



RLC Newsletter

November
2023

A Message from Pastor Allman

Well, it is that month again! This year is an off year, so to speak. The off-year elections include gubernatorial and state legislative elections in a few states, as well as numerous citizen initiatives, mayoral races, and a variety of other local offices on the ballot. Voting day will be November 7, 2023. I am not sure what, if any, local initiatives may be put forward for a vote. Maybe this November will be a little less stressful than November 2024.

Peggy Hahn, Executive Director of LEAD, writes in LEAD's October Newsletter, *"The only place left on the planet where people consistently witness courtesy for strangers is when waiting to exit an airplane... Then there is the rest of life where we stereotype people, maybe even more by their blue or red cultural connections than their ethnicity, skin color, gender, sexuality, or socio-economic status."*

Hahn's attention is not so much drawn toward voting day as it is toward holiday family gatherings; especially for those who may be gathering with family and/or friends who vote differently from one another. While Jesus did not call us to agree with one another over politics, Jesus did command us to love one another. John 13:34 reads, *"I give you a*

new commandment, that you love one another." Our New Testament writings mention that command to "love one another" 23 times – IMHO that is significant.

Biblically speaking, love is more of an action word than an emotion. Some of the best-known examples of love in action come from the Apostle Paul, in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, *"Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."* We might include, *"Love does not start a politically charged argument during a holiday family gathering."*

What would it feel like if the next time someone starts talking politics in a group, you start talking about Jesus and his command to love one another? Awkward? Why? I can remember a time when two topics people did not talk about in a group were religion and politics. These days, it seems like only religion is singled out as a forbidden topic. I tend to feel awkward in a mixed group of people when

someone brings up politics. It is an emotionally charged topic. It can ruin relationships. Is expressing a political opinion worth ruining a relationship – especially a family relationship?

My encouragement is that if someone brings up politics at your next family gathering, start talking about Jesus' command that we love one another, and Paul's definition of how love behaves. At the very least, it is a positive topic.

Pastor Allman 

**September YouTube
3 New Subscribers
728 total views
8,854 minutes watched**



Thank you for donating items for the food pantry in the narthex closet. Please remember, NO open packages or containers.



News from the Office Administrator November 2023

We have a lot of stuff happening at Redeemer in the coming months. Be sure you check the Welcome Table in the narthex for upcoming events. We post flyers and signup sheets there for many different activities so come and choose some fun and informative things to do!

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 Events:

Wed., Nov. 1 – Health Fair, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Sat., Nov. 4 – Arts & Crafts Fair, 9:00 AM-2:00PM

Wed., Nov. 8 – 11:00 AM Veterans Program with lunch

Wed., Nov. 15 – 7:00 PM- Riverside Jukebox Swing Band

Thurs., Nov. 16 – Virtual Dementia Program
10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Wed., Nov. 22 – Decorate for Christmas, 9:00 AM

Wed., Nov. 29 – Electronics Recycling Event,
10:00 AM -12:00 PM



NOVEMBER STEWARDSHIP

One of the ways we become like God is through giving. Our God is a giving God. I believe that God gives to us everything we have. The Bible contains 272 verses about prayer, 714 verses about love, and 2,172 verses about giving and possessions. I suspect most people will not read this article, because the word “stewardship” is in the title. If you have made it this far, congratulations.

Jesus taught, *“Give to others, and you will receive. You will be given much. It will be poured into your hands—more than you can hold. You will be given so much that it will spill into your lap. The way you give to others is the way God will give to you.”* That certainly does not mean we are to try to manipulate God into giving us more by giving something away.

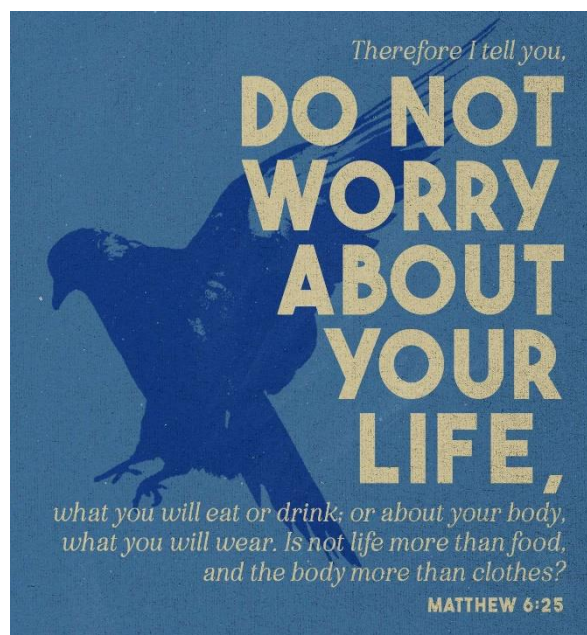
A story is told of a wealthy Texan who was in the habit of giving his dad unique gifts on Father’s Day. One year it was hang-gliding lessons. The next year it was the entire record collection of Slim Whitman’s hits. This past year he felt he had outdone himself. He purchased a rare kind of talking bird that could speak five languages and sing “The Yellow Rose of Texas.” The talented bird cost ten thousand dollars, yet the son felt it was worth every penny. This would be a Father’s Day gift that his dad would never forget. A week after Father’s Day he called his father and asked, *“Dad, how did you like the bird?”* His father responded, *“It was delicious!”*

The moral of that story is what one does with a gift depends on what one considers to be the purpose of said gift. Do you believe that God has given you everything you have; or, do you believe that you earned everything you have? Whichever you believe will impact what you do with what you have. If you believe that God created everything, then do you believe that everything belongs to God? If God turns over something God created into your keeping, then God must have a purpose in mind.

What would be the purpose, or purposes, of God placing his money and possessions into your keeping? The world has more suggestions for how

to spend money than we have money; which is why so many people are so deeply in debt. The average household debt in America at the end of 2022 was nearly \$102,000.00; and, an average mortgage debt of nearly \$236,500.00.

Financial planners will advise people to not spend more than they make, which is good advice; yet, financial planners do not advise how to spend your money. God wants us to spend the money on things that will build us up rather than destroy us. God would have us learn to live a balanced life rather than spend the majority of the money on one or two obsessions in our lives. Financial planners will advise people to save, and likely will use a fear based motive that you will experience some major catastrophe for which you should prepare. God does advise believers to be prudent, yet not from fear, rather from trusting God. *“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?”* (Matt 6:25).

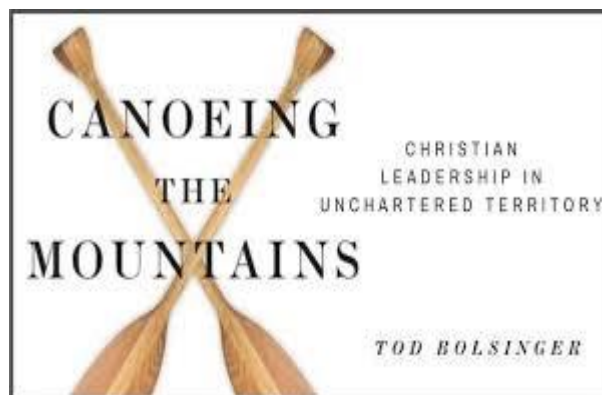
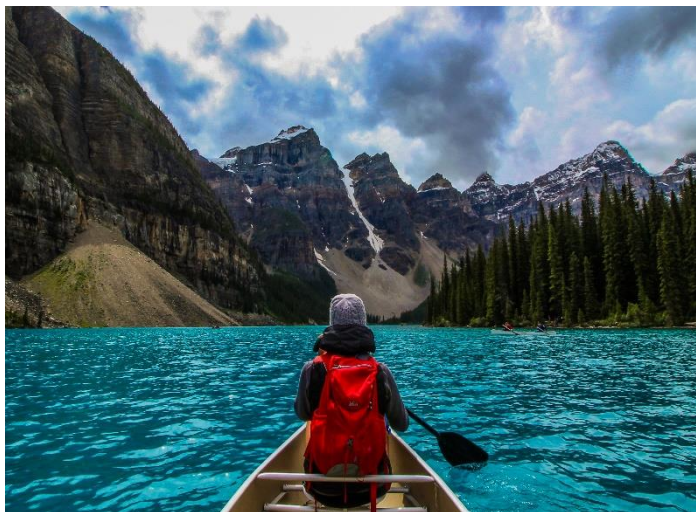


The idea of giving money away may be where a financial planner and God differ. A financial planner may tell you to keep all the money you make, or invest it to make a profit with interest. While God’s Word teaches *“You will have a greater blessing when you give than when you receive”* (Acts 20:35). This advice will make no sense to the world, yet I can testify that it is a wonderful feeling to help out someone who needs it.

Growing in faith

As I write this, I am attending the Florida-Bahamas Synod Conference on Ministry, which my Bishop insists that I attend, therefore I think he cannot get along without me {grin}. This year's theme is "Leadership in Uncharted Territory," which is something all of us have been doing since March of 2020, when the entire world shut down because of COVID. Our speaker is The Reverend Doctor Tod Bolsinger, who asked us, "What 'underlying conditions' were revealed during the crisis?" (i.e., COVID).

As Bolsinger has traversed the country giving this talk, and consulting with Churches and larger groups (like our Synod), he says most leaders have discovered that their congregations were not the disciples they thought they were. Most people discovered that we (Christians) are not as selfless as we might like to think. Discipleship failed. Community failed. Individualism skyrocketed. Most were interested in knowing when the church could get back to the way things were before. He noted that during a crisis, most people want to get back to the familiar, rather than consider how to move forward into uncharted territory.



By way of example, Bolsinger told the story of Lewis and Clark, who dreamed of a Northwest Passage - one river or a series of connected rivers that would cross the western mountains and reach the Pacific Ocean. The short version is that they traveled 8000 miles upstream on the Missouri River, they decided to portage their canoes 20 miles over some "mountains" convinced the waterway they sought was just on the other side. As they crested that mountain, they were deflated when they discovered the Rocky Mountains off in the distance.

Bolsinger tells us that Lewis and Clark discovered that they were expert river travelers who had no idea how to traverse the Rockies. They decided to press on, with the guidance of some Native Americans who knew the mountainous terrain; which meant leaving their canoes behind. Bolsinger quoted Eric Hoffer, "In times of change, learners inherit the earth, while the learned find themselves beautifully equipped to deal with a world that no longer exists."

The second part of our Mission Statement - Grow in Faith - calls us to continue being learners. While Redeemer has fewer COVID restrictions, we are still facing a world in front of us that is nothing like the world behind us. In other words, the pre-COVID world no longer exists, and we dare not exhaust our resources (including people) trying to canoe the mountains.

Our goal is to continue moving forward into God's preferred future for Redeemer. While we stay true to our core values, we may need to shift our expectations and behaviors. Every decision, Bolsinger states, will involve two questions: What will we preserve? (and) What will we change?

From Parish Nurse Team

Happy

Thanksgiving!



Follow these food safety tips
for a safe holiday!

Make sure to cook
your turkey until the
internal temperature
reaches **165°F**

Separate raw meats and
poultry from food that
won't be cooked by using
separate cutting boards,
plates, and utensils.

It can take up to 6
days to thaw a turkey,
depending on its
weight - thaw
completely before
cooking.

Store leftovers in the
refrigerator for up to
3-4 days or freeze to
keep longer.

Wash your hands
after handling raw
meat and poultry
products and before
touching prepared
foods.

More tips: - Thaw your turkey in the refrigerator

- Don't rinse your turkey as bacteria from the turkey can spread around the sink and surfaces
- Don't stuff the turkey as the stuffing may not reach the correct temperature. Cook separately.
- Refrigerate leftover turkey within two hours

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1st – Bob Casper, Vern Loepp**
2nd – Jane Trefren, Kurt Hetler
3rd – Stan Serbin
7th – Peggy Collins
8th – Dottie Peterson, Sue Smeltzer
10th – Verbal Loepp
11th – Kay Lyndahl, Jeanne Pruett
12th – Wayne Gehrke, Carolyn Robinson
13th – Dick Ihrke
14th – Betty Ferrara
16th – Pam Vogelsang
17th – Nancy Konian
18th – Russell Filip
19th – Arlene Hansen
20th – Vlado Michna, John Whitman
21st – Jim Glass, Helen Schaefer
22nd – Diane Brace, Justin Hill
23rd – Tim McKee
25th – Deya Schierenbeck
26th – Betty Schuppert
27th – George Grosskopf, Dietrich Schaffer
28th – Doreen McKibben
30th – Sylvia Nachbor

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 3rd – Karl & Joan Wessinger**
4th – Hans & Erika Barfels
6th – Steve & Karin Hagg
7th – Linda & David Cockerham
8th – Kadie & Jon Dehne
21st – Mike & Jirattikorn Corbett
23rd – Fred & Kathie Bastion



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



November



Time	Acolyte	Communion Assistants	Lector
Sun. Nov 5 10:00 AM	Mike Corbett	Wendy Kitzman, Mike Corbett, David Lickfeldt	Wendy Kitzman
Sun. Nov 12 10:00 AM	Paul Ó Braonáin		Paul Ó Braonáin
Sun. Nov 19 10:00 AM	David Lickfeldt	Arlene Hansen, David Lickfeldt, Joyce Kuzmick	Joyce Kuzmick
Sun. Nov 26 10:00 AM	Kathy Schwartz		Mike Corbett

November Usher Team	December Usher Team	Sound & Camera
Dan Pollerts Team	Shari Flemings Team	Volunteers

DECEMBER



Time	Acolyte	Communion Assistants	Lector
Sun. Dec. 3 10:00 AM	David Lickfeldt	Joyce Kuzmick, David Lickfeldt, Arlene Hansen	Joyce Kuzmick
Sun. Dec 10 10:00 AM	Paul Ó Braonáin		Chuck Kovacik
Sun. Dec 17 10:00 AM	Kathy Schwartz	David Lickfeldt, Joyce Kuzmick, Kathy Schwartz	Jim Schwartz
Sun. Dec 24 10:00 AM	David Lickfeldt		Sherri Knaub
Sun. Dec 24 7:00 PM	Mike Corbett	Mike Corbett, Deb Pollert, Wendy Kitzman	Dan Pollert
Mon. Dec 25 10:00 AM	Paul Ó Braonáin	Paul Ó Braonáin, Arlene Hansen, Kathy Schwartz	Chuck Buskirk
Sun. Dec 31 10:00 AM	David Lickfeldt		

Please contact Carolyn Cole at 813-812-7527 if you have any questions or would like to be added to the schedule.



Health Fair

Redeemer's Parish Nurse Team, will be hosting a **FREE** Health Fair for the congregation and the community in Buhr Hall on Wednesday, November 1 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. 35 vendors from various aspects of health care will provide health screenings, a free laser treatment, vaccines (Flu/Pneumonia/TDAP/Shingles), and a wide variety of health information. Screenings include cholesterol, glucose, hearing, balance, and vein. A Medicare expert and an elder care attorney will be present. And this will be an opportunity to see the inside of an ambulance. There will be many give away items as well as those yummy Sun Towers brownies and other snacks. Please attend and help support our parish nurses.



Arts & Crafts Fair

Redeemer Lutheran Church will hold its Fourth Annual Arts & Crafts Fair on Saturday, November 4th from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. With over 40 vendors, it is a great opportunity to find unique gifts just in time for the holidays. A wide variety of handmade items will be available: hand sewn and crochet, fine art paintings, jewelry, pottery, leatherwork, glassware, ceramics, books, cards, wooden products, wreaths, holiday gifts and much more.

There will also be a bake sale, food truck, and some awesome raffle baskets. This is an event that you won't want to miss. Profits from the event will go to Redeemer.

Bakers Needed!!

The Arts & Crafts Fair on November 4th will include a bake sale, and any help with baking items would be greatly appreciated. Items will need to be brought to the church on Friday, November 3rd from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. If your baked item contains nuts, please note it. Profits from the bake sale will support WELCA. If you can help bake, please sign the sheet on the narthex counter.



Volunteers Needed

The tables in Buhr Hall will need to be returned from the rectangular ones to the round ones after fellowship on Sunday, November 5. Part of the job is moving tables and chairs but there are other jobs such as replacing the tablecloths, etc. that don't require lifting. If you can help, please sign the sheet on the welcome counter in the narthex. Hopefully there will be enough help to make this a quick and easy job.

Nov. 5 (Sunday) following worship for reset

Daylight Savings Time

Turn back clocks 1 hour on November 5th.



High Altitude Reconnaissance (SPY PLANES) During the Cold War

There is a spy at our Sunday morning service. Tom Barrett sits quietly and observes everything. He reports his observations to no one (except his wife who sings with the choir). Flashback to the late 1960s and he was an Air Force Pilot encumbered in a full pressure suit (like the astronauts) flying a spy plane above 70,000 feet for six to eight hours at a time.

Tom will give a presentation on "High Altitude Reconnaissance During the Cold War" on November 8th at 11 am. in Buhr Hall. During three of the twenty-two years he served in the United States Air Force, he was a high-altitude reconnaissance pilot who participated in some of the USAF's most secretive photographic and nuclear sampling reconnaissance flights. Few aviation enthusiasts know about the aircraft he flew. Built in 1964 to replace U-2A and B models, this General Dynamics 122' wingspan RB-57F aircraft was designed to carry a pilot, systems operator and the world's largest camera. It was the size of a VW, weighted almost 6,000 pounds and could produce detailed photographs of objects fifty miles away. Twenty-one of the aircraft were built by General Dynamics. To minimize public speculation and maintain secrecy, the aircraft were never painted black and were given the same designation as an existing aircraft - the 65' wingspan Martin B-57. Especially interesting are the missions flown taking samples of nuclear detonation "mushroom clouds" throughout the world.

Please note that if the lights are turned down, Tom will not glow in the dark.

Following the presentation, a light lunch will be served. If you will be attending, please sign the sheet on the welcome counter in the narthex.



Riverside JukeBox Swing Band

The Riverside Jukebox Swing Band will be having a concert at Redeemer on Wednesday November 15 at 7:00 PM. Please bring an item for donation to the local food pantry.

Virtual Dementia Experience

Senior Helpers and Second Wind Dreams will present a Virtual Dementia Tour at Redeemer on Thursday, November 16th between 10:30 AM and 12:30 PM. Open yourself to experiencing the world around you in a different way and gain a clearer perspective into the daily lives of those with dementia. This is your window to their world. To participate, sign the sheet on the welcome counter in the narthex for a 10-minute time slot.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We are looking for individuals that enjoy knitting or crocheting or sewing to help restart Redeemer's Prayer Shawl Ministry. If you are interested, please call Wendy Kitzman at 813-362-0783. Please leave a message with your name and number if she is not able to answer.

We will meet Fridays at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Please feel free to bring your yarn and crochet hooks or knitting needles. Blessings.



Electronics Recycling

WELCA is organizing a community wide electronics recycling event to be held in Redeemer's parking lot on Wednesday, November 29th from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Urban E-recycling will be on-site and accept the items listed below. If you have any of these items and no longer have use for them, this is your opportunity to safely and conveniently dispose of them. All hard drives will be shredded.



Items Accepted

Computers (Desktop/Tower)
Laptops
Hard Drives
All Circuit Boards
UPS Battrey Backups
LCD Monitors (Flat Screen only)
Printers
DVD Players
VCR's
Modems/Routers
Cable/Satellite Boxes
USB, Video, & Power Cords
Audio/Video Equipment
X-Ray Film
Cell Phones
Office Phones/Phone Systems
Insulated Cable/Wire
Video Games & Consoles
iPads/Tablets/E-Readers
Keyboards/Mice
Stereo Equipment

Items NOT Accepted

Lithium Ion Batteries
CRT Monitors
Televisions
Household Batteries
Glass Bulbs
Paint or Varnish
Large Home Appliances

Garage Space needed

We need someone to let us come over and use your available garage space or even space in your spare room. In previous years, congregation members volunteered a portion of their garage for our Rummage Sale storage. Garage space allows Redeemer to increase the amount of inventory available on sale days. If you are willing to help us, please contact Mary Ann Sigler by e-mail at masigler67@gmail.com or by phone at 614-313-8082.

Narthex Improvements

The fund raising team was looking and finally found some furniture to replace the folding tables in the narthex.



November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00 AM-Health Fair	2 5:30 PM-AA Group 6:30 PM-Choir Practice	3 9:30 AM-Quilters	4 9:00 AM-Arts & Crafts Fair
5 10:00 AM-Holy Communion Worship	6 10:30 AM-AI-Anon	7 10:30 AM-Barbershop Quartet 1:00 PM-Barbershop	8 11:00 AM-Veterans program WELCA 1:00 PM-Fundraising Meeting	9 9:00 AM Parish Nurse Mtg 5:30 PM-AA Group 6:30 PM-Choir Practice	10 9:30 AM-Quilters	11
12 10:00 AM-Worship	13 10:30 AM-AI-Anon	14 10:30 AM-Barbershop Quartet 1:00 PM-Barbershop 1:00 PM-Finance Team Mtg	15 7:00 PM-Riverside Juke Box Swing	16 10:30 AM-Virtual Dementia 5:30 PM-AA Group 6:30 PM-Choir Practice	17 9:30 AM-Quilters	18
19 10:00 AM-Holy Communion Worship	20 10:30 AM-AI-Anon 1:00 PM-Council Meeting Christmas Drop off begins	21 10:30 AM-Barbershop Quartet 1:00 PM-Barbershop	22 9:00 AM-Decorate for Christmas	23 Office closed	24 Office closed	25
26 10:00 AM-Worship 11:00 AM-BP Check	27 10:30 AM-AI-Anon 1:00 PM WELCA Board Mtg	28 10:30 AM-Barbershop Quartet 1:00 PM-Barbershop	29 10:00 AM-Electronics Recycling	30 5:30 PM-AA Group 6:30 PM-Choir Practice		

