

OUR REDEEMER MONTHLY NEWS

March 2024

HE IS RISEN!..... He is Risen, Indeed!

What else could we have for the month of the Celebration of the Salvation of Mankind? People always associate the Resurrection with Salvation. That's not right, though. The Resurrection, Easter Sunday, is the Celebration of the Salvation accomplished on Good Friday. It's Jesus coming back, after descending into Sheol (Hades, Hell) to thumb His Divine Nose at the Devil, to declare Victory, and free those who were imprisoned. Easter Sunday was the Sign of Jonah that the Lord promised to His saints on Earth that they would witness, his proclamation of having won the War against the Devil, Death, Sin, and captivity to the Devil.

We were held captive. We were unable to do anything good. Everything we did was tainted with selfishness, with some consideration of "what do I get out of this?" There were exceptions, and Jesus pointed these out, in contrast to those were seeking vain-glory. Jesus gives a clear example of people who do this when He watched the rich man and the poor widow woman: There was the rich man who made sure that the people saw that it was his servants who were dumping money into the treasury of the poor. Then there was the poor widow woman who put into the treasury for the poor her two mites (each a Roman coin, a quadrans, worth 1/4 of a sesterce, which was 1/10 of a denarius). This was 1/20th of what a working man might make in a day. It was all that she had. Jesus knew this of her (He's God, after all), and He loved her for her heart of mercy and kindness for someone who likely was also a widow in need of Daily Bread. The rich man, however, did it out a desire for adoration as a philanthropist. He would have sought to be featured on Time Magazine had it been around in those days.

While we still are tainted in what we say and do, we are able now to filter these through the Holy Spirit within us, and so come through with gentler words than we might use had we not. Before I was a made a Christian, I was able to use a very sharp tongue to rip at someone who had verbally assaulted me, because I was able to find their weak spots, and capitalized on that. This was a great evil. For Christians, if we see someone's weak spot, we take care to try to understand that person through the lens of that weak spot. But, if someone is using that weak spot to exploit a situation, that cannot endure for long, either. You've all been in circumstances like that in life, I'm sure.

Here's what we know: as the Children of God, if someone is truly a "painted wall," like Caiaphas, the High Priest, it might be to that person's advantage in life to realize their hypocrisy, and so be given a chance to repent.

But, if someone is still tender in their weakness, like the woman who was caught in adultery, and dragged before Jesus, the word He spoke was of mercy, gentleness, reassurance, which led this woman to eternal life. We can all do this. No, we're not divine beings just like Jesus (not yet), but we are filled with the Spirit of God, having been buried into the death with Christ Jesus, and raised with Him to a new life, through Holy Baptism. And when we speak in Jesus' Name, we are able to confer His mercy and grace to those who are hurting from their sins.

As new Creations in Christ, we are now (the Biblical "BUT NOW" that a professor once called God's BIG BUT) able to be true ministers of grace in this world, and to manifest the gifts of grace. Let us rejoice in the new life into which we have been put, and BE the ones who touch the lives of others for the sake of Jesus.

Christ is Risen,
Pr. Jeffery H. Leichman

Network Name and Password

ORLC Network Name: ORLC-Sanc-WiFi
Password: OrLcWiFiWax214

ORLC Outdoor Network Name: NETGEARACA35F-SETUP
Password: sharedsecret

Click-meeting link: Ourredeemerph.clickmeeting.com

Website

Our website: ourredeemerprospectheights.org contains links for Livestream online worship, Bible Studies, Bulletins, Monthly News, and Online Giving. Check it often.

Email address for Pastor Leichman

If you would like to send an email to Pastor Leichman, please use the following address:
Pastor@ourredeemerprospectheights.org

Prayer Request Information

If you have a prayer request, please notify Jim Burmeister via text at (847) 343-3798, Phone (847)934-5963 home or (847)343-3798 cell; or via email at elder@ourredeemerprospectheights.org.

Bible Study

Join us in the Parlor on Monday evenings at 7:30 pm or 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.

Voter's Meeting

Please join us for the March Voter's Meeting on Sunday March 17th immediately following worship.

Midweek Lent Services and Lenten Suppers

Midweek Lent Services will be on Wednesdays during Lent at 6:30 pm. During the 5 weeks of Wednesday Lenten services, let's enjoy a meal together from 5:30-6:15 pm. A sign-up sheet to 'host' one of the meals is on the Welcome Center. (If you prefer to 'host' with someone else, that would be great also). All that is required is to bring a small meal of any sorts – store or homemade prepared (ex. soup, sandwiches, chili, etc.) – all other supplies will be provided. There will also be a 'sign-up' for those interested in fellowship while enjoying a meal.

Traudy Burmeister

Pastoral Visits

AFTER EASTER, I will begin making house calls on the members of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, or phone calls to those who feel more comfortable that way. I'll be calling you during the rest of this Lenten Season to make appointments for those visits. Though it seems we are a small congregation, it will still take some time to get to see you all, but I wish to do so, so you can ask me about me, and I can learn something about you.

Pr. Jeffery H. Leichman

Picture Directory

Remember to fill out your information sheet and hand to the Elder or Usher before March 10. Also, we will be taking photos for the Directory after Worship on February 25, March 3, and March 17.

EASTER BREAKFAST!

I offered to the Events and Hospitality Committee to be in the kitchen early on Easter to prepare breakfast. Scheduled menu is: pork sausage, scrambled eggs, toast, fresh fruit bowl, coffee and juices. There will be a sign-up sheet starting March 3 for offerings for this breakfast. What is not listed above is pastries (and doughnuts); these are bring as you will, but there will be space on the sign-up sheet so there can be some planning on who brings what. Collection of food items (raw eggs, bread, butter) will be on Saturday, March 30, from 9 AM until Noon. If you're donating towards the sausage, please give a monetary donation to (person yet to be chosen for this). Any extra funds for this will go towards fruit and juices. We hope to make this a joyful morning together before we head on up for the Celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord.

Pr. Jeffery H. Leichman

My Thanks Once Again

To all of you who participated in the Reception held for me on February 18. Thank you to all who planned it, to all who brought delicacies to share, to all who helped clean up the mess made, to all who attended. Never has a new pastor made to feel more welcome by the congregation who chose him. God's Peace to you all.

Pr. Jeffery H. Leichman

Thank You

Many thanks to those of you who volunteered to help clean, set up and bring food for Pastor's Installation. It was all so very yummy – Pastor was very appreciative.

The Events Committee

Sonshine News:

Spaghetti Dinner Recap

It was another successful fundraiser thanks to many of you. 96 tickets were sold and we were able to offer 15 Silent Auction items, 13 Raffle Prizes for many to bid on and/or win. And, of course, everyone enjoyed watching the students be part of a mini-skit. Many thanks from Traudy and Stacey.



Laurie Drake – 1st
JoAnn Clow – 5th
Laurel Merges – 12th
Robin Reschke – 18th
Ray Clow – 22nd
Fred Vosecky – 29th
Beth Hartmann – 29th
Betty Greenholt – 31st



Sunday March 3	9:00 am	3 rd Sunday in Lent With Communion Coffee and...March Birthdays
Monday March 4	7:30 pm	Bible Study
Tuesday March 5	4:30 pm	BOD Meeting
Wednesday March 6	11:00 am 5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Bible Study Lenten Supper Lenten Midweek 3 – Compassion
Sunday March 10	9:00 am 10:00 am	4 th Sunday in Lent No Communion Coffee and...
Monday March 11	7:30 pm	Bible Study
Wednesday March 13	11:00 am 5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Bible Study Lenten Supper Lenten Midweek 4 – Declaration
Sunday March 17	9:00 am 10:00 am	5 th Sunday in Lent With Communion Voter's Meeting
Monday March 18	7:30 pm	Bible Study
Wednesday March 20	11:00 am 5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Bible Study Lenten Supper Lenten Midweek 5 – Obedience
Sunday March 24	9:00 am	Sunday of the Passion (Palm Sunday) No Communion Coffee and...
Monday March 25	7:30 pm	Bible Study
Wednesday March 27	11:00 am	Bible Study
Thursday March 28	5:00 pm	Maundy Thursday With Communion
Friday March 29	5:00 pm	Good Friday No Communion
Sunday March 31	8:45 am 10:00 am	Easter Breakfast Easter Sunday Worship With Communion