
REDEEMER REFLECTION

TAKE OFF YOUR SANDALS

by Peggy Bennitt

Exodus 3:1-6:...*Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up... "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals for the place where you are standing is holy ground."...Moses hid his face because he was afraid to look at God.*

So, what don't we get about reverence? Where is our reverence for our God displayed? Have we made God into "The Friendly Giant," but ignored the part about "fear and power," which are the very essence of who He is? Where is that healthy respect for our God as Sovereign and All-Powerful?

Reverence is not old-fashioned nor has it gone out of style. The consistency of this awe and reverence throughout time and history is well represented in the Bible. Mark 11:15-18: "...for they feared Him..." Have we become modern-day Israelites and taken on all the ways of the idol worshippers around us? Have we labeled irreverence "culturally relevant" or "user-friendly," or even more recently, "tolerance?"

God is very clear about His expectations of us and our actions. In John 8:47, He says, "*He who belongs to*



God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

Harsh words from Jesus, but aren't they appropriate still today? As we wander in and out of Sunday worship service, getting refills of coffee, snacks, or visiting with those around us, aren't we breaking the heart of our Lord? Leviticus 19:30 says, "*Observe*

my Sabbaths and have reverence for my sanctuary. I am the Lord." That means us, and that means here and now!

Heaven help us if our irreverent and disrespectfully self-focused actions on a Sunday morning indicate the barren desert of our spirituality! May God lead each of us to examine our behaviors and our hearts to see where our Lord really is in our lives and actions. May He grant us the strength and convictions to realign ourselves and our worship to reflect the reverence and awe for our Lord and Omnipotent Master, who is also our loving and grace-giving God. Lord, lead us back to a reverence and awe of You and of Your House!

1 Corinthians 6:19b-20: "*You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.*" Do our actions show our Lord

how we revere Him above all else, including self?

What do the children see?

Do the little ones around me in worship see reverence and awe? Do youngsters know that I revere my Lord and respect His call on my life?

I don't know about you, but I think I need to get back to taking off my sandals at the burning bush.

THANKSGIVING FOR CHRISTMAS!

by Julie Highlen

The youth and some adults of Redeemer Lutheran Church are making apple pies for you to purchase for "Thanksgiving for Christmas." What? "Thanksgiving for Christmas" means the proceeds from the pies are for Christmas presents for the Erbers. YOU get the pie for Thanksgiving; the Erbers get presents for Christmas!



Large pies are \$8.00. Smaller, single-serving pies are \$5.00. The pies are made and frozen, ready for you to bake on

the day you want to eat it! Pies can be ordered up until Friday, November 19th. They will be prepared on the 20th and ready for pick-up on Sunday, November 21st, between services and after second service. So, celebrate "Thanksgiving for Christmas" by buying a pie for yourself, for a friend, or for a relative!

Any questions, contact Gay Alcenius or Julie Highlen.

REVERENCE

by Craig Britton

"Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker." Psalm 95:6a

One of the things I love about our newsletter is that each issue is themed. In other words, our newsletter crew asks for and receives writings on a particular element of our walk with Christ. It helps me focus. This month is no different. Those making submissions were guided to write on the theme: Reverence.

A couple things make this difficult: First, I am basically an irreverent person. I tend to the casual. Now that's not saying that there aren't times to just lay back and breathe in the God who is not only there, but ours. But I can get too laid back at times. Second, there is no more irreverent culture in the world than 21st century America. And sadly, much of the *church* culture leads the way.

Now I am not arguing to simply look back to "the good old days" as if we can recapture a sense of reverence for God by just doing similar stuff. Nope. Reverence comes, like every other vestige of our Christian journey, from heaven, into the heart, and then what's placed there has room to show itself.

Is it odd to think of reverence for the LORD coming from Him to begin with? It might seem so, but ask yourself the question: Have I known or experienced anything of spiritual worth that hasn't first come from His hand and heart? It's a pretty quick answer, I'd say.

In the Psalms, we run into our ancient brothers and sisters showing gratitude in worship in so many postures and positions; in quiet and stillness, in joyous, loud celebration; in music and in formal declaration. So what can we know about reverence just from this?

That reverence isn't owned by one or another style of worship. If you think that way, then Biblically speaking, you are simply inaccurate.

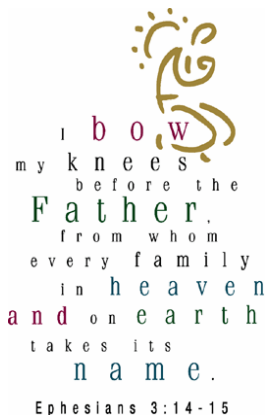
No, reverence isn't a matter of style but rather of state of heart.

Do you bow before Him these days? Do you find yourself kneeling simply because the liturgy says to, or because you can't stay standing in the presence of the One who owns you by a willing purchase? How do you enter the spaces of corporate worship as we gather to say thank you? It's no accident that the Lord's Supper is classically known as "Eucharist," a Greek word signifying thanksgiving. But is it thanksgiving that primarily fills your heart on Sunday morning?

Is reverence a personal thing? Yes and no. Yes, because God wants and demands it from each one of us. And no, because in drawing us to Himself, He makes us family. And there is nothing that gives him more pleasure than when His children gather for the purpose of offering gratitude because of grace received.

Let's help each other. Let's call each other to the receiving and displaying of reverence in this life. Then, as we enter the next, we won't have to change our practice; we'll just get to do so with the whole family together...Before His throne today and tomorrow, filled with awe and wonder; as we behold Him, then in eternity, face to face.

I can't wait.



November Birthdays

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Lori Zeidan | 11/01 |
| Kirsten Mogle | 11/06 |
| Dean Potter | 11/06 |
| Leah Anderson | 11/07 |
| Richard Kline | 11/07 |
| Kristofer Herrick | 11/12 |
| Bill Poland | 11/15 |
| Dev Tompkins | 11/20 |
| Blaise Uphaus | 11/24 |
| Sherry Hood | 11/25 |
| Sara Primm | 11/26 |
| Duane Coon | 11/27 |
| Jordyn Fisher | 11/27 |
| Ed Friedlein | 11/29 |
| Karen Krauss | 11/29 |

"Every day, tell at least one person something you like, admire, or appreciate about them."

Richard Carlson

ESTHER BIBLE STUDY

Keni Lewis is opening her home for the Beth Moore Bible study of Esther. This study will be starting on November 8th at 10:00 a.m. This is a 10-week DVD-based study for women and will be offered on Mondays.

If you are interested in being a part of this exciting and challenging study, please contact Keni Lewis or Peggy Bennitt for more information.

A TINGE OF AWE

by John Highlen

An unseen bird sang an unfamiliar song as I read the dates on granite headstones. Some were 1800s, others were 1600s, some were just rough slabs.

The terrorist attacks of 9/11 had turned my three-day business trip to England into a week-long stranding. So, Sunday morning found me in a contemplative mood, strolling through the cemetery surrounding the Almondsbury church. There were no times posted on the sign out front, so I showed up at my normal 7:30 a.m. church time; their service didn't start until 9:00 a.m. I had lots of time to contemplate things.

Another lap around the cemetery ended at a bleached stone, quite a ways along its journey back to dust. The name and dates were indiscernible, but I couldn't help wondering about this fellow saint and the entire company of saints that surrounded me. Two more saints showed up while I was standing there; not for the cemetery, but for the church. Edwin and Marion Thomas arrived to unlock the oak doors and begin preparations for worship. They welcomed me in like they were my own grandparents and explained a little bit about the church, which was originally built in the early 1200s.

That morning, I felt the physical presence of God. Maybe it was the emotions of the situation, the centuries-old stone cathedral and ornate stained glass, or the granite reminders of fellow saints who already returned home; being there in that place at that time gave me a feeling of reverence. I was on hallowed ground, in the presence of the Almighty; the God of Moses and the Prophets; my God. It was a special feeling that I've experienced very few times in my life.

So, why is it that really feeling God's presence and that deep sense of reverence seems to be so uncommon these days? Maybe it's our extreme busyness or because we've become so detached from pretty much everything ...even God.

I know I fall into the busyness trap quite often. I come to church for Sunday morning worship and start right into my "jobs" as soon as I step out of the truck. Are the walkways clean? Do I need to shovel, or sweep, or pick up cigarette butts? Then I turn on lights, take a look at the bulletin announcements, and get ready to usher, or read, or light the candles. Then, as everyone else starts arriving, there are usually two or three people I need to talk to about something.

The worship service comes and goes in a heartbeat, I chat with a few more people during fellowship, I blink twice and Bible study is over, I meet and greet before second service, and we're pulling back out of the parking lot before any sense of reverence even has time to peek out.

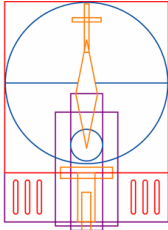
I see a lot of other people glazed over with busyness or detachment, too. They just kind of stroll in on Sunday, chit-chat with friends, have snacks, and go home. In many cases, there doesn't seem to be much reverence for God or His house.

Maybe we need to take some time on Sunday morning, or any time we're getting ready to spend time with God, and think through what we're about to do. We're about to come in contact with THE GOD and CREATOR of the entire universe.

Reverence is defined as a deep sense of respect, tinged with a bit of awe. I pray we all feel that when we come into God's house, maybe even with an extra tinge of awe.

CIRCUIT-WIDE PICNIC: BREAKING THE I.C.E.

by Peggy Bennitt



INTER- CHURCH ACTIVITIES

On October 2, 2010, Redeemer hosted a first-time event for our Circuit churches: an indoor picnic, complete with food, games, ice cream and a live band! It was so cool to get together with people from other churches in our Circuit and share fellowship, food, fun, and games... and a little friendly competition! And did I mention the ice cream from The Spotted Cow in Adrian?

Points were awarded for the games, and Trinity Jackson accumulated the most points for the evening, winning them the **I.C.E.** trophy. That trophy will be up for grabs at next year's event. So, if you or your family and friends were not able to attend the picnic, keep an eye out for the next **I.C.E.** event and be there! Oh, did I mention the live band? Living Stones?

More events, activities, and classes are being planned for the future. A few classes that are being considered are: parenting teens, *Love Waits*—a class for teens, divorce and remarriage, marriage enrichment, and more. For more information or to suggest other activities or classes for family life education, call Craig Britton at 517-750-3100.

HAYRIDE

by Peggy Bennitt

The October 16th hayride on Hickory Creek Lane was a great success! The Hunters' home was a beautiful display of God's wonderful handiwork!

The hayride meandered through the beautiful country setting, the Hunters' woods, and included a longer, more fast-paced ride down country roads decorated with autumn-tinted leaves and the crisp scent of fall.



The hayride was a wonderfully relaxing family activity for all ages! What a great way to spend a beautiful fall day! Thank You, Lord for the beauty of that day, and thank you A.J. and Linda for sharing your beautiful home and acreage, as well as your hospitality! What a gift you gave your fellow Redeemer-ites and their families and friends!



“HEY PASTOR!”

by Pastor Michael Geml

Since becoming a pastor a little over seven years ago, many people have asked me what I would like to be called. Do I like being addressed as Pastor Geml, Pastor Mike, Reverend Geml, Hey you, Holy Father. That last title on the list is a holdover from my Roman Catholic background; please cross that one off. The truth be told, I prefer to be called Pastor Geml. I prefer this over “Reverend” for at least two reasons. First, the word pastor means “shepherd.” Technically, I will always be the under-shepherd of Christ who has been given the charge to call people back to the true Shepherd of the sheep, Jesus Christ. But I love the imagery that the word brings to my mind’s eye. Second, while I will never belittle anyone who uses the title “reverend,” it has always been my belief that the title of reverend has to do with reverence, and there is only One who is deserving of reverence—and that ain’t me!

Reverence is such a beautiful word when we consider who our God is. He is a loving and just God who welcomes us into fellowship with Him through an act of love that *He* initiated. He didn’t have to do anything for us and for our salvation, but thanks be to God that He did. And because of that act of love, we not only have been brought into the family of faith, we have the blessed assurance of life everlasting in heaven. Who is more deserving of reverence than our heavenly Father? The question for us is, “how does reverence for God get lived out by

His people?” In other words, what does reverence look like?

When we come together for worship, you may notice that from time to time I will bow before the altar. This bow is actually called, “reverencing the altar.” It is an act of acknowledging the presence of God in our worship. (I do this at both services, by the way.) Reverence is just that, acknowledging the presence of God and responding accordingly. To bow before our all-mighty, all-holy God is most appropriate. We live *not* in fear of being close to Him; we should live in fear of *not being* close to Him. Psalm 95 says, “Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.”

He alone is worthy of our reverence, and that reverence is lived out starting in worship. When we come for worship, God invites us to receive from Him His good gifts of life and salvation. Our response is reverent worship. And reverent worship is always directed to God and is never a showcase for man. The gift of God is nothing less than the gift of His Son, who comes to us in all His reverent glory through Word and Sacrament, “for us and for our salvation” (Nicene Creed). That is precisely why I, as the called under-shepherd of Christ in this place, will always take very seriously what we do in worship. It must never in any way take away from nor diminish the reverence that is due our God alone.

The gift of God deserves our reverence, and also our faith-filled response in our lives. Empowered by Him, we are to be the light of Christ in our world. God has given us this blessing of being His presence in the



world so that others too may know and come to worship the only God of heaven and earth. He alone is worthy of reverence and He alone is worthy to be praised. To that end, "To God alone be the glory forever and ever through Jesus Christ our Lord! Amen!"

In reverent service to our Lord,
Pastor Geml

REVERENCE: Stand in Awe of God

by Monica VanDerWeide

There's a beautiful song by Matt Redman called "Let My Words Be Few," taken from Ecclesiastes 5. I think the lyrics offer a good insight into the meaning of reverence:

"You are God in heaven
And here am I on earth
So I'll let my words be few;
Jesus, I am so in love with you.
And I'll stand in awe of you."

Ponder those words for a moment. Each one of us is but a small part of God's creation, unworthy of the blessings He gives us. Yet in His amazing love, God saved us from eternal damnation. Now that's awe-inspiring. And when we think of that, we are filled with love, wonder, and respect for God. That's reverence.

Now I don't think that "let my words be few" means that we should stop talking as soon as we walk through the church doors on Sunday morning. But I do believe that we need times of silence to focus fully on God and "stand in awe" of Him. Remember the service of silence we did at Redeemer several years ago? It

certainly helped to foster an environment of reverence and closeness with the Lord. Reverence happens when distractions are few.

Certainly, reverence toward God is lacking in popular culture today, as evidenced by the disregard for Christianity often found in movies, TV, education, and government. And in a world of constant communication, it can be difficult to break away from the computer, the phone, the radio, or just the endless distractions of every day to find those moments of silence for reverence.

Sadly, I see that irreverence sneak into worship services at Redeemer sometimes. When cell phones ring during worship, when people play with electronic devices during the sermon, or when we allow our focus to be on anything other than worshiping our God, we are showing irreverence. Sometimes it can be hard to clear our minds and focus, especially (as in my case) if you have small children sitting with you!

But our God deserves nothing less than our full reverence. When we enter the doors of the sanctuary or RAC, it's time to leave behind the worries and the gadgets so we can have our minds and hearts nourished with God's Word, and show our reverence through worship. God loved us enough to send His Son to grant us salvation. That's something for which we can stand in awe, day after day!

M.A.C.O. DOOR OFFERING: ERBER SUPPORT

by Peggy Bennitt

Redeemer collected \$1,600 on September 26, 2010, for the LCMS M.A.C.O. program travel fund! What an

awesome outpouring of faith and love for our brother, David Erber, and the evangelism training for African pastors!

Because the funds could not be processed quickly enough, LCMS World Mission graciously sent money to Gambia and Liberia to enable those two students to travel to Nigeria for the course. Redeemer's donation and matching funds from Thrivent will keep the unique M.A.C.O. program financially "almost in the black!"

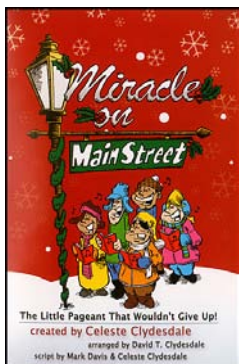
"It is a tremendous help!" and "Many thanks!" were responses we received from Reverend Erber.

MIRACLE ON MAIN STREET!

by Kathy Voss

Mark your calendar! Rehearsals are coming up! Children who would like to participate in the annual Christmas program should be at the first practice on Saturday, November 13th at 9:00 a.m.

A snack will be served between the practices, and lunch will follow at 12:00 noon. Children can be picked up at the church following lunch.



An afternoon practice will follow for the older kids who are in the cast. Their practice will end at 2

p.m. Other practices will be November 20th, December 4th, and December 11th. The Christmas program will be Sunday, December 12th, at Redeemer Lutheran Church in the RAC (gymnasium/activity center) at 7:00 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help provide snacks and meals for the children. Please

see Tammy Hall or Jan Wetters if you would be able to donate snacks or lunch items. Also, we are taking donations to help cover the cost of the materials of books, CDs, etc.; a jar is available for this, at the end of both services.

Thanks for helping!

CANOE TRIP 2011

by Ronald Rockwell

This notice is for families, couples, singles, campers, canoeists, socializers, and wanna-bes (if your idea of exciting is sitting at home watching TV or playing computer games, then this notice is probably not for you). Get up and join the fun! We have the confirmed dates for the 2011 canoe-camping weekend: reserve July 22-24, Friday through Sunday; early campers may arrive on Thursday, July 21st. If you have never been, please consider joining us. And if you have been, I know you will join us again, schedules permitting. We are privileged to have a campground to ourselves, equipped with a swimming area, a horseshoe pit, beautiful scenery and two of the finest outhouses (isn't that an oxymoron?) available.

On Friday afternoon we go tubing. The Saturday canoe trip is a four-hour float time, six if you play and swim a lot. We usually have a hot dog roast/picnic on the riverbank, with our famous "garbage can dinner" on Saturday. It's unbeatable, with hand-cranked homemade ice cream for dessert!

Breakfast Sunday morning is a leftover buffet; everyone contributes with cooking. Eggs, potatoes, ham, fruit, pancakes, and waffles make up the usual menu. Plenty of conversation seasons the campfire area at night, and s'mores and pies are the snacks of choice.

\$75.00 covers camping, canoeing, dinner Saturday, and breakfast Sunday. The cost for tubing is extra. We have a limited number of canoes reserved, so please let me know if you think you will attend; this will allow me to pre-reserve additional canoes if needed. Call Ronald Rockwell at 517-937-6219 to make your reservations or for more information.

NURSERY DIRECTOR NEEDED

Do you love to work with babies and toddlers? Are children a priority to you, and do you enjoy being a part of their growth in a Christian environment?

If caring for children is one of your passions, and you are looking for an area where you can serve the Lord by serving young families through childcare, perhaps the nurseries at Redeemer are a good fit for you.

Kim McFarland has been in charge of the nurseries for many years. Now that her children are older, she plans to get involved in other ministry areas but wants to get a capable and caring replacement for the nursery ministry.

If you would like to become involved in this ministry area either as the director or as a Sunday volunteer, please talk to Kim or to Craig Britton about this important opportunity to serve.

CANOEING, KAYAKING, AND HIDE & SEEK!

by Julie Highlen

The youth (and adults) had a great time canoeing, kayaking, and eating around the campfire. Although some

canoeists thought the river had no end, we all made it and only one youth got wet (by accident)—at the landing, getting into the kayak, no less!



After the church service Saturday night, led by Pastor Geml, everyone enjoyed s'mores. When it got dark, all the youth played hide and seek until about 12:30 a.m.—without flashlights! Everyone had a blast hiding, and hiding, and hiding some more. Everyone went to bed practically without a word. Breakfast was again cooked over the campfire. We enjoyed pancakes and sausage, cooked by Dave Voss, and enjoyed homemade maple syrup from Wildberry Creek Farm! Our next big event for the youth will be a lock-in at church. Contact the Highlen family, Voss family, or Gay and Steve Alcenius with any questions.

A special thanks goes out to everyone who shared their kayaks and canoes!

IN THE BEGINNING, GOD...

by Craig Britton

“The account of creation is intended to be taken as factual and historical. Our understanding of God as Creator is rooted in a revelation that is historical in nature, just as our understanding of God as Redeemer is rooted in the revelation of God’s dealings with Israel in history and in the historical events of

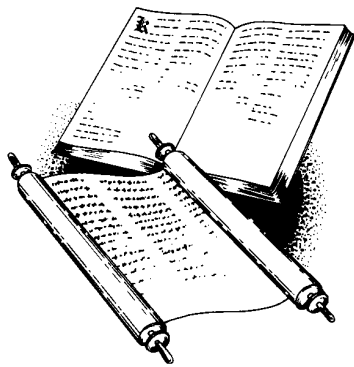
the life, death, and resurrection of His Son.”

-Ken Ham

President of Answers-in-Genesis, U.S.A.

Michigan’s motto is: “If you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you.” The same can be said if you’re seeking evidence of the work of a personal Creator ... “look about you.” That’s really what comes from the psalmist in Psalm 19. He begins simply, “The heavens declare the glory of God ...” and continues a splendid hymn to and about our marvelous Creator God.

For the past six Sundays, the Redeemer family has been given the opportunity to attend a fast-paced and challenging Sunday school course that highlights the authority of the Bible from the very first verse. Ken Ham, who is quoted above, along with several of his organization’s finest educators, are being featured in a DVD-driven course entitled “Demolishing Strongholds,” which points us to solid evidence and strong interpretive reasons that Christians can



confidently trust in God’s gift of creation as displayed in the opening chapters of Genesis.

The series also points us to the fact that many today in the church and many church leaders have “caved” to the pressures of the academic world (as if study of the Scriptures doesn’t produce sound academic results) in bowing to the anti-God, humanistic conclusions of Charles Darwin. Evolution is taught as FACT in many

public schools today, where the mention of creation by supernatural means is mocked and in some cases not allowed. Ken Ham also points out the fact that many Christian colleges, seminaries, and denominations have also given in so that they might be seen as respectable in academic circles.

The series challenges all of us (and at Redeemer that means middle and senior high school students and all adults) to dig in to the meat of the early chapters of the Scriptures to find the treasure freely shared with us by our God. And what we find at the outset is that there is no conflict between true science and the Bible; rather the conflict lies between the Bible and a certain interpretation of the evidence that led Charles Darwin to posit his views on an evolutionary process that mocks the Bible and its Author. What we’re all learning together on Sunday mornings is that God’s Word can be trusted from the very first verse, and should always be the Christian’s first stop in any and every discussion of the origin of the universe.

The series is just about half over. But it’s never too late to stop in. It’s fun, challenging, and will offer any attendee a whole lot to chew on and digest. If you haven’t come to the class yet, join us in the sanctuary Sundays at 9:20 a.m. Bring your Bibles, your brains, and be ready to be challenged to see afresh the God who was there “in the beginning.”

FAMILY TALK

by Peggy Bennett, FLE

Reverence is this month’s topic, and reverence has its source in respect. Establishing respect, particularly within the family, is the foundation for building all other relational pieces for life and

living. Teaching our children to show respect *to* us and *for* us as parents is imperative for successful interpersonal relationships throughout their lives.

If children are not taught respect in the home, respect for authority will most likely be a stumbling block for them throughout life. We set our children up for failure if we allow them to be disrespectful to us as parents, or to any other authority figures.

A person must earn your respect on a personal level, but respect for authority is mandated in the Bible by our Lord Himself. "...he who rebels against authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves" (Romans 13:1-2).

Does that mean we always agree with an authority figure? No; not always. But what it does mean is that the position of authority must be respected because God has allowed that person that authority. The only time we are allowed to disrespect or disobey authority is when it conflicts with God's law.

Do I expect my children and grandchildren to revere me? Hardly! Reverence is a God-thing. But respect is also due God, and parents are God's representatives here on earth. This is why children need to be taught to show respect to parents: because God says so! No other reason is required! God said so...and He *is* the Boss of me...and you!

Reverence for our Lord and respecting His commands requires that we model respect for others, particularly to parents. Parents, it is your duty to teach your children this and then to enforce consequences for the disobedience of disrespect.

Sibling conflicts

Excerpt from *Family Minute* with Mark Merrill at familyminute@familyfirst.net.

Ever feel like a referee in a boxing match? A friend of mine with three teen boys once said they never get into fights. Wow! I can't relate to that. My mom and dad did a good job encouraging me and my two brothers to love one another, and we're best friends today. But we still had brotherly brawls and beat each other up on a few occasions when we were kids.

Now, I'm not advocating that, but sibling conflicts do occur. So try not to get down about it. Just keep telling and teaching them to honor one another with words and actions.

Editor's note: Honoring one another means showing respect to each other and reverence for God and His laws.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Once again this year *The Society of St. Vincent de Paul* and *Together We Can Make A Difference Ministry* are gearing up for the 2010 Christmas season at the



"Priceless Gift" Toy Store. This ministry is a partnership of local churches, non-profit organizations, schools, and businesses providing FREE Christmas toys

to our community. The location for the toy store this year is 1211 Greenwood Avenue near First Street.

We need lots of help for this project, including volunteers to help clean toys, organize, prepare, and set up the toy store. We also need donations of "gently

used” toys, personal care items (soap, shaving cream, toothpaste/toothbrush, shampoo, etc.), and various other things. Even if you only have a little bit of time, we can find a place for you to help!

Donations will be accepted at the Greenwood Avenue location on Thursdays from 10 am to 4 pm and on Saturdays from 10 am to 12 noon until December 16th. You may also donate toys at the St. Vincent de Paul stores on East Michigan or Spring Arbor Road. For more information you can contact Wendy Wight at 740-8444 or David Kemler at 784-8377.

FROST FOOD BACK PACK PROGRAM

*Sponsor a child:
\$20.00 per month can
feed a child*
by Karen Balcom



Frost Food Back Pack Program needs your help—with the program and with financial support. \$20.00 per month can feed a child. On Thursday, October 7, we started the program to fill 150 food back packs for children ages 5 – 12. This is the third school year that Redeemer has participated in this program at Frost School.

The Back Pack Program allows children to bring home nutritious food when other resources are not available, such as on the weekends or during school vacations. Back packs are filled by volunteers each week with child-friendly, non-perishable, vitamin fortified food. The back packs are then discreetly distributed to at-risk children at Frost School. The program gives the students food needed to help them grow a strong body and mind for learning.

If you are interested in sponsoring a

child or would like to make a donation, please make your check payable to Redeemer Lutheran Church and note “Frost School Food Back Pack Program,” or you may send your check directly to the Food Bank of South Central Michigan, 5451 Wayne Road, Battle Creek, MI 49037. Please note “Frost School Food Back Pack Program - J1060A” in the memo area.

If you are interested in helping or have questions, please contact Ken and Deanna Brandt, Dave and Fran Althouse, or Karen Balcom.

EVANGELISM UPDATES

by Jim Keat

Next Servant Evangelism Event: Hand out coffee and hot chocolate on November 19th at the Jackson Christmas Parade.

We are doing one planned servant evangelism event every month. On October 16th, we went to Bob’s Country Market. When anyone drove up to get gas or go into the store, we asked them if we could wash their car windows for free. When asked, “What’s the deal?” or “How much?,” our reply was: “*We just want to show you God’s love in a practical way.*” We handed them a card about Redeemer, stapled to a car freshener, and then we washed their windows.



One carload said they didn’t have time for the windshield because they

had to get to Ann Arbor quickly; a loved one was in the hospital and was not expected to live much longer. We asked

if we could pray with them. They got out of their car, we gathered around them, and prayed.

This is servant evangelism! It's going out into the community and finding opportunities to *show* the love of Jesus.

It's fun, and it's easy. If you can wash windows and say, "*I just want to show you God's love in a practical way,*" then you can do Servant Evangelism. And when a person is interested in talking more about our church or our faith, we don't have to ask the questions. They bring it up and give us an opportunity to share what it means to have a Savior, and a God who loves and forgives us.

We are planning a Servant Evangelism event every month. Please plan on being a part of one of these events.

Newcomers' Fellowship begins

November 7th: meet the first Sunday of each month. Until it grows too big, the fellowship will meet in the homes of various members.

New members of Redeemer will be there. Persons who have visited Redeemer for more than two weeks will also be invited. And, of course, at the *Newcomers' Fellowship* there will be long-time members from both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services. We will all be working together to help our new members and our visitors become mature serving and worshipping members of our church. We will all be getting to know each other better as fellow members of the Body of Christ.

Here is our plan for our typical evening:

- Arrival and informal socializing
- Inspiring devotion and Bible study
- Evening potluck meal

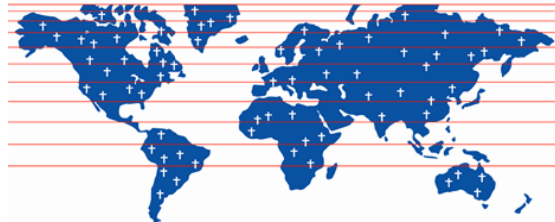
- Brief explanation of a ministry area at Redeemer
- Game or social activity

This is going to be a significant activity for the future of Redeemer. If you would like to be involved in the Redeemer *Newcomers' Fellowship*, contact Phyllis Donnelly, Linda Hunter, or Dave and Kim McFarland.

Our first *Newcomers' Fellowship* will take place Sunday, November 7th at 4:30 p.m. at the home of Harold and Phyllis Donnelly.

Ongoing World Evangelism: Monthly screen focus on various world missions to promote evangelism awareness with all members of Redeemer Lutheran Church.

About Our Missionaries



Our focus in November will continue to center on the Erber family. Obtaining gifts and resources to supplement their family Christmas joy with provision for a few of the "want" items, not just their needs, is the goal.

The youth and some adults of Redeemer Lutheran Church are making apple pies for you to purchase for "Thanksgiving for Christmas." "Thanksgiving for Christmas" means that the proceeds from the pies will be used for Christmas presents for the Erbers. Your family gets a pie for the holidays and the Erbers get presents for Christmas! (See page 2 of this newsletter for more information on this project.)

STEPPING INTO JACKSON

by Craig Britton

Redeemer Lutheran Church has been given a great opportunity to step into our community by joining the senior class of Jackson High School in their annual "Thanksgiving Food Drive."

Led by Redeemer's own Cassie Lockwood, this effort will help to feed many in our area over the Thanksgiving holiday, and it's an extra blessing for us to be able to give where our community is already at work.

Beginning October 24, 2010, there will be donation boxes outside both worship venues. Please donate any non-perishable food items at either location, and thank you in advance.



Jackson."

"Giving Thanks with Grateful Hearts"

TOPIC FOR DECEMBER

by Peggy Bennitt

The topic for December is *Humility*. It seems appropriate to focus on humility during the Advent season, while we focus again on the birth of our Savior and His humble beginning as God/Man here in this world. This focus on humility (which means "to be humble" or "free from pride," and "lowly in station, unpretentious"), follows our focus on reverence. How ironic to use those two words, both describing our Lord and Savior. So what?

So what do we think of this Savior Jesus, this heavenly king who became a lowly human? As we, like Mary, ponder these things in our hearts, what do we discern of humility? What does humility have to do with my walk of faith? What does humility "look like?"

Please send your newsletter articles to bennitt49@yahoo.com. You are also encouraged to send comments and suggestions for ways to make this publication more enjoyable for everyone.

Christmas Treasure from Trash

You can make pretty Christmas ornaments from old Christmas cards.

You will need:

- * old Christmas cards
- * scissors
- * glue
- * 3" or 4" circle pattern (cut from cardboard or just trace a coffee cup)
- * hole punch
- * yarn and ribbon
- * glitter
- * trims — rick-rack, ribbon, sequins, beads

How to do:

Trace the circle on two cards. Cut out and glue the backs of the cards together.

Decorate the edges of the cards with glue and glitter or scraps of ribbon.

Punch a hole in the top.

Insert a piece of yarn or ribbon.

You may also make small ones for gift tags.

Just cut your circles smaller.

Leave the back white and write "To:" and "From:" on it.





Sun

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Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

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| <p>C—Denotes Communion Services</p> <p>Choir-Sanctuary 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Praise Team-RAC 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class 7:00 p.m.</p> | | | <p>Young At Heart 12:00 Noon-3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Countryside Bible Study 2:00 p.m.</p> | <p>Community Morning Prayer Gathering 6:30 a.m.-7:30 a.m.</p> <p>Pastor's Bible Study 2:00 p.m.</p> | | <p>Men's Choir 9:30 a.m.</p> |
| <p>7 Divine Service— C 8:00 a.m.</p> <p>KidsVenture/Youth & Adult Bible Class 9:20 a.m.-10:20 a.m.</p> <p>Praise Service 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Newcomers' Fellowship 4:30 p.m.</p> | <p>8 Esther Bible Study The Lewis' Home 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon</p> <p>Choir-Sanctuary 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Praise Team-RAC 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class 7:00 p.m.</p> | <p>9</p> | <p>10 Quilters 9:30 a.m.-12:00 Noon</p> <p>Countryside Bible Study 2:00 p.m.</p> | <p>11 Community Morning Prayer Gathering 6:30 a.m.-7:30 a.m.</p> <p>Pastor's Bible Study 2:00 p.m.</p> | <p>12</p> | <p>13 Christmas Program Practice 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>Men's Choir 9:30 a.m.</p> |
| <p>14 Divine Service 8:00 a.m.</p> <p>KidsVenture/Youth & Adult Bible Class 9:20 a.m.-10:20 a.m.</p> <p>Praise Service— C 10:30 a.m.</p> | <p>15 Esther Bible Study The Lewis' Home 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon</p> <p>Choir-Sanctuary 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Praise Team-RAC 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class 7:00 p.m.</p> | <p>16</p> | <p>17 Countryside Service 10:15 a.m.</p> <p>Countryside Bible Study 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>Sunday Evangelism Committee 5:30 p.m.</p> | <p>18 Community Morning Prayer Gathering 6:30 a.m.-7:30 a.m.</p> <p>Pastor's Bible Study 2:00 p.m.</p> | <p>19 Servant Evangelism Event Jackson Christmas Parade</p> | <p>20 Christmas Program Practice 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>Men's Choir 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Apple Pie Making for Erber Support</p> |
| <p>21 Divine Service— C 8:00 a.m.</p> <p>KidsVenture/Youth & Adult Bible Class 9:20 a.m.-10:20 a.m.</p> <p>Praise Service 10:30 a.m.</p> | <p>22 Esther Bible Study The Lewis' Home 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon</p> <p>Choir-Sanctuary 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Praise Team-RAC 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class 7:00 p.m.</p> | <p>23</p> | <p>24 Quilters 9:30 a.m.-12:00 Noon</p> <p>Countryside Bible Study 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>Thanksgiving Eve Service 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Leadership Board 8:00 p.m.</p> | <p>25 Thanksgiving Office Closed</p> | <p>26 Office Closed</p> | <p>27 Men's Choir 9:30 a.m.</p> |
| <p>28 Divine Service 8:00 a.m.</p> <p>KidsVenture/Youth & Adult Bible Class 9:20 a.m.-10:20 a.m.</p> <p>Praise Service— C 10:30 a.m.</p> | <p>29 Esther Bible Study The Lewis' Home 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon</p> <p>Choir-Sanctuary 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Praise Team-RAC 7:00 p.m.</p> | <p>30</p> | <div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 10px;"> <h1 style="color: green; margin: 0;">November</h1> <h1 style="color: green; margin: 0;">2010</h1> </div> | | | |