Newsletter - April 2022

To reach out to God and others that all may know and reflect Christ's love.

Revelation 21:5

And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also, he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Are you ready to celebrate Christ's resurrection? Before we organize a party planning committee, I want to ask why you are preparing to celebrate Easter?

There are several reasons to celebrate Easter.

1. It is a holiday many people who celebrate at Easter do not even identify as Christian. They celebrate participating in neighborhood easter egg hunts, purchase candy, and give gifts.

A Washington Post article from April 19, 2019, says this.

America's fastest-growing "religious" group comprises of people who say they don't have a religious affiliation or are "nothing in particular." The "Nones" make up nearly a quarter of the country, so those "Easter Keg Hunts" or whisker-painting sessions (yes these are real events) or annual treks through a church door matter in understanding religion in 2019. And for the nonreligious themselves, taking part in some type of Easter experience can still matter a lot, for reasons that can be complex, based on childhood faith or nostalgia or finding community in these harried times.

Christian or non-Christian, you can celebrate Easter, but does it mean you are celebrating the significance of the holiday and the resurrection of Jesus?

2. Celebrating primarily a past event, People celebrate just the resurrection of Jesus.

You may be asking the question, well, pastor isn't the point of Easter is we gather to remember Jesus rose from the dead. Yes and No

Yes, we celebrate the past truths at Easter, Christ's death on the cross. He bore my sins, took my judgment, and rose three days later—all of these things we rejoice in together. We remind ourselves and tell the next generation about God's faithfulness and the grace he has given us in His Son. However, we are not just people of the past but also people of the future.

3. We are celebrating not only the history but also the future. The fact God is making all things new.

Theologian Herman Bavinck says this,

[...] For the same reason, the preaching of Jesus cannot be separated from what has followed after the cross. ... Christ, who as the Word created all things, and bore the cross as the Servant of the Lord, is the same who rose again and ascended into heaven, and will return as Judge of the quick and the dead. In his exaltation he regains what he denied himself in his humiliation; but now it is freed from guilt, purified from stain, reborn and renewed by the Spirit. The resurrection is the fundamental restoration of all culture. Christ himself took again the body in which he bore on the cross the sin of the world; he has received all power in heaven and earth, and is exalted by God himself to his right hand as Lord and Christ.

Caring Hands & Hearts

Serving our Community through Ministries of Redeemer

Church and Education Building

- Princeton Heights: meets monthly for Neighborhood Association meeting and monthly for their Board Meetings.
- Local 805 Theater Wardrobe for monthly meetings
- Kings Cross Community Church uses our Sanctuary for their Saturday Gatherings.
- All Souls Community Church uses our Sanctuary, Toddler rooms and pit area for the Sunday 11:15 gatherings.
- First Light Ministry uses our Library on Wednesday evenings.
- Girl Scout Troop—uses our Library for their meetings and used Fellowship Hall for their Thanksgiving dinner hosting their families for a delicious meal they prepared.
- Al-Anon uses our Library for their weekly meetings and quarterly meetings.
- Gateway Science Academy-South School using a Classroom for 2021—2022 School Year for their Advance Math Students. Winter Concerts on Dec. 13, 14 & 15th.
- GSA-South PTO "Family Bingo Night" on April 2nd.
- GSA-Middle School Choral Concert on 12/9; - Musical "Lion King". Begin rehearsals 2/7- performance on March 17, 18 and 19
- GSA-High School Drama performance 1/28, 29 & 30th.

- Dartball league—our team uses our facility for their home field.
- Affton Christian Food Pantry

A group helped to sort over 2600 canned food items on 12/11.

Food Pantry for GSA-South School

Monthly canned goods and Cash donations from the Quilters and others.

Women's Fellowship have donated Sponsors a child from E.C.H. each month.

- Participated in the GSA-South Trunk or Treat with 2 tables and lots of candy to share with the children of the school and surrounding community.
- November mission project -Collected items for gifts for the E.C.H. Store.

Church Wide- Mission projects

- Dutchtown Outreach—Donations of items and gifts for their annual Operation Christmas Kid Shoebox Ministry Night and supplied a meal for all before packing the shoe boxes.
- GSA-South School—We participated in their Giving Tree donations. We helped to make the season bright for over 30 different families.

<u>Church Wide Mission Support through</u> <u>our Financial Giving</u>

Local Ministries: Up Unleashing Potential; Emmaus Home; Every Child's Hope Global Ministries: Mike & Becky Kuelker; Micah Project and AIM School (Christian Education)

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When we celebrate, we are celebrating more than a holiday, and we are celebrating more than an event that happened in the past; we are celebrating our shared future in the hope all of creation will be restored. Jesus' resurrection is why we celebrate and invite people to trust in Jesus. We believe Jesus will bring peace, hope, love, and joy in the lives of our friends and family, in the same way, he has brought those virtues in our lives. This is why we celebrate Easter and want to invite others to celebrate with us.

> Blessings, Pastor Jeff

GROWING IN PRAYER -



The beginning of April finds us still in the season of Lent. Our prayers might continue to reflect self-examination, confession, and repentance. But for the remainder of April, we would like our prayers to focus on Holy Week, the beginning of Jesus' journey towards the cross. Think about how the events of Jesus' life during Holy Week impacts our own lives today.

<u>PALM SUNDAY</u>: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." Zechariah 9:9

When Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a donkey, the people waved palm branches and shouted "Hosanna!" They were hailing Christ as King. They looked for someone to fight their battles in their present day world. Yet God had the ultimate plan of sending His Son to fight the last battle over death. This is the greatness of why we celebrate Palm Sunday.

Do you know of any other things that the Bible tells us happened on this day? (Matt. 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:28-44, John 12:12-19)

Pray that God leads you to a deeper understanding of the events of Palm Sunday.

<u>MAUNDY THURSDAY</u>: "A new commandment I give you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another." John 13:34

Maundy Thursday was filled with significant events. Jesus shared the Last Supper with His disciples (a remembrance of His blood shed, and body broken), washed their feet (as an example of serving and loving others), and retreated to the Garden of Gethsemane where he prayed and agonized over what he was about to face on the cross (His hour had come).

When praying this month, we would do well to often reflect upon all these happenings of that Maundy Thursday.

<u>GOOD FRIDAY</u>: "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

On Good Friday, Jesus willingly suffered and died by crucifixion as the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. Jesus went through so much for each of us to secure our salvation.

As we go through this month, pray for help in remembering with wonder and awe how Jesus suffered for us and how He paid the price. And it was at such a great cost.

EASTER SUNDAY: But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. I Cor.15:57.

There is good news! Because Jesus conquered death, this made a way for all who believe in Him. If we believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus, we can receive forgiveness and salvation. We are not meant to keep this good news to ourselves. Jesus died for the sins of the world, and the gift of salvation is available to all who believe. As Christians, we are called to tell others about God and His great love for us.

Pray about who you can share this good news.

Pray about who you can show hospitality to and invite to church on Easter.

Not only did Jesus die for our sins, but He rose again, defeating sin and death for all time. Jesus' resurrection brings us hope because, though our lives are full of sorrow and pain, sickness and death, His victory over the grave brings us hope amid the struggles of life. Paul proclaims in Romans 8:18, *"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us."* This is our great hope. This is what sustains us in times of suffering and doubt.

What are you currently struggling with?

How does Jesus' resurrection impact that?

Kuelker Missions ... Your Missionaries to Mexico

We greet with assurance of the Word that our Savior has risen. In Matthew 28:5&6 "And the angel answered and said to the women, Do not fear, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. Matthew 28:6 He is not here, for He has risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." This is the reason that we spread the Good News and rejoice daily. Remember, we don't have insurance, but we have assurance.

Well, so far, we are glad to report that God has blessed and provided for us. We started the itineration in Georgia, where we solidified old friendships. Then, we started the thrust of our itineration sharing in churches on how the word was transforming and impacting the people where we live. One of the churches did an interview with us. We headed north to Toledo. Today in two different churches we shared about the word giving us boldness to go out to the harvest field to bring the in the harvest.

Prayers:

God protection around us this trip that we have no problems Pray for our health and the safety of our daughter in México Prayer we find a house to rent or the finances to buy a house.

> Remember to Keep C.O.O.L (Christ Over Our Lives) Mike, Becky & Berenice



Woman's Fellowship

Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.

Please bring a sandwich, dessert and drinks will be provided.

VBS

Vacation Bible School will be June 13-17 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. We will be getting online registration set up soon through this site: <u>https://vbspro.events/p/events/redeemerstl-vbs2022</u>

Volunteers needed: Preschool Director for ages 3-5, Crew Leaders for Elementary students (K-5th) and Preschool Students (ages 3-5). Being a crew leader involves guiding a group of five students as they participate in activities. High school-adult volunteers welcome!

Interested in helping with music or skits at VBS? Please let Jamie Pollard know at 314-327-3188.

Items needed for VBS to borrow:

Pool Noodles—3 Tennis balls—6 Buckets—3 Hula hoops—3 Bowling pins—3 Neft balls—3

Donations:

Knee high stockings—3 total Balloons—package of 15—20 Yardsticks—3



Church Council: February 7, 2022 Meeting

Opening prayer and Devotion/Leadership Development – Pastor Jeff opened with a devotional on

"Rejoicing in God's Love/Grace". From the Book of Psalms. He then led us in prayer.

Minutes and Treasurers Reports: were reviewed and approved.

Worship: Pastor Jeff continuing the sermon series "Spiritual Disciplines".

Worship Information - On line and in person

This information is from Facebook and YouTube and our Website. Each "view" represents one phone, computer, or television that watched the service (partially or in its entirety). It does not tell us how many viewers there were on each device.

FebruaryFacebookYouTubeWebsite - SermonAverage views/week42527Average in person - 50

Music Ministry Update: We are continuing to look for a worship leader. We are coordinating from week to week with our musicians and song leaders. The Worship Leader would assist with the Worship planning, develop and encourage our singers and musicians, and possibly organizing a choir.

Three different committees are continuing to meet. (Welcome; Vision and Children and Families)

Update from Children & Family Ministries – Monumental (building a rock solid faith) VBS will be 6/13–6/17. Jamie Pollard has agreed to be the Director and the team is working together to develop the best possible experience for all the children attending.

Update from the Vision and Clarity– are currently working on "What are Redeemer's values?" God; Bible; Image bearers of God; Community and Joy.

Website Development: Refreshing website with a go live date of April 17th

Time away– Patti: May 1—May 8th.

House and Grounds - Northwest (back) wall of the balcony is water damage; Water issues near the outdoor elevator—parking lot; various plumbing issues; Bell Tower and fallen bricks; Sanctuary Projectors. Harry has developed a 5-year plan to prioritize and replace AC units which no longer work, Congregation will discuss at Annual Congregation Meeting in September. Currently there are 2 units which no longer work.

Study Items:

Restroom - on the Sanctuary level in the rear of the church. Projected costs would be \$40,000 - \$70,000.
We will continue to evaluate.

Action Item (Items to be acted upon)

1. Approved Bell Tower Emergency Repair Work — Approved bid for Staat to complete the project. Approximate cost \$45,220

2. Approved scheduled Church wide work day for April 2nd, 9 a.m.. Women's Fellowship is coordinating.

Memorials to Sustain the Vision

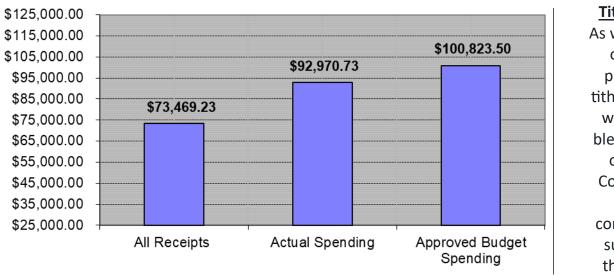
In memory of our dear friend **Richard Rowe**, passed on 2/15/2022 , loving husband of Beverly, by Dennis & Sharon Leicht, Sue & Harry Archambault, Phyllis Follmer, Dolores Cassimatis, Bob & JoAnn Jackson and Jean Jones.



In loving memory of our very dear friend, Rosemary Rogg, by Bill and Barb Onder.

In memory of Margaret Engelsdorfer, dear sister of Carl and Lorraine Riesinger, by Harry & Sue Archambault

Year to Date 9/1/2021—2/28/2022



Tithes and Offerings:

As we continue through our fiscal year our prayer is that God's tithes and our offerings will continue to be a blessing to the mission of the church. The Council is grateful for everyone who is continuing to strive to support God's work through His Church!



Online Giving!

Scan the QR code or go to https://redeemerstl.churchcenter.com/giving

Holy Week

Worship Schedule



<u> April 10 — Palm Sunday</u>

Join us at 9:00 am as we begin the journey to the Cross

<u>April 15 — Good Friday</u>

We will gather to reflect on our Lord and Savior's act of Love.

Please join us for a special evening of worship beginning at 7 pm.



April 17 - Easter Sunday Worship



Join us at 9 am as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! *OUR REDEEMER LIVES!*

Church Office Hours: Pastor Jeff has been coming up on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday from 9 am to 2 pm —besides Saturday & Sunday.

If you need to contact Pastor Jeff contact him at 314-363-5862. Patti continues to come up to the church office on Monday through Thursday from 9 am to 2 pm; besides Sunday.

		April 2022	2022			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
English as a Second Language Classes are individually scheduled during the week Woments Bible Study is off site					1 2 pm to 3:30 pm All Soul's Church Staff Meeting Theater / Nursery	3 to 9 pm GSA - Family Bingo Night 5 pm Worship Kings Cross Community Chrucch
ŝ	4	ۍ ا	6	2	8	Sanctuary
"Bring a Meal" Sunday 9:00 am Family Worship, Communion Young People remaining in worship Coffee Hour following worship in Fellowship Hall 10:15 am - Welcome Committee	9:00 am Quilters	9:30 a.m. Al -Anon			2 pm to 3:30 pm All Soul's Church Staff Meeting Theater / Nursery	5 pm Worship Kings Cross
11:15 am All Soul's Church - Sanctuary Al Soul's Church using Fellowship Hall after their worship		Women's Bible Study - 7 pm	6:30 - 9:30 p.m. FirstLight Ministry Small Group - Library	Girl Scout Troop 1386 Meeting - Library		Community Church Sanctuary
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Palm Sunday	9:00 am Quilters			<u>Maundy Thursday</u>	Good Friday	
9:00 am Family Worship Vouror Devola ramainino in worshin		9:30 a.m.		W V OU-O	7 pm Worship	
following worship in Fellowship Hall Coffee Hour following worship in Fellowship Hall 10:15 am - Children/Family Committee		HOLLA-IA		8. Bible Study & Bible Study	2 pm to 3:30 pm Al Sou's Church Staff Meeting T heater / Nursery	5 pm Worship
11:15 am All Soul's Church - Sanctuary	7:00 pm Church Council Meeting in the Library		6:30 - 9:30 p.m. FirstLight Ministry Small Group - Library			kings cross Community Church Sanctuary
17		19	20	21	22	23
Easter Sunday 9:00 am Family Worship Young People remaining in worship Coffee Hour following worship in Fellowship Hall	9:00 am Quiters	9:30 a.m. Al -Anon		9:00 AM Mens Fellowship & Bible Study	2 pm to 3:30 pm All Soul's Church Staff Meeting Theater / Nursery	5 pm Worship Mines Cress
11:15 am All Soul's Church - Sanctuary	Street Cleaning day	Women's Bible Study - 7 pm	6:30 - 9:30 p.m. FirstLight Ministry Small Group - Library			Community Church Sanctuary
24		26	27	28	29	30
9:00 am Family Worship Young People remaining in worship Coffee Hour	9:00 am Quilters	9:30 a.m. Al-Anon		9:00 AM Men's Fellowship & Bible Study	2 pm to 3:30 pm All Soul's Church Staff Meeting Theater / Nursery	
following worship in Fellowship Hall			6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Firs <u>tt ig</u> ht Ministry			5 pm Worship Kings Cross Community Church Sanctuary
11:15 am All Soul's Church - Sanctuary			Small Group - Library			

The **News** Redeemer Evangelical Church 6450 S. Kingshighway St. Louis, MO 63109-3738

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Published monthly in the interest of the

April 2022

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Are you on Facebook? Be sure to "friend us" and check out the daily verses posted. Join our group too!

Redeemer Evangelical Church

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Pastor Jeff Hutchings: jeff@kingscrosscommunity.org Office Administrator Patti Quinn: redeemerstl@att.net

Phone: (314) 481-5511

9:00 a.m. Sunday

Family Worship

Names of officers of organizations and council members are available on request at the church office.