



Redeemer Lutheran Church



Voice of Redeemer

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THE DAY OF PENTECOST: THE CHURCH'S BIRTHDAY AND THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT

As we move through the church calendar, one of the most powerful and transformative days we celebrate is the **Day of Pentecost**, which this year falls on **Sunday, June 8th**. Often referred to as the “**birthday of the Church**,” Pentecost marks the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples, empowering them to boldly proclaim the gospel to the world.

What Is Pentecost?

Pentecost comes from the Greek word meaning “fiftieth,” and it occurs fifty days after Easter. Originally a Jewish festival celebrating the harvest (also known as the Feast of Weeks), Pentecost took on new meaning in the Christian tradition following the resurrection of Jesus. As recorded in **Acts 2**, the disciples were gathered in Jerusalem when a sound like a rushing wind filled the house, and tongues of fire appeared above each of them. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in different languages, allowing people from many nations to hear the gospel in their own tongue.

This miraculous event drew thousands to faith and marked the beginning of the Church’s mission to share the good news with all people.

Why It Matters

Pentecost reminds us that **the Holy Spirit is alive and active**, not only in the early Church but also in our lives today. The same Spirit that empowered St. Peter to preach with courage and conviction dwells within us—guiding, comforting, and equipping us to be Christ’s witnesses in the world.

It’s also a day that celebrates **unity in diversity**. Though the crowd in Jerusalem was made up of many nations and languages, the Spirit brought them together in understanding and faith. In a world that often feels divided, Pentecost reminds us that God’s Spirit unites us across cultures, generations, and backgrounds.

How We Celebrate

At Redeemer, we’ll mark Pentecost with **joyful worship** and a celebration of the Spirit’s presence in our community. You may notice the sanctuary decorated in **red**, the liturgical color of Pentecost, symbolizing the fire of the Holy Spirit. We encourage everyone to wear something red to worship as a sign of our shared life in the Spirit.

Let us come together to give thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit and renew our call to be a Spirit-filled people, sent out to love and serve in Christ’s name.

Come, Holy Spirit!

In Christ’s love,

Pastor Jon Christenson





Applying Bible Principles to Stewardship

Macedonia was a little country located north of Greece. Familiar Bible towns were located there, including Berea, Philippi and Thessalonica. Alexander the Great brought the country to prominence, and the Apostle Paul was summoned to preach there by a heavenly vision. As a result of his obedience to that call from God, many people in Macedonia became Christians.

Numerous Bible characters were wealthy individuals. Men like Abraham, Moses, Job, Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus, and others were blessed of God with great wealth. Perhaps for reasons best known only to him, God allows some people to occupy higher positions than others on the ladder of economic success.

The Christians at Macedonia were just the opposite. For the most part, they were poor. Really poor. Dirt poor. Poor as church mice. You get the picture.

These were not the kind of folks to whom you might turn if you needed to take a special offering. They would be the last ones whom you would expect to give or even to be able to give. But listen to the tremendous commendation they received from the Apostle Paul as described in Second Corinthians chapter 8:

Our brothers, we want you to know what God's grace has accomplished in the churches in Macedonia. They have been severely tested by the troubles they went through; but their joy was so great that they were extremely generous in their giving, even though they are very poor. I can assure you that they gave as much as they could, and even more than they could. Of their own free will they begged us and pleaded for the privilege of having part in helping God's people. . . .First they gave themselves to the Lord; and then, by God's will they gave themselves to us as well.

How was it the Christians in Macedonia who were in such extreme poverty could give so generously, so willingly, and so eagerly? It was because they first gave themselves to the Lord and then did as he directed in their lives. As a direct result of first giving themselves, they gave as much as they were able: and more.

Spiritual giving, the kind that honors God, the kind that ministers in his name to other people, the kind that stores up treasure in heaven, does not begin with the movement of the hand to the purse, wallet or checkbook. Spiritual giving is something that begins in the heart. You see, when we give ourselves to the Lord, our financial resources will follow. Or as Stephen Olford described the Macedonian Christians so well, "Their giving was the outward expression of their utter dedication to God. The crowning point of their generosity was their complete self-surrender."

When we consider the spiritual giving of the Macedonians, can we do any less? Regardless of our economic status, when we consider how abundantly God has blessed us, and when we consider his claim on our lives and our possessions, our song and prayer must be that of Isaac Watts, who wrote:

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.


CHURCH BUSINESS

| REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH 2025 Financial Report | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| | January | February | March | April | Total |
| Receipts | 31,956.00 | 15,890.50 | 19,084.00 | 9,335.80 | 76,266.30 |
| Budget | 16,069.17 | 16,069.17 | 16,069.17 | 16,069.17 | 64,276.68 |
| Difference | 15,886.83 | (178.67) | 3,014.83 | (6,733.37) | 11,989.62 |
| Expenses | 22,802.93 | 18,314.52 | 13,447.73 | 13,494.11 | 68,059.29 |
| Budget | 16,069.17 | 16,069.17 | 16,069.17 | 16,069.17 | 64,276.68 |
| Difference | (6,733.76) | (2,245.35) | 2,621.44 | 2,575.06 | (3,782.61) |
| Total | 9,153.07 | (2,424.02) | 5,636.27 | (4,158.31) | 8,207.01 |
| Compared to Budget | | | | | |
| Loan Re- ceipts | 1,550.00 | 1,575.00 | 1,575.00 | 1,725.00 | 6,425.00 |
| Loan Pay- ments | 1,085.00 | 1,085.00 | 1,085.00 | 1,085.00 | 4,340.00 |
| Difference | 465.00 | 490.00 | 490.00 | 640.00 | 2,085.00 |
| Total All | 9,618.07 | (1,934.02) | 6,126.27 | (3,518.31) | 10,292.01 |

Bible Quiz

While in Jerusalem for Pentecost, people from many faraway lands miraculously heard the disciples preaching in their own native languages. Which of the following modern-day places was/were represented?

- A. Egypt
- B. Libya
- C. Crete
- D. Rome
- E. All of the above
- F. A, B and D



ANSWERS

←
ACTS 2:9-11


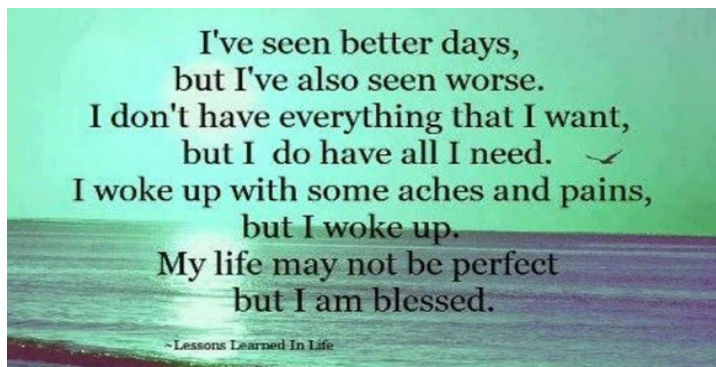
→
ACTS 2:14

↘
ACTS 2:15

Bible Quiz

Which follower of Jesus preached to the crowds after receiving the Holy Spirit on Pentecost?


- A. John
- B. Peter
- C. Mary Magdalene
- D. Paul

Bible Quiz

According to Peter, at what time of day did the Holy Spirit come upon the disciples on Pentecost?

- A. 9 a.m.
- B. Noon
- C. 3:30 p.m.
- D. 9 p.m.



June Activities



LUNCH BUNCH is Wednesday 6/4/25 @11am. California Pizza Kitchen, 10150 Stockdale Hwy. Please make reservations with Judy. All are welcome.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY AND QUILTING are Wednesday 6/11/25- 9am-3pm in the Fellowship Hall. Karen will provide snacks. Please bring your own sack lunch.

AFTERNOON CIRCLE is Wednesday 6/18/25 @1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will discuss Spiritual Gifts in the Life of the Church. AnneMarie will bring refreshments. All ladies are invited!



SENIOR GAME DAY is Wednesday, June 25@ 12 noon, if you bring lunch. Games begin @ 12:30. All are welcome, (no age limits). Bring a friend!



WINE AND DINE is Thursday 6/26/25 @ 6pm, at The Vault, 3901 Ming Ave. Please make reservations with Linda Cohen.

VBS

SAVE THE DATE

AUGUST 4th-8th

Join us for VBS week - ask your friends to join you for a fun filled **ROAD TRIP** learning about God's Love!



DATES TO REMEMBER



Sat. June 7
9am



Worship & Music
June 12 10 am
All are welcome!



Sunday, June 22



| | |
|------------------|----|
| June Evans | 01 |
| Bill Silveira | 10 |
| Mara Ziegler | 10 |
| Karen Musgrove | 11 |
| Trulaine Woken | 11 |
| Hannah Shellgren | 13 |
| Laura Haywood | 16 |
| Jamie Spillers | 17 |
| Sue Anderson | 20 |
| Dianne Ladd | 23 |

Happy Anniversary

| | |
|---------------------------|----|
| Guy & Rachel Hairfield | 07 |
| Scott & Susan Petty | 21 |
| Robert & Arlene Hamstreet | 23 |
| Jack & Sherry Clayton | 26 |

JUNE & JULY CHARITY EVERGREEN SCHOOL

SCHOOL BEGINS
AUGUST 13

School supplies,
back packs, hygiene
supplies, cash.



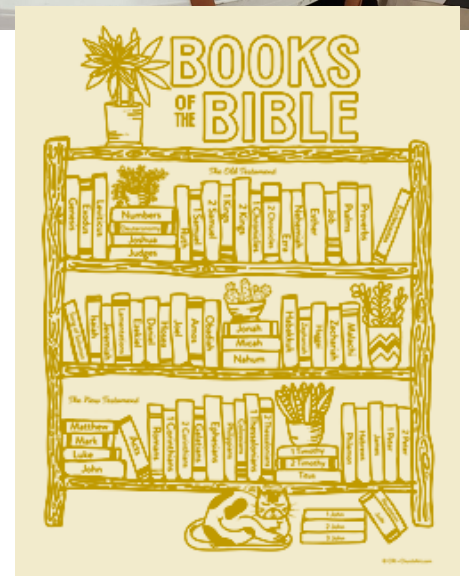
On Sunday, May 4th, Leith Coomer and Emily Evans were presented their Bibles for memorizing the books of the Bible . Pictured below: Leith, Pastor Jon and Emily pose before their cake was served.
CONGRATULATIONS!



Above: Chad, (at the end of the table, Emily in pink) and her cousins all are pleased with Emily's accomplishments.



Pictured above: Grandpa Michael, parents, Ryan , (Keith) Liz, Grandma Bonnie and sister Darynne were on hand to support Leith.

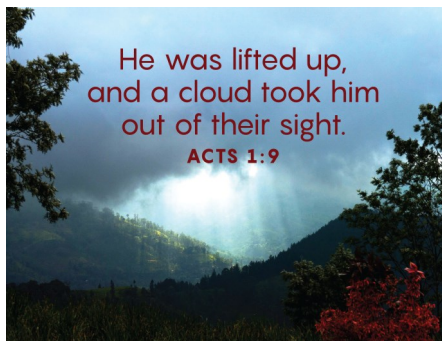


IN HIS SERVICE

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS—JUNE 2025

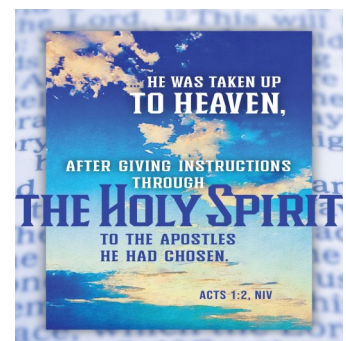
| Area of service | June 1 | June 8 | June 15 | June 22 | June 29 |
|---------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Altar Guild | Louise | _____ | | _____→ | |
| Assistant to Pastor | Jan | _____ | | _____→ | |
| Flowers | Linda | | Louise | Phyllis | Clayton family |
| Lector | | Tammy | Laura | Nate | |
| Fellowship | | Karen | | Tammy | Nate |
| Acolyte | Leo | Leith | Maia | Darynne | Leo |
| Greeter | Karen | _____→ | | | |
| Counters | | | | | |

This schedule does not reflect changes or additions made after May 26th,



Ascension Day Service
Thursday, May 29th
7 p.m.

Bring your favorite pie for
Pie Fellowship
after worship.



April 24, 2025 *In Our Thoughts & Prayers* May 26, 2025

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









| | | | |
|-------------|---------------|---------|-----------------------|
| Kendred | John Folger | Dianne | Families of Baby Finn |
| Sawyer Finn | Jeremy Warren | TLilian | and John Folger |

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

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: rlcbakersfield@gmail.com

JUNE 2025

Happy
FATHER'S
Day

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--------|--|---|--|--|---|
|  | |  | |  | | |
| 1 Worship 9:30 Coffee 10:30 | 2 | 3 Hymn sing Riverstone Terrace 3 pm | 4 Lunch Bunch 11 am Riverstone Terrace worship 10-11 am | 5 | 6 | 7 9 am—noon  |
| 8 Worship 9:30 Coffee 10:30  | 9 | 10 Hymn sing Riverstone Terrace 3 pm | 11 Prayer Shawl Ministry 9-3 | 12 | 13 | 14  |
| 15 Worship 9:30 Coffee hour 1030 Trinity Sunday  | 16 | 17 Hymn sing Riverstone Terrace 3 pm | 18 Riverstone Terrace worship 10-11 am | 19  | 20  SUMMER | 21 Garden Club 9—1 pm |
| 22 Worship 9:30 Coffee 10:30 Council 11:00 | 23 | 24 Hymn sing Riverstone Terrace 3 pm | 25 Senior Game Day Noon | 26 Wine & Dine 6:00 pm | 27 | 28 Glass Club - 11-2 pm |
| 29 Worship 9:30 Coffee 10:30 | 30 | | | | | |