

# Newsletter – February 2023

## Promised Treasures

This Lenten season, we have a fresh opportunity to embrace God's amazing love for us, His baptized children, in new ways. St. Paul tells us in Romans 10 that "faith comes from hearing." but the Gospel is also communicated through the physical senses of sight, smell, touch, and taste.

Jesus mentions in Matthew 13 that a good teacher not only brings out new treasures but reminds people of old and rich treasures as well. Each Wednesday in Lent, we will take a weekly journey to concretely see, smell, touch, and taste a number of biblical elements. Our Lenten series is called *Promised Treasures*.

Just as Israel wandered through the wilderness under Moses for forty years, awaiting the Promised Land, we await heaven in the wilderness of this life. Life as exiles in the wilderness of this world is not easy and pain-free. In this vale of tears, we await our real home, the new promised land of heaven.

Until we enter our eternal promised land, however, the Lord calls us to be His light in this dark world. This series will begin with ashes, then proceed to salt, water, light, bread, and finally, palms. All these beautiful Old and New Testament elements will remind you of God's eternal love in Christ, fill you with renewed hope, and increase your joy, knowing that because we are His baptized children, God is near to us now more than ever.

In Christ,

*Pastor DeArmond*

## Midweek Lent Worship

Redeemer will gather every Wednesday during Lent at **6:00 P.M.** to worship as we prepare our hearts and minds on our Lord's Passion, death, and resurrection.

## Ash Wednesday

The Holy season of Lent begins on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**6:00 PM** Ash Wednesday Worship with Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes.

## **The Imposition of Ashes**

At Redeemer, as part of our Ash Wednesday devotion, we offer the opportunity to receive "the imposition of ashes" upon the forehead. The following is a brief explanation about this practice.

**Q.** *Are the ashes "blessed?" Do they give a special blessing?*

**A.** No. They are simply a physical symbol to aid in your meditation. The blessings we receive are through God's means of grace, His Word and Sacraments.

**Q.** *Do I have to receive them?*

**A.** No! Any compulsion to receive the ashes would be contrary to the freedom we have in the Gospel. They are simply offered as an opportunity for you. If they will help you, please receive them. If not, please feel comfortable not receiving them. No one will think any less or more of you if you do or don't!

**Q.** *Do I have to leave them on?*

**A.** No. You may wash them off at any time. Again, whatever is most helpful to you. In fact, washing them off can be a joyous thing, as you remember that the water of baptism has rescued you from sin and death!

**Q.** *What about Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount (Mt 6:16-18)? Those words read: "And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. . . . But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others . . ."*

**A.** These words of Christ refer to our motivation: "that you may be seen by others." If this is why you want to receive ashes, to be seen by others, you should not receive them! This would be contrary to the Gospel.

## **Lenten Soup Suppers**

Since the beginning of Covid cancelled our soup suppers back in 2020, we have struggled to bring them back. With Ash Wednesday on February 22<sup>nd</sup> it is already time to start thinking about if this will be something that we can offer in Lent 2023. If groups within the congregation would like to host one or more of these dinners you can find sign-up sheets at the Welcome Center. Quick Responders have already signed up for Ash Wednesday.

## **Executive Board Position**

We are currently one person short of have a full Executive Board. The position that is open is in one of our undesignated or "at-large" positions. If you might be interested in serving the church in this way or have any questions, please talk to Pastor DeArmond or Executive Board President Mike Kaczowski.

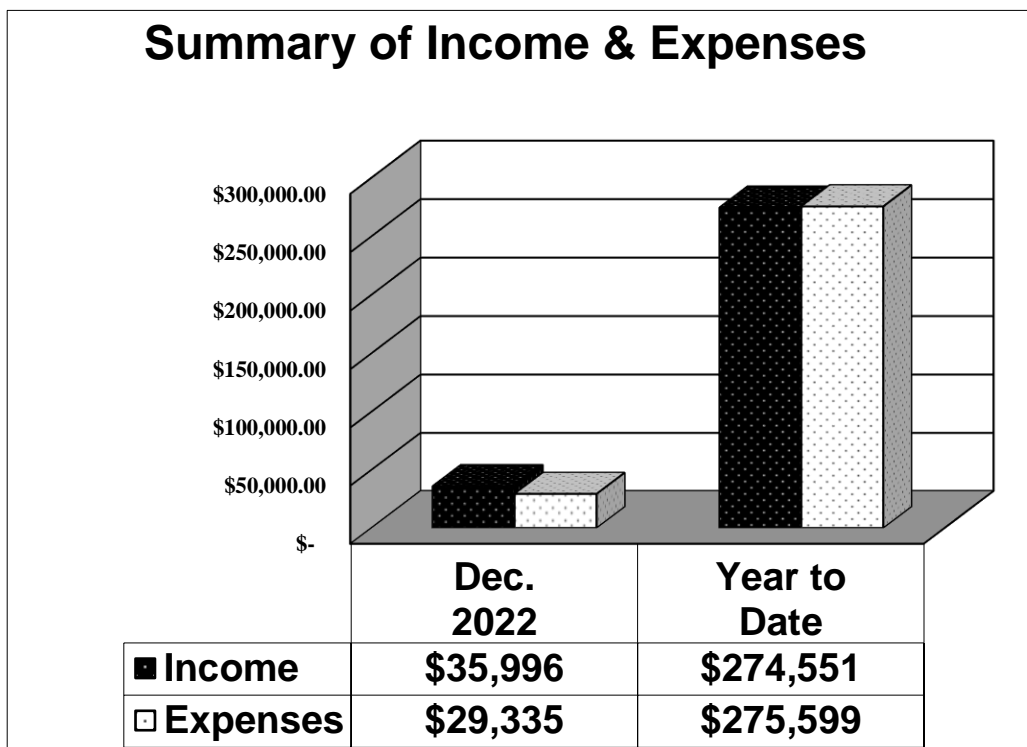
## **Easter Lily Help**

We are in need of someone who would be willing to organize our Easter lily order and set-up. If you or a group of people would be interested in taking on this task, please contact Pastor DeArmond or the office.

## **Lent Coin Folders**

Your Lenten coin folder will be arriving in your mailbox soon. This year all of the money collected will be given to our preschool.

## Financial Update



If you have not picked up your Offering Envelopes for 2023, they are now located at the Welcome Center.

### Memorials

- In memory of Marie Schmidt, to Redeemer Preschool from family and friends.
- The gifts previously donated in memory of Joe Hrudka have now been designated to Redeemer Preschool.

**Second Time Singles** will be meeting in February to make plans for future activities. Watch the bulletin for details and sign-up sheets.

### Tax Savings Charity Contributions

If you are 72 or older, you can direct your church contributions from your traditional IRA with a Qualified Charitable Distribution and the distribution counts toward your Required Minimum Distribution for the year. As long as the money goes directly to a charitable organization without making a pit stop in your bank account, it will not be recognized as taxable income. Contact your financial advisor or institution for more information. Redeemer presently has several members taking advantage of this program.

## Bingo!!

February 18 from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

@ Redeemer

Prizes, popcorn and juice will be provided.

**Thrivent Choice Dollars** – If you are a Thrivent policy holder and have Choice Dollars to designated, be sure to remember to do it. You can choose any qualified charity including Redeemer Church and/or Preschool. There is no cost to you and if you do not designate your Choice Dollars, the money is lost.

**Did you know?** Redeemer offers an auto-giving program called Simply Giving where you can have your monthly contributions automatically deducted from your checking or savings account. Contact the church office for more information.

## **2023-24 Preschool Registration Is Open**

We are now accepting registrations for preschool. All forms are available in the office or on our website. Please share this information with friends and family! Word of mouth is our best advertising.

## **Youth Game Night**

February 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6:20 pm

**Can you complete this challenge?  
Bring the solution with you to game night  
and you earn a prize!**

Haiku from the parts of Isaiah 6:1-13:  
The LORD on His throne  
The earth full of his glory  
Here am I! Send \_\_\_\_.

## **FOX IN SOCKS-OFF**

**Save the Date! March 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm**

Come participate in a tongue-twister competition using the book Fox in Socks by Dr. Suess. The host will introduce the book and read the non-competing sections. Participants are judged on speed and accuracy. There will be one judge for each of those. Participants can be of all reading ages, but you are encouraged to bring children to listen.

Sections:  
Knox in box: host  
Sue's socks: round one  
Blue goo: host  
Bim and Ben: round two  
Luke Luck: host  
Three cheese trees: round three  
Tweetle beetles: host

Finally, we will review standings and name first, second, and third place. We will adjust to keep it to an hour. Questions to Aaron Utecht



# BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Feb. 1	Tessa Lynn Kamien, Ava Matthies
Feb. 2	Lisa McDougal, Dorothy Neff, Pang Chay Hang, Tou Yang
Feb. 5	Amy Kamien, Michael Paltzer
Feb. 7	Craig Neuser, Lilly Meyer
Feb. 8	Vern Troullier, Joan Walsh, Jerry Hirssig, Lisa Whitney, Sandra Schultz, Claire Neilson
Feb. 10	Brett Kabelowsky, Alysha Olson
Feb. 11	Sally Rettinger
Feb. 15	Rosann Jacobi, Cash Olson
Feb. 16	Jeni Siebold, Tracy Kamke
Feb. 21	Aaron Thrasher
Feb. 22	Christa Neuser, Ron Ruebesam
Feb. 23	Oliver Hayon
Feb. 24	Eunice Hrudka
Feb. 25	Heather Brandl, Michele Brixius
Feb. 26	Stephanie Leicht
Feb. 28	Jan Tomchek, Lydia Fricke

\* Home Bound Members



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Feb. 3	Mike & Deb Kaczkowski Craig & Carol Redwine
Feb. 10	Rodney & Rachel Strzyzewski
Feb. 11	Kevin & Syvilla Lipski
Feb. 15	Mike & Claudette Quint
Feb. 27	John & Michele Brixius

# Redeemer Lutheran Church

1712 Menasha Ave., Manitowoc, WI

Phone: 920-684-3989

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00am-1:00pm

Senior Pastor: Zachary DeArmond (Home: 629-4833)

Associate Pastor: Scott Hirssig (Home: 629-2949)

## February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1) Women's Bible Study 1pm Catechism 5:30pm Game Night 6:20pm	2)	3)	4)
5) Worship 9am Fellowship Bible Study 10:20am	6) Worship 6pm	7) Men's Bible Study 7am Finance 8:15am Women's Bible Study 9am	8) Women's Bible Study 1pm Catechism 5:30pm	9) Exec. Board Meeting 6:30pm	10)	11)
12) Worship 9am Fellowship Bible Study 10:20am	13) Worship 6pm	14) Men's Bible Study 7am Finance 8:15am Women's Bible Study 9am	15) Women's Bible Study 1pm Catechism 5:30pm Game Night 6:20pm	16)	17)	18) Book Club 9am Bingo 6pm
19) Worship 9am Fellowship Bible Study 10:20am	20) Worship 6pm	21) Men's Bible Study 7am Finance 8:15am Women's Bible Study 9am	22) Women's Bible Study 1pm Lenten Supper 5pm Ash Wednesday Worship 6pm	23) Book Club 1pm	24)	25)
26) Worship 9am Fellowship Bible Study 10:20am	27) Worship 6pm	28) Men's Bible Study 7am Finance 8:15am Women's Bible Study 9am	March 1) Women's Bible Study 1pm Lenten Supper 5pm Lenten Worship 6pm Catechism 6:30pm	March 2)	March 3)	March 4) Fox in Socks-Off 6pm

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