

OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

904 Bluff Street Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

A traditional, liturgical, Biblical congregation in the heart of Cedar Falls ministering to sinners with the forgiving presence of Christ.

Rev. Michael R. Knox, Pastor
(319) 231-9761

Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, Pastor
(319) 389-5526

Joseph Goodroad, Vicar
(816) 645-0188

Church Office: 266-2509

Email: orlc@cfu.net Website: theforgivenessplace.org

The 7th Sunday after Pentecost July 16, 2023

TO OUR VISITORS We rejoice that you have joined us this morning to hear the Word of God, receive His gifts of life and salvation, and to respond to His faithfulness with "Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs" *Ephesians 5:19*

- ✘ *Please take the time to fill out the Communion Registration/Visitors' Cards which are in the small card holders on the pew.*
- ✘ *Please read the announcement below regarding Communion.*
- ✘ *Guests who will not be communing may place the Visitor's card in the Offering plate..*
- ✘ *Guests who intend to commune are asked to announce this intention to the Elder and give the card to the Usher as they come forward to receive communion.*
- ✘ *Following the Service, a member of the Board of Communication and Outreach has a small gift for you.*

OUR REDEEMER PRACTICES CLOSED COMMUNION

The Sacrament of the Altar is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine for us Christians to eat and drink, instituted by Christ Himself. As we receive this Sacrament, the oneness of fellowship at the Altar (I Corinthians 10:17) presupposes a oneness in doctrine with the Apostles (Acts 2:42). For this reason the congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of Closed Communion. If you desire to receive the Lord's Supper and are not a communicant member of Our Redeemer or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning. Rather, we would invite you to speak with Pastor Knox, Pastor Saunders, or Vicar Goodroad about Holy Communion and about becoming a communicant member of this congregation.



THOSE SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE THIS WEEK

Elder: Stephen Hoffman **Service Assistant:** Brody Irwin

Organist: Roxann List **Ushers:** Brad Bovy, Koen Bovy

Tellers: Dean Garms, Tom Strub **Shut-Ins:** Jim Bunkofske

Sunday, July 9, 2023

Attendance: 69



TODAY IS THE 7th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST In the Gospel appointed for today Jesus teaches the familiar parable of the Sower and the Seed. In this Parable, Jesus is the Sower and the seed is God's Word. Jesus sows the Word through the office of the Holy Ministry. The abundant crop, which is produced when seed sprouts and grows, is the Church which God the Holy Spirit calls, gathers, enlightens, sanctifies, and keeps with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In his evening lectures on Law and Gospel, C.F.W. Walther wrote concerning the need for sound doctrine when "sowing the seed" of the Word. Although addressed to future Pastors, his words can and should be heard by all Christians! He writes:

From what has been said, you can gather how foolish it is, yea, what an awful delusion has taken hold upon so many men's minds who ridicule the pure doctrine and say to us: "Ah, do cease clamoring, pure doctrine! That can only land you in dead orthodoxism. Pay more attention to pure life, and you will raise a growth of genuine Christianity." That is exactly like saying to a farmer: "Do not worry forever about good seed; worry about good fruits." Is not a farmer properly concerned about good fruit when he is solicitous about getting good seed? Just so, **a concern about pure doctrine is the proper concern about genuine Christianity and a sincere Christian life.**

False doctrine is noxious seed, sown by the enemy to produce a progeny of wickedness. The pure doctrine is wheat-seed; from it spring the children of the Kingdom, who even in the present life belong in the kingdom of Jesus Christ and in the life to come will be received into the Kingdom of Glory. May God even now implant in your hearts a great fear, yea, a real abhorrence, of false doctrine! May He graciously give you a holy desire for the pure, saving truth, revealed by God Himself! Christ's Church must be discerning in this age, as in all ages, because of false teachers. On numerous occasions Jesus warned his disciples, including you, to watch out for false teachers and false *teaching* (i.e. *Matthew 7, Matthew 14, Mark 13*). The Apostles Peter, John, and Paul all join Jesus in these warnings (*II Cor. 11, Gal. 2, Col. 2, I Tim. 1, I Tim. 6, II Peter 2, I John 4*). Why? Because false doctrine leads only to death and damnation! It is not child's play, nor can the warnings of Jesus be politely ignored or disregarded. What are you to do?

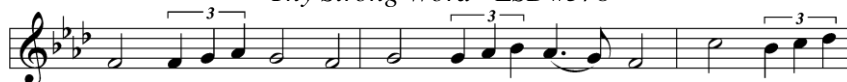
- Know the Scriptures and those who teach them to you.
- Commit to heart the Small Catechism and mark and avoid those who teach contrary to what you have learned from it. (*Romans 16:17*)
- Do not worship, and most certainly do not commune where false teaching is tolerated or endorsed. (*I Cor. 10 and 11*) Examples of false teaching would include, but are not limited to, those who deny the inerrancy and infallibility of Scripture, those who deny infant baptism and Baptismal regeneration, those who deny the real presence of Christ's body and blood in the Sacrament, those who deny creation, those who reject the created order of maleness and femaleness, those who ordain women, and those who alter the Word of God to conform to societal standards and pressures.

Despite these warnings, Christian take comfort! God has promised that nothing will overcome Christ and His Church. His Word will not fail and it will accomplish what He desires. The Word made flesh still abides with His Church to keep and protect it. That same Word in the flesh is present here to feed and strengthen you with His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. As you have learned well from the Catechism, "where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation." This is the abundant crop in the field of Christ's planting and its growth is all God's doing!

I. THE PREPARATION

Hymn of Invocation

“Thy Strong Word” LSB #578



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
night and deep as death, Broke the light of
Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we
forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.
ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5. Give us lips to sing Thy glory, tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us, mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!

- △ 6. God the Father, light-creator, to Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!

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Stand

Invocation

P/V: In the name of the Father and of the (✠) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

C: Amen.

The Confession of Sin

P/V: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Hebrews 10:22]

P/V: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

Psalms 124:8

P/V: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Psalms 32:5

P/V: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

P/V: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to be the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: **Amen.**

Mark 16:16; John 1:12

II. THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit



(Ps. 103:15–19; antiphon: Ps. 103:8)

Cantor: The Lord is merciful and | gracious,*
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

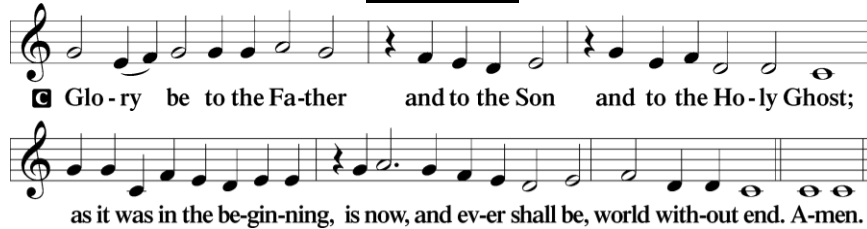
Cong: **As for man, his days | are like grass;***
he flourishes like a flower | of the field;
for the wind passes over it, and | it is gone,*
and its place knows | it no more.

But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who | fear Him,*
and His righteousness to children's | children,
to those who keep His | covenant*
and remember to do His com- | mandments.

The Lord has established His throne in the | heavens,*
and His kingdom rules | over all.

Cantor: The Lord is merciful and | gracious,*
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

Gloria Patri



☐ Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;

as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

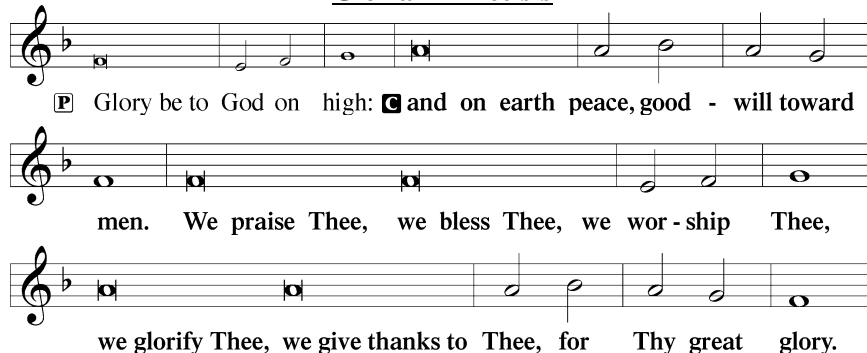


☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



☐ Glory be to God on high: ☐ and on earth peace, good - will toward

men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.
 O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
 on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

II Timothy 4:22

C And with thy spir - it.

The Collect of the Day

P: Let us pray: Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Be seated

The Old Testament

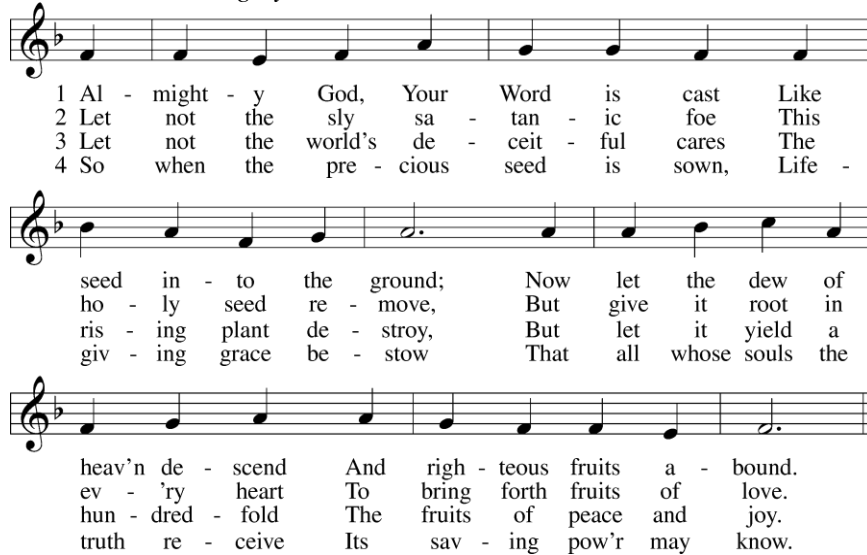
Isaiah 55:10-13

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

The Gradual

“Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast” LSB #577



1 Al - might - y God, Your Word is cast Like
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe This
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -
seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of
ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in
ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a
giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the
heav'n de - scend And righ - teous fruits a - bound.
ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.
hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.
truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text and tune: Public domain

The Epistle

Romans 8:12–17

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

The Alleluia/Verse



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Cantor: The grass withers, the | flower fades, *
but the word of our God will stand for- | ever.

(Isaiah 40:8)



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

P: The Holy Gospel according to the Evangelist Matthew, the 13th chapter.



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life (✕) of the world to come. Amen

The Hymn of The Day

“Preach You The Word” #586



1 Preach you the Word and plant it home To men who
2 We know how hard, O Lord, the task Your ser - vant
3 The sow - er sows; his reck - less love Scat - ters a -
4 Though some be snatched and some be scorched And some be



like or like it not, The Word that shall en -
bade us un - der - take: To preach Your Word and
broad the good - ly seed, In - tent a - lone that
choked and mat - ted flat, The sow - er sows; his



dure and stand When flow'rs and men shall be for - got.
nev - er ask What pride - ful prof - it it may make.
all may have The whole - some loaves that all men need.
heart cries out, “Oh, what of that, and what of that?”

- 5 Of all his scattered plenteousness
One-fourth waves ripe on hill and flat,
And bears a harvest hundredfold:
Ah, what of that, Lord, what of that!”
- 6 Preach you the Word and plant it home
And never faint; the Harvest Lord
Who gave the sower seed to sow
Will watch and tend His planted Word.

The Sermon

Following the Sermon, please rise to sing the Offertory

Stand

The Offertory

Psalm 51:10-12



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

The Prayers

Various Petitions are prayed. Each petition will conclude with the response:

P: Lord, in Your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

The Congregation, gathered for worship in person, will now be receiving the Sacrament of the Altar. This most significant portion of the Divine Service, when our Lord Jesus Christ draws near to His people with His flesh and blood, will not be streamed. Members desiring to receive the Sacrament who are unable to be present in the Church will be visited by one of our pastors to bring them the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

Those who have joined us online for the Service of the Word are now encouraged to pray the Lord's prayer.

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from (☒) evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

May the Lord bless and keep you.

Please call Pastor Knox (319/231-9761) if you would like to receive a Pastoral visit.

✠ OUR WEEK TOGETHER IN THE BODY OF CHRIST ✠

Mon. - Fri. 7/17-7/21	Youth from Our Redeemer, College Hill, and Faith at Higher Things Conference in Carbondale, IL	
Mon. 7/17	6:30 p.m.	Confession and Absolution (moved to Tuesday)
Tues. 7/18	6:30 p.m.	Confession and Absolution (moved from Monday)
Wed. 7/19	11:00 a.m.	Midweek Bible Class (Weekly Readings)
Sat. 7/22	6:00 p.m.	Bible Class at Peace – Shell Rock
	7:00 p.m.	Divine Service at Peace – Shell Rock
Sun. 7/23	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service at Our Redeemer
	10:30 a.m.	Goodroad Farewell

HYMNS/READINGS

Sunday, July 23, 2023 The 8th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 11)

Readings: Isaiah 44:6-8; Rom. 8:18-27; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Psalmody: Psalm 119:57-64 (*antiphon v. 89*)

Invocation: Creator Spirit, By Whose Aid500

Hymn of the Day: Preserve Your Word, O Savior658

Distribution: If Your Beloved Son, O God.....568

Distribution: Sing Praise To God, The Highest Good.....819

Distribution: O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace693

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

THE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. Vicar Goodroad is leading the Sunday morning class in a study of I & II Thessalonians. This will continue until the end of his Vicarage. Later this summer we will complete the study of burial practices and cremation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. The Sunday School will meet throughout the summer.

WEEKLY READINGS/HYMNS STUDY This class meets each Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. to study the weekly readings, hymns, and propers for the upcoming Sunday. It is a way to prepare for the coming week's Divine Service. This class will continue to meet throughout the summer.

THE VICAR'S BIBLE STUDY with Vicar Goodroad has ended. This Fall Vicar Baker will begin a study of the use of agricultural images and themes in the Bible.

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY During the School Year the Jr. High/Sr. High Youth meet for Bible Study with our Vicar on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. This class will resume in the Fall with Vicar Baker.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY are given by Doug and Dottie Nefzger. *“Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations.”* Psalm 100:4-5

THE REGULAR TIME FOR CONFESSION/ABSOLUTION will take place on Tuesday this week, rather than the normal Monday. A schedule conflict for Pastor Knox necessitates this change. Confession and Absolution will take place on Tuesday, July 18 at the regular 6:30 p.m. time. A time for Individual Confession and Absolution will be available at the conclusion of the corporate service.



“WHODUNNIT?” Would you like to participate in an “Unsolved Case Files” mystery game? A group from church will be meeting this Thursday, July 20 at 6:30 p.m. We could still use a few more participants. If you are interested, please speak with Gerry or Elizabeth Peterson.

NEXT SUNDAY WILL BE VICAR GOODROAD'S FINAL WEEK WITH US AS VICAR A farewell reception for Vicar, Olivia, and Sven will be held following the Divine Service. Plan to attend to thank them for their time spent with us this past year and send them on their way with God's blessings and our best wishes. Volunteers are needed to help with furnishing a salad and helping with the reception. Please contact Cheryl Nissen, Sandy Stone, Sarah Staker, or Judy Fink to help.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP LOAD THE GOODROAD MOVING TRUCK ON MONDAY, JULY 24. We will start loading at 8:00 a.m. A Sign-up sheet for both the loading and unloading crews is in the narthex and Parish Hall.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP UNLOAD THE BAKER MOVING TRUCK ON THURSDAY, JULY 27 We will start unloading at 8:00 a.m. A Sign-up sheet for both the loading and unloading crews is in the narthex and Parish Hall.



A WELCOME RECEPTION FOR VICAR BAKER AND HIS FAMILY will take place on Sunday, July 30 following the Divine Service. A Gift Card Shower is being planned for Vicar Baker and his family as a Welcome Gift from the Congregation. Suggested Gift Cards are Walmart, Target, grocery stores, restaurants, gas for them to get familiar with the Cedar Falls area. Your Gift Card donations may be given to any of the names listed by Sunday July 23 and will be given as a group gift to the Bakers at the Welcome Reception on Sunday July 30 following the Divine Service. Plan to attend the Reception as we welcome the Baker Family into our congregation. Anyone wishing to help with the reception or to furnish coffeecake or muffins may contact Cheryl Nissen, Sandy Stone, Sarah Staker or Judy Fink

THE LATEST EDITION OF THE REPORTER is available following the Service this morning. It contains great articles, lots of pictures, and important information about our life together in the body of Christ.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY AND AUGUST While Christmas is several months away the Christian Care Project for July and August is collecting items for Orphan Grain Train Christmas Gift Boxes. These gift boxes will be sent internationally to recipients who will deliver them to children who may not receive any other Christmas package. Items must be collected by September 1 so the Gift boxes may be sent and delivered in time for Christmas. A complete list of items needed are in the Narthex and in the Parish Hall. Please pick up a copy. Only items listed will be accepted because of strict overseas shipping regulations. Thank you for helping with this project and bringing smiles to the faces of Children around the world. Please direct any questions to Char Strub or Judy Fink.

ANOTHER STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION Ever so slowly, the message of life is affecting the secular culture. Truth is on the side of life. The State of Iowa, with the passage of and signing in to law the so called “Heartbeat Bill”, took a step in the right direction this past week by protecting the life of an unborn human being once his or her heartbeat is detected. The Law is not perfect but it is a step further in the right direction!

Celebrating every human being as a creation of God and a precious gift sometimes meets with resistance. Christians should not be surprised. But the sanctity of life is God’s message, not ours, and He guarantees, as He does in today’s Old Testament reading, that His Word will “not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.” (Isaiah 55:10-11)

YOUTH FROM OUR REDEEMER, COLLEGE HILL, AND FAITH will be attending the Higher Things Youth Conference in Carbondale, IL this week. The conference theme is “Beyond Reasonable Doubt.” 1,000 youth and chaperones are registered for the conference which will be held on the campus of Southern Illinois University. The youth will be reminded all week that the life of faith isn’t a fairytale, and that the Bible is truth. The Christian does not need to fear those who oppose the Christian message or live in doubt regarding the certainty of God’s salvation in Christ. The youth and their leaders will leave on Monday, July 17 and will return on Friday, July 21.



During the trip, our group will spend Monday night at the St. Louis Seminary and then travel to Carbondale for the conference which begins on Tuesday. Please include the youth, and their leaders Vicar Goodroad, Jessica Knox, and Tammy Knox, in your prayers throughout the week.

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCES

In an effort to keep the members of Our Redeemer aware of our financial condition as a congregation, the following is provided by the Board of Stewardship and the Financial Secretary.

- Giving/income Year to Date (through June): \$133,394.43
- Budget Year to Date: \$122,200.00
- Difference: +\$11,194.43