

Connection

Redeemer Lutheran Church
March 2024





Pastor Chip Winter

Senior Pastor

"In like a lion and out like a lamb." While this is not a fool-proof description of the month of March it is frequently enough accurate of the weather that the phrase has come down to the twenty-first century. Winds and sometimes snow at the beginning of the month often enough give way to sun and much gentler precipitation at its close. As this is written the three inches of snow which fell in the latter half of February are melting. But we have predictions of lower temperatures in the days ahead – so we'll see how March truly enters!

In terms of the church year in 2024 we are in the season of Lent. In this season we watch the Lion of the tribe of Judah marching resolutely to a fatal confrontation in Jerusalem (Genesis 49:9, and Revelation 5:5). It would seem that this is the imagery which moved C. S. Lewis in the creation of his character, Aslan, in "The Chronicles of Narnia." "'Course He's not a tame lion but He's good," so would Mr. Beaver describe Him.

If you'll recall in "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe", the lion Aslan would be sacrificed on the great stone tablet. It is to this that we are moving in Lent as we observe the sacrifice of Jesus on Good Friday. There we see most clearly what John the Baptist foretold when he pointed to Jesus, proclaiming "Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world," the ultimate fulfillment of the Lamb of Passover – the sacrifice which would win forgiveness for the children of God.

But we must never stop there. For Jesus is raised from the dead in eternal triumph! He therefore is known among us in this way: (Revelation 5:5) "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."

This is also revealed to us as the Lamb once slain but alive and victorious evermore: (Revelation 5, selected verses) *6 And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. 7 And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. 8 And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. 9 And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, 10 and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." 11 Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, 12 saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" 13 And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"*

God bless your lent and Easter observations as we worship the Lamb once slain – the Lion of the Tribe of Judah!

Easter Schedule

March 27

No Services

March 28

Maundy Thursday Worship
12:15 & 6:00 p.m.

March 29

Good Friday Worship
12:15 & 6:00 p.m.

March 30

Easter Vigil
5:30 p.m.

March 31

Easter Worship
8:15 & 10:45 a.m.
*Breakfast served at 9:30 a.m.
in the Life Center*

Concordia University
Wind Symphony
Concert

March 9
7:00 p.m.

Free Admission

*A free will offering
will be taken*

Wind Symphony

of Concordia University Chicago

Conducted by Dr. Richard R. Fischer

The Fred and Jane Wittlinger Endowed Chair in Music Performance

Canathon

Redeemer's Food Pantry is a member of the Anti-Hunger Coalition for the Peoria Area. During the month of March we are participating in the annual Can-A-Thon.

The food pantry will be distributing paper bags with instructions included. Look for the red wagon or table by the front office to drop off your donations! Thank you!

WOR Mother/Daughter/Friend Event

On Tuesday April 16th, beginning at 6:30 p.m. our very own Jennifer Anders will coordinate our Mother/Daughter/Friend event. This event will be enjoyable for all ages so bring your daughters young and old to enjoy an evening of faith. Childcare will be available for the very young but please email names and ages to rsvp4wor@gmail.com so that we can have staff available.

Sixty Plus Event

Join us on March 14th at 11:30 a.m. in Milller Hall, where Pete Schmidt will be introducing us to Jim Nowlan, our guest presenter for March. Pete came to know James Nowlan by following his columns in the Journal Star back when it was truly a local newspaper. Jim is a jack-of-all-trades in Illinois public affairs. He has been an Illinois legislator, state agency director, senior aide to three governors, professor, newspaper publisher, and columnist.

If you would like to hear from someone with a refreshing and relevant perspective of politics, this is a golden opportunity.

Gondolas and drinks will be provided for \$5.00 per person. If your last name begins with A-K, please bring a side dish, and a dessert if L-Z. Sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board in the office hallway. Any questions, please contact Pete Schmidt at (309)678-2486 or Ken Stoppenhagen at (309)265-1992. Hope to see you and bring a friend!

Men's Mission Trip

The men's mission trip to Appalachia is scheduled for May 4th - 11th. Schedule your time off to do the Lord's work in the mountains. Interested? Contact Larry Locher at 309-397-0347. No experience necessary.

Easter Lily Dedications

Easter will be here soon and we want to decorate the Sanctuary with Easter Lilies. This is a wonderful opportunity to remember our blessings by dedicating one or more flowers in honor of or in tribute to someone. Sign-up sheet and envelopes are located in the office hallway. This year, the donation per plant is \$20.00. These envelopes must be returned by March 20th and dedications will be noted in our publication on March 31st. Please put envelopes in the collection plate or give them to the office. Questions? Contact Jeff or Donna Schlatter (309) 681-1085

Lutheran Watch Weekend

We Are The CHURCH – A Call to Mission
SAVE THE DATE! Watch #45 will be held at Redeemer on the weekend of April 12th - 14th.

WATCH is a weekend retreat for spiritual renewal, with a focus on two key relationships: our individual relationship with God in Christ, and our relationships with each other through Christ.

WATCH offers you:

- A closer walk with God
- A new perspective on your faith
- Fellowship with other Christians
- Some quiet time with your Lord
- An oasis for refreshing your relationship with Christ

WATCH weekend begins at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, April 12th, and ends on Sunday before 3:00 p.m. There will be no overnight accommodation provided for this weekend. Three meals will be provided on Saturday and two meals on Sunday.

For more information visit peorialutheranwatch.org or email wsc@peorialutheranwatch.org. You may also contact Donna Campbell at 309-657-1131 or donna7121@comcast.net. Brochures are available at the Welcome Desk.

Blood Drive

The next blood drive held at Redeemer will be on Tuesday, March 26th, from 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. in Miller Hall. To make an appointment call 1-800-733-2767 or visit www.redcrossblood.org.

Family Camp

Redeemer is offering something new this summer for our families- Family Camp! Family Camp will take place on Sunday evenings during the summer from 5-7:30 pm. Family Camp is designed for families with children of all ages and allows parents, grandparents, and other adults to experience the love of Jesus with their children as a family of God.

We will study God's rock-solid truth in a world of shifting sands. The world gives us lots of different messages, but God's truth never changes. Together we will learn to recognize the difference between what the world tells us and the Truth from God's Word, the Bible.

Family Camp will start with dinner at 5:00 pm and the activities will begin at 5:30. We will learn Bible stories from our Bible Storytelling Team, do crafts and activities and play games. This will be fun for the whole family! Family Camp will be on June 30, July 7, July 14, and July 21. Each night will offer a different Bible story and activities. Come every night or any of the nights that fit your schedule. Registration and more information will be coming soon.



Jr High Camp

Jr High Camp will be June 10-12 at Camp Great Oaks in Lacon, IL for youth who will be going into 6th, 7th and 8th grade in the Fall of 2024. Save those dates! Youth will be dropped off on Monday morning and will need to be picked up on Wednesday at noon.

Our theme this year is "Tested" based on 1 Peter 1:7. Activities will include time in God's Word, high ropes course and zipline, swimming, fishing, disc-golf, archery, boating, hiking, gaga ball, sand volleyball, crafts, games, and lots more! We'll try to squeeze in a little bit of sleep in there too! Keep your eyes on your email for more information.



Palm Sunday Processional

All children are invited to participate in the Palm Sunday processional on Sunday, March 24th at the start of the 8:15 and 10:45 services. Please meet in the area outside of the Chapel right before the service to receive your palm branch and to line up. After the children have processed in, they will sit with their parents for the rest of the service.

Sunday School Offering

The Sunday School offerings collected during February and March are going in support of Redeemer's Food Pantry. Recently the Sunday School children took a field trip to the Food Pantry to learn about the guests who use the pantry and how our volunteers run it. They got to go into the walk-in freezer and heard about how our volunteers share God's Word with our guests. We also learned that foods marked with green dots indicate heart healthy foods to help our guests make healthy choices. It was very cool to hear all about everything that is being done to help our community.

In addition to putting money in the purple offering bowls on Sunday mornings, children and families are encouraged to bring in food items to help stock the shelves. Items that would be especially helpful at this time are:

Cereal • Peanut butter • Canned fruit (no sugar added, or light syrup is preferred) • Canned meat (chicken, tuna, beef, or pork) • Pasta (boxed or bagged- spaghetti, elbow, penne, lasagna, shells, egg noodles, ect.)

All sizes, brands, and flavors are appreciated to provide more variety for our pantry guests.



Jr High Nerf Night



Concordia LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Food Pantry Tour



Concordia LUTHERAN SCHOOL
CHRIST-CENTERED
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
LOVING COMMUNITY

ENROLLING NOW

FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

www.concordiapeoria.com
Call Today: 309-691-8921

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE



Sunday School



Sunday School started a new unit in February. The fun is in fully swing! There is plenty of room for more. All children are invited to join us Sunday mornings at 9:30 am.



REDEEMER



NOT YOUR AVERAGE JOE
THE STORY OF JOSEPH WITH A 50'S TWIST

The timeless tale of Joseph from the Old Testament gets a groovy makeover in the rocking era of the 50's.

March 22nd & 23rd at 6:00 pm

Join Us!

Concordia LUTHERAN SCHOOL

CLS Sunday

JOIN US AT THE 8:15 SERVICE ON MARCH 17TH TO HEAR SPECIAL MUSIC PERFORMED BY CONCORDIA'S CONCERT BAND

PATHWAY MINISTRIES

Peoria Rescue Ministries is now Pathway Ministries (you may have noticed the recent sign change in front of Esther House next door to Redeemer.) Redeemer's Mission Board is helping to support them with a recent gift of \$2000 thanks to the 5% of offerings we receive each month from our members. Below is an article from their latest newsletter about their recent rebranding.

We couldn't be more excited about our new name and the opportunities it is going to give us to reintroduce ourselves to the community. There is a growing need, and we have the daunting but beautiful challenge of meeting that need. You are part of our family and likely are already aware of the numerous lives that are being permanently and eternally changed in our ministry. But many in our community are not. We want to use this new name as a chance to shout from the rooftops that "there is a pathway out of poverty." We will do that quite literally with new signage along our rooftop that will be visible from the bus station for those who might be arriving in Peoria with an uncertain future or for those there just seeking shelter from the harsh weather. We will do it with a new website that will more clearly proclaim our desire to see people go from "poverty to progress" and allow people to more easily find the help they need. And we will do it with an increased digital presence, taking the message of real life change through Jesus to where people are online.

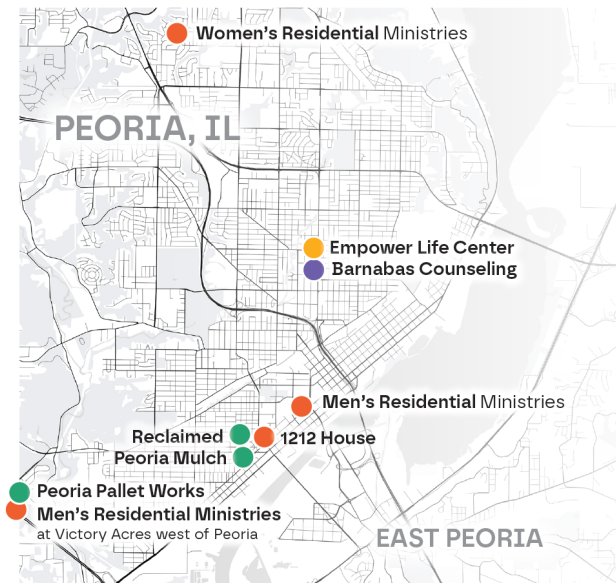
We also think this new name can be a great tool for you to talk with others about the work that Pathway Ministries is doing in the community. We want to use 2024 to share stories of progress with you so you can be more connected to the lives that are being changed, and so you can pass those stories along to others. Our increased presence on social media and our new website will give you new ways to interact, and new chances to "like, subscribe, and share" the work of Pathway Ministries! Of course, you're going to hear about the mission of Pathway Ministries on the radio, TV, and billboards, but our greatest promotional resource is you!

Help us spread the message that Jesus still saves, and that He is the only real pathway out of poverty. We know that God has amazing things in store for Pathway Ministries in 2024, and we are grateful that you are part of the story.

HOW PATHWAY MINISTRIES

SERVES THE COMMUNITY

DID YOU KNOW? Our ministries are based in Peoria, IL but we serve people across Central Illinois and beyond.



Residential Ministries

For over 60 years, residential ministries has been providing men and women the first step out of poverty. These facilities serve as emergency shelters on cold nights, housing for long term programs, or transition housing.

Barnabas Counseling

Operating with a low or no-cost model, people who are mentally, emotionally and spiritually discouraged can receive discerning Biblical wisdom in a clinically excellent setting.

Empower Life Center

Offering support before, during, and after a pregnancy, Empower Life Center empowers families make a choice for life.

Work Readiness Centers

Providing job and life skills to students, these work readiness centers also provide an income to the ministry and services to community.

Tithes & Offerings YTD as of January

Actual \$169,610.72

Budget \$159,096.57

484

January Average Attendance

Important Dates

March 14: 60+ Event
March 24: Palm Sunday
March 28: Maundy Thursday
March 29: Good Friday
March 30: Easter Vigil
March 31: Easter
April 16: Mother/Daughter/Friend Event
May 4: Appalachia Mission Trip
June 10-12: Jr High Camp

Submissions for *Redeemer Connection* are due on the 20th of each month. Articles may be submitted by emailing katie.lunzman@redeemerlutheran.com or by using the Communication Request link at redeemerlutheran.com.



📍 6801 N. Allen Road
Peoria, IL 61614

☎ 309-691-2333

🌐 redeemerlutheran.com

📘 facebook.com/redeemerpeoria

📷 [redeemerpeoria](https://instagram.com/redeemerpeoria)

Sunday worship is at 8:15 a.m. (traditional) and 10:45 a.m. (contemporary) with Bible study hour and Sunday school at 9:30 a.m.

Saturday evening worship is at 5:30 p.m. The church office is open 8:30 - 4:30 M-F

Staff

Chip Winter Senior Pastor ext. 113
chip.winter@redeemerlutheran.com

Aaron Hickey Associate Pastor ext. 129
aaron.hickey@redeemerlutheran.com

Jennifer Anders Children's Ministry ext. 131
jennifer.anders@redeemerlutheran.com

Phyllis Call Care Ministry ext. 135
phyllis.call@redeemerlutheran.com

Donna Campbell Accountant ext. 111
donna.campbell@redeemerlutheran.com

Keith Eglund Director of Operations ext. 112
keith.egland@redeemerlutheran.com

Johanna Harms Administrative Assistant ext. 110
johanna.harms@redeemerlutheran.com

Scott Ibe Worship and Music ext. 116
scott.ibe@redeemerlutheran.com

Katie Lunzman Communications ext. 118
katie.lunzman@redeemerlutheran.com

Angie Phillips Care Ministry ext. 130
angela.phillips@redeemerlutheran.com

Louisa Pummill Preschool & Childcare ext. 128
louisa.pummill@redeemerlutheran.com

Jeff Schlatter Building, Grounds & Facility Use ext. 125
jeff.schlatter@redeemerlutheran.com

Jeff Shoumaker Missions/Small Groups ext. 114
jeff.shoumaker@redeemerlutheran.com

Sue Skahill Preschool & Childcare ext. 115
sue.skahill@redeemerlutheran.com

Ron Miller Visitation Pastor

Tara Barker Nursery Coordinator 309-453-8764

BUT THANKS BE TO GOD,
WHO GIVES US THE VICTORY
THROUGH OUR LORD
JESUS CHRIST.

I CORINTHIANS 15:57

#redeemerpeoria