

# Redeemer Happenings

## June 2024



***That they may be one, as we are one (John 17:20-26)***

Did you know that Jesus prayed these same words twice in the same night? That's how much he desired unity! Let's consider how we can pray for and work toward unity among all those who profess Christ.

"Jesus, on the night before you suffered, you prayed not only for your disciples, but also for "all those who will believe in you through their word" (John 17:20). In your love, you are aware of every single believer throughout time—even me! You know the divisions of different faith traditions, and you know the division in my own heart. Help me to join in your prayer that we would all be one in you!

"When you prayed for unity, Lord, you were keenly aware of every obstacle that works against it. You know how tempting it is for me to hang onto what differentiates me from others, whether it's which church I attend, my cultural heritage, my unique challenges, or my particular talents. Please grant me the humility to celebrate each brother and sister, to learn from them and to listen patiently enough to understand their point of view.

Let me draw close enough to you so that I can catch a glimpse of how much you love each of your precious children.

"Lord, as I look around at all the different faith traditions that confess your name, help me to appreciate the many different people you're drawing together. Male and female, young and old, singles and families both large and small, all join in unison, praying and worshipping you. Help me to see the gifts you've given them and the goodness of your work in their lives.

"Lord, help me to share my gifts with others. In your goodness, draw all of us closer together. May our unity be so striking that it would testify to your amazing love and become an invitation for the whole world to believe in you.

*The word among us, May 2024*



## GARAGE SALE - A TREASURE TROVE OF GIFTS

Many of you will remember the old heavy desk which was housed (for at least fifteen years) in the coat rack area at the back of the Narthex - well, it has a new home. It was placed in the Garage Sale. It did not attract a buyer until late in the day when a prospective buyer offered a home for it, but no money. Subsequently, a couple of fellows offered to deliver it for her, to her nearby apartment. They believed it really needed a new home.

Redeemer's Garage Sale has an interesting history. Initially, it was established as a fundraiser for Redeemer and then the project changed to involve youth, earning money to attend CLAY, the yearly youth gathering. Youth collected items from their homes and from the homes of church members and anyone who would give.

Sadly, with time our youth groups have faded so why keep on?

The obvious and still relevant answer is - it brings in some revenue and also fits with our belief that our world is a gift from God and good stewardship means making use of God's gifts and not wasting. However, truly, God's blessings abound when ministry happens within the team. Yes, it is hard work but it binds people together. Members get to know and appreciate each other - they develop a deeper sense of our Christian community. They laugh and develop camaraderie and, at the same time, interact with community members who come to the Garage Sale. They spread joy and God's love to others. As I remember, it was a fun time for all - a challenging project - knowing that, in service, participants are serving Christ and community.

So, yes the garage sale is hard work and the generosity of our people who organize, collect items, set up the hall in festive mode, price and sell is exemplary! Thank you to all who share and participate in any way.



So why? The Garage Sale allows us to be stewards - to give of our possessions, our time and talents. The Garage Sale further develops our relationships with others, enhancing and strengthening our Christian Community.

Thanks once again to the many, many people who worked so hard and shared of themselves to make the Garage Sale a success - a blessing to our congregation and to the community who live near Redeemer.



**Ubi Caritas et Amor; Ubi Caritas Deus Ibi Est**  
**Where True Charity and Love Abide**  
**God is Dwelling There**



### **Real Ministry, Real Difference: Why are men sometimes reluctant to accept help**

**This is an excerpt from [www.stephenministry.com](http://www.stephenministry.com) where Joel Betcher interviews Steve Feith, a retired Navy Commander who became a Stephen Minister.**

**Joel: Men are sometimes reluctant to reach out for help or to accept help. Can you tell me more about how men could benefit from having a Stephen Minister?**

**Steve:** I would encourage any man going through something difficult—divorce, loss of a job, death of a loved one, financial difficulties, a serious illness—to be open to having a Stephen Minister. Men are often conditioned to be strong and self-reliant, so we put a wall around ourselves and don't talk about what's going on inside. But talking with a Stephen Minister really will help. I've seen the difference it can make. Your Stephen Minister is going to respect you. He's not going to tell you what to do; he's not going to judge you. He's there to listen—to walk alongside, to help you talk things out and work things through. And it's totally confidential. No one will even know you have a Stephen Minister, and your Stephen Minister won't share anything you say. And remember, it's not just the two of you in that caring relationship—the Lord's there too, and that's where the healing comes in. It's God who will help you take hold of what's buried deep inside and bring it out and kick it out the door. So I would recommend Stephen Ministry to any man—or woman—during a difficult time.

**Joel: What would you say to encourage other men to become Stephen Ministers?**

**Steve:** I'd say, if you think God's calling you to this ministry, if you even have an inkling that you want to be a Stephen Minister, give it a shot! The training is fantastic. It took an old nub like me, rounded off the edges, and taught me how to relate in a more caring way. You're going to be very well trained, and you'll have the Lord right there shoulder to shoulder with you. And if you're like me—and you're not a real touchy-feely person—you can still be a good Stephen Minister. You just need to be willing "I no longer see people in terms of problems needing to be fixed. I see them as people who need me to walk with them and reflect Christ to them." "My care receivers each needed someone to talk to, someone who would listen and care—and I was blessed to be that someone," says Steve. Stephen Ministry is about one man supporting another in the name of the Lord. It feels so good to be able to really help someone. The rewards you get from being a Stephen Minister, personally and spiritually—I just can't tell you how great they are. You have to experience it for yourself.

You can learn more about Steve on The Stephen Ministry web site under "A Stephen Minister Story"

MARK YOU CALENDAR

PICNIC



JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup>

EVERYONE is invited to join in our

**SUMMER KICK-OFF PICNIC** on June 9th

immediately following Worship.

ALL ages are invited to enjoy a picnic lunch

and some summer fun!

Watch for more details coming next week.

JOIN US FOR A

**BAR-B-Q**

O.W.L.S. BARBEQUE

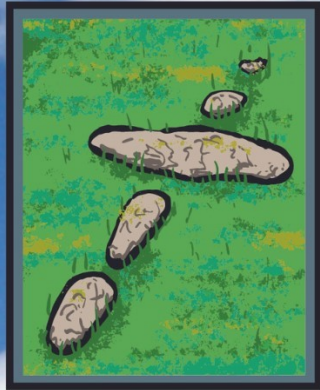
honouring  
SENIORS

Wednesday, June 12  
Noon

Good Friends  
Great Food  
Cold Iced Tea

RSVP to the church office by  
Monday, June 10  
Limited seating  
FREE

Greetings



# STONES CRY OUT:

*Praying with the Land*

*ELCIC/ACC National Worship Conference  
July 18-21, 2024 — Regina, Saskatchewan*

## Registration is open!

**Early bird price, before May 31:  
\$475 per person**

**June 1 and later:  
\$525 per person**

**Visit  
[www.nationalworshipconference.org](http://www.nationalworshipconference.org)  
to register now!**

## FINANCIAL UPDATE



There was a surplus of \$3,322.99 for April 2024 before the fund account revenues and expenses. There is a small deficit for the year so far to the end of April 2024 of \$330.93. The envelope giving for April 2024 was \$35,902.11 and \$98,319.57 for the year to the end of April 2024. Thank you to everyone who has so generously contributed to Redeemer's operations.

An offering plate is located at the top of the stairs in the sanctuary for you to drop off your donation as you enter or exit the church service. In addition, the following options are available for you to make a donation:

### 1. Mail to or drop off a cheque at the church

You can mail a cheque directly to the church office. Mailing address: 812 Preston Avenue, Saskatoon, Sask. S7H 2V2. You can also drop off a cheque in the mailbox at the front of the church or in the church office.

### 2. Interac E-Transfer using online banking

We are set up for automatic deposit. If you use online banking, you may make a payment to Redeemer Lutheran Church by:

- i. Logging into your personal banking account, add Redeemer Lutheran Church as a recipient using the email address [redeemer.luth.stoon@sasktel.net](mailto:redeemer.luth.stoon@sasktel.net)
- ii. Enter the desired amount and click send. Instructions on how to send and receive an e-transfer are found on Interac's website: <https://www.interac.ca/en/consumers/products/interac-e-transfer/>

### 3. Monthly PAD donation

You may request to sign up for a monthly Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) donation. This option allows you to automatically make your donation monthly by allowing the church to debit your account for your donation. Please contact the church office if you would like to take advantage of this giving option.

Please note that you may also donate marketable securities to the church. This will allow you to eliminate any capital gains taxes and allow you a tax donation credit at the same time.

Please contact the church office for details on making a donation of marketable securities to the church.

Ron Litzenberger



The College of Emmanuel & St. Chad is seeking a **development assistant**, who will be responsible for donor communications and record keeping. This position is 20 hours per month, and can be done mostly from home.

Please contact the Principal for more details at 306-975-1555 or [iain.luke@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca](mailto:iain.luke@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca)

Applications close June 7.



Rebekah Circle June Bible study will be held on **Tuesday, June 18 @ 7:00 pm. in the Fire-side Lounge.**

May/June Gather Magazine, pages 20-26.

All ladies are welcome to attend.



Men's Prayer Breakfast will be **Saturday, June 18 at 8am @ Smittys.**

ALL MEN ARE WELCOME



## *Thomas Stephen Gullason*

12 Mar 1948– 25 May 2024

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After a life filled with love and laughter, tap dancing and anything chocolate, the family of Thomas (Tom) Gullason announces his passing on Saturday, May 25, 2024 at Sherbrooke Community Centre in Saskatoon, at the age of 76.

Tom is survived by his loving wife, Bernice; brother, Les (Deb); nephew, Robin (Renee) and their children, Clara and Jasper; nephew, Michael (Shannon); sister, Trish (Bill); sister, Michelle (Chris); brother-in-law, Amos. He is predeceased by his parents, Michael and Margaret; in-laws, John and Elsie; sister-in-law, Sheryl.

Tom was born in Canora, SK, in 1948 and received his elementary and high school education there. His post-secondary education included B.A. from the U of S and a M.S.W. from the U of T. Tom worked as a social worker and mediator for the provincial government for close to thirty years. He was quick to make friends and loved to converse with all. Special thanks to the staff, residents and their families at Sherbrooke. Your love and caring will never be forgotten.

A funeral service for Tom will be held on Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Spirit Parish (114 Kingsmere Place, Saskatoon, SK). Donations in Tom's memory may be made to the Sherbrooke Foundation Inc., (401 Acadia Drive, Saskatoon, SK. S7H 2E7) or Parkinson Canada (4211, Yonge Street, North York, ON. M2P 2A9).



# Redeemer Lutheran Church

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## Office hours

Monday to Thursday 9am-12pm & 1-4  
(Friday afternoon office is closed)

A Community of  
Life & Love,  
Hope & Healing



We're on the web!  
[redeemersaskatoon.ca](http://redeemersaskatoon.ca)



Join Us On  
**You Tube**

If you are unable to worship with us in person, join us each week at 9:50 am on YouTube by clicking this link:

[Redeemer Lutheran Saskatoon - YouTube](#)

**This link is also available on the homepage of our website [redeemersaskatoon.ca](http://redeemersaskatoon.ca) at any time.**

You can also go to this same link at any time afterwards to view the service if you are unable to join at 10am. We encourage you to hit 'subscribe' on our YouTube page, so that all future worship services will be highlighted for you. If you have any questions or need assistance in connecting to our YouTube site, just give us a call and we will be glad to help you out.