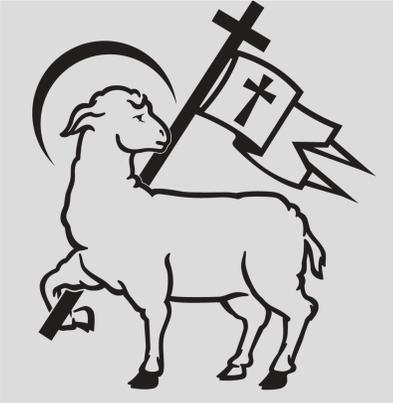


# THE REDEEMER REMINDER

55 Wyckoff Avenue | Ramsey, NJ 07446 | Phone 201.327.0148 | Fax 201-825-2149



## In this issue

Committee Corners	2-3
Music Notes	4-5
Our Lenten Schedule	6
Christian Education News	7
Access Livestream services	8
Church YouTube channel	8
New Online giving	9
Calendar	10
Thanks!	11
Our Congregational Family Celebrates	12

## Pastor's Message

by Pastor Michael C. Linderman, Ph. D.

February is Black History Month in the US, and here at Redeemer, we take this opportunity to synchronize our attention with that observance and that of the New Jersey Synod's Bishop's Challenge on Black History, which continues through May of this year.

Our Redeemer Bible study group has already completed the Bishop's Challenge Bible Study, and I invite the congregation to other upcoming events this month, which are highlighted in our Social Ministry page in this newsletter. Please be sure to check out the Bishop's Challenge web page at <https://www.njsynod.org/bishopschallenge>.

Next month, we will highlight the Bishop's Challenge Collection, in which our congregation will be asked to donate to a fund that will give scholarships to students of African descent who are training to be pastors in the Lutheran Church. In our baptisms, we are called to a public theology where our faith meets the needs of the real world around us. In a Christian denomination that is 96% white\*, and which seeks to increase diversity within its ranks, this is an important opportunity. We give thanks for the timely efforts of our Bishop and the NJ Synod, with whom we enjoy Christian communion, and we look forward to growth in faith through our willing participation in these efforts. +PL

\* <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/07/27/the-most-and-least-racially-diverse-u-s-religious-groups/>

## 2022 Bishop's Challenge

by Sharon Vogel, Chair



As Pastor told us in the November 2021 Redeemer Reminder, Redeemer has joined with 150+ other NJ Lutheran congregations in taking up the 2021-2022 Bishop's Challenge - the "Jehu Jones Mission". This is a unique opportunity to listen, learn, reflect, and engage with the tough issues of our country's racial history.

There are several upcoming events as part of the Challenge:

### Bishop's Challenge Events:

1. February 16 7:00pm via ZOOM—  
A **presentation on "Quilts in the Black Tradition"** by Professor Steven Haab. All you quilters, take notice! This will be very informative.
2. February 22 or February 24 7:30pm via ZOOM—  
A **book study of "The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration"**.  
Join Bishop Bartholomew on either date to participate in a Synod-wide discussion. The book is available on Amazon.
3. April 2nd, 2022— The **bus trip to Philadelphia**, originally planned for November 2021, has been rescheduled for. Participants will visit the African American Museum and the site of the first African American Lutheran Church in America, in Philadelphia.

Registration is required for all events. Go to "[www.njsynod.org/bishopschallenge](http://www.njsynod.org/bishopschallenge)" to register and get more information.

## Social Ministry, cont.

by Sharon Vogel

### Social Ministry Monthly Envelope Designations 2022

**January** Lutheran World Relief

**February** St. Stephan's Grace Church

**March** ELCA World Hunger Relief

**April** Ramsey Responds

**May** Center For Food Action

**June** Family Promise

**July** Lutheran Social Ministry of NJ

**August** Oasis - A Haven for Women and Children

**September** Habitat for Humanity

**October** St. Stephan's Grace Church

**November** Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

**December** NJ Synod of the ELCA

## Property and Grounds

by John Manke

With the congregation's generous support, we are looking forward to completing the following projects in 2022.

- New AC/Heat pump mini-split system for church offices and lounge
- Paint offices where old AC units were removed and holes re-bricked
- Wireless Smart Thermostats for church and educational building
- New tables for fellowship hall
- Repair concrete sidewalk replacement on side of educational building
- Replace or repair parsonage walkway
- New landscaping lighting for parsonage
- Re-cap or replace retaining wall along parsonage walkway
- Replace parsonage front door.



**AmazonSmile** Foundation will **donate** 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer. Be sure to select our congregation at "Supporting" on AmazonSmile.

## Music Notes “To you, God the Singer, our voices we raise. . .”

by Fran Morton, Music Director

We have been singing in church for a while now – kind of. It’s pretty frustrating to sing with any mask. At least for me it is. Most masks restrict exactly what you need to do to sing properly and enjoyably – they limit air intake and they muffle text. Finally, added to these disadvantages many don’t fit properly at the top and side for most of our faces. So after all this, they don’t protect very well. What to do?

Actually, people have been at work trying to solve those problems and create masks that protect, fit right, allow for enough air intake and minimize the muffling of text. I’ve kept an eye on the developments and want to share with you my experiences so far.



The original singer’s mask was developed by Broadway performers. The flexible plastic frame keeps the front mask panel away from your nose and mouth. It is roomy enough for nice breaths and does allow some diction to come through. The issue here is fit. For either

beards or fuller chins and necks, it can be uncomfortable or tempt you to adjust it frequently. The outside is generally made of cloth with a non-woven filter insert in the front panel. While this makes it less flexible for clear diction these are washable and the insert is replaceable.



The classic commercial N95 comes in several designs with elastic either over the ear or around the head. They fit pretty well all around and are being distributed free of charge at Walgreens, CVS and other locations. N95’s are re-useable for a few times, but not washable so you will need to replace frequently. These allow pretty free breathing, but were not designed for singing and usually come in only one size. You may have issues on air intake and articulating text clearly.

(continued next page...)

## Music Notes “To you, God the Singer, our voices we raise. . .”

by Fran Morton, Music Director



The Vocalease mask was developed specifically for singers and presenters. It is large enough to allow good breathing and comes in several sizes for custom fitting. It is made of non-woven washable material similar to microphone covers. This material has enough body to hold its shape without adding a frame. The two elastic bands fit around the head -- the top one to hold the mask in place and the lower one to adjust the fit. This mask is the best I've tested for maintaining clarity of text,

Early on in the COVID pandemic, researchers identified singing, especially in groups, especially indoors in spaces without enhanced ventilation as a significant risk factor for spreading the virus. Since then a number of studies have been undertaken to

determine exactly what the risk is, its specific cause and how to mitigate since humans love to sing in groups, in all kinds of places. Rollins College teamed up their Physics and Music Departments to study exactly what happens when people sing with and without masks. This link shows you the visual of some of their findings.

<https://www.rollins.edu/physics/research/musicians-and-spread-of-covid-19.html>

The relevant information for us is - masks do protect and help singers mitigate their risk of either getting or spreading COVID, but they need to fit right. The most common places where they don't fit right are at the top and sides. So, whatever mask you choose make sure it fits snugly to your face across the bridge of your nose and in front of your ears.

Let me know if you'd like recommendations for either finding or fitting a mask for singing. And, in the further words of ELW 861 ". . . so let us all sing with one heart and one voice the Song of the Singer in whom we rejoice."

Fran Morton, Music Director  
Mobile: 201.315.7384  
music@redeemerramsey.org



# LENTEN CALENDAR

Every Sunday with Holy Communion Service at 10:15 a.m.

## **Ash Wednesday**

March 2, at 12 noon and 7:30 p.m. Service of Holy Communion and Ashes

## **Sunday School in Lent**

at 9:15 a.m. 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27, 4/3, 4/10

## **Wednesday Night Lenten Prayer**

Evening Prayer Service at 7:30 p.m. 3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6

The theme for this year's series is "Turning toward God's Abundance: A Lenten Service of Word and Prayer". These services will help you focus your Lenten energy and strengthen the Peace of the Lord in your heart.

## **Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday**

April 10 at 10:15 a.m. Festival Service of Holy Communion

## **Maundy Thursday**

April 14, at 12 noon and 7:30 p.m. Service of Holy Communion

## **Good Friday**

April 15, at 12 noon and 7:30 p.m. Service of Prayer and Meditation

## **Easter Vigil**

April 16, at 7:30pm

## **Resurrection of Our Lord**

Sunday, April 17

Sunrise Service at Redeemer Cemetery at 6:30 a.m. 90 Chapel Road, Mahwah  
Service of Holy Communion at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
at The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Ramsey

## Christian Education News

by Heather Layng, Christian Education Chair

### **IN-PERSON Sunday School Schedule for February and March: 9:15 AM**

Feb 6, 13, 27 (*NO SS on Feb 20*)

March 6, 13, 20, 27

April 3, 10

#### **Classes are**

Toddler - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-Confirmation

#### **Boy Scout Sunday**- Feb 13, 2022

#### **3rd Grade Bibles: Status Update-**

Our 3rd grade bibles are on back order. Supply chain problems have delayed our order. Thank you for your patience!

#### **4th Grade: First Holy Communion**

Classes occur during Sunday School  
March 13, 20, and 27

We celebrate our 4th graders' First Holy Communion on April 3, in church, at the 10:15 am service. Please pray for our 4th graders as they prepare for this special event.

### **Confirmation News**

Our 8th and 9th Grade confirmation classes met for class on Zoom during January (Jan 9 and 23) because of the Omicron surge. The topics covered were the 1st and 2nd Articles of the Apostles' Creed. We go back to in-person class on Feb 6. We will finish out the Creed and move on to the Lord's Prayer. NEXT Classes are Feb 6 and 27.

The Omicron surge also interfered with our planned over-night retreat (Feb 4-5) at Camp Crossroads Retreat Center, the NJ Synod's Lutheran camp in Hunterdon County NJ.

Also, the **2022 ELCA Youth Gathering** was cancelled. Redeemer was really looking forward to this event. Next gathering will be in 2024.



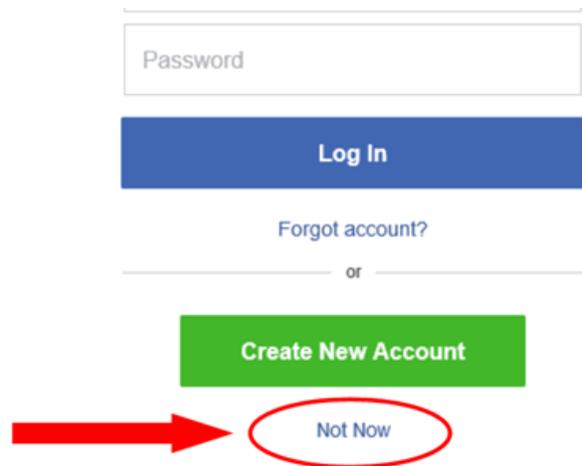
## Watch on Facebook...WITHOUT Facebook!

Because of the Covid19 situation, we are live streaming our worship services to you! Our Sunday and Holy Week Worship Livestream will be on Facebook, but you can watch **even if you do not have a Facebook account!**

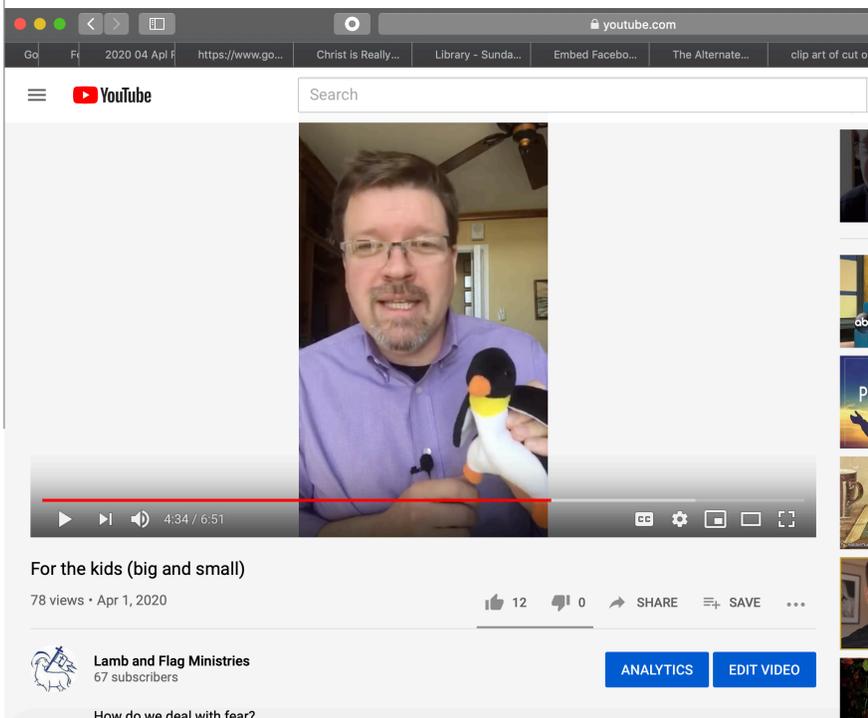
Here is a link to Redeemer's page. Type this into your browser address bar: <https://www.facebook.com/redeemerramsey/>

Within a few seconds of opening the page, you will see the Facebook Login screen: Click on "Not Now" (see image to the right).

This allows you to view the video of the worship service without needing a Facebook account. So please join us!



## Subscribe to our YouTube Channel!



Check out our YouTube Channel: **"Lamb and Flag Ministries"**!

Just put the title of our channel into a Google search bar, or go to YouTube and enter the title in the Search bar.

You will find weekly video messages by Pastor Linderman and recordings of our past worship services on our channel.

Don't forget to subscribe to the channel by clicking the "Subscribe" button!

## Support Redeemer, Give Online

---

by Judith Schaefer, Stewardship Committee

We're excited to share that we've launched online giving at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer through "Tithe.ly", a safe and secure giving platform that allows you to give one-time or recurring gifts! You can get started by using one of the following options:

### **OPTION A.** The Tithe.ly Giving App:

Download the Tithe.ly App from the [App Store](#) (iPhone) or [Google Play Store](#) (Android). Once you've downloaded the app select your church and follow the same steps as above.

- Since this is your first time giving with [Tithe.ly](#) you will be prompted to create an account that you can use for all future gifts.
- The first time you will also need to add your credit/debit card or ACH/banking info.
- Once your account has been created you won't need to enter your personal or payment information. Just enter your PIN and give!
- A reminder you have the ability to set up your gift as recurring.

### **OPTION B.** Redeemer Website Giving:

Go to [www.RedemerRamsey.org](http://www.RedemerRamsey.org) and go to the "Give" menu to give through the church website. It's a safe and easy way to give any time.

### **OPTION C.** The Tithe.ly Website

Set up giving on the Tithe.ly website to give any time using your computer's internet connection. All transactions are safe and secure. Go to Tithe.ly to sign up at [get.tithe.ly](http://get.tithe.ly).

- When the Tithe.ly screen opens, click on SIGN UP FREE >
- Then select GIVE TO YOUR CHURCH
- Then select the GIVE ONLINE button
- Click the Create Account button and complete the information requested You need to this only the first time. You will just need to sign in after completing this screen.
- Follow the screen instructions to make your contribution.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email me back and we'd be happy to assist you further! Go to the Tithe.ly website for articles that you may find useful.

Thank you for your generosity and partnering with us to carry out Christ's mission in these difficult and challenging times.

See you on Sunday (online)! - Judith

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
				Groundhog Day 10:00A Bible Study		
6 9:15A Sunday School 10:15A Svc of Holy Communion 4:30P Confirmation Class	7 1:30P Quilting Ministry	8 7:30P Council Meeting	9 10:00A Bible Study	10	11	12
13 9:15A Sunday School 10:15A Svc of Holy Communion Boy Scout Sunday SOUPER BOWL Sunday	14 Valentine's Day 1:30P Quilting Ministry	15	16 10:00A Bible Study 7:00P Bishop Challenge Quilt Class	17 RR Articles Due	18	19
20 NO Sunday School 10:15A Svc of Holy Communion	21 President's Day 1:30P Quilting Ministry	22 7:30P Bishop Challenge Book Group	23 10:00A Bible Study	24 7:30P Bishop Challenge Book Group	25	26
27 9:15A Sunday School 10:15A Svc of Holy Communion 4:30P Confirmation Class	28 7:30P Adult Ed	1	2 Ash Wednesday Services 12 noon 7:30P			

**\*\*Virtual Worship Services are Live on Facebook @ The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer Ramsey, NJ. and on YouTube Channel "Lamb and Flag Ministries"**

Join us for a virtual Fellowship / Coffee Hour every Sunday following 10:15am Worship.

To join this Zoom Meeting, go to:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/345715195?pwd=NVFrbTZTUU96SWRnbUgvRWZEM2tUZz09>

Meeting ID: 345 715 195, Password: 147185

**Or Dial in by phone: +1 929 205 6099 US (New York) Meeting ID: 345 715 195, Password: 147185**

## Thanks!

---

Dear Pastor Linderman and People of Redeemer,  
Thank you so much for your gift to the Staff Appreciation Fund of Cedar Crest. Our mother Marilyn Brighton was cared for by the angels of Assisted Living and because of them she could live out her life in her own apartment. They so deserve this gift, and our undying thanks!  
Peace to you all,  
Pastor Carol Brighton and family



Special thanks to our volunteers who braved bitterly cold weather to help take in our Nativity Scene on Jan. 22. We couldn't bring them in when we wanted because of bad weather, and the pieces have taken a beating. Stay tuned for an opportunity to help refurbish some of the pieces later this year! This is one of our very own labor of love ministries! God is good!



*Let all that you do  
be done in love*

1 Corinthians 16:14

*May God Bless You on Your Birthday*

- 2/1 Thomas Doherty
- 2/2 Sofia Covello, Lily Mulhall, Joan Wilke-Schreiber
- 2/3 Justin Hawkesworth
- 2/4 Ian McKeown
- 2/5 Mackenzie Backhaus
- 2/7 Robert Wortmann
- 2/8 Ryan Hanys
- 2/9 Zachary Pacenza
- 2/10 Joyce Manke, Colin Milde, Doreen Rosen
- 2/13 Doreen Schreek
- 2/14 Max Rosen
- 2/15 Keith Gager, Stewart Smith
- 2/16 Rose Lempp
- 2/17 Paul White
- 2/20 Christopher Barbara, James Finlayson, Scott Ponath
- 2/21 Taylor Vozech
- 2/22 Reid Cusack
- 2/24 Aiden Bogatch, Karen Wilson
- 2/25 Lois Berger, Mason Hawkesworth, Andrea Wortmann
- 2/26 Laura Behrmann, Nora Tarzian
- 2/27 Aiden Daehnke-Falbo, Payton Nista
- 2/28 Drew Bickford



**Wedding Anniversaries**

- 2/8 Ed and Gail Stengel
- 2/14 Amber and Ray Cusack
- 2/16 George and Kathy Westcott
- 2/19 Jennifer and Matthew Hommez



**Baptismal Anniversaries**

- 2/1 Chelsey Scala Hudson, Chris Scala
- 2/13 John Redin
- 2/15 Kailey Austin
- 2/19 Kathryn Kissel
- 2/20 Marshall Smith
- 2/22 Alex Dunbar, Joe Dunbar
- 2/25 Courtney Falbo

Redeemer Reminder articles for the month of March are due Thursday, February 17th.

Please submit to [office@redeemerramsey.org](mailto:office@redeemerramsey.org) or [denise.bogatch@hotmail.com](mailto:denise.bogatch@hotmail.com).