

May 2019

Redeeming Words

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May Calendar

Join us for Coffee and Conversation each Sunday at 11:15 following the serve (unless otherwise noted).

- May 1** Bible Study 7:30 pm
- May 2** North Shore Ecumenical Committee, First Christ Reformed, 7:30 pm
- May 4** Spring Cleaning 8:30 am
- May 5** Worship 10:00 am
Shoah Commemoration, Christ Cathedral, Montreal 2:00/4:00 pm
- May 7** Mutual Ministry Committee 7:30 pm
- May 8** Bible Study 7:30 pm
- May 12** Worship 10:00 am
Sunday School 10:00 am
- May 14** Healthy Boundaries Workshop, Ottawa 10:00 am
- May 15** Bible Study 7:30 pm
- May 19** Worship 10:00 am
- May 21** Congregational Council 7:30 pm
- May 22** Seniors' Worship 2:00 pm
Bible Study 7:30 pm
- May 26** Worship 10:00 am
Sunday School 10:00 am
- May 28** Anglican Clericus 9:30 am

Paul's Letter to the Romans

The winter Bible Study, which was cancelled due to several snow storms, will conclude in May. On the Wednesday evenings of the month, from 7:30 until 9:00, we will examine Paul's letter to the congregation in Rome.

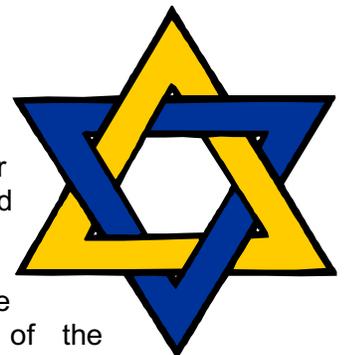
- May 1 Summary: The Problem of Sin, and the Solution of Christ - chapters 5-7
- May 8 Being In Christ - chapters 8-10
- May 15 Jews Too - chapter 11
- May 22 The Christian Life – chapters 12-16

Bring your Bible, and a friend.

The Shoah

For many years Christians and Jews in Montreal have met for discussion, fellowship and prayer. The Montreal Christian-Jewish

Dialogue invites you to the annual commemoration of the Shoah or Holocaust, which is to be held this year at Christ Anglican Cathedral on St. Catherine's Street, Sunday May 5. A panel discussion will be held at 2:00, and worship will start at 4:00. Everyone is welcome.



Spring Cleaning

Our Property Committee invites you to lend a hand on Saturday May 4, beginning at about 8:30, as we clean our building and grounds. There will be windows to wash, floors to clean, cobwebs to dust, litter to gather, etc., all to make our facility more attractive to worshippers and others guests. See Paul Rossi or Cliff Pachal.



Lent and Easter Thanks

Our thanks to all who provided assistance in worship and other events at Christ the Redeemer during Lent and Holy Week. These include musicians and singers, greeters, readers (including the Good Friday Passion and Vigil), Assistant Ministers, communion servers, the Altar Guild, flower donors, and Easter breakfast planners, cooks, servers and cleaners. Special thanks to Lee-Anne Grandsire, who repaired our white paraments (altar and lectern cloths).



Sisters Sanaa Essammah and Sophie Parsaram were Baptised during the Easter Vigil on April 20. Sanaa is the daughter of Mounir & Stephanie Duval, and Sophie is the daughter of Rory and Stephanie Duval, and the granddaughter of Edna Gunpat. We welcome the girls into the body of Christ!

Ladies' Lunch

The monthly gathering will be held at Aux Vieux Duluth on St. Jean in Dollard-des-Ormeaux on Wednesday May 8 at noon. It's a time for fellowship and a meal out, organised by Pat Pachal.

Some of the spouses/drivers also gather for lunch at the same time. Contact Cliff Pachal for the location.

Men's Breakfast

Men are invited to breakfast at the church on Saturday May 18; cooking at 8:30, meal at 9:15. Those who are able this month are also invited to work afterwards to disassemble the old daycare playground fence, posts and sand.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Pat Pachal	May 3
Simonne Kumar	May 5
Bradley Normandin	May 5
Domenic Raco	May 6
Telford Manroop	May 8
Olivia Raco	May 9
Waltraut Bedrossian	May 11
Dorothea Jonasch	May 15
Grace Saabas	May 17
Charlotte Corwin	May 20
Amanda Haarer	May 21
Nancy Pachal	May 21
Eric Nuss	May 23
Sasha Gunpat	May 28
Stephen Saabas	May 28
Jim Slack	May 28
Gloria Green	May 30



The Three Rs

The list I wish to reflect on is not the one you might recall from public school: Readin', 'Ritin' and 'Rithmatic.

I've got a religious list in mind: Reincarnation, Resuscitation and Resurrection.

Reincarnation refers to a belief that souls are immortal, and that they migrant from one living being which has died to another living being which is born. It is a view adopted by Hindus and Buddhists, who claim that the goodness of one's life determines whether the next life will be "higher" or "lower." If a sufficiently kind and enlightened life is achieved one may ascend from this cycle and enter Nirvana.

Resuscitation is the process of reviving a living creature from near-death, including artificial respiration, CPR and other procedures. It is not a religious belief, but successful resuscitations may be viewed by faithful people as a miracle, which creates or confirms faith. The new movie *Breakthrough* is the story of resuscitation which inspires faith.

Resurrection is the Christian belief that God raised Jesus to a new kind of life after his crucifixion, and that such new life is granted to those who trust him. It is at the heart of our Easter celebrations.

We believe that Jesus of Nazareth was/is fully human and divine; that his life was unique. The ancient creeds struggle to explain his relationship with God the Father by saying that he was "begotten, not made." After his rising he remained on earth for a while, but then ascended to "the right hand of God."

Which means followers of Jesus do not believe that he was or that we will be reincarnated. We accept the reality and inevitability of death, as painful as it might be. But it's no longer the end.

We reject the view, held by a few, that Jesus was *almost* dead when he was removed from the cross, and then resuscitated by his friends. And the belief that a resuscitated Jesus is the focus of our devotion.

With love and power far beyond our imagination we hold that God took the old Jesus – the one who lived in Palestine 2000 years ago – and transformed him. There is something of the Jesus revealed to the first disciples still present in him, but also much more. As a divine being he is no longer subject to hunger, fatigue or death. And in the world, today, he appears in new ways, wherever suffering and healing, sorrow and joy, judgement and grace exist, not as one reincarnated or resuscitated, but as one resurrected from the dead. Sometimes even revealed through you and me, or those whom we meet and serve.

In Christ, Pastor Jim Slack



LARAM

In April the Lutheran Anglican Refugee Alliance of Montreal received news from our partner, Action Refugies Montréal, that the family we hoped to sponsor had not been approved by several governmental offices. Consultation with the six member-organisations of LARAM led us to decide not to spend at least \$4000 filing an appeal for this decision, based in part because we do not have sufficient information about the basis for this rejection, and because the likelihood of success in reversing it is in doubt. It is a heart-wrenching end to this sponsorship.

You'll recall that Isaac and Godelive and their children (including a newborn) had moved to Cameroon during the Rwandan genocide. They feared returning home, based on simmering tensions between rival groups in their homeland. Please continue to pray for them and others in their predicament.

LARAM will meet with a representative of ARM this spring, and then decide how we might continue to care for some of the world's 70 million refugees. Ingrid Gust and Pastor Jim would be pleased to hear your suggestions.



In May, the Outreach Committee invites you to a support a variety of projects sponsored by Dans La Rue, through a special offering. Projects include the Night Van for street youth, an emergency shelter and a daycare. Use the paper flowers on the hallway table to make your gift before the end of the month.

Plastic Milk Bags

If you purchase milk in the four-litre plastic bags please save the outer bag, and bring them to the church. There will be a collection bag in the Outreach corner. They will, in turn, be passed along to Lachine's Summerlea United Church. Their members weave them into waterproof mats for those who live on the streets of Montreal.

Katie's Tabs

Please bring aluminum pull-tabs from beverage cans, and put them in jar on the Outreach table. Kaitlyn Grandsire is saving them as part of 4H project.

LAMP

The offering at the Easter Breakfast was \$470. Thanks to all of our donors!

Council decided to round it up to \$500. In doing so, it qualifies for a matching grant, in support of the Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots.

LAMP provides fly-in pastoral support and Christian education for people in the northern regions of Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Visit their website @ www.lampministry.org



I Care Campaign

For several decades, grain farmers, as members of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, have donated a portion of their annual crops to feeding those who are hungry. They have recently launched a postcard campaign to encourage the government of Canada to increase its untied aid to the poorest countries in the world. Pick up a card on the greeters' table.

Local Concerts

Les Saisons – West Island Youth Symphony Orchestra, Salle Oscar Peterson. 7141 Sherbrooke O., May 12 3:00 pm
Adults \$25 Seniors/Students \$15 Under 12 \$5

Musical Postcards – Lakeshore Concert Band, Lindsay Place High School, 111 Broadview, Pointe-Claire, May 29 7:30 pm
Adults \$25 Seniors/Students \$20

Lutherlyn Camp and Conference Centre

The Management Board of Lutherlyn is hoping that someone in our congregation would be able to serve as a local representative. They receive news about programs and projects, and encourage support from the members of Christ the Redeemer. See Pastor Jim if you're interested.

Brochures and registration forms for the 2019 camping season should soon be available.



Maternal Health

The Anglican Primate's Relief and Development Fund Anglican has teamed up with the MUHC to raise awareness and funds for maternal health in Montreal and East Africa. An event will be held at the Glen Site on Wednesday May 15, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. The \$20 tickets include free parking and refreshments. Additional gifts will be receipted.

Contact veronique.salibur@muhc.mcgill.ca or call 514-843-1543 ext 35756.

Lessons

Easter 3 May 5

Acts 9:1-6, Psalm 30,
Revelation 5:11-14, John 21:1-19

Easter 4 May 12

Acts 9:36-43, Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17, John 10:22-30

Easter 5 May 19

Acts 11:1-18, Psalm 148,
Revelation 21:1-6, John 13:31-35

Easter 6 May 26

Acts 16:9-15, Psalm 67,
Revelation 21:10, 22 – 22:5, John 5:1-9

Readers/lectors may request advance copies of the weekly worship bulleting, including the lessons. See Pastor Jim.



Free Devotional Booklets

Quarterly booklets of daily Bible readings and brief reflections are available on the greeters' table. **Eternity for Today** is published by the ELCIC, and often features messages from lay or clergy from the Eastern Synod. **Our Daily Bread** is provided through the generosity of one of our members, and is published for a variety of denominations.

Bulletin Photos

Your photos for the bulletin would be appreciated:

May 12 Healing, tear, sheep, shepherd

May 19 Jerusalem, animals, Alpha & Omega, love

May 26 Purple cloth, crutches, street/homeless person

June 2 Jail, Jesus, unity, praying hands

New Editor

After several months of service from her home in Winnipeg our editor, Debbie Ristmaki, has asked to be relieved. We offer her our thanks!

So now we're seeking a new editor/compiler. The task requires several hours of layout, research, writing, proofreading and publishing each month. Contact Pastor Jim for a job description.

Oberammergau 2020

Is anyone interested in attending the Passion Play which will be held in Oberammergau, Germany in 2020?

In 1633, while the Black Death was sweeping Europe, the citizens of the village vowed to hold such a performance if they were spared from the plague. They were, and they did.

The event is held every ten years, staged and acted by members of the community, with some of the parts passed from one family member to their children.



Eastern Synod Newsletter

The synod's free newsletter is going virtual. The April 2019 issue includes an Easter message from Bishop Pryse, notice of events at Martin Luther University College, and a schedule of up-coming events. Visit: https://www.easternsynod.org/sites/default/files/content/enews_apr.pdf

Pastor Jim also puts one paper version on the greeter's table for those without an internet connection.

Quebec Bill 21

The province's proposal to ban religious symbols and clothing for some public servants has been opposed by several religious communities, including the Montreal Lutheran Council and the Anglican Diocese of Montreal, believing that it interferes with the principle of religious freedom and that it will undermine tolerance and mutual respect among the citizens of Quebec. See details on the pastor's bulletin board.