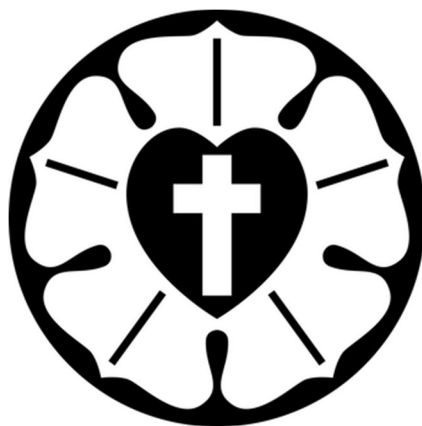


# Grace Alone Faith Alone Christ Alone

Our Redeemer  
Lutheran Church



Monthly Newsletter  
August 2022

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## CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President: Will Haverman  
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  
Pastor Fair

## 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](mailto:Karen4nn@yahoo.com) no later than the 20th of the  
month. Thank you!

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Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
5056 SW State Road 47  
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Website: [www.lakecitylcmsslutheran.com](http://www.lakecitylcmsslutheran.com)  
E-mail: [ourredeemerlakecity@gmail.com](mailto:ourredeemerlakecity@gmail.com)  
Worship Service: Sundays 10:00 am

## A NOTE FROM PASTOR

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

August 2022

The Lord is my strength and my salvation! He is above all things and has even reached down to rescue me from this lowly estate of my own doing - sin. As Confessional Lutherans, standing on the Holy Scriptures we believe, teach and confess “monergism.” Monergism is that biblical doctrine that GOD DOES THE WORK OF SALVATION! It is an important doctrine because God warns us, “I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.” (Isaiah 42:8) Jesus also tells us about how God works salvation in us, “And he said, ‘This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father.’” (John 6:65) It is God’s Holy Spirit who draws us to Jesus and in desperate need. And Jesus said, “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.” (John 6:44)

And that is why “monergism,” the doctrine that God does all the work for our salvation, is so important. God will not share His glory – and Jesus teaches us that it is God Himself who draws us to our Redeemer! God’s revealed glory is the salvation which He has won for us in Jesus Christ. Christ is our Lord and our God, but we are not worthy of Him because of sin. But God provides salvation to us in the full – or we would be forever lost! Even to claim that we were wise enough or somehow able to find our way to Jesus – that tugs at this important teaching. And to some degree, however small, it makes a claim to some of God’s glory. This doctrine ties in with the right understanding of baptism – that baptism is a powerful work of God and that He claims us into His Kingdom in baptism. Any study of “baptism” or “baptize” will show the bible reader – that this is God’s work in and for us. Thinking that we have any part in our own salvation is a dangerous error and leads to more errors in the way we look at the world, God and ourselves. But Luther described this most clearly in the Small Catechism and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Article of the Creed. It shows our full dependence upon God! “I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.” God’s works are powerful, enduring and cannot be turned back – ours are feeble, ineffective and except where they are done in Christ – are in vain. This is why as Christians given this true Faith, we do occasionally correct people – “you have not chosen God, but God has chosen you!” It’s just as Jesus taught His disciples, “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another.” (John 15:16-17) Jesus is the glory of God revealed for our salvation. “I will say to the north, give up, and to the south, do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, everyone who is called by my name,

whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.” We believe, teach and confess this essential Christian doctrine – in Christ, God has brought us to His wonderful gift of salvation. Salvation is assured, it is a work of God in Jesus Christ! What a gift to know the glory of God and to be called by His name - Christians! Amen.

God’s Peace to YOU, in Jesus Christ,

Pastor Fair

## **Elder Notes**

As you know, Our Redeemer is undergoing the transition to a newly elected Parish Planning Council, so please be patient during their On the Job Training. In addition to the new PPC, we are pleased to welcome two new Elders, Darren Campbell, and Jeff Tronrud!

We have a new Member Directory courtesy of Chuck Wilder. We are also looking into a photo directory. As we have added several new members, we ask that everyone please wear your name tag. Since we have two new Elders coming aboard, the Elder Assignments will be changing again. If you would like to change, or prefer a certain Elder, please contact Head Elder Marty Smith @ 904-325-8704. For the time being, please feel free to contact any Elder if you need guidance.

We are always looking for ideas on making Our Redeemer functioning smoothly. If you have any ideas, suggestions, constructive criticism, etc. please let your Elder know.

We are in need of volunteers in all areas: Alter Guild, Ushers, Acolytes, Assistants and Counters. Speaking of Volunteers, Our Redeemer needs a bit of sprucing up. We will be scheduling a workday in the near future. Please come out and help with a bit of landscaping, painting, and all around clean up if you are able. Please contact Head Elder Marty Smith @ 904-325-8704 and volunteer for a position.

*“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.”*

*Colossians 3:23-24*

## **Sunday, August 14**

Pastor Fair will be on vacation and Rev. Hudson will lead services including communion. Instead of bible study we are planning on having a Picture Day. Darren Campbell has volunteered to take our pictures for a new picture directory becoming available in the very near future.

### **Prayer Chain**

Prayers we say for family and friends, members and non-members are posted in the bulletin each week and during The Prayer of the Church. Members who have a prayer request, please call or text Karen Fair @ 847-337-7062. If you want to be a part of the Prayer Chain, just let Karen Fair know and we can add you to the list.

### **Pasta Dinner**

The Pasta Dinner crew will be on summer break in July & August. Our next Pasta Dinner will be Friday, September 9 from 4:00 -7:00 PM. We plan on having updated street signs when we return in September. We are always looking for bakers to make our dessert (cookies or brownies). If you can volunteer, please contact Fran Fisher or Karen Fair.

### **GriefShare**

Our next session will begin on Thursday, September 1st and lasts 13 weeks. It is exciting to see this ministry grow with more souls going from mourning to joy. Praise God for His Blessings.

### **AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

	<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>	<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b>
3	Jessica Graham	
11		Mark & Susan Gatz
19	Bill Kerstein	
21	Denise Schrock	
24	Bonnie Hood	
30	Ruth Snowberger	

### **We Need Volunteers**

Our Redeemer (ORLC) has a need for more hands-on deck. Please prayerfully consider these positions. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Marty Smith, 904-325-8704.

**Counters** - we currently have 4 counters and we need 2 each Sunday so we need at least 3 more people. Counters count the tithing money we receive during Offertory. We need two people every Sunday, counting takes place during fellowship/bible study immediately following worship.

**Acolytes** – light the candles before worship begins, assist with communion by taking away used cups and snuffing the candles as worship ends. Currently we only have two acolytes need at least 3 more people.

**Alter Guild** - we need at least two more people, male or female, to help change banners and prepare the altar for communion each week.