

### *From Our Pastor...*

Going home at the end of the day has always been a comforting thought for most workers. If you spent the day in the mine, coming again to the surface and traveling to a familiar table was a time for joy, for you survived another day. For soldiers, to return home meant that you made it through the swirl of death to return to welcome and rest from the chaos. To stand at the door and know that there were cookies inside and hot chocolate meant that you could stop worrying about bullies, tests, and not knowing the answer. Going home is a positive image for most people.

For some, however, it is filled with fear and anxiety. For some, it is filled with loathing and avoidance. Going home can mean entering the turmoil of rejection, abuse, and violence. Maybe going home is not a place of safety from the violence of the world, but the epicenter of the violence.

So when we talk of going home to the kingdom God has prepared, or being at home among God's people in worship, it might be received with a variety of emotions. God's people have looked forward to going home, to be joyful at the banquet table of the

Lord. Jesus reassured that "in my father's home there are many rooms, and I will prepare a place for you." This going home is different from all our going-homes of the present or the past. It goes beyond experience. It surpasses the positive or erases the loathing of our personal experience.

At peace, affirmed, and as one with joy, is to be home with the one who created us. Our eternal hope is to exchange this world's comfort and peace for "peace beyond understanding." We are reassured by God's word that going home to the kingdom is to leave the torment of this world and experience the goodness that God intended from the beginning.

Our message to the world is a message of encouragement. Living as Jesus' brothers and sisters, we expend our lives bringing justice, harmony, and relief to those whose lives are wrapped in torment. Our witness is the proclamation of resurrection to the fullness of God, going home that is the fulfillment of all we have ever dreamed of – hoped for.

There is no better moment than now to witness to this promise of God. To witness to those who come home rejoicing, and to be messengers of reassurance to those who would rather be anywhere but home, is our call.

Therefore share the Gospel with all who need to hear.

*Pastor Dave*

To the saints of Redeemer and Trinity:

Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ. On July 20, 1969, when the Apollo 11 Lunar Module set down on the surface of the moon, Neil Armstrong said, "Houston. Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed." Well, the eagle has certainly landed.



On Saturday, September 15, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Council voted to approve the Bishop's recommendation that the Synod Council extend a three-year term call to me to serve as Pastor of Calvary Lutheran Church in Bustleton beginning on Sunday, September 16. My ordination has been set for Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 AM, so I will be serving as their Pastor for about seven weeks prior to ordination.

This both is an exciting and challenging opportunity for me. Exciting in that I will finally be a Pastor and challenging in that Calvary struggles with the same issues of size and resources that many congregations struggle with. But they have come to understand that they need to be different than they were if they are to continue to exist. They have come to realize that outreach to the community is an essential part of mission and ministry. I think that I might have said that once or twice during my internship with y'all. I truly believe that with God's help, we will be able to do some amazing things in Northeast Philadelphia and I look forward to working with them.

I want to thank all of you for your support, encouragement and prayers. All of you have been a blessing both to me and to Dolores. We pray that God continues to bless you with God's abundant grace.

Peace,  
Pastor Michael McKillip

Thanks

Dear Members of Redeemer and Trinity Congregations, Redeemer Faculty, Alumni, Parents (Past and Present), and Students,

Thank you for the lovely 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and very generous gift. It was wonderful to see so many of you at the picnic. I was truly overwhelmed and honored. Your thoughtfulness will long be remembered.

I really appreciate all the love, help and support you have given me over the years. I could not have done my job so well without it. Again thank you so much for remembering me on my 30<sup>th</sup> year of teaching at Redeemer Lutheran School.

Sincerely,

Deborah Russo

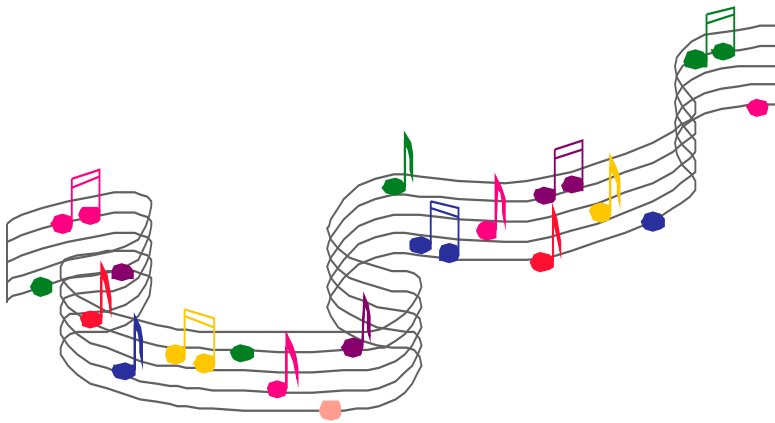


# Band Aid Concert



Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, the congregations of the Northeast Philadelphia Conference of the Lutheran Church are sponsoring a Praise Concert featuring the various praise bands from several of our congregations. The purpose of the concert is to raise funds for Feast of Justice Ministries that is housed at St. John Lutheran Church on Tyson Avenue.

The concert will be at St. John's in their community room (entrance on Sackett Street) from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. Plan to attend and to share your gifts to help raise dollars for this worthy project.



It's hard to believe that the school year has been underway less than a month! Everyone is working hard and accomplishing many things. We praise God for the opportunity that he has given us to work with his children.

Students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades will be traveling to Spruce Lake Outdoor School in Canadensis on Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup> for three days filled with fun, team building, and education as they participate in Environmental Education.

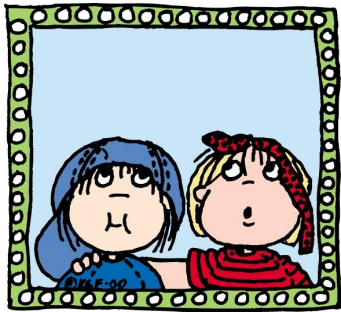


*Columbus Day*

Columbus Day (Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup>) is our first school holiday this year. We have a three-day weekend! Whoopee!

High School Night is Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> – and it's not just for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents! The decision of where to go for high school has become a complicated issue – check out the schools early so you can make an informed decision when the time comes. Bring your friends and neighbors – High School Night is open to everyone.

We'll hold our first Scholastic Book Fair of the year the week of October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Reading is so very important – encourage your children to read. We'll have a wonderful assortment of books for all ages. The Book Fair will be open during school and extended school care hours. We're looking forward to the Book Fair – we hope you are, too!



Individual School Portraits will be taken on Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. All students will be photographed – these are the photos we use in our yearbook at the end of the year. You will also have the opportunity to order a pack of portraits, which will be delivered in time for Christmas (shopping hint – grandparents always like new pictures of the grandchildren).

On Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, we'll have our annual "Parade of Horrors." We'll don our costumes and march around the playground, and then we'll go back to the classrooms for refreshments. What a great afternoon!



## Women's Page

On Friday, October 12 at 11 a.m. the women of Redeemer/Trinity are invited to meet in the church den to study the book of Hebrews.

Our theme is "Holy Places." All cultures and peoples have holy places. Hebrews 9 gives us opportunity to think about what makes places holy.

The tabernacle was a holy place for the people of Israel. Here God promised to meet and make peace with them when they offered sacrifices for their sins.

In the modern world, people still have places that they consider holy or sacred; Christians are no exception.

For Christian people, oneness with God does not depend on a place but on the person — Jesus, who died "once for all." Through the power of his Spirit and the Word of his grace, Jesus can make any place holy. In every time and place, Jesus is God with us.

If you have a picture of a holy place you have visited, bring it that morning to share.

After Bible study, we share fellowship time by eating a sandwich together that we have brought from home. Dessert, coffee and tea are provided by the hostess for the day.

Discussion follows at our meeting with plans for upcoming events.

One such event is the Northeast Philadelphia Women's Conference at St. John Lutheran Church on October 14<sup>th</sup>. See more details on the inside back cover of this *Messenger*.

On Saturday, November 3, at 8:30 a.m., all women are invited to come for a light breakfast and a workshop titled "Theme Journaling for the Soul, Living from the Heart of God" at Trinity Lutheran Church, Hyson Hall, Lansdale.

The presenter will be Linda Post Bushkofsky, Executive Director, Women of the ELCA in Chicago, and co-author of the journal "Living From the Heart of God."

The registration fee of \$12 covers the cost of the journal. Registration deadline is Saturday, October 20. **Checks are to be made payable to: Trinity Lutheran Church** and sent to Women of the ELCA, Trinity Lutheran Church, 100 West Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446

If you would like to bring your check for registration to the October 12 meeting, we can send them together at one time. We can also arrange to travel together that morning.

Come and spend some time together in rest and relaxation.

Barbara Dietrich  
President



The Aid For Friends Frail, Elderly Outreach Center is located at 12271 Townsend Road in Northeast Philadelphia (near Franklin Mills Mall).

Each week, their volunteer visitors deliver nutritious, frozen, home-cooked meals along with a kind, caring visit to the client/friends of Aid For Friends.

There are several ways you can help with this ministry to the frail and elderly folks in Philadelphia.

- You can cook a meal (or several) each week, freeze it in the trays available at church or at the school office, and deliver the meals to the big freezer in the church kitchen. Full details are available on how this works – just call the church and school office: 215-624-6446.
- You can volunteer to be a visitor to the client/friends under the care of Aid For Friends. Call their office at 215-464-2224 for full details and to volunteer.
- You can contribute money to purchase food items that are not provided or are in short supply. Make your check payable to Redeemer Lutheran Church, indicate that your contribution is for Aid For Friends, and we'll send it right along to them.
- Do you know someone who is homebound and in need of free food? Aid For Friends will be happy to have you refer that person to them – call 215-464-2224, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
- You can pray for this important ministry to elderly, frail people.

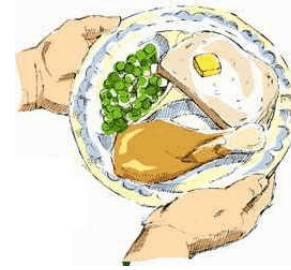
## Feast of Justice Ministries/ Northeast Community Churches Food Cupboard

This ministry is sponsored by the Mayfair/Holmesburg Ministerium. The food bank has been depleted during the summer months, and food donations are desperately needed to continue to feed the 300+ families (including over 700 children).



How can you help? Again, there are several ways:

- ▶ Make a contribution of non-perishable food items. Especially needed are peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce, canned soups, canned beef stew, breakfast cereal, canned milk, powdered milk, canned vegetables, canned fruit, baby food, formula, and grocery bags in which to send the food home with the families.
- ▶ Volunteer to help at the food cupboard. (The food cupboard operates out of St. John Lutheran Church, 3101 Tyson Avenue.)
- ▶ Give money to purchase needed items. Make your check payable to Redeemer Lutheran Church, mark "Food Cupboard" in the memo line, and we'll send it right along.
- ▶ Pray for this important ministry to families in Northeast Philadelphia.



## Feeding the Hungry at the Salvation Army

Each Saturday, between 70 and 120 people receive a hot meal as well as a bag lunch to carry home at the Salvation Army at 4344 Frankford Avenue (near Unity Street). This program, sponsored by the Northeast Committee on Hunger, is supported by twelve congregations in the Frankford and Mayfair areas. Redeemer is one of them. Every ten weeks, a group from Redeemer Lutheran Church and School makes up bag lunches on Friday and cooks casseroles at home to serve on Saturday at the Salvation Army. The people in the group vary from time to time – everyone is welcome! Our next opportunity to Feed the Hungry is Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendar now, and sign up on the volunteer form in *WOW* or the Sunday bulletins. Again, there are several ways you can help with this ministry:

- ◆ You can come to Redeemer on Friday to help make sandwiches.
- ◆ You can volunteer to shop for the "makings" for the sandwiches, for the fruit packed with the lunches, or for the sweet snack we usually include in the bag.
- ◆ You can cook a casserole or two and deliver them to the church kitchen refrigerator prior to the Saturday we're serving lunches.
- ◆ You can volunteer to help at the Salvation Army on the Saturday we're serving: we need people to set up (11:00), to serve (noon), and to clean up (12:45).
- ◆ You can contribute money to keep our "Feeding the Hungry" fund in the black.
- ◆ You can pray for this important ministry of reaching out to hungry people.



## A letter from Wheat Ridge Ministries....

God has blessed our mutual ministry with the support of the members of Redeemer Lutheran Church and School, we've been able to touch thousands of lives through the work of Wheat Ridge Ministries. Thank you for your support!

We are grateful for your participation in the Wheat Ridge Ministries Christmas Seals program. However, to continue to be good stewards of the gifts we are entrusted, we will no longer be distributing Christmas Seals through congregations, schools, and organizations. As I'm sure you can appreciate, increases in production, printing, postage and administration costs can make these kinds of decisions necessary.

Today, we invite you to consider other ways to continue to participate in the ministry of Wheat Ridge. A variety of innovative ministry projects are available. Detailed descriptions of these projects are available on the Wheat Ridge website:

[www.wheatridge.org/specialprojects](http://www.wheatridge.org/specialprojects).

Thanks again for your partnership and support! May you be filled with health and hope as you live well in the Lord!

Richard E. Herman, President

## You can help Redeemer Lutheran School as you shop!

There are a variety of ways to help our school – and they don't include spending money you would not otherwise spend.

- ♦ **Purchase scrip** (AKA gift certificates) for your favorite supermarket. The list changes frequently. Stop by the school office during the week to purchase scrip for Acme Markets, DiGiulio's Uniforms, Pathmark, Shop N Bag, Shop Rite, and Wawa. You'll receive a receipt with a "tuition credit" you can apply to your tuition bill, or pass along to someone with children in the school, or donate back to the school for our School Financial Aid Fund. An amount equal to your tuition credit is automatically applied to our School Financial Aid Fund – a win/win situation for us both!

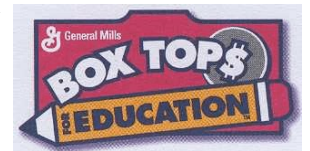


- ♦ **Purchase scrip online** for your favorite stores. Just go to [www.simplifiedscrip.com](http://www.simplifiedscrip.com) and place your order. Your scrip will arrive in the mail. How easy is that?

- ♦ **Campbell's Labels for Education.** As you purchase food products from Campbell's, save the UPC code or the lid, and bring them to the school office or the church den, where Campbell's "cans" are waiting to receive your contributions.



- ♦ **Big G Box Tops for Education.** As you purchase General Mills products, save the "Big G Box Tops for Education" square on each product. Again, bring them to the school office or the church den, where there's a small green box waiting to receive your contributions. Each one is worth 10¢ for Redeemer.



- ◆ **Do you shop at Target?** When you apply for a Target Guest Card and designate Redeemer Lutheran School, Target will donate 1% of your purchases to our school through their Target Take Charge of Education program.
- ◆ **Fundraising Solutions.** If you like to shop online, you'll love this opportunity to benefit Redeemer Lutheran School! Just go to our website ([www.RedeemerLutheranPhila.org](http://www.RedeemerLutheranPhila.org)) and click on the link to Fundraising Solutions. Through your purchases, we will receive contributions for our School Financial Aid Fund.
- ◆ **eScrip.** Sign up with eScrip and every time you shop at any of the over 6,000 merchant locations, a percentage of your purchase will go to Redeemer Lutheran School. It's easy to register – Go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) and enter our Group ID #6670273.
- ◆ **Shop @ [www.schoolpop.com](http://www.schoolpop.com).** If you enjoy shopping online, then please sign up for this program. Shop through schoolpop at places like Eddie Bauer, Gap, JCPenney, Lands' End, L.L. Bean, Nordstrom, Walmart, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Borders, Sharper Image, 1-800-Flowers, FTD, PetSmart, Disney, Tower Records, OfficeMax, and ToysRUs.



**Thank you for helping Redeemer Lutheran School in these ways!**



## **Lutheran Settlement House takes a 2-mile walk against Domestic Violence in Chestnut Hill**

On Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10:30 a.m., Lutheran Settlement House will host their first **2-Mile Walk Against Domestic Violence** to raise funds and awareness as part of LSH's "Purple Ribbon Campaign." The event will be supported by CBS3 anchor Larry Mendte, Fox 29 anchor Dawn Stensland, and NBC 10 anchor Dawn Timmeney. Participants are encouraged to wear purple to show their support for victims and survivors of domestic violence.

The Purple Ribbon Campaign is one of many LSH efforts to educate the public and draw greater attention to domestic violence in Philadelphia, while raising the necessary funds to continue to provide free-of-charge services such as counseling, legal/medical advocacy, and education and training to the women and children who are victims of or witnesses to domestic violence.

The walk is free, but donations are encouraged. For a donation, participants will receive a T-shirt for the walk. To register or to reserve a T-shirt, please call Suzette Belz at 215-426-8610, x 208, [sbelz@lutheransettlement.org](mailto:sbelz@lutheransettlement.org), or visit [www.lutheransettlement.org](http://www.lutheransettlement.org).

You can show your support for victims of domestic violence and their children by bringing your friends and family to the walk, bringing new toys, SEPTA tokens, and new or very gently used children's clothing (newborn to age 16) for survivors.

### **SEKUCo Dedication - Reformation Sunday**

A delegation of 11 people will be leaving for Tanzania on October 22<sup>nd</sup> to attend the dedication ceremonies to be held on the SEKUCo campus October 28<sup>th</sup>. The day will be one of great celebration and thanksgiving for all involved in the project and for the students and the impact their training will have on children and adults with special needs. Our Synod representatives are Pastors Dyan Lawlor and Mark Singh-Heuter, Joanne Carlson, Susan Pursch, Marcia Hougen, Tracey Beasley, Linda Breckenridge, Paula Campagna, Fred Loomis, and Bruce Waechter.