

Redeemer Lutheran Church

610 Lincoln Ave

Rio, WI 53960

(920) 992-3553

Website: www.rioredeemerlutheran.org

office@rioredeemerlutheran.org

Pastor Ann Walsvik

awalsvike@rioredeemerlutheran.org



“Living and telling the story of Jesus”

Pastor Ann's Ponderings...

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you. Philippians 4:4-9

Each week at the end of worship we receive a blessing. Oftentimes we use one that is familiar to many: *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor, and give you peace.* The act of giving a blessing is an ancient practice. God blessed Abraham and said all future generations will be blessed through him. Esau was tricked out of his Father's blessing in Genesis 27 as Jacob and his mother deceived Isaac in order that Jacob would be blessed instead. This causes conflict and resentment for years between the brothers.

Gary Smalley and John Trent in their book entitled: “The Blessing” talk about the value in giving the unconditional acceptance the Bible calls “The Blessing.” *For almost all children who miss out on their parents' blessing, at some level this lack of acceptance sets off a lifelong search.* This search applies not only to children but to all of us as children of God. We hunger to know we are acceptable as we are. We long to hear words that affirm our being, reveal God's love for us and imagine a blessed future life.

Not only can we and do we receive a blessing in worship, but we are the bearers and receivers of blessings as children of God and as God's light for the world. When Abraham leaves to start a new community through which all people will be blessed, he is stepping outside of societal norms of conquest. In our final confirmation class, we prepare a meal and eat together. Afterward I share a blessing I have written for each student. While most of us are uncomfortable receiving words of affirmation and praise, it takes ten words of praise to change the effect of one word of condemnation. Each of us receives plenty of messages each day to do more, be more, work harder, get better and so on. We have the privilege and joy of telling God's story of blessing, not only to our families, but to all people. God unites us together through the blessing, giving us an example of how to bless rather than curse. How might we offer encouragement and think on what is commendable, rather than what didn't go well?

Beginning with Pentecost Sunday, June 4th – when we celebrate the power of God in the giving of the Holy Spirit upon all people in all their diversity – Jesus enables us to speak the language of blessing upon all those we meet. There is no shame in blessing, only joy and peace.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Ann



Thank you to everyone who brought food and beverages to the Easter Breakfast and to those who helped in the kitchen. Also, to all who made a cash donation. All the money received went to the Rio Area Food Pantry. We served 78 people at the Easter Breakfast and couldn't have done it without all of your help!

-Dean and Toni Roberts

Thank you so much for the gas gift card. We apologize that this thank you is so late, as Jackson has spent a lot of time at the hospital lately.

Thank you!

-Scott, Sarah & Jackson Landphier

Greeting Friends,

Thank you for your wonderful Hospitality during my visit last winter. I am grateful for your financial support of the ministry here on Pine Ridge. It encourages us to know you are praying on our behalf! Servants together,

-Pastor Kay (Pine Ride Retreat Center)

Dear Redeemer Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous support of ELCA World Hunger. Your leadership in this work of our church makes a difference for families and communities in need. Blessings to you as you continue to live out God's call to love our neighbor.

-The ELCA World Hunger Team

2017 Community Egg Hunt! Thank you for Your Support. You helped make a big impact in our community. Thank You!

-Josiah Kath (Rio Community Library & RACA)

“Sending a BIG THANK YOU to everyone who supported our Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for Redeemer's family mission trip. Our event was a huge success & we are very grateful! Many thanks to the workers, people that donated baked good & all that made a cash donation. We are blessed to live in such a great community”- Rhonda Corning



Margaret Jameson would LOVE to hear from you.

Margaret's new address/phone# is:

5625 Sandpiper Dr. #624

Stevens point, WI 54482

715-544-4888

BE A BASKET-BACKER!

Redeemer's Country Store is going to try something new this year. We are looking for ten families, groups, committees or individuals to create a "basket" to raffle off.

We currently have three baskets donated. One will be a Packer theme, one will be a fishing theme, and one will be featuring succulent plants.

*Your container does not have to be a basket.

*Choose a container that fits your theme. We want you to have fun and be creative.

*Each basket donor unit will receive \$25. from Thrivent Choice Dollars to help finance the contents of their basket.

All baskets should be at church by **Sunday, July 23**, so they can be on display for those who cannot come to the Salad Luncheon/Country Store.

There will also be ten \$25. gift cards from area business in the raffle. Tickets will be \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. Those who purchase tickets will be able to deposit them in containers for the baskets they most want to win.

Raffle prizes will be drawn at the end of the Country Store hours the day of the Salad Luncheon. You need not be present to win. If you have any questions, or are interested in donating a basket, please contact Geri Gorman at 992-3213.

Have Fun! ☺

THOSE SERVING FOR JUNE 2017

READERS:

(Call Helen Risgaard if interested 992-5258)

4th George Scott
11th Scott Olson
18th Rick Olson
25th Donna Kearney

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

4th Sandy Helmer
11th Nancy Wescott & Darlene Cutsforth
18th
25th

ALTAR GUILD:

Sandy Helmer
Kit Schmidt

USHERS:

4th Larry & Geri Gorman
11th Spencer Wescott
18th
25th

GREETERS:

4th Beth & David Laufenberg
11th Randy & Deb Pribbenow
18th Bernie Spink
25th Nancy Drehmel

ACOLYTES:

7th Kase Reierson
11th Wyatt McLaughlin
18th Cody Barelt
25th Isaac Severson

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS:

4th Bob & Helen Risgaard
11th Kit Schmidt
18th
25th

Redeemer Lutheran Church Staff

Pastor Ann Walsvik
Church # (920) 992-3553
E-mail: awalsvik@rioredeemerlutheran.org

Kimberly Vangen – Administrative Assistant
Church General E-mail:
office@rioredeemerLutheran.org

Larry Gorman- Bookkeeper
April Severson- Custodian
Kurt Johnson- Yard Maintenance
Geri Gorman- Music Director
Gayle Krueger- Choir accompanist

THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Beth Laufenberg (President)	(920) 992-3294
Sherri Kranz (V. President)	(608) 617-4266
Joan Reierson (Secretary)	(608) 516-8368
Kevin Stoddard (Treasurer)	(920) 992-6457
Scott Olson	(608) 335-7046
Skyler Severson	(920) 992-3860
Brenda Price	(920) 992-5224
Steve Gilbert	(920) 992-5219

Memorial Funds Received

Elizabeth Borde	\$800.00
Marvin Jameson	\$3335.00
Al Erstad	\$1120.00

Recent Events

Redeemer Bell Choir presented a concert for the residents and their friends at "At Home Again" 5-10-17




AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM
May 21, 2017



Jane Elizabeth Risgaard

Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you."

Isaac John Severson

Ephesians 4:2 "Be always humble, gentle, and patient. Show your love by being tolerant with one another."



Redeemer's Choir held their first annual Spring Music Sunday 4-30-2017



Mission trip fundraiser
Garage Sale May 18 & 19 2017

