

Very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" Mark 16: 1-8

That first Easter morning, when the women made their way to the tomb, they had just one question on their minds: *"Who will roll away the stone for us?"* For it was a very large stone. It would have taken about twenty men to roll the stone away, given what we know about tombs at that time. So these three women knew they didn't stand a chance.

They wanted to anoint their beloved Savior's dead body. It would be their last act of love toward the one who showed them such love. But how? As they headed to the tomb that morning, that was foremost on their minds. Apparently, they were not thinking about whether the guards would let them approach the tomb. They weren't worried about being arrested, as followers of Jesus. They weren't wondering why Peter and the others were not joining them. They weren't concerned with how they would react to seeing Jesus' dead body, their Savior, crucified and laying dead in a tomb. No. All they were really thinking about was, who would roll away the stone for them? For it was a very large stone.

#### **Easter's Many Meanings**

Easter means many things to us as Christians. It is too big a miracle to mean just one thing. Easter clearly means that Christ is risen. It means that Jesus has defeated death. Easter means that eternal life is real, that death does not end our life with God. That all who live and believe will never die.

But that stone being rolled away from the tomb – a detail recorded in all four gospels – tells us something else about Easter that I think is quite significant. The stone being rolled away tells us that Easter is also about the ways in which God removes obstacles in our life, those obstacles that try to keep us from God, and try to stop us from living the life that God has called us to live.

Today, I invite you to think about the large stones in your life. Those obstacles that are keeping you from living the full abundant life with Christ, here and now. Think about those challenges that are trying to keep you in your tombs, so to speak. Those battles that paralyze us with fear, that trap us, that try to stop us from living, really living, our new lives in Christ. And, then, think about what Easter teaches us about how God plans to remove those stones.



### GROWING - GROW in to SPRING - GROW in GOD'S WORD -ROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

YOU ARE INVITED to join us on Sunday, May 4th at 11:00 am (following Worship) as we experience a bit of SPRING PLANTING and GROWING in GOD'S WORD.

Children, grandchildren, youth, adults, friends of ALL ages – Come, connect, sing, get your hands in spring soil and EAT a spring meal with a surprise dessert!

Lord, let my heart be good soil open to the seed of your word Lord, let my heart be good soil Where love can grow and peace is understood





National Volunteer Week April 27 – May 3, 2025

The RLC Leadership would like to express how fortunate our church community is to have such enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers. Each and every one of you are valued for your willingness to step up in a variety of roles. Redeemer is a better place because of our eager volunteers – THANK-YOU!!

"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in." – Author Unknown

#### The Miracle of Growth. The Rewards along the Way

Grow where you are planted. What does this really mean?

Are you the plant? the soil? the seed? the pot? or the planter?

These are questions that we all may wrestle with throughout life.

We see the world, hear the world, smell the world, feel the world. The beauty, the struggles and all that is in between. There are changes, there are challenges. So, how do we fit in?

Stewardship is...

Ster

ASKING

The Plant: Tall or short; by a stream, on a rock cliff, or on the prairies: So, when you are planted, where are you? At work, school, home, on holidays, with family, with neighbors, with strangers?

The Seed: A vegetable, a fruit, a tree: So, when you are the seed, where might you be? What's your potential? Who will you feed? Who will you protect?

The Soil: Full of nutrients, ability to retain water, place to grow: So, when you are the soil, where might you be? How will you nurture the seeds that are sown? What good advice will you offer? What help will you extend? What are you sharing, so that others around you will live a full life?

The Pot: The protector. The holder of all the contents: So, when you are the pot, where might you be? Who are you holding? How are you protecting? Who are you caring for?

The planter: The wisdom of the design, the dreamer. So, when you are the planter, where are you? What dreams do you have to help better the world? What plans do you have to protect the world you care for? What wisdom are you willing to give to those around you?

We are all part of God's creation, right where we are. Helping and learning from each other.

Then God said: "Let the land produce vegetation, seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds. And it was so. The land produced vegetation: plant bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kind. And God saw that it was good. Genesis 1:11-12

In this world we live, we are all these elements of Spring...

Happy Gardening in God's Creation!

Hans F. Graupe

## CITY WIDE LUTHERAN YOUTH EVENT

# **ATH BE ATH BE NITH YOU!**

come enjoy some fun with other youth from around the city lunch provided, activity to follow

Augustana Lutheran Church 1201 Broadway Ave

12:30 pm - 3 pm May 4, 2025

The land is dry.

The land is waiting.

Beneath the grey once cold white canvas,

The colour wheel sleeps.

Splash!

Splash!

Splash!

With the stoke of the Master's paint brush,

Watercolours emerge from slumber.

Spring

Hans F. Graupe





Naomi Circle Meeting

Tuesday, May 27 2:00 pm @ Becky Wilson's 239 Christopher Cr. Please contact Becky 306.230.5695 for a copy of the study or if you need a ride. All ladies are welcome to attend.



Rebekah Circle Bible study will be held on **Tuesday, May 20@ 7:00 pm. in the Fireside Lounge.** Julie is our leader

All women welcome



#### <u>Men's prayer breakfast</u>

Saturday, May 17 at 8am

Smitty's in Market Mall

## May 10 8-2pm

Come by for yummy burgers and hunt for "hidden treasures" at our annual garage sale.



Volunteer Sign up sheet is up. There are still spots available for volunteers.



There was a deficit of \$5,266.44 for the month of March 2025 and a deficit of \$3,108.42 for the year to the end of March 2025, before the fund account revenues and expenses. The general fund giving for March 2025 was \$20,061.80 and for the year to the end of March 2025 it was \$66,945.68. The next monthly financial statement will include budgeted amounts for each line item. 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 <u>redeemer.luth.stoon@sasktel.net</u>

ii. Enter the desired amount and click send. Instructions on how to send and receive an e-transfer are found on Interac's website: <u>https://www.interac.ca/en/consumers/products/interac-e-transfer/</u>

#### 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

Augustana Lutheran Church, 1201 Broadway Avenue

## "WALK WITH ME"

Presented by Augustana-St. Timothy's Choir with Special Guest Instrumentalists Cherie Jarock, Tollef & Ruari Tastad THURSDAY MAY 15, 2025 @ 7:30 PM

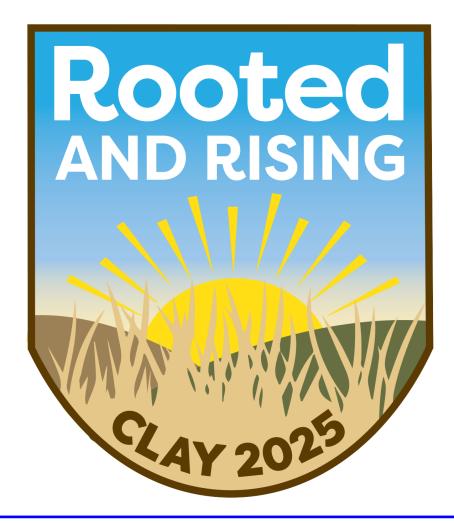
A COFFEE RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW

ADMISSION IS FREE; a free-will offering will be collected, with gifts divided between the cost of repairs to Augustana's organ and Journey Home.

Journey Home is a non-profit housing initiative through partnership between Saskatoon Crisis Intervention Service and United Way of Saskatoon & Area. The initative provides immediate access to housing for people with complex needs who have been chronically homeless.

For more information:

https://www.saskatooncrisis.ca/intensive-community-support.



Registration for CLAY 2025 IS NOW OPEN! If you and your Home Team haven't registered yet, you can do so now and take advantage of the early bird rates. Please visit : <u>www.claygathering.ca</u>

Stay up to date with CLAY news by giving their Facebook and Instagram a follow.







# LUTHERAN COLLEGIATE BIBLE INSTITUTE Chamber Choir

Saturday, May 31st 7:00pm

Zion Lutheran Saskatoon, SK

Sunday, June 1st 11:00am St. John's Lutheran Shellbrook, SK



office@lcbi.sk.ca

www.lcbi.sk.ca

(306) 867-8971

## KINASAO WOMEN'S RETREAT MAY 2-4 - \$130 - AGES 18+



ENJOY A WEEKEND GETAWAY FULL OF CONNECTION WITH OTHERS & GOD, DELICIOUS FOOD, AND TIME TO JUST BE IN A PLACE SET APART.

GUEST SPEAKER ALISON UITTI WILL BE SHARING ON THE THEME "WALKING THE GAZA ROAD" - FOLLOWING JESUS IN THE FACE OF UNCERTAINTY, PERSECUTION AND LOSS



## REGISTER BY APRIL 25 AT KINASAO.CA PRICE WILL INCREASE \$25 ON APR 18

## **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



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.