



THE REDEEMER MESSENGER

1600 South Center Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158

Pastor Post Cell Phone: 641-758-1915
Pastor Post e-mail: alexpost1226@gmail.com
website: www.redeemerlcms50158.org

SEPTEMBER 2015

JUDGING OTHERS

Jesus' saying in the Sermon on the Mount — “Judge not, that you be not judged” (Matt. 7:1) – is among the most often-quoted and most misapplied phrases in the entire Bible. How often have we heard someone say, or said ourselves, “We’re all sinners, so we shouldn’t judge anyone”? The words “judge not” easily become a blanket for covering all kinds of evil and never confronting it.

It’s true: Our Lord does tell us not to judge our brothers and sisters in the Church who are living in repentant faith. He forbids “speck-picking” – trying to improve our fellow-Christians by helping them to “see” (Matt. 7:3-5). We are also not to judge one another in things that God has neither commanded nor forbidden. Some of these include food and drink, observance of days and customs such as kneeling or making the sign of the cross (Rom. 14). Still another instance of wrongful judging is when we assume bad motives behind others’ actions. Only God can know what is in the heart (1 Sam. 16:7; Jer. 17:9). When we judge others in any of these ways, we step into the role of God, a role He reserves for Himself.

Just as surely as we must not step into God’s place as Judge, we are not to dishonor God’s Word by refusing to condemn false doctrines and sinful lifestyles that God has already condemned.

Who are we to try to peer into our neighbor's heart, to help the Holy Spirit do His work of transforming our neighbor or to look down on our neighbor for observances that differ from ours? There is one Judge, and He promises to uphold us and our brothers and sisters. We are prone to speak badly of them, but the righteous Judge speaks only good of them. Like us, they are washed in Baptism and sanctified by the blood of Christ. Through faith in Jesus Christ, He will make us all stand and not fall (Rom. 14:4). In Christ Jesus, there is no condemnation (Rom. 8:1). If God does not condemn, who are we to do so?

Jesus' words, "Judge not" are not meant to be a cloak for silence when we ought to speak.

Yet only a few breaths after our Lord says, "Judge not," He says, "Do not give dogs what is holy" (Matt. 7:6). By dogs He means those outside the faith – those who by their unclean lifestyle show they aren't really believers in Christ (Phil. 3:2; Rev. 22:15). So as not to give holy things to dogs, we must determine who they are. Since Jesus wants us to distinguish between dogs and non-dogs, surely it isn't being judgmental to do so!

Jesus continues, "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits" (Matt. 7:15-16). Christ, who is God and knows the hearts, gives us a glimpse of what's on the inside. All prophets look like sheep outwardly. But Jesus tells us that false prophets have wolves' hearts. How can we know who is who? Not by their sheep's wool (their upright lives) or by their hearts, which we can't see, but by their fruits. "Fruits" here means the visible evidence of their ministry – that is, their doctrine, which we can test against God's Word. Since Jesus said to beware of false prophets, He doesn't consider it judgmental for us to determine who are the true and the false prophets, so long as we gauge them by the measuring stick of the Scriptures.

Scripture has much to say about God's judgments concerning unbelief, impenitence and the sins of doctrine and life that accompany unbelief.

Just as surely as we must not step into God's place as Judge, we are not to dishonor God's Word by refusing to condemn false doctrines and sinful lifestyles that God has already condemned. When those who believe, teach and practice contrary to God's revealed will do not repent, it is our duty to instruct and warn them.

Finally, the Church must "judge" them (1 Cor. 5:12-13). This is for their own good, that they may be restored to saving faith and to the Church's fellowship (1 Cor. 5:5). It is also for the Church's good, since the leaven of error or of sin, left to itself, can spread to the whole Church (1 Cor. 5:6; Gal. 5:9).

When we confront sin and say what Jesus says about it, we love and care for one another, for those who are caught in error and for the entire Church of God purchased with His own blood.

What does all this mean? It means that it's not unloving to speak judgment against sin and sinners where God has already judged. Sometimes this is the most loving thing to do. Of course, to call out sin or false doctrine should never be a pretext for us to vent our wrath, "For the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God" (James 1:20). Since we are all prey to temptation, we should restore the sinner in a spirit of gentleness (Gal. 6:1). With such cautions in mind, for the good of souls and the good of the church, we may speak and speak boldly.

Who then are we to judge? To sum up, we aren't to play God. This is what "judge not" means. But we are to judge those within the Church whose habit of doctrine or life goes against God's Word. Too often we get it backwards. We're ready to see evil intentions in others or fix their little flaws, which we are forbidden to do, yet we balk at judging outward doctrine and life, which we are not only permitted but sometimes required to do. Even in our backwardness, Christ receives and restores us, returning us to the cleansing waters of the font and causing us to grow in wisdom and love for His will and Word.

The Rev. Allen Ludwig is a theological educator for the LCMS in Siberia, Russia.

The Lutheran Witness, September 2015

USHERS FOR OCTOBER

Ken Breinig, Pat Lowry, Louis Riese,
Chad Callaway, Byron Rhodes

GREETERS

October	4	Myrna Burmester, Margo Wildung
	11	Bob and Delores Popp
	18	Rebecca Baedke, Barb Blake
	25	Ken and Shirley Breinig

FELLOWSHIP COFFEE

October	4	Ardis Wolfe, Margo Wildung
	11	Rebecca Baedke, Ethel Tietje
	18	Brunch
	25	Dennis and Kelly Smith

ATTENDING ELDERS

October	4	Ken Breinig, Brian Mohr
	14	Keith Egger
	18	Dennis Sickels, Brad Sickels
	25	Roger Mathews, Charles Misek
	28	Steve Runge

AUDIO VIDEO TECH

October	4	Steve Runge
	11	Warren Nash
	18	Mike Stubbs
	25	Pat Lowry

Today create happiness in all that you do!



Keeping busy each Monday morning, in the church parish hall, are the faithful quilters. They welcome others to help with cutting material, sewing, or tying. Did you know that some work can even be done in your own home? Luella Weber brought a quilt top that she had cut and sewn at home. Finished quilts can now be taken to the Clemons School Bldg. where the Orphan Grain Train has set up shop.

The Marshalltown LWML Zone Rally will be Saturday, Oct. 10th at Lacona. Anyone interested in attending the Rally please contact Deloris Clayton at 752-9527. The ladies will car pool from the church parking lot at 7:30 AM.

A big thank you to all who so faithfully watered and cared for the flowers in the outdoor boxes this summer.

LWML Sunday will be observed on Oct. 11th. There will be a display in the parish hall of various materials that can be purchased from the LWML. Remember that cards and cookbooks are always available for sale on the table by the stairway.

Saturday, Nov. 7th will be our LWML's "This & That Sale" from 9 AM to 2 PM in the parish hall. This and that means that we are taking any items, either homemade, or articles around your house that you would like to contribute. Baked goods are always welcome.

The next meeting is Thursday, October 15th at 9:30 AM. Topic, "***The Friend Factor,***" is from the Fall Quarterly, page 22. Pastor Post begins each session with the singing of favorite hymns. All ladies of Redeemer are welcome to attend.



Delores Popp

ASSIMILATION NEWS

The Lord blessed us with a picture-perfect day on September 20 for our hayride social event. Fifty-three members and guests of Redeemer attended. The hayrides, the games played, the food eaten and lots of great visiting make for a wonderful day in the country with our Christian friends.



In October, our Assimilation committee has a couple of events happening. October 18th will be our 4th and final brunch of 2015. We certainly appreciate all of the delicious dishes you, the congregation, bring to these meals. (To my committee: We will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday morning, the 17th, to set up for the brunch. Any decorating ideas? Thank you.)

Secondly we will visit the Amanas on Sunday afternoon, October 25th. We will see the final in the series performances of the Church Basement Ladies, The Last (Potluck) Supper. Thirty-five tickets have been reserved, and we can get more, if needed. The sign-up sheet in the parish hall has all the details for the day. Most importantly, please sign up by October 11th and pay your \$26 per person ticket price to Sandy Rhodes by then as well. After the play, we will go to the Ox Yoke Inn for an amazing dinner.



Price for the dinner which will include 3 meat choices, other family style sides, and pie will be \$25. (including tax and gratuity) and will be paid individually to the Ox Yoke Inn that evening. Come join us for a fun outing!

Sandy Rhodes
Director of Assimilation

Dear Friends,

Thanks for all the wonderful cards and to all of you who attended my surprise 80th birthday party. I was truly surprised and thankful to you my friends.

In Christ's Love,
Nancy DeKock



Friends and Family of Rev. John F. Domsch,

As most of you have heard, Dad went to be with his Lord on July 12, 2015. We conducted a funeral service in Arizona on July 18th, 2015. His wishes were to be laid to rest with his parents in Concordia, MO. Some of you desired information regarding the graveside service. The details with the time and location are listed below. There will be a simple service at St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery. Family and friends are welcome to attend.

Blessings,

Lara Wooten, Jeremy Domsch & Jeff Domsch

Graveside Service

Saturday, October 3, 2015

1:30 p.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery

Concordia, Missouri

Directions to the cemetery:

From the Interstate Highway 70 exit 58, turn south and go to the first street intersection. Turn east (left), the first entrance to the cemetery is immediately behind the business buildings.

HOUSE OF COMPASSION

Thank you to everyone who helped cook and serve on September 1st. Your willingness to help is much appreciated. In 2015 we will be cooking and serving the 1st Tuesday of every month. Our next serving date is Tuesday, October 6th. Cooking starts at 2 p.m. and serving begins at 4:30 p.m. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Nancy DeKock, 753-7878.

CONCORDIA SEMINARY RECRUITMENT VISIT

You are invited to meet with Rev. Michael Redeker, Admissions Officer at Concordia Seminary, to discuss seminary education and the path to becoming a pastor or deaconess. Please contact Rev. Redeker at 314-505-7225 or redekerm@csl.edu to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Friday, November 13

Memorial Lutheran Church
2228 W. Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50014

515-292-5005 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

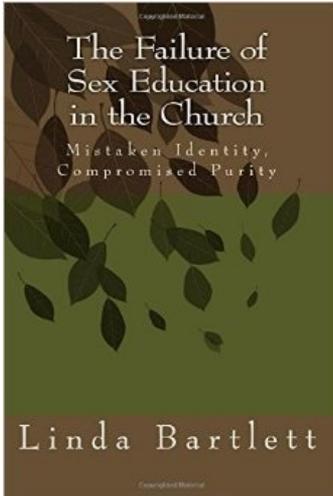
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
5625 Franklin Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50310
515-277-8349 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Come to Pro-Life Events with fellow Christians at Redeemer!

- *Sunday, September 27*: put up **white crosses** at Redeemer after Sunday School in memory of unborn babies.
- *Sunday, October 4*: Pray silently or hold a sign and give public witness to God's gift of life from the moment of conception! Registration is at 1pm, **Life Chain** is at 2, and refreshments will be at 3 at Redeemer.
- *Sunday, October 11*: **Linda Bartlett** and a panel of pastors will speak at 2pm at Redeemer on the failure of sex education in the Church, and how we can speak more positively to instruct all ages in godly purity and Baptismal identity in Jesus.
- *Sunday, November 8*: Your Pastor, Alex Post, is District Life Coordinator for Iowa District East, and will speak on the topic "**Open to Marriage, Open to Children: Our Identity as God's Children**" at 2pm at Redeemer. All are welcome to hear this positive Gospel pro-life message of how we talk about God's gifts to us. Local pro-life groups such as Lighthouse Center for Hope, Agape Pregnancy Center, Lutherans for Life, Iowans for Life, and others will also speak on their efforts in our community to help mothers, fathers, unborn babies, and families.



The Failure of Sex Education in the Church: Mistaken Identity, Compromised Purity



Our Baptism is a daily reminder to see ourselves the way God does. Sex education is built on a foundation that diametrically opposes God's design for parents to instruct their children in purity.

Come to hear Linda Bartlett and a panel of pastors speak on this timely and vital topic for our church!

Sunday, October 11 at 2pm

Redeemer Lutheran Church,

Marshalltown

Open to Marriage,

Open to Children:

Our Identity as God's
Children



Come hear a special presentation from your District Life
Coordinator,

Rev. Alex Post from Redeemer Lutheran Church in Marshalltown!

Meet a **young child** – what does he want to be when he grows up?

Meet a **young catechumen** – what does she think about marriage?

Meet a **newly married husband and wife** – what do they think
about children?

Meet a **mother and father** – what do they say to their children?

Meet a **grandparent** – how does he or she encourage children and
grandchildren with the pro-life message?

How can **each of us** lovingly and boldly proclaim God's truth to
all people?

*Iowans for Life, Lighthouse Center of Hope, Agape Pregnancy
Center,*

and other for-life groups will also present!

Sunday, November 8, 2015 @ 2pm
Redeemer Lutheran Church, Marshalltown

This presentation is perfect for all Christians concerned with life
issues, especially moms, dads, teachers, pastors, elders, and
grandparents!

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday, September 17, 2015

Redeemer Lutheran Church Council was called to order at 7:01 PM by President Keith Egger. The Collect for the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity was read as an opening prayer. John 9:1-23 served as a Bible study.

MEMBERS PRESENT: President: Keith Egger; Second Vice President: Bruce Johnson Financial Secretary: Charles Swanson; Pastor Alex Post; Board of Elders: Steve Runge; Board of Stewardship: Brian Mohr; Board of Assimilation: Sandy Rhodes; Board of Social Ministry: Nancy DeKock; Director of Youth Ministry: Rheba Yost: and President Secretary: Rebecca Baedke.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Treasurer: Sam Zoske

VACANT POSITIONS: First Vice President, Director of Parish Education; Board of Evangelism and Board of Church Property.

The agenda was accepted as presented with additions of fellowship hall carpet and chairs; scholarship toward Emily Smith Daniels; cleaning service within the church and bulletin financial information. The minutes of the previous month were read. Rheba motioned, with a second by Brian to approve the minutes of with two minor word (must to month and 2015 to 2016) changes. Motion carried.

STATISTICAL REPORT: Last month attendance averages were: Sunday morning: 87; Wednesday evening: 16; Adult Bible class: 27. Member totals last month were 318 Baptized and 254 Communicant.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Sam Zoske absent and Charles Swanson shared financial reports, which were reviewed. Nancy moved, with a second from Rheba to approve the financial reports as submitted. Motion carried.

BOARD OF ELDERS: Director Steven Runge, reported the Elders met September 10 with Pastor Post and eight (8) elders in attendance:

1. Pastor led devotions and continued study of the book, "Pastors and Elders".
2. Communion assignments were designated for next month.
3. Pastor Post made 59 pastoral care visits in July, and 42 in August.
4. Pastor reported two adults are receiving catechesis and two sixth grade confirmation students.
5. October 4 through November 22, Divine Service Setting I will be used on Sundays and Wednesdays for Communion services.
6. Wednesday night service time for winter months was discussed with no changes determined at this time.
7. Upcoming "Life" events in the coming months include:
September 26, Oktoberfest parade with Pro-Life float.
September 27, crosses will be put up in the church yard.
October 4, Life chain Sunday with registration at Redeemer at 1:00 and Life Chain to follow from 2 to 3:00 pm.
October 11, Author Linda Bartlett will be at Redeemer at 2:00 pm.
November 8, Lutherans for Life at 2:00 pm.
8. The next Elder's meeting will be Thursday, October 8 at 7:00 PM.

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP: Director Brian Mohr present with nothing new to report.

BOARD OF ASSIMILATION: Director Sandy Rhodes reported of upcoming events:

1. The next brunch following the worship service will be held Sunday, October 18.
2. Redeemer members and friends will travel on October 25th, to see "The Church Basement Ladies in: The Last (Potluck) Supper" at the Old Creamery Theater. Tickets are \$26 each; please sign up and pay Sandy for tickets by October 11. Thirty-five tickets have been reserved. Following the show, dinner will be at the Ox Yoke Inn for a cost of \$25 per person.
3. A bowling night is being scheduled for November 15.

BOARD OF SOCIAL MINISTRY: Director Nancy DeKock, reported 56 were served at the House of Compassion on September 1. Tuesday, October 6 will be Redeemer's next date to serve at the House of Compassion and servers will be needed. Supply closet

items are needed at the House of Compassion on an ongoing basis.

BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION: Position vacant. Adult Bible class continues, Sunday School has resumed, Confirmation Class students include Nyadoar Gatwech and Nyapukah, Jacob Darrow, Angus Callaway and Eysak Stanfield. New members are scheduled to be added September 20.

BOARD OF YOUTH MINISTRY: High School Sunday school and youth group activities are being planned.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM: Position vacant. No report.

BOARD OF CHURCH PROPERTY: Byron Rhodes has continued to mow the lawn and Roger Mathews has been overseeing facilities.

PRESIDENT REPORT: President Egger reported Redeemer received \$246 Thrivent Choice Dollars at the beginning of this month, making \$2,854 the total received in 2015.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The men's room remodeling project is nearing completion.
2. Sandy shared information researched of materials and estimates to meet needs of the bathrooms, basement and bedrooms in the parsonage. Keven installed a bathroom fan and bathroom fixtures. A plumber repaired a leaky pipe. Estimates of materials and labor were reviewed.

-Iowa Bath Systems will be contacted to update the previously submitted estimate and to clarify all that's included. A special meeting following worship service is planned on September 27th to review updates and decide how to move forward.

-Brian motioned and Rheba seconded to purchase a carpet remnant from Strands to replace the master bedroom carpet for \$740.46 installed. Motion carried.

3. No new updates regarding Lutheran Service Builder or large print hymnals.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. It was motioned by Nancy, and seconded by Rheba, that Keith be Redeemer's delegate to the circuit forum on Sunday, September 20, at 2:30 pm.
2. Estimates will be sought for carpet cleaning of the parish hall and family room. Nancy will contact Service Master, Jordan Stucky and Captain Clean for estimates.
3. Pastor will contact Emily Smith Daniel regarding need for scholarship funds toward her education.
4. The cleaning company, ABM Janitorial, will be contacted regarding completion of contracted services for the church.
5. A maintenance plan for the alarm system, formerly contracted through Howgan, was received and will be reviewed.

This Church Council will meet again on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at 7:00 PM. Brian motioned and Rheba seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 pm and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca J Baedke



**Redeemer Lutheran Church
1600 South Center Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158**

Address correction requested