

October 4, 2020



Redeemer

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Weekly Giving

Date	Giving
9/6/2020	\$4,445.00
9/13/2020	\$2,038.00
9/20/2020	\$4,769.00
9/27/2020	\$3,442.00

Giving needed each week: \$4,000

October Benevolent Focus



If you need a **pastor in an emergency**, please call **Pastor Grace** on her cell at **(610) 533-3527**. You may also reach her at **gracecameronolson@gmail.com**

Church Office Hours

Mon. 9:30-5:00

Wed. 9:30-5:00 remotely

Tues. & Thurs. 9:30-2:00

Friday 9:30-3:30

Church Updates

The Task Force will meet on Oct. 6th to determine whether indoor worship is safe and appropriate. The Task Force is considering Oct. 25th, Reformation Sunday, for our first indoor worship service since last March. If we go forward with Reformation Sunday, this is not the beginning of regular Sunday services. COVID protocols will be in place (reservations, temperatures taken, social distancing, and no congregational singing or speaking). The Task Force will implement safeguards and assign tasks so that we can celebrate this special day in the church year. Please watch your newsletter for updates.

According to the bylaws of our constitution, 15% of Undesignated Gifts to Redeemer shall be directed to special benevolences. Jean Lory's generous gift to Redeemer enabled us to disburse \$28,500 to organizations that we believe benefit our community. \$13,200 was disbursed to the benevolences that Redeemer supports annually in the budget (\$400.00 is being held for Ingathering since, at this time, Ingathering is not expected to have their Christmas collection). Extra donations to these organizations will be given to them, above and beyond what was budgeted.

This past week, the Church Council approved the final disbursement of funds (\$15,300.00) to the following organizations:

The West End Alliance publishes West End Living (including articles about Redeemer), plants trees in the neighborhood, sponsors clean up events for the West End. They lost their largest source of income when their Food Festival had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. **Approved gift - \$100.00.**

The Allentown School District Foundation which focuses on the initiatives and programs that promote student achievement in Allentown Schools. **Approved gift - \$5,000.00.**

Pastor Brian Riedy (former Redeemer vicar) and his church, Holy Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church in Catasauqua has established a Community Help/Food Program that has become a weekly community meal during the pandemic. According to a Morning Call article, they have been feeding up to 200 families per week. The church members prepare food and give it in "to go" containers. **Approved gift - \$5,000.00.**

Hurricane relief, domestic relief, and/or international disaster relief through the ELCA have been suggested. Hurricane relief and/or Wildfire relief can be specifically designated. **Approved gifts - \$2,600.00 to Hurricane relief and \$2,600.00 to Wildfire relief.**

The Church Council believes that these donations will help these groups to continue the good works that they perform.



Bob and Erica Dreabit
10/20

Erica and Michael Smith
10/20

Dennis and Karen Helfrich
10/22

**Elizabeth and Jeffrey
Fletcher**
10/25

- Oct 4 Barbara Kmetz
- Oct 6 Christine Duetsch
- Oct 8 Tim Richards
- Oct 12 Jennifer Mann
- Oct 13 Michele Bossons
- Oct 13 Ruth Schaeffer
- Oct 14 Douglas Cramer
- Oct 12 Glenn Fisher
- Oct 19 Daniel Robb
- Oct 19 Lucas Schmieg
- Oct 21 Todd Fahringer
- Oct 27 Judy Mahar
- Oct 28 Brianna Bartek
- Oct 31 Barry Paules



Call Committee Update

The Call Committee continues to wait for news from the Synod about a potential candidate. At this time, there are no other updates. Other churches in our area are in the same situation. Please continue to pray for Pastor Grace, the staff and the committee members and for one another.

Members of the Call Committee are: Linda Kern (Head), Dottie Beazley, Dane Clark, Erica Dreabit, Theresa Jetter, Harrison Jetter, Todd Richards.



SCRIP UPDATE

It is now October and not too early to think about Christmas. Gift cards are easy to purchase and benefit Redeemer's fund for property repair and replacement. Looking back to 2019, on December 9th, we received orders for 20 retailers totaling \$2,415 which gave Redeemer rebates of over \$100. **Great Lakes Scrip** ships the cards via UPS, therefore, there is an \$8.50 shipping charge. Because of the shipping costs, I wait until I have enough orders that assures Redeemer a decent rebate. I am usually able to order weekly but sometimes, if the order level is low, I will have to wait more than a week.

Craig

MONDAY LUNCH FELLOWSHIP

All are welcome to come to **Wert's Café** for lunch on Monday mornings at 11:00. This is an informal group that has grown from four Redeemer members to eight and welcomes more of you. Due to the pandemic, there is currently outdoor seating only but they have tents and heaters to make it comfortable.

Prayer Chain Gang

The Prayer Chain-Gang has lost some rings/ringers.
Might you be willing to fill in?



Generally speaking, **Gale James** (home) or **Michelle Fister** (office) will tell you for whom and what to pray. Most times, you will call the same person whenever there is a request for prayer. If that person cannot be reached, you leave a message for her/him and call the next ring in your chain. That way the whole gang gets the message on the same day.

Choose your own words and prayers. **If you wish to join the Chain-Gang**, call **Gale** at home (484-765-9196) or **Michelle** at the church office (610-434-1291). Ditto, if you'd like us to pray for someone you know.

Members who are hospitalized and others in need of our prayers

Members who are ill, recuperating, shut-in, or in the military

Gloria Beil, Jane Bellesfield, Tony Boyle, Irene Buehler, Joan Colfer, Carolyn Crilley, Lois Eisenhard, Nila Grammes, Gale James, Nancy Long, Glenda McNelis, Sister Verna Meckes, Lois Nowack, John Saylor, Earl Schlegel, Marilyn Snyder, Rita Sparrow, Pastor Jack and Dottie Tomlinson, William Zotter, Ryan Jaxheimer, Nathan Rode, Harrison Jetter



Please keep these members and their families in your prayers

Greg Boyer, Virginia Balliet, Derry family, Margaret Heil, Beth and Martin Landau, Joan Lorenz, Eric Sell, Christopher, Leah, Darren, Julian, Beth Reccek and family, Jack Ohl, Nancy and Pastor Don Schwartz, Dave and Lois Nowack, Nancy Ruhmel, Olwen and Joshua Bougher



Scripture Readings

for

October 4, 2020

Isa 5:1-7

Ps 80:7-15

Phil 3:44b-14

Matt 21:33-46

Correspondence

We give thanks to God for your continued ministry during these difficult times of pandemic.

God's peace and blessings from the members of **Jordan Lutheran Church** in Orefield, PA.