On Sunday, July 16th, I will begin preaching a four-week sermon series called “The Case For Christ,” based on the book with the same name, which spawned the movie that was recently shown in theaters across the country.

In 1980, Lee Strobel’s award-winning investigative reporting earned him a promotion to legal editor at the Chicago Tribune. Things at home weren’t going as well: His wife Leslie’s new faith in Christ disturbed Strobel, an atheist, so much that he set out to disprove the claims of Christianity. In the end, he came to believe in Christ.

The weekly sermon topics are:

**July 16th - Week 1:** “Investigating the Case for Christ”

**July 23rd - Week 2:** “Exploring the Evidence for Christ”

**July 30th - Week 3:** “Embracing the Truth of Christ”

**August 6th - Week 4:** “Explaining the Good News of Christ”

This fall we will show the full-length movie at Redeemer. Stay tuned for the date and time of this exciting event. In the meantime, get ready for this relevant, interesting sermon series. Invite a friend, read the book, look for opportunities to share the truth that Jesus is real, He is the Savior, and all who come to Him in faith have the forgiveness of sins and everlasting life.

Enjoy Independence Day as you celebrate our nation’s hard-fought freedom. Pray for our leaders, in the government and the church. I will be “up north” visiting my mother and other members of my extended family, hopefully catching a few “lunkers” as well (any fish will do, really!).

Love in Christ,

Pastor Steve
REDEEMER CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

WE’RE EXCITED TO SHARE OUR PLANS WITH YOU

At Redeemer Christian Academy, the teachers spend two weeks after school ends planning for the coming year. We also spend two weeks prior to the start of the new school year executing those plans before the students ever step foot on our campus. That enables us to have plenty of time to work as a team in seeking out and implementing the best way to meet the needs of students and parents.

Here is some of what has come out of our planning sessions:

Along with pastor, we worked through a strategic analysis tool to identify our strengths, and opportunities for growth. This tool helps give us direction in what to focus on for the coming year.

TOP STRENGTHS IDENTIFIED:

† We teach God’s grace and truth in all situations, in an open, safe environment
† Christian morals and values are taught as well as academics
† Face-to-face accountability for students
† High standards and expectations for our students
† Organization and study skills intentionally taught
† We intentionally seek to nurture each child’s gifts and talents
† Kudos often received from high schools as they acknowledge the high caliber of our graduates

TOP OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH AND THE PLAN TO MEET THE NEED:

† Families are stressed more than ever, and it shows up in our classrooms. 
  **Plan:** Offer intentional relationship building opportunities in our large group gatherings, small group ministry, parenting classes, and institute Moms and Muffins gatherings (dads have Breakfast Buddies)
† More and more students are coming to us with special education needs.
  **Plan:** Utilize professional development money from the district for ongoing training for staff.
† At times we’re asked to water down our theology.
  **Plan:** Remain strong in teaching from our theological stance, yet respect parent’s theological differences.
† Chapel at 8:45 Wednesday mornings is a worship opportunity for all, not just students.
  **Plan:** Be intentional about sharing this worship opportunity with all, especially during Advent and Lent.

ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US!

We’d love to see you at our events! Please mark these dates on your calendars. We scheduled relationship-building opportunities/events to which all are invited:

† **August 16, 7:00-8:00pm** – New Parent Dessert/Orientation, childcare provided
† **August 22, 6:30-7:30pm** – PS-K Playground Party (Gr. 1-8 parties are in the works)
† **August 27, 12:00noon-4:00pm** – 40th Anniversary Celebration for the school (more news to come)

(RCA continued on page 3)
RCA continued from page 2)

† **August 28, 9:00am** - Praise and Celebration Chapel as we begin our 40th year of school
† **October 4, 8:30am Chapel and 9:15 Classroom Visits** – VIP/Grandparent’s Day Celebration
† **September 23, 1:00pm** – Plymouth on Parade – Walk with us as we represent Redeemer
† **November 8, 10:30am** – Veteran’s Day chapel, with lunch following

† **December 13, 9:00am** – PS Christmas Program
† **December 19, 6:30pm** – K-8 Christmas Program

We jointly chose the theme for church and school for next fiscal year as “Rooted,” based on Colossians 2:7:

> For you have been rooted in him and are being built up and strengthened in the faith, just as you were taught, while you continue to be thankful.

It is only because we are rooted in Him that we are celebrating our 40th school anniversary, and look forward to many more years of reaching out to root others in Him.

**Enrollment Update**

As of this writing, we have 110 students enrolled, with the expectation of four more students during the coming week. Two years ago we had 94 students enrolled at this time, and last year we had 98 students enrolled. We rejoice that enrollment is up again! Praise God! It’s only because you are sharing with your circle of influence, and we thank you!

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**Youth Ministry Summer 2017**

Joe Lomando, Student Ministry Director

For the next three months we will be shifting this around a bit.

There are two main changes:

1. **We will be meeting on Sunday nights from 6pm-8pm.** (We will not be meeting on Wednesdays again until September.)
2. **Backyard Bible Studies are back!** We will not be meeting at Redeemer during the summer months. Instead, we will be meeting at various homes of Redeemer students who live nearby. A typical Sunday night will have food, worship, Bible Study and some sort of social activity. We will more than likely mix a Saturday evening swimming party or bonfire night before the summer is over. A weekly email will keep you on top of what’s coming.

**Summer 2017 Schedule**

† **7/2 4th of July Weekend** -- **NO BIBLE STUDY**
† **7/9 Trout Lake Camp** -- **NO BIBLE STUDY**
† **7/16, 6pm-8pm** BackYard Bible Study @ TBA
† **7/23, 6pm-8pm** BackYard Bible Study @ TBA
† **7/30, 6pm-8pm** BackYard Bible Study @ TBA
† **8/6, 6pm-8pm** BackYard Bible Study @ TBA
† **8/13, 6pm-8pm** BackYard Bible Study @ TBA
† **8/20, 6pm-8pm** BackYard Bible Study @ TBA
† **8/27, 6pm-8pm** Last week of summer -- **NO BIBLE STUDY**

**NEEDED: Host homes for BackYard Bible Studies!**

If you are able to host one or more of the dates listed above please email me ASAP. Thank you. A host home is responsible for providing snacks and a place to meet.

Contact me with questions.

**Joe’s Corner**

Here in MN we spend many months inside enduring the cold and longing for the summer weather. Now that summer is here don’t waste it by staying indoors and being entertained by your media. Put away the phone, the tablet and the remote and go outside. Take a walk. Read a book on the deck. Go to a park. Ride your bike. Build something. Get a job.

Studies have clearly shown that getting outside and being active will make you happier and your life feel more full and enjoyable. So go ahead and do it…I dare ya!

Joe Lomando
Our 2017 VBS, Maker Fun Factory, is in the books and it was a success! We had over 80 registered attendees for the week. Additionally we had 16 volunteers and our entire day school teaching staff running the show. It was a great cooperative effort but most importantly Jesus was glorified and lives were changed. Thank you to all who participated and a very special thank you to Laura Brinkman for serving as our director. Her dedication and hard work behind the scenes made the week possible. She put in many hours in the evenings and weekends leading up to VBS and was on-site throughout the week making sure we were in a position to be successful. Thank you, Laura, for using your gifts to glorify Jesus and bless our community.
**Music & Worship “Notes”**

**Summer Sing-Alongs Continue in July and August**

Why do we sing so much in worship? Singing helps to connect the heart, soul, mind, and strength, just like Jesus spoke of in the greatest commandment (Mark 6:29-32). Singing engages the emotion, the intellect, the will and desire, along with the very soul and core of our being.

Over the years we build a personal “file” of experiences on our spiritual journey of faith, and God engages our memory of these experiences often through the words of a song. In worship we remember God’s faithfulness in words of faith and testimony. Some folks have the creative mind and discipline to write and record many of these great songs, and we get to share them in worship.

If you have a list of ten songs that speak to you in your journey of faith, be it one year, ten years, or ninety years, share them with us. You can also tell us why and how these hymns and songs speak to you. Dan Oie would love to hear and share your song and hymn stories.

Summer Sing-Alongs will continue through Labor Day weekend.

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**Swedish Night of Song**

**August 16**

Join Dan Oie and Swedish musician, Lennart Johannson from Luleå, Sweden, in a night of favorite Swedish hymns and songs, on **Wednesday, August 16**, at 7 p.m.

More information coming in July.

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**“Willy Wonka Musical”**

Dan Oie, Redeemer Music Director, will be the music director for six performances of the Roald Dahl’s *Willy Wonka*, a moral story and musical presented by the 4CT Theater at Orono High School.

The musical involves a cast of 30 singers, along with a 10-piece stage orchestra.

The story is about Willy Wonka, a fantasy candy maker, who wants to bestow his wealthy and influential chocolate factory on some special child and family. Five golden tickets are presented to five lucky children who are tested in their purpose and vision for chocolate, and in reality, for life.

The dates for the show are July 21, 22, 23 (Sunday matinee), 28, 29 and 30 (Sunday matinee). The evening shows are at 7:00 p.m. and the Sunday matinees are at 1 p.m.

Tickets are available at [www.4communitytheatre.org](http://www.4communitytheatre.org). Tickets will also be available at the door.

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**Redeemer Good News** is a monthly newsletter for members and friends of Redeemer Lutheran Church & School in Wayzata.

Newsletter articles are due the third Thursday of the month. Submit articles, news, and event items to Stacy Klone at sklone@redeemerwayzata.org.

Comments and suggestions are welcome.
REDEEMER WORSHIP SERVICES – SPECIAL MUSIC

JULY 2, 10:00 AM (ONE SERVICE ONLY)
Patriotic Hymns and Songs
Kinlin Schultz, flute;
Dan, Cheryl and Ben Oie

JULY 9
Maureen Pranghofer, blind songwriter; Paul Pranghofer, disability story

JULY 16
Nicholas and Theodore Jantzen, strings

JULY 23
Zach Hedner, “Willy Wonka” singer

JULY 30
Kristi Benthin (8:15)

AUGUST 6
Solveig Meyer and Carolyn Allmon (8:15);
Jennifer Larson (10:45)

AUGUST 20
Laurie Praetorious, harp

Music Camp: The Prodigal Clown

Thanks “Prodigal Clown” Twenty plus students participated in the learning and production of “THE PRODIGAL CLOWN,” a circus version of “the prodigal son,” a story Jesus taught in Luke 15 as one of three “lost” stories.
**Braille Work Center #12**

“Helping people touch and be touched by the promises of Jesus”

Dedication of the Braille Work Center is planned for Sunday, July 9, 2017 at both services.

We began production on Monday, May 15. We will be working in groups of 4-6 each session (assembly line style). It takes approximately ½ hour to complete a book. Our quota for the month is 37 books. We will be producing “Revelation” (26 per month) and the Mustard Seed Devotion “With This Ring (11 per month). The finished product will be packaged and shipped to various people in the US and overseas as Lutheran Braille Workers request.

We request your support with your prayers for the workers, for the production, packaging and shipping, and for the blind who will receive these books, and encourage you to stop in and visit. We are located in the copy room, to the right of the reception desk.

At this point, Monday has been the day our volunteers have chosen to work. As “new” volunteers come, they will be paired with our “seasoned” volunteers to maintain “quality control.” It is an easy and simple task with a purpose.

Thank you, Volunteers!

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**Happy 4th of July**

Please Note: Sunday, July 2 - One Service at 10 a.m.

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**Men’s Bible Study: “Counter Culture”**

The Men’s Bible Study meets Saturday mornings at the Community Room in Lunds at Colonial Square in Wayzata from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m.

As we all know, “We live in momentous days marked by a rapidly shifting moral landscape.” As Christians, how are we supposed to respond to all this? In the words of “Counter Culture” author and pastor David Platt, “My aim in this Bible study is to call us to a contrite, compassionate but courageous response in such a way that we’re able to speak the gospel clearly to our culture.”

Bring your Bible and a friend. Questions, contact Gordy Engel (612/708-4879 or email gordye@thefoursome.com.

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**Wednesday Morning Women’s Bible Study**

The Wednesday morning Bible Study meets at 10 a.m. on the second Wednesday of the month during the summer months of June, July, and August.

God is called by many names in Scripture ... names that highlight specific aspects of his character.

This study invites us to experience and trust God Most High in deeper ways and to worship him with fresh awe and reverence.

Please join on Wednesday, July 12, us as we study the Names of God, enjoy some fellowship. Bring a friend!

For more information, contact Linda Krantz (763/476-0587) or Mary Sund (763/233-2417).
LIFE Light Begins New Study Beginning September 14

The Thursday morning LifeLight Bible Study invites you to study the Old Testament book of Daniel (of "Daniel in the Lion's Den" fame) beginning September 14, from 9:30--11:30am in the Conference room.

Do you remember Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; or the prophetic dream King Nebuchadnezzar had of a large statue with a head of pure gold, chest and arms of silver, belly and thighs of bronze, legs of iron, and feet and toes of iron and clay? After praying to the Lord, Daniel was able to tell the King his dream and explain its meaning. We are very close to the end of time and Christ's return because we are already in the "toes" of that statue.

Come study God's Word with us. Everyone is welcome.
Questions? ask Judymae Bowers (763-476-0913) or Eva McAtee (763-476-1827).

Sunday Morning Coffee Hour & Bible Study

Join Pastor Steve between services Sunday mornings as he leads an eight-part video series titled “Christianity, The First Three Centuries.” Explore how such a tiny sect conquered the world and how a tiny, tortured faith became the most successful phenomenon in all of history.

During its first 300 years from Christ to Constantine, the Christian Church had to wage a two-front campaign against external persecution and internal heresy until it finally conquered the Roman Empire ... and the future.

Let's study the Word together.
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**Key:**
- **HC** = Holy Communion
- **CR** = Conference Room
- **G** = Gathering Room

Please check your weekly bulletin.

Calendar dates are subject to change.
We invite you to worship with us!

SUNDAY WORSHIP & PRAISE: 8:15 am and 10:45 am, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION-All Ages: 9:30 am

LUTHERAN NIGHT AT TARGET FIELD

Join your fellow baseball fans at Target Field to watch the Twins take on the Milwaukee Brewers on TUESDAY, AUGUST 8. Game time is 7:10 pm. We’ll be sitting in right field, main concourse level.

Tickets are $27 each.

Sign up in the church lobby or call Hank Radintz, 612-865-2130. Ordering deadline is July 17.