

Redeemer Review April 2024

Volume 48 Number 4

Pastor Sean Kilgo
Share God's Love and Salvation with All People



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Worship Service Schedule

Sunday Morning

Sunday School Hour 9:00am

Divine Worship Service 10:00am

Wednesday Evening

Divine Worship Service 7:00pm



Holy Communion celebrated every Divine Service

Church Office Hours

Tuesday – Friday 8:30am to Noon

A Passionate & Well-Educated Church

Dear Saints of Redeemer,

In just about every area of life we expect those we are dealing with to be both confident and knowledgeable in whatever it is they are doing. Lawyer, doctor, teacher, plumber, electrician, etc. Even when we talk with someone about everyday things like sports or cooking, we expect those who are regularly involved in these things to know and love what they're talking about.

We expect the season ticket holder to KU football to know who's playing on the team, who the coach is, what their record is, etc. The person who spends much of their free time cooking ought to know how to do different types of reductions, how to make pies and cakes, the best way(s) to cook a steak, etc. And in both instances, we expect them to be passionate about the thing. Whether it's their job or their hobby. They should know what they're talking about, and they should be excited about it as well.

For some reason, however, when it comes to the church, like many other areas of life, we jettison these expectations. You expect the math student to memorize equations, the physics student to memorize formulas, the law student to memorize case law, but the student of the scriptures???? Well, if they know the scriptures, the catechism, the hymns, the liturgy, that's great, but they don't really *need* to, do they?

We expect that the professional athlete continue to work on their craft. We expect the teacher or tradesman to continue learning in their field. We even expect the amateur woodworker to improve their woodworking abilities. But the Christian???? Not really.

And we expect this passion for vocation, craft, and hobby to permeate, not only the desire of one to learn more and improve themselves in those areas, but to come out when they talk about it as well. Imagine a Chiefs fan trying to convince someone that the Chiefs are the best football team, but doing so with indifference. Or imagine a professor trying to teach students the importance of chemical bonds but with no passion. You would assume that the person talking to you doesn't actually believe themselves what they're trying to get you to believe. We expect passion in sports, in hobbies, in teaching, in life, but in the profession and practice of the faith???? Not so much. When it comes to just about every other area of life, we expect people to be passionate and well-educated. So, why is it that when it comes to being a Christian, we not only have lower expectations, but in many instances no expectations at all? This seems to have the whole thing backwards.

Yes, your vocation that God has called you into is important. Yes, your hobbies are good and important (generally). Yes, you should devote time and energy to these things, learning them, understanding them, honing your craft, skill, and knowledge. But, being a Christian is more important. Knowing your bible is more important. Cultivating virtue and knowledge is more important.

We should have the highest expectation of ourselves and those around us who also bear the name Christian. We should expect all Christians to be excited about the faith, the scriptures, the catechism, the liturgy, the hymns, and every other aspect of the life of faith lived out. We should expect all Christians to know their bibles. We should expect them to be passionate and well-educated.

Apart from a general apathy and indifference that can set in regarding the learning and practice of the faith (which is a topic for another time), one of the primary barriers which gets set up in opposition to spending time learning, meditating, studying, and rejoicing in the scriptures so that (Continued on page 2)

we would be passionate and well-educated, is that we don't have enough time. Allow me, then, just a moment, to point something out: We have plenty of time, we just prioritize other things.

If you were to spend 20 minutes every day doing home devotions, went to church every week for the divine service, went to every Sunday morning bible study, went every week to one of the other bible studies, and even added in all of the occasional services which the church offers throughout the year, this still wouldn't account for 5% of your time. 5%...... That's not a lot. For comparison, the average person spends over 10% of their time on their phones, and around 20% of their time on general entertainment. So the question is, what's the most valuable thing to spend your time on? A good place to start in prioritizing your time is this: go to church every week, go to bible study every week, and spend 5 minutes every day reading your bible, followed by the 10 Commandments, the Creed and the Lord's Prayer. That's 1.5% of your time. You will not regret spending that time in the eternal gifts of God.

We are dealing, literally, with life and death, with eternity, with salvation, with forgiveness, righteousness, peace, hope, love, redemption, and sanctification. We are dealing with the most important things we can possibly handle, live, and know. We are truly dealing with "the words of eternal life." What then could be more important to know, to live, and to rejoice in?

Let us, then, according to God's grace, be a passionate and well-educated Church.

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In Christ, Pastor Sean Kilgo















Weekly Bible Studies

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class

Join us Sunday mornings at 9 am. This class is studying Genesis

<u>Crimson & Blue Lutheran Crew</u> (Young Adult Bible Study)

The "Crew" is studying the book of John on Sunday Evenings at 5:30pm.

Sons & Daughters of the King

This class is Tuesday night at 6 pm. This class is studying "Thank, Praise, Serve & Obey" by William Weedon.

Wednesday in the Word

This class begins right after the 7:30 Matins service and is studying the Gospel of Matthew.



'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'" - Luke 24:7

Holy Week

March 24th, *Palm Sunday* at 10 am

March 25th, *Holy Monday* at 7pm

March 26th, Holy Tuesday at 7pm

March 27th, Holy Wednesday at 7pm

March 28th, *Maundy Thursday* at 7pm

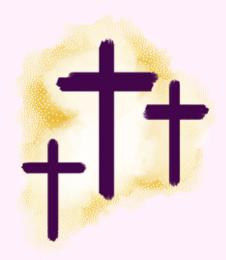
March 29th, Tre Ore at Noon

Good Friday at 7pm

March 30th, Holy Saturday at 11 am

Alleluia, He is Risen!

Worship Schedule



<u>Easter</u>

Sunday, March 31st

Easter Sunrise service at 7:00am

Easter Worship Service at 10:00am

Easter Activites



Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, March 30th at 10am

Easter Breakfast

Sunday, March zıst after Sunrise Service



BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pastor's Report:

Austin Brown will be baptized next Sunday and will be confirmed and join the church as a member at the Easter vigil.

Treasurer's Report:

- Kevin reviewed graphs including "Budget vs. Offering", "Cash Reserves", and "Clip Board Totals".
- Jerry reported that he has set up the information on the budget and finances into Quickbooks and is reviewing the information.

Reports from the Boards

Board of Communications and Social Concerns:

The Love Fund was used to provide utility assistance for one member and to provide a tire to fill a transportation need for another member.

Board of Education:

Work continues on preparing for the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday March 30.

Board of Evangelism:

- Twenty midterm bags were provided for college students and treat bags will be delivered to homebound members in the next couple of weeks.
- Lisa is reviewing our follow-up for visitors and seeking ideas from other congregations. The Board would like to thank those who act as greeters. We will be recruiting additional volunteers to act as greeters.
- Work is nearly done on a new page for our website that deals with our annual service projects and support of the community. It will also include a section for our LWML.
- Thank you to Lanaea for helping to compile a list of services provided by organizations in Lawrence and Douglas County. This will help direct people who reach out to the church for assistance and also help assist members of the congregation when they have needs the congregation is unable to cover.

Board of Stewardship: No Report

Board of Trustees:

- The Trustees will be prepping for the new ADA door by removing the current door.
- An estimate was shared with the Council for boring a line for an electrical conduit to the parking lot light that is currently inoperable. The estimate includes an extension of the line for an additional light to be added at a later date. There was some discussion about the status of the electrical conduit to the sign on the property and whether it should be inspected/replaced at this time if needed. A motion was made to approve the bid for repairs to the electrical line to the parking lot light, extend the line for an additional light later, and check the electricity to the sign. Funds will come from the Capital Reserve line item. The motion carried.
- The mowing schedule will be updated and distributed.

Board of Elders:

It was noted that the number of our members who are homebound is increasing.

Old business:

After inspecting our church documents relating to Voter's Meetings it has been found that some pages of Voters who were to have signed the Constitution are missing. Also some signatures on both signing the Constitution and attendance Voter's Meetings are illegible. In the future members will be asked to print their name and sign when becoming members of the Voter's Assembly.

New business: The full Council Minutes are posted next to the Secretary's office.



Alternate New Year's Resolution Suggestions (for each month of the year) April: Be content with what you have!

Instead of constantly striving for more, share what you have with others. Donate to the food barrel, save your change for the mite box or Baby bottle campaign, spring clean and donate your items to a worthy cause!

(See the Stewardship article on page 8.)

"Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Hebrews 13:5



Easter Lilies & Palm Branches

Thank you to everyone that donated lilies and palm branches!



Lilies

Chris & Joanne Eichhorn Joanne's parents
Kevin & Lisa Fredrickson Lisa's parents

Evan & Heather Korynta Dagen

Mary Follin William Bremenkamp

Kent & Janet Pennybaker Parents
David & Rhonda Scott Parents
Janice Carter Parents

Karen Sears



Chris & Joanne Eichhorn Chris' parents

Lana & Paul Groundwater Trevor; Paul's parents &

Lana's Dad





"He is not here; he has risen!" *Luke 24:6-7*

Family

Lutheran Women in Mission

We will meet on Monday, April 8th at 7pm.

We will review our Bale Sale and plan for our May special event. We will begin with a member-led Bible study.

Our meetings are open to all women in the congregation 18 and over.



Making a difference in our Community

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. - Ephesians 2:10



<u>April Food Barrels</u> Peanut Butter & Jelly, Cereal

Don't forget to expand your garden. The extra homegrown food can be taken directly to Just Foods.

<u>Proverbs 19:17</u>

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the \overline{Lord} , and he will reward them for what they have done.



To everyone that donated candy for the Easter Egg Hunt—the Board of Education.

To everyone that supported the Lenten Meals the Youth Group.

To everyone that volunteered for the indoor work day — *the Board of Trustees*.

To everyone that donated and supported the LWML Spring Bake Sale — the Lutheran Women in Mission.

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing." *1 Thessalonians* 5:11



Austin and Ashley Brown

Ashley by transfer from Peace Lutheran Church, Natoma, KS



Austin by Baptism March 10, 2024 & Confirmation March 30, 2024



Are you or a member of your family graduating this spring? Please let the office know at:

redeemer.lutheran@att.net by Sunday, April 21st.





We will meet at **Perkins**, Thursday,

Apr. 25th at 11:30am

Sign up on the sheet on the back bulletin board so we can tell Perkins how many to plan for. We will each be paying for our own cheque.

Quote of the Month:

"The spirit never ages. It stays forever young." — Lailah Gifty Akita

OUTDOOR



Coming Soon! Watch the announcements for more information.

Prayers for Signatures Missionaries

Please pray for these missionaries in March.

April 7th— Rev. Vance & Linda Becker, Kenya

April 14th — Rev. Jonathan & Anita Clausing, Tanzania

April 21st — Jerry Mays, Tanzania

April 28th — Rev. Bryan & Deaconess Keah Payne, Tanzania

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod: Stewardship Ministry "Who's Is It Anyway?"—April 2024

If you have every bought or sold a house, you are acquainted with the concept of a "title search." Before you can sell your house, and before anyone else will feel comfortable putting down the money to buy it, you have to prove that you really own it. So a title company looks through the public records to ensure that you bought it from the person who really owned it, who bought it from the person who really owned it before that, all the way back to the earliest records of your state, including when your state was only a territory or colony of England.

Peak into a preschool classroom during playtime and you'll see a simplified version of this. A child starts playing with a ball, but another child says, "That's mine: I had it first."

You can't understand the Seventh Commandment without understanding this concept of ownership or title. As the Small Catechism puts it:

You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Your neighbor's possessions are his: you don't have a right to take them. And likewise, your possessions are yours. Ownership and property rights are foundational to any functioning society.

But there is something deeper to know about ownership, and that is the question of who has the title and ownership to you? Paul says, "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price" (1 Cor. 6:19–20).

If you yourself are owned by God, then of course everything that you own, you really only possess by God's leave: all of it, at bottom, belongs to Him since you belong to Him. For you were bought with the blood of Christ.

This notion is the foundation of all Christian stewardship. It all belongs to God. It should all be used for things that bring honor to His name, blessings to our neighbors and the extension of His kingdom.

- lcms.org/stewardship

