

"THE REDEEMER REPORTER" NOVEMBER 2020



COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE COME

**THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 25, 2020, 7:00 PM.**

WEDDING BLESSINGS

Molly Sewell and Nick Jeffries will be married at Our Redeemer on **Saturday, November 21, 2020 at 2:30 PM.** May God's blessings be upon Molly and Nick in their married life together.



BOY SCOUT YARD WORK FUNDRAISER:

*Until **November 15, 2020**, Boy Scout Troop 506 will be doing weekend yard work in exchange for a free will donation - fall chores like leaf raking, tree trimming, mowing, and light landscaping. Flyers are at the Welcome Center.*

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR REDEEMER

705 Southway Blvd. E.
Kokomo, IN 46902
Office: (765) 453-0969
Fax: (765) 864-6470

<https://www.lcorkokomo.org/>

Associate Pastor: Rev. Barry A. Akers,
Home: 457-5539

Church Secretary: Bev Beahrs
Business Manager: April Meyer

Worship times:

Saturday - 5:30 PM

Sunday - 9:30 AM

REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL

705 Southway Blvd. E.
Kokomo, IN 46902
Office: (765) 864-6466
Fax: 765-864-6468

<https://www.redeemerlutheranschoolkokomo.org/>

R.L.S Principal: Eric Frisco
Office: 864-6466

School Secretary: Michelle Werich

LCOR / RLS ROOM CHART

S - Sanctuary
MH - Mission Hall
FH - Fellowship Hall
CL - Church Library
CR - Choir Room
AER - Adult Ed Room
SR - Sitting Room
Misc. - Miscellaneous Rooms
SCR - School Conference Room
PRA - Per Room Availability

***"Redeemer Reporter" deadline
is 2nd Thursday of each month.***

COLLEGE STUDENTS AND MILITARY PRAYER MINISTRY

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. (Ephesians 6:18) ***If you are a college student or member of the military and would like someone at LCOR to pray especially for you; *If you are an LCOR member who would like to pray for a college student or military member; *If you are a "returning" college student / military member or prayer warrior, Sheryl Hartman is your contact person. Thank you.**

“DISCOVER THE JOY IN SHARING GOD’S BLESSINGS”

This year’s annual stewardship emphasis is titled: **“Discover the Joy in Sharing God’s Blessings.”** In this three-week emphasis, we will discover the joy that we as God’s people can experience as we share the Gospel, as we faithfully use our time and talents to serve God by serving others, and as we give our money generously.

In the ESV Bible translation, the word “joy” or “rejoice” is used 57 times. As Christians, joy ought to be a characteristic of our lives. The Lutheran Study Bible notes, “Joy is not the ephemeral happiness that worldly pleasures bring, but the deep and abiding joy of being loved by God

through Jesus Christ. It is an emotional appreciation for good things received. A result of God’s grace toward believers.” In this definition, we understand that joy is not based on circumstances. It is more than happiness that we can experience from positive situations and activities in life. Joy comes from recognizing that God is in control and that He loves us, even when we don’t feel happy. When we look at what God has done for us, we respond with gratitude and joy.

Joy is a fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). Each of the nine different fruits that are identified in the book of Galatians

is given to us by God’s grace. Joy is a grace bestowed on us by God. Someone once said, “The fullness of joy is to behold God in everything.” Jesus tells us, *“These things I have spoken to you, that My joy be in you, and that your joy may be full”* (John 15:11). When we abide in Jesus, we will have the fullness of His joy.



By God’s grace, joy is part of our lives. Knowing who we are and Whose we are, we are empowered to live lives filled with joy. When we abide in Jesus and live in obedience to Him our joy is made complete. God’s Word directs us to use our time, talents, and money in ways that help others and extend His kingdom. When we use our blessings in

obedience to God’s will, we will experience even more joy. This emphasis offers the following weekly themes:

- “Jesus Is our Joy and Strength”
- “Discover the Joy in Serving”
- “Discover the Joy in Giving”

God will equip us to use our blessings in ways that give Him honor. God fills our hearts with love for Him and His Church, so we are energized to share our blessings with others.

Our emphasis will start the weekend of November 7 & 8, 2020.

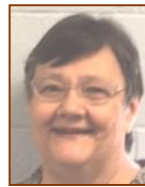
HAPPY BIRTHDAY NOVEMBER SENIORS



BUD WIECHMANN
Nov. 3



BONNIE WHITTON
Nov. 6



BONNIE LUNSFORD
Nov. 8



GUS HUEBNER
Nov. 11



RUTH MARCUS
Nov. 12



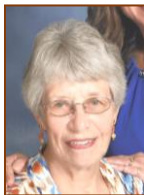
DAVE TURNER
Nov. 17



PAT SPARLING
Nov. 18



BILL HINGST
Nov. 19



CARYL LAMB
Nov. 20



CONNIE HOWARD
Nov. 20



CAROLINE HOWARD
Nov. 23



PATTI STOUT
Nov. 23



JUDY NEWBOLD
Nov. 25



DAVID ANDERSON
Nov. 26

KOKOMO RESCUE MISSION GUESTS – NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Catherine, Liberty, Ramona, John

THE LORD IS WITH US

⁹Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God *is* with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9 NKJV®)



¹⁸And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen. (Matthew 28:18-20 NKJV®)

When we approach times of new situations and challenges we have the reassurance from God's Word that we will not be alone.

The first reference is the encouragement given to Joshua as he was going to lead the nation of Israel into the Promised Land after 40 years of wandering in the wilderness under Moses. Moses had been called away by God. Would God supply them with a leader or were they lost forever in the wilderness? This was the question going through the twelve tribes. Remember, there had been twelve spies sent into the Promised Land 40 years ago and 10 came back with reports that there was no way the Israelites could overthrow the giants that lived in the land. (Two of the spies came back with the report of how fertile the land was and it would belong to Israel since God was the one giving it to them.) Now they were going to be following a new leader into that land.

After the Israelites took up residence in the Promised Land they went on to become a great nation. The nation expanded and individuals like David and Solomon were brought up by God. Israel was the strongest nation and had the richest leader while in the Promised Land.

This is much the same as we are finding our church. God has called our leaders away but

be assured that new leaders will be equipped and supplied by God. We must remember this is God's church not ours and we need to make ourselves available and open to God's wisdom and power. The available not the able are used most of the time in the Bible accounts so God is the one getting the glory.

The second reference is Jesus talking to His disciples as He was lifted up into heaven. Just think of the great adventure we have ahead of us as we see God's plans for The Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer in Kokomo unfold. When the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is our God why should we despair or fear. Look out your window and see the great creation that is His handy work. He did all that just by speaking a Word. The plans He has for us are good not bad. (Jeremiah 29:11) I know I am waiting with excitement to see what God has planned. Now let the Holy Spirit do His work.

I don't know about you but I always have the trouble of thinking of how I am going to solve a situation. God already has this all laid out I just have to open myself up to following His will not mine. Please join me in lifting up our needs in prayer and waiting with childlike anticipation.

Wess Mechler, P.H.D.
In the Grip of His grace



HELP TO PROVIDE CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR CHILDREN

CASA needs your help to give Christmas Gifts to foster children in our community. Our goal is to provide gifts for 10 children served by CASA. The children need toys as well as clothing. They would like us to spend at least **\$75.00** on each child. We know that is a lot for one person to spend, so if you would rather donate money, that would be great! Starting the weekend of **Oct 31/Nov 1** there will be a Christmas tree in the Narthex with the wish lists for 10 children and envelopes for monetary donations. If you would like to provide the entire gift for one child, please take the tag for that child and fill out the sign up sheet with your contact information and which child you are shopping for (the wish lists will be numbered). If you would like to donate money, please put cash or check (made out to LWIS) in an envelope and put in the white box on the Welcome Center.

Idea: Small groups or Bible Study groups may want to sponsor a child or two as a group! Not in a group? Ask another member or two to go in with you 😊. Great opportunity for fellowship.

DO NOT WRAP THE GIFT. Put your items in a store bag with the card from the tree, so that we will know who the gift is for. Place the bag in the Christmas Box in the narthex BY **NOVEMBER 29TH.**

Please contact **Cindy Sewell** or Vivian **Heronemus** if you have any questions!

Thank you for sharing Christ's love with a foster child this Christmas!



NEWS AND NOTES FROM RLS ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR

We are celebrating the end of the first quarter. What a time it has been! Enrollment was up-enrollment dropped - and now we are growing again. We are starting the second quarter with 128 students. In a few weeks, we will begin a new campaign to recruit students for the second semester. Watch for the Facebook ads and forward them to people you know.

Financially we are still seeking donors for both of the scholarship programs. We are about \$2000 short of the amount we need for the RLS scholarships for the youngest of our students. Don't forget about the RLS Scholarship envelopes in your boxes. Our SGO account still needs around \$10,000 to fill the requests that we have received to date. This is a great opportunity to make a donation before the end of 2020 and receive the tax credit from the State of Indiana. Any donation before 12/31/2020 will be applied to this year's taxes. If you have any questions, please contact **April Meyer** or **me**. We would love to talk to you and explain your options.

Finally, we seek your prayers – for our students, their families, our staff, and the success of our school. God has been so good to us this year. He has blessed us and will continue to do so. Please consider joining our growing family of supporters.

Blessings always, **Kathy Tucker**, Admissions Counselor.

“SEEKING ALLAH, FINDING JESUS” by Nabeel Qureshi

In “Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus”, Nabeel Qureshi describes his dramatic journey from Islam to Christianity, complete with friendships, investigations and supernatural dreams along the way.

Providing an intimate window into a loving Muslim home, Qureshi shares how he developed a passion for Islam before discovering, almost against his will, evidence that Jesus rose from the dead and claimed to be God. Unable to deny the arguments but not wanting to deny his family, Qureshi struggled with an inner turmoil that will challenge Christians, Muslims, and all those who are interested in the world's great religions.

“FOREVER” by Karen Kingsbury

5th in the Firstborn Series, A Dream Come True, Katy Hart is thrilled about her future with Hollywood's Dayne Matthews. But as she plans a wedding and looks for a house on the shores of Lake Monroe, she receives tragic news. Now everything about the future they planned together is hanging on the brink. Only a miracle can help them find their way through.

DATE	TELLERS	
2	Teddi Heinzman, Jane Brubaker, Eva Glatt	
9	Marjie Sullivan, Cindy Galford, Jama Youngdale	
16	Ellen Benziger, Nancy Trout, Ross Morkal	
23	Vivian Heronemus, Sharon Morkal, Connie Howard	
30	Teddi Heinzman, Jane Brubaker, Eva Glatt	
DATE	SANCTUARY STEWARDS	COLOR
1	Susie Yeakley & Marie Harvath	White
8	Marietta Adelsen & Teddi Heinzman	Green
15	Ellen Benziger and Abby Hobbs	Green
22	Kitty Davis & Caroline Howard	Green
29	Debby Durr & Amy Shrack	Blue

October 15, 2020

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
705 E. Southway Blvd.
Kokomo, IN 46902-4384

Greetings form Concordia Seminary in St. Louis!

My name is Pastor James Cleland. I am a recent graduate of the Specific Ministry Pastor program from Dallas, TX. For the past 20 years I have served youth and families at Christian summer camps and as a teacher in Christian schools. For the past 5 years I served as a Vicar and then Pastor at SoulThirst Lutheran Church. This summer my family and I moved to St. Louis so that I can continue my ministry formation in the MDiv program at Concordia.

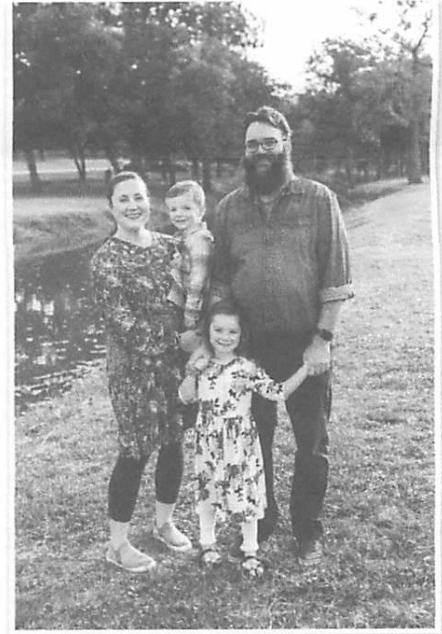
As I prepare for my first Greek test this week, I'm a little bit overwhelmed, but not just from parsing Greek verbs. I am overwhelmed with love and support from fellow brothers and sisters in Christ such as yourself. I am overwhelmed with gratitude and joy that I have this opportunity to grow as a pastor and learn more skills that will help me proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. I do not deserve this opportunity and I am constantly amazed that God has called me to ministry as pastor. Thank you for everything you do to help share the Gospel including your financial support of students like me.

I look forward to keeping you up to date on my time here in St. Louis. Please keep my wife Ryann, my daughter Maggie (6) and son Andy (3), in your prayers. Moving in the middle of a pandemic was an "adventure" to say the least, and they all took it in stride. Please pray that God continues to bless us in this time of transition as I also keep you in my prayers.

May the Lord bless you and keep you,



Pastor James Cleland





Missionaries Gary Thies & Rev. Dr. Brent Smith
Mission Development Counselors

MISSION CENTRAL

Gary & Maxine Thies Mission Foundation
*Serving the Lord Jesus and representing the
office of National & International Mission
of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod*

Gary.Thies@lcms.org
Phone 712-882-1029

Brent.Smith@lcms.org
Phone 703-713-2851



40718 Highway E-16 Mapleton, Iowa 51034
Website www.missioncentral.us

October 17, 2020

The Honorable Missionaries
Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer
705 Southway Blvd E
Kokomo IN 46902

Our dear Co-workers for Christ,


As old Missionary Gary dictates this letter to you from my office in this old farm house in the hills of Western Iowa, one of our 20 dear Volunteer typists is typing this letter to you! Yes, we have 20 volunteer typists and none of them get paid! We are still so "old-fashioned" here and still use a "Dictaphone"...but, it works, and it does get the message of love and thankfulness to you very personally. We want you to know how much we appreciate your kindness in sending this gift of love for our missionaries around the world! Here at Mission Central we are truly NOT NORMAL...we are peculiar! That's what the Lord told us to be in 1st Peter 2:9 (KJV) and YOU are such a blessing: "But, ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, as holy nation, a PECULIAR people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light".

After over 26 years in this calling I want you to know that without friends like you we couldn't keep our dear missionaries telling people about Jesus around the world! Your gift means much more than you realize or understand. God bless you for your faithfulness, and please know how much you are loved and appreciated here at the Lord's Mission Central. I wish I could thank you in person for what you are doing!

What a joy and blessing to receive your gifts of love for your dear missionaries. I am so happy to report that none of your missionary families have been impacted by the virus and all are doing great work for Jesus. I wish that you could charter an airplane and come to Mission Central on November 7th, when your missionaries, Steve and Cindy Schumacher will be here reporting on their work in Ghana, West Africa. I would so much love to have even a carload come to see this miracle place. It would truly "blow your socks off." Your friendship over the years has meant more that you could ever realize or understand. I hope you will share this information with all the members of your congregation. Without friends like you I couldn't have kept on all these twenty-seven years. I will never forget my time visiting your congregation. I talked with your former pastor, Bill Allison, and we had such a good visit. He and his wife are going to try to make a special trip to visit this miracle place.

We always like to enclose a photo of what is the latest happenings here at your Mission Central, and today I want to send you a story about a NEW ADDITION to our collection of absolutely amazing artifacts from around the world in our Barn Museum. This new display will really "shock you"...as again we have more "one of a kind" items from remote areas where our dear missionaries are serving! This display will feature items from the Igorot mountain people in Northern Luzon in the Philippines! God has given us items from all over the world that people have never, never seen! Actually, our tour groups are totally "blown away" when they see some of the most rare items in the world here in the Barn Museum! It's a real reminder of why Jesus said, "Go into ALL The world" in Mark 16:15. We are open here at Mission Central for tour groups each day, and I hope that you might consider bringing a tour group here to have your "socks blown off", when you visit the barn museum, the ministry center, the new Lord's Creation Theater and our wayside prayer chapel. Last year we had over 5000 visitors! Why not give us a call and make an appointment...we would love to schedule you, your family or your car loads!

Your Co-worker for Christ,


Old Missionary Gary

Mission Central makes the Lord's Mission very personal by connecting you directly to the mission field. Over 100 volunteers help make this happen. You know exactly where your gift is going for we only work with restricted gifts!

ONLINE CALENDAR

https://www.lcorkokomo.org/full_calendar