

# THE REDEEMER REPORTER

REDEEMER L UTHERAN CHURCH

1054 Truman Avenue

Owatonna, MN 55060

May - 2017

*A Congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*

The Rev. Kirk Griebel, Pastor

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Dear Fellow Redeemed,

Each year during our celebrations of the Reformation we hear about the dramatic events that happened in the opening years of this world-changing phenomenon.

But now, as we approached the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, I will be starting a sermon series in which we will hear about the important events that happened in Lutheranism during the other centuries of its history.

There will be one of these sermons each month until October and each sermon in the series will cover 100 years of the history of Lutheranism.

We will hear about the Swedish king who invaded Germany to protect his fellow Lutherans. We will hear about J.S. Bach, a devout Lutheran who was one of the greatest composers of all time. We will hear about the doctrinal controversies that Lutherans have dealt with over the years. And we will hear about how Lutheranism spread to America and other parts of the world.

Perhaps most amazing of all is that for 500 years, by God's grace we have been able to maintain the pure teachings of God's Word.

Sincerely yours in Christ, Pastor Griebel

## **REVITALIZATION PRAYER VERSE FOR MAY: Proverbs**

**16:3 (NIV)** – Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed.

**THE LUTHERAN WITNESS** It's time to renew your Lutheran Witness. The cost will be \$19.70 for the year. The deadline will be May 18<sup>th</sup>.

**SPRING WOMEN'S MISSIONS GATHERING** of the Faribault Zone Lutheran Women's Missionary League will be on Saturday, May 6, at St. John Lutheran Church, 4532 SE 84<sup>th</sup> Ave, Claremont, MN. Registration is 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. and brunch follows at 8:30. The theme is: "Connecting Disconnected People of Jesus." The speaker is Rev. Andy Audette, pastor of Remedy Church, Oakdale, MN, which was launched in 2016.

Spring Gathering attendees are encouraged to donate "ingathering" items to Pastor Audette's ministry by giving Bibles for adults (ESV and NLT versions) and children ("The Beginner's Bible" & "The Jesus Storybook Bible") or a monetary gift to purchase these editions. The Bibles are approximately \$12.00 each. All women are welcome.

**THE FAMILY OF MARLIS MEIXNER** cordially invites the congregation of Redeemer Lutheran Church to attend her Celebration of Life service on Saturday, May 27 at 11 am, followed by a light lunch.

**THE ARK ENCOUNTER** We visited Noah's Ark the first week of April this year. Noah's Ark is a \$100 million, 510-foot long attraction in Williamstown Kentucky, built by Answers in Genesis. It is the largest heavy timber-framed structure in the world with 3.3 million board feet of timber. The workmanship is phenomenal! The full-scale replica of Noah's Ark consists of exhibits what Noah's family experienced on the Ark, how Noah could fit the animals on board, how all the animals were taken care of, cages, artifacts, life-size figures and sculptured animals. Of course, one of many lessons learned through the Ark is that just as God provided salvation to Noah and his family, God provides an Ark of salvation for us through Christ's death on the cross and his resurrection.

How do we describe our experience at the Ark? It was simply amazing, wonderful, unbelievable, incredible and spectacular! Do we recommend visiting this site? Absolutely, you will walk away in awe. WOW!!

Roger & Doreen Bogen

**WE WILL ALL** get the opportunity to get a taste of what the Bogens experienced on Sunday, May 7. Our 9:00 a.m. worship service will be shortened and immediately after the service a 30-minute video about the construction of the ark will be shown. Roger and Doreen will be on hand to answer questions and Pastor Griebel will answer questions about the Biblical account of the Flood. So be sure to join us for this fascinating presentation.

## **MY LUTHERAN FAITH BY STEVE FRODL**

When I was born, my parents were members at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Waseca. It was there I was baptized, confirmed and married (all by Pastor Eifert!). I can remember attending Sunday School and church on a very regular basis. I don't think my family missed a Sunday unless we were sick or the roads were impassible. In Sunday School we were required to complete a memory course booklet for each grade, 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>, I completed all eight books by the time I was in 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grade, so Pastor Eifert had me start over on the booklet that corresponded to my current grade. After completing that a second time, he had me memorize hymns from the hymnal. I have to give credit to my parents, because early on my mother would sit with me in the evenings to help me with the memorizations. This all helped me to prepare for the confirmation class memory work. I remember on confirmation day the whole class sat in the altar area and Pastor would randomly call on an individual to stand before the congregation and recite any part of Luther's Small Catechism that he would choose. I was very much relieved when the church service ended on this Palm Sunday, and I had been able to recite the appointed parts.

I am thankful for my grandmother's influence in my faith. When I was young I remember often staying with my Grandma and Grandpa. She also attended St. Paul Lutheran. When I was probably about five years old, I remember saying evening prayers with her when I stayed overnight. We would say the Lord's Prayer and Apostle's Creed. Then she said we could say our own prayers to Jesus. This was a revelation to me, that you could just talk to Him and that it didn't have to be something printed that I would need to memorize to be recited as a prayer. Studying and reciting the catechism helped me to become a stronger Christian by realizing that I was a sinner and needed the help of the Holy Spirit to grow in my faith. Luther's Small Catechism helped me to understand and profess my faith. I know that through my faith I will experience the truth of Christ's promise of eternal life: "So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven" Matthew 10:32.

After confirmation I was a regular usher almost every Sunday, continuing through college. A year after college and Army basic training, my new job moved me to Michigan for one year. There were no Missouri Synod churches near where I lived, so after talking with Pastor Eifert, I found a church home/family there in a Wisconsin Synod church. After we were married, we moved to Owatonna and joined Redeemer Lutheran Church. I can remember being asked to serve as an usher and later a Lay Minister. Before we had our own children, Dee Ann and I were also junior high youth group leaders. Dee Ann and I are thankful that we were able to raise our children with the help and influence of our Redeemer family. My faith and my church family have always been very important to me. This became especially clear to me when I was called to active duty for the Bosnian Peace Effort. While on this mission, I found great comfort and peace in reading the Bible and recalling those early learned memorizations from Sunday School and Confirmation class. My faith is something I will always have with me, no matter where I am.

### **THE COOK'S CORNER – PINEAPPLE CAKE**

1 yellow cake mix            ¾ cup oil  
 1 (11 oz.) can mandarin oranges, undrained  
 3 eggs                            1 tsp. vanilla  
 1 (20 oz.) can crushed pineapple  
 1 (6 oz.) instant vanilla pudding  
 1 (8 oz.) container Cool Whip

Mix together cake mix, oil, mandarin oranges and eggs. Beat for 3 minutes. Bake for 30-35 minutes at 350 deg. **TOPPING** – Mix pineapple and pudding together (set aside). Stir in Cool Whip and vanilla together. Fold into pineapple mixture. Spread on cake. Refrigerate.

**OUR SERVICES** can be seen anytime on the internet. Simply go to <http://www.owatonnaalive.com/Church-services.html> and click on the picture of Redeemer.

**CHARTER CABLE** broadcasts our services on Channel 181 each Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. & Friday at 3:30 p.m.

**Office Hours: May 1-18: Mon. – Thurs.: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. except for the Noon hour.  
 May 19-31 Tuesday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to Noon.**

### **PROVIDING THEIR TIME & TALENTS MAY:**

**LAY MINISTER:** Vaughn Kispert

**READER:** Roger Bogen

**ORGANIST:** Janda Pitan

### **ALTAR GUILD:**

May 7 – Gwen Sammon

May 14 – May 28 – Vi Roemhildt

### **ACOLYTES**

May 7 – Claire Schwartz

May 21 – Isabelle Schwartz

**USHERS:** Steve Schmidt, Tom Brage, Richard Grunklee, Jeff Dauffenbach

### **FINANCIAL STATISTICS As of April 23, 2017**

Actual Receipts:            \$55,576.75

Budget:                        \$57,373.11

Over (under) amount:    (\$1,796.36)

### **NEW ADDRESS**

Donna, Kylie & Taylan Mouser  
 415 Prospect Owatonna

Dave & Marcia Fjordbak  
 265 Hickory Ln. NE Owatonna

Aaron Litke  
 1929 Hemlock Ave. Owatonna

### **MAY BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS**

Christian Bemmels	Alixandra Lique
Mandy Bieber	Dianna Maas
Bill Carlson	LaVern Marik
Joyce Ciffra	Larry Mensing
April Dauffenbach	Brianna Pitan
Brogan Dawley	Gwen Sammon
Brett Frodl	Carrie Schmidt
Florence Huber	Tyler Stursa
James Huber	Kenneth Urban
Kenneth Huber	Brian Wendel
Vaughn Kispert	Lynn White
Betty Krause	Jan Worrell

**NOTE:** If you baptismal birthday is not on this list and it should be call the church office and it will be added.

### **MY SON GAVE THIS TO ME FOR MOTHERS DAY**

You're not leaving this table until your plate is clean; We're only doing this because we love you; I can't wait until you grow up & have children of your own; If your friends all jumped off a bridge, does that mean you will too? Knock it off, or I'll turn this car around right now; How do you know, you don't like it, you haven't even tasted it; I said no and I mean no! You're not leaving this house looking like that; I don't want to have to spank you but I will; No you'll spoil your dinner; I do & I do & I do for you kids, & this is the thanks I get; I'm going to say this once and only once; Just wait until your father gets home; If you don't stop crying, I'm going to give you something to cry about; Because your father and I say so, that's why; If I ever hear you say that word around here again, I'm going to wash your mouth out with soap; Some day you're going to thank me for this; I love you! Your mother was never at a loss for words. Bring back any memories? Happy Mothers Day!