

The Ringer

DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 12



Climb to the top of the highest mountain,
you who will bring the good news to Zion.
Lift up your voices and boldly proclaim:
“See the Lord God. He comes in power.”
Write down the vision, inscribe it on tablets,
ready for a herald to carry it swiftly.
Soon, very soon, he will come to you.
Live by faith, my righteous ones.

Text: John W. Arthur, b. 1922
Text © 1972 *Contemporary Worship 5: Services of the Word*

This is an Advent Canticle from our old Lutheran Book and Worship. I love the words as we look towards the Advent season. We live in delighted expectation that Jesus comes! Immanuel! God With Us! This has been a year that any revelator would declare “these are signs...portents...AWAKE!” And for many of us we are weary. A yearlong crisis of our health and the danger it has brought, has worn us out. Now pharmaceutical companies are stepping forward declaring that help is on the way, a light in the darkness, the tunnel is nearing its end. We are a people though that lift up the light of the world, and in that we know and knew salvation belongs to those who wait in hope. So announcement or not from these companies, we during this season of Advent would lift our voices and boldly proclaim: “See the Lord God come in power.” May this Advent and Christmas season truly bless all of you. We await and celebrate in some form of isolation this year for the good of ourselves and our neighbors, but in our hearts we know the one who loved us even in the darkness of our sin and in the bleakness of this pandemic is with us always.

In Christ—

Pastor David

Council News

Council Highlights for November

November 12, 2020 Meeting

Christmas Eve Services will be live streamed at 5:30 p.m. this year.

Discussion dealt with the pledges for our church budget. It was down quite a bit from last year. They also explored and are implementing a phone app donation system to augment our online and in-person giving. Worked together to find more ways to close the gap in foreseen budget shortfall. Will present the revised budget proposal to congregation on December 13th at our Annual Budget/election meeting. This will take place after service and will be also available via Zoom.

Also distributing "Dough Holy Night" curriculum, the Christmas story plus baking activity kit. Also, an email will be forthcoming about the Pastor's Friday Children's devotions. The plan is that December 11th the Metcalfe family will tell the Christmas story using a crèche. This will be aired on Redeemer's Facebook page and can be watched any time.



*Council Meetings are the 2nd Thursday
of the month beginning at 7 pm.*

Budget Information

Treasurer's Report for end of October

Income \$306,374.52

Budgeted Income for the year \$290,400

Total Expense \$227,976.19

Budgeted Expense for the year \$298,375

Mortgage Balance \$323,529.11



Creation Care Team News

On November 15, Redeemer hosted two guest speakers from The Land Institute. Abbi Han and Edy Cheremond care deeply about their work and how it can help the world.

Edy, originally from Haiti, specializes in insects. As part of the Crop Protection Team, he tries to find ways of warding off pests and helping beneficial bugs thrive. Abbi works in the perennial legume program. One of her tasks is to research groundcovers that can protect soil in between cash crops.

Abbi and Edy told the congregation that The Land Institute's work of developing perennial crops can have far-reaching effects. With their deep root systems, perennial plants preserve topsoil, thrive better in drought situations, and pull carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere. They also help farmers, who save money on seed and don't have to till as often.

In the lively discussion after the worship service (via Zoom), Redeemer members had the chance to ask some questions, especially about Kernza, the perennial grain that's closest to being a viable perennial crop plant. It is currently being made into flour, beer, cereal and other products (including the Crank Case India Pale Ale at Blue Skye Brewery in Salina).

Edy noted that encouraging people to adopt totally new food products will be one of the keys to making perennial crops a success. Noni Strand asked, "What can we, as individuals, do to help?"

"Try new foods," he replied. Especially those that grow in your local area. "There are so many grains out there besides corn and wheat. And so many vegetables too."

Many thanks to Abbi and Edy for an interesting presentation!

Abbi works at The Land Institute as a Research Resident in the Perennial Legume program. While she helps with many projects, her main focus within the program is researching perennial groundcovers, specifically with kura clover. The goal of the project is to develop a system where kura clover is grown in between rows of a cash crop to provide soil protection.



Edy Cheremond



Abbi Han

Redeemer News

Unleavened Bread Recipe

Submitted by Britney English

These homemade unleavened wafers are perfect for communion at home. Make your own unleavened bread for communion!

3 cups flour
1 cup hot water
2 tablespoons olive oil
2 tablespoons honey
1 teaspoon salt



Combine ingredients and knead for 3 minutes. Roll to 1/8" thick. Cut out circles. Transfer wafers to baking sheet. Prick wafers with fork 2-3 times. Bake at 400° for 5-8 minutes. Store 2 weeks or keep in the freezer until needed.

You will need 1 1/2" round cookie cutter, rolling pin, and a fork.

Prep Time 15 minutes

Cook Time 5 minutes

Yield 135 wafers



The season of Hope and Christmas is upon us. The *Education Committee* has a couple of opportunities for you as a family to celebrate the season. The first one will be part of Pastor's Friday Children's devotions. The plan is that December 11th the Metcalfe family will tell the Christmas story using a crèche. This will be aired on Redeemer's Facebook page and can be watched any time.

The second celebration is from the same company that did our vacation bible school this past year. "Dough – Holy Night" is an interactive lesson where as a family you make a simple cookie and while the cookies are baking you watch the Christmas story. This is something you can do with your kids, grandkids, neighborhood kids or just yourself. Watch your email for the link and then go to the website. It will be coming out soon.



On Sunday, December 13th at 3 p.m. CST you may want to tune into the Norwegian/English Christmas Church Service. See link below:

<https://norse-tucson.org/event/norwegian-english-christmas-church-service/>



Redeemer News

With **Dennis Kuhlman** being in the Covid ICU no family or friends are allowed to visit. While that's incredibly hard on family, it is isolating and scary for patients. The Chaplaincy department at Salina Regional put together ideas for families to help support patient's spirits so their bodies can heal. I invite you to send a card to Dennis Kuhlman, Salina Regional Health Center, 400 South Santa Fe, Salina, KS 67401. Don't forget funny cards are welcome too.

You can also send a MESSAGE GRAM through the SRHC website at <https://www.srhc.com/patients-and-visitors/patient-greetings.php> These messages will be printed off and delivered to Dennis.

And of course, please keep Dennis, the kids and me in your prayers.

Carol Kuhlman



The Kansas Volunteer Commission is seeking input to learn about the critical unmet needs facing our communities. The results from the survey will help the Commission determine funding priorities and direct training and technical assistance to advance volunteerism, mentoring, civic engagement, and national service in our state. As a community partner, we know you value volunteerism and hope you will encourage participation in this survey. We have done our best to keep the survey brief and concise, it should take less than 10 minutes to complete. The more responses we receive, the better we can identify and address the challenges facing Kansans. Please click on link below:

https://ksde.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bqqnNboLbpu0wPr.



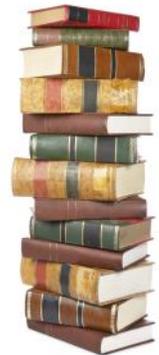
KANSAS VOLUNTEER COMMISSION
SERVE • ENGAGE • EMPOWER



Tuesday, December 15th at 4 p.m.

Hosts: Gary & Lana Jordan

Details to follow!



Please note that Altar Flowers are now \$27 and for whatever florists have on hand. Special orders will be an extra charge. A new chart will be up soon in the fellowship hall for next year, 2021.

Thank you,
Cheryl Itschner

Lectionary for Sundays in December

December 6 — Second Sunday of Advent

[Isaiah 40:1-11](#)
[Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13](#)
[2 Peter 3:8-15a](#)
[Mark 1:1-8](#)

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,

who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,
 make his paths straight,"

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."



December 13 — Third Sunday of Advent

[Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11](#)
[Psalm 126:3](#)
[1 Thessalonians 5:16-24](#)
[John 1:6-8, 19-28](#)

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²²Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,

"Make straight the way of the Lord,"
 as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom



you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

December 20 — Fourth Sunday of Advent

[2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16](#)
[Luke 1:46b-55](#)
[Romans 16:25-27](#)
[Luke 1:26-38](#)

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.



December 24 — Nativity of Our Lord

[Isaiah 9:2-7](#)
[Psalm 96:11](#)
[Titus 2:11-14](#)
[Luke 2:1-14 \[15-20\]](#)

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver



December Lectionary cont'd

her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to

them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]



December 27 — First Sunday of Christmas

[Isaiah 61:10-62:3](#)

[Psalm 148:13](#)

[Galatians 4:4-7](#)

[Luke 2:22-40](#)

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Christ is Born!

Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve service will be Live Streamed at 5:30 p.m.



Christmas Past



Attention Parents: At-home Nativity Story

The Metcalfe family is offering a streaming version of the Nativity story, enacted with creché figurines. It will be available on the Redeemer website starting Friday, December 11.

We suggest watching it with your children, then gathering or making a Nativity set at home. Make sure it's a set the children can play with—no family heirlooms, nothing you can't glue back together. Stuffed animals, paper cutouts, and other toys all make great crèche characters.

Once the children have watched the Nativity play two or three times, they'll want to re-enact it themselves. They can act it out while watching—following the narration—or on their own.

We hope this will give children many hours of Advent enjoyment!

Redeemer Celebrations



| | |
|-------|----------------------------|
| 12/07 | Jay & Jackie Aurand |
| 12/10 | Kenny & Mary Bridges |
| 12/11 | Harold & Becky Klæge |
| 12/11 | Earl & Marge Hansen |
| 12/17 | Rodney & Rosemary Anderson |
| 12/22 | Chuck & Karen Levin |
| 12/23 | Craig & Sheila Alstatt |
| 12/23 | Jim & Viv Cook |
| 12/28 | Matthew & Rita Shaffer |



December

BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|-------|---------------|-------|-------------------|
| 12/01 | Verle Simpson | 12/15 | Charlie Weiss |
| 12/02 | Tom Mertz | 12/20 | Jeannette Kpissay |
| 12/02 | Mary Bridges | 12/20 | Cheryl Itschner |
| 12/04 | Loren Harris | 12/21 | Kathy Lowman |
| 12/10 | Kathy Hartley | 12/21 | Lillium Budreau |
| 12/13 | Tom Drown | 12/22 | Marge Hansen |

Content of the Ringer depends on you, the members of this church, for articles, photos, important dates, etc. **The January newsletter deadline is December 23rd at 12:00 pm.** Information turned in after this date might not be included. The newsletter is available by email, mail or at

December

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|-----|
| | | 1 515 Education 545 Worship & Music | 2 900 Bible Study 630 Worship 730 Dialogues | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 930 Worship live streaming | 7 | 8 | 9 900 Bible Study 630 Worship 730 Dialogues | 10 700  | 11 | 12 |
| 13 930 Worship live streaming 300 Norwegian Service | 14 | 15 400 Page Turners | 16 900 Bible Study 630 Worship 730 Dialogues | 17 930 Silver Needles Sew-In | 18 | 19 |
| 20 930 Worship live streaming | 21 600 Silver Needles | 22 1200 Newsletter Deadline | 23 900 Bible Study 630 Worship | 24 530 pm Christmas Eve service ~Office Closed~ | 25  | 26 |
| 27 930 Worship live streaming | 28 | 29 | 30 900 Bible Study 630 Worship | 31 <i>Happy New Year!</i>  | | |
|  | | <p>for worship services always available!</p> | | | | |

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

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Becky Shulda, Administrative Assistant



"Chosen by God...to love one another."



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[www: redeemer-elca.org](http://www.redeemer-elca.org)

Sunday Sermons can now be heard on
the Redeemer Website and on Facebook



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's Work. Our Hands.



Pastor David Strommen

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Weekly Church Events

Sunday Worship

9:30 worship

Wednesday morning

9:00 Bible Study

Wednesday Worship

6:30 worship

Organist: Ruth Mirtz

Choir Director: Ann Metcalfe

**Bell Director and
Worship Accompanist:**
Britney English

2020 Council

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Alan English, President | 643-4078 |
| Jody Biegert, Vice-President | 819-4479 |
| Kris Neff, Secretary | 404-7991 |
| Ray Beckman | 825-6551 |
| Charlotte Herrman | 643-9445 |
| Jean Sedo | 404-6222 |
| Kris Johanson | 402-759-2255 |
| KC Potter | 456-4322 |
| Dan Metcalfe | 342-9513 |

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