

The Ringer

JULY 2021 NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 7



"Tamar...Rahab....Ruth...whose mother had been Uriah's wife...the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah." —Matthew 1

Happy July...and especially a relaxing Fourth of July weekend! We have much to celebrate this year as we find ourselves with some distance from, for many of us, what was a hard year. How will we in future look at this historical event? Facts will emerge that clear up some mysteries. Each of us will recall it in various ways. Perhaps our children or grandchildren or great grandchildren will ask "What was the pandemic like for you?" Later dissertations and books and documentaries and movies will be probably produced that evoke in us knowledge and perhaps dread or relief or awe that "Wow, we made it through that!" All this is a benefit to future generations, to perhaps meet their crisis or crises and muddle their way through.

The process of "making history" then is not just a process of triumph being spotlighted, but looking critically at the good and the bad and learning from both.

The Fourth of July is a celebration of a tenuous, risky proposition that in the beginning and much of the war was not a "done deal". We celebrate a day where our ideals were put forth, but it would take several years of hard fighting...much losing...much death...much division...much begging, before the Declaration of Independence became reality and the Constitution (our second attempt, remember) could be hammered out. It is important to learn the lessons of that war and not the fireworks and parades that celebrate the triumph. Again, it is hard to look critically at something all too often is seen as "a given" from 1776 onwards.

A strong people, though, do not shrink away from looking critically at themselves and their history. A people steeped in scripture do not either. Most of us quickly scan and rush through the first chapter of Matthew and this genealogy of Jesus, just as we do with the genealogies of the Old Testament. "Who cares?" is what I have often heard people say...including myself! But genealogies had a deep purpose for ancient peoples. It set them in the context of history and revealed the hand of God upon them. In Matthew we likewise see Jesus the Messiah being set in the history of his people. But the list has some noted "ahas", especially in regards to the few women revealed. When we look critically at these women they didn't just let history use them. Tamar would not let her father-in-law forget her and devised a way to make sure her two husbands would not die (Judah's sons) without an heir. Rahab the prostitute of Jericho lets the Israelite spies into the city and is thus rewarded. Ruth follows her mother-in-law home, "...Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God." And then continues her husband's lineage through Boaz. Uriah's wife, Bathsheba, is in all reality a victim beyond victim in the sins of the mighty king, David, and yet produces the great Solomon, who asks God not for riches and conquests, but a discerning heart to govern his people.

If we simply gloss over the rough patches and lift up only the triumphs we lose sight of the whole picture that helps a people weather the future rough patches. So this Fourth of July celebrate with gusto but also remember the costs, the mistakes, and the pain that our history bears with it. Learn it, teach it...and wisely bear it forward as well to the generations that will come after us so that they will more fully realize via God's grace "A more perfect union!"

**In Christ,
Pastor David**

Council News

Council Highlights for June

June 9, 2021 Meeting

*The dimensions of The Blessing Box were chosen and construction will begin

*Save the Date for Vacation Bible School - The Week of July 26th in the evenings

*Save the Date for God's Work Our Hands - September 12, 2021

*Confirmation for Talan Pickering will be October 24, 2021



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

Budget Information

Treasurer's Report for end of May

Total Income \$127,314.48

Budgeted Income for the year \$260,200

Total Expense \$122,317.30

Budgeted Expense for the year \$289,025

Mortgage Balance \$303,678.86



If you want Amazon Smile to donate to Redeemer Lutheran Church, you need to start each shopping session at the URL smile.amazon.com or with AmazonSmile turned ON in the Amazon Shopping app and we will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases. Visit **Your AmazonSmile Impact** to see donation information and learn more about your charity.

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Report on 2021 Central States Synod

On June 4 and 5, Lonnie Wahlgren and Tom Mertz attended the 2021 Synod Assembly of the Central States Synod of the ELCA. It was held entirely online through the modern magic of the Internet and Zoom.

The synod operates much like our congregation with the bishop, Synod Council, and Synod Assembly acting the roles of our pastor, congregation council, and annual congregation meeting, respectively. The Synod Assembly is the synod's highest legislative body of our synod. All voting members of congregations are eligible to serve on both the Synod Assembly and the Synod Council, so prayerfully consider running for such a position.

The theme of this year's assembly was "United with Christ in Baptism—One Body, Many Members," emphasizing our common baptism that binds us all together in Christ. Friday night began with a worship service led by Bishop Susan Candea, which included multicultural music selections and a reading from the book of Revelation Chapter 7 that describes:

"a great multitude... from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before [God's] throne."

Bishop Candea preached on the gospel lesson from Matthew Chapter 15 in which the Canaanite woman begs Jesus to heal her daughter. Jesus at first refuses, and then seeing the woman's great faith, grants her wish. The lesson for us in this modern age is that Jesus's healing and God's good news is for all people regardless of our race, ethnicity, or skin color.

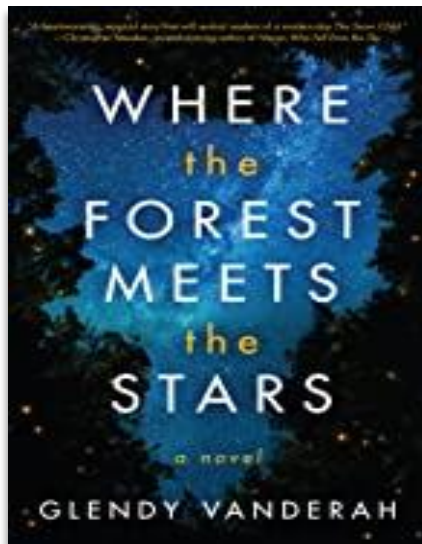
The worship service was followed by a keynote address by Judith Roberts, the Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for the ELCA. Her address built upon the bishop's sermon by explaining how racism operates in our society.

The Saturday session was a pretty dry business meeting. The highlights of business included the treasurer's report and the social resolutions. The treasurer noted that in year 2020, the contributions to the synod by individual synod churches increased from the previous year by 3% or \$48,000 dollars and the synod ended year 2020 with a healthy \$143,000 in the bank. Both of these were completely unexpected. The treasurer also introduced a helpful tool for the churches—a calculator that will help the Congregation Council to determine the proper compensation for the pastor.

Several social resolutions were discussed and passed at the Assembly. One encourages congregations to learn about the Earth Charter and consider joining it. Our Creation Care Team will tell us more about this during the coming year. A second resolution called for congregations to learn more about child abuse and child protection in preparation for a possible ELCA social statement on this issue. A third resolution called for congregations to inform themselves about racial justice and seeks ways to address it in our communities.



Redeemer News



Tuesday, July 20
Where the Forest Meets the Stars
By Glendy Vanderah
Leader: Lonnie Wahlgren
Host: Wahlgren Home

Pageeturners meets the
3rd Tuesday of the Month
at 4:00

Rejoicing Spirits July 10, 2021 at 11 a.m.
Rejoicing Spirits is an inclusive service for all abilities. Come join us and sing praises to the Lord, shake the music makers, enjoy special music, and build lasting friendships.



G.U.Y.S. (Gearing Up Your Spirit) is a group of men, Redeemer members and friends, who meet regularly for fellowship, food, and faith sharing. We're starting up regular face-to-face meetings after a 14-month COVID-19 hiatus. Please plan to join us for dinner on Tuesday, July 20 at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall of the church. Invite a friend. If you have any questions you may contact Tom Mertz by email (tom.mertz@sbcglobal.net) or phone (785-820-5585).

Summer news & info

ENDURE – getting s'more of Jesus
VBS is coming to Redeemer July 26 – 31. We will start around 5:15 with a simple meal and class activities will start at 6:00. The evening will include the lesson, songs, crafts, science and games. At this time, I have all the teachers and meal help but still am needing group leaders. Registration is open to all kids, ages 3 years old to having completed 5th grade. Call the church office at 827-8195 to register your child(ren), grandchild(ren), your child's friend or your neighbor's kids.

I do have some supplies that you can help us with – clean empty soup cans and empty 2-liter pop bottles. These could be brought to the church any time. We also need giant Frisbees, pool noodles, beach balls, inflatable pool rings and an outdoor Ker-Plunk game. If you have any of these items just let Mary Mertz or Debbie Beckman know and you can bring them the week of VBS. You will get these back as they are just needed for the games we play.



How
does
your
Garden
grow?

Tom Mertz with his thriving raised garden. The tall plant in the middle is a tomato. There is celery in front of the tomato and a pepper at the back left. In the corners are marigolds to discourage the bunnies.



Bumblebee in Mary Shaffer's garden.



Lee Smith's zucchini in her garden plot at the Salina Food Bank

Creation Care Team news



Greetings from the Creation Care Team!

Over the Pandemic lockdown, my family and I started what looks to have the potential for a family tradition – picking mulberries! One of our local parks has lots of mulberry trees that provided a free, fun, sustainable desert. Below is a link to a recipe for mulberry cobbler that the boys loved with some vanilla ice cream on top!

-The English Family

<http://southernforager.blogspot.com/2013/05/totally-awesome-mulberry-cobbler.html>

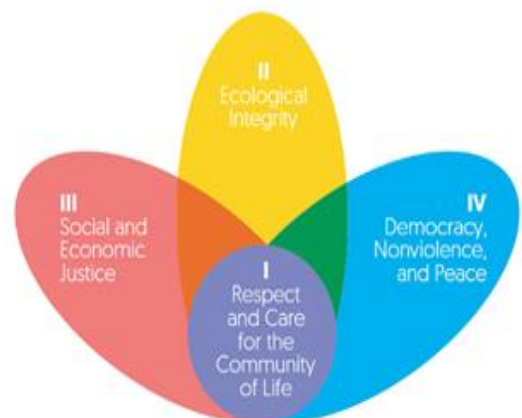
The Central States Synod at its recent Assembly passed the resolution, “Embracing the Earth Charter,” in response to the action of the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly that endorsed the international Earth Charter.

Redeemer’s Creation Care Team will provide opportunities to fulfill the resolution that calls on congregations to:

- * become acquainted with the Earth Charter and its principles
- * consider joining the Earth Charter implementation initiative in our Synod
- * prayerfully consider what actions to take to become better stewards of Creation
- * and partner and communicate with the CSS Earth Charter Leadership Team, CSS Earth Charter congregations and ministry sites, and Lutherans Restoring Creation Mission Table to implement actions on behalf of God’s Creation, and present and future generations.

The Earth Charter articulates the values and principles for achieving sustainable development and for demonstrating a mindset of global interdependence and shared responsibility, while offering a vision of hope and a call to action. The Earth Charter consists of a preamble, four pillars (Pillar 1- Respect and Care for the Community of Life, Pillar 2 - Ecological Integrity, Pillar 3 - Social and Economic Justice, and Pillar 4- Democracy, Nonviolence, and Peace), 16 principles and a way forward

In the fall of 2020, the Central States Synod applied for and received a SOLI Grant (Stewardship of Life Institute at United Lutheran Seminary) to join with Metro NY, Delaware/Maryland, and New England Synods of the ELCA to implement the Earth Charter in our synods as a model for the ELCA. A CSS Earth Charter Leadership Team is in place, and congregations and ministry sites are already at work to implement principles of the Pillars into the life and ministry of our Synod and the ELCA. For more information about the Earth Charter and the work of our four Synods, go to <https://lutherans-embracing-the-earth-charter.webflow.io/>



Lectionary for July

July 4 — 6th Sunday after Pentecost

[Ezekiel 2:1-5](#)

[Psalm 123:2](#)

[2 Corinthians 12:2-10](#)

[Mark 6:1-13](#)

¹[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

July 11 — 7th Sunday after Pentecost

[Amon 7:7-15](#)

[Psalm 85:8-13](#)

[Ephesians 1:3-14](#)

[Mark 6:14-29](#)

¹⁴King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him."



¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.



Lectionary for July cont'd

July 18 — 8th Sunday after Pentecost

[Jeremiah 23:1-6](#)

[Psalm 23:1](#)

[Ephesians 2:11-22](#)

[Mark 6:30-34, 53-56](#)

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. ⁵⁴When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, ⁵⁵and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.



July 25 — 9th Sunday after Pentecost

[2 Kings 4:42-44](#)

[Psalm 145:10-18](#)

[Ephesians 3:14-21](#)

[John 6:1-21](#)

¹Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" ¹⁰Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

¹⁵When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁶When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." ²¹Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.



Partners in Ministry

ALTAR GUILD: Carol Keeler & Janet Whitaker
PARTNERS IN MINISTRY 9:30 SERVICE

	4	11	18	25
Greeters	Diane Conover & Cheryl Itschner	Wayne & Carol Keeler	Rod & Rosemary Anderson	Gary & Sue Mettlen
Ushers	Phil & Jean Sedo	Ted & Barbara Wire	Rick & Betty Henderson	Ray & Debbie Beckman
Lector	Joe Heinrich	Ted Wire	Jan Jackson	Denise Dusin
Communion	Kathy Heinrich	Wayne Keeler	Rod Anderson	Debbie Beckman
Sound	Nate Callahan	Perry Jurgensen	Britney English	Kris Neff
Fellowship	Heinrichs	Johansons	Beckmans	Callahans

If you have information that Pastor David or Becky need to know, please record it in the notebook on the Welcome Center counter when you are here at Redeemer. It's often difficult to remember when you tell us something in passing. Becky checks it every Monday morning. Please help us do a better job for you!



If you enjoy working with children, Godly Play needs you! Teaching positions are available. Call Carol Keeler at 785-493-5485 or Debbie Beckman at 785-452-5662 or Sandi Drown at 785-452-2417.

Vacation time! I will be out of the office Thursday, July 1 through Wednesday, July 7. Thanking you in advance for your patience while I am away. Please pray that we have a safe trip to Texas and back.

Thank you,
Becky



The family and I are going to Cleveland to visit with Ben. We will be gone July 2-8. The office will remain open, but only 9 am to 12 pm. Tom Mertz will be leading worship on Sunday. Jim Strasen will be available should you need him. You may reach him at home 785-404-2155 or his cell 620-282-3926.

Thanks,
Pastor David



Redeemer Celebrations







- 11 Dan & Ann Metcalfe
- 16 Douglas & Amy Leavy
- 17 Rodney & CeCelia Anderson
- 31 Tom & Mary Mertz



- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 KC Potter | 18 Rylee Koers |
| 1 Andrea Pickering | 18 Harper Nuss |
| 3 Dan Gill | 21 Derrick Dusin |
| 9 Luke Augustine | 21 Dustin Dusin |
| 11 Brittni Wells | 22 Ryne Callahan |
| 11 Jim Boyd | 23 Deniece Roth |
| 12 Susan Ramage | 24 Kyle Tonniges |
| 15 Leo Bell | 25 Nick Shaffer |
| 15 Hunter Alstatt | 25 Stuart Gronewoller |
| 16 Kathleen Heinrich | 29 Sophie Bell |
| 16 Jordan Itschner | 31 Chad Curl |

Content of the Ringer depends on you, the members of this church, for articles, photos, important dates, etc. *The August newsletter deadline is July 26th at 12:00 pm.* Information turned in after this date might not be included. The newsletter is available by email, mail or at the church.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9:30 In-Person Worship 1030 Fellowship	5  OFFICE CLOSED	6 515 Education 545 Worship & Music	7 900 Bible Study	8 700 Council Meeting 	9	10  1100 Rejoicing Spirits In Person
11 9:30 In-Person Worship 1030 Fellowship	12	13	14 900 Bible Study	15 930 Silver Needles Sew-In	16 130 Healing Hope	17 800 Baby Shower
18 9:30 In-Person Worship 1030 Fellowship	19 600 Silver Needles	20 400 Page Turners 630 GUYS	21 900 Bible Study	22	23	24
25 9:30 In-Person Worship 1030 Fellowship	26 1200 Newsletter Deadline	27	28 900 Bible Study	29	30	31
		 for worship services always available!				

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

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redeemer@redeemer-elca.org

Phone: 785-827-8195 ext. 101
Office Hours: 9:00-2:00 Monday-Friday
Becky Shulda, Administrative Assistant



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



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



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's Work. Our Hands.



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Weekly Church Events

Sunday Worship

9:30 Worship

Wednesday morning

9:00 Bible Study

Organist: Ruth Mirtz

Choir Director: Ann Metcalfe

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

2021 Council

Alan English, President 643-4078

Kris Neff, Vice President 404-7991

Kris Johanson, Secretary 402-759-2255

Ray Beckman 825-6551

Jody Biegert 819-4479

Charlotte Herrman 643-9445

Dan Metcalfe 342-9513

KC Potter 456-4322

Jean Sedo 404-6222

Treasurer: Jan Jackson

Financial Secretaries: Mike Ramage and Joe Plumer