

Our Redeemer News

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June/July 2019

SERMON and SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR JUNE & JULY

- JUNE 1/2: GOD'S CHAMPIONS
"We Are The Champions"
Psalm 16:3
- JUNE 8/9: PENTECOST: GOD'S CHAMPIONS
"The Holy Spirit Difference"
John 14:25-27
- JUNE 15/16: FATHER'S DAY
- JUNE 22/23: GOD'S CHAMPIONS
"Abigail"
1 Samuel 25
- JUNE 29/30: TO BE ANNOUNCED
- JULY 6/7: GOD'S CHAMPIONS
"Champions Forgive"
2 Corinthians 5:14-20
- JULY 13/14: GOD'S CHAMPIONS
"Champions Are Not Perfect"
Romans 7:15, 18-19
- JULY 20/21: VBS CLOSING
LIFE IS WILD – GOD IS GOOD
GOD'S CHAMPIONS
"Living in God's Strength"
Psalm 18:1
- JULY 27/28: TO BE ANNOUNCED



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pastor's Corner/Quest for Christ.	2
Ministry Updates.	2-11
Mission Life.	4
SONshine Kids.	5
Samaritan House News	8
Thrivent Update	9
Talk With God...Our Prayer List.	11
It's Your Serve!	12 & 13
Calendar.	14 & 15
Prayer Calendar	16 & 17



As we look forward to celebrating again our nation's birthday, here a few thoughts on being a Christian citizen. They are taken from an article by Dr. Adrian Rogers in Crosswalk.com. (Be sure to look up the Bible verses!)

What does it mean to be a Christian in America these days? It means, in a word, to be like Christ. God has called each of us to a standard by which we must live our lives - and that standard is truth and obedience. Though the tide of public opinion may sway and even storm at times against us, we must resolutely stand to be like Christ. I want to give you five responsibilities from the Word of God that you and I have as American citizens.

1. Pray for government. 1 Timothy 2:1-3

God is in charge of the kings He has placed in authority over us! He can turn them whichever way He wills.

2. Pay for government. Romans 13:1-7

Just as we give our tithe, we are to pay our taxes. Jesus taught us to render unto the government that which it is due it, and render unto God that which is due Him.

3. Praise government. 1 Peter 2:17

We are to give honor and respect to our government officials because honor is due. God has allowed them to hold office!

4. Preach to government. Ephesians 4:15

We are to speak the truth to our governmental leaders. We dare not be silent. We need to tell every official that what is politically correct is sometimes morally wrong!

5. Participate in government. 1 Peter 2:12

Daniel Webster said, "Whatever makes a man a good Christian, makes him a good citizen." Don't let the world intimidate you into believing the lie that the phrase, "separation of church and state" is a mandate for your eradication or worse, neutralization from governmental affairs! The only hope for America is Jesus Christ! Your mission is to pray for the Holy Spirit to call sinners to Himself and for you to have an impact in your home, your neighborhood, your workplace, your community, and even your nation for the glory of Jesus Christ.

In Him I am, Faithfully yours, Pastor Draeger

QUEST FOR CHRIST

OUR HELPER – John 16:5-15

The words God, I need help have come from the lips of every Christian at some point in life. The wonderful thing about this short prayer is that God provided the help we need long ago—at Pentecost. Inside every believer dwells an intimate, all-sufficient Helper with one goal: to ensure we grow in Christlikeness.

Even before we become believers, the Holy Spirit starts working to reveal the character of Jesus. Remember the vivid story of scales falling from the eyes of Saul (later known as Paul) to end his blindness? (Acts 9:18) A similar thing happens as we receive the Spirit's instruction. He pulls away our scales of unbelief and manifests the true nature of Jesus Christ. First, God's Spirit testifies to the saving power of Jesus; then, after we have become believers, He acquaints us with the Lord's character through Bible reading and observation of God's work in our daily life.

Our dependence upon the Holy Spirit should grow in tandem with our understanding of God. As we learn of the Christ to whom we are being conformed, the Holy Spirit at the same time reveals our inadequacy to appropriate such divine attributes without His intervention. God's Spirit calls us to surrender our will and way of coping so that He may live our Christ's character through us. We trade frustration for peace, anger for patience, and shallow happiness for pure joy as we become more like the Lord we serve. With the aid of our divine Helper, our old existence of lonely desolation is pushed away in a favor of a triumphant Christian life.





From the Director of Worship and Music

Greetings!

I remember back in the '70's hearing the comedian George Carlin do a routine that included a bit called, "Sentences You Never Hear Uttered." Let me preface this by saying that, yes, I confess, I actually listened to comedians like Carlin when I was a teenager. They're not on my playlist anymore, but I was young and wild back then. I throw myself on the mercy of the court. Anyway, this Carlin bit (which was one of his more family friendly offerings) included wacky nonsense sentences like, "Would you please saw my legs off?" and "Hand me that piano." The schtick was they were things so absurd that no one would ever say them.

Sometimes what a person does not say makes as much of a point as the things they do say. Christian commentators have used this approach to make certain points over the years. One of the common ones I hear now and then is that you never hear anyone at the end of their life say, "If I had it to do over again I would have spent more time at the office, and less time with my family." There's a reason you don't hear people say certain things whether it's "Hand me that piano," or "I wish I'd spent more time at the office." So, in the interest of pointing out what's true by noticing what people don't say, I give you my version – the Christian version – of "Sentences You Never Hear Uttered." Here they are, in no particular order:

"I think I pray too much; I need to cut back on my prayer time."

"No thanks, I really don't need you to pray for me."

"Too bad about that problem you've got, but there's nothing I can do about it."

(Actually, some Christians probably do say, or at least think, some version of this one now and

then,. But it's only because they're not paying attention.)

"I wish I had all that money back that I gave to the church, so I could spend it on myself."

"All that time I spent studying the Bible was sure a waste of time."

"I missed out on a lot going to youth group."

"I have all these financial problems because I tithe too much."

"I regret being a virgin when I got married; I should have slept around more."

"I don't need forgiveness, because I try not to do anything wrong."

(Actually, this one, or something to this effect, was actually uttered by a prominent public

figure not long ago. I think he's since changed his mind.)

"I'm sure I've made some people mad, but they'll just have to deal with it."

"I wish my teachers would have let me slack off a little more."

"I have so much more fun on the weekends when I don't go to church."

"I can't believe that he/she could even think I would forgive him/her for *that*."

"I'm glad I passed along that juicy tidbit about so-and-so because it really helped the situation

turn out for the best."

"I resent my parents for making me go to church and Sunday school when I was young."

"The best way to share Christ with people is to constantly point out how sinful they are."

"I've found that it's best to tell my friends little white lies to keep them from getting mad at me."

"Things go much more smoothly for me if I work all the time, and never take a day off."

That's enough for now. This is not an exhaustive list; I'm sure more could be added to it. I hope you got a chuckle out of them. Time for another confession; many of these sometimes bounce around my own head. Thankfully, the few filters I have usually engage before I actually give them voice, or worse, act on them. May that always be the case.

Until next month,

Roger Hackelberg,
Director of Worship and Music



Fully Equipped to Tell His Story

Telling Jesus' story can be very challenging. We live in a world that is openly hostile to the Gospel, one in which hardened sinners daily resist the grace of Christ. Yet while we may be dismayed by the challenges that confront us, our Lord is not. He equips us with all that we need to be faithful witnesses where, when and with whom He has placed us.

God has provided us gifts "to support this body and life." (First Article of Apostles Creed). In Luther's explanation of the First Article, he states, "He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them." All these things and the other things that Luther lists in his explanation, make up the "everything" that should be directed toward the proclamation of Jesus – the "everything" that supports our highest priority in life. [Mark Wood, Lutheran Witness, condensed, 1-19 submitted by Evangelism Team]



There are some cute little "bums" that need covers at our pregnancy centers. Therefore we will be participating in Lutherans For Life Mother's Day through Father's Day diaper drive. The size of diapers extremely needed are 5's and 6's. Also needed are packages of wipes to clean those little ones. If you can participate, please drop your gifts into the receptacle provided. I know those little ones will feel better, but I bet you do too.

(Your Life Team)



This is the acolyte schedule for June and July. If you have a conflict with the day your child is on please let me know!

Blessings, Kathy

June 2nd	Olivia Ferguson
June 9th	Alaina Newell
June 16th	Emily Addis
June 23rd	Molly Addis
June 30th	Barbara Reindeau
July 7th	Jerry Schurig
July 14th	Savannah Wigley
July 21st	Luke Bernthal
July 28th	Michael Cusumano



LWML Mites Working Hard

\$97,000 of National LWML mites will go to **Raising Pastors and Deacon-nesses**. The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Liberia has decided to build a Lutheran Bible College for its 137 congregations and for those from neighboring Sierra Leone and Guinea. They believe strongly in the need to witness to our Lutheran confession in a nation that predominately preaches and practices work righteousness over and against justification by grace through faith alone. This grant will provide necessary funds for building.

\$10,000 of Michigan District mites will go to **Support for Concordia Seminary's International Graduate School Students**: Because the Gospel and Lutheranism is spreading in many nations, there is a significant shortage of well-formed Lutheran pastors. This grant will provide for theological education for capable international students who would be enabled to be trained in Concordia Seminary St Louis International Graduate School and they in turn could better train leaders in their home countries.

Everyone is encouraged to save mites (money). Mites are coins/money given to missions. The term is taken from the story of the Widow's Mite in Luke 21. Please leave your gifts in the church office with clear mite box identification. Thank you. *Our Redeemer LWML Ministry*



NEWS.....

Hard to believe it is already June, where has the year gone? The LWML has one more event this year. Our annual year end potluck Monday, June 3rd at 6:00 pm. Bring a side dish or dessert to pass, the main course will be provided. Bring a friend and enjoy some fun and fellowship. Hope to see you there. From all of us in the LWML we want to thank you for all for your support and help with our various projects this past year. We also wish you a safe and happy summer!

Blessings, Joyce Mason
LWML Secretary



To all of the SONshine Kids.... Have a great and safe summer. You will be in my prayers...

To all of the Parents.... Thanks for their faithful commitment to the Christian Education of their children. I will be praying for you.

Thanks again to our committed Teachers.... See you August 17 for our Planning Breakfast. You will remain in my prayers also.

SONshine Kids will begin September 15, 2019

THANKS... for a GREAT year.... God Bless You...

Respectfully Submitted...

Linda Martin, SONshine Kids Director



We wish to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, visits and continued caring during Rich Mason's illness and passing. We could not have gotten through this sad time without the constant support from our church family. We can rest assured that Rich is in the loving arms of the Lord and no longer suffering.

Blessings and love to you all,
Joyce Mason, Scott & Maria Winter





ADOPT A SECTION OF THE CHURCH LANDSCAPING

Please help maintain the landscaping around the church. Adopt a section of the landscaping to maintain. See the colored site plan which is on the bulletin board near the coat rack. The site is divided into seven areas, "A" through "G." Sign up on the sheet provided next to the area that you wish to maintain. For reference, a short "Maintenance Description" is provided on the plan. Thank you!!



The Nursery at Our Redeemer has decided to pause for the summer months of June, July & August. We will begin our schedule again in the month of September. Have a wonderful summer!!



The Women's Ministry will be hosting **LADIES BUNCO NIGHT** on Thursday, June 20th @ 6:30p.m. in the Old Sanctuary. We would love to have you join us! Sign up sheet is now in the Narthex!! We will be collecting the following donations for our VBS—baby wipes, Clorox wipes, brown paper lunch bags, 50z. Paper cups, napkins, dessert sized paper plates, 90z paper cups, bubbles, quart & gallon sized resealable bags, plastic spoons.



Together, we can save a life

ANNUAL AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

We are currently working with the Red Cross to obtain a date for our annual blooddrive at Our Redeemer. Please don't forget to give blood this summer. The need is always great!

Your donation has the potential to help 3 people. Blood Donations Save Lives. Yours might be one of them!!



LAFF PRESENTS THE 3RD ANNUAL BASEBALL GAME AT JIMMY JOHN'S FIELD!

Friday, August 2, 2019 ~ Gates open at 6:00pm ~ Game time 7:05pm
\$18.00 includes: Ticket, \$5.00 Food Voucher

Sign up on the sheet & place money in an envelope marked "baseball" in the offering plate or in the forms/money lockbox on the Narthex table.

Make any checks payable to Our Redeemer





You Have Heard It Said, But I Say...

Jesus said these very words in multiple places in the Bible. I wonder how often He would have to say them today! You have heard it said that sex outside of marriage is just the norm and everyone does it. "Everyone" lives with their "partner" before marriage to see if they're compatible. Would colleges have hook up rooms and beach parties called "Sex on the Beach" sponsored by Planned Parenthood, if there was anything wrong with it? But Jesus says that sex outside of the bonds of marriage is wrong. Period. It doesn't matter if you really think you're in love, you're "almost" married, or living together puts you in a better situation financially.

You have heard it said that women have the right to choose death for their unborn child or even after birth. We need to think about a woman's career, schooling, financial situation, the number of children she already has, or even her age. You can't expect a woman to carry a child if the conception was due to rape or incest. It's just too bad that the child has to die for the sin of the father. I don't believe the statistics that say abortion for these women simply multiplies the abuse they experience. But Jesus says, "You shall not kill." Period. God promises us that He will never leave us, He will help in time of need and He forgives.

You have heard it said that sometimes a boy may feel trapped in a girl's body. Let him dress in girl's clothing, call him a girl, insist that the school allow him to use the girl's bathrooms, showers and play on girl's teams. Let's inject hormones into him and surgically change him to what he thinks he is even though pediatricians say this is child abuse. Gender reassignment is the solution. We should also allow same sex marriage. After all, they "love" each other. It is perfectly fine that it is illegal for therapists to help

a person out of the LGBT lifestyle. But God says that He creates all people, He doesn't make mistakes, and He will help a person deal with this sensitive issue the same way He helps us with our physical issues. Further-more, God says homosexuality is a sin.

You have heard it said that people living with a physical or mental handicap are better off dead. Who would want to live that way anyway? Why should we waste resources on flawed people? Why should families have to deal with such impositions? I don't believe they serve a special purpose here below or that caregivers are blessed to be Jesus' hands and feet as they serve them. I don't believe that they can teach us how to truly love. My love is just fine! Again, Jesus says He makes NO mistakes, that He makes ears deaf and eyes without sight and in everything He allows, He gives opportunity to bring glory to God.

You have heard it said that assisted suicide and even the direct killing of people are necessary and good. After all, wouldn't you want to die if you had a stroke or accident that caused a mental or physical injury? I want to be able to choose when it's time for me to exit. I want to be in control. I am tired of going to the nursing home when mom doesn't even recognize me anymore. I've got better things to do with my time. I don't want anyone having to brush my teeth or do even more intimate care. And what about pain? But Jesus says I will make a way when there is no way. Trust Me to work things out. I have promised that nothing can separate you from My love.

We could go on and on but you get the gist. We have to stop listening to politicians, unions, and pro-death people. Listen to God's voice, speak with our pastors for guidance during life's difficulties, bear the burdens of others, vote for pro-life candidates, and love as God has loved us.

~Donna Zuehlk, Lutherans For Life representative





21st Annual Golf Outing- Saturday, July 27, 2019

Greystone Golf Course
67500 Mound Road
Washington, Mich. 48095

We are seeking sponsors and gift donors for our 21st Annual Golf Outing, which will be held on Saturday, July 27, 2019 at Greystone Golf Course. Registration is at 7 a.m., with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m.

Tickets are currently on sale at Samaritan House, 62324 Van Dyke, Washington, MI 48094. Tickets will NOT go on sale online, so come in to purchase yours today!

If you would like to sponsor this event or to donate an item, please contact shevents@att.net or call (586) 336-9956 for more information.




Help us help the homebound!



Did you know that once a month Samaritan House delivers groceries to homebound clients? We can always use help!

If you can help, call Judy at (586) 336-9956



Be the heart and hands of Christ!



PANTRY NEEDS:

- cereal
- juice
- jelly
- coffee
- oatmeal
- vegetable soup
- vegetable oil
- crackers
- bath tissue
- dish detergent
- laundry detergent
- razor blades
- shaving cream



Appleton, Wisconsin • Minneapolis, Minnesota

Financial Column

Contact: James M. Riske, CFP®, RICP®, CKA®, MSF, LUTCF, FIC

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The most important financial guide - YOU!

Finding a balance to achieve your goals is what any financial professional should discuss with you

Many people want to know the secret to financial success. Whether they should be saving more, protecting more, investing more, spending less... everyone wants a magic bullet to set them on the road to financial success. The hard part is - I can't give that to them.

At Thrivent Financial, we believe the key is to have discussions with your family and loved ones about what priorities are most important to you. Our members come to us around a shared goal of being wise with money and living generously, and we aim to help them live this every day in their lives. Whether it's saving for a child's college education, supporting a favorite charity, building retirement strategies or a combination of all of those and more, each financial strategy should be driven by one person: You.

With our members in the driver's seat, we offer guidance based on sound and timeless principles, including:

- **Spend less than you earn.**
This is critical. No one can live beyond their means forever and all bills - credit card, mortgage, home equity loans and others - eventually come due. Being wise with money means having the ability to be prudent with the resources you already earn.
- **Be wise with debt.**
Debt isn't something to be avoided at all costs. Some debt can be healthy and a way to broaden and strengthen your future - both inside and outside your financial picture. Mortgages, student loans and car loans can all be entered into and serve as a part of a healthy financial strategy but need to be managed carefully and effectively.
- **Protect against setbacks.**
Even the best financial strategies can be derailed by a sudden accident or death if not properly protected. Life insurance, disability insurance and long-term care insurance can all work as protection against the worst scenarios and help ensure that you and your family are taken care of.
- **Have a plan.**
Whether it's funding college, retirement, emergency savings or a new car, these are all great goals for families and individuals to set for themselves. The key to reaching these goals is to develop a strategy that maximizes current resources and helps minimize overall risk. For example, when it comes to drawing down money in retirement, it's important to plan for the short-term while keeping your family's long-term financial strategy in mind.
- **Give back.**
At Thrivent Financial, we work with our members to ensure that generosity is a life-long financial strategy that doesn't just occur once someone accumulates "enough" to give. We want to support our members' efforts to positively impact their families and communities through programs and opportunities that enable them to live generously.

Many people are looking for a silver bullet when it comes to finances. The most important part is to be true to yourself, your family and your goals. These five pillars can guide you but it's ultimately up to you to shape your financial future.

This article was prepared by Thrivent Financial for use by local area representative James M. Riske. He has offices at 14460 Lakeside Circle, Suite 250 in Sterling Heights and can also be reached at (586) 726-8899 ext. 227



Congratulations and God's Blessing to Our Confirmands

Emily Sarah Addis
Carter James Burton
Alaina Kaye Newell
Parker Rowan Newell
Barbara Jean Riendeau

My Father's House



NEW LIFE IN HEAVEN:
Rich Mason

TRANSFERRED OUT:

Jeff & Lisa Fiset
Lauren, Joshua, Andrew
To Trinity Lutheran, Clinton Township



SAVE THE DATE!!! Plans for our 2019 Vacation Bible School have begun. Please plan on joining us for this summer's "mane" event July 15-19 for an epic African safari adventure that is bound to be a roaring good time as we explore God's goodness and celebrate our ferocious faith that powers us through this wildlife.

Register online today!
www.ourredeemer-lcms.org

Life is wild! God is good!



There's a spot for you to help at VBS!

We are looking for junior high and high school students, as well as adults, willing to volunteer during our VBS program July 15-19th.

If you're interested, sign-up online at www.ourredeemer-lcms.org for the position you're interested in, or contact Lisa Johnson at 586-381-3426.





TALK WITH GOD *(Please remember these friends in your prayers)*
THOSE WITH LONG- or SHORT-TERM ILLNESS:

TALK WITH GOD *(Please remember these friends in your prayers.)*

These are the most recent prayer requests; a full listing of all those in need of prayers is published in the Newsletter each month.

- Barb Pieters** *(broken hip)***Dorothy Brinker**
- Barb Pellegrino** *(Muellers' friend; cancer)*
- Frank Cody** *(Margo Schuch's brother)***Mona Pfent** *(Christin Peyerk's mom; cancer)*
- Colin Segerlund** *(Margo Schuch's grandson; asthma)*
- Rae Lynn Koen** *(Lanny Shepherd's sister; thyroid cancer)*
- Lawrence Thom**
- Tina Hayden** *(Haydens' daughter-in-law; cancer)*
- Grace Angela Beachnau** *(Mueller's granddaughter)*
- Kim Cameron** *(Brenneckes' friend; cancer)*
- Sharon Allen****Carlo DeAngelis** *(friend of Nancy Ray's; stomach cancer)*
- Ron Barrows** *(MS)***Janice Repphun** *(surgery)*
- Bob Wales** *(ALS)***Janet Rohrbeck**
- Charlotte Robinson** *(Chuck Brennecke's sister-bladder cancer)*
- Denise Neddermeyer****Bill Dais**
- Heidi Wolf****Peggy Alward****Lucille Fruchey** *(surgery)*
- Nancy Mikolowski** *(mother of Judy Laurie-hospitalized)*
- Dick Hoag****Jean Dehnke****Ken Coles**



OUR FRIENDS & FAMILY ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE ARMED FORCES:



- Jim Pfahlert** *(June Shaver's nephew)*
- Jon Ede** *(June Shaver's nephew)*
- Brad Morris**
- Sean Duggan** *(Bridget Felax's brother)*
- Mary Hampton** *(friend of Orlin & Sharon Allen)*