

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

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What Do you Want for the New Year?

Let's admit it. We want more for ourselves, to serve all our wants and desires. There is of course a place to pray that God would provide for our needs and even beyond. For all His blessings in 2018 and those coming in 2019 we should indeed be thankful, even for the blessings that essentially benefit us only.

Do you remember what Solomon asked for when he began his reign (1 Kings 3)? He was the son of the great king and warrior David. David was not perfect, but he feared the Lord and loved Him and His Word. He cherished the words of God and His Law. He was led by the prophet's words and the Holy Spirit to see his sins, to repent and believe God's Word of forgiveness (see Psalm 51 which he wrote to ask forgiveness for his sin with Bathsheba). He was a man after God's own heart. The Lord appeared to Solomon and said to him to ask whatever he wanted. What would you ask if the Lord appeared to you? What are you asking for 2019?

Solomon was entering into his vocation of both political King and spiritual leader of God's people. He was to fill the shoes of the great King David. He felt inadequate. He could have asked for wealth for himself and for the death of his enemies. But this is not what he asked for. He asked for discernment or wisdom in administering justice, his vocation in life. He was called to serve God and was to be a good and just king. That is how he would please God. So, instead of asking for himself, he asks the Lord to enable him to serve better by giving him discernment. So, the Lord gave him a wise and discerning heart as well as many other blessings he did not ask for: riches and honour.

So, let us ask the Lord to make us better servants rather than to give us all we want for ourselves. The same Lord who spoke to Solomon, our Lord Jesus, says to us all, "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you" (Matthew 6:32). This first means to make God's Word and promises our treasure for 2019 ("Let the Word of Christ dwell in you: Colossians 3:16"). It means that daily I will kneel before God like Solomon did and daily receive from Him His forgiveness in Christ and His Spirit's power to walk in obedience to His Law. It means that I will trust that God will provide for my basic needs for this life and that I will not worry as if God would let me down. It also means that our prayer for 2019 is that we become better servants of God whatever our callings (vocations) in life are.

Luther gives a list of vocations in his small catechism in the section called "Table of Duties". Quoting Scripture, he lists the duties of pastors, hearers (parishioners), people in government, citizens, husbands, wives, parents, children, workers of all kinds (employees), employers and supervisors, youth and widows. Review the Table of Duties from the Small Catechism, reflect on all your responsibilities and pray God to help you grow in wisdom and discernment as you serve in those stations in life. "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the Name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." (Colossians 3:17).

Do not be anxious (Matthew 6:25-32). You are in your loving God's hands who loved you to the point of giving you His only-begotten Son so that you will not die forever, but now have life everlasting through Him (John 3:16).

Happy and blessed new year in Christ Jesus.

Have oft Blessed New Year!

Mission Sunday Event - January 27

In January last year we held a Mission Sunday and had an opportunity to learn more about one of the missions we sponsor - 'Lutherans in Africa'. The event was so well received that we are planning on holding another 'Mission Sunday 'event this month.

Pastor Kouri has made arrangements with Rev. Ron Mohr, the Executive Director of Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada (LBTC) to join us on Sunday, January 27. This is one of the missions that we also supported this past year as selected through our Donations Committee.

Pastor Mohr will be joining us to lead our Sunday morning Bible Study as well as our Worship Service. Following service, we will be holding a soup luncheon (with a free will offering) and then afterwards Pastor Mohr will deliver a presentation to tell us all about the good work Lutheran Bible Translators do to help 'get the Word of God into the hands of all persons in the language of their hearts'. If you'd like to know more about Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada ahead of this upcoming event, please visit their website: http://www.lbtc.ca/.

If you are able to assist with the lunch (food donation or preparation, set up, clean up), please contact Sheila Ginn at 519-542-3663 or email her at sginn@cogeco.ca.

2019 Board of Directors

The elected members of Redeemer's 2019 Board of Directors are:

President: Dan Hansen
Vice-President: Brian Rose
Secretary: Sheila Ginn
Dir. of Finance: Michel Poliquin

Directors at Large: Barb Barraclough, Kim Ebert, Tom Jackson, Jeff Mutis, Betty Smith, Gary Whitson

Please feel free to contact any member of the Board of Directors with any concerns or questions you have. Specific areas of responsibility will be discussed and assigned at the meeting this coming week. The Board meets regularly on the second Wednesday of each month.



Thank you to Jerry Shuster and Lee Schooley who served us faithfully on the Board in 2018. We appreciate your service to our congregation and to the Lord.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who assisted in any way with our annual traditions of presenting the Christmas Parade float and the Live Nativity. This year was a learning curve for me as co-convenor and I appreciated the dedication and abilities of Jane Anne Rose as co-convenor and all the time and talents of all the volunteers who made these two events happen.

Once again, we were able to show our community that Christ is the real reason for Christmas. It was a pleasure to work with all of you.

Sheila Ginn

From Jane Anne: Thanks to Sheila for all her "behind the scenes" preparation

work and to <u>everyone</u> who helped in <u>any way</u>. We appreciate how everyone all pulled together to make our events successful.



W.O.R.S.H.I.P. NEWS (<u>W</u>omen <u>Of R</u>edeemer <u>S</u>haring <u>H</u>elping <u>I</u>n <u>P</u>rayer)

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be a soup lunch on Wednesday, January 23 at noon. If you can assist with the lunch, please contact Sheila Ginn at sginn@cogeco.ca or 519-542-3663. Look for further information in your church bulletins. All women of Redeemer are welcome. Please join us!

Student Encouragement Program



The second mailing will be sent out at the end of the month to our students away at college or university. Each package will contain a letter from W.O.R.S.H.I.P., a message from Pastor, a Valentine's treat, as well as a gift card from Tim Hortons. If you would like your student(s) to be added to the list, please

forward their name(s) to Sheila Ginn at the email address in the church roster or leave the information in her mailbox at the church.

Funeral Receptions

If you would like to be a part of the Funeral Reception Team, please contact Sheila Ginn at 519-542-3663 or by email. Volunteers are necessary so that we can provide families with caring service during their time of need. Both men and women are part of this group.

Kitchen News

Please refer to the user-friendly maps posted in the kitchen to locate dishes, utensils, etc. When working in the kitchen, please return items to their proper places and ensure that all used items are cleaned and emptied before being put away. Anyone wishing to donate items to the kitchen should first contact Sheila Ginn.

Thank You

Thank you to all members of the congregation who contributed to the Angel Tree Project. Your generosity was greatly appreciated by the Women's Interval Home.



CHURCH STATISTICS

DEATHS & FUNERALS

Private service – December 20, 2018 **Anna Oravec** November 29, 1924 – December 16, 2018



December 30, 2018 **Barbara Lumley**November 7, 1937 – December 23, 2018



ALTAR GUILD NEWS

We are so grateful for the many years of service that Jennie

McPhail has provided as our Altar Guild Chairperson. Jennie has retired from this job as of the end of December. We are still searching for someone to "fill her shoes"! If you feel you could do at least <u>part</u> of the duties of Altar Guild Chair, please speak with Dan Hansen.

2019 Flower Chart

If you would like to donate altar flowers in 2019, please check the flower chart on the hall bulletin board and sign up there. There are <u>many</u> Sundays still available.



Altar Guild Meeting



The next meeting of the Altar Guild is scheduled for Saturday, January 19 at 10:00 a.m. at the church.

MEN AND WOMEN OF REDEEMER PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER JOINING THE ALTAR GUILD

If you are looking for an opportunity to offer your time and talents, why not consider joining our Altar Guild Team? Every Sunday, a team of four is scheduled to set out the communion ware and prepare the altar for the worship service. Each team is scheduled approximately two Sundays every nine weeks. Training will be provided, and you will not be scheduled until you are comfortable with the assigned duties. For spouses or family members who have been considering offering to serve together, the Altar Guild is a great opportunity.

Please speak with Dan Hansen if

Please speak with Dan Hansen in you can help out.



Thank you to Julie Kouri and all the youth who participated in the Christmas pageant! The music and acting were wonderful, and Julie did an excellent job with leading the children and supplying the much-appreciated chocolate fondue after Saturday's practice. Thanks also to Deb Paisley for dressing the youth so well. This was a great start in celebrating the best gift of all – Jesus!

Blessings, Dana Heno

THANKS TO OUR KNITTING GROUP

The knitting group was formed to knit and crochet "beards" for the participants in the Christmas parade and in the Live Nativity.

These were not only for looks, but also for hygiene and to keep faces warm in the cold weather.

We began meeting in November on Tuesdays after Living Way Bible Study. With our dedicated team, we reached our goal of three dozen beards. A big thank you goes to the knitters/crocheters for taking on this fun task: Lorna Wyville, Carolyn Kutz, Jacqueline Yankovitch, Jonna Easterby, Elaine Mott, Doris MacKenzie and Janice Maxfield.

We will begin meeting again on Tuesday, January 15 at 11:30 with a new project of knitting and crocheting facecloths and dishcloths to be donated to those in need.

We welcome those who already know how to knit or crochet, and also those who would like to learn. Please bring a bag lunch and join us for fun and fellowship.

If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to me.

Janice Maxfield



The "Coldest Night of the Year" walk in support of Neighbourlink, Sarnia Lambton is scheduled to

take place on **Saturday**, **February 23**. Participants can walk a 2, 5 or 10 km. route and *FEEL* a hint of the challenge faced by those experiencing homelessness during the winter months. Last year Redeemer had 3 participants. Watch for more details in the Sunday bulletins. Please direct any questions to Debbie Cook or Betty Smith.

Communion Assistants Needed



At most of our Divine services, we require two Communion Assistants to help Pastor Jason with the distribution of the Lord's Supper.

You would be on a rotating schedule, serving on an average of once every couple of months. Training will be provided.

If this is an area in which you feel you could serve Redeemer and your Lord, please contact Bill Cadman at 519-882-2079.

The Holy Alphabet

▲Ithough things are not perfect

Because of trial or pain

Continue in thanksgiving

Do not begin to blame.

Even when the times are hard

Fierce winds are bound to blow

God is forever able

 \mathcal{H} old on to what you know.

Imagine life without His love

Joy would cease to be

Keep thanking Him for all the things

Love imparts to thee.

Move out of "Camp Complaining"

No weapon that is known

On earth can yield the power

Praise can do alone.

Quit looking at the future

Redeem the time at hand

Start every day with worship

To "thank" is a command.

Until we see Him coming

Victorious in the sky

We'll run the race with gratitude

Xalting God most high.

Yes, there'll be some good times,

and yes some will be sad, but

Zion waits in glory ...

where we'll be forever glad! +



SERVING AS WE WORSHIP IN JANUARY 2019

JANUARY 6, 2019

USHERS: F. Brown, B. Loerke,

G. Laucek, H. Wygergangs

LECTOR: Kim Soeder **COMMUNION:** B. Smith

ALTAR: M. Jackson, C. Kutz, V. Gidla, E. Emrich

ALTAR LINENS: Anne Voytko **COFFEE:** George Laucek

JANUARY 20, 2019

USHERS: I. Lough, B. Bork, B. Rose

LECTOR: Barbara Ryder

COMMUNION: M. Poliquin, R. Klages

ALTAR: J. A. Rose, M. Kleinsmith, S. McPhail

ALTAR LINENS: Anne Voytko

COFFEE: Sheila Ginn

JANUARY 13, 2019

USHERS: B. Cadman, J. Cadman, T. Yarc, J. Mutis

LECTOR: Barb Barraclough

COMMUNION: B. Cadman, G. Laucek

ALTAR: J. A. Rose, M. Kleinsmith, S. McPhail

ALTAR LINENS: Anne Voytko COFFEE: Bill & Jane Cadman

JANUARY 27, 2019



USHERS: R. Steinman, J. Roszell,

R. Honke, S. McPhail

LECTOR: Daphne Whitson

COMMUNION: R. Steinman, P. McPhail **ALTAR:** B. A. Pounds, I. Wygergangs, L. Kleinsmith, S. Cooper

ALTAR LINENS: Anne Voytko

COFFEE: Kelly Mutis & Kristian Barraclough

BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY



Jan. 1 – Fred Behm Jan. 2 – Mario Rudinsky

Jan. 4 – Acelyn Brown

Jan. 5 – Ruth Machan,

Jim Saul, Diane Cox,

Tom Jackson

Jan. 6 – Tessa Bowles, Barbara Gaudreau,

Midala II Daialasa

Mitchell Paisley

Jan. 7 – Len Meere,

Ben Wilson

Jan. 8 – Ivona Huzevka

Jan. 9 – Shirley Gunn

Jan. 10 – Jaime Guthrie, Julie Guthrie

Jan. 11 – Terry Easterby,

Doris Kusnir

Jan. 12 – Sue Downey Jan. 16 – Jade Soper

Jan. 17 – Connie Lough,

Alex Klemm

Jan. 20 – Abraham Gidla

Jan. 21 – Joe Kusnir,

George Laucek,

Joseph Messeroll

Jan. 22 – Robert Kirk

Jan 23 – Léa Kouri,

Ava Westlake

Jan 24 – Betty Smith,

Lisa Winter

Jan. 25 – Kaitlyn Rivait,

Megan Rivait, Tony Yarc

Jan. 26 – Bob Robinson,

Emilie Playfoot

Jan. 28 – Barb Barraclough,

Tara Saul

Jan. 29 – Brian Rose

Jan 30 – Ted Cooper,

Jean Roszell

Jan. 31 – Kathy Dunlop

ANNIVERSARIES IN JANUARY



Derek & Louise Brazier January 12, 1990

Arlo & Katie Moen January 18, 1964 55 years!

Andy & Donna Schmidtmeyer January 25, 1986

happy, happy birthday to you!



"Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red like Crimson, they shall become like wool." Isaiah 1:18



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 HAPPY NEWYEAR	2	9:00 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Redeemer Choir	4	5
8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship 10:30 am Sunday School COME WORSHIP with us!	6:30 pm Worship Worship With Us	8 9:30 am Living Way Bible Study 11:30 am Sewing Group	7:00 pm Board of Directors meeting	9:00 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Redeemer Choir	11	12
8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship 10:30 am Sunday School	14 6:30 pm Worship Worship	9:30 am Living Way Bible Study 11:30 am Sewing, Knitting & Crocheting Groups	16	9:00 am Men's Bible Study	18	10:00 am Altar Guild Altar Guild
8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship 10:30 am Sunday School	21 6:30 pm Worship COME WORSHIP with us!	9:30 am Living Way Bible Study 11:30 am Sewing, Knitting & Crocheting Groups	23 12:00 pm WORSHIP Soup Lunch	9:00 am Men's Bible Study	25 Circuit Pastors' meeting at Redeemer	26
_	28 6:30 pm Worship WITHUS	9:30 am Living Way Bible Study 11:30 am Sewing, Knitting & Crocheting Groups	30	9:00 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Redeemer Choir		