



# Redeemer Lutheran Voice of Redeemer



Volume 53—Number 4

April 2024



In April we will continue to celebrate Easter (for 7 weeks!), which is the celebration of the resurrection of Christ. But even as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus we also proclaim and believe in our own resurrection someday. As we say in the Creed, week after week: "I believe in the... communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."

Dr. Joseph Haroutunian, professor at McCormick Theological Seminary (a Presbyterian school in Chicago), came to America from Armenia. One day a well-meaning friend said to him, "Your name is difficult to pronounce and difficult to spell--it could hurt your professional career. Why don't you change your name to Harwood or Harwell or something like that?"

Dr. Haroutunian asked, "What do those names mean?"

His friend said, "Well, nothing. They're just easier to remember."

Dr. Haroutunian said, "In Armenia, when my grandfather was baptized, they named him Hartounian which means 'Resurrection.' I am Joseph Haroutunian and I will be a son of Resurrection all my days."

We are all sons of daughters of Resurrection and will be all of our days. When Dr. Haroutunian passed away he received everlasting life because he had not forgotten who was and to whom he belonged.

As Christians, we are not the same any more. We have been changed. We have been resurrected. We have been made new.

St. Paul reminds us in the Second Letter to the Corinthians (5:17): *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he or she is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

On Easter morning what we see is that anyone united with Jesus gets a fresh start. We are recreated! The old life is gone and a new life calls us forth! All of this is a gift from the God who bridged the relationship between us and divinity, and has now called us to settle our relationships with each other. Through the resurrection of Jesus God has given the world a fresh start by offering to all the forgiveness of sins. As Christ's representatives, we must remember that we are daughters and sons of the resurrection.

May your Easter season be bright and may you celebrate the new you along with Christ's victory over death.

Pastor Jon Christenson





# Applying Bible Principles

We've all heard the expression, "Money talks." That's true. Money does talk. Oh, not in words or phrases that constitute a language, but money talks. Because it is valuable to us, how we use it communicates volumes to those about us. People tend to spend their money on things that are important to them. With the exception perhaps of taxes, all of us vote with the contents of our purses, wallets and checkbooks concerning what means the most to us. In fact, we could even go so far as to say that a person who does not spend money on something which is supposedly very important in his or her life really does not place much value on that item or activity. Suppose for a moment that you think "little league" baseball for kids is very important. You talk about it wherever you go. You attend the games. You enroll your own children in the program. But when someone calls you to ask you to be a sponsor of a team, or when someone "passes the hat" at a game to pay for equipment, you refuse to participate.

Would you not agree that an impartial observer of such behavior would conclude correctly that little league baseball really does not mean much to you? Your lack of financial support would outweigh the other positive aspects of your attendance, enthusiasm and participation.

The same thing is true in the spiritual realm. It is one thing to talk about Christianity. It is yet another to demonstrate our faith by how we use the money which God has entrusted to us. And that is especially true in our support of the ministry of Redeemer Lutheran Church. As someone said recently in one church just before the offering was received, "Lord, in spite of all we say and do, this is what we think of you."

Or as the Lord Jesus put it, ". . . your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven" (Matt. 5:16).



## ALTAR GUILD TRAINING

Pastor Jon will be teaching a training session for Altar Guild members on Sunday, April 28 at 11 pm.

The purpose of this training is to offer a brush up course for those of you who serve on Altar Guild and hopefully to get more of you interested in joining the Altar servers. Often we are told, "I don't know how to do Altar Guild". Because of this statement, we are hopeful that after some training, more of you, (ladies and gentlemen) will feel comfortable in taking a turn at doing the tasks of being an Altar Server.

Please prayerfully consider volunteering for serving on the Altar Guild.

## BRING ON THE EASTER EGGS AND PETTING ZOO!

The kids were treated to a morning of hunting eggs, petting baby goats and lunch on Saturday, April 23, at Redeemer. Fun galore! Dakota is to be commended for finding the little petting zoo, which proved to be a big hit! She reports the following:

Amanda (the owner/operator of Golden Meadow Goats) told me she has done many events with children. Unfortunately, it is a common occurrence for the children to be rough and disrespectful towards the goats, so much so, that she has to intervene and remove them from the enclosure. She told me the children at Redeemer Lutheran really stood out because of how well behaved and courteous they were. It made her job so much easier.

We should all be very proud of our young ones. The future looks bright indeed.

Dakota






# APRIL ACTIVITIES

## DATES TO REMEMBER





<b>Mark Benson</b>	<b>09</b>
<b>Arlene Hamstreet</b>	<b>09</b>
<b>Rodney Johnson</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Dick Fischer</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Linda Cohen</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Ethan Petty</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Nancy Ashby</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Robert Hamstreet</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Karen Manes</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Suzie Bruce</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Sara &amp; Kelly Gelhaus</b>	<b>01</b>

 **LUNCH BUNCH** is Wednesday, 4/3/24; 11am at Spencer's SW, 7800 McNair Lane. Please make reservations with Judy Olson-Peterson.


**QUILTING/PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:** is Wednesday 4/10/24 @9am-3pm in the Fellowship Hall. Phyllis Elrod will bring snacks. Please bring your own sack lunch. Knitting machine class with Karen Musgrove is at 12:30pm.

**AFTERNOON CIRCLE :** Wednesday 4/17/24 @1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will discuss Scripture & Nature: Teachers of Faith about Food from Romans 14:6 & *Gather* magazine. Lilian Powell will provide refreshments. All ladies are invited.

 **SENIOR GAME DAY :** is Wednesday 4/24/24 in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your own lunch at noon & we will start games at 12:30pm.

 **WINE & DINE :** is Thursday 4/25/24 at 6pm. at the Blue Elephant , 8200 Stockdale Hwy. Please make reservation with Judy Olson-Peterson.

 **MONDAY, APRIL 11- 10AM**  
IN THE LIBRARY  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME

 **CHURCH WORK DAY**  
SATURDAY, APRIL 13  
9AM - NOON

 **CHURCH COUNCIL**  
SUNDAY, APRIL 21 @11:00  
VISITORS WELCOME



# Yard Sale



**WHO:** Redeemer Lutheran Church

**WHAT:** Yard Sale

**WHEN:** May 4, 7 am to 2 pm

**WHERE:** Redeemer Lutheran Church

**WHY:** Proceeds to go to new flooring in the Fellowship Hall

**WHAT WE NEED:**

**DONATIONS—**(Bring to Fellowship Hall Thursday & Friday—5/2&3)

**WORKERS:** Help with sorting, set-up, advertising, sales, clean-up, +++

**QUESTIONS/SIGN-UP:** Call Tammy: 549-5159 or Jan: 664-9404



Above: Blessing of the Quilts which were sent to Lutheran World Relief. Great job, quilters!

Far right: Pastor Jon offering appreciation and farewell to George for his 40 years of service at Redeemer.

Immediate right: George's celebration and going away gathering on St. Patrick's Day.



Baskets in hand and ready to go find Easter eggs.



Feeding time for the baby goat.

# CHARITIES FOR 2024

YOUR COUNCIL HAS SELECTED THE FOLLOWING NON-PROFITS FOR OUR CHARITIES FOR 2024.

Mar./Apr. - *Open Door Network*— includes Alliance for Family Violence. Sexual abuse and human trafficking. Needs: \$\$, Hygiene, underwear and socks.

May/June - *Lutheran World Relief*  
Donations: cash

July/August/ *Evergreen School*  
School supplies, hygiene items, cash.

September/October - *El Camino Pines Camp*  
Needs: Cash

November/December - *Mercy Ships*  
Needs: Cash



*Prayer requests from Feb. 26—Mar. 26*

*Mary Wiley  
Rosie Baker  
Debbie Actis  
Update on Mary  
Susie*

*Katy  
Cyndee  
Terri  
Wes  
Anneliese*

*Marylou and Greg  
Update on:  
Lisa and June  
Jamie  
Rob*

*Please know that your prayers are so very much appreciated. Thanks and Blessings to all!*

## IN HIS SERVICE

AREA OF SERVICE	APRIL 7	APRIL 14	APRIL 21	APRIL 28
ALTAR GUILD	Louise	—————		—————>
GREETER	Phyllis	Karen	Phyllis	Karen
ACOLYTE	Maia	Darynne	Maia	Darynne
PASTOR'S ASSISTANT	Jan Lemley	—————	—————	—————>
LECTOR	Louise	Nate	Judy	Louise
FLOWERS	Lemley family	Sue	Smith family	Julie
COFFEE HOUR	Karen	Julie's grandkids	Nate	Judy
COUNTERS	Sue & Linda	Sue	Tammy & Sue	Sue

### REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

2525 BELLE TERRACE, P O BOX 13132-93389, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304

Pastor: Rev. Jon Christenson ..... 832-7881 ..... Secretary: Phyllis Elrod

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# April 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 Lunch Bunch 11 am  Pacifica 10 am	4	5	6  AA 5:30
7 WORSHIP 9:30 Coffee 10:30 Sunday School— all ages	8	9 Pacifica Sing Along 2:30 pm  Al-Anon	10 Prayer shawl & Quilting 9-2pm Knitting classes 1 pm	11 Worship & Music 10am	12	13 Work day 9am  Garden Club 9-noon
14 WORSHIP 9:30 Coffee 10:30 Sunday school for school age No adult S.S.	15	16 Pacifica Sing Along 2:30 pm  Al-Anon 6:30 –7:30	17 Afternoon Circle 1:30  Pacifica 10am	18	19	20  AA 5:30
21 WORSHIP 9:30 Coffee 10:30 Kids S.S. 10:30 Council 11 am—	22 	23 Pacifica Sing Along 2:30 pm  Al-Anon	24 Game Day 12/12:30  	25	26	27  AA 5:30
28 WORSHIP 9:30 Coffee 10:30 All ages S.S.	29	30 Pacifica Sing Along 2:30 pm Al-Anon 6:30 –7:30				