



SYMBOLS OF REDEMPTION

Worship services available online at: www.redemptionmn.org/sermons
Newsletter available electronically on the Calendar page of the About tab on the Redemption website.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Redemption Family...

As my life gets busier and busier I find that I have less time for the things that I have long considered to be a part of who I am. I discovered this the other day, when I was tidying up around the house and happened to glance over at my beautiful Breedlove Guitar. This beautiful instrument that used to serenade our home and fill my evenings with pleasant melodies had begun to gather a filament of dust.

This caused me to pause... When was the last time I played guitar? This instrument was once such an important part of my life. What happened to my priorities? I realized that as life got busier my focus and attention turned to other things. Things that I enjoy, things that have to get done, or things that distract me. All of this caused me to turn aside from an important piece of my life.

As human beings we can often be fickle. Our attention is fleeting, our interests are fluid, and altogether we are relatively inconsistent. Which is very odd to me. After all, are we not creatures of habit? Don't we sit in the same pews? Don't we go to the same coffee shops? Isn't "change" the cuss word of our people?

But then I remember the mantra that my mom always lived by growing up... "You can always find time for the things that you put first!" That's it! It isn't about bird dogging after the next squirrel or chasing the next great goal, it's a matter of priorities.

Whenever I hear someone who is wrestling with their faith or a parent wrestling with why their adult children won't come to worship with them this comes to mind. When faith and community with God is not a priority it becomes hard to make time on a Sunday morning for worship. We all deal with this in one way or another. I can make time for family game night, but not for worship on Sunday. I can make time for worship on Sunday, but not for Bible Study afterwards. I can make time for God on Sunday, but not before my meals or before bed or anytime during the rest of my week...

We can find a million reasons not to spend time with God, but maybe we should be searching after that one reason why we should. So often we feel as though we are alone... As though God has left us... But God is always there, waiting for you to reciprocate His love. "You can always find time for the things you put first!"

Pastor Josh

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YOUTH



The youth are going to divide and conquer for the activities in May. I say activities because we are going to have a guys activity, a girls activity, and then come together for dinner all on Saturday, May 18. We do not have all of the details worked out to have times and locations but the guys are going to do an escape room, the girls are doing a picnic/photo shoot, and then we still need to decide where we are gathering to eat. Watch the announcements for the next weeks for more details following.



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Aprils game night was a hit! Kudos to all the adults who were willing to try something new with the youth. A lot of smiles and laughter during our Mario Kart tournament. April showers bring May flowers. Mays game night we are hoping to enjoy those May flowers and warmer weather. May 11ths game night will have a special focus on outdoor games! Love bocce ball, badminton, frisbee? How about a fire with smores? We will, of course, have our standard games available in the gym. If it's raining or too cold we do have a plan B so still plan to attend. This will be our last game night until September so mark it on your calendar as a fun night out to relax, play games with your church family, and any other friends or family you want to bring. All individuals are highly encouraged to participate! See you there.



Congregational life



SENIORS R US



SENIORS R US will meet for our annual trip to Faribault and Donahues Greenhouse on Wednesday, May 15. Meet at church at 10am. We will car pool so be sure and let me know if you are going to come. It's a great place to see anything you could possibly want for your garden, so you don't want to miss it!!!

Ann Behning, 952-884-9617.

We will do lunch there too.



Music Notes
Kathy Henson
Director of Music



A standing ovation to everyone involved in this year's annual musical! Your talent, dedication, and support brought our vision to life in the most magnificent way. Special thanks to our cast, crew, directors, and congregation for your invaluable support and dedication.

May 12th is Music Sunday and this year's theme is "The Good, The Bad and the Ugly" which we will look at theology in both traditional hymns and contemporary songs that are good, bad, and songs/hymns that need further context to be understood if the theology is solid or not (the ugly). We wrap up this portion of the newsletter remembering our recently past choir member and friend. Mike Hagen. This was written by Hilde Doberpuhl

REMEMBERING MIKE

February and March are a bit of a somber time for me. Close family members that I have lost, passed away in these months. Recently, the death of a beloved and long-time member of Redemption stunned our church family. In our minds Mike could still have had many years to live, yet left us suddenly. When he joined the choir last fall, we were more than delighted-not just to have another voice in the male section, but we also enjoyed his pleasant camaraderie.

John Walsh of the America's Most Wanted series had lost his son, Adam, as a result of a criminal act. The family vowed to carry on in a mission to help others in similar situations, which gave birth to the TV series. In reading about their family, I was taken by a meaningful quote from one of the parents, "If Adam's song is to continue, we must keep singing."

I think the best way for us at Redemption to remember Mike, is to "keep singing"-continue to do our work here on earth until we join in the Heavenly Chorus with him.

Hilde Dobberpuhl



SPRING CLEANING



Save the date! May 18th will be garage cleanup!

Volunteers are needed for lawn mowing beginning this spring. And on May 18 at 9:00 am there will be a lawn mower orientation.

Please contact Tim Fetzer (612-805-2090) if you are able to help.

Garage clean up will begin at 9:30 am on May 18th. Contact Vicki Newton (952-388-1858) with any questions and watch the bulletin for any additional information.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Redemption ladies you are invited to join in Women's Ministries at our annual evening out on Tuesday, May 14th at 6pm at Applebees, 9601 Lyndale Ave in Bloomington. This is a fun fellowship event for everyone to participate in whether or not you attend our regular monthly meetings! We can order from the menu & they will provide separate checks. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Please join us - even if you did not get a chance to sign up ahead of time ~ We'd love to see you there! If you have any questions you may check with Judy Zesch, Michelle Borchardt or Deb Dix.

Women's Ministry

Women's Ministry met on April 9th and elected officers, as follows:

President: Deb Dix

Vice President: Judy Zesch

Treasurer: Judy Pahlow

Secretary: Michelle Borchardt

Additional business at the meeting included disbursement of funds from last year's bazaar.



MISSIONS

VEAP ITEM OF THE MONTH: MAY

Kids lunch items.

Some suggestions are: cereal, snacks, Mac & cheese, canned chicken and tuna, and crackers.



Meeting Basic Needs.
Building Stronger Communities.

As you are beginning to make your summer plans
Don't forget to schedule in VBS, June 23-28
Camp Omega will be here at Redemption
with their Day Camp
This year's theme is **Stronghold**
Psalm 18:2

"The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock,
in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation,
my stronghold."





WORSHIP IN THE PARK

Mark your calendars for June 9th! All of our LCMS brothers and sisters in Bloomington will be gathering to praise God together at the Normandale Band Shell.

That Sunday we will not be holding services here, but we will gather at 10am at the Normandale Bandshell.

More details to follow. If you are interested in helping make this event happen please let the office know.

Don't miss it!



EASTER READING VIGIL

Easter Reading Vigil Recap! Some changes need to happen as times are changing. First, I thank you all for participating and being a part of it. Second, thanks to all the monitors who have helped make this event happen. We will be going to a new format and the sign-ups will be different for next year. It will be brought up to at the Voter's meeting so come and hear more about it. We want to discuss it while it is still fresh in everyone's minds. We found that more and more are participating remotely so we need to change the format a bit. We will still (always!) have set times for those that want to read in church but then the rest will be remote and will be handled in a different manner so that there won't be a monitor managing it. Its all good – we are making sure that everyone who wants to read in either capacity will still have their chance to do so. Thanks again everybody! Becky





Worship Attendants

Week	Deacon	Greeters	Reader	Usher
May 5	Troy Dukart Steve Dix	Dennis & Doris Bahn	Tami Hagen	Ryan Thorne Marc Rood
May 12	Michael Polzin Tim Sasse	Hilde Dobberpuhl & Jann Smeltzer	Jan Smeltzer	Larry Gustafson Garrett Tan
May 19	Michael Polzin	Murray & Jeanne Pommier	Michael Polzin	Larry Gustafson Garrett tan
May 26	Ryan Thorne Troy Dukart	Keith & Cheryl Bratsch	Troy Dukart	Stan Kirschbaum Gary Bramer

If you are trading service dates, please let the office know so we can update the information for the weekly announcements



Vital Statistics

May Birthdays

May 1 Paige Rustad	May 12 Ed Bauman	May 22 Zach Larson
May 2 Michelle Borchardt Joshua Ribar	May 13 Nathan Borgstahl	May 23 Maxwell Carlson Sharon Gellert
May 4 Torque Carlson	May 14 Josh Berndtson Molly Rood	May 24 Kaitlyn Peroutka
May 5 Kelly Sager	May 17 Daniel Morris	May 27 Evan Borgstahl Charlotte Engebrecht
May 7 Cindy Morey	May 18 Naomi Beck	May 29 Andrew Lecy
May 8 Warren Beulke	May 19 Carrol Stuber	May 31 Jenna Gut
May 11 Steve Dix Dave Zellmer	May 20 Fred Buck	

May Wedding Anniversaries

May 1 Lyle and Sharon Peters	May 29 Don and Vicky Langewisch	May 30 Duane and Kathy Wienke
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Redemption Lutheran Church
 Leadership Meeting
 Tuesday April 16, 2024

Members Present: Jason Koosmann, Tim Sasse, Sue Sasse, Judy Zesch, Pastor Josh, Becky Kritz, Deb Dix, Vicki Newton, Cindy Morey, Jessica Beyer, Tim Fetzer

Meeting was called to order by President, Tim Sasse.

Opening Devotion and Prayer lead by Sue Sasse.

Motion by Becky, seconded by Vicki to approve the March minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The 2024 year to date financial report was distributed. The accounts are reconciled through March.

Pastor's Report:

April 19th & 20th - Ministry Best Practice Conference at Concordia Academy in Rosemount. Need to be signed up by Thursday, April 18th.

April 25 – 28th – Redemption Musical – Dream House

May 2nd and May 5th – Pastor away due to family commitments

May 12th – Music Sunday (Good, Bad & Ugly)

May 13th – 15th – Pastoral Conference

June 9th - June in the Park Combined Worship Service at the Normandale Lake Bandshell 10:00 am
 Bloomington LCMS Church Collaboration group are discussing partnership with youth, confirmation, and young adult activities, which results in a larger Christian community together!

Early to mid-June there will be a Leadership Summit to apply our mission statement and Leadership training.

A Leadership thank you bonfire (date to be determined).

Elder's Report: None

Congregational Life:

April 13th game night had a great turnout and interaction. Playing intergenerational Mario Kart was very successful.

May 11th game night will be a cookout and yard games.

June – August there will be no game nights.

Mission Cluster:

VEAP item of the month

April -cleaning items (There will be a raffle for the orange buckets).

May – food for kids to eat during summer break.

Next big event will be National Night Out.

Resources:

May 18th – 9 am – lawn mower orientation and 9:30 am garage clean up.

We need lawn mowing volunteers. Maybe bring in some black dirt to smooth out the lawn by the cell phone towers. We need to set a date for all the groups to go through items collecting in the classrooms.

Youth:

Starting in the fall there will be joint confirmation, each month there will be three weeks of teaching at St Michaels and 1 week of gym time at Redemption. Each church will have their own confirmation service. It will be great relationship building!

May 19th - Confirmation

June 2nd – Recognition of graduates

June 23rd – 28th - VBS

Faith Forward: We are going to postpone the Capital Campaign until Spring 2025. We don't want to rush the campaign; it needs more consideration. We need to step back and look at statistics, trends, options and do additional research. We need to clarify replacing the roof and the advantages of the different roofs redesign. We also need a current summary of roof repairs. We need everyone to speak up and communicate. We will prepare a written update for the May Congregational Meeting. Hopefully, in the fall we will have a detailed Resources Report and voter's commitment.

Safety Committee Chairperson is Phil Pagel, he has an excellent skill set. They will research procedures, plans, and grants for possible upgrades.

The Nominating Committee is working on the ballot. We have nominations for the following elected leaders:

Deb Dix – Vice President

Cindy Morey – Treasurer

Maybe Sandee Warnke - Resources

Ryan Thorne - Congregational Life

No one for Missions yet.

All the Elders are returning.

Once the ballot is completed, it will be emailed to Leadership for approval.

Elections, roof progress update and our Easter Vigil will be on the agenda for the Congregational Meeting on May 19th.

Easter Reading Vigil needs to change with the times. This year 75% of the readers read off site. Next year there will be designated times for reading at church and the rest will be reading remotely. The people reading remote would self-monitor, set a timer for 30 minutes and then call the next person and let them know where to start reading. If the next person doesn't answer after three attempts, you will need to continue reading or call Becky.

The date of the next Leadership Meeting is May 21, 2024, at 6 pm. Theresa will prepare the opening devotion.

Closing Prayer lead by Pastor.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by

Susan Sasse

Secretary

May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 4pm Open Gym 6:30pm Celebration Choir 6:30pm Divine Service	2	3	4
5 9am Divine Service 10:30am Christian Growth Hour	6 5:30pm Life Light 7pm Alleluia Ringers	7 1pm Knitting	8 4pm Open Gym 6:30pm Celebration Choir 6:30pm Divine Service 7:30pm His Own	9	10	11 5pm Family Game Night
12 Mother's Day Music Sunday 9am Divine Service 10:30am Christian Growth Hour	13 9:30am Women's Bible Study 7pm Alleluia Ringers	14 1pm Knitting 6pm Women's Ministry Evening out	15 Newsletter Deadline 10am Seniors R Us 4pm Open Gym 6:30pm Celebration Choir 6:30pm Divine Service 7:30pm His Own	16	17	18 Youth Guys/Girls events and dinner
19 9am Divine Service Voter's Meeting following Service No Christian Growth	20 5:30pm Life Light 7pm Alleluia Ringers	21 1pm Knitting 6pm Leadership	22 4pm Open Gym 6:30pm His Own 6:30pm Divine Service	23	24	25
26 9am Divine Service 10:30am Christian Growth Hour	27 Memorial Day	28 1pm Knitting	29 4pm Open Gym 6:30pm Divine Service	30	31	Notes:



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May 2024