

News from Redeemer

January 2012



**Our mission is to share God's love with all people;
Be disciples, Make disciples, Feed God's sheep.**

LENTEN GATHERINGS

Historically, the weeks leading up to the celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord (Easter Sunday) have, for Christians, been a time of penitence and deep reflection on the life and the sacrifice of Jesus and on what our response to his sacrifice should be. This time in the life of the church – the season of Lent – was used as a time of preparation for baptism by early church converts. Those converts would spend the weeks leading up to Easter as a time to focus on their spiritual disciplines – prayer, fasting, meditation, confession, acts of penitence, etc. – so as to be “spiritually cleansed” and appropriately prepared to receive and celebrate the gifts of grace offered through baptism. Thus, the church through the ages has maintained this Lenten practice of penitence and deep reflection upon the life and sacrifice of our Lord so that its modern day members might be better prepared to celebrate in the joy of the resurrection.

This year's program – *One More Step* – will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd and continue through Holy Week until we gather to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord on April 8th. On the Wednesdays between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week we will gather for a time of reflection on what it means to be the church in this world that is changing so rapidly. On each of those Wednesdays we will reflect on one of the Five Guiding Principles that the congregation has accepted as the principles upon which our congregational mission should be founded. The time frame for our gatherings will be as follows:

Morning Gathering

- 11:00 – Gather in sanctuary for a time of worship, reflection, and conversation centered on our Five Guiding Principles
- 12:00 – Lunch and fellowship

Evening Gathering

- 7:00 – All gather in the sanctuary for a time of worship, reflection, and direction
- 7:20 – Break up into smaller groups to discuss one of the Five Guiding Principles
- 8:05 – Return to sanctuary for brief wrap-up and sending prayer
- 8:15 – Dismissal

In the past we have provided an evening meal beginning at 6:00 during the 5 Wednesdays between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week. The decision to offer these meals again this year will depend on your input. We'll be asking for your opinion during our upcoming worship services, so stay tuned for details.

Come join us for this time of renewal and spiritual growth during the Lenten season. Come and give yourself the chance for God's Holy Spirit to work within you to bring you to a fuller and richer awareness of the gifts of grace so hard-earned for each of us on the cross of Christ.



Redeemer Worshipping

9:30 a.m. Learning Hour

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Worship Service

Nursery Provided



Our Journey Into Lent: *One More Step*

You know how to eat an elephant don't you? Answer: one bite at a time. That reminds me of the crazy article I read many years ago about a man who had made it his life's ambition to eat a Greyhound bus. Yep, a Greyhound bus. All of a Greyhound bus. Why? Who knows. But he was doing it, and he had calculated how many years it would take him to fulfill his quest. What the heck, maybe it tastes like chicken and he's the only one who knows it.

How was Mr. Looneytunes accomplishing this off-the-wall feat? You guessed it - one bite at a time, with parts, bits, and pieces cut up into very small manageable bites. For the metal he was grinding it into metal dust and then mixing it in with his regular food. Not sure how he managed to down the tires though, other than one very small bite at a time. (About now you're probably thinking about that burned meatloaf you father made you eat so as not to respond too negatively to your sister's cooking.) I don't know if this guy ever fulfilled his dream. I just know he started, for whatever reason, by taking one small bite. And as we all know, often times that first bite is the hardest.

In last Sunday's gospel reading we heard Jesus issue the challenge to some very ordinary fishermen to drop their nets and come and follow him. Remarkably, they did just that, seemingly without hesitation. In one such "calling" story, upon hearing that call from Jesus, James and John reacted so compulsively that they ran off (swam off?) and left their poor father in the boat holding the nets. Can you imagine the aura that most have surrounded Jesus for his calling to have had such an immediate, life-changing impact on those followers' lives?

But let's not fool ourselves, most of the folks who heard Jesus' call did not drop everything and run after him. Most saw nothing to be gained by chasing after a wandering preacher, at least not enough to leave behind what they had worked so hard to gain. There must have been others who had some inkling to go, but for whom that first step was just too difficult to take.

But some did follow, and while Jesus never promised those followers an easy path, let alone a better life, he did, promise them a blessed life, a life full of riches and treasures, a life full of hope and peace and joy that their world could never offer them. And the only way for anyone to know for sure whether or not the "riches" of following Jesus were just as he promised them to be was to follow him and find out for him/herself. All one had to do was take that one step and begin the journey.

I'm one who dares to believe that that first step, no matter how difficult it may be, is worth it, that no matter what we may sacrifice in following Jesus, what we gain in the following is immeasurable. It is priceless. The gifts of following Jesus are what our hearts most yearn for, even if we cannot fully describe what those yearnings are. "Come after me and I will give you life, and life to the full" Jesus promised us. And so he did. And so he does, still.

Question: What is it in or about your life that is keeping you from following Jesus more intently, more courageously, more desperately? And do you dare to believe that Jesus can even overcome that very thing about you that is fighting to keep him safely away? During the season of Lent which is soon to be upon us again, I am asking that we each ask that question of ourselves and dare to seek out the honest answers. I'm asking that each of us dare to take one more step in our journey with Jesus, that we all might dare to commit ourselves to a new and deeper commitment to following Jesus, with our whole life and with all of our heart. And I dare to believe that anyone who willingly takes that first step, or that next step toward Jesus, will be blessed in ways that now cannot be comprehended.

Jesus isn't asking us to "eat a bus." He's just asking that we take one more step in his direction so that he might have the chance to bring his promises to life in our lives. One more step. Simple as that. Just one small step. Let's all join together and take that next step and wait and see what Jesus is about to do within us and among us.

God's peace be with you all....

Pastor Wayne



Sympathy of the congregation is expressed to the Williams family. Steve's mom, Irene died on Saturday, January 21st. God's peace to Steve, Kathryn, Steven and Adam and her family and friends.



Sunshine Club
Will meet on Thursday, February
16th at 10:30 am in Redeemer's
Fellowship Hall.
Join us for a great movie and
popcorn.

Sunshine Club is Redeemer's ministry for
fellowship among our seniors.

**LUTHERIDGE,
LUTHEROCK,
LUTHERANCH**

It is the mission of Lutheridge + Lutherock Ministries, Inc. to provide programs, opportunities, and places apart where all people can experience a Christ-centered community, be transformed through relationship to God and God's creation, and be equipped for ministry.

Watch for the 2012 summer camp program guide coming out soon!



Monthly Ministry Program

In support of our mission to share God's love with all people, the social ministry committee has selected programs to support local, synodical and international needs. Rather than collecting monetary donations in the loggia on Sunday mornings, members are asked to make a monthly donation of \$10 over and above your pledge. Please support these ministries with your prayers and contributions.

- ✦ LWR Fair Trade Tea and Coffee are still available for sale in narthex
- ✦ Items for the Grocery Cart : protein items such as tuna, peanut butter, meaty soups and stews, mac n' cheese, etc. are always needed.
- ✦ Box Tops for Education (given to alternate schools).
- ✦ Pop tops for Ronald McDonald House.
- ✦ Redeemer Youth can & newspaper collection.
- ✦ Backpack Buddies



Nursery Volunteers for February

- Feb 5 Peggy Alberino
- Feb 12 Susan Tellefsen
- Feb 19 Karla Noonan
- Feb 26 Sylvia Wallis



Bring all your coins for the Souper Bowl of Caring! On Sunday, February 5th our youth will be collecting change for Second Harvest Food Bank, specifically the Backpack Buddies program.

**Valentine's
Love Luncheon**

**Seniors of Redeemer
Please Join Us
for a Love Luncheon
in your honor.**

**Sunday, February 12th
12:00 PM**



Hosted by YUC

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, February 22, 2012



**11:00 Morning Service
12:00 Lunch and Fellowship
7:00 Evening Service**

Please don't forget to sign up for our hospitality table on Sunday mornings.



Coffee is provided, so all that's needed is juice and goodies (finger foods are easiest).



Flower Chart

The 2012 flower notebook is in the narthex. Please complete the information and place your payment in the envelope.



Our Mission is to share God's love with all people

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (or by appointment)

(912) 897-1133 Fax: (912) 898-8251 website: redeemersav.org; find us on Facebook

The Rev. Wayne S. Cobb, Pastor; Pastor@RedeemerSav.org

Juanita Clark, Secretary; Secretary@RedeemerSav.org

Congregational Church Council:

Jim Ward (President/Mutual Ministry), Kathryn Williams (VP/Social Ministry), Vikki Maner (Secretary),
Drew Schwalbe (Treasurer); Hal Heidmann, (Financial Secretary), Karen Jerald, Jim Drinnon,
Jamie Coursey, Don Goll, Heidi Wagstaff-Heater



Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

January 27, 2012

51 Wilmington Island Road
Savannah, GA 31410-3704

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Congregational Prayer Concerns

(Please inform office of any additions or change in status)

Homebound Members: Marie Thigpen, Bob Beisel, Louise Billings John Gammert, Jeannie Ney, Marie Hall, Shirley Knauz, John Remion, Juanita Sanders and Betty Smith.

Members with Health Concerns: Anne Leon.

Members' Prayer Requests for Friends and Family:

From John Lewis: Sherry McMann (recurring cancer)

From Karen Jerald: Harry Jerald (health issues)

From Evelyn Bristow: Doris McKinney (cancer)

From Ann Cobb: Olivia Lomax (battling cancer), Curlee Jumper (ill, elderly) family friend of Ann, Elizabeth Hadwin, battling colon cancer, Le Keisha and Trey Sheppard - recently lost their young husband and father, Marie Lomax- Ann's Mom, aunt and uncle Truett and Cynthia Lomax.

From Karla Noonan: Polly Noonan & family, Gene Maxey-Todd's cousin-chemo, Mary Whoston, Hines Family, Alexis Strojny (bad car wreck), Darlene DiMango, Todd's aunt dying of lung cancer, Aeline Rosen (husband died), Todd working in Baron Rouge LA.

From Kathryn Williams: Hank McDowell (cousin battling MS), Lauren McDowell (breast cancer), Bennett Bacon (recovering from a serious snow boarding accident).

From Nancy Oliver: (her niece) Alanna Dotson, Susan Barker (sister cancer), Neighbor- Joe (broke his back in a coma).

From Barbara and Joe Warren: Carissa, Morgan and Paul, Joyce Smiley, Bob Akins.

From Jerry Ney: Wilma (sister of Jeannie).

From Marion Swinford: Michael Swinford (her son awaiting a kidney transplant).

From Mary DeLoach: Continue praying for Bill DeLoach.

From Pastor Wayne: first cousin Sheila Yates (cancer), Marty Liggins (battling cancer).

Remember all those serving our country at home and abroad. Remember the families also.

YUC YAK

Thank-you, thank-you, thank-you, our recent 2nd Sunday lunch netted the youth \$197. That gets the group 14 miles closer to our destination —New Orleans!



February 5: Collection for Souper Bowl of Caring

February 12: Seniors Love Luncheon

YUC, Youth Under Construction, is Redeemer's youth group for youth in the 6th through 12th grades.

Here's your chance! Clean out those closets, clean out that garage, clean out those drawers! Contribute your treasures for the youth yard sale. Place donated items in the marked Sunday School room in the education wing. Please no clothes. The sale will be in April. Watch for more details. Thanks for your continued support to the youth group.



Our teams are doing a great job packing our 50 bags for May Howard Elementary and 15 bags for Coastal Middle. We could use a few more packers on Thursday afternoons or deliverers on Friday morning. If you are available to help please let Susan Tellefsen know, 898.0629. If you would like to donate food, we can always use pudding cups, snack bars like chewy granola bars or apple-sauce cups. Thank you to all those helping and donating to this wonderful ministry.

Please don't forget your monthly pledges.

Men's Group

The men's group will meet February 4th and we will discuss the possibility of going from just a social group to a study group. Breakfast will be served by Chef Jamie and his assistant Chef Gary Cail.



—Joe Warren, lukngd@aol.com

Sharing Sisters of Redeemer



Meet on Mondays
from 10:30 to 11:30 AM.
If you need transportation please
call Barbara Warren 912-596-9617.



Dear Redeemer Family,
Thank you all for the prayers and sympathy cards sent to our family after the death of Mark's mom. We traveled to NJ last week for a beautiful Memorial Service for her. We truly appreciate our church family's support.
Mark, Susan, Ben and Maggie Tellefsen

Dear Sharing Sisters,
Please tell the ladies in the prayer group that I love my prayer shawl. It is beautiful. I can feel the power of prayer every time I put it on.
Thanks,
Sherry McMahon

Redeemer Council and Members,
I would like to say thanks for the appreciation gift at Christmas time. It was greatly appreciated. My prayer is that God will richly bless the church and each and every family. I truly enjoy working with each and every one.
Thanks,
Juanita

All the Sharing Sisters of Redeemer Lutheran Church are Angels. Each year you extend your generosity to the Veterans of this clinic and specifically to those assigned to the Home Based Primary Care program. The veterans that we care for are blessed to receive the lap blankets and quilts that you make each year.
We are grateful.
Thank you,
Home Based Primary Care Program Staff

Dear Friends,

Thank you for helping to make Christmas so special for the children in Lutheran Service's of Georgia Specialized Foster Care and Kinship Care programs. Your generous outpouring of gifts made it possible for all the children to receive gifts that they wanted most. It was so kind of you to deliver the gifts to our office.

Lutheran Services of Georgia strives to bring hope, healing and strength to people in need, and by giving these gifts you help in achieving that mission.

Sincerely,
Linda Larson.
Resource Development Coordinator
Lutheran Services of Georgia

Redeemer Council Highlights

January 15, 2012

Mission Statement: To Share God's Love With All People

Members Present: Drew Schwalbe(Treas), Heidi Wagstaff, Jamie Coursey, Jim Drinnon Don Goll, Kathryn Williams (VP), Jim Ward(Pres), Vikki Maner(Sec).

Members Absent: Pastor Wayne Cobb (TEC weekend), Karen Jerald

Announcements made:

Annual Congregational Meeting is January 22, 2012

Nominees to replace outgoing council members are: Kathy Cail, Kerry Coursey, Joe Warren, and Gloria Leonard

February 5th is Souper Bowl Sunday-Youth collecting for Second Harvest Food Bank

Ash Wednesday, February 22nd

Easter Sunday, April 8th

Council Retreat to be held at Redeemer Lutheran Church scheduled for Saturday, February 11, 2012

8:30am until 4:00 with outgoing council members (Ward, Coursey, Drinnon, Jerald, Williams) present for first part of meeting.

Synod is looking for Church Wide Assembly Voting Members from Redeemer.

Next meeting Monday, February 20, 2012 6:30-8:30pm

Annual Congregational Meeting, Sunday January 22, 2012

Meeting opened with prayer led by Pastor Wayne Cobb

Called to order by President Jim Ward

First order of Business: Reducing total number of elected council members from 9 to 8. (Each Serving a 2 Year Term)

Five council members (J.WARD, K.WILLIAMS, J.COURSEY, J.DRINNON, K.JERALD) came off council to be replaced by Slate, approved by council and presented to the congregation to include Kathy Cail, Gloria Leonard, Joe Warren, and Kerry Coursey. Any additional nominations from the floor resulted in a motion to accept the slate being offered by council and a vote and second followed. New council members were welcomed.

Annual Reports were submitted by congregational committees and Joe Warren made a motion to accept the reports as corrected, a second was noted. 2012 Budget discussed including discussion of monies being sent to synod. Suggestion for new council to revisit this percentage. Motion made to accept with corrections the 2012 Budget. Approved

Jim Drinnon came forward to share the Diaconal Minister Call for Allison Ward. Congregation unanimously accepted and wished Allison the best in her new position. Her Rite of Consecration will be Saturday, March 24th, at 3:00 pm at Redeemer.

Changes to the Constitution and By Laws were presented by President Jim Ward. Discussed and approved.

For any additional information please visit the redeemersav.org website.

Offering and Attendance for November/December 2011

Average Attendance for Nov. 58, Dec. 72

Average Offering for Nov. **\$3205.00**, Dec. **\$3887.00**

Average weekly offering needed for budget **\$3438.00**

CHURCH COUNCIL

Many thanks to the out-going council members who have diligently and selflessly served Redeemer.

We appreciate your service: Jim Ward, Kathryn Williams, Jim Drinnon, Jamie Coursey and Karen Jerald.

Congratulations to our four new council members: Kathy Cail, Kerry Coursey, Joe Warren & Gloria

Leonard. Please pray for and welcome them to service to Redeemer. We appreciate your willingness to share your gifts with Redeemer. The new members will serve along with returning members: Vikki Maner, Heidi Wagstaff, Don Goll and Drew Schwalbe.



Our Future



Looking toward the future the council (new & old) will meet for a retreat at the church on February 11. This meeting will focus on "passing the torch" as well as developing a mission statement along with an organizational structure to support that mission.

Worship Assistants for February

Worship Assistants for February 5

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Greeters | Vikki Maner |
| | Sylvia Wallis |
| Ushers | Hal Heidmann |
| | Hal Heidmann |
| Acolyte | Kate Maner |
| Lector | Megan Maner |
| Communion Assistant | Allison Ward |
| Nursery | Peggy Alberino |
| Flowers given by: Schwalbe Family In Memory of Grandmother, Lillian Schwalbe and Grandfather, Herbert Williams | |
| Hospitality Table: Schwalbe Family | |
| Altar Guild Team: | |
| Council Lock Up: | |

Worship Assistants for February 19

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Greeters | Kerry Coursey |
| | Jamie Coursey |
| Ushers | Jamie Coursey |
| | Charles Breitenbach |
| Acolyte | Peyton Coursey |
| Lector | Don Goll |
| Communion Assistant | Jim Heater |
| Nursery | Karla Noonan |
| Flowers given by: OPEN | |
| Hospitality Table: OPEN | |
| Altar Guild Team: | |
| Council Lock Up: | |

Worship Assistants for February 12

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Greeters | Inga Lee |
| | Richard Lee |
| Ushers | Joe Warren |
| | Jim Drinnon |
| Acolyte | Maggie Tellefsen |
| Lector | Barbara Warren |
| Communion Assistant | Charles Breitenbach |
| Nursery | Susan Tellefsen |
| Flowers given by: OPEN | |
| Hospitality Table: Tellefsen/Ward | |
| Altar Guild Team: | |
| Council Lock Up: | |

Worship Assistants for February 26

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Greeters | Jane Gobin |
| | Sarah Deary |
| Ushers | Jim Heater |
| | Shane Alberino |
| Acolyte | Jake Drinnon |
| Lector | Hal Heidmann |
| Communion Assistant. | Heidi Heater |
| Nursery | Sylvia Wallis |
| Flowers given by: Given by Gloria Leonard In Honor of Helen Remion's 100 th Birthday | |
| Hospitality Table: Gloria Leonard | |
| Altar Guild Team: | |
| Council Lock Up: | |



February's Birthdays

02/02 Wills Nowicki

02/04 Mayda Goll

02/09 Adrian Nagy

02/12 Christina Mosher

02/18 Amanda Woods