

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMS

UNITED



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Redeemer *Reflection* Newsletter

*Making Jesus Known In The
Places Where We Live*

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OCTOBER 2024

UNITED

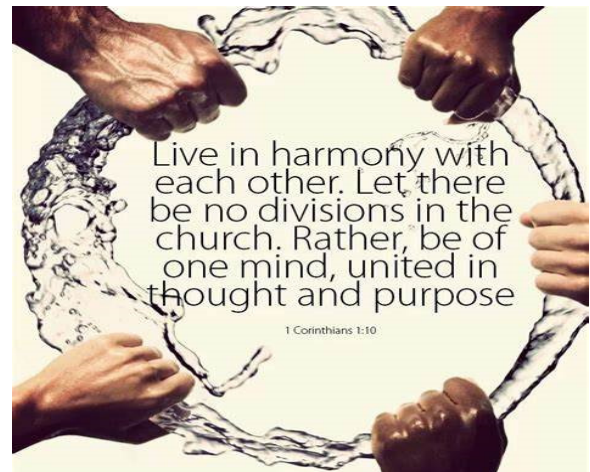
by Pastor Zachary Holdorf

Unity in the church is beautiful. It is an expectation that God has for His people. The Apostle Paul writes in Ephesians 4:1-3, *"I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."* When God's people dwell in unity, it is a powerful witness to the world.

The enemy to unity in the church is sin. Sin says, "my way or the highway." Sin demands selfishness. Sin breeds division. Sin sows discord. God hates division among His children. Proverbs 6:16-19: "There are six things that the LORD hates, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers."

So how does the church walk in unity? First, we must take personal responsibility. Paul writes in Romans 12:18, *"If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."* Second,

we must walk in humility and love. Paul writes in Ephesians 4:2 *"... with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love."*



Third, exhibit a lifestyle of confession and absolution. Most certainly confessing sins to God, but also to one another. If someone confesses sins, then give them the Gospel: *"Jesus forgives your sins and so do I."* This is what the apostle Paul is getting at in Col 3:13: *"bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."* These steps are not easy to put into practice sometimes, but when the church does, there is greater unity within the church. May we be a church that truly lives this!

In Christ, *Pastor Zach Holdorf*

UPcoming EVENTS

☺ **Coffee with Pastor Bible Study**
every Thursday morning at 10:00
a.m. in the church library. We will be
studying the Book of Exodus.

☺ **Sunday morning Adult Bible
Study, Children's Sunday School, and
Youth Bible Class** at 9:30 a.m.
Classroom schedules are included on
page 4 of this newsletter.

☺ **Mobile Food Pantry at Trinity**
Downtown from 10:00–11:30 a.m.,
Saturday, October 26. Volunteers
should be on site from 9:00 a.m. until
noon. This is a great way to serve our
Lord and our community. Redeemer
shares in this community ministry with
our sister congregation, Trinity
Lutheran.

☺ **GROW & GOs resume in October.**
Every Wednesday in October, from
5:30–7:30 p.m. in the Redeemer Activity
Center (RAC). Topics and more
information on these opportunities for
family learning and fellowship are on
page 4 of this newsletter.

☺
If your vision is for a year, plant
wheat. If your vision is for ten
years, plant trees. If your vision
is for a lifetime, plant people. ~
Chinese Proverb
☺



COMING SOON!
October 5, 2024

Come and enjoy an evening of poetry
and music with Tanner Olson and Blake
Flattley at St. Luke, Ann Arbor. You'll
learn more about the rich history and
support for local and international
mission through the Michigan District,
LCMS and MOST Ministries.

Seating is \$35/person and all
proceeds go toward sharing the Good
News of Jesus with people in tangible
ways. For more information or to make
reservations, visit:
michigandistrict.org/missionconcert.

TOPIC FOR NOVEMBER

The writing prompt for **November** is
Compromise. We all have had to
compromise at one time or another. In
families and marriages in particular,
compromise is what keeps them

healthy. The only area that we must not compromise is our faith.

The *Redeemer Reflection* newsletter is provided to encourage and inform our members and our community, supply learning tools and educational insights, as well as some 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.



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Duane & Anna Coon
10/05/1957

Robert & Roberta Kellogg
10/20/1962

George & Christine Richmond
10/23/1976

Bruce & Sharon Harshe
10/28/1978

Tom & Carrie Crutchfield
10/08/1994

Thomas & Heidi Gannon
10/16/2004

Christopher & Rachael Wingle
10/05/2010



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Daniel Farley	10/01
Riley Gannon	10/02
Beth Dewey	10/04
Wendy Lake	10/04
Pastor Zachary Holdorf	10/08
Benjamin Walsh	10/08
William (Bill) Huhn	10/10
Linda Weck	10/12
Gay Alcenius	10/13
Ron Hock	10/13
Penelope Wingle	10/13
Robin Melton	10/14
Chad Elbert	10/20
Betty Lathrop	10/20
Matthew Nehring	10/25
Brian Boyle	10/25
Lydia Heffner	10/27
Connie Grafe	10/30
Patrice Jones	10/30
Loretta Rice	10/30
Mike Hoffer	10/31



FALL CLASSES

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

The 2024-25 school year is under way, and with it, the Sunday School year here at Redeemer. Sunday School offerings for the year will be 9:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m. Classes began on Sunday, September 8, 2024, and continue through May 18, 2025.

If you have questions about where your family can plug in, please don't hesitate to reach out to the office during business days or grab one of the staff or leaders on a Sunday morning and we'll be happy to help connect you.

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 a Christian.

Fall Session topics include:

October 2	Confession
October 9	Service Project
October 16	Political Engagement as a Christian
October 23	Lord's Supper
October 30	Why the Reformation matters today

Come and get tools for your faith walk Wednesdays, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Redeemer Activity Center (gym).

This time together includes a dinner and fellowship. Please sign up to participate on the sheet in the narthex to give us an accurate count for planning.

Parent & Toddler Bible Story (Under 3 years old)	Main Level, Nursery
Age 3-5th Grade: Armor of God	Lower Level, Music Room
Grades 6th-12th: Who Jesus is	Lower Level, Teen Room
Adult Bible Study: Deliver Us! A study on the Exodus	Lower Level, Connection Room



STEPPING OUT IN FAITH

On Sunday, September 15, 2024, Redeemer Lutheran Church stepped out in faith and voted to research costs that would accompany the building of a new Sanctuary to replace the present facility.

A majority vote granted our Leadership Board permission to hire an architectural firm to evaluate best options for future needs and growth, and draw up plans to accommodate those upcoming needs.

We will also be looking at plans to renovate the old structure for alternate usage, but the main focus at this time is a new Sanctuary. Excellent questions were asked and answered, and some discussion helped to clarify the hiring process and determination of the various needs of the ministry areas involved.

The firm chosen will be assessing the needs of each ministry group involved in worship, (including musicians, choirs, technology, etc.) as well as pastoral guidance in priestly requirements for the Sanctuary, altar placement, and altar maintenance and Chancel care.

If there are questions, Andy Biegner, our Congregational President, or Jon Bahr, our Vice President, will be glad to answer them. Andy's email is: mnnavycrna@gmail.com.



DEAD OF NIGHT

Author: Brandilyn Collins

A string of murders terrorizes citizens in a small town in California. The killer is cunning and stealthy. Forensic artist Annie Kingston discovers the sixth body practically in her own back yard. Is the location a taunt aimed at her?

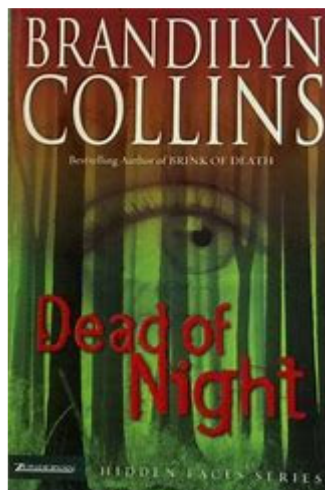
Annie Kingston is back in this third book of the Hidden Faces series. This time, she is asked to draw lifelike images of the murdered victims of a suspected serial killer. As the murders become more frequent, Annie learns she knows one of the victims. The killer is becoming more and more brazen.

As if this crime and her job were not enough, her teenaged son, Stephen is still making poor choices and she suspects he's involved with drug dealers. Thankfully, her sister has now moved in with her to help her "supervise" her son and get him back-

on-track. But she worries about the effect all this chaos will have on her young daughter as well.

With page-turning intensity, *Dead of Night* dares to pry open the mind of evil. Twisted actions can wreak havoc on earth, but the source of wickedness lies beyond this world. Annie learns where the real battle takes place—and that a Christian's authority through prayer is the ultimate, unyielding weapon.

This book is constant suspense, action, and mystery. The plot had me hooked from the very start. I've read the first two books in the series, and it was like coming back to my old neighborhood and meeting up with old friends. But the evil has ramped up.



I loved the emphasis on the power of prayer and its power as a weapon against evil. Sometimes we get lax about using this power that God has given us.

Reading the first two books in the series would give a reader background in the characters and how Annie comes into her profession by chance, not by choice. But, they aren't necessary to enjoy this thriller and its unexpected ending.

This is a great book from start to finish! We have the entire series in the Redeemer library, and if you enjoy suspense and thrills—with God working

throughout the plot—these books are for you! **NOTE:** Adult Fiction

Check Them Out!

REMINDER!

Our library is looking better, and most of the book cataloging is done (Praise the Lord!), but we still have some books and videos that are missing and have been for a year or more.

As you settle back into the school routine, begin to think about the upcoming holiday season, and begin to sift through stacks of things or sort out corners or cubbies at home, keep an eye out for stray library books, movies, or maybe even audio books that have been forgotten. Please return them to our library so that others can use them.

We apologize for the slow progress of cleaning out and adding new books/DVDs/etc. to what we have, but the books are—for the most part—ready, even though there is still more work to do with other items and categories!

Redeemer library has a great



selection of DVDs and books for all ages and genres. Browse anytime! There are “color your own” book marks, as well as pre-printed ones,

free and available near the book return basket by the big window.

If you've not used our library before, there are printed instructions on the wall by the light switches on your left

as you enter the library. Another set of instructions can be found on the wall by the big window, in case you need help to check something out. Enjoy!

UNITED: TO BE OF USE

by P. L. Bennitt

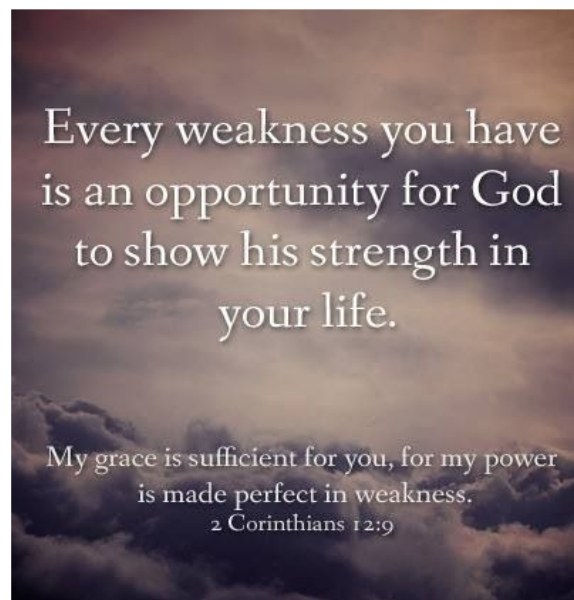
I don't know who else needs to hear this, but daily I am amazed at how God gets my attention and talks straight to my heart. Whether it be in my morning devotions, Bible readings, or a quote in a book I happen to be reading (or even writing).

Recently, I was feeling particularly useless and being especially whiny about it. Reading the following words in the writings of author Sarah Young in *Jesus Calling* put a new perspective in place for me. She writes from God's perspective as if God Himself is talking directly to the reader, to me:

"Grow strong in your weakness. Some of MY children I'VE gifted with abundant strength and stamina. Others, like you, have received the humble gift of frailty. Your fragility is not a punishment, nor does it indicate lack of faith. On the contrary, weak ones like you must live by faith, depending on ME [the Great I AM] to get you through the day. I am developing your ability to trust ME, to lean on ME rather than on your understanding. Your natural preference is to plan your day, knowing what will happen. MY preference is for you to depend on ME continually, trusting ME to guide you and strengthen you as needed. This is how you grow strong in your weakness."

"Strong in my weakness" seems to be an oxymoron to me; but in an odd way,

it makes sense. As in: anytime you combine your limited talents with someone else's, the outcome is almost always so much better than if you'd done it yourself. That's also how God builds His Church. That interdependence is actually why the Church is strong. If only one of our members had any talent, pride would surely become an issue. "Look what I did?" would soon be that mantra.



But God, in His infinite wisdom, divided up various diverse talents and spread them throughout our membership. We have teachers, engineers, medical specialists, financial advisors and contributors, artisans, craftsmen, wordsmiths, technology experts, talented musicians, spiritual leaders, and mechanical professionals, just to name a few. I personally believe that the most wonderful gifting our Lord has given Redeemer is the gift of loving others and serving Him through that love. What an amazingly diversified faith family we have!

"The Lord is our Shepherd; we have everything we need!" Psalm 23:1

Strength in weakness. We are trusting our God to guide us in His will for our Church Family. Building on Him!

Peace is not the absence of conflict, but the handling of conflict without the loss of balance. ~ Rabbi Rami M. Shapiro

NEW MATH

Faith teaches a new Math: it subtracts old ways, and adds new thoughts, as sharing with God divides troubles and multiplies possibilities.

THE MOST MEANINGFUL PRAYER REQUEST

“For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

Luke 19:10

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT:

Do you know what the average prayer request is about? Physical healing. “Pray for my aunt who is a Christian and she is about to die.” “Pray for my saved uncle who is having heart surgery.” How many prayer meetings have you been to where people asked for prayer for their lost neighbor who is going to hell?

More often than not we are more interested in keeping the saints out of heaven than we are in keeping the lost out of hell. It is not a tragedy to die and go to heaven. It is a tragedy to die and go to hell. Friend, it’s time we elevated

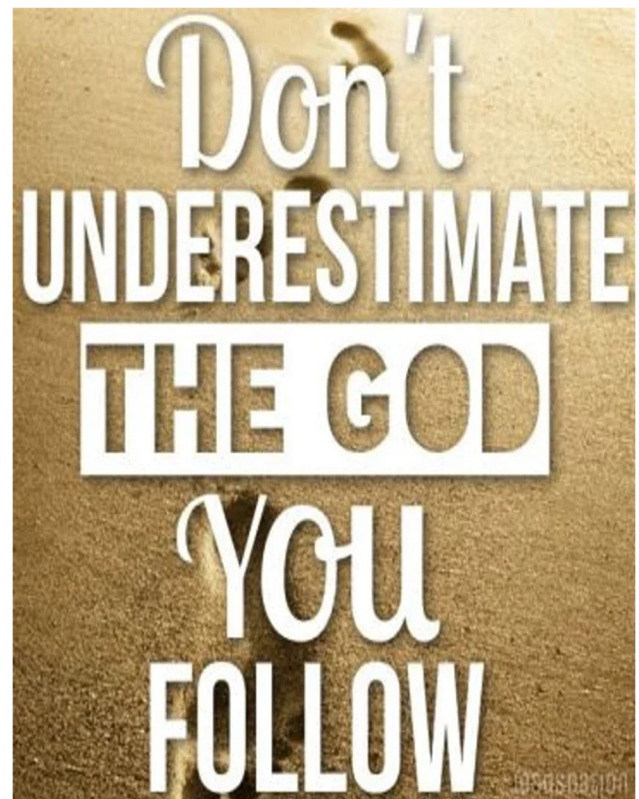
our prayers outside of the physical realm of life into the spiritual realm.

ACTION POINT:

Take a look at your prayer list today—where are the lost who need to be saved? What are you doing to help them find their way?



Devotions taken from the messages of Adrian Rogers. Used with permission, *Love Worth Finding Ministries*, 2941 Kate Bond Rd., Memphis, TN 38133.



October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Hour of Prayer 7:15 a.m. Choir 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m.	2 GROW & GO 5:30 p.m.	3 Coffee with Pastor Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Craig's Bible Study Lloyd Canton-S. A. 2:00 p.m.	4	5
6 Divine Worship 8:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Praise & Worship 10:30 a.m.	7 Craig's Bible Study Countryside 1:30 p.m. Praise Team 7:00 p.m.	8 Hour of Prayer 7:15 a.m. Choir 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m.	9 Quilters 9:30 a.m. GROW & GO 5:30 p.m.	10 Coffee with Pastor Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Craig's Bible Study Lloyd Canton-S. A. 2:00 p.m.	11	12
13 Divine Worship-C 8:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Praise & Worship-C 10:30 a.m.	14 Craig's Bible Study Countryside 1:30 p.m. Praise Team 7:00 p.m.	15 Hour of Prayer 7:15 a.m. Choir 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m.	16 GROW & GO 5:30 p.m.	17 Coffee with Pastor Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Craig's Bible Study Lloyd Canton-S. A. 2:00 p.m.	18	19
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