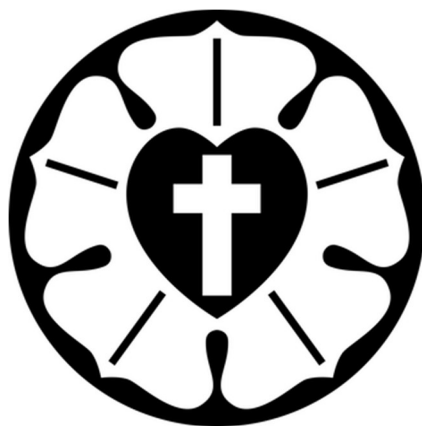


Grace Alone Faith Alone Christ Alone

Our Redeemer
Lutheran Church



Monthly Newsletter
December 2022

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President: Will Haveman
Vice President: Bill Kerstein
Treasurer: Tina Teasley
Financial Secretary: Natasha H.
Christian Education and Youth:
Shayla Guthrie
Evangelism: Fran Fisher
Purchasing: Jennifer Campbell
Fellowship: Tina Teasley
Properties: Bill Kerstein
Public Relations: Jennifer C.
Stewardship: Pete Herrick
Head Elder: Marty Smith

ELDERS

Marty Smith
Fred Seiltgen
Darren Campbell
Jeff Tronrud
Chuck Wilder

BIBLE STUDIES

Sunday Adult Bible Study after Church Services 11:45 am-12:30 pm.
Contact Pastor Fair (386) 515-5916 for more information.

Monday Evening Bible Study at Pete and Diana Herrick's Home in Ft. White
6:00pm-7:00pm. Contact Pete & Diana (386) 965-0358 for more
information.

Wednesday A.M. Bible Study, Fellowship Hall 9:00 am-10:00 am.
Contact Pastor Fair (386) 515-5916 for more information.

If you wish to have an article in the newsletter, please **e-mail** it to
Karen Fair at: Karen4nn@yahoo.com no later than the **20th** of the
month. **The file must be a doc. file. NO PDF files.** Thank you!

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
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Lake City, FL 32024
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Website: www.lakecitylcmsslutheran.com
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Worship Service: Sundays 10:00 am

A NOTE FROM PASTOR

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month we celebrate joy without limit; the coming of Our Lord into His own creation to restore it and redeem us from eternal death. What God had foretold in the Garden, preserved in Noah and his family, promised through Abraham, tendered through Isaac and Jacob and blessed upon Judah has come to us – Jesus Christ, Our Lord! Since the fall in the Garden where sin and disobedience bared its ugly head, God promised that one would come who would defeat sin, death and the devil. Our first parents of the flesh were not our parents of the soul. When God created man He made man a two part being. Through fleshly disobedience the flesh had to die and Adam and Eve lost dominion over the creation just as God had warned. But the soul which was given to have dominion over the flesh if it were made alive again – could save us from death. The problem was the fall into sin was complete. One cannot “regain” a lost dominion, a lost innocence or lost perfection. Once lost, these things are not recoverable. The dead cannot rescue themselves. But all things are possible with God! And it would take an act of God to free mankind from the claim which the devil had upon us according to our sinful nature. Someone would have to pay that debt which could not be paid. Someone would have to restore innocence, perfection and dominion where it was impossible to restore them. Sin is rebellion against God; taking the kingdom by violence. And by following after their flesh, Adam and Eve and all of us, participated in the rebellion against God’s good will and order. All that was left for fallen mankind was temporal and eternal punishment. The joy without limit is the Jubilee pardon which God had promised to Israel with the Savior. And the joy without limit at Christmas is the glimpse of God with us, the Word made flesh, who IS GOD and who has done the impossible! All things ARE possible with God! Though we were conceived in sin and sin much and daily, God Himself came to save us who put our faith in Him and who follow His Holy Spirit in repentance to the salvation of Jesus Christ. The birth of Christ, the Word made flesh, came into a world that violently opposes all truth and goodness – the world opposes God. But Jesus overcame the world, sin, death and the devil through obedience – not to His flesh, but to God His Father. In Christ, we have life and have it abundantly – eternal life with God our Father because Jesus is God and He has reconciled us back to God. In baptism into His death what was dead is made alive, what was impure is made pure, what was disobedient is made obedient, what was guilty is made innocent – Jesus has the power to forgive sins and Jesus has paid for all of our sins so that those who live by God’s Word and promises are saved from the death which is the fatal affliction. The Virgin has conceived and bore a Son and we shall call Him Emmanuel – God with us. In baptism we are born into eternal life again with Him and in the Lord’s Supper He shares with us the perfection of His body and salvation of His blood. The impassable gap has been bridged in Jesus Christ. God has reconciled Himself to fallen sinners by paying the debt Himself. There is no gift like Jesus – the greatness and goodness, the unmerited generosity of God are beyond our imaginations. But the Book shows that He was promised from the beginning – and the faithful expected Him and received Him. Jesus is the gift of eternal life given to us who deserved only punishment and death. He is the most joyous gift – and all living hearts rejoice in Him. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, just as the prophet of God foretold. Merry Christmas!! Jesus Christ is Lord of ALL – and that is God’s pure grace and mercy towards us! God gives exceedingly generously – He gives life and life abundantly – in Jesus name! Amen.

Choir Practice

Our small choir is in need of more singers for Christmas Eve. If you want to participate, please let Terry Green or Elizabeth LaBrie know or just show up at our **first practice on Wednesday, November 30 at 6:15 pm**. We still need male voices.

Pasta Dinner and a Camp Fire with Christmas Caroling

The next Pasta Dinner will be **Friday, December 9 from 4:00 -7:00 PM**. We have **changed dates on Campfire Christmas Caroling from Saturday, December 10 to Pasta Night**. Wouldn't you like to have dinner served to you after a long day of Christmas shopping. Come have some pasta and stay for Christmas carols. **Caroling will start around 6:15ish by a campfire so dress accordingly.**

White Elephant Christmas Gift Exchange

On **Friday, December 16** we will have our 2nd annual White Elephant. **6:00 pm - Food & Fellowship, 7-8:30pm Gift Exchange**. Last year we had great attendance, some strange and funny gifts and a whole lot of fun. **What is a White Elephant gift exchange?** It's kind of like a garage sale during Christmas. Each person brings something from their home (wrapped nicely) they no longer need or want. Be creative and **DO NOT BUY A GIFT**. Gift can be funny, weird or useful. The idea is to have FUN. Sign-up sheet in narthex.

Christmas Cookie Exchange

On **December 18, 2022** we will have our 1st Annual Christmas Cookie Exchange. Bring two dozen cookies and take home two dozen different cookies. If you are lacking kitchen space, **we will have a cookie bake day at church on Saturday, December 17.**

Christmas Eve services on December 24 at 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm (communion at 1:00 pm only). **Christmas Day services at 10:00 am** with communion. Worship service only no Fellowship.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

	BIRTHDAYS DECEMBER	ANNIVERSARIES
3	Jim Schrock	
8	Elizabeth LaBrie	
13	Jerry Snowburger	
18	Chuck Wilder	
19	Shayla Guthrie	
25	Jesus	
29	Skyler Covert Blair	