

OUR REDEEMER MONTHLY NEWS

May 2021

Busy, Busy, Busy...

With this month of May, so many things are coming along in the schedule and it may seem that we are always busy. Mother's Day, Confirmations, Pentecost & Trinity Sundays, Graduations, and of course, the Memorial Day weekend are all on our lists of events we need to attend to (especially, your pastor hopes, those Sunday things).

Let's take a moment during our "busyness" to just stop, breath, and thank God for the gifts we have received, as well as the opportunities for celebration.



The Bible Says Busyness Causes Doubt and Disconnection from God

[Psalm 46:10](#), "Be still, and know that I am God." If you are not still, you will not know that God is God. And if you do not know God is truly the Sovereign God who reigns over all, then you will not be still. When these things happen, doubt and disconnection always appear.

In [Mark 4:18-19](#) Jesus explains, "And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful." When life's issues get so big in your head, there is no room left for God. The cares of this world literally "choke the word" in your life. Worldly busyness disconnects us from the one true God.

Our relationship with God is living and breathing. It needs the space to take in oxygen, to receive, to give . . . it needs time and room to prosper and to grow.

Therefore, may we put to practice what the Bible says about busyness: that being still before the Lord will cause us to know that God is God; and actively believing God is God will give us the ability to be still.

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." -Proverbs 3:5-6.

May God bless you with Trust and Stillness,
Pastor Jim Kirschenmann

Worship

If you are planning to attend in person worship, please register each week using the link below.

<https://rsvp.church/r/PsLbwYgP>

The service will be livestreamed on YouTube Live and recorded and published on YouTube.

Please dispose of your worship bulletin (and Communion supplies) or take them with you. We are not recycling them.

We are resuming the use of the mailboxes upstairs, so please check yours today.

Changes are Coming – YAY!!!

We are very appreciative of how cooperative you been these past six months since we returned to in-person worship. During that time, we were very cautious. We checked temperatures and asked questions relating to your health and travel. We assigned seats and gave you worship materials in plastic bags. At some point we need to return to some form of pre-Covid normalcy, however, we are not going to do it all at once.

Beginning Sunday, May 2, the following changes will be made for worship:

- Temperature checks will not be taken upon entry. We trust you will not come if not feeling well!!!
- Upon entering the Sanctuary, you will receive your worship folder and communion elements (when applicable) from an Usher or Elder.
- If you have a Prayer Request that you would like included in the morning prayers, please write it out before coming to church and hand it to an Elder (Jim or Justin).
- We will not be assigning seats, however, we will continue to maintain social distancing. To do so, we ask that you sit at the end of the pews where the Bibles have been placed in the racks. Having the Bibles available to you gives you the opportunity to follow the readings during the service.

Beginning Sunday, May 9 (Mother's Day):

- Coffee-And... will resume outdoors, YAY!!!! weather permitting Tables and chairs will be not provided, therefore, you will need to bring your own chair.
- To celebrate Mother's Day, special cupcakes, and coffee, will be provided.
- We will continue holding Coffee-And... outdoors on a weekly basis, of course, weather permitting. Feel free to bring treats, however, items need to be store bought and individually pre-packaged. Please refrain from bringing home-baked items or items requiring to be cut. Coffee will be provided for you. Following these guidelines gives us an opportunity to visit with each other, which I know you all would like to do.

One thing that **WILL NOT** change – Pre-registration for the service will still be required.

Thank you for all your patience and understanding during the past year. If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact Jim Burmeister at 847-343-3798 or elder@ourredeemerprospectheights.org.

SUMMER SUPPER INFORMATION AND WISH LIST

As we have done for the past 5 years, Our Redeemer will again participate in the Summer Suppers Program to provide meals for the less fortunate in the community on the second Thursday of May-Sept. As was done last year due to the pandemic, meals will be offered as a drive-thru style.

Below are different ways that the committee is asking for help with.

- **Volunteer to help package the meals at church**
- **Donate items from the list shown on the back to help fill the individual 'take-away' bags.**
- **If you are an individual with a Thrivent Account willing to apply for Action Team grants to help fund the program. (It is very Important that you please contact Jim or Traudy first so that we can let you know which dates to apply for.)**

Any questions, please feel free to contact a Committee Member:

Traudy/Jim Burmeister (847-934-5963)

Stacey Hall (847-602-2607)

WISH LIST NEEDS

- Individual snack packs (i.e .goldfish, crackers, pretzels, chips, cookies)
- Small water bottles
- Small gatorade or powerade bottles
- Small tissue packs
- Travel size toothpaste
- Pudding/applesauce cups
- Nutrigrain/granola bars
- Small hand sanitizers or waterless hand cleaners

Wednesday Evening Pastor-Led Bible Studies

Pastor-led Bible Study has resumed on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm online. ACTS: A study of Growth in the Church. This means growth in Christian attitudes, insights, and skills for Christian living. The focus of this course will be the church and the world of our day. The guiding question will be this: *What does the Lord teach us for life today through the book of Acts?* Join us online on Wednesday evenings, 7 pm at <https://Koinonia.ClickMeeting.com/Acts> (or visit there for the recorded sessions).

Wheeling Food Pantry Wish List

The Wheeling Township food pantry is in need of the following items: **Beans (Cannellini, Northern and Pinto), Flour, Mayonnaise, Rice (1 lb or 2 lb bags) and Sugar.** You can bring your donations to the Wheeling Township.

Altar Flowers

We have resumed our Altar Flower program. Anyone interested in ordering flowers for the Church Altar, please contact Laurie in the Church Office at 847/537-4430 or office@ourredeemerprospectheights.org

Attention Amazon .com users!

If you make online purchases from Amazon.com, you can help Our Redeemer. You can have a donation from Amazon sent to Our Redeemer based on your smile.amazon.com purchases. Simply login to: smile.amazon.com with your normal login information and designate Our Redeemer as the recipient. Enter Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in the Search box and scroll down until you find us. It should be on the 4th page about halfway down, but could be on a different page depending on how many other Our Redeemers enroll. Amazon does the rest. We get a 0.5% donation of eligible purchases.

Questions – see Jim Burmeister

Email address for Pastor Jim

If you would like to send an email to Pastor Jim, 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.

Are you a Thrivent Member?

Have you directed your Choice Dollars? Please remember to check your Thrivent account at least on an annual basis and indicate where you would like to have them directed. Both Our Redeemer and Sonshine are included in the recognized recipients and would appreciate being designated. Thrivent provides this free of charge to members, so remember to take advantage of their generosity!



Gifts of Love for the Lutheran Home



The Auxiliary of Lutheran Home and Services is collecting "Gifts of Love" to be used as gift items to cheer residents as they help them celebrate their birthdays. The following new items are suggested:

Kleenex (120 - 160 count), Birthday Cards, Pens, Pads of Paper, Games, Puzzles, Handkerchiefs, Bar Soap, Packaged Tooth Brushes, Tooth Paste, Deodorant and Lip Balm

You can bring your donations directly to the Lutheran Home.
Thank you!

May Events

May 2 9:00 am – The Fifth Sunday of Easter – With Communion

May 9 9:00 am – The Sixth Sunday of Easter – Without Communion

May 11 6:30 pm - Board of Directors Meeting

May 13 6:30 pm – ORLC Summer Suppers

May 16 9:00 am – "The Ascension of the Lord (Observed)" – With Communion

May 20 7:00 pm - Call Committee Meeting

May 23 9:00 am - Pentecost Sunday – Without Communion

May 30 9:00 am – Trinity Sunday – With Communion



May 2 - Cindy Reschke 17 - Sue Winter
 9 - Marilyn Riemer 24 - Janet Koelper
 13 - Marion Campion 25 - Fran DeVries
 16 - Hannah Drake
 Tim Perek

Celebrating 
An Anniversary This Month

No Anniversaries this month

