

PROCLAIM

MESSIAH AND REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Pastor Kevin Moore

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January, 2024

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Happy New Year to you all!

Gifts to Grow Into...

I was reading a devotion by Pastor Darrin Sheek that got me thinking about all those Christmas presents like clothes that we ‘grow into’ over time. I’m not talking about how these gifts were literally a size or two too big for us when we were children, but how we often had to learn to appreciate such gifts. As Pastor Sheek puts it: “When we were little and only wanted toys, [these clothes] weren’t the most popular gifts, but as we matured and grew older we enjoyed them.”

It works much the same with the gifts of God. There are times when His gifts of Word and Sacrament just don’t thrill us the way they should. We have our moments when we find our old sinful nature selfishly and shamefully saying, “I’d rather have toys! I’d rather have all the fun promised by temptations that surround me.” Your sinful flesh teams up with the devil and the world, trying to keep you from appreciating the good gifts with which the Lord makes you His own and covers you with His righteousness.

But God is the Giver of every good and perfect gift. He uses His Holy Word, His gifts of Baptism and the Lord’s Supper to deliver Christ the Savior to you by faith and clothe you with His perfect righteousness. “*For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*” (Galatians 3:27) So you have been clothed with Christ, forgiven all your sins, wrapped up in the rich garment of His Salvation. And the Holy Spirit is at work in you, teaching you to appreciate it! Bringing you to repentance, calling, gathering, enlightening, and sanctifying you, helping you to “grow into” the gifts He provides so graciously and abundantly. He keeps you under that blessed covering of Christ – the garments of salvation – the robe of righteousness – Jesus Himself! -- and as you grow up in Him, you just can’t help but rejoice and exult in His precious gifts!

Isaiah 61:10–62:3: *10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. 11 For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations. 1 For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. 2 The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. 3 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. (ESV)*

- Pastor Moore

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SUNDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY AT LEO'S We have completed our study of the Revelation of our Lord! What a great blessing it has been to study and grow in God's Word together! And MANY thanks to Trevor Carr, and to everyone at Leo's for letting us meet there after hours and for the coffee and desserts they have provided! Since Pastor will be leading call meetings in the Circuit, we have decided to take a break before we begin another study. If you have any suggestions for our Sunday Evening Bible Studies, please share them with Pastor.

SERVING OUR LORD There are many opportunities to serve our Lord through our congregations – more than we've thought of, for sure! As we begin a new year we want to thank all those who have been serving as officers, on congregational boards, as Sunday School teachers and helpers, musicians, LWML, the altar guilds, ushers, quilting, cleaning, serving coffee and treats after Worship, and simply stepping forward to meet needs as they arise. **We are truly blessed and thankful for all of you!**

This month our voter's will be electing officers for the coming years, so please consider if you might be able to serve our Lord as an officer or board member. We are working to update the Altar Guild and Usher lists at Messiah to ensure that everyone is given the opportunity to serve at a time that works best for them. We will be meeting to plan this summer's Vacation Bible School very soon – so please watch the bulletin announcements for that. It would be a great blessing if we could offer more activities and opportunities for our children and youth throughout the year so if you have ideas and can help with that please let Pastor know!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP! It was a very difficult financial year for our Congregations. And though we have not yet attained a balanced budget, God has blessed us through your gifts to end 2023 without serious crisis.

Details of our Financial Stewardship in December, and Year to date:

December, 2023:

Tithes/Offering	+\$	9,649.25
Redeemer	+\$	2,130.42
Total Income	+\$	11,779.67
Expenses	-\$	(12,470.39)

October Net	-\$	(690.72)

Year to Date (January 2023 - December 2023)

Tithes/Offerings	+\$	103,224.69
Redeemer	+\$	23,197.91
Other Income	+\$	2,035.57

Total Income	+\$	128,458.17
Expenses 2023	-\$	(132,125.53)

2023 Net	-\$	(3,667.36) deficit

Redeemer Notes

Worship: 11am Sundays
Communion: 2nd and last Sundays

Serving the Lord in November:

Organist: Betty Satter
Altar: Bonnie Wagner

Messiah Notes

Worship: 9am Sunday
Communion: 2nd and last Sundays
Bible Study: 7pm Wednesday Evening in the Church Basement
LWML Meeting: 10:30am 1st Thursday each Month
Messiah Quilters: 1pm 1st Thursday each Month

Serving the Lord in November:

Organist: Charlyn Beardemphl
Pianist: Sue Moore
Altar: Pat Junker
Ushers: Russ McNeely and Ruben Lapp



Nov - Dec 2023

SERVING THE LORD IN

Japan

News from
Pastor Dan and Joan Jastram

<https://www.lcms.org/jastram>



Pastor Dan and Joan Jastram

Rev. Jastram serves as the
Asia Lutheran Resource
Coordinator:

*Making Lutheran resources of
theology and worship
available in Asia.*



To be added to or removed from
this mailing list, send an email
message to:

daniel.jastram@lcms.org

with the word ADD or REMOVE
in the subject line.

Here's our newsletter archive link:

<https://bit.ly/3Xkd9W8>

Link to join our mailing list:

<https://tinyurl.com/47vyhnae>

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New Acquaintance

The most exciting development recently came through new acquaintance with another confessional Lutheran pastor and congregation — Rev. Haga and Megumi (Grace) Lutheran Church in Mito, Ibaraki Prefecture, 3 hours north of us.



**Mito New Acquaintances: Jastram with
Rev. Haga, S. Brandt, A. Schuette**

After hearing of Rev. Haga's interest in meeting me, I gathered information about his Lutheran Evangelical Christian Church (LECC) background; namely, the fruits of Japan mission efforts started in 1952 by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) and carried on by 18 WELS missionaries and others over 63 years, resulting in a fully independent, self-governing and self-supported church body recognized as sister church body with WELS and a member of the worldwide Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference (CELC) fellowship.

In its genesis, the LECC has also benefited from Japan missionaries with LCMS connections. It is a small church body boldly addressing current ministry challenges with God-given resources of three national pastors and six congregations in a region particularly known for resistance to foreign influences—even those of Buddhism established in Japan thirteen centuries ago!

The Mito worship service focused squarely on God's Advent Word of promise: "he [the Savior] will crush your [Satan's] head" (Genesis 3:15).

After worship we enjoyed extended conversations with both English speaking members as well as with those more comfortable in Japanese.

The Mito congregation pursues community outreach using English classes with gospel messages taught by WELS Kingdom Workers and Friendship Network church workers as well as by using online streaming of worship services and website content for church resources.

This wonderful new acquaintance came about through previous interactions with Rev. Haga's LECC colleague, Rev. Nakamoto in the Tokyo area, who has also treated me very warmly in our visits.

All these interactions have gone extremely well. We have acquired greater understanding of common resource needs, greater motivation to maintain communication, and greater eagerness to coordinate future planning.



Mito church elders



Prayer and Thanksgiving:

- thanksgiving for the new acquaintance of Rev. Haga and Megumi (Grace) Luth. Ch. in Mito, for their energetic outreach efforts, and for future opportunities of interaction;
- thanksgiving for the official church relations Japan visit by Dr. Shaw with Dr. Yoshimura and Rev. Wakabayashi;
- thanksgiving for lively ministry connections through the Derendinger family;
- thanksgiving for McFerrin family members visiting from the States;
- prayers for American expats at a distance from Tokyo who desire closer connection with LCMS teaching and practice;
- prayers for our LCMS Asia missionary family gathering coming up in January, for times of renewed learning and friendships among colleagues;
- thanksgiving for wonderful headway on our translation project of Engelbrecht, *The Lutheran Difference* (CPH 2014) (about 30% completed);
- thanksgiving for God's continual blessings at our three worship sites: Shinjuku, Yokosuka, Okinawa;
- thanksgiving for our LCMS Asia regional director Rev. Charles Ferry and fellow LCMS Asia missionaries each with individual challenges and blessings;
- thanksgiving for the faithful prayers and support provided by our LCMS Jastram-Asia mission partners and our St. Louis headquarters.

To support this LCMS mission work:

Give securely online through the LCMS page:

lcms.org/givenow/jastram

Rev. Yoshimura & Rev. Shaw



Ministry Contacts

What a wonderful blessing it was to welcome Rev. Dr. Jonathan Shaw on his recent official visit to Japan as he became better acquainted with newly ordained Rev. Dr. Hiroaki Yoshimura!

Although the LCMS is not in fellowship with the state-established Ev. Luth. Ch. of Finland, nor with its

Ripple effect, from Grace Lutheran Church in Versailles MO to Tokyo Japan. Following the Derendinger family's visit to Tokyo reported in the last newsletter, we received in the mail a wonderful gift of the *Liturgy Accompaniment Edition* of the Lutheran Service Book! Not only that, but pastor Rev. Rottmann contacted us about the possibility of adorning our Eucharistic service with sacramental vessels more noble than our current, travel-scarred, well-used and generations-old, "circuit-rider" diminutive set. Thank you!

Jastrams & Derendinger Family



YOUR SUPPORT is vital for our continued mission work in Japan: regular services at our worship sites, translation of theological resources, and nurturing relations with local Lutheran pastors facing individual challenges to the faith. We are humbly grateful for your continued prayers and support. **Thank you!**

Your missionaries, Dan and Joan Jastram

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you"

(Matt. 11:10b, Third Sunday in Advent, Liturgical Verse).

[OR] Mail your tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
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Make checks payable to:

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Mark checks:

"Support of Asia-Jastram"



January, 2024



Messiah Lutheran Church, Redfield -- Redeemer Lutheran Church, Doland

Holy Communion at both Redeemer and Messiah is the Second and Last Sundays of each Month

Pastor is in the Church office at Messiah 9am - noon, Tuesday - Friday, and at other times throughout those days unless called away. Please call anytime: 509-449-5572 (Cell)

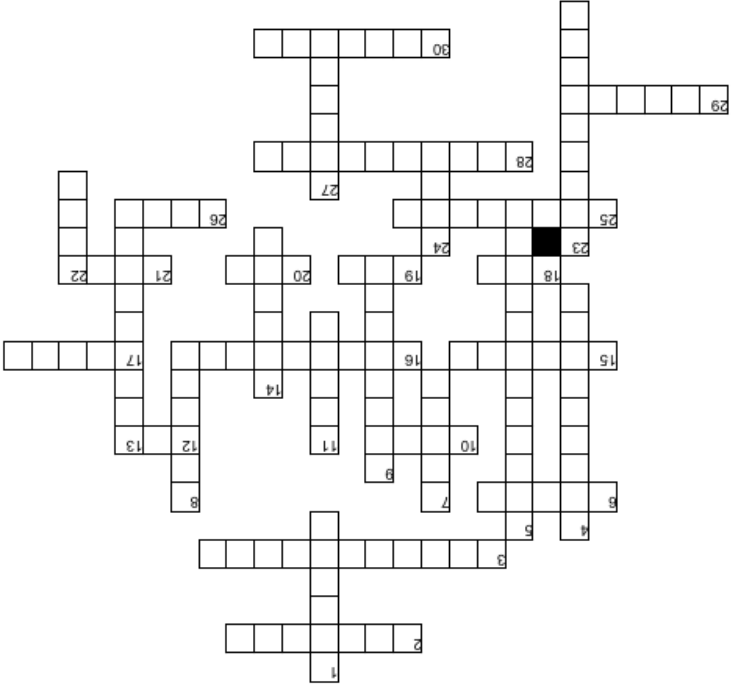
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3	4 10a – LWML at Messiah 1p – Messiah Quilters	5	6 <i>The Epiphany of Our Lord</i> 6:15pm Circuit Epiphany Worship at St. Paul's LC., Aberdeen
7 Epiphany (Obs - White) 9a - Messiah Worship 10:15a Sunday School at Messiah 11a - Redeemer Worship	8	9	10 4p Confirmation Class at Messiah 7p Bible Study at Messiah	11 6:30p – Member Class	12	13
14 Higher Things Youth Retreat at Faith LC, Pierre, SD	15	16 Circuit Pastors' Conference Redeemer, Doland	17 4p Confirmation Class at Messiah 7p Bible Study at Messiah	18 6:30p – Member Class	19	20
21 Epiphany 3 (Green) 9a - Messiah Worship 10:15a Sunday School at Messiah 11a - Redeemer Worship	22	23	24 4p Confirmation Class at Messiah 7p Bible Study at Messiah	25 6:30p – Member Class	26	27
28 Epiphany 4 (Green) 9a - Messiah Worship (Communion) 10:15a Sunday School at Messiah 11a - Redeemer Worship (Communion)	29	30	31 4p Confirmation Class at Messiah 7p Bible Study at Messiah	31 Serving at Messiah: January: Altar – Anna Iverson; Ushers: Jim Frankenstein and Jeff Gottman February: Altar - Shirley Haan; Ushers – Gary Junker and Trevor Carr		



MESSIAH AND REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCHES
225 E. 1ST STREET
REDFIELD SD 57469

January, 2024

The Miracles of Jesus



Across

- 1. Jesus _____ the storm (Matthew 8:23-27). 46)
- 2. Jesus raised _____ from the dead (John 11:1-46).
- 3. Jesus was _____ from the dead (Luke 24:5-6; Matthew 15:22-28).
- 4. Jesus healed the daughter of a _____ woman (Luke 8:43-48). 11)
- 5. Jesus changed _____ into wine (John 2:1-11).
- 6. Jesus fed _____ thousand people (Matthew 14:15-21).
- 7. Jesus opened the eyes of a man born _____ (John 9:1-38).
- 8. Jesus cured _____ mother-in-law of a fever (Mark 1:30-31).
- 9. Jesus healed a man at the pool called _____ (John 5:1-9).
- 10. Jesus cured two _____ (Matthew 8:28-34).
- 11. Jesus cured a boy with a _____ (Matthew 17:14-21).
- 12. Jesus cleansed _____ lepers (Luke 17:11-19).
- 13. Jesus cured the _____ son (John 4:46-47).
- 14. Jesus raised the _____ son from the dead (Matthew 21:18-22).
- 15. Jesus restored the _____ of the high priests (Luke 7:11-18).
- 16. Jesus cured a _____ and mule man (Mark 7:31-37).
- 17. Jesus healed a _____ (Mark 1:40-45).
- 18. Jesus caused the _____ tree to wither (Matthew 21:18-22).
- 19. Jesus restored the _____ of the blind men (Matthew 9:27-31).
- 20. Jesus opened the eyes of _____ blind men (Matthew 9:27-31).
- 21. Jesus restored a withered _____ (Matthew 12:10-13).
- 22. Jesus cured the _____ of a blind man (Mark 8:22-26).
- 23. Jesus cured the _____ woman who had been over and crippled (Luke 13:10-17).
- 24. Jesus healed a _____ of a man who could not speak (Matthew 9:32-33).
- 25. Jesus raised the ruler's _____ from the dead (Matthew 9:18-26).
- 26. Jesus opened the _____ of a blind man (Mark 8:22-26).
- 27. Jesus loosened the _____ of a man who _____ (Matthew 9:32-33).
- 28. Jesus healed the _____ servant (Matthew 8:5-13).
- 29. Jesus cured a man of _____ (Luke 14:1-4).
- 30. Jesus cast out an _____ spirit (Mark 1:23-28).