



October 2018

Redeeming Words

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Calendar

Join us for coffee and conversation each Sunday at 11:15 following the service (unless otherwise noted).

1-3	Pastor Jim at Deans' Meeting, Mississauga	
7	Worship – Thanksgiving	10:00 am
	Sunday School	10:00 am
10	New Members' Class	7:30 pm
14	Worship – Pentecost 21	10:00 am
16	Congregational Council	7:30 pm
17	New Members' Class	7:30 pm
18	LARAM, St. Michael's	7:30 pm
20	Men's Breakfast	8:30/9:15 am
21	Worship – Pentecost 22	10:00 am
	Sunday School	10:00 am
24	New Members' Class	7:30 pm
28	Worship – Reformation	10:00 am
30	New Members' Class	7:30 pm

OutReach

You may notice 'paper ladies' on the OutReach table and that is because our focus for September and October is Women on the Rise - a community organization whose mission is to help mothers to help themselves. They offer a number of programs geared to low income, single mothers with children under 5. You can make a difference by picking up a 'paper lady' and returning it along with your gift.

Holden Evening Prayer

The Forum for Interfaith Dialogue of the Canadian Council of Churches will meet October 12-13 at Villa St. Martin (Gouin West at highway 13), and have asked Pastor Jim to lead worship on Saturday evening. He's chosen an abbreviated form of Holden Evening Prayer, which we follow in the mid-week service in Lent with the Anglicans. Are any musicians able to join him?

A piggy-backed event of the Faith and Witness Commission will be held at CTR Monday October 15, also using Holden Evening Prayer at 7:30 pm.

Thanksgiving Service

Our Thanksgiving service includes a display of harvest gifts. If you would like to contribute, your gifts of fruits and/or vegetables can be dropped off Saturday October 6th.

We would also ask that you consider bringing a non-perishable item for the local food bank.



Reformation

Consider wearing red on Oct 28 as we honour the Birthday of Lutheranism, and the Protestant Reformation



Oktoberfest

We'll soon start planning the annual celebration, which will be held on Saturday October 27, with sausages, sauerkraut, salads and desserts being served from 5:30 until 7:00 pm. The cost is \$15 per adult, \$10 for teens, \$5 for children 12 and under.

Contact Brandon Normandin to offer your assistance in planning, preparing food, setting-up, serving, or cleaning.



Congregational Council

Eight members of Council and the pastor met on September 18.

Pastor Jim submitted forms confirming a “clean” report from his background checks (criminal, child abuse), as part of his new employment agreement.

The Worship and Music Committee will soon introduce a Hymn of the Month, and is shopping for a new Easter banner.

The Property Committee shared comments from a recent inspection from the insurance company. We also examined the first draft of an agreement to share space with St. Barnabas while the old building is demolished and a new one is constructed in 2019.

Other committee reports are featured in newsletter articles and announcements.

Peace in the Holy Land

On the 24th of each month, you are invited to pray for the Christian communities in Palestine and Israel, for all those who are suffering in the Holy Land, for Palestinians and Israelis, and for peace in the Middle East and the world.

Hymn of the Month

Musicians, readers, actors, and others interested in helping - join us after worship on October 21 as we practice new songs for our alternate/contemporary worship service planned for the following week (October 28).

From the desk of Pastor Jim...

Abundance

In the course of my rounds I caught part of a radio broadcast in which a young author from the United States was making the case for an alternate, sustainable economic model. Capitalism creates a few winners and lots of losers. Bit by bit, just like a game of Monopoly, more and more cash ends up in the hands of fewer and fewer players. In its place he proposes cooperatives, where workers become owners of business and industry, leading to a more even distribution of wealth.

No doubt he will be called a socialist by his opponents, including those who would have the most to lose in such a redistribution of resources. And for some that label is reason enough to dismiss him.

Our support for either the *status quo* or a cooperative economy depends on whether we believe we have been blessed by an abundance of resources (which prompts gratitude), or if we imagine we are struggling with a scarcity of resources (which fuels rivalry).

If we believe that all of us, together, have enough to live, we may dare to pool our wealth and share it based on need. Which is what the early Church in Jerusalem did, according to Acts 4.

If we believe there is not enough for us all we will regard others as competitors, and justify the steps we take to gain more for ourselves at the expense of others. Which makes it hard for us to ever be satisfied with what we have, but to always crave more. And more.

In the old green worship book (Lutheran Book of Worship) there was a prayer that was seldom used in our congregations. It is titled Dangers of Abundance.

O God, in your love you have given us gifts which our forebears neither knew nor dreamed of. Mercifully grant that we may not be so occupied with material things that we forget the things which are spiritual and thus, even though we have gained the whole world, lose our souls; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Are we able to distinguish between what we need and what we want, especially with the poor in our communities and around the world in mind? Can we feel the Spirit's tug to be more generous and thankful?

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Jim Slack

2018 - 2019 Worship Bulletins

Beginning in the fall of 2018, at the start of the new Church Year, we hope to produce our own bulletin series, relying on photographs from our members.

Please submit photos that may complement the weekly readings for Year C - they can be found at the front of the red worship book. Send digital images to Pastor Jim.

ctrpastor@videotron.ca



Eastern Synod Assembly

Several reports from the June Assembly have been posted on the bulletin board, and a thorough summary is also available at:

http://www.easternsynod.org/sites/default/files/content/assembly_edition_2018.pdf

Re-elected to serve as our synod executive until 2024: Bishop Michael Pryse, Vice-Chair Laurie Knott, Secretary Wendell Grahlman, and treasurer Keith Myra.

Ingrid Sladeczek (from St. John's) and Pastor Jim were elected to attend the ELCIC convention next summer.

More than a dozen motions were adopted, including support for the LGBTQ1A+ community, reducing our dependence on fossil fuel, renaming Waterloo Lutheran Seminary, and Selling camp Edgewood.

A highlight of the gathering was an exercise which illustrated the privilege that white people enjoy in our society, which causes us to be blind to racial and ethnic discrimination.

Eternity for Today

The October - December booklet is now available for pick-up.

Peaceful Neighbor: Discovering the Countercultural Mister Rogers

Pastor Jim has received an extra copy of the book by Michael G. Long, a teacher at Lebanon Valley College. And, he's happy to give it to the first person who asks for it.

Eastern Synod Lutheran

The latest edition of the Eastern Synod's newsletter is available by following this link:

www.easternsynod.org/content/tesl-june-2018

Canada Lutheran Renewals

Interested in subscribing to the magazine of the ELCIC? Watch for the bulletin insert in October. The annual subscription rate is \$19.11(inc. tax). It is published 8 times/year.

Birthday Notes

Our thanks to *Elizabeth Ticknor*, who sent birthday greetings to our members on behalf of the congregation for the last several years! She is retiring from this ministry, and we're looking for someone to take up this task, as soon as possible. The office will provide a name, address and birthday list, as well as cards, envelopes and postage. 30-60 minutes per week is required. Contact Pastor Jim at your earliest convenience.

Martin Luther University College

After a year of renovations and updates to the building in Waterloo ON our seminary – now called Martin Luther University College – has welcomed almost 200 students, including 10 in the Master of Divinity Program, 12 in M. Div. and another degree, and 41 in Ph. D studies.

New Member

On September 9 Petra Alves transferred her membership from Good Shepherd in St. Lambert. She is married to Darcy Noonan and the mother of young son Grayson. Welcome Petra!

Confirmation Class

Call or e-mail Pastor Jim or keep an eye on the Sunday worship bulletin to make note of the time and date for our teen classes this fall and winter. We'll make our way through the whole Bible.

Sunday School

Vicki Valois will once again be teaching Sunday School using the Holey Moley curriculum which features some of the key stories in the old Testament. Bi-monthly classes are scheduled for October 7th and 21st.

Please consider helping and/or teaching.

New Members' Class

Members, Lutherans from other congregations, Christians from other denominations, those who practice other faiths, and those who have no religious background are invited to attend our fall classes. Confirm your attendance with Pastor Jim.

October 10	The Bible
October 17	Luther and the Reformation
October 24	Law and Gospel
October 30	God: Father, Son, Holy Spirit
November 7	Sacraments of Baptism and Communion
November 14	Spiritual Gifts
November 21	Students' Choice

All sessions will begin at 7:30 and conclude at about 9:00 pm. Bring your Bible and questions.

Lessons

October 7 Thanksgiving

Joel 2:21-11, Psalm 126,
1 Timothy 2:1-7, Matthew 6:25-33

October 14 Pentecost 21

Job 23:1-9, 16-17, Psalm 22:1-15,
Hebrews 4:12-16, Mark 10:17-31

October 21 Pentecost 22

Job 38:1-7, Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b,
Hebrews 5:1-10, Mark 10:35-45

October 28 Reformation

Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 46,
Romans 3:19-28, John 8:31-36

News from St. John's Lutheran

A free concert is planned for Friday October 5 at 6:00 pm, featuring a top-notch orchestra and choir from Germany. It will be followed by a fund-raising supper at 7:00 pm. Contact St. John's for more information and tickets.

Fall Retreat

Sixteen members of the congregation, including our host Don Badke, gathered at the JB Ski Club in Mont Tremblant September 21-23. In studies and worship, adults and teens explored the theme *Glorious Whisper*, which invited us to consider a variety of ways in which God speaks to us. We also enjoyed shared meals, conversation, and recreation in a beautiful setting. Our thanks to all planners and leaders. Look for a slide show on creation from the teens at worship this fall.



Stories to Tell

Do you have a story to tell about the work being done in and around Christ the Redeemer? Why not consider sending it in, along with a photo, to communique@elcic.ca. You might see it in a future edition of the ecommunique of the ELCIC.

Of course, if you have a story that you'd like shared in Redeeming Words, please feel free to pass it on to Debbie (dristimaki@gmail.com)