

October 2019

# Redeeming Words

57 Westpark Blvd., Dollard-Des-Ormeaux, QC H9A 2J8  
ctrlutheran@videotron.ca • 514-684-1014  
Pastor Jim Slack • ctrpastor@videotron.ca  
www.christ-redeemer.com



## Calendar

<b>October 3</b>	Christian Unity Fellowship	7:30 pm
<b>October 4-6</b>	Fall Retreat, Mont Tremblant	
<b>October 7-9</b>	Deans' Meeting, Mississauga	
<b>October 12</b>	Confirmation Class	1:00 pm
<b>October 13</b>	Worship - Thanksgiving	10:00 am
	Sunday School	10:00 am
	Coffee & Conversation	11:15 am
<b>October 15</b>	Bible Study – Matthew	7:00 pm
<b>October 16</b>	Seniors' Worship	2:00 pm
<b>October 17</b>	Congregational Council	7:30 pm
<b>October 19</b>	Men's Breakfast	8:30/9:15 pm
<b>October 20</b>	Worship	10:00 am
	Coffee & Conversation	11:15 am
	Holly's Trip to Fiji	
<b>October 22</b>	Bible Study – Matthew	7:00 pm
<b>October 26</b>	Confirmation Field Trip	1:00 pm
	Oktoberfest	5:30 pm
<b>October 27</b>	Worship - Reformation	10:00 am
	Sunday School	10:00 am
	Coffee & Conversation	11:15 am
<b>October 29</b>	Bible Study – Matthew	7:00 pm

## Oktoberfest

The world-famous Bavarian holiday is really a thanksgiving event. In the fall hops, barley and wheat are among the crops that allow for the brewing of beer. Along with sausages, sauerkraut and pretzels we have the makings of a festive meal.

Our annual meal will be held on Saturday October 26, beginning at 5:30. Adults \$15, teens \$10, children \$5. Bring your favourite beverage.

Look for the sign-up sheet soon. Offer to help us by making potato salad or dessert, setting up, serving food, or washing dishes. See Gilles Labrie to offer a helping hand.



## Thanksgiving

Since ancient times societies have expressed joy and gratitude for their sources of food. Seaside communities bless the fleet at the start of the fishing season, and hold feasts when the catch has been good. Wine makers have parties in which guests harvest and stomp grapes, before enjoying a glass of the previous year's vintage. Grain farmers once gathered in the sheaves of wheat.

The Indigenous peoples of Canada developed thanksgiving rituals, as game and various foods were harvested. And the first European settlers regularly paused in the fall, to give thanks to God as crops were stored for the winter.

It was in 1957 that the Parliament of Canada, with the assent of the Governor General, set aside the second Monday on October as a national holiday.

As we worship on October 13 you are invited to bring non-perishable food items, that we will give to the Roxboro Food Bank, as a way to express gratitude to God for the food which sustains us.



## Reformation

On 31 October 1517 a Roman Catholic priest and professor, by the name of Martin Luther, posted a list of ninety-five scholarly complaints about the sale of indulgences and the display of relics. His list was soon translated from Latin into German and other languages, and thanks to the Gutenberg printing press it was distributed across Europe.

Luther's protest against the church of his day led to his excommunication and the birth of our denomination.

On October 27 Luther's emphasis on the graciousness of God will be the theme in worship. We will thank our Redeemer for the on-going reformation of our faith and obedience. Wear red, to bear witness to the movement of the Holy Spirit.

## Fall Retreat: Bedrock of Faith

The annual retreat will be held at the J B Ski Club in Mont Tremblant October 4-6. We will begin to gather after supper of Friday evening, and continue until after lunch on Sunday. Together participants will worship, eat, study and have fun. It's a great way to get to know others better.

The theme this year is *Bedrock of Faith*. We'll consider what faith is, how it is nurtured, how it is tested, and what we can do for one another when faith has ebbed. We might also learn how to quilt.

Registration forms are available at the church. Adults \$95, teens \$50, children \$30, and families \$240. Look for a map soon.



## October Birthdays

Jason Grandsire	7 October
Debbie Ristimaki	11 October
Stephane Valois	14 October
Marcello Catalfamo	15 October
Thomas Laurin	16 October
Roger Skira	18 October
Stephanie Gundlach	22 October
Shelyeka Joseph	22 October
Dirk Kuppens	26 October
Nicolas Bach	28 October
Mallorie Bach	29 October
Kayla Chevalier	29 October
Marc Gunpat	29 October
Mary-Ann Manroop	30 October

## Bulletin Photos

Please submit photos for the Sunday worship bulletin:

October 13	Farm Produce, Bread
October 20	Gavel, Courthouse, Arm Wrestling
October 27	Luther, Bible, Luther's Seal
November 3	Baptism, Congregation, Candles
November 10	Cemetery, Celtic Cross, Resurrection
November 17	Temple, Handcuffs, Courthouse
November 24	Crown, Throne, Castle

Send electronic photo files to Pastor Jim.

## In Gratitude's Wake

Research has demonstrated that people who have adopted an "attitude of gratitude" are happier, healthier, and live longer.

Like the ripples that are created by ships moving through water, being grateful makes waves in our lives. Let me comment on four of them:

Thankful people enjoy a sense of wonder. When they truly appreciate something, and begin to notice other gifts that have been set before them, they are awe-struck. Without needing to be told they pause before a beautiful sunset, a delicious piece of fruit, a kind word, or a stirring piece of music. These men, women and children of faith are silenced and calmed in the presence of God.

Grateful people are also humble, because many of the things they are thankful for have come unbidden and unexpected. While we sometimes reap the rewards of our own labour many of the things we appreciate have come to us as the result of the kindness of others, and of our Maker. We are loved, quite often apart from our deserving. Not long before his death Martin Luther wrote "we are all beggars" before God.

Those who experience gratitude also learn to value their relationship with other people. They see that we are connected to one another, to creation, and to God in the web of life. We do not pull ourselves up by our own bootstraps, competing with others, but rely upon them as sisters and brothers. The followers of Christ do not live in isolation.

And thankful people are generous. They give as freely as they have received, not needing to keep score and to demand repayment. The gifts they have received are not regarded as personal possessions, but as blessings to be shared. And they are often contented with what they have, rather than longing for something else.

So when you pause to give thanks in worship or at the dinner table, consider the wonder, humility, community and generosity that come in its wake. And let them wash over and within you.

In Christ,  
Pastor Jim Slack

## Newsletter Editor

We're still seeking an editor/compiler of this monthly newsletter. The task requires several hours of layout, research, writing, proofreading and publishing each month. Contact Pastor Jim for a job description.



## **LARAM**

The Lutheran-Anglican Refugee Alliance of Montreal will be winding up its operation this fall. The family we had applied to support was denied entrance to Canada. So used furniture was delivered to another needy family. And funds are being dispersed to other refugee support groups in Montreal. (Keep your eyes on the Sunday bulletin this month.) A \$500 gift will also be made to the original applicant family, for school fees in Cameroon this year.

## **Johnson Succession**

Eric Johnson named Christ the Redeemer as the primary beneficiary of his will. Pastor Jim is serving as the liquidator.

His house was emptied over the summer, and was sold in mid-September for \$315K. Our thanks to several members of the congregation.

Investments are being migrated to a trust account that has been established with the professional guidance of RBC Wealth Management.

A car and other household effects and yard equipment are in the process of being sold.

The succession will be closed after 2019 income taxes have been submitted.

A memorial service for Mr. Johnson will be scheduled this fall.

Council expects to facilitate a discussion about the way such funds might be invested or spent, especially for new and creative ministries.



## **All Saints' Names**

Look for a bulletin insert in October, allowing you to identify persons to be remembered in worship on All Saints Sunday, November 3. Our prayers will be accompanied by candles and bells.

Please return the form on the offering plate by October 27

## **Outreach**

The Outreach Committee invite special offering in October to support the Chez Doris women's centre. Look for a display in the hallway.

## **Mission in Fiji**

Holly Haarer has returned from her trip to Fiji, and will show and tell us about her work there after worship on October 20. Holly received a grant from CTR.



## **Wonderlove Tour**

First Christian Reformed Church (Allie at Joseph Paiment) invites you to a concert of contemporary Christian music featuring Jeremy Benjamin. The event will be held on Sunday October 6 at 6:00 pm. Adults \$10, Teens \$5, Children Free.

## **Sunday School**

Sunday School classes are held for children age 3 and older. Sessions, following the *Whirl* curriculum, will be offered on alternate Sunday mornings. The October 13 and 27 classes will examine several Old Testament stories through a DVD, crafts and other activities.

Sessions end in time for the students and teacher to rejoin us for Holy Communion.

## **Confirmation Class**

Five students are set to begin classes on October 12, including two from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in St. Lambert. This year we'll consider Martin Luther, the Reformation, and the Small Catechism. On October 26 the group will take a field trip to St. Joseph's Oratory. It's not too late for others to join the group. Contact Pastor Jim.

## **Bible Study - Matthew**

The fall's Bible study will be an introduction to the Gospel of Luke, offered via the internet by the Rev. Dr. Hilary Bogert-Winkler of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College (Anglican). The first of five sessions will be held Tuesday October 1 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Video lectures will include questions for discussion. Everyone is welcome to participate.