Lutheran Church of the Redeemer 2384 E. Landis Avenue Vineland, NJ 08361

Sunday Schedule:
Services will be announced weekly on
Facebook and in emails.
Please keep your eye out on Social Media
platforms for up-to-date
information during this time.

Connecting People to Christ, Growing in His Love, Serving Him. "Come and See, Go and Tell, the Good News for All!"

THIS IS A CONDENSED CLIPPINGS - BE SURE YOU ARE WATCHING YOUR EMAILS AND FACEBOOK FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.









DECEMBER 2020 - Monthly Newsletter

Redeemer Lutheran Church 2384 E. Landis Ave Vineland, NJ 856-691-4278 The Rev. Heather Sugden, Pastor

The Monthly Newsletter Redeemer Lutheran Church www.redeemervineland.org

Church Staff

Pastor: Heather Sugden

Email: Pastor2384@gmail.com Cell: 609-665-3714

Office Assistant: Dorine Rosier

Email: RLCoffice2384@gmail.com

Music Director/Organist: Teresa Minnix Cell: 609-335-7288

Email: terminnix@gmail.com

Office Hours: M-Thurs. 8:30am-3pm (Please call ahead)

Phone: 856-691-4278 Fax: 856-205-0664

Council Members

President: Susan Papiano - gspapiano@comcast.net (856) 457-9125 **Vice Pres:** Ginny Workman - bearkeeper1@verizon.net (856) 696-0487

Secretary: Harry Fisher - hfisher7@verizon.net (856) 692-2972

Treasurer: Larry Gilbert - lp_gilbert@live.com (856) 982-3139

Congregation Council:

Jerry Amari - djamari5257@gmail.com (856) 696-8635

Kathleen Clay - j1claysr@msn.com (856) 696-1514

Robert Cook - coolcookies2@hotmail.com (609) 970-9941 Matt Helland - mattrhelland@gmail.com (856) 534-6415 Matthew Johnson - johnson542@gmail.com (609) 774-9436

Donna Matlack - dmatlack724@gmail.com (856) 558-5306 Dale Nichols - dalen71771@gmail.com (609) 805-6283

Georgia Salvaryn - gsalvaryn@icloud.com (609) 774-6816

Youth Rep: Allyson Stierle

Committee Information

Committee of Stewards:

Chairperson: Ginny Workman (856) 696-0487

Worship & Music: Meet 1st Sunday of each Month @ 11:45 AM

Chairperson: Zola Fisher (856) 692-2972

Communications: Meet 1st Monday of each Month @ 7:00 PM

Chairperson: Harry Fisher (856) 692-2972

Mutual Ministries:

Chairperson: Dave Hermanson (856) 690-0979

PLEASE NOTE. The next mailing of the "Newsletter" will be the January 2021 Issue: The deadline for information to be included in the upcoming newsletter is December 15, 2020.

Please e-mail News & Articles, Birth Announcements, Family Events, Thank You Notes, Etc. to: RLCoffice2384@Gmail.com

Redeemer's Mission Statement As a welcoming and nurturing community of faith we: invite all to celebrate Christ's love, Empower one another to grow in Christ's love, share Christ's love as we minister to the world.

Redeemer's Vision Statement

Come and see, go and tell, the Good News for all!

Just a Reminder! Please FILL OUT your offering envelope with check number and or mark cash and amount giving.

This is a Big Help to our money counters. Thank You.

Scan this symbol with your Smartphone to view our Church website.



Remember to visit our website: www.redeemervineland.org

"like" us on Facebook RedeemerLutheranVineland

Visit us on YouTube: shorturl.at/alRZ1

Amazon Smile Link smile.amazon.com/ch/21-0684080

Have You Remembered Redeemer In Your Will?



A delivery of much needed supplies was taken to the Funny Farm Animal Shelter in Richland on Sunday November 8th. Thanks to Thrivent.

> Pictured are Shana Falana, Dawn Amari, Jerry Amari and Mike Amari

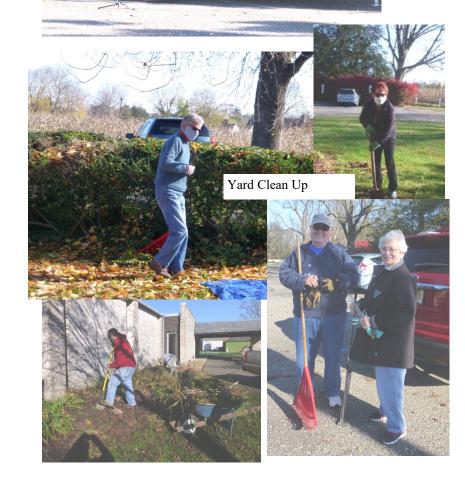
Through Wayne and Mindy Grant's
Thrivent Community, Redeemer
Lutheran Church has been given
\$400.00 to purchase food. Wayne and
Mindy learned of Redeemer's projects
and the need for food donations to
make food baskets or supply food to the
food pantries. Through the joint efforts
of the Redeemer volunteers and
Thrivent, we are making a difference for
many folks this Holiday season.













Congratulations to our newly confirmed, Lexilee Esquilin and Angelina Oliva! Please remember them in your prayers.





- 1 Louis & Wendy Koering Harry & Brenda Ackley
- 5 Paul & Betty Anderson
- 12 Joseph & Rhonda Kubiak 21 - James Rizzo & Carl Marinelli
- 31 Dale & Michelle Dixon



- Lillia McKenzie
- Marjorie Frank
- Scott Foster Donna Matlack Mollie Sugden
- 8 Bobby Stenger Harry Nylund
- 10 Jean Holshue Martha Kouhoupt
- 11 Elaine Hering Kathryn Shollenberger
- 12 Margaret Stierle
- 13 Ursula Barbeck
- 16 Rita Jean Hoffman
- 20 Pastor Heather
- 21 Jody Steinbronn
- 22 Lauren Geisser
- 27 Doris Allewelt
- 28 Alison Keller
- 30 Ken Schad



The Church office will be closing at Noon December 24th and December 31st to celebrate the holidays with our families. Merry Christmas.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Please remember our loved ones in prayer.

Tonya Addy, Barbara Balodis, Frank Conrad, Jennifer Czarnecki, Richard Donaghy, Kenneth Frank Sr., Michael Gornowski, Violet Harris, Ryan Hickman, Doug Kendall, Carl Marinelli, Mike Praztner, Mary Ann Wolfe-Randazzo, Frank Rumick, Dale Saul, Louisa Schumacher, Peggy Schumacher, Philip Shenton, John Warren, and Daria Watford.

All those suffering from COVID-19

++Keep in prayer the families of Joseph Chinnici (11/3/20), Geri Strang (11/4/20), Jack Rawlins (11/11/20) and Kenneth Frank Sr. (11/13/20) upon their passing.

All troops serving our country and the world including:

Meredith Conley, Michael Gonzalez and Kevin Sykes

The following donations have been made to Memorial Fund of Redeemer Lutheran Church in loving memory of:

Joseph Chinnici - by Harry & Ericka Kruysman, Lilija Balodis, Doris Allewelt, Kenneth & Julie Dondero and the Highland Anglers.

Geri Strang - by Jean Holshue & Ron McIntyre, Doris Allewelt and Marshall & Marilyn Gressman.



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR HEATHER SUGDEN

It's ok to stay home on Christmas Eve this year.

Maybe you know someone who needs to hear that sentence. Maybe you don't want to hear that sentence from the pastor. Maybe, like me, it makes you sad to hear those words and the truth it reveals about the end of a difficult year.

As pastors, we are trained to encourage people to come together. We believe that many voices make for richer song and deeper prayers. We believe that hands and hearts gathered in one place strengthen the faith of all. We believe that from the light of many candles, the world becomes brighter.

In other words, it goes against everything in me to not encourage you to come to worship on Christmas Eve and pack the sanctuary. But this year, in a year unlike any other, I want you to hear from me that staying home to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ will still be a holy celebration. By being safe, we will all ensure that our voices remain strong; our hands and hearts ready to come back; our candles will continue to burn.

Jesus was not born in a palace, or in a big city bustling with wealth and power. No, he entered our world in a humble stable, surrounded by his little family and the animals gathered around. Angels appeared to shepherds right where they were - in the fields where they watched the sheep - to announce the "good news of great joy!" A sea of stars adorned the sky, with one shining brightest above the little hill town of Bethlehem.

Perhaps this year the simplicity of Jesus' birth will speak to us in a new way. Wherever you celebrate Christmas this year, it will be beautiful. There will be light from candles and stars, but the brightest light will be revealed when we re-hear and re-tell the story of this holy night.

To help you celebrate the traditions and stories of Advent at home and prepare your own heart for Christmas, a devotional guide is included in this newsletter. Each week there are prayers, a Bible reading, and questions to help us all contemplate what it means to welcome Jesus' arrival on Earth. Our worship services, including Christmas Eve, will continue to be available online.

Blessings to you during this Advent season, and a most blessed Christmas to you and yours!

In Christ, Pastor Heather



Join us for Movie Night!

Outside in the Courtyard
December 12th at
5:00 PM
Bring a blanket
to keep warm.

As we "climb aboard" The Polar Express!

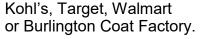
A Giving Tree Reminder

Christmas is coming and the Thrivent Community is once again sponsoring the Giving Tree for the children affiliated with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Cumberland/Salem Counties.



This year we will be doing something different. To continue our Christmas giving and to reduce contact we are asking Redeemer members to provide \$20 gift cards from

regiving to provide \$20 gift cards from any of the following stores:



Deadline for cards to be sent to the office or placed in the collection plate is Thursday, December 10th.

During these stressful times, let us continue to make Christmas special for these children.



Comer Worship With US

9:30 AM Drive In Worship

in the back parking lot.
Watch for emails and/or Facebook announcements for changes due to weather.

10:30 AM Worship Service in Church.

Be sure to follow all social distancing guidelines.

Masks must be worn and there will

be no socializing after service.

To Watch online:

Online www.RedeemerVineland.org
(there are buttons for both Facebook and YouTube)
Facebook - RedeemerLutheranChurch_Vineland
YouTube - search Redeemer Lutheran Church

Christmas Eve Services

December 24th

Please read for all details concerning our socially distant Christmas Eve Services.

3:30 PM (outside)

Bring a chair and mask to join us in the courtyard.

7:00 PM (inside) RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR THIS SERVICE

Space is limited

Reservations are needed by December 21st

Please call 856-691-4278 extension 2 (Dorine) - first come.

PLEASE NOTE - ALL SERVICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO COVID GUIDELINES.



Watch, Wait, Wonder, and Worship Celebrating Advent at Home

Advent 1 - Watch

Light the first Advent candle.

It is now time for you to wake from sleep; the night is far spent; the light draws near.

Let us pray

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. As darkness falls, may we watch for your light. Keep us awake and alert to your coming and strengthen us to the end, that we may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mark 13:33-37:

Reflection:

What word, image, or phrase stands out for you in this reading?

What will you watch and pray about this Advent? What will help you stay awake?

<u>Prayer</u>

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; That awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

<u>Blessing</u>

Even as we wait, watch, and wonder, God is with us.



Advent 2 - Wait

Light two Advent candles.

The voice of one crying in the wilderness says: "Prepare the way for the Lord, make his paths straight."

Let us pray

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for the coming of your Son. Give us courage and faith to proclaim, in word and deed, the good news of your coming, even as we wait in patience for that day when Christ will come again. Amen.

Read 2 Peter 3:8-15a

Reflection: What word, image, or phrase stands out for you in this reading?

What in your life requires patience? What are you waiting for?

How might you prepare the way of Christ's coming?

<u>Prayer</u>

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; That awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Blessing

Even as we wait, watch, and wonder, God is with us.



Advent 3 - Wonder

Light three Advent candles.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances.

Let us pray

Stir up our hearts in wonder, O God. May we wear a mantle of praise as we delight in your gift of salvation, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Read Isaiah 61:1-3; 10-11

Reflection: What word, image, or phrase stands out for you in this reading? Where will you look for God's glory? Where do you engage in wonder at God's creation?

Prayer

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; That awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Blessing

Even as we wait, watch, and wonder, God is with us.



Advent 4 - Worship

Light four Advent candles.

To the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be glory forever and ever.

Let us pray

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. May we, with Mary, sing your praises and magnify your name. As we worship, renew our vision that we may do your will. In your name we pray, amen.

Read Luke 1:26-55

Reflection: What word, image, or phrase stands out for you in this reading?

Where might you, like Mary, be called to leave fear behind?

How does worship of God give you clarity of vision? Where has God lifted up the lowly, filled the hungry, and helped with mercy?

Prayer

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; That awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

<u>Blessing</u>

Even as we wait, watch, and wonder, God is with us.

