

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMS

RESCUE



NOVEMBER 2025 PUBLICATION
VOLUME 18 ISSUE 11

Redeemer *Reflection* Newsletter

The Redeemer Family exists to know Jesus,
grow in Jesus, and share Jesus.

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RESCUE

by Pastor Zachary Holdorf

As Thanksgiving draws closer, I cannot help but have gratitude in my heart. I would

like to share a few thoughts on why I am thankful.

My Family

It has been an honor to serve in my vocation as husband and father. Katrina is the glue that holds the family strong and has been an incredible helpmate. Witnessing my children grow, not only physically but spiritually as well, has been an incredible journey. Having been at Redeemer for four years, you all have been so kind, caring, and supportive of my family. Thank you!

The Staff

It has been an honor to work with and be a part of the staff at Redeemer. Did you know that they work extremely hard? It is true. Every day we get to work together for the sake of Christ's kingdom and His church. Everyone on staff has blessed me personally. It is a joy to serve alongside these faithful servants for the gospel's sake!

The Church

It has been a joy and honor to serve you as pastor. Every week I have the privilege of preaching and sharing the sacraments with you. Thank you for showing up. It brings immense joy to see you every week. I am blessed that you come to Bible class as well. It is beautiful that we get to grow together in God's Word. May He continue to give us a hunger for His Word. I thank God for all those who serve in the various capacities at Redeemer. We cannot do it alone. All are needed for the work of the Church. I look forward to seeing what opportunities our Lord puts before us to serve together in the next year. Thank you for being the Church!

Christ our Lord

I am thankful for Jesus! I love what the Apostle Paul has written in 2 Timothy 4:18, "The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen." Jesus has rescued me from sin, Satan, and death. He has rescued you too! Your sins are forgiven! Satan can no longer accuse you! You have been given victory over death! Thanks be to God! I pray that this November you find space to pause and reflect on what you are grateful for. Thanks be to God, we

can all be grateful for His love, grace,
and mercy every day!



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Lori Zeidan	11/01
Knox Elbert	11/04
Kirsten Mogle	11/06
Dean Potter	11/06
Leah Anderson	11/07
Richard Kline	11/07
Tony Farley	11/09
Kristofer Herrick	11/12
William (Bill) Poland	11/15
Bradley Wendt	11/15
Erin Kuntz	11/17
Claudina Kestner	11/18
Jacob Kane	11/20
Don Curl	11/21
Grace Nehring	11/21
Jackson Royal	11/22
Phoebe Walsh	11/23
George Richmond	11/24
Mary Biegner	11/25
Sherry Hood	11/25
Jon Bahr	11/27
Duane Coon	11/27
Stefanie Bohm	11/28



😊 **Adult Bible Study, Thursday mornings** at 10:00 a.m. in the church library.

😊 **Sunday Adult Bible Study meets at 9:30 a.m.** This study will meet in the lower-level Community Connection Room.

😊 **Sunday School for children and youth 9:30 a.m.** will meet in the lower-level classrooms.

😊 **Mondays, November 3, 10, and 17, Women's Bible Study on *Luke in the Land*** continues at **10:30 a.m.-12 noon** in the Church Library. Luke's Gospel is presented with snapshot glimpses of Jesus's ministry locations throughout Israel. Facilitated by Angela Martin.

😊 **Wednesdays, November 5th and 19th, Grow & Go** at **5:30 p.m.** This includes a family meal and teaching time for all.

😊 **Sunday, November 16, we will have one single worship service at 9:00 a.m.** with the annual voters' meeting to follow. This will include voting on moving forward with building/planning for our new sanctuary. After the vote, a fellowship potluck will be shared in the RAC (gymnasium) on the lower level.

😊 **Saturday, November 22, Mobile Food Pantry** at Trinity downtown, from **10:00–11:30 a.m.** Volunteers should meet at Trinity Lutheran Church and be available from 9:00 a.m. until noon.



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Jim and Diane Siedzik

11/4/1978

Craig & Sally Wingle

11/26/1983

David & Monica VanDerWeide

11/15/1997

Tony & Kirsten Mogle

11/15/1997

Kevin & Juli Smith

11/07/1998

Pastor Zachary & Katrina Holdorf

11/22/2008

COMFORT FOOD

We have a few precious families in our church family right now who could use the gift of a homecooked meal to give their caregivers an evening free of food prep. Taking care of family or friends who are homebound can be exhausting

for all involved. But when others take the time to drop off a homemade meal or stop by for a short chat and bring a meal, too, that's how we care for one another, and great memories are made along the way.

There is a sheet in the narthex near the office where you

can sign up to take a meal to one of our families with a shut-in. This is a great opportunity to help out a family by taking them a special meal one day, on the month of your choice.



RESCUE

by Kimber Walsh,
Director of Family Life
Ministry, DFLM, FLE



Rescue Me

We are experiencing the joy of a baby who is getting to be more mobile each day. At six months old, she is rolling one way and then the other. She pushes herself high on her belly using her hands, sometimes pushing herself backwards from the momentum of it. With more mobility comes more freedom, and with more freedom, comes more trouble. She finds herself, at times, in predicaments that she doesn't know how to get herself out of. Because she can't.

She rolls up against the side of the couch and doesn't know how to maneuver out of it. She cries in frustration as if saying, "rescue me!"

I don't know about everyone else, but over and over again in my



parenting years, I see pictures of my relationship with God being played out through my relationship with my children. God gives me freedom, and with it comes more

trouble. I find myself in predicaments I don't know how to get myself out of. Because I can't. Sometimes after a short period of frustration and sometimes after an embarrassingly long one, I cry out to God, "rescue me!"

I think we often see the need for being rescued as a situation others have caused or that happened by chance. But upon further reflection, I am realizing that the majority of the situations in which I (we) need rescuing are of our own causing. And because we cause so much trouble, it is all the more critical that we keep ourselves in close proximity to God.

Psalm 91, in its entirety, shows us this example. (I'd highly encourage you to read it now.) Verse one talks about us "dwelling in the shelter of the Most High"; that is, being close to God. Then He can cover us (v. 4) and keep the plague at bay (v. 10) and of course, we can call to Him when we need help. "Because he holds fast to Me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows My name. When he calls to Me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him." (v. 14-15)

Dear God, help us stay close to You. Cover us. Keep us. Rescue us. Amen.

Grow & Go

We will be offering a whole Redeemer family opportunity to Grow in biblical skills and knowledge & Go out into daily life equipped to live as Christians. This session, Pastor Zach will offer an Affirmation of Faith teaching time and a game for those in high school and under each week, while adults will have their own teaching separately. The adults' topic will be marriage. Those wanting to get married in the future, those who are married currently, and those who have been married in the past are all welcome!

Come and get tools for your faith walk Wednesdays, October 29, November 5, and November 12, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in Redeemer's Connection Room. This time together includes a dinner of fellowship. Please sign up to participate on the sheet in the narthex to give us an accurate count for planning.

Nativity Festival

Wednesday, December 3, 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Redeemer's Connection Room, we will have a Nativity Festival. Come, walk through a display showcasing many different and unique nativity sets belonging to Redeemer members. You can also bring your own nativity set to display during this event. (No need to sign up!) Set up your own nativities in the Connection Room anytime beginning after church on November 30, during office hours December 1-3 (8 a.m.-4 p.m.), or prior to the event on December 3. Please take your nativities home with you that evening or December 4 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Come

enjoy seeing this beautiful collection! This event is being coordinated by Gail Kleimola and Gwen Richard. Contact the office with questions.

Women's Bible Study



Follow Kristi McLelland through Israel as we study snapshots from the Gospel of Luke to see where the stories of the Bible took place.

This study will challenge the way you read the accounts of Jesus through teaching videos that take you to locations in Israel. Bethlehem, the Sea of Galilee, Gethsemane, Jerusalem, and the road to Emmaus are visited. Along the way, you'll see how Jesus, the Messiah, brought His kingdom to earth for everybody.

The study will run through November 17 on Mondays from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., in Redeemer's library on the main level. All are welcome, including friends outside of Redeemer.

But I trust in your unfailing love. I will rejoice because you have rescued me.

Psalm 13:5

TALKING WITH GOD

When change comes, Lord, we're not always prepared to view it in a positive

light, but help us to *not* dwell on our fears and on all the things that could go wrong. Instead, show us what positive things might result from this new development. Then, as we focus on the good, You will turn our fears into faith—faith that You are carrying us along, teaching us to trust, helping us to grow stronger, and showing us a new part of Your plan for our lives. Give us courage to embrace the adventure and trust that You are leading us toward something wonderful.

Love is patient; love is kind....It does not insist on its own way.

1 Corinthians 13:4-5

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Two town hall meetings held on **October 15** and **October 19** were well attended. Good discussions happened.

These meetings presented the future plans for Redeemer's sanctuary and possible building project as well as budget projections, with time for discussing the Capital Funding Campaign needed to accomplish these goals. These meetings gave members the opportunity to ask questions and gain a clearer picture of what God is leading us to do for the mission He has given Redeemer in this time and place. Please continue to pray that our leadership team be led constantly by our Lord. Only with the guidance of our Father God will we be able to discern fully His plan and to make decisions that are His will for the Redeemer family.

Pray! Pray! Pray!



SUN AND SURF, SIN AND SALVATION

by Craig Britton, Director
of Ministries

*Hymn lyrics taken from
"Wonderful, Merciful
Savior." Words and*

*music by Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse © 1989
Curb Dayspring Music/Curb Wood Music.*

"Wonderful, merciful Savior, precious
Redeemer and Friend;
Who would have thought that a Lamb
could rescue the souls of men?
Oh, You rescue the souls of men."

Those are lyrics from a lovely hymn written near the end of the 20th century. The original setting was done not with organ, but with what we might refer to as an acoustic "praise band" today. And it was penned during probably the most significant spiritual movement among youth that America has seen to date, "The Jesus Movement." It was marked by large swaths of "hippies" drawn from the California beaches to churches who would open their doors to these wandering souls. And not many churches did.

One, known as Calvary Chapel in Costa Mesa, was the hub. A non-denominational congregation where the pastor loved surfing just as much as some of those with whom he shared the good news. It was surfing in the morning, witness and prayer on the beach into the evening hours. Hundreds, then thousands began to listen. Chuck Smith was used by our Lord to cast nets from the California

shore and many, many were caught for Jesus.



The lyrics from the first verse of the hymn point to Jesus' mission. The word "rescue" sits prominently in verse one as part of a question, "Who would have thought a Lamb could rescue the souls of men?" Who, indeed.

But that is God's program. Sacrifice, blood, death. LIFE. And it is a full-fledged rescue. I think perhaps we forget that angle. The psalmist knew it well. The Good News translation of Psalm 68:20 reads, "Our God is a God who saves; He is the LORD, our Lord, who rescues us from death." Other translations use "escape" or "deliverance" and other similar forms. But I like "rescues." It points to the fact that we have no options. It is rescue or certain destruction. But then, that is what the gospel provides, isn't it?

Whether it's long-haired social outcasts or the sharpest and most well-educated CEO, we all have this in common: we need to be rescued. And because of Jesus Christ, sin, death, and the devil flee as the "Rescuer" reclaims us from their cold grip. As I think back on those days where Chuck Smith and others courageously said "yes" to thousands that no one else acknowledged, what he was offering

them was not just an alternative to their alternatives, but a rescue from death. So very many responded and the work of Christ, by the Holy Spirit, produced nets filled with souls. The wind and waves, sun and sand, of southern California gave place for the work of rescue. And God be praised, thousands found life. Real life.



RESCUE

by P. L. Bennitt

*Then the Lord
commanded the fish,
and it vomited Jonah
up onto the dry land.*

Jonah 2:10

Eeww! Have you noticed that a rescue is rarely a thing of beauty? When someone or something needs rescue, it's usually banged up, bleeding, broken, or bedraggled and messy.



Many days, I feel like that. It may just be a mental muddle or fugue, or it may be a physically obvious meltdown. But from time to time, we all need rescue.

Every year, my sisters and I do a girls' weekend together (which has expanded in recent years to five days) because we all need rescue from our "real lives" occasionally. Some might call it an escape, which really is what happens with a rescue, isn't it? We escape from a bad situation, a nasty accident, a life-threatening condition, or a deadly fate. But a rescue can't happen without help. From someone. It's seldom possible to rescue ourselves.

When Jonah was swallowed by the huge fish, he knew it was his own fault. He knew better than to ignore God's will and run away, but he did it anyway. He risked his own life and the lives of others with that disobedience.

God, in His mercy, rescued Jonah by having the fish swallow him. Can you imagine how disgusting that was? Undigested food. Sea water mixed with smaller fish and sea creatures, probably in various stages of digestion. Yuck! And only God knows how Jonah was able to breathe inside that fish.

"I called to the Lord and He answered me... engulfing waters threatened me,



the deep surrounded me, seaweed wrapped around my head... when my life was ebbing away... my prayer arose to You... ~ from Jonah's Prayer (Jonah 2:2, 5, 7)

But Jonah realized that as disobedient and messy as he was, God had kept him alive for a reason.

"... I, with a song of thanksgiving, will sacrifice to You" (Jonah 2:9a)

God rescued Jonah: *"...and it [the huge fish] vomited Jonah up onto the dry land."* Disgustingly messy and nasty. Foul and revolting. But God rescued Jonah so that Jonah could bring God's Word to the Ninevites. And *"more than a hundred and twenty thousand people and... many animals"* (Jonah 4:11) were saved.

Rescue was **not** pretty for Jonah. But he couldn't save himself. He needed help. His help came from a loving God who bothered to care enough for a city full of sinners, to discipline and save the reluctant prophet Jonah, so that he could preach repentance to them. Wow! It took the miracle of Jonah and the huge fish to allow the miraculous redemption of Nineveh. What a lot of work the Lord went through to save one prophet. One city.

The Book of Jonah is only 3 ½ pages long in my Bible, but there's a lot in there. It's the only "cliff-hanger" in the Bible, as far as I know. It ends with a question and gives us a taste of the frustration God must so often feel when dealing with humanity. Thank God that He rescued us through His Son, to give us new life and another chance.

Read the account of Jonah. It's a great fish story.

IT'S NOT TOO SMALL FOR GOD

This devotion was written/compiled from multiple sources by Tim Hetzner, Ambassador for Spiritual Growth at Lutheran Church Charities, and author of WORD Bible Studies. Used with permission.

The man of God asked, "Where did it fall?" When he showed him the place, Elisha cut a stick and threw it there, and made the iron float. 2 Kings 6:6



Second Kings 6 tells of a prophet chopping trees near a river when his iron axe head falls in. He said to Elisha: *"Alas, master! For it was borrowed"* (v. 5). He uses the past tense. As far as he is concerned, this axe head is gone forever. He has no expectation whatsoever that the axe head will be retrieved. He shows Elisha where he lost it. Elisha cuts a stick and flings it into the water, and something happens that most likely never happened before or since. *"And the iron did swim."*

Notice, this isn't a life-or-death situation. Yes, it's a loaned axe head. Yes, it disappeared. But if that's the worst thing you have gone through, you have led a pretty sheltered life. You could put this into the same category as Jesus turning water into wine at a

wedding party. Why waste your first miracle on helping a bride and groom avoid embarrassment because they didn't stock enough wine for their reception?

This reveals something about God. He concerns Himself with the little things, like wedding receptions and borrowed axe heads. Nothing is too big for our great God, and nothing is too small for Him either. *"Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you"* (1 Peter 5:7). Note the words *"all your care."* If it matters to you, it matters to your loving heavenly Father. *"In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths"* (Proverbs 3:6 NKJV). Note the words *"all your ways."* Today God wants you to share every detail of your life with Him.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, forgive me when I do not turn things over to You because I don't want to bother You. Help me lay it all before You every day!

[Rescue me, even in the little things.]
In Jesus' name, Amen.

TOPIC FOR DECEMBER

The writing prompt for **December** is **HOPE** which can mean different things to different people. What does hope mean to you? Does hope mean action or is hope questioning?

The *Redeemer Reflection* newsletter is provided to encourage and inform our members and our community, supply learning tools and educational insights, as well as give updated information to help you through the next month and beyond. Our newsletter

highlights ways in which we, as a faith family, interact with our local community and within the church itself.

Send comments, information/photos, and articles to bennitt49@yahoo.com, to be included in the following month's newsletter. All submissions are appreciated and prayerfully considered.

CARD MINISTRY

Maybe I'm old-fashioned, but to me a card in the mail is like an unexpected gift. It literally makes my day! Whether it be humorous or sweet, silly or caring, I love 'em all.

We have a Card Ministry here at Redeemer with free cards available for you to choose from for different occasions. There is also a current address list for members to use for sending cards, and a framed monthly listing of birthdays and anniversaries for reference as well.

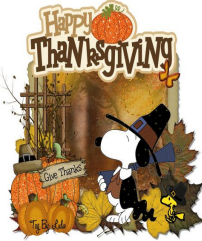


The card display is in the narthex, with a nice selection of cards for your use. Choose a card to send to a friend who is ill or unable to get out right now, or is celebrating a birthday.

Holidays are also a great time to connect with other members and friends.

The cards are free and are an inexpensive way to connect with those you care about. Share your care and concern and send a card.

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
C-Denotes Communion Services						1
2 Divine Worship 8:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study, Sunday School and Youth Classes 9:30 a.m. Praise & Worship 10:30 a.m.	3 Women's Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Craig's Bible Study Countryside 1:30 p.m. Praise Team 7:00 p.m.	4 Hour of Prayer 7:15 a.m. Choir 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:15 p.m.	5 GROW & GO 5:30 p.m.	6 Adult Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Craig's Bible Study Lloyd Canton-S. A. 2:00 p.m.	7	8
9 Divine Worship-C 8:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study, Sunday School and Youth Classes 9:30 a.m. Praise & Worship-C 10:30 a.m.	10 Women's Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Craig's Bible Study Countryside 1:30 p.m. Praise Team 7:00 p.m.	11 Hour of Prayer 7:15 a.m. Choir 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:15 p.m.	12 Quilters 9:30 a.m. GROW & GO 5:30 p.m.	13 Adult Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Craig's Bible Study Lloyd Canton-S. A. 2:00 p.m.	14	15
16 One Service Only! Divine Worship 9:00 a.m. Voters' Meeting 10:15 a.m. Potluck Meal	17 Women's Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Craig's Bible Study Countryside 1:30 p.m. Praise Team 7:00 p.m.	18 Hour of Prayer 7:15 a.m. Choir 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:15 p.m.	19 GROW & GO 5:30 p.m.	20 Adult Bible Study 10:00 a.m. LWML Women's Bible Study-10:00 a.m. Craig's Bible Study Lloyd Canton-S. A. 2:00 p.m.	21	22 Mobile Food Pantry @ Trinity 10:00-11:30 a.m. Need Volunteers
23 Divine Worship-C 8:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study, Sunday School and Youth Classes 9:30 a.m. Praise & Worship-C 10:30 a.m.	24 Craig's Bible Study Countryside 1:30 p.m. Praise Team 7:00 p.m.	25 Hour of Prayer 7:15 a.m. Choir 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:15 p.m.	26 Quilters 9:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Eve Worship 6:30 p.m.	27 	28 	29
30 Divine Worship-C 8:00 a.m. Decorating for Christmas 9:15 a.m. Praise & Worship-C 10:30 a.m.						