

Redeemer Happenings



October 2024



You will fill me with joy in your presence, Psalm 16;11

FINDING WISE JOY

The pandemic was winning. That's how it looked to Jason Persoff, an emergency room doctor at a large hospital committed to saving patients with Covid. How could he give his best? During off hours, he relaxed by taking enlarged photos of something small—individual snowflakes. It “sound crazy”, says Dr. Persoff. But finding joy in something small but beautiful is “an opportunity to bond with my Creator and also to see the world in a way that few people take time to notice”.

Wisely looking for such joy—to ease stress and build resilience—is a high value in the medical profession, the doctor said.

But for everyone he has this advice: “You've got to breathe, You have got to find a way of take a breath and enjoy life”

David the psalmist expressed this thought in Psalm 16 as he declared the wisdom of finding joy in God. “Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup” he wrote. “Therefore my heart is glad an my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure (v. 5,9). There are many unwise things people do as they try to decompress. Dr. Persoff found the wise path—one that pointed him to the Creator, who offers us the joy of His presence. “You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence with eternal pleasure at your right hand” (v.11) In Him we find joy evermore.

Patricia Raybon, Our Daily Bread

How does finding wise joy bless your life?

Though our feelings come and go, God's love for us does not

C S Lewis



GRATITUDE

YOU ARE INVITED to join us **NEXT Sunday, Oct. 6** at 11:00 – following worship! **ALL AGES** are **WELCOME!!** Children & Parents, Grandchildren & Grandparents, Youth, Students, Young Adults, Older Adults, Seniors....

This is a time for **GIFT**—**Growing In Faith Together**—where we **CONNECT** with all generations, **HEAR** and **EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD** through activities and song, **CREATE, PLAY & EAT!** A delicious warm and welcoming Fall meal of Soup & Bread & more.

If you are available to share a **Pot of SOUP** (enough for 10-12 people), **BREAD and BUNS** (a loaf or a dozen buns) or “Fall-flavoured” goodies (ie. Pumpkin, carrot, zucchini... cake, squares or cookies), please sign up in the Place of Welcome or talk to Pastor Trent or Elaine Akre or call the church office by Thursday this week. There will be food for ALL! We look forward, with **GRATITUDE**, to sharing this time and meal together! Remember —**YOU ARE INVITED!! THERE'S ROOM FOR ALL!!**



Death Café



Gabriele McClure
Facilitator



• A Death Café is a place where people gather to eat cake, drink tea and discuss death, dying and facing our own mortality.

Talking about death is.....

..... part of life

Please join us every 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Where: Redeemer Lutheran Church
812 Preston Ave.

Time: 10am – 11:10am

After the regular session, there will be some time to talk with the one on one.

The sessions are free of charge. A donation of cookies or sweets would be greatly appreciated.

Phone: 306.750.3732

email: gabi.mcclure57@gmail.com

A note from the Amalgamation Committee:

Thank you to everyone who attended the amalgamation committee town hall after the September 22, 2024, church service. Thank you also to those who provided questions and comments at the town hall.

At this time, work towards amalgamation is quite preliminary. We ask that you prayerfully think about whether amalgamation is a viable option for Redeemer to consider. As indicated, we will have another meeting within the next few weeks along with a vote as to whether Redeemer should continue work towards amalgamation with another/other ELCIC church(es) in Saskatoon. Currently, Trinity, Resurrection, Zion and Redeemer congregations are represented on the committee.

If you would like to provide further comments or would like to ask the committee a question or questions, you may provide your comments or questions by e-mail to rlc.ap@sasktel.net or you may submit your questions or comments to the committee in the offering plate at the top of the stairs in the sanctuary. A communication sheet will be available next to the offering plate which you may complete and place in the offering plate.

Bruce Grahn & Ron Litzenberger

Redeemer's representatives on the Amalgamation Committee"



Rebekah Circle June Bible study will be held on
Tuesday, October 15 @ 7:00 pm. in the Fireside Lounge.

Pastor Trent is our leader

All women welcome



The LutherCare Foundation is delighted to invite you to the 21st Annual Power Breakfast, taking place on **Thursday, October 17, at 7:30 AM** at Luther Riverside Terrace

Please RSVP by Wednesday, October 9, to ensure your spot at this highly anticipated event. Call 306-649-6364 or email foundation@luthercare.com



ADVENT - CHRISTMAS MARKET & TEA

coming to Redeemer on **November 23, 2024**

Mark it on your calendar and plan to join us for another day of gathering in community at Redeemer.

There will be:

- ♦ local hand made **CRAFT CREATIONS** of many kinds
- ♦ a bake sale table of **TASTY TREATS**
- ♦ a **"NEW TO YOU"** CHRISTMAS SALES AREA
- ♦ an **ADVENT-CHRISTMAS TEA ROOM** —something for everyone!

CALLING ALL MAKERS & CRAFTERS! If you are a creator of handmade items that you might like to show & sell, it's now time to book a table for the day. \$10/table Space is limited—please contact us by October 15! And if you know of other makers or crafters that might like to join us, please share this invitation with them.

CALLING ALL CHRISTMAS DÉCOR LOVERS: Now is the time! If you have collected Christmas décor or household items that you no longer use and are ready for a new home we invite you to share them for our "new to you" CHRISTMAS SALES AREA. We will welcome items beginning October 15th.

CALLING ALL BAKERS: If you might like to share some seasonal or favorite baking for a bake table and our tea room, please sign up on the **MARKET** bulletin board in the Place of Welcome.

ONE MORE CALLING! If you'd like to join our planning/organizing team, be part of setting up and/or serving at the tea or baking table, please sign up in the Place of Welcome or contact Elaine Akre 306 220 8074, Marlo Wilson 306 291 8212 or the church office 306 374 7585.

CALLING EVERYONE! If you like to enjoy exploring hand-made items and Christmas goodies, if you'd like to refresh some of your Christmas décor, if you like to connect and visit with friends and neighbours—**THIS is a day for you to be part of!**



October: Stewardship Message from RLC Stewardship Committee

Each month a member of Redeemer's Stewardship Committee provides a message for the Monthly Newsletter. This month is my turn to share thoughts with you. My first intention was to focus

on stewardship and health care. What were my experiences with health care professionals when having a hip replacement and then in the past six weeks when my operative hip became dislocated. My experiences were positive and caring. The staff had the time and skill to give quality support and teaching. Have time to expand those findings into a stewardship message but alas turned to my computer to get more ideas and came across an article which reached out. No stress no mess! I hope it is as meaningful to you as it was to me.

"ARE YOU LIVING LIKE A BUCKET OR A PIPE"

ARE YOU LIVING LIKE A BUCKET OR A PIPE

Are you living like a bucket or a pipe? This is a rather odd metaphorical question; yet, consider the purpose of each. A bucket is designed to hold things (liquids, dirt, etc.). A pipe is designed to convey things through it (water, gas, etc.). The bucket holds what it receives, while the pipe passes on what it receives. Let me ask: In regards to the material possessions that God has entrusted to you, are you living like a bucket or a pipe? Are you holding on or passing on?

The Way of the Bucket

It is easy to live like a bucket; here is why:

#1: We can find ourselves living like a bucket when we ignore the ultimate end of all buckets.

I saw a bumper sticker some time ago that read, “He who dies with the most toys wins.” What an accurate way to express the world’s view of life and possessions. But it immediately occurred to me that yes, this is true if the game of life is all about accumulation. But the sad tragedy is that he who dies with the most toys still dies, and then someone else will get to play with all those toys.

David reminds us in Psalm 49:16-17 (NIV),

Do not be overawed when others grows rich [when he has a big bucket and it is full], when the splendor of their houses increases; for they will take nothing with him when they die, their splendor will not descend with them.

God condemns the rich farmer for this very thing: *God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared [what is left in your bucket]? So is the man who stores up treasure for himself [keeps his own bucket full], and is not rich toward God (Luke 12:20-21, NASB).* What we keep in our bucket will eventually leak out, be stolen, taxed, evaporate, or spilled out when we “kick the bucket.” This should give us reason to pause as we consider the folly of living life like a bucket.

#2: We can find ourselves living like a bucket when we bestow on ourselves “Most Important Person” status.

When we want and need to become the center of attention, we will find ourselves living like a bucket. Jesus sternly warns us about the narcissistic attitude that declares us the center of the universe. Again, the parable of the rich farmer is the classic example. The farmer was incredibly successful and had more than his current “bucket” could hold, so he chose to replace his smaller bucket with a larger bucket to hold all the new stuff he had accumulated. Jesus nails the selfishness of the farmer in Luke 12:15 when He warns, ‘...Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions.’ The farmer was proud of his full and overflowing bucket, but God was not proud of him.

#3: We can find ourselves living like a bucket when we embrace the belief that filling our bucket is the way to real happiness.

John D. Rockefeller honestly admitted, “I have made many millions, but they have brought me no happiness.” Henry Ford confessed after becoming a multi-millionaire, “I was happier doing a mechanic’s job.” However, we still want to believe the lie that “happy is the man whose bucket is full.” Solomon, who was perhaps the richest man to have ever lived, agonized about the futility of his riches in Ecclesiastes 2:11 (NIV), *Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun.* Somehow, we still want to believe that “happy is the man whose bucket is full.” Solomon observed in Ecclesiastes 5:13 what happens when people try to keep what is in their bucket for their own selfish enjoyment, *I have seen a grievous evil under the sun: wealth hoarded to the harm of its owners....*

The Way of the Pipe

Even though our sinful, fallen nature entices us to live life like we are a bucket, it is a cruel fantasy that ultimately leads to disappointment, destruction, and death. But what about living like a pipe? Let us consider this alternative.

#1: We will find ourselves living like a pipe when we understand God created us to *pass on*, not *hold on*.

In God’s economy, a pipe is infinitely more useful to Him than a bucket! He created us to be conduits and not receptacles of His blessings. What happens if a pipe gets confused and starts thinking it is a bucket? Things get stuck, the pipe gets clogged, and the only solution is for the pipe to be “roto-rooted” so it can go back to doing what it was made to do—let things flow *through* it, not just *to* it.

Do you know what happens to the body when its arteries or colon get clogged? When your internal plumbing is not working, your body is going to be greatly hindered in its normal activities. God has created many of us to be high-capacity pipes so we can pump significant amounts through us to support kingdom causes near and dear to His heart. Let us look at what Paul tells Timothy in 1 Timothy 6:17-19 (NASB):

Instruct those who are rich in this present world [high capacity pipes] not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share [let it flow freely], storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.

Nothing produces *life indeed* like doing what God has created us to do. God has positioned us to turn on our spigot and let it flow!

R. G. Letourneau was once asked how he could be giving ninety percent of his income away each year and still be getting richer. He smiled and confessed, “I keep shoveling it out and God keeps shoveling it right back in—and He has a bigger shovel!”

#2: We will find ourselves living like a pipe when we really believe that what we are letting flow through us today will ultimately flow back to us later.

There is a great, eternal “payback” for being a pipe. The bucket gets what it gets while it is here, and that is its reward. But the pipe receives a different payback. All that has flowed through it for all those years of life are

being recorded, and it will all be waiting for us when we relocate to our permanent residence in glory. Malachi 3:16 (ESV) says, *A book of remembrance was written before Him of those who feared the Lord and esteemed His name.* God is monitoring your outflow.

Jesus assures us of this eternal “payback” in multiple places. In Matthew 6:20-21 (NASB), He encourages us, *But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.* We lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven by what we willingly let flow through us in giving to others in this life.

In Matthew 19:21, Jesus charged the rich young ruler, *...‘If you wish to be complete, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.* Pass it through now and it will be waiting for you in heaven. Jesus was not asking him to give it up; he was just asking him to send it on ahead for later use and enjoyment. Not a bad deal if we keep in mind that this life may last eighty years, but eternity...well, it is a whole lot longer than that!

#3: We will find ourselves living like a pipe when the desires of God’s heart truly become the desires of our heart.

Psalm 37:4 powerfully states, *Delight yourself in the Lord; And He will give you the desires of your heart.* Most people have incorrectly interpreted this verse to read, “You delight yourself in the Lord and then the Lord will give you what you want,” but it more accurately should be understood this way: “Delight yourself in the Lord and then the Lord will give you *His desires* for your heart.” In other words, as we delight ourselves in Him, He will replace our heart’s desires with His heart’s desires, so that we will love what He loves and will have compassion on whom He has compassion. Once God has our heart’s desires aligned with His heart’s desires, we will find ourselves driven to be a high-capacity pipe, allowing as much grace and blessing as possible to fall upon those for whom the Lord wants to touch and care.

We must not forget the sobering words of our Lord who said, *‘From everyone who has been given much [high-flow capacity], much [high-flow capacity] will be required...’* (Luke 12:48b). Jim Elliot, who was martyred while trying to share Christ with a native tribe in South America, wrote, “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose.” What we accumulate on this earth we cannot keep, and what we accumulate in heaven we cannot lose. Seems like a “no-brainer,” doesn’t it? If God has blessed you to be a high-capacity pipe, I encourage you to freely open your spigot and let God’s blessings and provision pour forth on those who need a blessing from God! In so doing, you will have everything to gain and nothing to lose.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR — E. G. “JAY” LINK

E. G. “Jay” Link has a unique combination of being an ordained minister with a Master Divinity degree in Biblical Theology and a professional Stewardship planning coach who for over 40 years has been working with very affluent Christian families to enable them to optimize their Kingdom impact with all that the Lord has entrusted to them to manage. After retiring from his personal practice, he then served for five years as Director of Taylor University’s Stewardship Planning Ministry, which he launched for them. Most recently, Jay founded the Stewardship Resource Group to serve Christian ministries, colleges, and churches to better minister to their highest capacity families. He has written six books, hundreds of articles and has provided extensive training curriculum for hundreds of professional financial and legal advisors in how to provide stewardship planning services for their clients.

FINANCIAL UPDATE



There was a surplus of \$6,554.15 for August 2024 before the fund account revenues and expenses. There is a deficit for the year so far to the end of August 2024 of \$7,117.04. The envelope giving for August 2024 was \$29,093.82 and \$186,378.88 for the year to the end of August 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

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

Threads of Our Lives, Threads of our Faith

**“For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother’s womb” Psalm 139:13**

Lutheran Anglican Women’s Retreat

Saturday, October 26th, 2024

at Redeemer Lutheran Church

812 Preston Ave. S. Saskatoon, SK

9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

This gathering is by women for women, our speaker is Fran Schmidt:
sister, daughter, aunt, singer, writer, speaker, Lutheran Pastor,
Anglican Rector, and Spiritual Director.

Registration is \$30

*Please note: bring your own lunch

**Our offering will go to Haven Family Connections
(formerly crisis nursery)**

**For more information or to register,
Bev Otsuka, (306) 227-9102 or email,
bevotsuka@gmail.com**

LUTHERAN & ANGLICAN WOMEN'S RETREAT

We invite you to join us for a day of stories,
worship and connection

Theme:

Threads of Our Lives,
Threads of our Faith

WHEN: Saturday, October 26, 2024

WHERE: Redeemer Lutheran Church, 812 Preston Ave. S.

TIME: 9:30am – 4 pm. Bring your own Bag Lunch

Cost: \$30

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Parish / Church _____

Cost: \$ 30.00

Payment by cheque "LAW Retreat" _____

At the door _____ or e-transfer to 306 227-9102 or bevotsuka@gmail.com

Dietary restrictions (for coffee breaks): _____

Bring your own noon bag lunch. Coffee, tea, juice and muffins provided at coffee breaks.

To register please return your information by Oct. 20th by email to
bevotsuka@gmail.com



The Saskatchewan Synod

You are invited to pray for and attend

the

Ordination

of

Hubert Tote Alimezelli (Ali Tote)

as **Bishop** of

the Saskatchewan Synod

Saturday, October 12th, 2024

2:00 pm

Zion Lutheran Church

323 4th Ave. S

Saskatoon, SK

More details will be available soon!



Spiritual Care

Looking for meaningful volunteer work? We are looking for volunteers to visit our sites weekly. If interested, please contact the number below.

Lori James

306-649-6369



LutherCare Communities requires screening for all volunteers.

Redeemer Lutheran Church

812 Preston Avenue
Saskatoon SK
S7H 2V2

Phone: 306-374-7585

E-mail: redeemer.luth.stoon@sasktel.net

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

THE SECRET OF A HAPPY LIFE IS GIVING GOD:

1. *The first part of your day*
2. *The first priority to every decision*
3. *The first place in your heart*



Join Us On



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 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.