

OUR REDEEMER MONTHLY NEWS

August 2024

A Very Short Story About Happiness

Once upon a time, there was a nonconforming sparrow who decided one winter to not fly south. Soon, however, the weather turned so cold that he reluctantly started toward the south. In a short while ice began to form on his wings and he fell to the earth, into a barnyard, almost frozen. A cow passed by and dumped all over the little sparrow. The poor guy thought that it was the end of the world. But, the manure warmed him up and defrosted his wings; warm and happy, able to breathe, he started to sing. Just then a large cat came by and heard the sparrow. The cat cleared away the manure, found the little bird, and promptly ate him.

The Moral:

- 1) Everyone who dumps on you is not necessarily your enemy.
- 2) Everyone who gets you out of pile of manure is not necessarily your friend.
- 3) If you are warm and happy in a pile of manure, keep your mouth shut.

In life we go through a lot of rough patches. There are those who seem to make themselves our enemies for no particular reason. There are also those, unfortunately, who take glee in seeing others suffer, and so make enemies of everyone. This isn't about that latter bunch. Oh, and there are those people who truly are concerned, and when they see us in a mire, do try to help. Sometimes their efforts seem invasive, and we take offense, but their intentions are good. But, then there are those sneaky people who seem to be trying to help, but are actually looking for a personal advantage in some way. It's pretty clear what the little story above is about.

Many times we make foolish choices. Sometimes those choices get made for us because of circumstances beyond our control, and we just get caught up. These are often financial matters where we might take out a loan to cover a debt, and then end up further in debt because the loan isn't what we expected. Or, we trusted someone to come through when they said they would, but they renege, and we're left holding a bag – a big bag. But, it comes down to a personal problem that causes great stress in life, and needs to be addressed in some way. Because of how we got into this mess, we hesitate to share our burdens with anyone else.

Along can come someone who truly has a heart of Christ, and wishes to see us at peace, and happy with life. Yet, we turn them away out of suspicion because we might have encountered someone like the next sort – the sneak.

The sneak would be like a financial advisor who helps us to manage our debt, but with a catch; in the end, the consolidated debt is in the hands of the advisor in some way, and the payback is beyond toleration. They did not “help” out of goodness, but out of self interest. In the end, we have gained little, if anything, and have also picked up a sense of pessimism, a bitter view of the world, and fail to look at every situation as a NEW one, where there is possibility of true help, of a hand out of the manure. There are people who will help dig us out, and for no other reason than it's the right thing to do. We overlook these people, and lose sight that God does work in the hearts of people.

In all of life there's one thing we must keep in mind and heart: God is so big that He can cover the whole world with his Love, and yet can make Himself so compact that He can curl up inside of a human heart.

God's Peace to you all - Rev Jeffery H. Leichman

Website

Our website: ourredeemerprospectheights.org contains links for Livestream online worship, Bulletins, Monthly News, YouTube service recordings, Online Giving and Sonshine Preschool info. Check it often.

Contact information for Pastor Leichman

Email address: Pastor@ourredeemerprospectheights.org

Phone: (847) 494-9494

Prayer Request Information

Contact Jim Burmeister if you have a prayer request. Please be sure to have permission from the person for whom you are requesting prayers if you are divulging any specific medical information. If you would like specific wording for a prayer, please send it via text or email. Contact info for Jim: Text or Cell(847) 343-3798. Home (847) 934-5963

Email: elder@ourredeemerprospectheights.org

Bible Study

Join us in the Parlor on Wednesday mornings at 11:00 am for Bible Study.

Hunger Jar

Please remember the **Hunger Jar**. The jar is located on a stand at the top of the steps. Funds donated through the Hunger Jar are designated to be used for the Food Pantry.

Coffee and...

Please join us for a time of fellowship in the Parlor immediately following Worship. August Birthdays will be celebrated on the first Sunday of the month.

Altar Flower Arrangements

We are now using a new Florist for our Altar arrangements. The 2024 pricing is \$30 per floral side or centerpiece. Checks can be made payable to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Flooring Installation Prep – Help Needed

We are looking for some help with moving and wrapping items for our upcoming new floor installation. This help is needed on August 9th 10th and 11th. If you can help any of these days, please contact Bill Noll. Thank you!!!

Outreach Opportunity Updates

Food Pantry

The Events Committee is actively researching the dynamics and making the necessary contacts to be able to run this for the community. The earliest possible startup of this outreach opportunity could be during the Fall or Winter.

Summer Suppers Update

This month's Summer Supper for those in need will be held on Thursday August 8. If interested in volunteering, please sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Traudy Burmeister or Stacey Hall. Help is always needed to set up and do simple kitchen tasks of cutting, plating and serving. Volunteers are asked to come around 5:45 pm, serving the meals is from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. We invite all volunteers to stay after serving to enjoy a meal and fellowship together.

Also, donations are always welcomed. Items needed are: water bottles, Gatorade bottles and single packs of chips, cookies, crackers, applesauce or pudding cups, granola bars or gummy fruit snacks.

Sonshine Preschool News

We continue to pray for more enrollment as the new school year approaches. Our goal is always to have more enrolled than the previous school year. Many families expressed interest during our recent Block Party and many current and previous parents continue to refer others to us. As you may imagine, preschoolers use up many different learning and art materials along with teacher supplies. If interested in helping out, watch for an upcoming display (by the Welcome Center) indicating different items needed or just contact Traudy at school (847-520-1116). We do appreciate all your continual support.



Zack Hall – 3rd
Lydia Drake – 16th
Mark Wilson – 19th
Stacey Hartmann – 27th



Tim and Beth Hartmann – 3rd



August	4	9:00 am	11 th Sunday after Pentecost With Communion Coffee and... August Birthdays
	7	11:00 am	Bible Study
	8	5:45 pm	Summer Suppers
	11	9:00 am	12 th Sunday after Pentecost No Communion Coffee and...
	14	11:00 am	Bible Study
	18	9:00 am	13 th Sunday after Pentecost With Communion Coffee and...
	21	11:00 am	Bible Study
	25	9:00 am	14 th Sunday after Pentecost No Communion Coffee and...
	28	11:00 am	Bible Study