

FROM THE SENIOR PASTOR....

We are now over half-way through the Season of Lent; more than half-way through the joys of people receiving Jesus as the long-promised Messiah and their own, personal Savior, to the yellings of "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" of Good Friday. Are we more than half-way through the reality that God *"did not even keep back His own Son, but offered Him up for us all"* (Rom. 8:32)?

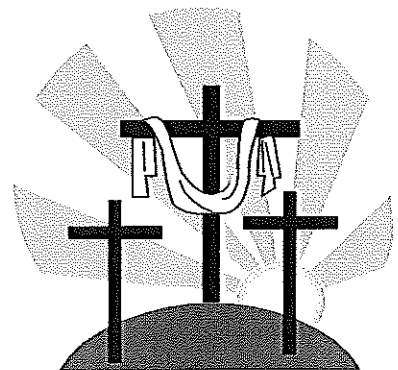
Are we able to evaluate the cost that was paid by God to deliver us up out of sin, up out of hell's wide-open door. *"You know what was paid to set you free from sin....It was not something that loses its value, such as silver or gold; you were set free by the costly sacrifice of Christ, who was like a lamb without defect or spot"* (1 Pet. 1:18,19).

This good news tempers the suffering, torturous treatment Jesus underwent to make that saving sacrifice for us. Even in His Lenten Passion we see glimpses of His love touching people and changing lives. We meditate on, and let sink in, what tremendous love the Son of God had for mankind, has for us.

In the weeks ahead slow down — s--l--o--w d--o--w--n! Pray to keep your *"eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith"* (Heb. 12:2). Look around and appreciate the goodness with which God has blessed us — with family....friends....purpose and meaning in life....the things of goodness and virtue to meditate on and to dwell in. Heart-warming; soul-savoring; spirit uplifting.

Have a blessed celebration of Jesus resurrection to newness of life; a blessed celebration of the newness of life we have in Him! Happy Easter!

Pastor Koehler



Redeemer Lutheran Church

5120 Harrison Rd.

Fredericksburg, VA 22408

540-898-4748

E-mail: info@embracedbyHim.org

Website: www.embracedbyHim.org

REDEEMER ROOF AND RECAPITALIZATION FUND

God continues to bless us! We've only just started our drive to replace the roof and refill our Capitol Reserve Fund and we've made some fantastic progress. As mentioned last week, the cost to replace the roof is just under \$23,000 and is scheduled to start (weather permitting) on 21 March. We've had two significant contributions – \$11,000 and \$5,000 from some very special members. This means we have nearly covered 70% of the roof's replacement cost already! So our remaining goal is to raise an additional \$20,000. This goal includes the remaining \$7,000 to repair the roof, replenish our Capitol Reserve (\$11,000 we failed to meet budget on in the last two years), and allow for electrical and lighting in the organ/choir area. Please prayerfully consider a contribution that's over and above your normal gift to the church to address these needs. Thank you!



PASTOR ROB AND DEB would like to start up a small group that meets once a month for Bible Study and Fellowship. If this is something you have been interested in before, now is the time to follow up on that idea. Let Pastor Rob know when you would be interested in meeting and what topic ideas you have for where we begin. He can be reached at 540-898-4748 or email at pasor2@embracedbyhim.org. We would like to start meeting in May 2011.

IN GOD'S GRACE AND BOUNTIFULNESS, our faithfulness in helping others saw us help the following families since our last newsletter:

33 families with utilities	\$2795.64
3 families with water/sewer	223.35
<u>1 congregational family in need</u>	<u>380.00</u>
37 families with 61 children	\$3399.05

FROM THE ASSISTANT PASTOR:

In March those participating in the Mission Development Academy learned about being more prayerfully aware of the ways that people come to them asking questions about God and faith and how we can share the Words the Holy Spirit provides us with to them in those times. We were given specific Bible passages that underscore the needs that are often present when someone would come asking about our faith. If you would like a copy of the passages send me an email or speak with any of the participants in the classes.

We have one class and our final retreat left in May. Classes meet on Saturday from 9am to 12pm. The remaining dates are listed below. If you would like to join us for the remaining class let Pastor Rob know at pastor2@embracedbyhim.org. More information about the Mission Development Academy is available at <http://se.lcms.org/developing-leaders/mission-development.php>.

April 2 - Mission Models

May (dates to be determined) - Mission Planning Retreat

We are planning a Relational Evangelism workshop for Saturday, 25 June, here at Redeemer. This event will provide you with skills to share your faith in the relationships that you have socially and at work at the Holy Spirit guides and directs you. As we get closer, we will share more about this event.

In His Grip,
Pastor Rob

OUR REMAINING LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

April 6 - Incomparable Sufferings (Romans 8:17,18)

April 13 - Jews For Jesus - Christ In The Passover

OUR HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

Maunder Thursday, April 21, 12:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Communal Sufferings (Matthew 26:26-28)

Good Friday, April 22, 12:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Substitute Sufferings (Isaiah 53:5)

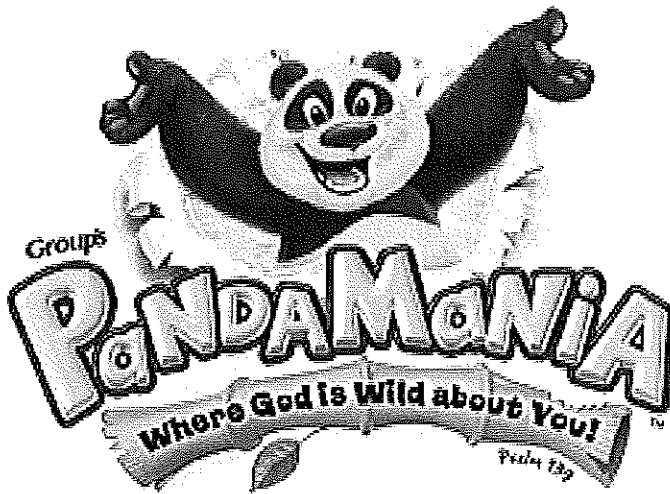
EASTER DAY, April 24

Sunrise - Testimonial Sufferings (Acts 3:15)

8:30 a.m. - Productive Sufferings (II Timothy 1:8-10)

10:45 a.m. - Abolished Sufferings (II Corinthians 5:21)





VBS

June 20 - 24
9 a.m. - noon

Volunteers Needed
Because God is wild about you and we
need to let other's know!

Decorator Coordinator

(Coordinate the decorations in the Sanctuary)

Crazy Crafts Leader

(Make a craft with the kids every day - you do not need to figure out what craft to do they are already ordered)

Bamboo Blast Games Leader

(Enjoy the kids' laughter and energy outside playing games with the kids)

Treetop Treats Leader

(Make snacks for the kids and volunteers to enjoy)

Chadder's Movie Mania Leader

(Share with the kids a little movie and discuss the theme for the day)

Party Time Sing and Play Leader

(Open up VBS every morning with song and excitement)

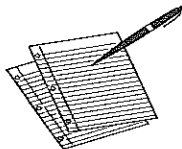
Technical Assistant

(Help with sound booth)

**Contact Cheryl Durham if you are Wild about God and want to share that with others. familylife@embracedbyhim.org
540.898.4748**

REDEEMER QUILTERS: The Redeemer Quilters will NOT MEET during April, due to preparations being made for Palm Sunday. We will continue to meet May 21st. Have a Blessed Easter!

WORSHIP SURVEY: If you have not filled out the Worship Survey that was distributed at church on Sunday, March 20th, it is available online until Friday, April 22, at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FVSR5GQ>.



EASTER 2012: We are looking to have an Easter Egg Hunt at the church next year, Easter 2012. To help with the logistics for that, please consider purchasing plastic Easter eggs, and other non-food items that can be used at the after-Easter sales this year. There will be a box in the narthex to collect the items that are donated.



F.A.B. (Fifty And Beyond): Are you 50 years young or more? Come and join the activities and fellowship of the FABs. We met in February and set up a tentative schedule (see below) for the upcoming year. Keep an eye on the bulletin for details. We hope to see some new faces. Any questions can be directed to Sharon Evenson, 540-891-4370.

April 10 - Riverside Dinner Theater (contact Linda Petermann)

May 21 - Michie's Tavern at Monticello (contact Paula Bush)

June - Bowling (contact Tom Barlow)

July - Game or Trivia Night (contact Paula Bush)

August - Sight & Sound Theater, Lancaster, PA

Pancake Breakfast

September - Lunch at Graves Mountain or Tavern on the Rails (contact Jim Pittman)

October - Pignic on the Po (contact Berner Johnson)

November - Thanksgiving Dinner at Thurman Brisbane Homeless Shelter (contact Marge Barrales)

December 3 - Christmas Villagfe at Bush Gardens

The FABs are also active with serving dinner at the Thurman Brisbane Homeless Shelter on the 4th Thursday of each month. If you are interested in helping please contact Marge Barrales.

MARCH PRESCHOOL NEWS:

We had an exciting February in our preschool classes. All classes celebrated Valentine's Day with parties and exchanging cards/candy with their classmates. Our Bible theme for the month was "love one another as I have loved you." The four year old classes had a chapel session with Vicar Loos. We also talked about fire safety and look forward to a visity by the Spotsylvania Fire Department in March.

In early March, the 3 year olds had a field trip to Salem Church Library, which we all enjoyed. Also this month, all classes will be talking about healthy food habits. The 4 year old classes are looking forward to a field trip to Chick-fil-a at Southpoint and we will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day by wearing green. We are also looking forward to some warm spring weather!

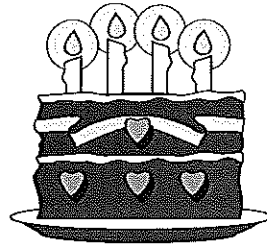


The Preschool Staff

APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

2 - David Jenkins
2 - Vicki Sullivan
2 - Craig Nehls
2 - Elizabeth Williams
4 - Lillian Tisdale
8 - Kim Stahlman
9 - Charlie Stello
9 - James Martinek
9 - Christopher Beck
11 - Cason Whitt
11 - Kate Jacobson
12 - Stacy Woldie
12 - Will Ashby
12 - Monica Ashby
13 - Cara Gasperoni
13 - Rylie Hopkins

14 - Michelle Gasperoni
14 - Vicki Ashby
15 - Julia Snellings



16 - Faith Miller
17 - Sean Miller
18 - Nada Romero
19 - Josie Bolden

19 - Sharon Evenson
21 - Joanna Hopkins
21 - Janice Verbosky
21 - Ruth Rayne
22 - Justin Bolden
22 - James Bronz II
23 - Richard Hill
24 - John Garner
25 - Zsuzsanna Fehrman
26 - Christine Zimmerman
26 - Madison Limerick
26 - Gabe Wilshusen
27 - Matt Unruh
29 - Becky Sprick
29 - Jacob Motzer
30 - Julia Koehler

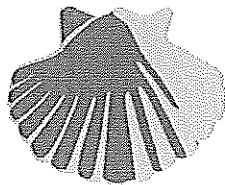
APRIL ANNIVERSARIES:

8 - Ed & Nancy Minnich
9 - Raymond & Heather Zimmerman
16 - Ted & Glenna Stark
18 - Matt & Libby Unruh
21 - Mike & Janice Weiland



22 - Richard & Jan Hill
26 - Bill & Cindy Anderson
28 - Phil & Beth Motzer
30 - Jim & Mary Pittman

IN THE MONTH OF MARCH we were privileged to witness the Lord's adopting into His family of faith through Holy Baptism:



AIDEN DAVID BARR
and
KALEB JOHN BARR
Sons of Morgan and Adam
Grandsons of Linda & David Bye
On Sunday, March 20, 2011

Our thanks to our members for their help during the month of April:

USHER SCHEDULE - Early

- Apr. 3 - Ed Grandowski (Lead)
Tom Church, Tom Barlow, Don Schumann
- Apr. 10 - Ken Petermann (Lead)
Jim Pittman, Kirk Hymes, Dave Hunter
- Apr. 17 - Ed Grandowski (Lead)
Kevin Trowbridge, Jason Biscamp, Mike Weiland
- Apr. 24 - Mike Bush (Lead)
Mike Evenson, Dave Bye, David Rhodes

If you are unable to usher on your assigned date, please arrange for your replacement. ****Note**** Additional ushers are welcome to participate in this important ministry. Contact Tom Barlow, 1st Service Coordinator, 804-742-5315.

USHER SCHEDULE - Late

- Apr. 3 - Glenn Weaver, Mark Fife, Greg Brown
- Apr. 10 - R.O.M.A.N.S.
- Apr. 17 - Mark Fife, Jerry Limerick, Mike Diederer
- Apr. 24 - Ted Smith, John Hinz, Mike Mullinax,
Ken Billings

Volunteers needed! Please call Mark Fife, 2nd Service Coordinator, 786-2336 and leave a message or email to chofudgeman1@yahoo.com if you can help.

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

EARLY:

- Apr. 3 - Devon Montgomery/Maeve Montgomery
- Apr. 10 - Ryan Tutchings/Vinny Tutchings
- Apr. 17 - Zechariah Vigil/Jacob Waltman
- Apr. 24 - Hayley Groover/Abigail Durheim

LATE:

- Apr. 3 - Lauren Hybl/Cara Gasperoni
Crucifer - Emma Leidy
- Apr. 10 - Tion Edmonds/Trejon Edmonds
Crucifer - Jonathan Cerritelli
- Apr. 17 - Kristian Hovda/Kacey Schwenzer
Crucifer - Sam Medlin
- Apr. 24 - Philip Wiltenmuth/Josiah Koehler
Crucifer - Mathew Zimmerman

LAY READERS:

- Apr. 3 - Karen Hunter (E) - Ephesians 5:8-14
- Apr. 10 - John Karpiscak (L) - Romans 8:1-11
- Apr. 17 - Kathy Bogle (E) - Philippians 2:5-11
- Apr. 24 - Elders - Colossians 3:1-4

AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE FOR FEBRUARY:

	Church	Sunday School
2011	340	130
2010	352	141
2005	310	118
2000	211	90
1981 (1st yr.)	54	38

