



REDEEMERS MEMORIAL GARDEN

# RLC Newsletter

## August 2022

### A message from Pastor Allman

*The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" (John 1:35-38, NRSV).*

"What are you looking for?" That is a great question, which I encourage you to answer, at least to yourselves. When you come to church, what are you looking for? Some folks may answer that they come to church for the music. Some folks may answer that they come to church for the message. Some folks may answer that they come to church to see their friends. Some folks may answer that they come to church because that is what

they have always done. Some folks may answer that they come to church to feel closer to God. Some folks may answer that they come to church to pray. Some folks may answer that they come to church because it offers them a place to belong.

I think most people, if they answer themselves frankly, will admit that they come to church in order to get something. They get good music. They get to spend time with their friends. They get satisfaction that they fulfilled their duty to God. They get a feeling of peace. They get comfort from being with other like-minded people.

What is God looking for when we come to church? God is looking for authentic and genuine worship. God wants to be the sole focus of our attention. Hymns are sung to bring God

glory. Silence is observed to allow God to speak through the Holy Spirit. Prayers are said that praise God. Preaching is designed to share God's Word. Anthems are sung that draw attention to God. Offerings are given as a way of returning a portion of the money God has already given us. Holy Communion is celebrated to join us together with the communion of saints.

When we come to church, God is looking for us to give... something of our time, talents and treasures. If we get something out of coming to church, then that blessing is a by-product of coming together to honor and glorify God. Some of the blessings that we get are: being reminded that God has already forgiven our sins; that Jesus loves us more than his own life; that by learning God's

Word we grow spiritually; and encouragement as we see the gathering of witnesses surrounding us. I am sure you can name others.

In one of my former churches, I once had a woman who was leaving after worship say, "You didn't make me happy today." I wonder what she was looking for when she came to church...

*Pastor Allman* 



**Our channel is Redeemer Lutheran Church Sun City Center Florida**

**As of June 2022**

**6 New Subscribers**

**Total subscribers 219**

**Views: 3,327**

**Minutes watched: 10.1K**

## News from the Office Administrator

### August 2022

This summer has been quite an adventure for me. I'm happy to be getting back to the routine again.

Over the summer months we have had some volunteers working in the library. We have a new fan, new light fixtures, and new ceiling tiles. A huge thank you to the Property Team. The library looks wonderful!

I also want to thank Diane Brace for offering to help keep the memorial garden beautiful and clear of weeds. There are always plenty of projects to keep us busy here. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, we always encourage you to share your talents by getting involved here at Redeemer.

***Please know that if you are in need of financial assistance, we have funds available at the church to help. This remains confidential. Only Pastor will know that you received aid. We don't want anyone left in need, so please speak with Pastor Allman if we can be helpful.***

### Upcoming Activities:

Wed. Oct. 19: Senior Nutrition Presentation

Sat. Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> Arts & Crafts Fair

Wed. Nov. 16 at 10:30 AM- FL DNR Seminar

Wed. Dec. 7:10:00 AM- 12:00 PM Dementia Workshop  
Lunch to follow.

Wed. Jan 18: 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM-Dementia Screening

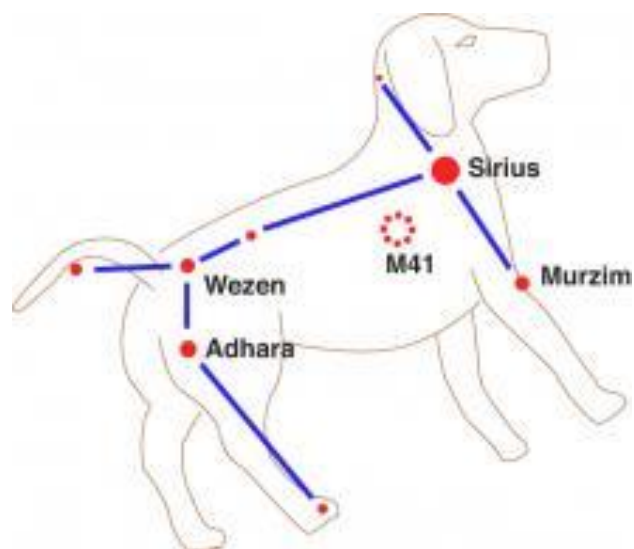


# AUGUST

# STEWARDSHIP

The “dog days” of summer will be upon us as you read this, although many will think they have been upon us for some time. In Ancient Rome, the Dog Days ran from July 24th through August 24th. They considered Sirius to be the “Dog Star” because it is the brightest star in the constellation Canis Major (Large Dog). Dog Days were popularly believed to be an evil time “the Sea boiled, the Wine turned sour, Dogs grew mad, and all other creatures became languid.”

For the ancient Egyptians, Sirius appeared just before the season of the Nile's flooding, so they used the star as a “watchdog” for that event. Since its rising also coincided with a time of extreme heat, the connection with hot, sultry weather was made for all time: “Dog Days bright and clear / indicate a happy year. / But when accompanied by rain, / for better times our hopes are vain.”



In recent years, the phrase “Dog Days” or “Dog Days of Summer” have also found new meanings. The term has frequently been used in reference to the American stock market(s). Typically, summer is a very slow time for the stock market, and

additionally, poorly performing stocks with little future potential are frequently known as “dogs.”

Interestingly enough the “dog days” have typically been the worst time of year for the church as well: worship attendance drops, group attendance drops and financial giving drops. Anyone who has been in church leadership knows it is going to happen; and, inevitably the same question is asked every year, “*What are we going to do about it?*”

I have yet to find or hear of anyone else who has found the miracle answer to that question. Millions of people in hundreds of thousands of churches over centuries of time have not discovered the miracle answer. As good as the current leadership of Redeemer is; I have my doubts that they will find the miracle answer this year. Yet this is not an issue only for the current leadership. The “we” in the question, “*What are we going to do about it?*” includes each and every person who considers Redeemer her/his church.

Over the next month, or maybe even two months, if you read the “Bookkeeper’s Report” and see that the “dog days” are nipping at our heels, please take the time to pray and ask yourself, “*What am I going to do about it?*”



*Thank you for all your donations big and small.*



# GROWING IN FAITH

Spiritual Maturity does not just happen as we age. The second part of Redeemer's Mission Statement – Grow in Faith – requires intentionality. At the beginning of his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, “*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God*” (Matthew 5:9). A devotional I read recently said that peacemakers need to view their peacemaking in light of the Hebraic concept of shalom.



I imagine most, if not all, of us have heard the word Shalom, and understand it to mean “peace.” While that is technically true, shalom means much more than the absence of conflict or stress. Osheta Moore (devotional writer) describes Shalom as “*God’s dream for the world as it should be, nothing missing, nothing broken, everything made whole.*” Wikipedia says the word Shalom is a Hebrew word meaning peace, harmony, wholeness, completeness, prosperity, welfare and tranquility

and can be used idiomatically to mean both hello and goodbye.

More than simply hello or goodbye, it is a blessing one gives to another in greeting or parting, that the other person’s life be filled with God’s peace, harmony, wholeness, completeness, prosperity, welfare and tranquility. When we connect that blessing with peacemaking, then “the other” becomes more human and less of an object in our path, or one more task to get off of our to-do list.

Shalom is an underlying principle of Hebrew life; and, an underlying principle of Jesus’ teaching (as seen above), which makes sense when we remember that Jesus was Jewish. A life of Shalom must start from Love; because, when love enters the equation for peacemaking, everything changes. We begin to ask ourselves what we are for instead of what (who) we are against. Shalom does not come easy. It requires intentionality, especially when we are working to make peace with “the other.”

Our ego (yes, everybody has one) naturally focuses on the needs of self, which means focusing on the needs of “the other” is unnatural -- it requires intentionality. 1 John 4:8 reads, “*Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.*” Children of God start from Love, with every person, in all circumstances. As people like to remind me, “*That is not going to be easy.*” As I like to remind people, “*If you think being a Christian is easy, you are not doing it right.*”

Shalom, my brothers and sisters in Christ.



## IMPROVE YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

*From Parish Nurse Team*

*Here are some things to do to help with your mental well-being:*

- If something (or someone) is weighing on your mind, write about it. Researchers found that those with anxiety who wrote about what's on their mind three days a week over a 12-week period had increased feelings of well-being and fewer depression symptoms after one month.
- Read a book. Getting lost in a book can lower levels of cortisol and unhealthy stress hormones by 68%.
- Do something for someone else. Pay for the food for the car behind you in the drive-through or grocery line. Take a meal to a family going through a crisis. Acts of kindness can lift the spirits of those you help and boosts your well-being in the process.
- Take some time to laugh. Watch a comedy movie. Listen to a humorous podcast while driving. Check out funny videos or comedians online. Laughter is good for the heart and increases your blood flow by 20%.
- Practice forgiveness – even if it is just forgiving that person who wasn't driving well. People who forgive have better mental health and report being more satisfied with their lives.
- Devote some time each week to being outdoors. Garden. Walk or bike through some open area. Research shows that being outside can increase energy levels, reduce depression, and boost well-being.
- Remember gratitude. Listing blessings you have experienced can help in maintaining a positive attitude.
- Get help when you need it. Seeking help is a sign of strength – not a weakness. Find someone you trust. Get counseling. Check your medical benefit plan as it is sometimes included.

### Signs Your Mental Health is Improving



Accomplishing goals



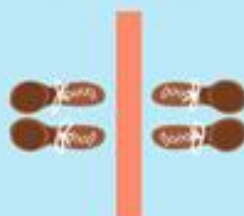
Reduction in symptoms and emotional outbursts



Having a stable appetite



Sleeping better



Establishing healthy boundaries



Looking inward for validation vs. outward

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS 2022

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- 1<sup>st</sup> – Robert Viohl Jr.**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Jennie Flietner, Margery Ruse**
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Anne Doerfler, Marty Gifford,  
Dr. Oliver Hackett, Nancy Hayes,  
Judy Kiel**
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Audrey Ercegovich**
- 7<sup>th</sup> - Dan Pollert**
- 8<sup>th</sup>- Jenise German**
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Denise Fitzpatrick**
- 12<sup>th</sup>- Nancy McIntosh**
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Betty Morrison**
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Dick Fricke**
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Richard Johnston**
- 27<sup>th</sup>- Grace Springer**
- 28<sup>th</sup> – Ginny Acker**
- 29<sup>th</sup>- Hans Barfels, Pete Moose**



## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES 2022

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- 1<sup>st</sup> – Sally & Michael Trenski**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Kurt & Elfi Nolden**
- 16<sup>th</sup> – George & Susan Grosskopf**
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Mike & MaryAnn Sigler**
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Dianne & Joe Good**
- 24<sup>th</sup> – Paul & Nancy Carrier**
- 27<sup>th</sup> – Keith & Linda Kovach**
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Jerry & Carolyn DeCarbo**
- 31<sup>st</sup>- Dr. Oliver & Kathie Hackett  
Bob & Valerie Southwell Jr.**



**We ask if you notice information is missing or incorrect, please let us know. Thank you!**



Time	Acolyte	Communion Assistants	Lector
Sun. Aug 7 10:00 AM	Lucy Ann Clark	Lucy Ann Clark, Richard Meredith, Kathy Schwartz	Richard Meredith
Sun. Aug 14 10:00 AM	Lucy Ann Clark		Wendy Kitzman
Sun. Aug 21 10:00 AM	Lucy Ann Clark	Lucy Ann Clark, Richard Meredith, Carolyn Cole	Chuck Kovacik
Sun. Aug 28 10:00 AM	Lucy Ann Clark		Rosalie Kelleher



**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

**Please consider being an acolyte and/or communion assistant.**

Please call Carolyn Cole so she can add you to the schedule. 813-812-7527

August Usher Team	August Altar Guild	Sound & Camera
Sheri Fleming's Team	Barb Lauer, Marge Miller, & Linda Kovach	Volunteers





### Congratulations

We would like to congratulate Jim Schwartz and Kathy (Jones) Schwartz on their marriage July 22<sup>nd</sup>. God's blessings to you both as you begin this wonderful journey of marriage.



### Mission Project

Many thanks to everyone that generously contributed to the Mission Project. Currently donations total just over \$1,800, an amount that Yvette will greatly appreciate. It is a great feeling to be able to support a person who has so strongly and enthusiastically devoted themselves to mission outreach. And we hope that all of you enjoyed the ice cream.

### School Supplies

WELCA will be collecting school supplies during August and September for Cypress Creek Elementary School. Since schools get a lot of supplies at the beginning of the school year, we decided to deliver items a little later when some of those supplies run out. Please watch the bulletins and Kadie's Wednesday e-mail for a list of needed items.



### Church Membership

We are always welcoming new members, it's a great time to join. Ask Mike or Kadie for additional information.

It has been a while since we had a new member Sunday event. The next New Member Sunday is scheduled for October 9.



**October 9th**





**Our next movie Monday will be August 22n. Doors open at 5:30 PM. Chili & dessert will be provided so please sign up. The sign-up sheet can be found on the welcome table. Bring your own beverages.**

This event is free but please bring a nonperishable food item for donation to the local food pantry.

**August Movie: Singin' in the Rain**



**Food Pantry**

Thank you for your continued support of our local food pantry.

Please place donated items for the food pantry in the narthex closet.

**Please remember, NO open packages or containers and NO items requiring refrigeration.**



The food pantry can also use clean egg cartons. Once you finish your eggs consider bringing the carton with your canned good donations.



**First day of school**

My oldest son Evan just started middle school (6<sup>th</sup> grade) at Pepin Academy in Riverview on July 20<sup>th</sup>. This will begin his 4<sup>th</sup> year at Pepin. They start the school year earlier than the rest of Hillsborough county in exchange for extended breaks throughout the school year. This schedule helps the students retain what they have learned.







# 10 Proverbs

P R O V E R B S O H A V G G G  
 A K G R S G U I D A N C E G O  
 M J C V R X U S E E M S X D P  
 S K L U B K B Y L L O F P R R  
 E N I A G C E S W R A N O I Q  
 L O S Y G A L Q P M O S G E Z  
 B W T N P A X S P I P H C N E  
 A L E C R P T E T E T J C I K  
 R E N O A I I E R E K T I L U  
 A D M M F K R I O S G X I P B  
 P G B E W C T U L H J K F I E  
 H E N Z S Y S F S F H P N C R  
 B E W I E B L E S S I N G S M  
 B O D H G J H Y B X H Q R I Y  
 K B M O D S I W T D U W H D C

BENEFITS  
 BLESSING  
 DISCIPLINE  
 DISCRETION  
 FOLLY

GUIDANCE  
 KNOWLEDGE  
 LISTEN  
 MORALS  
 PARABLES

PROSPERITY  
 PROVERBS  
 REBUKE  
 RIGHTEOUS  
 WISDOM

# August 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 10:30 AM-AI-Anon	<b>2</b> 1:00 PM- Barbershop 3:30 PM-Women's AA	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10:00 AM-OA Group 6:45 PM-Choir practice	<b>5</b> 9:30 AM- Quilters	<b>6</b> 11:00 AM- Memorial Service J. Corbett
<b>7</b> 10:00 AM-Holy Communion Worship	<b>8</b> 10:30 AM-AI-Anon	<b>9</b> 1:00 PM- Barbershop 3:30 PM-Women's AA	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 9:00 AM-Parish nurse meeting 10:00 AM-OA Group 6:45 PM-Choir practice	<b>12</b> 9:30 AM- Quilters	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 10:00 AM-Worship	<b>15</b> 10:00 AM-Pastor Meeting 10:30 AM-AI-Anon	<b>16</b> 1:00 PM- Barbershop 3:30 PM-Women's AA	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10:00 AM-OA Group 6:45 PM-Choir practice	<b>19</b> 9:30 AM- Quilters	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 10:00 AM-Holy Communion Worship	<b>22</b> 10:30 AM-AI-Anon 1:00 PM-Council Meeting 5:30 AM- Movie Night	<b>23</b> 1:00 PM- Barbershop 3:30 PM-Women's AA	<b>24</b> 9:00 AM- Piper Fire Sensitivity Testing	<b>25</b> 10:00 AM-OA Group 6:45 PM-Choir practice	<b>26</b> 9:30 AM- Quilters	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 10:00 AM-Worship	<b>29</b> 10:00 AM-WELCA Board Meeting 10:30 AM-AI-Anon	<b>30</b> 1:00 PM- Barbershop 3:30 PM-Women's AA	<b>31</b>			



