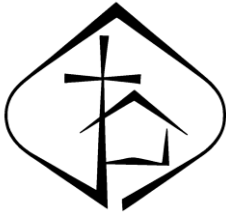


# Redeemer Lutheran Church

## 3K / 4K Preschool

1712 Menasha Avenue  
Manitowoc, Wisconsin  
December 2011 Newsletter



### From Pastor Kolonich...

One of the many responsibilities entrusted to me by Redeemer per my job description as Senior Pastor is to oversee, guide and direct the missions and evangelism of Redeemer. This is an exciting task that is laid out before me. A task that I do not

take lightly, and a duty that I see is not coming from mere mortals, but from God in His Word:

**Psalm 96:3** <sup>3</sup> Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

**Mark 16:15** <sup>15</sup> He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.

**Acts 1:8** <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Here is what I witnessed on the mission field:

#### Hong Kong

I saw a "family", bound by Jesus Christ, which worked together. Apprehensive members of this "family" got on a plane, not quite sure what to expect. They left friends and family in order to spend time in an unfamiliar culture and land. This "family" of 8 members had gotten to know each other quite well prior to this adventure through meetings, social activities and fundraising.

I saw this same "family" open arms and hearts to complete strangers. They played games, socializing and sharing their faith with people who did not know what it meant to have a personal relationship with Jesus as their Savior and Lord. I heard this "family" openly and directly share their faith in Jesus Christ on so many occasions.

Redeemer's Mission teams are seen, by people IN Hong Kong, as one of the strongest short term mission teams that serve in Hong Kong. The past two mission teams to Hong Kong have seen exciting growth and possibilities. The school is excited to have us return, and appreciates our service to them as it helps the growth and outreach of their Lutheran School.

What a charge it was for me to be able to see a part of Redeemer's family in action on the field in Hong Kong! I will openly admit, it was hard to watch part of this family leave at the Hong Kong airport as they returned to the United States as Bill Hilgendorf and I continued on to Thailand.

#### Thailand

My first visit to Thailand was a learning experience. It was in 2010 when I learned first-hand about Redeemer's Thailand Mission Project. I saw it directly and got to know how everything was working. Last year when I visited, Redeemer had identified Preecha as the missionary to the project, but he had not yet begun any formal mission work to the project.

This year, I saw a complete 180° difference in the students at the project. Most of the students are the same as last year. The joy and excitement in their eyes towards learning about the Bible and God's message of Love and salvation was awesome! They had a hunger and thirst to learn more that I did not see last year. They loved singing and praising God.

God is using Preecha in a spectacular way, building relationships and sharing Jesus Christ with these students. This project is growing in spectacular ways as we are now partnered with the Thailand Concordia Lutheran Church and they will be assisting us directly with Redeemer's Thailand Mission Project to make it stronger and better.

I saw some real possibilities this year for Redeemer to make this project even more personal. For many years, this project has been literally and only sending money across the seas to help a people that are in need. God has now led us to transition this project

from humanitarian solely to humanitarian coupled with Gospel outreach. Now, it is time for the relationship that Redeemer has with this project to get more personal and intimate. It is time for a team of Redeemer's members to travel to Thailand to serve. **It is time for a mission team to travel to Thailand and serve God and His people there!**

The last thing I witnessed in Hong Kong and Thailand, which I am sad to say I do not see in equal measure here in our Redeemer family, is a seemingly insatiable hunger and thirst for God and His Word. In Hong Kong and Thailand, I saw youth (7-12<sup>th</sup> grade levels) who were HUNGRY and EXCITED to be learning about God and His Word. Do we HUNGER for God and His Word? Are we EXCITED about possibilities to learn, absorb, and strive to live according to that which our God teaches us in His Word?

Have we become so apathetic to the amazing gift of Salvation that we couldn't care less? Can we just take it or leave it? Sometimes, I worry... especially because of the things that I hear and see... or the people that I don't see.

We are preparing to celebrate the greatest gift given to humanity: the gift of a Savior in the Christ-child. The WORD made flesh, coming to save the world from its sin. Are you the grateful receiver of the gift of forgiveness and eternal salvation, eager to give this gift the devotion and attention it deserves? Or have you tossed this gift into a pile or closet, only to be neglected? What will your response be to this AWESOME gift from this day forward?

Praise God from Whom All Our Blessings Flow that God Always Forgives Us!

***"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* 1 John 1:9**

**TO GOD BE THE GLORY!**

### Reflections from Hong Kong

by Nancy Zabel; 2011 Hong Kong Mission Team Member

Have you ever taken a picture of huge buildings, or landscaping? The camera does not do justice to the surroundings. To describe my experience in Hong Kong will do no justice either, you just cannot get the whole picture until you experience it yourself.

I met two girls on my first days in Hong Kong: Mia and Nitika. They seemed to be best friends, always together, holding hands or arms. Mia was the more outgoing one, very clinging and always in control and in charge. Nitika on the other hand stood in the back ground, always a step behind always a smile, yet always very quiet.

If Mia needed any help with her English, Nitika was always there to help her... The dramatics were very obvious. They worked well together. Each one bringing out the best of each other.

What I learned from these two girls is what friendship is all about.

You see, I've always considered myself quiet and stepping back "a fault". But in reality, it allows me to allow others to take the lime light. And in watching these two girls, throw in a little trust, respect, friendship, you can only believe that God put these two girls together for a reason.

Each one brings out the best of each personality. In essence, these two girls treat their friends as they would want to be treated, which is God's commandment. Yet it came so natural for them.

I really made the decision to go to Hong Kong after seeing in God's Word that He commands us to go and make disciples of all nations. I was going out of obedience, not because I had a

heart for missions or a passion for the people of Hong Kong. This I did not realize until later.

I want you to understand that I'm a wife, mother, daughter, and grandmother, and semi retired. I'm not a missionary, and I'm certainly not a preacher. I was just being *minimally obedient* to what I believe God's Word tells us to do. Praise God He isn't minimally faithful and doesn't minimally bless us.

After spending almost two weeks with the children in Hong Kong I came back to Manitowoc asking God why He blessed me when others have so little. And this is what God has shown me.

**"I have blessed you for my Glory. Not so you will have a comfortable life with a big house and nice car. Not so you can spend lots of money on vacations, education or clothing. These are not bad things, but I've blessed you so that the nations will know me and my glory."**

Most of my life I have completely disconnected God's blessings from God's purpose, and now I realize what I have never seen. God has blessed me to show His love to Mia and Nitika. God has blessed me to show His mercy and grace to the children in Hong Kong. That is why God has given me income and education and resources. God uses me so that the nations will know Him. He blesses me so that the entire world will see His Glory.

I will always remain a step behind, but my eyes look ahead to see the blessings of God's Glory, and to give Him thanks for choosing me to be one of His disciples.

I know for a fact that our mission team in Hong Kong has resulted in teaching the Word of God and equipping some of the chosen children to become disciples to their own surroundings.

I invite you also to open your hearts, and be disciples to all nations...

## **December Holy Communion Schedule**

**Saturday & Sunday December 3 & 4**

**Saturday, December 17 (NO COMMUNION ON Sunday, DECEMBER 18)**

**Sunday, December 25**

**Saturday, December 31**

**Sunday, January 1, 2012**

## **ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICES**

**Proclaim the Wondrous Birth!**

In Advent we are looking toward the wondrous birth of Jesus on Christmas, but along the way in Scripture there were other wondrous births that pointed to God's promises fulfilled and to that most special birth in Bethlehem. Each week we will draw closer to the crib in Bethlehem as we meet the Baby of Promise!

**ISAAC—Wednesday, November 30 @ 6pm**

**SAMUEL—Wednesday, December 7 @ 6pm**

**JOHN—Wednesday, December 14 @ 6pm**

**JESUS—Wednesday, December 21 @ 6pm**

**Children's Sunday School Christmas Program: Sunday, December 18, 2011 during the 10:30a worship service!!**

## **CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES**

**Christmas Eve Worship Services**

**4 pm**

**6 pm (Candlelight Service)**

**Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion**

**10:30am**

**(No Sunday School or Bible Study)**

## **New Year's Weekend Worship**

**New Years Eve Worship with Holy Communion**

**Saturday, December 31 @ 5:00p**

**New Years Day Worship with Holy Communion**

**Sunday, January 1 @ 10:30a**

**(No Sunday School or Bible Study)**

**Merry.  
Christmas**





## Redeemer Lutheran 3k/4k Preschool

Mary Orth, Director

[preschool@redeermantv.com](mailto:preschool@redeermantv.com) phone: 920-684-3989

**CHRIST THE KING IS COMING**

Friends, families, and Children celebrate with you the coming of Christ, and the peace and joy his coming brings to all.

We are starting the Advent season. Advent means "To come" and we invite Jesus to come into our hearts and to prepare for God's promise to send us Baby Jesus. It is a time of spiritual preparation for the birth of Jesus, and to celebrate the fulfillment of God's.

### THE PRESCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- The families of preschool 3K/4K have been participating in the OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD. The children are being introduced to the advent calendar.
- On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the preschool children and families are invited to Jesus Birthday Party. It will be a celebration with games, cookies, making ornaments, and Veggie movie.
- The preschool room will be getting ready for Jesus' birthday. Stop in a see the children's art work, and the excitement the children have in their eyes. We are working on a secret surprise for our parents! SH!!
- The children will present a Christmas program on December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. and December 20<sup>t</sup> at 10:30a.m.; everyone is invited to hear the singing of joyous Christmas carols.
- Thanks to everyone who supported the Port Sandy Bay Pizza Sale. A profit of \$815.00 was made, and a fund from Thrivent donate \$112.00

### REGISTRATIONS FOR 2011-12 SCHOOL YEAR

Registration for preschool will be starting in December to all members of Redeemer Lutheran Church. Please call Preschool/church at 684-3989 to enroll your child. What a blessed gift you can give your children or grandchildren for Christmas.

May our Lord continue to bless our ministry with children and families. Thank you to all the families and members who have supported and prayed for the Preschool at Redeemer. With God's blessing may we continue to do Mission work in Manitowoc County.

## 2012 HONG KONG MISSION TRIP WILL BE OCTOBER 16-28 Mark your calendars and be part of a life changing experience!



**The 2011 Hong Kong Team members would like to say Thank You again to everyone who supported us through donations and most of all your prayers.**

### From Mary Eisenschink

*I would like to thank everyone for the kind words, cards, and gifts that I received as my retirement became official last weekend. I received a watch and plant as well as a generous check and several gift certificates from the congregation and many of the members. It was greatly appreciated.*

### From Patty and Paul LaCosse

During this time of year we are remembering all that we are thankful for especially the birth of our Savior Jesus. As you know this past year has been a very difficult one for our family but it was made easier by the prayers, visits, cards, e-mail, and meals by our Church Family. God answered your prayers in marvelous ways as He brought Patrick home to Heaven. Thank you all for loving us as Jesus does. As Patrick would say "Thank you to our one true family". Please continue to pray for us as we grieve for Patrick.

**Thanks** to the Ethel Glander Memorial monies received we were able to purchase a funeral pall; Christ (Paschal) Candle & stand; and candles and drip cups for use for our Christmas Eve Candlelight service. **To God Be the Glory!!!**

## **ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING**

All members of Redeemer, 18 and older, are invited to attend the annual voters' meeting on Sunday, Dec. 4 following the worship service at approximately 11:30a.m. Election of officers for the Executive Board, year-end reports and the 2012 budget will be among the items on the agenda.

## **Men's Retreat**

If you are planning to attend the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Men's Retreat to be held on February 3-5 at the Holiday Inn in Manitowoc make sure you take advantage of the early registration fee which ends on December 14. The theme for this year's retreat is "Battle Ready" It is based on a book with the same name and follows the lives of Joshua and Caleb from the Bible. They certainly had struggles in their lives. From their slavery in Egypt, the crossing of the Red Sea and the flooded Jordan River, and the tumbling walls of Jericho were just a few of the struggles they had. They have much to tell us about the struggles we face on our road to heaven.

## **REDEEMER MEN**

We would like to explain and bring you up to date on the purpose of the Redeemers Men Club. There is no membership list or dues for the Men's Club. We consider all men of the congregation to be potential members. We also very much appreciate the help we get from women of the congregation. We feel we serve an important role in our congregation. All the money from our fundraisers goes to mission projects. Our fundraisers are the Chili Supper, Easter Breakfast, and the spring Brat sales. We also provide ice cream for the Christmas tree decorating service and sponsor the trips to the Brewer games. As an addition to Men's Club, Luther Strasburg sells cards in our Church library area. The problem we are having is participation. As our members get older we need new people to serve. We will need people to serve on our committee, which acts as officers. We also may need volunteers for separate projects like the Chili Supper. If we cannot get volunteers these important services may be lost to our congregation.

Thank You-Redeemers Men's Club

## **LWML NEWS**

Our next meeting will be on December 13 from 10a.m.-2p.m. Please bring a bag lunch for we will be doing tie quilts for World Relief.

The LWML will package goodie plates for the homebound members on December 18<sup>th</sup>. Donations of homemade cookies, bars and candy are welcome. Be sure to mark your donation "LWML" so they don't get mixed in with the other cookies in the kitchen

Looking Ahead: The LWML Young Woman's Retreat is February 3&4 At the Crown Plaza Hotel in Madison WI

We are still collecting postage stamps for missions-if you have used stamps you wish to donate please put them in the basket in the Narthex marked Stamps.

## **Do You Enjoy Praising the Lord with Music?**

The senior choir is looking for a few new members. With the upcoming Christmas season, music is especially enjoyable. Another option is joining handbells. We could use another ringer or even someone that could be called on as a substitute for an occasional rehearsal. Senior choir meets on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., followed by handbells at 7:30. If you want more information, contact Roberta Hilgendorf.

## **Birthday Party for Jesus**

On Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:30 P.M until 8:00 P.M. Redeemer will be having a birthday celebration as we prepare for the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This celebration is for the entire family as children will have an opportunity to decorate cookies, play games, hear the story of the birth of Jesus and watch a movie. As we celebrate all that our newborn King did for us we have an opportunity to do something for others in our community. We ask that when you come you would consider bringing something for a family we are supporting through The Crossing. Appropriate items would be for a 3 year old boy and a 3 month year old girl. If you have any questions please see Mary Orth or Pastor DeArmond.

## **Youth**

All Confirmation age youth and older are invited to a Christmas party at the home of Greg and Lisa McDougal (2204 Granger Road) on Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. We will get started right after Advent mid-week worship, approximately 7:00 P.M. and go until 9:00. After worship come on over to relax and enjoy some food and games. Please sign-up by Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> so we know how much food to get. If you have any questions please contact Lisa McDougal or Pastor DeArmond.

**Families with students in College** if you have not already done so could you please e-mail your students contact information to [office@redeermanty.com](mailto:office@redeermanty.com) Thank You!

### **Christmas Gifts for Redeemer's Thailand Mission Project**

If you would like to give a special gift towards the Thailand Mission Project for their Christmas celebration, please leave your donation in the church office or place it in the offering plate by Thanksgiving. Remember to mark your gift "Thailand Christmas."