeanette Chevalier in memory of Pierre Chevalier
- ♦ Candy Thurman in honor of Rosemary Smith
- ♦ Candy Thurman in honor of Homer Smith
- ♦ Freddy Sherman, IV in memory of his grandparents, Fred & Martha Sherman and Frank Adelfio
- ♦ Bob & Linda Rean in honor of Christ
- ♦ Jerry Brandt in memory of Rosemarie Brandt
- ♦ Vonnie Thomas & Janet Joksche in memory of Oskar Joksche
- ♦ Keith & Mary Siemens
- ♦ Neale & Marné Sivesind in memory of Len & Fran Roberts and in honor of Carl & Dina Sivesind
- ♦ Harold & Louise Urness in memory of Alfred & Agnes Urness
- ♦ Tim Kressin in memory of Debbie Kressin



Pictured above are Altar Guild members: Harold Urness, Louise Urness, Linda Rean, Robert Engelken, and Bonnie Hunt



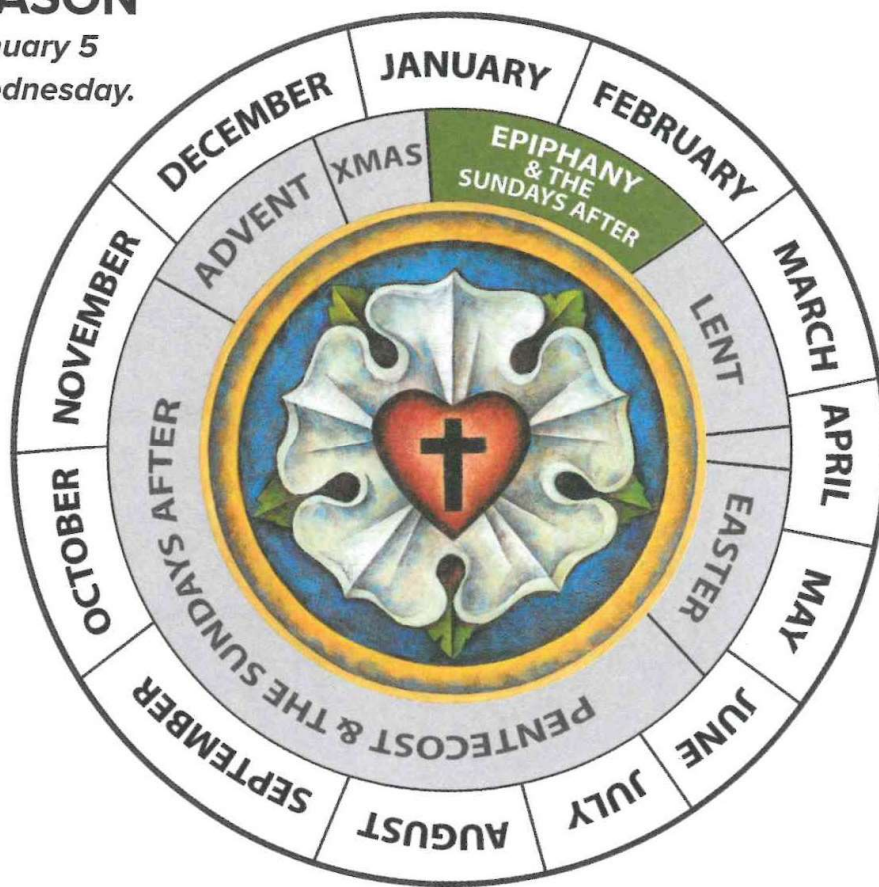
# THE TIME OF CHRISTMAS

## EPIPHANY AND ITS SEASON

*Begins with evening prayer on January 5  
and ends the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday.*

Epiphany is one of the oldest seasons in the Christian Church Year, second only to the Easter season. This season of lights emphasizes Jesus' manifestation (or epiphany, from the Greek *epiphaneia*) as God and man. The earliest Christians called the Feast of the Epiphany the Theophany ("revelation of God"). When the Gentile Magi come to worship Jesus, they show that everyone now has access to God. Now all people, Jew and Gentile, can come to God's temple to worship, because Jesus is the new temple: God in the flesh. The epiphany of Our Lord (January 6) marks the celebration of the visit of the Magi.

Epiphany may include as many as nine Sundays, depending on the date of easter. The season is marked at its beginning and at its end by two important feasts of Christ.



**During Epiphany, we worship Jesus,  
who has given all mankind access to God through Himself.**

Matthew 2:10-12   Matthew 3:13-17   John 2:1-11

### EPIPHANY PRACTICES AND TRADITIONS

- ◆ Like Christmas, the Epiphany of Our Lord, the Baptism of our Lord, and the Transfiguration of Our Lord are feast days of Jesus. The color for feast days is white, the color of divinity, purity, and joy. The Sundays after the Epiphany focus on the growth of Jesus' ministry, and the color green is used to symbolize that growth.
- ◆ On the First Sunday after the Epiphany, the Church celebrates the Baptism of Our Lord. The Father sent Jesus to bear the sins of the world. So Jesus steps down into baptismal waters so that He can soak up the sins of the world: He is baptized into our sins so that our Baptism might be into His death and resurrection for the forgiveness of sins.
- ◆ The Feast of the Transfiguration, celebrated on the las Sunday in the Epiphany season, is a significant and uniquely Lutheran contribution to the Christian calendar. This festival commemorates the moment on the Mount of Transfiguration when three of Jesus' disciples glimpse their Lord in divine splendor, seeing Him as the center of the Law (Moses) and the Prophets (Elijah). Jesus proclaims to His disciples, then and now, that He is the long-awaited one who has come to die for the sins of the world and be raised again in glory.
- ◆ The Transfiguration of Our Lord is the las Sunday before Lent. Because we give up singing *Alleluia* during Lent, at the close of the service on Transfiguration we say farewell to *Alleluia* with the hymn "Alleluia, Song of Gladness" (LSB 417).

|                        |                                    |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| PHONE:                 | 530-342-6085                       |
| Pastor's Phone:        | 801-910-6937                       |
| Office Manager's Cell: | 530-228-4240                       |
| EMAIL:                 | redeemerchicooffice@gmail.com      |
| PASTOR'S EMAIL:        | brennan.deforest@ctsfw.edu         |
| WEB ADDRESS:           | www.redeemerchico.org              |
| Facebook:              | facebook.com/RedeemerLutheranChico |

### 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.

## January/February 2024



## January/February 2024

Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Missouri Synod  
750 Moss Avenue  
Chico, CA 95926