

With Gratitude

— A note from Pastor Ken —

I began my newsletter article in November of 2012 in this way: In *Letters and Papers from Prison*, Lutheran theologian, Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, "In normal life we hardly realize how much more we receive than we give, and life cannot be rich without such gratitude. It is so easy to overestimate the importance of our own achievements compared with what we owe to the help of others."

I wouldn't wish my past ten weeks on anyone. The emotions that my family and I have traveled have not been easy. I have shared with some of you that we don't think in days, rather we think in moments. There are good moments and moments of challenge. Or another way to put it is that grief envelopes us in waves. It is as though we have taken a few steps from shore right into the water. Some of the waves that lap up against us are small and others overtake us with seemingly no warning. What we know to be true is that nothing about life seems normal at this time.

And while life is hard, there is gift in this non-normal time. It sounds strange to say and I would obviously prefer to experience this gift another way, but that was not a choice I was given. The gift is what is explained in the earlier Bonhoeffer quote. In the midst of our grief we can easily see what we owe to the help of others. We have received more help, prayer and support than we could have ever imagined. We have been blessed by the community that has raised up around us.

I want to thank the communities of Redeemer and Grace for all you have done through the past weeks – the prayers, the cards, the monetary gifts, the openness to flexible scheduling, the willingness to lead, and all the other things I have failed to mention. You have inspired me and my family through your generosity. Thank you.

Martin Luther called gratitude "the basic Christian attitude." Paul would seem to agree with him when writing his first letter to the people of Thessalonica, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NRSV). As I consider Paul's words, along with Bonhoeffer and Luther, I am again thankful for the community which surrounds my family. For your generosity has not only supported me, but has led me a life of greater gratitude for the grace and love God continues to freely shower upon me through your action.

For ultimately my gratitude comes back to God's radically inclusive love for all people. Luther grasps this ideal in his Large Catechism when he states, "we receive our blessings not from [other people], but from God through

them. Creatures are only the hands, channels and means through which God bestows all blessings" (BoC, 389).

There have been moments of darkness in which doubt of God's presence has crept into my mind. It has come in the form of questions. It has come when I find myself alone with my thoughts. It has come in all manner of ways. And yet the darkness has never stayed for long. It has never found a hold, as light always shines in its midst.

Sometimes the light comes as flickering candle as word of hope is spoken into my ears. Other times it is as bright as a lighthouse as someone shares a piece of their own story with me. Regardless of how it comes, and regardless of how powerful the light is, the light overcomes the darkness and for that I am grateful.

Thank you. Thank you for your part in shining God's light into my life. You are a gift.

Peace,

Ken

First Thursday Soup

First Thursday Lunch will be on the **SECOND Thursday, February 14th.**

We begin at 12:00 p.m. with soups, breads, and desserts.

The cost is \$2.00 per person and *children* are free.

Bring a friend and join us for good food and great fellowship.



Faith Formation

Pastor Ken will be leading some kind of faith formation class in between worship services (9:45-10:15am) from February 10th through March 3rd. The subject matter is still being figured out, but likely going to be something on communion.
All ages welcome.

We are looking for five people who would be willing to share a faith story at midweek services during Lent. What's a faith story? A story about you that shares a time of growth or mission in your life of faith. Or a story that shares a time of pain that raised questions and fears. Basically it is a piece of your story and your walk with Jesus. Pastor Ken will work with those who volunteer to hone their experience into a 3-5 minute story. If you are interested, please talk with Pastor Ken.



Are you stressed by caregiving?

Powerful Tools for Caregivers



A 6-part workshop series designed to help family caregivers find balance while caring for a loved one.

- Learn to:
- * Reduce stress
 - * Make tough decisions
 - * Navigate family dynamics
 - * Connect with resources

2019 CLASS SCHEDULE

<p>Wednesdays, January 9– February 20th 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Skipping week of 1/23/19 McCall Community Center</p>
<p>Thursdays, February 21– March 28th 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm BSU evening class! The Norco Building on BSU campus <small>1529 Helmscott Street in Room 114</small></p>
<p>Tuesday March 5th – April 16th from 1:30–4:00pm Trinity Lutheran Church 8 South Midland, Nampa, ID 83651</p>
<p>Wednesdays April 3- May 8th 1:00 - 3:30 pm Boise Senior Center. *On-Site Respite available– ask for details!*</p>



For more information, or to register
208-947-4281
ashoup@jannus.org



Thank you to everyone who attended the Annual Meeting.

If you did not pick up your giving statement at the annual meeting. All remaining giving statements will be mailed out **January 30th, 2019**



Esther ~ Naomi Circle Bible Study



The Ester~Naomi Circle will meet
for study in the Fellowship Hall at

1:00 p.m. on
Wednesday, February 13th.

We will use the study from
the *Gather* magazine.

If you have a treat to share,
we would love to share it with you.

RUTH CIRCLE

PLEASE WATCH YOUR EMAIL
FOR UPCOMING EVENTS



If you'd like to be included in the email
list, please let the Redeemer office
know. Remember friends are invited
and encouraged to join any Ruth Circle
event.

NO NAME MEN'S GROUP

MONTHLY MEETING: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH (7:00 PM)

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

Question

We will do a true/false question this month. Chroniclers of No-Names questionalia will note that this will be our second true/false (March 2017 was the other).

The opening chapter of *Les Miserables* characterizes French society at the beginning of the 1800s. Victor Hugo, the author, describes those qualities that made the society so wonderful. But he also outlines how the concentration of wealth in the aristocracy and inequality of opportunity had led to extreme poverty, civil unrest, and a series of revolts. Against this backdrop, Victor Hugo makes this observation: "There is always more misery among the lower classes than there is humanity in the upper."

The situation and observation from *Les Miserables* has relevance for us today? (true/false)

And any prayer concerns,

Steve
Acting Secretary

Outreach Activities

Wash, Wipe, & Wear Distribution in January



105 families served

105 Laundry detergent

105 Windex Cleaners

315 rolls of toilet paper

2,275 Diapers

wipes given to families who received size: 1, 2, or 3

First of all Thanks go to the following folks: Gary M. for picking up the soap and Windex, Gary M. and myself for picking up the toilet paper, and Gale F. for ordering and picking up the diapers

Sorters: Linda A., Julie D., Martina N., and Ruthie M.

Baggers and handing out: Martina N., Jean and Matt Pollock

Map Recorder: Luanne T.

Passing out the carter sleepers and candy: Ruthie M.

Writers: Linda A., and Gale F.

The day went smoothly, but it does get noisy with 105 families all talking at once! Maybe it's my hearing aids! Ha! The sleepers were a huge hit! It was announced that they would only be given to Moms who were of child bearing age, but Grandma's would try to get them too! I would point to my gray hair and tell them they were too old and that would make them laugh! Anyway all were given out. A lot of new folks came that were not on the list.

Just a reminder for you to consider writing your name on the sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall! It makes me sooo happy to see the names, and am sure it makes God happy too! If you have never volunteered for this program please consider doing so with your family. Next month we will be doing a volunteer luncheon for all who have volunteered in the past year! You are appreciated!! Invitations will be mailed out so please RSVP so we can be sure to have enough food! Again thanks to all those who helped in January! May God richly bless you all!

In his service, Ruthie Makovsky

Ministry of the Month February



All money given will go towards the Stork Basket Fund which was set up by the women of the church to provide a "basket" of useful items (diapers, etc.) for babies born to church members. This is a wonderful way to support our Moms and their new babies

Now through February, **kindergarten level** books and games are welcomed for a rural Idaho school with limited resources (Castleford, ID). English/Spanish/Bilingual items are most needed. If you would like to donate, please look for this box (below) in the church Fellowship Hall. You are also invited to an open house to celebrate this event at the home of Kari Sansgaard on **FEBRUARY 24 from 2-4 pm.**

Refreshments will be provided. Please contact Kari for more details kasansgaard@gmail.com or 208.921.4039



As always...Thank you, for your support

February 2019

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1 10:00 Folders 12:00 NA 6:00 Girlscouts 8:00 NA	2 7:30 Prayer Group 12:00 NA 3:00 Youth Choir 7:00 NA
3 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:30 Prayer Group	4 Office Closed 12:00 NA	5 9:30 Quilters 12:00 NA 7:00 NA	6 Office Closed 12:00 NA	7 11:00 Bible Study 12:00 1st Thursday Soup 12:00 NA	8 10:00 Folders 12:00 NA 6:00 Girlscouts 8:00 NA	9 7:30 Prayer Group 12:00 NA 3:00 Youth Choir 7:00 NA
10 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:30 Prayer Group	11 Office Closed 12:00 NA 7:00 Men's Group	12 9:30 Quilters 12:00 NA 7:00 NA	13 Office Closed 12:00 NA 1:00 Esther/Naomi	14 11:00 Bible Study 12:00 NA	15 10:00 Folders 12:00 NA 6:00 Girlscouts 8:00 NA	16 7:30 Prayer Group 12:00 NA 1:00 WWW 3:00 Youth Choir 7:00 NA
17 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:30 Prayer Group	18 Office Closed 12:00 NA	19 9:30 Quilters 12:00 NA 7:00 NA	20 Office Closed 12:00 NA	21 11:00 Bible Study 12:00 NA	22 10:00 Folders 12:00 NA 6:00 Girlscouts 8:00 NA	23 7:30 Prayer Group 12:00 NA 3:00 Youth Choir 7:00 NA
24 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:30 Prayer Group	25 Office Closed 12:00 NA	26 9:30 Quilters 12:00 NA 7:00 NA	27 Office Closed 12:00 NA	28 11:00 Bible Study 12:00 NA		

Readings for Sundays in February

February 3	Treasure in Heaven	Matthew 6:7-21
February 10	The Golden Rule	Matthew 7:1-14, 24-29
February 17	Parables of the Kingdom	Matthew 13:24-43
February 24	Feeding 5,000	Matthew 14:13-33

February Altar Guild: Terri Lindemann & Nowela Virginie

Please consider signing up for Flowers or Fellowship...contact the church office for details.

	Flowers:	Coffee and Fellowship Time:
Feb 3	<u>Katherine Ronayne</u>	<u>Morse/Makovsky</u>
Feb 10	<u>Carrothers</u>	_____
Feb 17	<u>Norma Voigt</u>	_____
Feb 24	_____	_____

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: *New prayer requests are shown in bold print.*

Linda Albers
 Family Ryan Albers
 Betty James Allen
 Family of Rev. Baughman
 Chris
 Clay Binford
 Peter Bond
Colleen Brenton
 Joy Brizee
Dave Brown
 Family of Tom Bryant
 Family of Rob Bursik
 Darla Bylinski
 Ray Carleton
Dale Chase
 Family of Lorraine Chavez
 Don Coffman
 Bev Cordes
 Connor's Family
 Family of Katie Davis
 Kristi Davis
 Debbie Deidhaar
De Leon Family
 Dowell Family
 Jennifer Draney

Draney Family
 Mike Edgekoski
Epps Family
Forsberg Family
 Lori Floyd
 Family of Louise Gaedeke
 Thom Garzone
 Family of Dick Gasparotti
 Family of Shirley Gilchrist
 Dani Goodson
 Everly Goodson
 Waverly Goodson
 Alice Holmes
 Harold Horton
 Patsy Horton
 Julie Hulvey
 Ingraham Family
 Family of Larry Irons
 Gloria Jay
 Family of Marilyn Jennings
 Family of Fran Keibler
 Betty Kidd
 Grace Kinsey
 Family Loren Larson
 Family of Bettie Leavitt

Richard McCaskill
 Michele
 Joe Mogen
 Roger Oldenburger
 Kitty Patton
 Andrew & Becca Pike
 Tina Qualls
 Grace Ruddy & Family
 Family of Hank Sather
 Sonia Safron
 Anita Searcy
 Family of Russ Schroeder
 Family of Flora Schweitzer
 Scott and family
 Maxine Spears
 Family of Jane Stene
 Robin Stewart
 Anna Sutherland
 Alan Syron
 Marjorie Tripp
 Jennie Trott
 Jonah Udstuen
 Leia Vogt
 Family of Kenny White
 Family of Michael Zipser



Military

Seth Erickson
 Devan Irons
 Matthew Jay
 Jason Kinsey

Carol Kohtz
 Logan Kostick
 Jonathan Negron
 Jon Savage

Jim Schmeits
 Brian Waybright

Redeemer Lutheran Church

2920 Cassia Street

Boise, ID 83705

Office: 208-344-6758

Web: www.redeemerboise.org

Table of Contents:

Note from Pastor Ken/Lent	Pgs 1-2
1st Thurs. Soup/Faith Formation	Page 2
Opportunity/Workshop/Giving Statements	Page 3
Upcoming Group Events	Page 4
Outreach News	Page 5
February Calendar	Page 6
Readings/Prayers	Page 7

