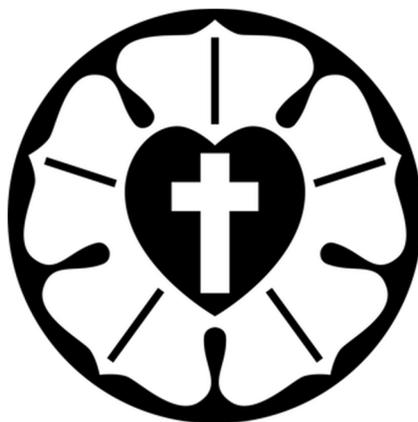


Grace Alone Faith Alone Christ Alone

Our Redeemer
Lutheran Church



Monthly Newsletter
November 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
5056 SW State Road 47
Lake City, FL 32024

Office Phone: 386-755-4299

Website: www.lakecitylcmsslutheran.com

E-mail: ourredeemerlakecity@gmail.com

Worship Service: Sundays 10:00 am

A NOTE FROM PASTOR

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

November 2022

A month for Thanksgiving! It is purely an American Holiday, this Thanksgiving Day. The Pilgrims were thankful to God that they had safely crossed the Atlantic Ocean in a ship not designed for crossing – a wine transport. And although there had been deaths the group which were seeking a land where they could worship God according to their own consciences was still intact and they had something of a fall harvest to give them hope for making it through the winter. With the help of the Indians, the Pilgrims and the Indians had a feast of celebration to God for all His wondrous gifts – and His gift of Christ in His Church. They had fled the comforts of home and hearth for the wild seas and wilderness to be free from Henry's Church (the Church of England) which had conflated, through "The Book of Prayer," unquestioning loyalty to the king to be the same as faith in God.

Although the Pilgrims had already lost many key elements of the true faith – according to their humanist and rationalist roots, God's Holy Spirit still inspired them not to conflate loyalty to a person, a king or a government with loyalty to the God who created them. Luther's writings had unified Germany into one language and so the "Book of Prayer" in England was a cleverly designed device to unify England under one language and under the monarch – that is why so many rejected the propaganda. So the Pilgrim-separatists fled that corrupted church which conflated Christianity with nationalism, patriotism and the "divine right of kings" for a place to worship according to their conscience.

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod had a similar beginning with a migration away from the King of Prussia, Fredrick Wilhelm III, and his very similar ideas of using political authority to indoctrinate Christ's Church to unquestioning loyalty to him. It was 1838 that the Saxon Lutherans commissioned four ships to transport them to America – the land where people could worship God according to their conscience without interference from king or government. By that time the King of Prussia decreed to unify (Unionism) the churches in Prussian-Germany under the one government approved confession - Calvinism/rationalism. These replace the power of God in the salvation and faith with the reason of men and they deny the true presence and power in the Holy Sacraments! So about 700 people sold what they had and sailed across the Atlantic and then up the Mississippi to guard and keep the true Confession. They had many challenges even within their church but they persevered remaining true to God's Word and the unaltered Confessions and eventually established the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

Although we've seen the government of this new land also try to establish new government religions through the clandestine means of indoctrination, (secularism and atheism are religions) we cling to this one true faith – and give thanks to God that He by His power has called us to Himself in the true Word and Sacrament! When Christ is the King and the people have a right relationship with the one true and living God – they are not so easily befuddled by those who seek power. The precious gifts all come through God and His Christ. Thanksgiving is giving thanks to God especially for the great gift – Jesus Christ and salvation. The tribulation of His Church will continue until He returns – but it is by His power and grace that He sustains Her (us)

against all these devils who would destroy the faith that saves eternally. Christ promised His Church would prevail against the gates of hell and for that we can heartily give thanks. So above all things we are thankful for our Lord and Redeemer, Jesus Christ. All good and valuable gifts flow from His worthiness which He spent upon us on the cross. Jesus is the center of this true apostolic faith and all authority in heaven and on earth and under the earth belong to Him! As Paul wrote, “No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:37-39) Thank God for Jesus Christ – who brings us all of God’s good gifts in this life – and eternal life in the world to come. Amen!

Meet Your Elder Sunday

We had a very successful Sunday lunch with a lot of participants coming to meet their Elders last month. Your Elder is part of the Office of the Holy Ministry and a guide and help to you in spiritual, well-being and other matters. I spoke with Marty and he plans on doing these ever quarter. We have been very blessed to have a group of Elders who are very serious about the true Gospel in Word and Sacrament, about our church and its operations and its continuing mission, and about individuals and making sure we care for each other spiritually, prayerfully and in our physical needs. If you did not get a chance to sit down with your Elder, please take advantage of the opportunity at the next Meet Your Elder lunch. Of course, you can contact your Elder at any time, these men are dedicated to be there for you. And a special thanks to the Fellowship ladies who made sure we had lots of good food for lunch!

God’s Peace in Christ, Pastor

Stewardship

Some of you have asked what happened to the Stewardship flyers that use to get in your cubbies each month. The company that made them has stopped printing due to cost. So, each month I intend to impart some Stewardship “pearls of wisdom” in our newsletter,

Our time, treasure and talents aren’t responsibilities, but are gifts that God provides to grow in our spiritual life. When you serve on committees, help with services or give financially, these are all opportunities (gifts) that God provides for us to grow in our faith.

In Gods Peace, Pete Herrick

Thanksgiving Day Dinner

We are having our 2nd annual Thanksgiving Dinner on November 24 (Turkey Day) from 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm. The dinner is intended to have those of us that do not have family close by to join us in fellowship and share a Thanksgiving Dinner with your church friends. If you have been told you make an awesome sweet potato casserole or mashed potatoes, please join us. We appreciate

anyone who brings a turkey side dish and recognizes this is not a typical potluck where you bring anything you want. You also are not required to bring anything but an appetite.

Christmas Eve

Our small choir is in need of more singers for Christmas Eve. A lot of people cannot commit to Choir for the whole year, but are able to do it for just one day. If you want to participate, please let Terry Green or Elizabeth LaBrie know. We can certainly use more male voices. Practices will begin the first week of December. If there are any days that are not good for you, please us know.

Pasta Dinner

The next Pasta Dinner will be Friday, November 11 from 4:00 -7:00 PM.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES
11	Jim Keener	
19	Karen Britten	
21	Arya Haveman	
27		Phil & Indy Newell

Upcoming events in December

White Elephant party on December 16

Christmas Eve services on December 24 at 1pm & 7pm