



# Voice of Redeemer



Redeemer Lutheran Church

Volume 52—Number 11

November 2023

Pastor's  
Thanksgiving  
Message



**A**s we celebrate Thanksgiving, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the many blessings we have received throughout the year. It is a time for reflection, worship, and above all, a time to give thanks for all the goodness and abundance in our lives.

The tradition of Thanksgiving dates to the 17<sup>th</sup> century Pilgrims in New England who, after a challenging year, gathered to offer thanks for a bountiful harvest and the kindness of Native Americans. We continue this tradition to express our gratitude for the blessings that surround us.

Every day is an opportunity to recognize and appreciate the blessings in our lives. As Christians, we understand that gratitude is a fundamental part of our faith. The Bible encourages us to “*give thanks in all circumstances,*” not because life is always easy, but because gratitude is a powerful tool for maintaining a proper perspective and a joyful heart.

In the hustle of our often-busy lives, we can often overlook the little things that bring joy and comfort. Thanksgiving provides us a time to pause and count our blessings. Perhaps make a list of the things you are thankful for, both big and small. It might be your family, your health, our church community, or the simple pleasures of life like a warm meal or a beautiful sunset.

Thanksgiving isn't just about receiving, but also about giving. It's time to share our abundance with those less fortunate. Our church has a long history of charitable work and giving, so let us renew our commitment to helping those in need. Who needs your help? It may mean simply being there for someone who needs a listening ear.

We invite you to join us for our special Thanksgiving worship service. We will join together with Emmanuel Lutheran Church (1900 Baker Street) at 7:00 pm, Wednesday evening, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. It's a time to come together as a church family and offer our gratitude to God. There will be a time of fellowship following the service.

As we gather with friends and family this Thanksgiving, let's remember it's more than just delicious food, football, and the joy of being together. It's about acknowledging the abundance of blessings we have and sharing our abundance with those who are in need.

Make Thanksgiving a daily practice in your life, and not just a one-day event. A heart full of gratitude not only brings us closer to God but also strengthens our bonds with one another.

Wishing you all a blessed and joyous Thanksgiving!

Pastor Jon Christenson



# Applying Bible Principles

A wise person once observed, "Half of any task is having the right tool, and the other half is knowing what to do with it." Although we don't often consider it as such, money is a tool which God uses in our lives as a means of spiritual growth.

You see, money is not an end in and of itself. It is a means to an end. And in God's hands, one of its primary "ends" is to instruct us and to help us grow spiritually. God especially wants us to avoid our natural tendency which is a bent toward selfishness, greed, and hoarding. That's why the Lord Jesus said, "Watch out and guard yourselves from every kind of greed; because a person's true life is not made up of the things he owns, no matter how rich he may be" (Luke 12:15).

Well, if an individual's life does not consist in having a lot of possessions, in what does it consist? Jesus provided an insightful answer to that question in Matthew 6:20-21, where He said, ". . . store up riches for yourselves in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and robbers cannot break in and steal. For your heart will always be where your riches are."

Now, according to Jesus' teaching in the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25), there is nothing wrong with saving. There is nothing wrong with investing or earning interest on investments. There is nothing wrong with being a wise steward by planning for the future.

In fact, Jesus taught that those who do so are to be commended. But our primary emphasis as God's children is to make our investments in the "Bank of Heaven." When we do that, our investments are secure. They are not affected by inflation, by theft, by wear and tear, or anything of the kind.

There is only one way to make deposits in this special "bank": By giving to the Lord's work. Each time you give your tithes and offerings at Redeemer Lutheran Church, you are giving to the Lord by investing for eternity. You are storing up "riches . . . in heaven" that will glorify God forever .

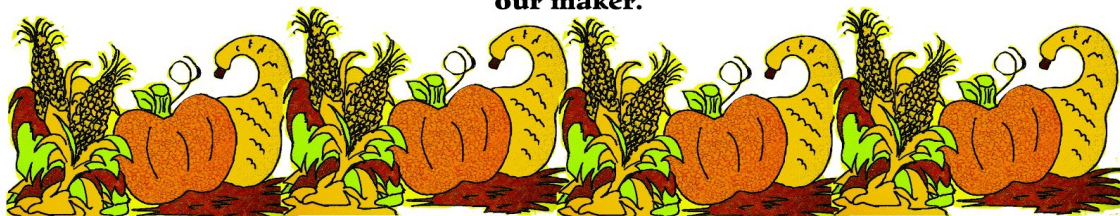
---

## **Psalms 95:1,2,6**

**O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.**

**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.**

**O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**





Honoring the memory of those who have joined the Saints.

Dorothy Golf, Robert Lansford, , Rev. Rueben Perttula,  
Ed Saltzman, Harriet Tracey, Larry Wertz

November 5, 2023

## Holiday Craft Bazaar

Redeemer Lutheran Church - 2525 Belle Terrace



Friday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> – after worship

Vendor Crafts, Homemade Gifts,  
Baked Goods, and more!



# BUNCO NIGHT



We had a good turn out for our Bunco Party, on Friday, October 6th. It's such a simple game - (Grant and Hudson enjoyed playing!) Thanks to all who attended—we appreciate you! .





# NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS



Sat. November 11  
Please help if possible.



**LUNCH BUNCH:** is Wednesday, Nov. 1st. We will meet at Redeemer at 9 am- Road trip! Please let Jan know if you plan to join us.



November 17  
6:00 pm



<b>Leo Olson</b>	<b>01</b>
<b>Jillian Uecker</b>	<b>02</b>
<b>Maia Olson</b>	<b>04</b>
<b>Becky Grove</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Hudson Hairfield</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Mark Smith</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Taryn Grove Watt</b>	<b>24</b>



<b>Bill &amp; Lucy Saltzman</b>	<b>02</b>
<b>Pastor &amp; Katy Christenson</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Mark &amp; Louise Hall</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Mark &amp; Tammy Smith</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>David &amp; Christa Schroeder</b>	<b>27</b>

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY & QUILTING** will meet on Wednesday, 11/8/23; 9 am– 3 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to join us for knitting/crocheting prayer shawls, blankets or quilts. Bring a sack lunch and enjoy fellowship with friends. Phyllis will provide snacks.

**AFTERNOON CIRCLE** will be on Wed., Nov.15@ 1:30 in the Fellowship Hall. We will discuss Holy Places: Our Body from I Corinthians 12:27 & Gather magazine. Judy Olson-Peterson will bring refreshments. All ladies are invited!

**WINE & DINE:** will not meet in Nov. & Dec. due to the holidays.

**KNITTING MACHINE LESSONS:** November & December will be cancelled unless time allows. Karen will keep us informed . Regular schedule starting in January.



**SENIOR GAME DAY** has been re-scheduled for 11/16/23—watch the bulletin for info about meeting in December.



**Redeemer** has been invited to join Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 1900 Baker Street for Thanksgiving Worship at 7 p.m., on Wednesday, November 22. Come join in Thanksgiving festivities.



Remember to turn your clocks back one hour before retiring Saturday night—



**THE SEASON OF ADVENT BEGINS**

December 3  
Evening Vespers  
Dec. 10, and 17  
6:45 pm

Christmas Eve is Sunday, Dec. 24

# CHARITY FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

*ENDLESS HOPE AND CARE TO GIVE* is the motto of Mercy Ships –since over 50% of the world’s population lives near a coast, ships are the best way to reach people in need with personalized, state-of-the-art medical care. The care is free and most of the hospital staff either donate their time and talent or do so at much less than average wages for their profession. Make your checks out to Redeemer with a note to Mercy Ships.



## IN HIS SERVICE—NOVEMBER

- ALTAR GUILD:** Phyllis
- PASTOR’S ASSISTANT:** Louise Juracek-Hall
- FLOWERS:** Nov. 5—Olson family  
Nov. 12—Bruce Wearda  
Nov. 19—Smith family  
Nov. 26—Dakota Warren
- READER:** Nov. 5—Tammy  
Nov. 12—Judy  
Nov. 19—Karen  
Nov. 26—Dakota
- COFFEE HOUR:** Nov. 5— Smith family  
Nov. 12— Carlotta  
Nov. 19— Linda Cohen  
Nov. 26— Judy
- ACOLYTE:** Nov. 5—Maia Olson  
Nov. 12—Darynne  
Nov. 19—Maia  
Nov. 26—Darynne
- COUNTER :** Nov.—Mark S.

Following is a list of our friends who have been lifted up in prayer by our faithful Prayer Warriors.

Sept. 27, 2023



Oct. 25, 2023

Following is a list of our friends who have been lifted up in prayer by our faithful Prayer Warriors.

Baby Luke                      Caroline                      Lisa (Becky) Grove

Please know that your prayers are so very much appreciated. Thanks and Blessings to all!

**REDEEMER BAZAAR**  
**CRAFTS AND BAKE SALE**  
**FRI., NOV. 3 9AM-1PM-**  
**SAT. NOV.4 9AM-3PM**  
**AFTER WORSHIP FOR REDEEMER FAMILY,**  
**SUNDAY, NOV. 5TH**  
**PLEASE STOP BY AND SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH.**



1



2



3



4



5



6



## COMMEMORATING ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI WITH OUR ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

(Pictured above)

1. Dakota and Money Penny

2. Mickey and Penny

3. Caitlin (Dakota's sister) and Tobias

4. Katy and Dude

5. Karen and Oliver

6. Mike and Oscar

← 7. Pastor Appreciation Day

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	Total
Receipts	17,060.00	11,595.00	10,544.00	23,788.00	16,172.10	12,260.25	17,675.00	10,209.00	20121	139,424.35
Budget	18,539.17	18,539.17	18,539.17	18,539.17	18,539.17	18,539.17	18,539.17	18,539.17	18,539.17	166,852.50
Difference	(1,479.17)	(6,944.17)	(7,995.17)	5,248.83	(2,367.07)	(6,278.92)	(864.17)	(8,330.17)	1,581.83	(27,428.15)
Expenses	14,153.87	16,614.24	12,639.58	14,895.63	16,540.08	10,536.15	19660.15	14,775.40	25681.76	145,496.86
Budget	18,539.17	18,539.17	18,539.17	18,539.17	18,539.17	18,539.17	18,539.17	18,539.17	18,539.17	166,852.50
Difference	(4,385.30)	(1,924.93)	(5,899.59)	(3,643.54)	(1,999.09)	(8,003.02)	1,120.98	(3,763.77)	7,142.59	(21,355.64)
Loan Re- ceipts	1,255.00	475.00	390.00	2,330.00	1,835.00	945.00	1,680.00	1,200.00	1,350.00	11,460.00
Loan Pay- ments	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	9,765.00
Difference	170.00	(610.00)	(695.00)	1,245.00	750.00	(140.00)	595.00	115.00	1,350.00	2,780.00

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
**2525 BELLE TERRACE, P O BOX 13132-93389, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304**

**Pastor: Rev. Jon Christenson** ..... **832-7881** ..... **Secretary: Phyllis Elrod**

**E-mail address: r1cbakersfield@sbcglobal.net**      **Web site address: www.bakersfieldlutheran.org**





# November 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>DON'T FORGET TO <b>FALL BACK</b></p> <p>Change clocks back</p>		<p>Al-Anon 6:30-7:30</p>	<p>1 Lunch-Bunch 11 am</p> <p>Pacifica 10-11</p> <p>study 6-7 pm</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>  <p>Holiday Bazaar</p> <p>9am—1 pm</p>	<p>9am—3 pm A.A. 5:30-6:30</p>
<p>5</p> <p>9:30 worship Fellowship 10:30 S.S. 11:00-11:25</p>  <p>ALL SAINTS' DAY</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Al-Anon 6:30-7:30</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Quilting &amp; Prayer Shawl 9am -3 pm</p> <p>Sack supper 5:30—Bible study 6-7 pm</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>  <p>workday.</p>  <p>Veterans Day</p> <p>A.A. 5:30-6:30</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9:30 worship Fellowship 10:30 S.S. 11:00-11:25</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Worship &amp; Music 10 am</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Al-Anon 6:30-7:30</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Pacifica 10-11 Afternoon Circle 1:30</p> <p>Sack supper 5:30—Bible study 6-7 pm</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Senior game day 12:00 bring lunch, games @12L30</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Council 6 pm Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Garden Club 9 am- noon</p> <p>A.A. 5:30-6:30</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:30 worship Fellowship 10:30 S.S. 11:00-11:25</p>  <p>Christ the King SUNDAY</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Knitting machine lessons: 9-11</p> <p>Al-Anon 6:30-7:30</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Thanksgiving Eve Service at Emmanuel 7 pm</p>	<p>23</p>  <p>Happy Thanksgiving</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>A.A. 5:30-6:30</p>
<p>26</p> <p>27 First Sunday of Advent 9:30 worship Fellowship 10:30 S.S.</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Al-Anon 6:30-7:30</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Sack supper 5:30—Bible study 6-7 pm</p>			