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## Grace and Peace

The season of Lent is a time for reflection; to reflect upon our personal brokenness and consider amendment of our lives. A familiar question often asked; "What will you give up for Lent?" Standard answers include giving up chocolate, putting aside adult beverages or quitting smoking. Thirty-three years ago, I indeed gave up smoking as part of my Lenten discipline. On the upside I no longer smoke. Sadly, I did not think through the fullness of my Lenten discipline and replaced cigarettes with spare calories... lots and lots of spare calories! However, the Discipline of Lent is more than what we give up, it is also about what we take up in this season. Traditionally Lenten Discipline includes prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Too often there is a mistaken perception that all that we do in Lent will make us right with God. Rather this season is about recognizing our need for the Grace of God revealed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Pastor Kerri, Pastor Martha and I have prayerfully considered some things that might help us all along the way. In this post-pandemic world, we now recognize that isolation has become a real issue for many people, so we invite you to come to Wednesday evenings at Our Redeemer beginning at 6:00pm with a potluck meal. (If you don't have time to cook grab some prepared item from a store including pizza or a bakery treat.) More importantly come, because the miracle of an Our Redeemer Potluck meal is that there is always a bounty. The importance of sharing in a meal is to help build lifegiving community for others and perhaps for you as well.

Following the meal, we will also have a worship service that begins at 7:00pm focusing on the elements of the Lord's Prayer. To help us in this worshipful reflection we will examine Martin Luther's teaching from the Small Catechism. A special part of this service will also include the opportunity to learn how to also pray this prayer using American Sign Language (ASL).

You are invited to make weekend worship a priority. During the Sundays in Lent we will focus on how questions of life and faith play an important part in our personal journeys in relationship to God and community. Holy Scripture is filled with questions raised by God and the people of God. Questions are a healthy part of a dynamic relationship with God and in worship we explore what such questions can mean for our personal journey. The invitation to reflect on matters of faith provides us all with pathways for growth that can broaden our vision of who we are as individuals and a community.

I hope you will be able to join us in this season of Lent. Let us journey together in a Lenten discipline that can fill our lives with wonder, joy as we journey to Holy Days culminating in the Good News of Easter.

Peace,

*Pastor Kevin*



## WORSHIP

**Wednesdays in Lent** – Beginning March 1, join us on Wednesday evenings in Lent for a **potluck dinner at 6pm** (homemade or from the store, bring whatever you'd like) and **worship at 7pm**. Our theme for worship this year is "Pray then in this way: A series on the Lord's Prayer." As part of the series, each week we'll be learning sections of the Lord's Prayer in American Sign Language (ASL).



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## FELLOWSHIP

**Dining Divas** – The Dining Divas will gather for lunch on **Thursday, March 23 at 12:30pm** at Pizzaz (2850 Washington Rd, McMurray).

### Easter Decorations

Given by \_\_\_\_\_  
*As you wish your name to appear in the bulletin.*

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to donate # \_\_\_\_\_ Tulip(s) **Donation: \$9.50 each**

I wish to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to use where needed to decorate

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Given in memory of / honor of / celebration of / thanksgiving for (please circle one):

\_\_\_\_\_

*Please print clearly.*

Please place this form and payment in an envelope and drop in the collection plate or in the church office. If you have any questions, call the church office at 724-941-7467. **DEADLINE: MARCH 28**

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## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**Family Friday** – K-6<sup>th</sup> graders and their families are invited to bring dinner and join us on **Friday, March 24 at 5:30pm** for a story and activities together.

**Youth Group** – 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders - we'll gather on **Sunday, March 12 from 4:30-6:15pm** to cook and eat dinner together and play games! Crossroads students should plan to stay for class at 6:30pm.

Sign up on the bulletin board or [online](#).

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## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**Crossroads** – Crossroads Confirmation will meet for class on **Sunday, March 12 at 6:30pm**.

**Adult Sunday School Study of Matthew** - Adult Sunday School Class continues in the Conference Room. Pastor Martha Clementson is leading the class in a study of the Gospel of Matthew. Please join us! All adults are welcome. Those who have participated previously in Adult Sunday School, those who know the Bible well, those who are just beginning to explore the Bible...all are welcome!

**VBS Planning meeting** – Join us on **Tuesday, February 28 at 7:30pm** as we begin making plans for Vacation Bible School this summer. Talk to Pastor Kerri or Phyllis Permar with questions.

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## SERVICE & SOCIAL MINISTRY

**City Mission Food Pantry**— We continue to receive donations in the bins in the narthex and deliver them monthly. The specific needs this month are: cereal, canned chicken, ramen noodles, breakfast bars, peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce, and peanut butter crackers.

Volunteers are needed to deliver food pantry items and frozen meal pans to City Mission each month. Items can be delivered any Tuesday or Thursday from 10:00am-3pm; see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex for more details.

**Souper Bowl of Caring**—Thank you for your donations to the Souper Bowl of Caring on Sunday, February 12. We collected \$538 for Blessings in a Backpack!

**Blessings in a Backpack**—Currently there are approximately 120 kids at Ringgold Elementary School North who take food home each weekend. Current needs include microwavable cups of Chef Boyardee or Mac & Cheese and fruit cups/squeeze pouches. If you prefer to make a monetary donation it will go directly to the school account and be used to purchase food in bulk. Donations may be mailed to Blessings in a Backpack, P.O. Box 950291, Louisville, KY 40295." Be sure to designate it for Account #1440.

We are grateful to former coordinator Dani Mizia and her family, and current coordinator Jaymi Moody and her family, for their leadership and dedication in support of this ministry!



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## NEW MEMBER CLASS

There will be a New Member Class on **Sunday, March 19, from 1:00 -3:00pm** for people who are interested in joining Our Redeemer, or who just want to find out more about Lutherans and this congregation. Sign up on the bulletin board or [online](#).

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## MEMBER NEWS

### Thank You

Dear Our Redeemer congregation,

Thank you for my care package! I had my birthday party recently, and I gave out those snacks to all my friends. We aren't football fans, but we put the snacks to use haha! Thank you again for all of your support and prayers!

Carlie Hewitt

### Baptism

On Sunday, February 12 we welcomed through the Sacrament of Baptism Samantha Rae Beaversen, daughter of Christopher Thomas and Emily Claire Beaversen. *Welcome child of God.*

### Are These Yours?

The following were lent to Pastor Schmid over the years and she wishes to get them back to their rightful owner. If they belong to you, please let us know. They are in the church office.

- 2-DVD set from "Mandela Speech – 46664 Concert"
- Paperback book "The Return of the Prodigal Son" by Henri J. M. Nouwen
- Paperback book "The Memory Keeper's Daughter" by Kim Edwards
- Hardback book "More Contemporary Prayers, Prayers on Fifty-Two Themes" by Caryl Micklem

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## NOAH'S ARK PRESCHOOL

Spring is coming in the preschool and we can't wait to spend more time outside; playing, imagining and exploring! Our playground is one of the best features of our school and is an extension of the way we believe children learn and grow. Being in nature, feeling one with the earth, understanding our impact on the world around us, are all valuable lessons we learn outside.

We love that children can take risks on the uneven ground, run, jump and be loud; all things we tend to discourage indoors. We will soon be planting flowers, digging for worms and pouring water to see how it flows and changes. In the preschool, we can't wait for all the adventure and learning that comes with Spring! We wish for a Spring filled with adventure for each of you as well!

*Miss Heidi*



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## LUTHERLYN

**Camp Alumni**—We are looking for Lutherlyn Alumni in our congregation! If you have been a camper, a counselor, a retreat participant, or a staff person at Lutherlyn or another Lutheran camp at any time, please let us know. Church camp has been demonstrated to be one of the strongest influences on the development of young Christians, and we'd love to celebrate the influence Lutherlyn and other church camps have had among us! Please email your name and how you've been involved in Lutherlyn to the church office at [orlc@comcast.net](mailto:orlc@comcast.net).

**Summer Camp** — Registration for the summer of 2023 is now open! For more information and online registration, visit the [Lutherlyn website](#). Camperships from Our Redeemer are available. Once you register your child, notify the church office of the week and program.

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## ELCA DISASTER RESPONSE

Gifts to ELCA Disaster Response bring emergency response to the people and communities that have been devastated by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. Because of the long-term relationship between ELCA Disaster Response and ACT Alliance (a global faith-based coalition active in the Middle East), ELCA has been able to aid in providing immediate response to people, such as bedding, medicines, and other daily needs. Once emergency services have been met, ELCA Disaster will work with ACT Alliance to develop a long-term response of assistance. Gifts to ELCA Disaster Response go directly to disaster response because the infrastructure of the organization is supported by Mission Support of the ELCA. Gifts given toward response to the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria should be marked "Middle East Crisis." Your gift can be given through Our Redeemer or by going to [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org).

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## WOMEN OF THE ELCA EVENTS

**“Our Journey” Bible Study, John 10:10** Friday, March 24, 2023 at 7pm via Zoom

**“Planting Seeds of Leadership” Retreat** April 28-29, 2023 at Camp Lutherlyn, Prospect, PA

**SWPA Women of the ELCA Convention, “God’s Gift of Hope”** May 19-20, 2023 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Greensburg, PA

For more information, see the Friends, Inc. Newsletter on the bulletin board in the narthex or visit their [website](#).

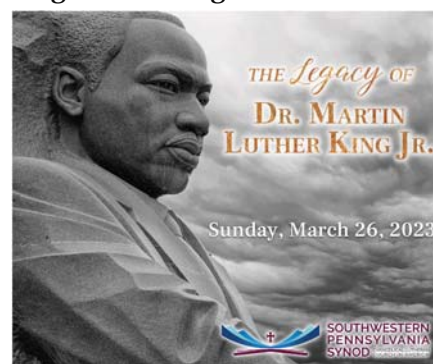
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## SYNOD EVENT

**The Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** Folks of all ages are invited to gather at Berkeley Hills Lutheran Church on **Sunday, March 26 at 4pm** for a worship service and program around the theme “A Home for ALL in the Beloved Community: Equitable Development and Housing in Pittsburgh.”

Following the 4pm worship service (also available via livestream), a dinner of loaded nachos will be provided by the Little Free Food Truck, a ministry of House of Prayer Lutheran Church, Aliquippa. After dinner, join a series of panelists from local, state, and national organizations for a discussion on Equitable Development and Housing in Pittsburgh & small group conversation. For more information about this event, visit [www.swpasynod.org/calendar/mlk23](http://www.swpasynod.org/calendar/mlk23).

*Crossroads students, your attendance at this event can count for 2 worship reports for this year.*




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## CHURCH WOMEN UNITED EVENT

Hello, Ladies of Our Redeemer! Your help is needed to host Peters Township Christian Women for the World Day of Prayer on **Friday, April 21 at 11am**. The theme is “Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk” and was written by women of Zimbabwe. We invite you to take this opportunity to listen to some of their music, to view some pictures of the African continent, and to enjoy tasting some Zimbabwe flavors by attending this event.

Readers and hands are needed for the program and the lunch that follows. Please see the bulletin board in the narthex for specific requests as we plan to host about 40 to 80 women. Although we had planned to hold this event in March 2020, the pandemic intervened! Now we are excited to finally carry out our plans and hope that you will consider being a part of this.

**Please make lunch reservations before April 14th** by signing up on the bulletin board, calling the church office (724-941-7467), or emailing [phyllis.permar@gmail.com](mailto:phyllis.permar@gmail.com). Be sure to indicate any dietary restrictions. Please join us for inspiration, learning and fellowship!

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## COMMUNITY RESOURCE

**Free Tax Assistance** by VITA will be available at The Bible Chapel (300 Gallery Drive, McMurray) Monday -Thursday from 8:00am until 2:00pm through April 6. No appointments. First come, first served. NO new return started after 1:00pm. Must bring: Last year’s tax return; ID for yourself and spouse; Social security numbers and birthdates for yourself, spouse and dependents; all W-2 and 1099 tax documents (including Social Security 1099), 1095 health care statements and property tax receipts. Both spouses must sign joint returns. Federal, state, local taxes and property tax/rent rebate forms are prepared. Questions? Call the IRS at 800-829-1040. Online, search “VITA” at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). Please do not contact The Bible Chapel.

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## IN OUR PRAYERS

**We lift up the following members of our congregation so that they may be strengthened by our prayers of intercession:**

George Andrewson, Carol Ausefski, Tom Barczak, Edith Bencic, Steve Broome, Ruth Brosky, Cindy Cox, Chris Decker, Dorothy Dilemuth, Kerri Evans, Martha Fecher, Richard and Lori Gajdowski, Ray Hrabar, Mandy Jarosh, Gary McGaffic, Casey Moran on his deployment, Tim Roberts, Kathy Russman, and Debbie Stonemark.

**We remember those friends and family members who have asked for our prayers:**

Chris, Doug, Kate, Sam, George Andrewson Sr., Terry Anntonate, Marjorie Appleton, Larry Arch, Sandi Babbie, Gladys Bacco, Nikki Baselj, Todd Brosky, Wendy Brosky, Doug Bush, Tom Caley, Carolyn Dagg, Ellen Deutsch, Carl Engman, Pat Filipiak, Beth Gallagher, Catie Geory, Ian Gonzalez, Norma Gower, Marion Greenland, Lisa Grimes, Robert Hildebrand, Bob Hohowski, Joyce Hough, Stan Karoleski, Ray Keisling, June Lance, George Langford, Gordon and Diane Ley, Jess Ley, Elizabeth Locher, Mildred Maize, Megan Meseck, Jolie Mihalik, Chuck Miller, Owen Miller, Adam Miskow, Linda Moeslein, Dolores Munsick, Beth Napolitano, Kathy Oberle, Brad Olson, Jean Orth, Tracey Perles, Dave Provenzano, Cyndi Quinn, Betty and Frank Rively, Jeanie Rose, Joe Sarubbi, Dave Schrader, Jeff Schwarz, Meryl Severson, Bob Shader, Holly Shader, Karol Smith, Rick Snyder, Donna Stafford, Dan Stimmel, Gary Stinson, Andrew Straka, Terri Strawn, Tina Thielet, Gretchen Till, Art W., Dave Weikel, Rhianna Wilk, and Frank Yocca.

*If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please submit your request in writing and place in the offering plate, drop off in the church office, or submit by e-mail to [orlc@comcast.net](mailto:orlc@comcast.net). Please help to keep this list current by contacting the church office when someone can be removed from the list.*

## STEWARDSHIP ~ HOW ARE WE DOING?

### Year to Date as of January 2023

	This Year			Last Year		
	Current	Building	Total	Current	Building	Total
Income	\$35,829	\$4,033	\$39,862	\$39,055	\$4,368	\$43,423
Expenses	\$42,910		\$42,910	\$34,023		\$34,023
Surplus (deficit)	(\$7,081)	\$4,033	(\$3,048)	\$5,032	\$4,368	\$9,400
Surplus (deficit)			<b>(\$3,048)</b>			<b>\$9,400</b>
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Other Outreach Offerings	Year to Date					
Abiding Missions	\$100					
City Mission	\$25					
ELCA World Hunger	\$435					
Lutheran World Relief	\$30					
	<u>\$590</u>					

MINISTRY SCHEDULE/MARCH 2023									
	March 5, 2023		March 12, 2023		March 19, 2023		March 26, 2023		
	Second Sunday in Lent		Third Sunday in Lent		Fourth Sunday in Lent		Fifth Sunday in Lent		
WORSHIP LEADER	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	
Acolyte				Isaac and Owen Hilderhoff				Isaac and Owen Hilderhoff	
Lay Assistant	Ken Rigby	Carl Ruppel	Kim Chupinka	Max Rush	Laura Culp	Kim Maize	Karen Glass	Maegan Bregenser	
Communion Assistant	Laura Culp	Barb Hrabar	Missy Bookhammer	Eliana Beck	Missy Bookhammer	Lori Greene	Kim Chupinka	Barb Hrabar	
Communion Assistant	Cheryl Debowski	Becky Long	Tina Borra	Jackie Beck	Debbie Healey Langley	Sue Lambert	Tina Borra	Becky Long	
Communion Assistant	Ruth Ann Lowery	Gerda Moul	Keith Lowery	Susan Lambert	Garrett Langley	Phyllis Permar	Cheryl Debowski	Carl Ruppel	
Communion Assistant	Phyllis Permar	Sally Ruppel	Ruth Ann Lowery	Susan O'Brien	Trudy Wagner	Jamie Whyte	Ken Rigby	Sally Ruppel	
Greeter	Karla Lance	Paula Reese	Keith/Ruth Ann Lowery	Susan O'Brien	Karla Lance	Karen Smith	Cheryl Debowski	Dani Mizia	
Usher	Mike Debowski	Doug Meley	Joel Beltz	Simon Beck	Drew Lance	Jim Doughty	Mike Debowski	Jim Mizia	
Usher	Drew Lance	Eric Reese	Dave Borra	Doug Meley	Clint Langley	Joe Maize	Gary Milavec	Max Rush	
Gift Bearer	Karla Lance	Paula Reese	Missy Bookhammer	Jackie Beck	Karla Lance	Phyllis Permar	Dianne Rigby	Dani Mizia	
Altar Guild	Laura Culp	Barb Hrabar	Tina Borra	Barb Hrabar	Sue Lambert	Lori Greene	Tina Borra	Heather Morelli	
Altar Guild	Susan Loeser	Becky Long	Kim Chupinka	Susan Lambert	Susan Loeser	Joyce Kilgore	Kim Chupinka	Sally Ruppel	
PowerPoint	Rolf Otterness	Meredith Pomposelli	Karen Glass	Ryan Hettinger	Lori Greene	Gary Milavec	Rolf Otterness	Jacob Casper	
Camera	X	Sam Mizia	X	Sam Mizia	X	Sam Mizia	X	Sam Mizia	
Head Teller (Monday)	Carol Locher		Barb Schumacher		Gary Milavec		Judy Pilof		
Council Teller (Monday)	Susan Lambert		John Yocca		Martha Rhone		Terry Divebliss		

*if you find that you cannot serve when scheduled, please contact the church office.*

## **OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**

105 Gateshead Drive  
McMurray, PA 15317-3101

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724-941-7467

### **WORSHIP SERVICES**

**SATURDAY 5:30 PM and SUNDAY 9:00 and 11:00 AM (live-streamed)**  
Online services are available through [facebook.com/ORLutheran](https://facebook.com/ORLutheran), YouTube  
and the church's website.

**GROWING IN GOD (Sept. - May), 10:00 AM, Age 3-Adults**

**THE REV. MARTHA CLEMENTSON, INTERIM PASTOR**  
443-699-9837, [clementsonmartha@gmail.com](mailto:clementsonmartha@gmail.com)

**THE REV. KEVIN CLEMENTSON, INTERIM PASTOR**  
443-699-8534, [kcclementson@yahoo.com](mailto:kcclementson@yahoo.com)

**THE REV. KERRI CLARK, PASTOR - 724-603-5589, [rev.kerri.clark@gmail.com](mailto:rev.kerri.clark@gmail.com)**

**HEIDI GARNER, DIRECTOR, NOAH'S ARK PRESCHOOL - 724-942-6699**  
[noahspreschool@comcast.net](mailto:noahspreschool@comcast.net)

**MARY HELEN BARR, MUSIC DIRECTOR - 412-780-3357 (cell)**

**ELAINE DOLCICH, OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**

**THE REV. JOHN F. YEDLICKA, PASTOR EMERITUS**

Office 724-941-7467 Fax 724-941-3262

E-mail: [orlc@comcast.net](mailto:orlc@comcast.net)

Website: <https://www.OurRedeemer-peters.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ORLutheran>

YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/ORLCyoutube>

## **OUR VISION**

The vision of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church is to be a welcoming church where people of all ages and backgrounds will: encounter God in worship, experience Christian community, discover their God-given gifts, grow in faith, and be equipped for service and witness as we are sent out into God's world.