



RLC Newsletter

April 2022

A Message from Pastor Allman

Sixteen days into the Forty days of Lent and my wife and I watched *"How the Grinch Stole Christmas"* starring Jim Carrey. I know, it sounds a little weird, although a little weird makes sense sometimes. It did give me an idea about this newsletter article for the month in which Easter will take place. My thought was, *"What would it look like if the Grinch stole Easter?"*

As much as I grieve how marketing and consumerism has taken over Christmas, I also grieve how something similar has happened with Easter. I am sure that Easter candy has been displayed in the stores for weeks already, and thoughts of new clothes are dancing in people's heads. As I watched the Grinch sneak into all of the homes, stealing all of the presents and decorations, I imagined him

doing the same for Easter with all of the candy and Easter outfits. This time he would be dressed as a hairy, giant, green skinned, Easter Bunny.

Then, in the midst of my pondering this new children's story I heard the Grinch mutter those words that brought it all together for me, except in my mind I changed the script just a little bit: **"Maybe Easter he thought doesn't come from a store, maybe Easter perhaps means a little bit more."**

As this newsletter comes out, we will have about ten days until Palm Sunday, thirteen days until Maundy Thursday, fourteen days until Good Friday, and seventeen days until Easter. No one will be requesting that we sing Easter carols. The Hallmark Channel will not be running 40-days of

counting down all of your favorite Easter shows. Groups of people will not be walking the neighborhood Easter caroling from house to house. Businesses will not offer staff Easter parties, with an exchange of "secret bunny gifts."

We will tell the story of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem; the gathering of the disciples for the Passover meal, Jesus washing their feet, breaking the bread, sharing the cup of the New Covenant; the crown of thorns; the mocking; the spitting; the thirty-nine lashes; carrying the Cross beam and marching through Jerusalem to Golgotha; the ring of hammers as the spikes are driven through flesh; the 'seven last words;' the death; the burial; the disciples hiding behind locked doors; the women with spices to anoint Jesus'

body; the stone rolled away; and, the climactic announcement that the tomb is empty.

The Grinch has not yet stolen Easter, although I can wish that society would learn from the story of the Grinch stealing Christmas: **"Maybe Easter he thought doesn't come from a store, maybe Easter perhaps means a little bit more."**

Pastor Allman ✝

Meet Mike



Hello Redeemer family. My name is Michael Knaub and I am honored to be your new bookkeeper. My family and I moved to the area about 2 years ago from Pennsylvania. I have been married to my lovely wife Sherri, who is also a member of RLC, for the past 30 plus years. We have twin boys age 26, both on the autism spectrum. We're also blessed to have my wife's parents living with us as well. I'm a proud graduate of Penn State University, We Are! I'm retired from my job as a fiscal management specialist with PA department of corrections for 22 ½ years. I enjoy golfing and target shooting along with working in my yard. I look forward to working with everyone here at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

News from the New Office Administrator

April 2022

Most of you know that Susan retired at the end of February and I have stepped into the role of Office Administrator. I am so grateful to be here and excited to take on additional responsibilities here at Redeemer. Thanks for the grace everyone has shown me and will continue to show me as I get adjusted to all of the extra things that are coming my way this Lenten season.

We are so excited to announce we have filled our bookkeeper position. Please join us in welcoming Mike Knaub to our team! Mike and his family are newer to Redeemer; many of you have probably seen him on Sunday. He comes to us as a retired bookkeeper all the way from Pennsylvania. We are so happy to have him here.

We are still hoping to hire someone part-time to help with IT/Media Specialist. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact the office.

Thank you to everyone that joined us for the Ministry Fair. We are always in need of volunteers at the church, I hope that you were able to find somewhere that you are able to help.

Please know that if you are in need of financial assistance, we have funds available at the church to help. This remains confidential. Only Pastor will know that you received aid. We don't want anyone left in need so; please speak with Pastor Allman if we can be helpful.

Upcoming Activities:

April 11: (Mon) Sunshine Circle gift bag assembly for homebound

April 17: (Sun) Easter Breakfast 8:30 AM-9:30 AM- Please bring an item for donation to the food pantry

April 18: (Mon) Dinner & A Movie Monday at 5:30 PM

April 20: (Wed) Balance Presentation at 11:30 AM

APRIL

STEWARDSHIP

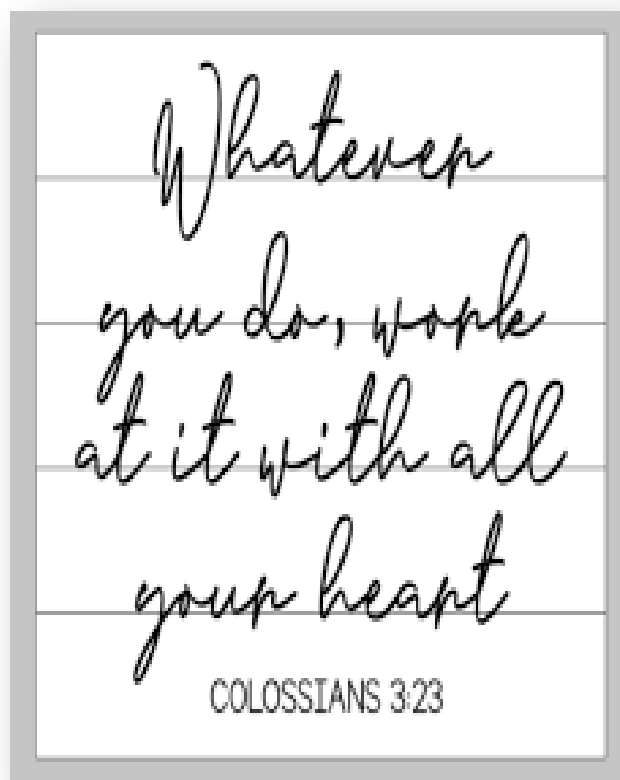
Colossians 3:23 reads, *“Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord...”* If you are anything like the lawyer who came to question Jesus about the greatest commandment, you will want to pick nits about defining the word “whatever” in the above verse. In Luke, Chapter 10, Jesus says that the second greatest commandment is to love your neighbor as yourself. In verse 29 then we read that the lawyer *“wanting to justify himself... asked Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’”*

I recently read an article in which the author suggested that our society is becoming more and more lackadaisical, defined as *“lacking enthusiasm and determination”* according to the dictionary. Her point was that people seemed to want the most benefit for the least amount of effort. She was writing about working hard to achieve what one desires. She was not specifically writing about Church society, although she used the above quote from Colossians.

Her use of this Bible passage and her underlying view on society made me wonder, if she is correct, how society might then be affecting the Church. IF people are becoming lackadaisical in society, are people also becoming lackadaisical about Church? I read a statistic recently that less than 40% of the US population is active in a Church.

That statistic indicates the amount of Church involvement in the US is decreasing. The old adage about it being time for newer or younger people to take over is no longer valid. This is especially true for our congregation. Next time you join us for in-person worship I encourage you to look around and identify who these “young people” are that will be doing the ministry if not you.

Circling back to the beginning of this article and defining the word “whatever” from the Colossians verse, the dictionary defines it as *“used to emphasize a lack of restriction.”* Regarding “whatever” ministry needs volunteers, and “whatever” age you may be, God’s Mission and Redeemer need you. Remember that God called Abraham when he was 75-years-old; and, he became a father for the first time when he was 99-years-old (Sarah was 90-years-old). One thing Redeemer will not ask is that you all start having babies. “Whatever” else we may ask, I think, will not be restricted.



GROWING IN FAITH

“God has given us great promises, so that through them (we) may escape from the corruption that is in the world.” (2 Peter 1:4 NRSV)

We could hope that God would promise to completely remove any possibility of corruption for us, although God does not wish to be a puppet controller with us being puppets. Instead, God provides for us a path that leads us away from temptation, and we choose which path to follow. God will not take away our “free will” even when God can tell that a choice will lead to unwanted consequences.



Many parents can tell stories about how they tried to warn their children when they were headed down the wrong path. Many parents can tell stories of their heartache when that choice by their children brought unwanted consequences. If we can understand the position of those parents, then we can understand the position of God.

In one of our Lenten Worship Services, we read Philippians 3:19 (ERV), *“The way they live is leading them to destruction. They have replaced God with their own desires. They do shameful things... They think only about earthly things.”*

Despite people’s choice to succumb to their own self-serving desires, God continues to be merciful. God continues to love people, call people to repent, and provide a way of escape.

In another letter the Apostle Paul writes, *“The only temptations that you have are the same temptations that all people have ...you can trust God. He will not let you be tempted more than you can bear. But when you are tempted, God will also give you a way to escape that temptation”* (1 Corinthians 10:13, ERV).

Some want God’s mercy to mean that God removes the trouble they find themselves in because of whatever choice they have made. Our merciful God provides a way of escaping the trouble ahead of time when we choose the path God lays before us rather than the one that leads to destruction.

Remarkably (or not), my parent’s wisdom became more evident the more mature I became. Has that happened to anyone else? The second part of Redeemer’s Mission Statement is to “Grow in Faith” which means we become more spiritually mature. Remarkably (or not), God’s Wisdom becomes more evident as we Grow in Faith -- become more spiritually mature.

Hybrid Bible Study

Our Hybrid Bible Study is both in-person and live streamed. Please join us on Thursday mornings at 10:00 AM. The Hybrid Bible Study will be held in the Sanctuary to accommodate both in person and online (for those who cannot attend in person). I will be teaching on the readings for the upcoming Sunday worship. We invite you to attend in person or online through our You Tube channel.



Falls prevention



Falls are not normal aging

Attaining and maintaining/improving balance and preventing falls is a huge problem for us all. In 2021, the CDC senior fall statistics were: 2 million ER visits, 650,000 hospitalizations and approximately 34,000 deaths. There are things you can do to reduce your risks. The financial costs of senior falls is \$50 Billion.

One website with lots of information is <https://www.cdc.gov/steady/index.html>. (Steady.gov) Steady stands for Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths, Injuries.

Prevention

- Wear proper shoes (no flipflops or loose fitting shoes and no socks without shoes)
- Clean up floor clutter to avoid tripping
- Proper lighting to avoid shadows and to see objects or water on the floor
- Know the side effects of medications (dizziness, decreased blood pressure)
- Stand securely before walking. At night, sit on the side of the bed for 30 seconds before you put your feet on the floor.
- Step deliberately and with authority, avoid hurrying and try not to shuffle with small steps.
- Attain and maintain good posture, strength and mobility
- If you have a home exercise program prescribed by your physical therapist, continue to do the exercises.

Fear of Falling

Fear of falling and having had a fall in the last 3 months are significant predictors of future falls. Here are a couple of questions from the Falls Self-Efficacy test: Are you concerned about cleaning the house, getting dressed, preparing meals, taking a shower/bath, getting in/out of a chair or walking around the neighborhood? If you are uncomfortable with any of these, talk to your doctor and request a referral to Physical Therapy...again. Some Medicare plans will pay for a physical therapist without a referral and Florida law allows a Physical Therapist to work with you for 30 days.

Balance exercises

After you see the physical therapist, research shows that daily exercise makes a significant difference. Fall risk is reduced by as much as 62% with 10 minutes a day of balance exercise. My exercise is done at the kitchen sink and counter where I can be safe. The Canadian lifeline website, <https://www.lifeline.ca/en/resources/14-exercises-for-seniors-to-improve-strength-and-balance/>, has an excellent series of exercises, but use the kitchen sink rather than their suggestion of a chair. Community programs in Tai Chi and Yoga are available and research continues to show Tai Chi and Yoga are effective in reducing falls.

Don't be embarrassed or ignore falls! Forty percent of the Sun City Center Emergency Squad calls are for falls. Statistics indicate that one in four of us will REPORT falling each year. Many falls are not reported.

Be safe! Keep Moving!

Linda K Eargle, PT, DPT, MInEd

Certified Exercise Expert for Aging Adults

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

3rd – Sherri Knaub
6th- Phil Eaton
8th – Marion Giblin, Eva Michna
11th – Alice Miller
13th- Renate Bartz, Marilyn Bohl
14th – Helga Spitzenberger
16th – Helga Balter, Erika Barfels
18th – Jo Anne Owens, Mike Wiechers
**19th – Carol Brown, Angela Grill,
Barb Lauer**
21st – Marty Matz
25th Paul Davenport
27th – Paul Carrier
**29th - Gerry Adams, Candy Allman,
Reinhold Baal, Lois Hobratschk**



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

4th – Hal & Susan Wold
8th – Bill & Marion Giblin
10th – Richard & Karin Meredith
13th – Russ & Kathy Filip
16th - Donald & Karen Munford
25th – Howie & Kathleen Warfield
26th – Pete & Edie Moose
**28th – Don & Carol Brown,
Wayne & Janet Gehrke**
29th – Jack & Wendy Kitzman
30th – Gerry & Ron Harding



We ask if you notice information is missing or incorrect, please let us know. Thank you!



Time	Acolyte	Communion Assistants	Lector
Sun. Apr 3 10:00 AM	Mike Corbett	Lucy Ann Clark, Walter Geissler, Mike Corbett	Mike Corbett
Wed. Apr 6 3:00 PM	Carolyn Cole		Carolyn Cole.
Sun. Apr 10 10:00 AM	Walter Geissler	Lucy Ann Clark, Walter Geissler, Debbie Andrews	Debbie Andrews
Thur. April 14 3:00 PM	Lucy Ann Clark	Arlene Hansen, Wendy Kitzman, Lucy Ann Clark	Rosalie Kelleher
Fri. Apr 15 3:00 PM	Walter Geissler		
Sun Apr 17 10:00 AM	Walter Geissler	Lucy Ann Clark, Walter Geissler, Debbie Andrews	
Sun Apr 24 10:00 AM	Paul Ó Braonáin		Paul Ó Braonáin

Worship Assistants Needed - We are in need of worship assistants to help on Sunday. If you have helped in the past and would like to again, or would like to help for the first time please call Carolyn Cole so she can add you to the schedule. 813-812-7527

Our biggest need is acolyte and communion assistants.



April Usher Team	April Altar Guild	Sound & Camera
Dan Pollert Team	Myrna Strom & Carolyn Cole	Volunteers



Interfaith Council And Nearly New Thrift Shop



Happy 50th Birthday to us!! Yes, it is true; Redeemer has been a part of this group since its inception. Come shop on April 2 and help us celebrate our remarkable accomplishments.

We have several volunteers in our congregation. Our newest member is Kathy Jones. Thank you to all who give their time and talents to ISAC/Nearly New.

Through the volunteers' efforts, ISAC has blessed many students with \$2000 college scholarships. We have also awarded many nonprofit organizations in our area with grant money to assist their programs.

Blessings from your council members,

Jenise German, Ann Miller, Sue Pearson, Kathy Jones and Jane Trefren

God Spa at Luther Springs

Join other women of faith at Luther Springs' God Spa for Women. Soak in the beautiful scenery and solitude of Luther Springs, relaxing your mind, body, and spirit. Activities may include faith-filled conversation, devotions, music, journaling, guided meditation, relaxing and spa-type activities such as facials, manicures, and pedicures. We will also have massages (for an additional cost). Come with a group or come alone and make new friends!

If you have any questions about the program, please reach out to Deacon Sue Mendenhall at 352-358-1440.

If you have questions about registration, please contact the registrar at 828-209-6302

April 1-3, 2022

Double: \$190.00

Single: \$242.00

Cabin Bunk room: \$165.00

My Warrior's Place

My Warrior's Place is a local Retreat Center for our Veterans, Military Service Members, Law Enforcement Officers, Fire Fighters, Gold Star, Blue Star, and Silver Star families. Additionally, My Warrior's Place offers several amazing programs for those who have put their life on the line for our safety and well-being, endured the death of a Fallen Warrior, and/or experienced the horrors of war. Each program offered by My Warrior's Place plays an important role in the healing and coping process, and the support obtained through these programs is priceless.

WELCA would like to support them. Since the items they want aren't items that we can buy, we are asking for monetary donations for them during April and May. Please write My Warrior's Place on your envelope.





Our next movie Monday will be April 18th doors open at 5:30 PM. Dinner will be provided so please sign up. The sign-up sheet can be found on the welcome table.

April Movie: Wind River



Wind River follows U.S. Fish & Wildlife agent Cory Lambert (Jeremy Renner) as he is forced to confront his past when he joins a rookie FBI agent in a quest to solve a murder on the Wind River Indian Reservation in Wyoming. Cory Lambert finds the body of an 18-year-old woman on an American Indian reservation in snowy Wyoming. When the autopsy reveals that she was raped, FBI agent Jane Banner (Elizabeth Olsen) arrives to investigate. Teaming up with Lambert as a guide, the duo soon finds that their lives are in danger while trying to solve the mystery of the teen's death.

Reduce risks of falls and improve your balance: 2022 updates

That will be the topic of a presentation by Dr. Linda Eargle on Wednesday, April 20 at 11:30 am in Buhr Hall. Linda, a member of Redeemer and the Sun City Center Emergency Squad, is a doctor of Physical Therapy and a certified exercise expert for aging adults. This program will be based on Linda's experience with falls, everyday suggestions to improve your balance, and the latest fall prevention research. Injuries from falls are the leading cause of hospitalization for seniors. This program can be a benefit to all of us.

Linda presented a similar program in 2017 that was greatly appreciated by those who attended.

Lunch will be provided through a Thrivent Action Team - **FREE**. If you will be attending, please sign the sheet on the counter in the narthex



Mary & Martha House

WELCA would like to thank everyone that made ad donation Mary & Martha House during February and March

WELCA collected many items for Mary Martha House, a local organization that provides emergency and transitional housing and support services to homeless women, victims of domestic violence and their dependent children. Besides providing a safe haven, they assist these women in acquiring job skills, finding employment, and moving on to permanent housing.

Thanks again for your generous support.

Easter Gift Bags for Homebound Members

WELCA will be assembling gift bags for homebound members in Buhr Hall on Monday, April 11 at 10:00 AM. We are requesting assistance from congregational members with assembling and delivering the gifts. This is an opportunity to bring some Easter joy to the homebound.



Easter Breakfast

WELCA will be serving an Easter morning continental breakfast. Please join us in Buhr Hall between 8:30 AM and 9:30 AM for some yummy bagels, donuts, pastry, and fruit. **All you need to bring is a non-perishable food item for the food pantry.**



May is Meals on Wheels Month

Redeemer will once again be the sponsoring agency for Meals on Wheels delivery in the month of May. If you would like to be involved please contact Hal Wold at 813-634-2805 for both Sun City Center and Kings Point deliveries. Redeemer has provided this very worthwhile service for many years and you are invited to be a part. You will find it to be a very rewarding and fulfilling experience.



Important Reminder: Please refrain from wearing perfume or colognes when you come to church on Sunday. Individuals with asthma and allergies would greatly appreciate that. Thank you.



Thank you for donating items for the food pantry in the narthex closet.

Please remember, NO open packages or containers.



The food pantry can also use clean egg cartons. Once you finish your eggs consider bringing the carton with you canned good donations.

Jesus' Death


 49

L A Y A R T E B S O L P D M H
 Y K A R E P P U S T S A L L U
 R O X C F S U H P A I A C D G
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BETRAYAL
 CAIAPHUS
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 DENIAL

ETERNAL LIFE
 FEET
 GETHSEMANE
 HEROD
 JUDAS

LAST SUPPER
 MOCKED
 PILATE
 RESURRECTION
 SANHEDRIN

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9:30 AM-Quilters	2
3 10:00 AM-Holy Communion Worship	4 10:30 AM-AI-Anon	5 10:00 AM-Tampa Conf Zoom 1:00 PM-Barbershop 3:30 PM-Women's AA	6 3:00 PM-Lenten Worship	7 10:00 AM-Hybrid Bible Study 10:00 AM-OA Group 6:45 PM-Choir practice	8 9:30 AM-Quilters	9
10 10:00 AM-Worship	11 10:00 AM-Sunshine gift assembly 10:30 AM-AI-Anon	12 1:00 PM-Barbershop 1:30 PM-Worship & Music Meeting 3:30 PM-Women's AA	13	14 10:00 AM-OA Group 3:00 PM-Maundy Thursday 6:45 PM-Choir practice	15 9:30 AM-Quilters 3:00 PM-Good Friday	16
17 8:30 AM-Easter Brunch 10:00 AM-Holy Communion Worship	18 10:30 AM-AI-Anon 5:30 PM-Movie Night	19 1:00 PM-Barbershop 3:30 PM-Women's AA	20 11:30 AM-Balance Presentation	21 10:00 AM-Hybrid Bible Study 10:00 AM-OA Group 6:45 PM-Choir practice	22 9:30 AM-Quilters	23 11:30 AM-Memorial Service
24 10:00 AM-Worship	25 10:00 AM-WELCA Board Meeting 10:30 AM-AI-Anon 5:00 PM- Reserved	26 1:00 PM-Barbershop 3:30 PM-Women's AA	27	28 10:00 AM-OA Group 6:45 PM-Choir practice	29 9:30 AM-Quilters	30

