



THE VOICE OF REDEEMER

OCTOBER 2010

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Spirit Filled and Spirit Led

PARTNERS IN MINISTRY

**390 Pierce Avenue
Macon, Georgia 31204**
Website: www.redeemermacon.org

September 18, 2010

WORSHIP IN OCTOBER

- **Sunday 9:15 a.m. Educational Hour**
Teens~Adults~Children
10:30 a.m. Worship / HC
11:30 Gathering Time
One Service Only / Nursery Provided

OCTOBER

Pastor's Bible Study Class Tuesday at 6:30 and Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

6:30 p.m. Jazz Appreciation the first Thursday and 10:00 on the Second Saturday
12:00 p.m. Vision Team Meeting the 3rd Sunday in October

Coming- Clean Up Day 10/02
Tree Planting 10/02
Second Sunday Meal 10/10
OktoberFest 10/16
Painting Fellowship hall 10/23
Reformation Rocks 10/31

WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

- **Sunday, November 7, 14, 21, 28**
9:15 a.m. Educational Hour
Teens~Adults~Children
10:30 a.m. Worship / HC
11:30 Gathering Time
One Service Only / Nursery Provided

November 6

Yard Sale

November 14

11:30 Second Sunday Meal and Congregational Meeting

November 21

12 p.m. Thanksgiving Meal Following Service- Reservations required.

November 25

Thanksgiving Day-Meals Delivery

WORSHIP IN DECEMBER

- **Sunday, December 5, 12, 19, 26,**
9:15 a.m. Educational Hour
Teens~Adults~Children
10:30 a.m. Worship / HC
11:30 Gathering Time
One Service Only / Nursery Provided

Christmas Eve Services 4:00 and 11:00

Dear Partners in Ministry:

The preacher of Ecclesiastes writes in chapter 1 "Vanity of vanities! All is vanity. What do people gain from all the toil at which they toil under the sun?" And then "I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after the wind." And in chapter 2 "I made great works; I built houses and planted vineyards for myself. I made myself gardens and parks, and planted in them all kinds of fruit trees. I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem. Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them; I kept my heart from no pleasure." He goes on to write "Then I considered all that my hands had done and toil I had spent in doing it, and again, all was vanity and a chasing after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun."

Vanity is defined by Webster's Dictionary and Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary as "an excessive belief in one's own abilities or attractiveness to others and is considered as a form of self-idolatry, arrogance and pride." The writer of Ecclesiastes defines vanity as the ultimate in fruitlessness of man's efforts in this world. Jesus tells us what is it worth if I gain everything in the world and lose my soul in the bargain (paraphrased). He also says to us "where your treasure is, so too is your heart."

My last congregation was built and remained in the same spot since 1867, with a cemetery adjacent to it. One Sunday afternoon during confirmation class, I took the students out to look at the markers. Asking one student to tell me something about the person buried in a particular plot, I received the response, "I don't know, I have never heard of this person, don't know anything about him." He and his family lived on part of the land this man, his great-grandfather, purchased, worked, sweated, and died upon. Inherited, the family had been selling it off to developers because the land value on the lake had multiplied so drastically, and yet the knowledge of the great-grandfather had not passed on to this child. Vanity of vanities, all is vanity.

Pride and arrogance sometimes gets in the way of our being the people God wants us and calls us to be. We feel because we are "older, younger, have more experience, have seniority" that we know better than others how things should be done. We want it our way or no way. A story is told about the old timer in the congregation who voted against anything and everything, unless he had been approached first and had given his approval. A young, bare foot, and roughly dressed, long haired young man came into the church one morning as the service began and approached the old timer and asked if he could come in and rest and worship with the congregation, stepping back the old timer told him he was not dressed appropriately nor were "hippies" allowed to come into his church and to leave before he called the police. The young, with tears in his eyes said I thought

continued on page 2

PARTNERS IN MINISTRY *continued*

everyone was welcome in church, to which the old timer said, not in mine. With that the young man turned and left.

The Gospel lesson for that day was Luke 19:44, "They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God."

Sometimes we think more of our positions and status than that of others. Sometimes we place more emphasis on what we want and have than the needs of others. Sometimes we miss the point that what we have, are blessings rather than belongings. Blessings which are meant to be shared in the moment and not hoarded for the future.

The question invariably asked, "should not we save something for our old age?" and the answer is certainly. Save that which you will need, not what you desire. Save for the future while remembering we live in the present. Save for future needs but not forgetting the needy.

God has blessed us in many ways and by sharing those blessings they become treasures in heaven and not futile vanity.
"Vanity of vanities, all is vanity."

Your Partner in Ministry

Jim Braswell, Pastor

COUNCIL VISION TEAM

Council Vision Team Meeting Minutes 22 August 2010

Members Present: Pastor Braswell, Bo Phillips, Jonas Strecker, Doug Malloy, Vic Vankus, Tammy Semmler, Donna Rocker, Paul Lyles, Anne Roesel. Amy Harmon was excused.

Pastor opened the meeting with a prayer.

Donna Rocker provided lunch. Everyone shared information about themselves: jobs, family, other interests, etc.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor has made numerous visits to our shut-ins, to hospitals, and the jail.

There are three families that would like to join our congregation. They were approved.

Pastor will be on vacation on Sunday November 28th.

Treasurer's Report:

Our finances are not in good shape. We continue to spend more money than we take in. We continue to deplete our savings.

Jonas will send out a letter to our congregation, concerning giving to the church. We will make an effort to provide the congregation of budget matters each month or quarter.

Other Business:

- We need to insure that Sunday school is offered each Sunday, including summer months.
- A Girl Scout troop meets at our church every Tuesday. It is open to all girls from kindergarten to 10th grade.
- The council will make sure that Pastor takes his sabbatical next year.
- Oktoberfest is coming up. Twenty-five pounds of bratwurst have been donated. Look for more information to come.
- The Vineville Neighborhood association will be planting two trees on the church property on October 2nd. The church will have an all day work day at that same time. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.
- The fourth quarter congregational meeting has been scheduled for Sunday November 14th. This coincides with the Second Sunday Covered Dish meal.
- A new church pictorial is in the works. It is scheduled for late November or early December.
- Donna Rocker would like for the church to produce a cookbook. More information will be coming.

Social Ministry will meet the third Thursday of each month. A yard sale is scheduled for Saturday November 6th. We will be working with the Angel Tree program this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Vision Team Secretary

September's minutes are on page 5

BOOKLOVERS' GROUP

The Book Lovers Group will meet on Thursday October 14th, at 6:30 PM. We will be discussing the book 'Same Kind of Different as Me', by Ron Hall & Denver Moore. The following is taken from the back of the book: 'A dangerous, homeless drifter who grew up picking cotton in virtual slavery. An upscale art dealer accustomed to the world of Armani and Chanel. A gutsy woman with a stubborn dream. A story so incredible no novelist would dare dream it. It begins outside a burning plantation hut in Louisiana . . . and an East Texas honky-tonk . . . and, without a doubt in the heart of God. It unfolds in a Hollywood hacienda . . . and upscale New York gallery . . . a downtown dumpster . . . a Texas ranch. Gritty with pain and betrayal and brutality, it also shines with an unexpected, life-changing love.'

If you cannot join us on this day, please check the following dates we will meet.

11 November 10

'Shoot the Moon'

By Billie Letts

9 December 10

'A Christmas Guest'

By Anne Perry

13 January 11

'Friendship Cake'

By Lynne Hinton

The Book Lovers Group is open to anyone who enjoys reading books. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Anne Roesel, 474-3555 or 390-3072.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

If it is October, Christmas can't be far away.

Don't forget that Reformation Sunday is October 31st. Wear red that day.

All Saints' Sunday will be on November 7th. We remember those who have died since last All Saints' Sunday. If you have someone you would like us to name, please contact the church office.

We are planning something different for our mid-week Advent services this year. It will not be a service, instead we will begin with a prayer, and a lesson will be read. Then, we will sing and listen to music that is appropriate for the topic of the night. One night the topic will be Was Jesus born on December 25th; another night will be about preparing for Christ; and the last night will be about lullabies and songs of Mary.

It is about time to schedule worship assistants for 2011. You can participate in many ways. There is no upper age limit for any worship assistant.

Here are the assistants that are needed each Sunday:

Acolyte – Duties: Light the candle prior to service, or during the service in Advent. Extinguish the candles after the service. Give offering plates to and receive them from the ushers at the offertory. Assist during table communion. The lower age limit is anyone who can reach the candles and can sit by themselves.

Crucifer – Duties: Lead the procession and recession at the service. For festival services, lead the Gospel procession. Receive the wine and wafers from the ushers at the offertory. Assist during table communion. The lower age limit is usually confirmation age. People who haven't been confirmed will be allowed on a case-by-case basis.

Torch Bearer – Duties: For Festival services, carry a torch in procession and recession, also during the Gospel procession. You must be able to carry the torch without lighting anything with the flame.

Banner Bearer – Duties: Carry the banner during procession and recession. You must be tall enough to carry the banner without it touching the ground.

Lay Reader – Duties: Read the Old and New Testament lessons from the pulpit. You may come up to the pulpit from your seat in the congregation. You must be able to read clearly and project your voice so the congregation can hear you.

Assisting Minister – Duties: Lead prayers, and assist at communion, baptisms, confirmation, etc. You must be a confirmed member.

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Altar Guild – Duties: Set up communion for the service, and clean up after the service. You have to have transportation to church to set up the altar for communion on a given day.

Usher – Duties: Greet people as they arrive, pass out bulletins and other handouts, count the number of people present. Pass the collection plates during the offering. Bring offerings and bread and wine forward to the chancel. Send the congregation forward for communion. You have to be mature enough to keep an eye on the congregation

Flower Delivery - Duty: If the person donating the flowers does not want to keep them, you deliver the flowers to any shut in, or to a nursing home. You must have transportation.

We are very happy to welcome our new organist, Thomas Williford. He is a freshman at Mercer University, living on campus this year. His home is Lawrenceville, GA.

If you have any questions or concerns about our worship and music life, please contact one of the following: Beau or Gaye Wood, Adam Lockamy, or Anne Roesel.

Recycling News

Redeemer Recycling Center for October 2010

Don't forget that Kroger, Publix, and Wal-Mart have bins outside for plastic bag recycling.

If you are buying water by the case, for home use, you might want to consider buying a water filter. Púr and Brita have models that connect to your faucet. They also have pitchers with filters attached. There are other water filters available, these are the most well known. Be sure to use PBA free reusable water bottles.

In the hall outside of the fellowship hall, there are bins for cardboard, plastic bags, plastic bottles, steel cans, aluminum cans, and glass bottles. Be sure to rinse the bottles and cans out, and to shake out excess liquid.

Paper can be recycled in the blue bin in the Narthex or in any of the other bins we have at church. There is a recycle bin in the Sacristy, the choir room, the church office, and the work room, where the copier is.

If you have any recycling tips, please contact the church office. We will then pass the information on to everybody.

Comments and Chuckles

“Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.”

“War does not determine who is right—only who is left.”

“Some cause happiness wherever they go. Others whenever they go.”

“Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.”

A minister, looking up from the sermon he was reading, was horrified to see his young son in the gallery, pelting the congregation below with liquorices of allsorts.

Before he could say anything, the boy called out: “You keep talking Dad. I'll keep them awake!”

COUNCIL VISION TEAM

Council Vision Team Meeting Minutes 19 September 2010

Members Present: Pastor Braswell, Bo Phillips, Jonas Strecker, Doug Malloy, Vic Vankus, Tammy Semmler, Donna Rocker, Paul Lyles, Amy Harmon, Amie Craig, and Anne Roesel.

Visitors: Stan Semmler, Liz Malloy, Bill Moses, and Lisa Kaczmarek.

Pastor opened the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes of the August meeting were approved by acclamation.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor has made numerous visits to shut-ins, hospitals, nursing homes, and the jail. He was an officiant at the funeral of Ruth Creter.

Treasurer's Report:

Our finances are not in good shape, although, August was a good month. We continue to deplete our savings.

The budget for 2011 was discussed in great detail. When the budget is presented at the November meeting of the congregation, Jonas Strecker will make sure everyone understands each line item.

Other Business:

Lisa Kaczmarek offered several good fundraising options. One will be an advertisement booklet. Any one in the congregation can buy an ad for their business. We will also offer it to businesses in the community. This will be published quarterly. Donna Rocker will be working on a new congregational cook book.

The church will buy a quarter page ad from the Macon Telegraph. This is for an up-coming publication about religious organizations in the area. The cost is \$345.

There will be an insert in the bulletin for each member to verify their information. We will ask for name and address, birthdays and anniversaries, phone numbers and e-mail address.

We need more Sunday school teachers. We need to separate the age groups. Some classes may have only two students.

The office will write a public letter of thank-you to those people who have donated money to pay for things that are not covered by this year's budget.

Respectfully submitted,
Vision Team Secretary

A thank you to those members who stepped up to the plate and made special donations that allowed the church to continue the work of the Lord in this place. Thank again.

Congregational Member Information

The information we have in the church office may not be correct. Please take a few minutes to fill out this sheet. Place it in the offering plate. Use the back for more space. Your information is not shared with anyone outside this congregation. Please check the box beside any information you would like to share with the congregation.

PLEASE PRINT

Name	Birthday
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Mailing Address

Anniversary: _____

Phone Numbers Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____ E-Mail _____	Share this info
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NEWS, REMINDERS & UPCOMING EVENTS CONTINUED



Those serving this month OCTOBER

Acolyte

3 Garrett Strong
10 Jonathan Ward
17 Jordan Anderson
24 Molly Craig
31 Matthew Kraft

Crucifer[BB & T]

Nickolas Tibbetts
Tyler Ward
Niko Anderson
Jacob Kraft
Melissa Smith &
Jacob Kraft (BB)

Asst. Minister

Tammy Semmler
Amy Harmon
Joe Kraft
Jay Kramer

Reader

Randy Blank
Eileen Carlson
Desiree Erthal
Amy Harmon
Catherine Hawkins

Usher

3 Terry and Donna Rohn
10 Raymond Lawton &
Stan Purvis
17 John and Frankie Butt
24 Lars Anderson & Bill Lober
31 Vic and Phiffie Vankus

Altar Guild

Gaye and Beau Wood
Teri Kramer & Beverly Mercado
Debbie Phillips & Eileen Carlson
The Braswells
Frankie and John Butt

Flower Delivery

3 Donna Rohn
10 Kathy Affolter
17 Cameron Tibbetts
24 Julie and Jonas Strecker
31 Randy and Suzanne Blank

Council Closing for month of October

Jonas Strecker and Vic Vankus



Clean up Day



Church ground clean-up day, Saturday October 2nd at 8:30 a.m. Breakfast and lunch will be served.

Want a great time of fun & fellowship please come and join us!

The Vineville Community Association will be planting two dog woods in Memory of Bob Affolter and John Beitz at 10:00.



YOUNG AT HEARTS

**Young at Hearts
WILL BE MEETING**

for the month on **October 12**. Come on and join us . We are looking forward to a great time of food, fun, and fellowship.



REFORMATION ROCKS

OCTOBER 31ST

3-5:00PM



The annual reformation rocks celebration is to be held on October 31st. This year we are having fun games and activities . In addition to the games there will be a bake sale, cake walk, lots of free activities, candy, a raffle, cook out and a giant slide.

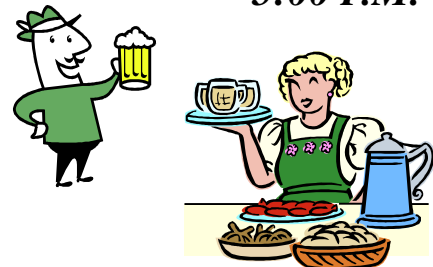
Wear your costume



OCTOBERFEST

October 16, 2010

5:00 P.M.



**Beer, brats and German Foods
AND A LOTS OF FUN AND FELLOWSHIP.
BE SURE TO MARK THIS DATE ON
YOUR CALENDAR.**

Social Ministry

Social Ministry is very overwhelming by all the needs around us: the poor, the homeless, the earthquakes and hurricane victims...there seems to be so little one person can do.

In these times, it becomes the church's privilege to reassure the people in our community that there is hope. The food pantry is off to a good start and we are serving several individuals in our community. We have a need for cleaning supplies, toiletries, paper towels and toilet tissue.

The Crafty Ladies have started back after the summer break making clothing for girls and boys in an orphanage in Mexico. They also make quilts. We are in need of folks that can sew. The items are already cut and may be taken home to sew and brought back. They meet every Wednesday morning beginning at 10:00. New members are welcomed.

The "*Ronald McDonald House Charities*" are still collecting pop tabs. I am proud to say with the help of a few friends in Oklahoma we sent nine gallons of pop tabs to the Ronald McDonald House this month.

Our committee is starting from scratch and our first meeting was held on September 16 with Jeryl Braswell, Anne Roesel, Lisa Kaczmarek, Amy Harmon, and myself.

We discussed having "*Angel Tree Ministries*" Christmas party on December 12, 2010 during our Second Sunday Luncheon and have the Children Choir perform their Christmas Musical during worship service. Then let the children receive their gifts in the fellowship hall after our luncheon. This is open to all the children in our congregation. Details still need to be worked out and still waiting to receive our resource kit from Angel Tree. I hope to have our list of children that we are providing assistance to sometime in October.

November will have two events. The first one is our Yard Sale on November 6, 2010 from 9:00 am – 12 noon. We will also include a Bake Sale with the Yard Sale. Our second event we will begin making preparations for our annual Thanksgiving Dinner for "*Meals on Wheels*" on Thursday, November 25, 2010.

Ideas for future events may include parents' night out and coffee fundraiser from Lutheran World Relief.

Our next meeting will be October 21, 2012 at 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall. If you have any questions or concerns, I may be reached at 478-387-8500 or email me at tamram59@yahoo.com

Peace,
Tammy Semmler

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on." Mark 12:41-44 (NRSV)

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

The Choir Corner

At Redeemer Macon, so much of what we do as a congregation of believers on Sunday morning can be described as reflective. We reflect on the life of Christ, his sacrifice for us, and how we have fallen short of his ideal for our lives. Though music, too, can be reflective, so much of the music we sing can be used as an opportunity to take our reflections and see them become manifestations of beauty and an offering of praise. Each Sunday, our creator and provider offers us the chance to share in worship with one another, and in return we have the awesome power to collectively offer a hymn of praise. This month's hymn Arise my Soul, Arise, tells us of his suffering, but poignantly reminds us that we need not live in guilt of sin. As we sing this month's hymn, I urge each of us to recall Christ's love for us on the cross, but then turn our reflection into praise and thanksgiving, through song, as the church redeemed.

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

October 2, Clean up and Paint at the Church 8:30 to 2:00, breakfast and lunch provided. Bring your own paint brushes, ladders, etc.

October 16, Oktoberfest, come and enjoy beer and brats at 5:00. Bring any German dish you wish to share with the congregation and join in the fellowship.

October 23, painting of the fellowship hall at 9:00

October 31, Reformation Rocks 3:00 to 5:00.

November 6, Yard Sale.

A couple of people in the congregation thought about fund raisers and decided on a car wash; several other people volunteered to help, still more showed up to help with the car wash. Someone supplied ice and water, another lunch. Folks from the congregation brought their cars to be washed and others made contributions. When all said and done a five hour car wash raised \$615.58 toward the general fund. There was fellowship, fun, and no one was overworked. Through team work, two or three cars were washed at one time, and each one was washed, tires scrubbed, and dried in time that would make NASCAR proud. A special thanks to all who were involved in this effort, through teamwork like this, these and other projects can be accomplished.

We thank the individuals in the congregation who have stepped forward and anonymously provided financial help for those items that are part of our congregational life but we do not have the finances to pay for.

Our Thanksgiving Meals On Wheels will be on November 25 and volunteers to prepare, pack, and deliver the meals will be needed.

We are beginning to develop the Angel Tree program and if you wish to help see Tammy Semmler.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

OCTOBER

- 1 Eukie Evans
- 2 Emily Homeier
- 3 Frances Roquemore
- 8 Bert Hardwick; John Lewis; Margaret Pope
- 9 Chelsea Fowler
- 10 Connie Homeier
- 11 Nova Sue Bruss; Nancy Skilling; Hannah Waddell
- 12 McKinzie Beitz
- 14 Jackson Bernthal
- 19 Chelsea Fowler
- 21 Vic Vankus
- 25 Gene Lorenz;
Jonas Strecker

NOTE: If we have missed your birthday and / or anniversary, or if you are not sure that we have the correct (date's), please call the church office. Thank you

PRAYER REQUESTS



Redeemer Worshipers

Anna Allen, Stacy Kraft, Kim Bohan,
Culas Hutchinson

Friends of Redeemer-

Military: Cameron, Ariel Sauvey, Chandler Kramer,
Ben Morris, Greg Maher

ANNIVERSARIES



OCTOBER

- 9 Juan & Peggy Esnard
- 12 Kenny & Lori Rodgers
- 17 Tony & Liz Bohling
- 21 Matt & Rachel Skilling
- 27 Bill & Rebecca Lober

COUNCIL VISION TEAM

OFFICERS:

President/Jonas Strecker; Vice President/Donna Rocker, Secretary/Anne Roesel; Treasurer/Paul Lyles

MEMBERS & TEAM APPOINTMENTS:

Evangelism/Donna Rocker, Treasurer-Finance/Paul Lyles; Worship and Music/Anne Roesel and Amy Harmon; Property/Bo Phillips and Doug Malloy; Christian Education/Amie Craig, Social Ministry/Tammy Semmler; Stewardship/Vic Vankus

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
390 Pierce Avenue
Macon, Georgia 31204

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
US POSTAGE PAID
Macon, Georgia
PERMIT 54

CHURCH STAFF

THE REV. JIM BRASWELL, PHD / PASTOR

THOMAS WILLIFORD ORGANIST

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC / ADAM LOCKAMY

BRIDGET WARD / SEXTON; NURSERY ATTENDANT

OFFICE HOURS 9:00 AM—12:00 MON.-THURS.

* * *

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FAX / 478-742-4408

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EMAIL / REDEEMER@REDEEMERMACON.ORG

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SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:15 A.M.—EDUCATION HOUR
FOR CHILDREN~TEENS~ADULTS

9:30 A.M.—GRACE PLACE SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 A.M. CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL

10:30 A.M.—WORSHIP / HOLY COMMUNION

ONE SERVICE ONLY—NURSERY PROVIDED

11:30 A.M.—GATHERING TIME