

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR HEATHER

I recently attended the worship service marking the closing of Christ Lutheran Church in Bridgeton. It was a bittersweet day: remembering and honoring all the wonderful ministry that happened in the community, while also mourning an end.

Fittingly, the first reading of the service was from the book of Ecclesiastes, with those familiar words, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." The holy text goes on to describe the opposites that make up our experience of life: planting and harvest, weeping and laughing, birth and death.

A congregation's life bridges those opposites as well. We hold babies and hug the grieving; we educate our youth and recite together ancient creeds; we pray for peace within our community, and for people we have never met before, and we even pray for our enemies.

Through it all – in every stage of life – we go together as the body of Christ. Yes, those promises made in baptism sustain us as individuals AND community. So that just as we hold the hand of a child going upstairs to find the Sunday School classroom, we also hold the hand of our aging friend who can no longer remember our name.

People of Redeemer, I do not need to tell you what grief is like. We have had too much of it lately! It hurts to say goodbye to those we love, even as we proclaim the promises of eternal life in God's kingdom.

In all of these joys and hardships lived together, God's presence becomes even more visible. Indeed, the wisdom of lived experience and shared faith is not some sort of consolation prize, but a living strength that sustains us through every high and low.

I ask you to please include members of the Bridgeton church in your prayers. If you know them or get the chance to meet them, invite them to share their faith story and listen to how God is at work in their lives. I know our shared faith will invite new conversations into where God is leading us all.

In Christ,
Pastor Heather



Redeemer Lutheran Library by Joan Freimanis

We may feel or have felt reassured, frustrated, confused, or even overwhelmed by Dietrich Bonhoeffer's words during his years of imprisonment as recorded in his "Letters and Papers from Prison" (April 1943-April 1945)



LETTERS AND PAPERS
FROM PRISON

DIETRICH BONHOEFFER

DIETRICH BONHOEFFER WORKS — READER'S EDITION

"Separated from those he loved most, surrounded by destruction, assailed by doubt, and fearing the worst, his hope in Christ remains firm even as his death becomes more certain. And through his profound reflections on what it means to be a Christian he guides us into the twenty-first century. (Archbishop Emeritus Desmond M. Tutu)

Bonhoeffer writes in his letter to his friend Eberhard Bethge "**Who is Christ actually for us today.**"

"Letters and Papers from Prison - Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Dietrich Bonhoeffer Works - Reader's Edition is available in our Redeemer Library.



Every Sunday this Summer
8:30 AM Worship (Outside)
10:30 AM Worship (Inside)

Looking ahead:

July 9 - Summer Concert 7:00 PM
July 16 - Church Picnic 6:00 PM
Summer Concert 7:00 PM
July 23 - Summer Concert 7:00 PM



Thank you Georgia Salvaryn



Starting June 28th we will be collecting baby items and personal care items for the **CUMBERLAND SERV** program that houses & assists women of domestic abuse and trafficking. Many of these women arrive with only the clothes on their backs and their children. This Thrivent Action Team Project will continue through the month of July.

List of items only:

Diapers sizes 2-6

Pull-ups sizes 4,5 & 6

Baby clothes sizes 24 months to 5 T

Women's Personal care items:

travel size shampoo,

conditioner,

deodorant,

lotions

hair brushes & combs

Please bring items to the Church Narthex. For more information, please see any Thrivent Member.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Eugene Bowser
- Robert (Rob) Shenton
- James (Jim) Kremmel.





7/3 - Linda Burke
 7/6 - Karen Sironen
 7/10 - Joseph Drogo
 7/11 - Marilyn Gressman
 7/11 - Jada Williams
 7/11 - Vanessa Williams
 7/15 - Angela Colon
 7/15 - LexiLee Esquilin
 7/16 - Ella Burcham
 7/16 - Deb Wegner
 7/27 - Gary Frank Jr.
 7/29 - Jaimmy Gonzalez
 7/29 - Darlene Morvay

8/1 - Bill Loeschke
 8/3 - Anthony Hermanson
 8/4 - Eleanor Federwitz
 8/5 - Ellen DeFeo
 8/8 - Jim Rizzo
 8/8 - Georgia Salvaryn
 8/11 - Teri Drogo
 8/17 - Ernestine Gbolo
 8/18 - Joan Freimanis
 8/19 - Barbara McDevitt
 8/19 - Darci Forbes
 8/20 - Morris Gbolo
 8/21 - Martin Caverow
 8/24 - Diane Salvaryn
 8/29 - Sheryl Kenyon
 8/31 - James Clay Jr.



7/3 - Michele & Bill Loeschke
 7/15 - Karen & Ken Golway
 7/17 - Dale & Chris Nichols

8/4 - Nancy & John Manzoni
 8/9 - Brian & Betsy Harrison
 8/9 - Eileen & Terry Love



CJ Esquilin receiving a College Scholarship from Redeemer.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Please keep in prayer the long term needs of: Betty Anderson, Pablo Bermudez, Jim Clay, Carl DeRenzis, Carlo Drogo, Tracy Edwards, Bob & Tim Federwitz, Linda Foster, Bill & Marjorie Frank, Daniel Furio, Ernestine Gbolo, Elaine Hering, Paisley Johnson, Kirk Krumpp, Scott Levick, Alice Motter, Scott Nagele, Patricia Nichols, Eileen Niedzielak, George Papiano, Peter Pelosi, Randy Reale, Peggy & Oz Schumacher, Dick & Carol Shenton, Craig Terry, Robert Thompson, Our Youth

Please pray for the Bradbury and Fisher families in their time of loss.

All our troops serving our country and world including:

Meredith Conely, Albert M. Floriani,
 Michael Gonzalez, & Kevin Sykes

Donations in memory of Zola Fisher: Alison & Al Keller, Peggy & Oz Schumacher, Doris Allewelt, Arlene Cherwien

Donations in memory of Ann Bradbury: Dorine & Barry Rosier, Maggie & Ralph Hunter, Doris Allewelt

Congratulations Grads!



Ciarra (CJ) Esquilin has won multiple scholarships from schools, but has decided to attend Rowan University to pursue a career in Social Work. CJ received the "Forever a Chief!" honor and scholarship for her many activities at Buena High School, including National Honor Society, 3 sport varsity athlete and school photographer.

Jena Wiese, daughter to Laurie and Doug Wiese and granddaughter to Sue Sampson graduated Stockton University with a degree in Psychology.

Haley McCann, granddaughter to Alice Motter recently graduated from Cumberland Christian School.

