



Redeemer Lutheran Church



Voice of Redeemer

Volume 52 Number 12

December 2024



As we enter the month of December, our hearts are filled with the anticipation of Christmas—a time to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. This season is not just about decorations, gifts and gatherings, but also about reflected on the profound love and hope that entered in the world on that holy night in Bethlehem.

Throughout December, we invite you to join us in worship and fellowship as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ:

Advent Services: Each Sunday, we'll light the candles of the Advent wreath, reminding us of hope, peace, joy and love.

Midweek Advent Soup Suppers: Join our church family for a meal at 6 pm and a time of worship @6:45. We will worship in the Fellowship Hall and focus on “The Clothing of the King”.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: On December 24th at 6 p.m., join us for a beautiful service filled with carols, Scripture, Holy Communion, and the soft glow of candlelight.

Let us also remember those in need this season. Our church is hosting a gift drive to bless families in our community, (The Jamison Center). On page 3 of this newsletter, you'll find the wish list. Donations can be dropped off in the church narthex until December 15. Wrapped or unwrapped, but marked for boy or girls, child or adult.

As we reflect on God's greatest gift, may we carry the light of Christ into our homes, neighborhood and beyond. Let this be a season of sharing love and kindness, just as Christ shared His love with us.

Wishing you and your family a blessed Christmas filled with joy and peace.

In Christ,

Pastor Jon Christenson





Applying Bible Principles

Although we realize that we are only here on this earth for a relatively short time, most of us avoid thinking about the inevitable. Somehow, it is as though we think we'll live forever. Well, in a sense, that's true: we will live forever, only not here. The chapters of our memory book of life which we write each day are but a prelude to our life in eternity.

It's important, therefore, to consider how this impacts our use of the funds and possessions which God has given to us. As we have seen repeatedly, God owns everything. He has never relinquished His title deed to the world. We are stewards who are responsible to use His resources wisely. And part of that usage includes giving to the Lord's work, particularly here at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Some Christians are saving all that they can for the eventual "rainy day," to the exclusion of giving to God as they should or as God has prospered them. The only problem is that for many of them, their "rainy day" never comes because their life ends much sooner than they anticipated. Then the words of an anonymous poet thunder across time and eternity:

Not, how did he die?
But, how did he live?
Not, what did he gain?
But, what did he give?

These are the merits
To measure the worth
Of a man as man,
Regardless of birth.

It's true that we cannot "take it with us." It's also true that once we stand on the threshold of eternity, our giving will be over. Doesn't it stand to reason, therefore, that giving here and now should be a priority in our lives? Or as someone said, "You can't take your money with you, but you can send it on ahead."

It's not what you'd do with a million
Should riches ever be your lot;
But what are you doing at present
With the dollar and quarter you've got?

October. 26, 2024



November 29, 2024

Joe Ponzio	Willa	Mariah	Tyler	Pastor Jon
Charlott & Angie-	Delaney	Dalton	Launa	
Matinez	Donna	Luka	Phyllis	



ELECTRONICS

PLAYSTATION 5

- PlayStation 5 Controller
- PlayStation 5 Gift Cards
- NBA 2K
- Madden
- FIFA
- Final Fantasy 7

XBOX SERIES X

- Xbox Series X Gift Cards
- Halo Game Series
- Forza Game Series
- Madden
- FIFA
- NBA 2K
- Sea of Thieves

NINTENDO SWITCH

- Switch Controllers
- Pokemon Game Series
- Splatoon
- Mario Kart
- Mario Game Series
- Luigis Mansion
- Legend of Zelda Series

MUSIC

- Karaoke Machine
- Karaoke Microphones
- Bluetooth Speakers
- Wireless Headphones
- Wireless Radio

HAIR & GROOMING

- Flat Irons
- Curling Irons
- Wands
- Hair Dryers
- Electric Razors
- Diffusers

MISC.

HAIR PRODUCTS

- Mousse
- Hair Spray
- Hair Oil
- Detangler
- Gel (Men and Women)
- Leave in Conditioner
- Hair Ties
- Bonnets

AGE GROUPS

TEENS

- Journals
- Cologne
- Perfume
- LED Light Strips
- Portable Chargers
- Pocket Projector
- Neon Signs
- Inflatable Couch
- Hygiene Kits
- Mini Camera
- Outdoor Game Sets
- Make Up Sets
- Nail Polish Sets

YOUNG CHILDREN

- Action Figures
- Barbie Dolls
- Stuffed Animals
- Bikes
- Scooters
- Activity Books
- Legos
- Squishmallows
- RC Cars
- Super Mario Toys
- Sticker Books
- Sketch Pad
- Play-Doh
- Nerf Guns
- Tech Deck
- Science Kits
- Pokemon Trading Cards
- Sensory Toys
- Hot Wheels Cars and Tracks
- Monster Trucks
- Train Sets
- Kids Play Table

HAIR PRODUCTS CONT.

- Pomade
- Name Brand Shampoos
- Name Brand Conditioner
- Heat Protectant
- Curling Cream

ARTS & CRAFTS

ARTS

- Acrylic Paint
- Paint Canvas
- Paint Brushes
- Tie Dye Kits
- Tie Dye Powder
- Coloring Books
- Sketch Pens
- Sketch Pencils
- Oil Pastel Sets
- Water Color Sets

CRAFTS

- Rainbow Loom Kits
- Wonder Loom Kits
- Cra-Z Loom Kits
- Make It Real Kits
- Friendship Bracelet Kits
- Bead Kits
- String Bracelet Kits
- Rock Painting Kits
- Crochet Kits
- Shell Painting Sets
- Flower Pressing Sets
- Air Dry Clay
- Clay Spinning Wheel

CLOTHING

- Hoodies
- Sweats
- Joggers
- Mens Underwear
- Womens Underwear
- Children's Underwear
- Athletic Sneakers
- Pajamas Sets (All Ages)

BOARD GAMES & BALLS

BOARD GAMES

- Monopoly
- Trouble
- Hungry Hungry Hippos
- Floor is Lava
- Connect 4
- Greedy Granny Twister
- Let's Go Fishing
- Don't Break the Ice
- The Logo Game
- Yahtzee
- Memory
- Outdoor Carnival Games
- Puzzles
- Candyland

PLAYING CARDS

- Uno
- Crazy 8's
- Phase 10
- Old Maid
- Bicycle Playing Cards

BALLS

- Basketballs
- Soccer Balls
- Dodgeballs
- Volleyballs
- Tennis Balls
- Footballs
- Frisbees
- Inflatable Beach Balls



OTHER

- Twin Sized Fleece
- Blankets Deodorant
- Acne Face Wash
- Dry Skin Face Wash
- Gel Nail Polish

December Happenings



LUNCH BUNCH: is Wednesday 12/4/24 - 11 am @ The Black Bear , California Ave.. Please make reservations with Judy.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY & QUILTING will meet on Wednesday, 12/11/24; 9 am – 2 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to join us for knitting/crocheting prayer shawls, blankets or quilts. Snacks will be provided by Jan & Phyllis. Please bring your own sack lunch.

AFTERNOON CIRCLE is Wednesday 12/18/24 1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will discuss Grace from Ephesians & *Gather* magazine Please bring a holiday snack to share. All ladies are invited

WINE & DINE will resume 1/23/25, @ 6pm at

SENIOR GAME DAY will resume January 22, 2025. Bring lunch at 12, games start @ 12:30



Sat. Dec.14th. 9 a.m.
Church workday

No Worship & Music
in Dec. 12

Sunday, Dec.15—11am
Church Council



December

BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

Jaxx Spillers	01
Rick Grove	01
Guy Hairfield	02
Ricki Grove	03
Anthony Almeida	10
Leith Coomer	10
Jan Lemley	13
Greg Eakes	15
Dominik Schindler	15
Mary Ellen Saldana	22
Sarah Garb-Olson	23
Alexander Hunter	25
AnnaMarie Truax	25
Bill Saltzman	27
Ryan Spillers	29
Lucy Saltzman	31

Russell & Caroline Schonewise 29

DECEMBER CHARITY



Make checks out to Redeemer with a note "Mercy Ships".



ADVENT SOUP SUPPERS

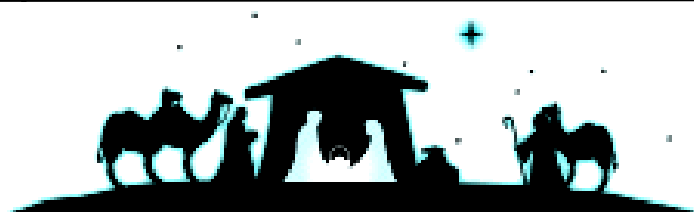
Soup suppers will begin Wednesday, December 4, at 6 pm, with Advent Worship @ 6:45 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex. Join us for food, fellowship and Advent worship.

Wednesday night Bible study will resume in January.



POINSETTIAS

We will be decorating our church with poinsettias again this year. Sign up sheets are in your bulletins. Cost is: \$12.00. You can take them home after worship, Sunday, December 29th .





The
Season
of

Advent

READING PLAN

Hope

- ◇ Day 1: Jeremiah 29:10-14
- ◇ Day 2: Romans 15:8-13
- ◇ Day 3: 1 Peter 1:3-12
- ◇ Day 4: Hebrews 10:19-39
- ◇ Day 5: Psalm 33
- ◇ Day 6: Titus 2:11– 3:8

Joy

- ◇ Day 13: Philippians 4:4-9
- ◇ Day 14: Psalm 16
- ◇ Day 15: James 1:2-18
- ◇ Day 16: Psalm 30
- ◇ Day 17: Luke 2:8-20
- ◇ Day 18: John 15:1-11

Peace

- ◇ Day 7: Isaiah 9:1-7
- ◇ Day 8: John 14:1-7, 25-31
- ◇ Day 9: John 16:25-33
- ◇ Day 10: Romans 5:1-11
- ◇ Day 11: Ephesians 2:11-22
- ◇ Day 12: Colossians 3:1-17

Love

- ◇ Day 19: Micah 7:18-20
- ◇ Day 20: Romans 8:31-39
- ◇ Day 21: John 3:16-21
- ◇ Day 22: 1 John 4:7-21
- ◇ Day 23: Philippians 2:1-11
- ◇ Day 24: 2 Thessalonians 2:13 – 3:5
- ◇ Day 25: Ephesians 2:1-10



©CRI ChurchArt.com



Pictured above is Abby Robela, our new pianist. Abby, who lives in Taft, is a senior at CSUB, a student of our own Nate Olson and is working on a degree in Philosophy. She also enjoys studying music. We welcome her and appreciate her willingness to share her talents with us!



Rosie Baker sends sincere, from the heart, thanks to everyone for remembering her 90th birthday. She is so appreciative of the cards and best wishes sent her way.

She says she is doing quite well, especially when she considers the 90 years!

She sends Best Wishes to all, for the Holiday Season and a healthy New Year.



A round of applause for Dakota as she shares her skill on the step-ladder, hanging a Christmas banner—(not an easy task) - just ask Mark and Tammy!

On Saturday, November 30, thanks to a terrific team effort, consisting of Mark, Tammy, Sue, Dakota, John & Jan we decorated the sanctuary for Advent.



WORSHIP HELPERS

AREA OF SERVICE	DEC. 1	DEC. 08	DEC. 15	DEC. 22	DEC. 29
ASSISTANT:	Jan Lemley	_____	_____	_____	_____
ACOLYTE:	Leo	Maia	Darynne	Leith	Emily
ALTAR GUILD:	Lyda & Vernon				
LECTOR:	Louise	Karen	Judy	Tammy	Louise
FLOWERS:	Julie	Linda	Poinsettias	Smith family	Louise
GREETER:					
COFFEE HOUR:	Phyllis	Karen	Tammy & Mark		Phyllis
COUNTER	Linda				

VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE ALWAYS IN THE NARTHEX — WE NEED YOUR HELP!

COLORING PAGE



The Greatest Gift

YEAR TO DATE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	Total
Receipts	21,416.00	13,162.00	25,963.05	13,619.00	20,898.05	20,465.00	12,980.90	12,681.92	29,257.57	13,155.29	183,598.78
Budget	16,750.83	16,750.84	16,750.84	16,750.84	16,750.84	16,750.84	16,750.84	16,750.84	16,750.84	16,750.84	167,508.39
Difference	4,665.17	(3,588.84)	9,212.21	(3,131.84)	4,147.21	3,714.16	(3,769.94)	(4,068.92)	12,506.73	(3,595.55)	16,090.39
Expenses	11,832.90	12,631.49	13,829.76	13,354.43	17,436.20	21,502.85	14,836.74	18,459.65	14,968.27	24,341.25	163,193.54
Budget	16,750.83	16,750.84	16,750.84	16,750.84	16,750.84	16,750.84	16,750.84	16,750.84	16,750.84	16,750.84	167,508.39
Difference	(4,917.93)	(4,119.35)	(2,921.08)	(3,396.41)	685.36	4,752.01	(1,914.10)	1,708.81	(1,782.57)	7,590.41	(4,314.85)
Loan Receipts	1,250.00	950.00	1,725.00	900.00	2,800.00	925.00	1,325.00	775.00	925.00	1,325.00	12,900.00
Loan Pay-	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	10,850.00
Difference	165.00	(135.00)	640.00	(185.00)	1,715.00	(160.00)	240.00	(310.00)	(160.00)	240.00	2,050.00



December 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> <p>ADVENT 1</p> <p>Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 10:30</p>	2	<p>3</p> <p>Al-Anon 6:30-7:30</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Lunch Bunch 11 Pacifica 10 am Soup Supper 6 Advent Vespers 6:456</p>	5	6	<p>7</p> <p>German Club 11am-4pm A.A. 5:30- 6:30</p>
<p>8</p> <p>ADVENT 2</p> <p>Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 children</p>	9	<p>10</p> <p>Al-Anon 6:30 -7:30</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Prayer shawl 9am -2pm Soup Supper 6 pm Advent Vespers 6:45</p>	12	13	<p>14</p> <p>Work Day SCA 2-10 pm A.A. 5:30 - 6:30</p>
<p>15</p> <p>ADVENT 3</p> <p>Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 11:00-11:25 Council 11 am</p>	16	<p>17</p> <p>Al-Anon 6:30 -7:30</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Afternoon Bible Study Soup Supper 6 pm Advent Vespers 6:45</p>	19	<p>20</p> 	<p>21</p> <p>Garden Club 9am—noon A.A. 5:30—</p>
<p>22</p> <p>ADVENT 4</p> <p>Worship 9:30 Sunday School program</p>	23	<p>24</p> 	<p>25</p> 	26	27	<p>28</p> <p>Glass Club 11 to 2 p.m. A.A. 5:30 - 6:30</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 11:00-11:25</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>31</p> <p>New Years Eve Al-Anon 6:30-7:30</p>	<p>JANUARY 1</p> 			