

THE EVANGEL

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH - FEBRUARY 18, 2010

Greetings Friends in Christ

By: Greg Ofsdahl Pastor



Like most people who care about others near or far, I continue to think of the people in Haiti and about earthquakes. During an earthquake some years ago, the people in a small village were very much alarmed and in need (much like the people now in Haiti),

but in this village, many were surprised at the calmness and apparent joy of an old woman whom they all knew. One of the villagers boldly asked the respected old woman, "Are you not afraid?" "No," said the woman, "I rejoice to know that I have a God who wakes us up to a shaken world." We do indeed have a God who wakes us up! I DO NOT believe that our God causes such disasters as has occurred in Haiti. I DO BELIEVE that we have a God who is there when such things do happen. God is there waking us up to a shaken world with our many opportunities to respond in so many ways. God wakes us up to the needs of others in this shaken world; and we respond!

David, the psalmist, was so impressed with the works of God, in the Psalms he wrote:

"Before the mountains were born or

you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God." (90:2).

"He stretches out the heavens like a tent and lays the beams of his upper chambers on their waters. He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind. He makes the winds his messengers...He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved...He makes springs pour water into the ravines; it flows between the mountains... He waters the mountains from his upper chambers...He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for man to cultivate." (104:2-14).

"When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him?...O, Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" (8:3-4, 9).

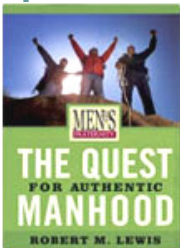
When we consider the world that God has made, we certainly must take notice that there is much more good than bad. God is a good God. God is for us, not against us. Bad things do happen in our lives and in the world and we can't escape or

NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

February 21st during Fellowship

Attention All Men, Age 16 and Up

By: Greg Ofsdahl Pastor



Men! Have you ever thought about how you might become a better husband, son, father, brother, uncle, male role-model? All Men ages 16 and up are invited to join us for an awesome adventure! "The Quest for Authentic Manhood!" is a video and discussion series developed by Dr. Robert Lewis. This journey has energized and excited men all over the world. Many men who have gone through this series have commented that these messages have blessed them with a new sense of their own masculine identity, giving them a personal manhood vision, as well as

insight into what God had in mind when God first brought man into the world. "The Quest for Authentic Manhood" series sets out to answer some questions that are universal to men: What makes a man a man, A real man? How does one become a man? Is there a moment when it happens? What is it that holds men back from their true masculine identity? How should authentic manhood express itself today? And much more! Although, not developed as a "Lutheran" series, this will provide for lively discussion for all; even us Lutherans. This group will begin this adventure in Redeemer's Fire-side Room on Wednesday, February 24th at 7:45pm.

For Heaven or Health's Sake

By: Tammy Williams, R.N., Parish Nurse

A recent medical study measured the effects of mental stress on blood pressure. The results were surprising. If your blood pressure goes sky high during a "mental challenge", you are a prime candidate for "hardening of the arteries", which can cause strokes and heart attacks.

Researchers used a tricky computer game to test their theory. Words for colors were written in color, and the 348 volunteers had to identify the color in which the words were written. To make things more difficult, the computer sped up the game to guarantee everyone would have a 17% error rate. Blood pressure monitors recorded the effects.

Over the next two years, researchers used ultrasound to check for obstruction in the volunteers' carotid arteries (blood vessels

that feed the brain). Those volunteers whose blood pressure soared during the computer game had a higher rate of obstruction in their arteries.

"Hardening of the arteries" can cause physical death, but hardening our hearts toward God and toward others can destroy something much more important than our bodies - our ability to live fulfilling lives and be effective witnesses for Jesus Christ in the world.

As much as we need to take care of our health and learn to cope with stress, we should be even more concerned with what

"Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

Support The Gideon's - Missions Sunday Feb. 28

Gideon's International is an Association of Christian business and professional men, banded together in more than 130 countries for fellowship and service. The purpose of the Association is the promotion of the Gospel of Christ to all people, to the end that they might come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

With the help of Christian friends of many differ-

ent churches, Gideon's have been able to place and distribute over 350 million Bibles and New Testaments to hotels, motels, hospitals, penal institutions, members of the armed forces, school students and those in the public nursing field.

A Gideon's representative will be here to speak to us during worship (both services) Feb. 28th. Our special offering that day will go to the Gideon's in

Neighbors Helping Neighbors!

By: The Missions Committee

"And this commandment we have from him, that he who loves God should love his brother also".

March is MN Food Share Month. The 2010 Campaign goal is the largest ever - 12 million pounds and dollars! The need is exploding at

food shelves all around the state. Last year there were over 2.8 million food shelf visits, the largest increase on record. Unfortunately, that also includes our LOCAL friends and neighbors.

People using food shelves do not make enough income to cover their basic needs. Low wages without benefits, child care expenses, skyrocketing housing and energy costs, and high out of pocket medical expenses make working families vulnerable to hunger.

More than half of the hungry who visit food

shelves are children. Hungry kids have difficulty learning and have more medical problems and absenteeism than children with adequate nourishment.

It seems appropriate that the theme for 2010 is: "Be a Superhero in the Minnesota Fight Against Hunger".

During the month of March (and the rest of the year as well), please start noticing the shopping carts in the entry ways and fill them with non-perishable food items. The more the local food shelf raises on its own, (canned goods and dollars) during the March Campaign, the larger their share of dollars from the MN Food Share Incentive Allocation. **If every Minnesotan gave just \$2.00, we would surpass the goal! It will definitely make a difference in someone else's life!**

A list of items needed in the food shelf can be

Youth & Family Activities

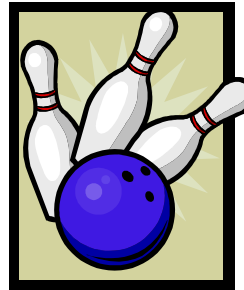
2009/2010 Youth & Family Event Schedule

- February 28th: Family Bowling
- March: Possible Lock-In
- April 25th: Family Movie Night
- May 23rd: Ropes Course at Prairie River Camp
- June: Redeemer VBS
- July 17th: Garage Sale
- August 21st: Go Fish Concert at Prairie River Camp
- September 12th: Family Hayride

Family Bowling February 28th

1-3pm at Key Lanes, Kiester

Everyone of all ages welcome.



You may meet us at Redeemer at 12:30 to carpool, or meet us there.

Key Lanes will have snacks and pizza

Lent 2010

On Wednesday, February 24th, and for the next four weeks, Redeemer Youth will serve a soup and sandwich supper from 5:30-6:30p.m. The Lenten worship service will be at 7:00 p.m. Our theme this year is "Breath of God." Each week we will focus on one area in which we can utilize Lent to "get going" in the right direction. The schedule is as follows:

- Feb 24 Breath of God ~ Anger
- March 3 Breath of God ~ Forgiveness
- March 10 Breath of God ~ In Tune
- March 17 Breath of God ~ Prayer
- March 24 Breath of God ~ Time



NOTE: although there are no Wednesday evening confirmation classes during Lent, students are

Camperships - A Wonderful Experience



It's never too early to start planning for your time at GEV this summer! There are so many opportunities to for your children to have sing, have fun, build new friendships and worship. Please take

some time to check out all the camps offered and register today at www.goodearthvillage.org. Reservations made by April 1st will receive an Early Bird discount. Redeemer will provide financial assistance for campers who are members of our church. Contact the church office for details.

This is wonderful way for our youth to have

Mark Your Calendar for Redeemer VBS

Come set sail on a High Seas Adventure with us! Our expedition will be June 7th-June 11th from 5pm-8:30pm. Everyday will begin with supper for all the families, then at 5:30 the children will begin their adventure. They will learn how to "help faith flow in everyday life" and discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life through something we call "God Sightings"!



If anyone would like to assist on our High Seas Adventure, we would love to have help with Chadder's Sail Away Cinema, Bible Voyage, and some group leaders to keep our crews of kids on track. Please call Tanya Fure at 507-402-2438, or email tanyafure@ymail.com, for more information. If you would like to assist us on our journey, but are unable to donate your time, watch for "barrels" with items we will

Grow in LOVE - Serve with JOY

Non-profit Organization
Standard Mail
U.S. Postage PAID
Alden, MN
Permit No. 1

191 Water Street
Alden, MN 56009

Change Service Requested

Phone: 507-874-3343
Parsonage Ph: 874-3269
Pastor's Cell Ph: 402-3928
rlc@redeemeralden.com



JOIN US FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

SERVICE OF WORD, PRAYER AND PRAISE

Sundays - 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.

Announcements

Bulletin Information must be turned into the office no later than noon on Tuesday to be published in the upcoming Sunday bulletin.

Dartball: Feb. 22nd - 7:30 p.m. at Redeemer (vs. Leland).



Concert of Benevolence Feb. 21st at 7:00 p.m. at Redeemer

"Benevolence: an inclination to do good; kindness; a kindly charitable act."

Join us for an evening of beautiful vocal music as the Redeemer Lutheran Church Adult Choir, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Choir (Wells), and the Alden-Conger High School Choir join together to perform for your listening pleasure while raising money for a local charity.

There is no admission charge for the evening, but a free will offering

Stewardship Notes

Month End Finances

Income: \$12,087

Liabilities

Operating Loan: \$11,250

SBA Loan: \$ 1,192

'04 Endowment

Note: \$ 6,000

'08 Roof Notes: \$25,200

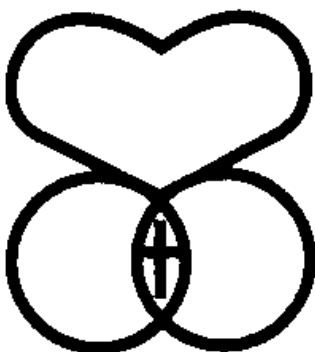
Let the Games Begin!

That might be a good slogan for the Olympics, but not for a marriage!

A Lutheran Encounter Weekend shows couples how to be straightforward and honest in their communication, thus building a foundation for the kind of trust and love every marriage deserves. A Lutheran Marriage Encounter weekend includes two nights in a comfortable hotel and five meals from Friday at 7:00 pm to Sunday

at 5:00 pm. Four presenting couples, including a Lutheran clergy couple, give a series of presentations followed by questions the couples discuss in the privacy of their hotel room.

The next Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends in Minnesota are March 19-21 in Brooklyn Center; April 16-18 in Duluth or April 3-May 2 in Alexandria. Please register a month in advance.



Big Thank You!

THANK YOU!

Dave Hemmingsen for snowplowing the Redeemer parking lot every winter.

Correction

2009 Memorials were received for the Hymnal Fund