

The Redeemer Register



Strengthened in the Faith

MATTHEW LANGEBARTELS

Pastor

“So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.” Colossians 2:6-7.

Is Confirmation a graduation or a rite of passage? Sometimes it is viewed in one of those ways, but it's neither; the word itself means “strengthening.” That is what has happened for the new confirmands over the last two years - they have been strengthened in faith as they have studied God's word. After the Bible, the most important book we have is the Catechism. Six young men and women have completed their Catechism instruction and will be confirmed on May 20. It's exciting as a congregation to see those who have spent hours studying God's word and are willing to publicly confess their faith and make the promise to be faithful to God until death. May this remind you of when you were

confirmed all those years ago, and as you hear them make their confirmation vows, renew your vows.

But can even this blessing be turned into a crutch? Sadly, it can. “I learned all that already.” If faith were merely knowledge, that might be a true statement, but faith is knowledge, trust and assent or agreement; not just knowing what God says, but putting your trust in it. Sometimes it's the opposite - I believe, so. I don't need to keep listening to God in his word. Both are subtle ways of despising God's word. The old adage isn't just true of math or other subjects, but is true of Bible study as well; “If you don't use it, you lose it.” Confirmation is a good reminder to all of us to dust off our Catechisms and review the precious truths of God's word.

I am fairly confident Luther had the
article continues on page 2

President's Report

BOB BOSCHEE

President

It has been awhile since my last President's Report. One of the purposes of the President's Report in the newsletter is to provide a “State of the Congregation” update.

If the congregation and our ministry are to be evaluated on a statistical basis, the conclusion would be that all is well and the future is bright. Membership is increasing with new members being added regularly. Many visitors join us each week for our worship services. Worship and bible study attendance is looking good. Financially, envelope offerings have grown consistently over the past 5 years and there is money in the bank with revenues covering expenses. This would communicate a very positive report without a doubt.

However, the success and progress of our ministry is not evaluated on secular statistics or criteria. We are a congregation of God's people in a partnership of ministry and fellowship. I was reading the epistle to the Philippians in the People's Bible and was struck by the apostle Paul's prayer for the Philippian congregation in chapter 1, verse 4-5: “In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.”

Paul had a special loving relationship with the Philippian congregation who had faithfully supported him during and after his time as their pastor and even now as he was in prison
article continues on page 4

Board of Elders

The board of elders is charged with the spiritual oversight of every Redeemer member. They plan and schedule all Bible study and worship opportunities and monitor participation. They follow up on straying members with personal visitation. They tend to the sick and shut-in as well as providing for the needy. They also make plans for volunteerism and oversee the stewardship affairs of the congregation, including the management of our endowment fund.

Since the beginning of the year, the elders established a ministry plan for the Church Council and prioritized their goals. They have contracted with the Tredo Group, a design firm who will work with congregational leaders to provide a chapel interior renovation together with campus site planning. They've also begun a Care Committee for Called Workers, a team of people who will visit with our called staff and provide an avenue of support through advocacy. They are considering making use of offering contributions via text message. They welcomed ALA, Branches Band, Chris Dreisbach, Charles Bonow, and Koine to various performances this winter. Currently, they are considering various replacement options for our choral and instrumental music department.

Elders are also responsible for pastoral staffing and accountability. Significant time was spent this spring in discussion of our pastoral support. Some consideration was given to calling a third, full time pastor to minister to our seniors. Rather than recommend that option, the elders instead suggested we repurpose Pastor

Langebartels' call to be full-time to the parish. Previously, he was considered 3/4 time school pastor, 1/4 time church pastor. With that recommendation, the elders also rearranged Pastor Mueller's duties and are currently considering the value of the part-time, part-year senior pastor position most recently served by Pastor Grube. No recommendations have been made to date.

Management of our member rolls also falls to the board of elders. These membership changes have occurred since January, 2018:

Pierre (Levi) Peralta, infant baptism

Green, David & Phyllis, transfer in from Mt. Calvary, Flagstaff, AZ

Scott, James & Deborah, transfer in from St. John's, Sturgis, MI

Baird, Paul, Jacey, Cadence, and Atley, release, joined another church

Spiguzza, Skyler & Nicole, transfer to Emmanuel, Tempe, AZ

Behm, Karen, transfer in from Emmanuel, Tempe, AZ

Bijold, Cassandra, release to spiritual care of sister congregation in Duluth, MN

Finally, we celebrate Jesus' Easter victory for these souls who have finished their race and now rest with God in heaven:

Alene "Dugie" Hansen, March 4, 2018

Alice Ries, March 10, 2018

Don Nevins, March 30, 2018

George Korfe, April 5, 2018

GENE SCHLEPP

continued from front page, "Strengthened in the Faith"

Catechism memorized. Yet in talking about his own Catechism, Luther said, "Yet I cannot master the matter as I desire but must remain a child and pupil of the Catechism and am glad to remain one." There is a sense of humility in his words that recognizes that no matter how well we

may have parts of the Catechism (or the Bible) memorized, we sin daily and need to review these simple truths so that we may be strengthened. May that be our attitude toward God in his word and these catechetical truths so that we continue to be strengthened throughout our lives.

PASTOR LANGEBARTELS

Board of Outreach

The Outreach committee is responsible for Evangelism, Fellowship and Communications.

With those things in mind I wanted to share some of the bigger things going on with our committee.

Communications - The big news is the new logo is here! (see article on page 6). The other big news is the Redeemer Register is back in a new quarterly format. If you are reading this - congratulations - you've found it. The communication team is currently exploring options to put our Bible classes and sermons in live formats over the internet.

Evangelism - God blessed us at Easter with many visitors. I want to thank everyone who helped make our outreach efforts at Easter a success. One of our goals is to get more members

involved in our outreach effort. I know that we are tempted to invite people at special times of the year, but every Sunday is a good Sunday to bring a friend to church. AND the number one thing that gets new people to church, is you!

Fellowship - If you spent any time here around lent, you realize a lot goes on and goes into the food aspect of fellowship. We are also working on expanding the groups that meet at Redeemer so that everyone who visits Redeemer has a place to fit in immediately and feel welcome. Fellowship is more than food, it's really friendship.

Mother's Day is coming up on the 13th of May. We will host a breakfast between services. The men and children will serve mom. This day is a great day to bring your mom, or grandma, to church and get time with friends and family.

BEN WEINSTEIN

Board of Education

During this past quarter the Education Board has been focused on preparing for the future. This

preparation is from a few different perspectives. One area of focus has been ministry planning. Evaluating the Educational ministries for effectiveness and connectivity with the goal of developing a set of ministries that support children from cradle to college, while best utilizing the available resources. The Board will be continuing to develop this ministry plan with the goal of developing lifelong Christians and supporting our youth on the journey to adulthood.

A second area of focus has been on managing the staffing changes within the Early Childhood Education (ECE) and Lutheran Elementary School (LES), as Hannah Stahl and Jessica Seiltz have decided to move on to serve the Lord in other capacities. As the Education Board has been carefully weighing different options for handling these changes we have also been working to manage the ever changing enrollment numbers and class sizes as we work to achieve

stability and managed growth within the ECE and LES.

As we plan for the future the Education Board is very excited about the opportunities that come with the updated call to Michael Peek to serve as the Director of Christian Education. In this capacity Mr. Peek will be instrumental in developing the Strategic goals for the ECE and LES. Those goals include the aforementioned stability and growth for the school, improved utilization of the Student Tuition Tax Credit program, and continued academic excellence and accreditation for the LES. Additionally, and most importantly, the opportunity to strengthen the relationship between the Church and School, and to grow God's kingdom through the development and implementation of an effective harvest strategy for the ECE and LES. A key aspect to this plan will be to develop relationships with the school families, which is an important part of his new role.

Lastly, the Education Board would like to thank the dozens of people that work tirelessly to make all of the educational ministries at Redeemer successful both now and in the future.

SCOTT ETZENHouser

Early Education & Elementary School Report

Thank you once again for all of your help and support of the school over the past year. Thank you also for your donations to ACSTO. You make Christian Education possible for many families. You also enable more offering dollars to be directed to all areas of ministry happening here at Redeemer. Our final numbers have not come in yet, but our tracking throughout the year is showing that we are ahead of the receipts that we received last year. You can help us tell others about how they can take their state tax money and turn it into scholarships for students at Redeemer.

The eighth grade graduation service will be held on Thursday, May 24th at 6:30 PM.

This year we will graduate 7 eighth graders. Four of them plan to attend a WELS high school in the fall. Three plan to go to ALA and one will attend Luther Preparatory School in Wisconsin. The Kindergarten graduation will take place the following day, Friday, May 25th as part of our closing service at 10:30 AM. All are welcome to join us for these celebrations.

This year we will say good-bye to Miss Hannah Stahl and Miss Jessica Seiltz. Hannah has been serving at Redeemer for 11 years and Jessica has been serving for six years. We will miss their wonderful gifts and abilities both in the

classroom and in the congregation. They have been a great blessing to Redeemer, and we wish them God's blessings as they seek a new way to serve the Lord in the future.

Redeemer has called me to step out of the classroom and into a new role called the Director of Christian Education. The intent of this new position is to combine the administrative duties of principal and preschool director, and also to build in a strategy of reaching out to the parents of our students to build deeper relationships with the goal of strengthening the connection between the school and the church.

This summer we will welcome a new teacher to our staff, Lisa Herlich. Mrs. Herlich has been a member of Redeemer for the past year and will join us to teach grades 5-6. She graduated from MLC and has taught in both WELS and public schools. We look forward to the experience that she will bring to our faculty.

This summer we are holding nine week long summer sessions to provide summer activities for students in preschool through eighth grade. You can learn more on the Redeemer website, or come into the school office. These camps are open to anyone in our community, so please invite neighbors, family, and friends.

MICHAEL PEEK

continued from front page, "President's Report"

Rome. He wanted them to continue to share that joyful partnership and fellowship within their congregation as they had when he had been with them.

The author who wrote the commentary for Philippians in the People's Bibles summarizes that "partnership in the gospel" in the following paragraph:

"Believers who have been brought together into a gospel partnership joyfully give expression to their partnership. They do this in many ways. They worship, pray and study God's word together. They joyfully acknowledge one another as brothers

and sisters in Christ. They show to one another a special measure of helpfulness and love. They encourage one another in Christian living, and they work together to promote the gospel in the world."

I believe that the "state of our congregation" should be measured by evaluating our partnership in the gospel as described in the paragraph above focused on doing so, "joyfully." How do you think we are doing?

I pray that, for each of us, our life as a member of Redeemer Lutheran will be one of joyful fellowship and partnership in our Christian ministry.

BOB BOSCHEE

Redeemer Organization Chart

President: **Bob Boschae** Vice President: **Vacant** Treasurer: **Jim Rockwell**
 Ministers: **Adam Mueller, Matthew Langebartels** Director of Christian Education: **Michael Peek**

The Church Council is made up of:

President, Vice President, 2 Elders, chairs of: Outreach, Education, & Operations.

Advisory Members: Pastor(s), School Principal, & Treasurer



Board of Operations

Starting in January this year, the Operations board has been focused on identifying maintenance projects that can keep our campus looking beautiful. Other duties include supporting the other Redeemer boards and committees as they look to accomplish their goals as well. We are always looking to improve and we appreciate your feedback, ideas and help.

Here are some highlights:

The called workers' insurance reserve fund which pays for medical expenses over and above the family's deductibles was raised from \$25,000 to \$40,000. This was done to make sure that there are funds available and in reserve for any events that come up. It was felt, in the past, that we were underfunded.

Because of an oversight starting many years ago, our called workers' housing allowance had not been treated as taxable income. In an effort to be caring, the congregation voted to pay 50% of the workers' liability for 2017. This oversight was corrected in late 2017.

A new facility use policy was passed which means that if individuals or groups are requesting to use campus facilities, Redeemer now has a guideline for how these areas can be used and we have documentation for them to refer to.

An Easter workday was held on March 23 and we had a great turnout from our congregation. Thank you to those that were able to make it and we really appreciate your help!

A new phone system for our campus was installed on April 23. This was done in order to save money, but also to give our campus the ability to take advantage of some technological improvements. We still have a few things to get ironed out, but we are looking forward to the abilities of our new phones.

We are looking to replace 1-2 AC units that have reached the end of their useful life. This will be an ongoing project as our campus is indeed aging.

Thanks to all of our congregation's volunteers because we would not be able to accomplish all of these things without you!

DAN CALDWELL

Year to Date Financials

	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Variance</i>
<i>Income</i>	\$692,764	\$678,465	\$14,299
<i>Expenses</i>	\$644,481	\$678,117	\$33,636
<i>Net Income</i>	\$48,283	\$348	\$47,935

Treasurer's Report

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE (General Account):	\$300,203
SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE (Restricted Funds):	\$97,158
ENDOWMENT FUND:	\$669,661

JIM ROCKWELL

New Redeemer Logos

This year Redeemer is celebrating its 75th year in ministry and its 20th year at our Silverbell campus in Marana. We are excited to announce our new logos. The Mountain represents Christ as our solid rock, an ever present help in need. The mountain also represents our location as it is an outline of Sombrero Peak. The cross needs no introduction, all glory be to God! The cross used is based on the cross on our campus, so it perfectly represents our congregation.

In addition to the two main logos shown here we have some slightly different versions because our logo can end up on everything from letterheads, to T-shirts, to bottles to social media pages. Each of these have a different shape and amount of space to use.

****Spoiler Alert**** The school has its own version of the logo that we will preview for you in the fall edition of the Redeemer Register.

I want to thank you all again for your generous feedback during the process. This logo is a collaboration of the suggestions we got from you, our brothers and sisters in Christ.

BEN WEINSTEIN



Welcome To Redeemer's Newest Members



Karen Behm

A hearty welcome goes to Karen Behm, one of the newest to join our family of believers.

Karen was born and raised in Fort Morgan, Colorado, where she did all her grade and high school studies. From there she went to DMLC where she met her husband-to-be, Duane.

They both graduated from there as teachers. They married and Duane's first call was to Nebraska where they spent a few years, then to Mount Olive in Appleton, WI, and finally for the biggest chunk of their lives to Emmanuel in Tempe. Karen, also, has done many years of teaching.

Together they had two children, a son who lives in Waddell, AZ, and Tawnya Caldwell, who most of us already know. Duane died a couple of years ago and Karen decided to move closer to one of her children and, lucky for us, it was Tawnya. Karen feels she has been blessed her whole life especially with Christian parents, a Christian spouse, two believing children, and wonderful grandchildren. She has felt extremely welcomed at Redeemer.



Dave & Phyllis
Green

Let's give a hearty welcome to Dave and Phyllis Green who have recently become part of the Redeemer family. Dave was born in Eau Claire, WI and Phyllis in Tucson. Dave's family moved to Tucson while he was still young. Phyllis went to grade school at Redeemer. They both went to high school at Flowing Wells and Dave went to the U of A and got a degree in education, which he used to teach school for 30 years, much of that in Flagstaff. They have five children spread around in Phoenix, Arkansas, Las Vegas and two sons in Tucson.

They are both retired and moved here from Flagstaff after teaching. It just felt right to join Redeemer since it was Phyllis' home church. They feel extremely blessed with having had Christian parents, family, children, grandchildren and siblings.



Jim & Deb Scott

Let's give a warm welcome to Jim and Deb Scott who have recently become part of the Redeemer family.

Both Jim and Deb were born and raised in Dowagiac, Michigan where they also did all of their schooling.

They met while she was working in his father's insurance business. Jim has always been in the insurance business and Deb was an LPN and also worked insurance.

They have been life-long WELS members, so when they moved here, it was a no brainer but to join Redeemer.

They have two children. They feel especially blessed because of their family.

Youth Confirmands

May 20, 10:45am

Christallin Alonge
Fred Arrellin
Treyson Bourguet
Alisia Hopkins
Rachel Murray
Jessika Plymesser



Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church & School

8845 N. Silverbell Rd. Tucson, AZ 85743 (520) 572-8136



Bible Classes Offered *(May - July)*

Sunday A.M. Bible Class

Sundays between services, 9:30am - 10:30am

“Genesis”

Women’s Bible Class

Fridays, 9:00am - 10:30am

“End Times”

Men’s Bible Class

Second Saturdays, 7:30am - 9:00am

“Be A Man”

Midweek Bible Class

Wednesdays, 10:00am - 11:00am

“Christians without Christ:
A Study of the Cults”

Summer Midweek Oasis

Wednesdays, 6:30pm - 7:15pm

Everyone needs a little refreshment during the dog days of Tucson summer. This summer Redeemer will be offering midweek refreshment for the whole family. "Midweek Oasis" will run on Wednesday evenings from 6:30p - 7:15p. We'll sing and pray, we'll study the life of David "family style," and we'll finish up with ice cream! We've even got a special summer concert scheduled. Make plans to join us.

June 13 - From Shepherd Boy to God's Chosen King

June 20 - David, the Giant Killer

June 27 - David's Friendship with Jonathan

July 4 - Independence Day - no oasis

July 11 - David, the Hunter and the Hunted

July 18 - Special concert "Him & Her"

July 25 - The High Point and Low Point of David's Life

Aug. 3 - God Called David to Repentance and Forgave Him