

The Redeemer Reporter

Thanksgiving

— A note from Pastor Ken —

I am writing this note three weeks after returning from sabbatical and five days before Thanksgiving. I share this so you understand the context of the place from which I am writing. One of my favorite traditions around the coming holiday, but one admittedly that we do not always engage in, is when we go around the table and share our gratitude for the past year.

There is something humbling about hearing your loved ones thankfulness for experiences and people in the past year. I appreciate the gift the experience provides in marking time with gratitude. It feels like things move so quickly that as a culture we don't take time to give thanks for the opportunities that are put before us. And so that is why I love this tradition of stopping and going around the table to note the thanks we have for things experienced and people's impact upon our lives.

In the past when my family has done this practice, it reminds me of Jacob's dream at Bethel. Jacob goes to sleep with a stone under his head. That night he dreams of a ladder with angels descending and ascending. Jacob hears God speak to him and when he rises he says, "Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!" (Gen28:16).

Often at some point as we remember the year past, a story comes up that I had forgotten. A story that profoundly influenced my life and as I hear it I proclaim, like Jacob, "Surely the Lord (was) in this place - I did not know it." Yet what I love is that in the midst of the retelling I become aware. I gain an appreciation and thankfulness for God's movement through that experience and God's presence in my life.

I can't share with you at this point what I have forgotten and will be reminded by another member of my family. What I can tell you is that my heart overflows with gratitude for the congregations' gifting my family and I with the sabbatical. The 15 weeks provided me with some much-needed rest and my family with needed renewal. It was an incredible gift, that I do not take for granted, to be able to intentionally reconnect together through shared experience and the intentionality of time the sabbatical offered. Again, thank you for this gift to me and my family.

Another moment of thanks stems from yesterday. I was in Twin Falls to lead the Luther Heights Annual Meeting. To begin I had the privilege of installing Kelly Preboski as the new Executive Director. Afterwards I shared how grateful I was for the board's leadership through the time of transition. In addition, I appreciate all the time and energy that was spent by the search team. Sitting in on their meetings was an incredible learning moment for me both professionally and personally. I am also thankful for all the other volunteers who stepped up during the time of transition. I appreciate Kelly and Kelly's family's faithful work of discernment and willingness to follow God's call to Idaho. Luther Heights has already been blessed by Kelly's leadership and much is held in the promise of what is yet to come.

The year has offered me more things to give thanks for than these two, but rather than write them I hope we might find time to talk about them together. It is my hope that in 2019 I might get out to visit all the families of Redeemer and Grace. As the new year approaches I will be putting up a sign up sheet with dates and times that I would be available to meet. I am hoping these meetings might provide a space

WORD OF GOD

WAY OF LIFE

where we can catch back up with another and additionally might spend some time sharing what we are grateful for both in for the congregation and in our lives outside the church.

Again, thank you. I enter our next season of life together in gratitude for what has been and hopefulness of what is yet to come.

Peace,

Ken

Please sign up and join us on Wednesday evenings during Advent for Soup Supper and Bread before attending the mid-week Advent services. The sign up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall.

Soup will be served at 6:15pm in the Fellowship Hall with worship at 7:00pm



Sanctuary Christmas Flowers

Help make our sanctuary beautiful for Christmas by ordering a poinsettia.

Flowers cost \$12.00.

Your flower can be dedicated to a memory of someone, or something special in your life. Poinsettias will be on sale **until Sunday December 16th.**

Pick up order form in church office.



Flowers can be taken home after 2nd service on December 30th.

Please leave clear plastic bases at church.



Check out the monthly quilt in the Fellowship Hall.

Each month a recently made quilt will be on display for your enjoyment and appreciation of the dedicated work of the women who quilt each week, fifty weeks a year. Let's enjoy their quilts every week, not just on quilt Sunday. **Remember**, if you have no longer used flat sheets, material, thread, or batting it can be donated to the quilters by placing it in the basket under the quilt in the Fellowship Hall.

First Thursday Soup

First Thursday Soup will be on December 6th. Please join us at 12:00 p.m. for soup, breads, and dessert. The cost is \$2.00 per person and *children* are free. Bring a friend and join us.



Sons of Norway
Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, December 1st, 2018
9am-3pm

King of Glory Lutheran Church
3430 North Maple Grove Rd.
Boise, ID



There is a lot of work to be done to prepare the church to welcome the birth of the Savior.

We need 14 volunteers on **Sunday, December 23rd at 11:30 am** to help decorate sanctuary and Fellowship Hall.

Please contact Dannette to sign up: (208) 342-3028.

All help is appreciated and welcomed.

Volunteers Needed

Help is needed to remove Christmas decorations from the Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall

- *Sunday, 12/30* after service (6 volunteers needed)
- *Thursday, 1/3* after 1st Thurs. Soup (6 volunteers needed)
- *Saturday, 1/5* (10am-11am) (4 volunteers needed)

Please contact
Dannette to sign up:
(208) 342-3028



Flowers and Fellowship for 2019

The Flower and Fellowship sign up sheet is up in the Fellowship Hall for the upcoming new year.

The Altar Guild will order your flowers at a cost of \$27 and place your dedication in the bulletin for the week selected. You can take your flowers home after the 10:30 worship service.

Please sign up to provide snacks for Fellowship hour. If you have not done it before, let the church office know and we will be sure you have a partner to help train you. Or simply take a simple instruction sheet from the bulletin board.

Thank you to all who add to our worship and fellowship time each Sunday!

Ministry of the Month Updates

December Mission of the Month

For the first two weeks in December we are focusing on helping families in the Basin School District in Idaho City. We want to help families, especially children, make it through the winter. There is a lot of need in Idaho City. Our hope is that each of us can bring one item to contribute, since there is such a dire need. There is a basket in the Narthex and a bin in the Fellowship Hall. Physical items: Food: Pop tarts, canned soup, Ramen noodles, small bags of rice, peanut butter, canned food (tuna, chicken, vegetables, beans, fruit, & apple sauce), olive or canola oil, granola bars, individual bags of trail mix, unsalted nuts, pasta, whole grain cereal, oatmeal, and powdered milk. Other items for boys and girls: Andy size snow boots/snow pants (especially for elementary school kids), warm blankets/sleeping bags, socks (all sizes), underwear (all sizes), gloves (all sizes), and hats (all sizes). Lastly, teenage boys size sweats; medium and large. Feel free to write a check, please note "MoM" in the memo line.



This winter....



the Property Committee is looking for volunteers to help shovel the property after it snows.

On snow days, Laurel or Matt will text the volunteers to find out who can come at the time needed. Typically we shovel between snow storms, early on Sunday mornings, and prior to scheduled events. Shoveling

includes distributing snow melt.

Our snow plow operator typically plows our parking lots prior to Sunday service or when the conditions necessitate he plow.

If interested, please contact Laurel at 208/336-2329/ljsimos@gmail.com or Matt Arnold 208/850-7869/mlarnold243@gmail.com. They will add you to the text list.

Gift giving season is fast approaching! We are continuing with the practice established in recent years. If you desire to give the pastor a monetary Christmas gift, the council requests that you offer the gift directly to the pastor. If anonymity is important to you, please seal cash in an envelope and give it to the pastor through a fellow member in the congregation.

This practice of giving will ensure the money is a true gift. Money given to the pastor from Redeemer qualifies as income, not as a gift, on this personal tax return. Thank you for understanding.

Faithfully,

Redeemer Lutheran Church Council



WORSHIP



Advent Worship

December 2, 9, 16, & 23,
8:30am + 10:30am

Advent Mid-Week

Redeemer will be holding mid-week Advent worship services on Wednesday evenings from December 5th through December 19th.

Soup supper at 6:15pm

Worship at 7:00pm

4:00 pm Family Service

(Participatory communion service with candles)

8:00 pm Traditional Service

(Musical offerings by ensemble with communion and candles)

10:00 pm Candlelight Service

(Reflective communion service)



*The church office will be closed
December 25th & 26th to observe the
birth of our Savior.*

We wish you a Merry Christmas!

*We will reopen on December 27th
at 9am.*

Got Cookies?

Naomi~Esther Circle asks the congregation to assist us with Christmas cookies for our shut-ins, a Girl Scout troop, and our NA groups who meet at church. If you are willing to contribute, please have 2 dozen cookies at the church on or before December 12th at 11:30 where we will gather to assemble for delivery. Your assistance is greatly appreciated by the Circle and those who receive the cookies which are a treat anticipated every year.

Thanks for your help!

RUTH CIRCLE

PLEASE WATCH FOR EMAILS
FOR UPCOMING
EVENTS.

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE, IF YOU
ARE INTERESTED IN BEING INCLUDED IN
THE EMAIL LIST FOR RUTH'S CIRCLE.



Esther~Naomi Circle Bible Study

The Esther~Naomi Circle will host a brunch on, **December 12th, at 11:30** in the Fellowship Hall. Each person is asked to bring 2 dozen or more cookies and a tin to send them in. All church women who would like to attend are more than welcome.

Please RSVP, *if you are not a member of this Circle*, to Carol Green at seagreen5044@gmail.com so we can insure there is enough food.



NO NAME MEN'S GROUP

MONTHLY MEETING: **MONDAY, DECEMBER 10TH (7:00 PM)**

WHERE: **SOCKEYE GRILL & BREWPUB
(3019 N COLE RD. BOISE, ID)**

OUR QUESTION FOR THIS MONTH (ONLY ONE THIS MONTH):

-IF CHRIST WERE BORN IN BOISE THIS YEAR, WHAT GIFT WOULD YOU BRING?

JOHN & LARRY, CO- ACTING SECRETARIES

On behalf of
Loren Larson's Family,
we wish to thank the many
caring and supportive people of
Redeemer Lutheran Church.



God bless you
all!
Sincerely,
Helen Larson

Prayer Group

Prayer Group will be meeting
every Sunday after
2nd Service in the church
basement.

We hope to see you there.



Outreach Activities

Wash, Wipe, & Wear Distribution in November

First and foremost we were saddened by the passing of our writer Shirley Gilchrist! We could always count on Shirley unless there was snow or ice. She really enjoyed doing this with her whole heart! She made friendships with some of the regular attendees who would even bring her something they had knit or sewed. She will be greatly missed!

Brad Jones said he would continue picking up the soap except for March, April, and May. Thanks so much Brad as that job requires muscles! Gary and Ruth Picked up the toilet paper on Senior Day.

Diaper sorters were: Carol G., Martina N., Brenda, Marie R., Sandy W., and Ruth M.

The following folks helped out on WWW Day:

Writers: Linda A. and LaDawn K.

Baggers and passing out items: Matt Norris and his two children Audrey and Ethan, and Blessing.

Map Recorder: A first time helper, Jean Pollock. She also later observed other areas and helped Martina, Sandrina, and Blessing with clean-up! And I see she has already signed up in December to bag, and pass out! Thanks Jean! And speaking of the sign-up sheet, it has lots of spaces that could be filled by YOU!

Candy for the children was provided by Marilyn S. and Ruth M. Nowella V. also donated a case of laundry detergent. Thanks folks!

107 people served

107 Laundry Detergent

107 Dish Detergent (extra item)

321 rolls of Toilet Paper

Special thanks also go to Martina N. for taking over for me while I was in Wisconsin for 6 months! It was like putting your hand in a bucket of water and taking it out! Thanks also go to Gale F. for ordering and picking up and delivering the diapers to church, and to Marilyn S. for picking up the Toilet Paper and delivering it to church. Know that each of you are greatly appreciated!!

As we approach the birth of our Savior, let us all be thankful for our blessings and have hearts that are willing to help those less fortunate than we are!

In His Service, Ruth Makovsky



Join us

Saturday, DECEMBER 15th
from 8:00-11:00 am

for some hot chocolate, a cinnamon roll, and cookie decorating on your way to Christmas shopping. Come learn about the ministries of The House Next Door and Trinity New Hope—2 organizations working to end homelessness here in Nampa!

Trinity Lutheran Church
8 S. Midland Blvd.
Nampa, ID 83651



Office hour changes starting in 2019

(Non Holiday weeks)

Sunday—Closed
Monday—Closed
Tuesday—9am-1pm
Wednesday—Closed
Thursday—9am-1pm
Friday—9am-1pm
Saturday—Closed

Please email office@redeemerboise.org
With any questions

Lifetree Café

Council leadership and pastors from five ELCA Treasure Valley Churches applied to the Eastern WA-ID Synod Share Fund and received a \$5,000 to launch Treasure Valley Lifetree Café (this will cover subscription and publicity costs for two years). The five congregations include Trinity, Hope in Eagle, Faith in Caldwell, Redeemer in Boise and Immanuel in Boise. Our goal is to launch in Jan. 2019. Trinity will host the training for Lifetree Café volunteers on Saturday, Dec. 8 from 10am-noon.

So, what exactly is it? Lifetree Café is a weekly, hour-long interactive experience that features real people's real stories on film, guided conversation, biblical insights, and time to build relationships. Lifetree Café tackles the topics that most people deal with—topics about the big (and little) stuff that shapes our lives. Family. Friends. Fears. Busyness. Balance. Money. Materialism. Health. Heaven. Peace. Purpose. Lifetree Café is a place where rich conversation is served up every week. At Lifetree Café you're encouraged to share your own stories and listen to others. But if you don't feel like talking, that's okay, too. You're welcome just as you are. Lifetree Café discussion groups are hosted in a variety of venues, such as coffeehouses, cafés, pubs, restaurants, community centers, and churches. Go to www.lifetreecafe.com to read more. Current sites we are considering are The College of Idaho, St. Luke's Medical Center (near Costco in Nampa), The Village in Meridian, and somewhere in Southeast Boise.



December 2018

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| | | | | | | 1 12:00 NA 7:00 NA |
| 2 Advent 1 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:30 Prayer Group | 3 Office Closed 12:00 NA | 4 9:30 Quilters 12:00 NA 7:00 NA | 5 12:00 NA 6:15 Soup Supper 7:00 Advent Worship | 6 11:00 Bible Study 12:00 1st Thursday Soup 12:00 NA 7:00 NA | 7 10:00 Folders 12:00 NA 6:00 Girl Scouts 8:00 NA | 8 12:00 NA 7:00 NA |
| 9 Advent 2 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:30 Prayer Group | 10 Office Closed 12:00 NA 7:00 Men's Group | 11 9:30 Quilters 12:00 NA 7:00 NA | 12 12:00 NA 1:00 Esther/Naomi Circle 6:15 Soup Supper 7:00 Advent Worship | 13 11:00 Bible Study 12:00 NA | 14 10:00 Folders 12:00 NA 6:00 Girl Scouts 8:00 NA | 15 12:00 NA 1:00 WWV 7:00 NA |
| 16 Advent 3 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:30 Prayer Group | 17 Office Closed 12:00 NA | 18 9:30 Quilters 12:00 NA 7:00 NA | 19 12:00 NA 6:15 Soup Supper 7:00 Advent Worship | 20 11:00 Bible Study 12:00 NA | 21 10:00 Folders 12:00 NA 6:00 Girl Scouts 8:00 NA | 22 12:00 NA 7:00 NA |
| 23 Advent 4 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:30 Prayer Group | 24 Xmas Eve 4:00 Family service 8:00 Traditional service 10:00 Candlelight service | 25 Christmas Office Closed | 26 Office Closed 12:00 NA | 27 11:00 Bible Study 12:00 NA | 28 10:00 Folders 12:00 NA 6:00 Girl Scouts 8:00 NA | 29 12:00 NA 7:00 NA |
| 30 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:30 Prayer Group | 31 Office Closed 12:00 NA | | | | | |

Redeemer Lutheran Church

2920 Cassia Street

Boise, ID 83705

Office: 208-344-6758

Web: www.redeemerboise.org

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