# Help us Collect Items for the Family Shelter

Shampoo/Conditioner
Sanitary products
Body Wash
Soap with travel dish
Toothbrush
Toothpaste
Deodorant
Chapstick
Lotion
Hairbrush/Comb
Hair Gel

\*please no aerosols, mouthwash, wipes, or razors

**Bring Items to Church by Nov. 23** 



NOVEMBER 2025 -Monthly Newsletter Redeemer Lutheran Church 2384 E. Landis Ave Vineland, NJ 856-691-4278 The Rev. Heather Sugden, Pastor





Sunday Services 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School

Connecting People to Christ, Growing in His Love, Serving Him. "Come and See, Go and Tell, the Good News for All!"

#### A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR HEATHER

This past month we welcomed a visit from Bishop Segeus !Kheib, representing the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia. Since I taught English in Namibia several years ago, I felt comfortable hosting Bishop !Kheib at my home, and planned a menu I thought he would enjoy when he came over for dinner.

Bishop!Kheib was a wonderful guest, but many cultural differences came up the minute I opened the door. "You have an animal in the house?" he asked. "Yes, we have a dog." Not only do we have a dog in the house, but a dog that loves attention, including watching you eat dinner. Whoops.

Once dessert rolled around, I brought out a cake, and Greg decided to get some ice cream. Thinking I was brilliant, I uttered, "No, he won't eat that! Namibians don't like ice cream." To which the Bishop politely replied, "Actually, I would love some ice cream." Whoops again.

I tell this story not only to warn other guests about my lack of hostessing skills, but also to demonstrate how much we can learn when we sit down to eat with someone. Following a conversation at the dinner table that evening, my son then explained to the Bishop how American football works, with some helpful visual aids on the television screen. I hope we all learned something that evening.

Thanksgiving is a time of tradition. We typically fear venturing too far from the standard menu of turkey, mashed potatoes and stuffing. Too often we also stick to the same conversation topics as well. I wonder if instead of fear, our curiosity could lead us to learn something new this year at the dinner table. Would we be willing to talk about our faith? Our gratitude? Our hopes and dreams for our community

and our church? What makes for a good life? How do we want to be remembered?

Of course, these conversations are not just meant for Thanksgiving. Each Sunday as we gather for worship, we all have a chance to open our hearts and minds to God's Word. May we be challenged, may we be inspired, and may we continue to grow as God's servants in this world.



Bishop !Kheib

In Christ, Pastor Heather

### The Monthly Newsletter Redeemer Lutheran Church www.redeemervineland.org



Follow & Like us on Social Media @RedeemerLutheranVineland

#### Church Staff

Pastor: Heather Sugden - pastor@redeemervineland.org 609-665-3714

Office Manager: Darci Forbes—office@redeemervineland.org Music Director/Organist: Teresa Minnix - terminnix@gmail.com

**Bookkeeper:** Larry Gilbert

#### **Council Members**

Matt Helland (President) - mattrhelland@gmail.com (856)534-6415 Susan Papiano (Vice President) -gspapiano@comcast.net (856) 457-9125 Nancy Manzoni (Secretary) - nanhoops@aol.com (856)696-4705 Lisa Cook (Treasurer) - coolcookies2@hotmail.com (609) 970-9941

#### Congregation Council:

Brenda Ackley - backley64@yahoo.com (856) 506-2372 Linda Foster - lfoster59@comcast.net (856)696-0880 Morris Gbolo - gbolof@yahoo.com (609) 289-5153 Dale Nichols - dalen71771@gmail.com (609)805-6283 Donna Yearsley

#### **Committee Information**

Nurture Committee: Chairperson - vacant

Gather Committee: Chairpersons - Nancy Manzoni & Alison Keller Care Committee: Chairpersons - Linda Foster & Lynda Gilbert

**PLEASE NOTE.** The deadline for information to be included in the newsletter is **the 15th of every month.** 

#### Sunday Schedule Worship at 8:30 am & 10:30 am Sunday School from 9:15 - 10:15

Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday, 9 am—3 pm

If you have made any changes to your personal information (address, phone number, email or family changes), please let the office know so that we can update our files. Please send into the Church Office at office@redeemervineland.org or call 856-691-4278 ext. 102



All Saints names will be read and candles lit at both our 8:30 & 10:30 am worship services.

A breakfast will take place in the fellowship hall from 9:15-10 am.



DID YOU KNOW that there is a very active team of Redeemer volunteers who coordinate so many of the special outreach activities throughout the year? We want to thank them for their time and talents in seeing that these events are successful.

Each year these volunteers plan and assist with the Ladies' Tea and the Strawberry Bash as well as the organization of food and clothing collections for families in need. They also see that area children are provided with a gift at Christmas, packed school kits for the Lutheran World Relief Program and once again helped our Veterans at the Memorial Home.

Through 30 special Action Teams funded by Thrivent they were able to make many of these events successful.

WOULDN'T YOU like to be part of these wonderful outreach programs?

Redeemer's Action Teams always need additional help in either planning or implementing. You pick the activity and the amount of time you are available to help. The ACTION TEAMS are part of Redeemer's Thrivent Team's mission.

Come join us! You do not need to be a Thrivent member, just a willingness to be involved in helping our group do more for our church and surrounding community. Come and see what happens!



# **Living Lutheran Review—Fall issue** by Joan Freimanis **Stories of God's People Living Their Faith**

#### NEWS FROM ELCA ADVOCACY

Have "you ever witnessed or been involved in a public confrontation and thought . . . What can I do?" Read about the *CLARA* method and other strategies that can help answer that question. (pg. 9)

#### ENDING AT THE BEGINNING

Former ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton reminds us that "Paul wrote that we do not live to ourselves. We live at a time that fear is used to separate us. This is the tool of every authoritarian regime. The church is different. Here is where the essence of the church – *the proclamation of the gospel* - gives power and shape to the works we do in Jesus' name" (pg. 58)

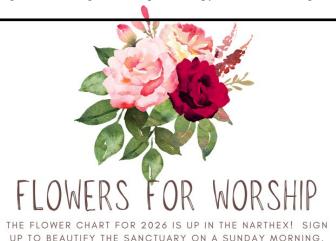
#### ON BEING BRAVE

"When children are involved in practices that connect them to the *holy*, their bravery deepens." Become acquainted with strategies and practices you can explore with children about being brave. (pg. 54)

This Living Lutheran issue includes many other articles: *FEDUP* ministries and their food truck; experiencing an *earthquake* in Athens, Greece; a new-start congregation *inside a correctional center*; a synopsis of the *2025 churchwide Assembly* held this past summer; and much more!

The printed copy also contains the magazine – BOUNDLESS – stories of our church's ministries here and around the world, especially of Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM).

Explore Living Lutheran magazine, the printed copy or online at livinglutheran.org.



## Our Youth Group found its way out of the corn maze!



#### **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Please keep in prayer the long term needs of: Bill Frank, Betty
Anderson, Bob & Tim Federwitz, Eileen Niedzielak,
Ernestine Gbolo, Jessica Morrow, Alice Motter,
Scott Nagele, Peggy & Oz Schumacher, Elaine Hering, Daniel Furio,
Tracy Edwards, Patricia Nichols, Carl DeRenzis, Craig Terry, Dick &
Carol Shenton, Ginny Workman, Carlo Drogo,
and our College Students

\*Please pray for the Niglio family upon the passing of Bill.

## All troops serving our country and the world including: Meredith Conley, Albert M. Floriani,

Michael Gonzalez & Kevin Sykes

#### **Memorials**

Donations made in memory of: Dan Cherwien by: Gus & Linda Foster and Carol Sue Steinour

# November Devotion by Deacon Federwitz 1 Peter 5:2-3: Servant Leadership

### Meet ELCA Presiding Bishop - Yehiel Curry

When Yehiel Curry was installed as presiding bishop of the ELCA on Saturday, Elizabeth Eaton, the former presiding bishop, led the assembly in welcoming Curry. "Yehiel, bishop in the church of God, we have looked forward to your coming with great joy," she exclaimed to a diverse, colorfully dressed and enthusiastic assembly at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

When Yehiel Curry considers his vision for the future of the church, he sees an important distinction. "Part of the work is naming it," he said, "but that next phase is embodying it.

"When we're talking about casting a vision, I think people want to be part of a vision because they want to share in the process. But they typically will also share in the burdens as well. So, part of my vision is [about] those things we've lifted up as a church that we said we need to do, we're going to do, and find a way to bring more people to the table so that we might embody that work instead of it just being a written document."

Bishop Curry was elected July 30<sup>th</sup> to serve a six-year term as ELCA presiding bishop. He is the fifth presiding bishop of the ELCA—and the first of African descent. Bishop Curry knows something about embodying a vision and discerning a Call. Before he became a pastor, then a bishop, then the chair of the Conference of Bishops, and now presiding bishop-elect, he was a social worker, then a teacher, then in sales. "I went from being a social worker to a teacher in the same community where I was helping those families, and in both cases, what I learned is passion is very important. And if you can align a person's passion with a need, then it doesn't feel like work sometimes. "It wasn't until I was in the church that I said, 'I could do this for the rest of my life.""

The Rev. Dr. Kevin Vandiver, pastor of Lutheran Church of the Reformation in Washington, D.C., delivered the sermon at his installation, emphasizing that God calls everyone to serve in different and sometimes unlikely ways. "Who would've thought that that young boy growing up on the South Side of Chicago would grow also in wisdom and stature and somebody would put their hand on him and say, 'We want you to be a lay mission developer'?" Vandiver continued. "Who would've thought in that moment that we'd be sitting here today? Look what the Lord has done! It is a call that you may have to say yes to every day, even when it seems like all heck is breaking loose. But—ring, ring—there is a call coming from the portals of heaven. It's for you." Bishop Curry was installed Oct. 4 at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

Much of the above article was taken from the "In Demand" newsletter of the Delaware-Maryland Synod. This devotion was written by Robert Federwitz, a Deacon in the ELCA and a lifelong Lutheran educator, retired, living in Millville, New Jersey. Email: bob@federwitz.com





The GIVING TREE for the children served by Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Cumberland and Salem Counties will be up November 23rd. We are again asking for \$25 gift cards. Thank you!

- 2 Greta Barneski
- 3 Dylan Papiano
- 4 Carol Shenton6 Brian Harrison
- 8 Katerina Love
- 9 Bob Federwitz
- 11 Aiden Drogo Eddie Drogo

Eddie Drogo Gavin Drogo



- 12 Tammy Drogo
- 16 Jared Penven
- 17 Carlo Drogo, Jr.
- 20 William Frank
- 21 Bud Gressman
- 24 Maureen Ellis Gianni Ketcham
- 25 Madison Kenyon
- 26 Alvin Cloak
- 28 Terry Love
- 29 Blanca Helland
- 3 Ernestine & Morris Gbolo
- 12 Darlene & Ed Morvay
- 20- William Lomberk & Maureen Ellis
- 21 Heather & Greg Sugden
- 26 Leasa & David Hermanson





Special thanks to those who helped load the truck full of quilts and school kits from around the region that were donated to Lutheran World Relief. These items will be sent to people in need around the world.

#### To the members of Redeemer:

Thank you all so much for your generosity and support for my seminary education. I am grateful for your prayers and encouragement. The semester has been busy so far. I recently started my fieldwork at St. John's Lutheran Church in Shiremanstown and enjoy working with Pastor Sarah and Pastor Elizabeth so far!



My courses are keeping me busy as well: church history and systematic theology are a lot of reading; and my Bible class is helping me to read the Old Testament and the New Testament more closely and through different contexts.

I am wishing you all well and hope to see you around Christmas.

Blessings and peace to you all. Georgia





# Blessings of the Animals



"IF YOU HAVE MEN WHO WILL EXCLUDE ANY OF GOD'S CREATURE:
FROM THE SHELTER OF COMPASSION AND PITY, YOU WILL HAVE
MEN WHO WILL DEAL LIKEWISE WITH THEIR FELLOW MEN."

- ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI







Do you receive a free turkey and will not be using it this year?

The church will be happy to find a family to enjoy turkey donations. Please call the office to arrange a drop-off time. Thank you!