




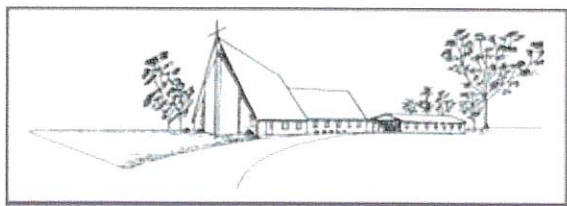


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|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| <p>Redeemer Lutheran Church<br/>1300 E. Nora St.<br/>Thief River Falls, MN 56701<br/>Phone: 218-681-3390<br/>www.redeemerlutheran.com<br/>Office Hours: 9am-2pm<br/>Mon-Fri</p> |   |   |   | <p>1<br/>4:00 Safety Committee<br/>5:30 SWEETS at Moe's</p>               | <p>2<br/>Pastor Sabbath</p>  | <p>3</p>  |
| <p>4<br/>9:30AM Worship with Holy Communion</p>   | <p>5</p>  | <p>6<br/>11-1pm May Salad Luncheon</p>  | <p>7<br/>5:30 Worship<br/>6:30 Confirmation</p>   | <p>8<br/>5:30 SWEETS at Subway</p>  | <p>9<br/>Pastor Sabbath</p>  | <p>10</p>  |
| <p>11<br/>9:30AM Worship<br/>Mother's Day<br/>Senior Info and Picture Due</p>                | <p>12<br/>4:30 Faith &amp; Family Stewardship<br/>5:30 Property Committee Meeting</p> | <p>13<br/>9:00 Quilters<br/>9:30 Martha Unit<br/>6:30 Worship and Music committee</p>       | <p>14<br/>1:30 Ruth Unit<br/>5:30 Worship<br/>6:30 Armed Forces Celebration<br/>6:30 Confirmation</p>   | <p>15<br/>5:00 Finance Committee Meeting<br/>5:30 SWEETS at Black Cat</p> | <p>16<br/>Pastor Sabbath</p>   | <p>17</p>   |
| <p>18<br/>9:30AM Worship with Holy Communion<br/>Senior Recognition Sunday</p>  | <p>19</p>   | <p>20<br/>9:00 Quilters<br/>6:00 Council</p>  | <p>21<br/>5:30pm Worship<br/>6:30 Confirmation</p>  | <p>22<br/>8:15 – 5:30 Life Line Screening<br/>5:30 SWEETS at The Hive</p> | <p>23<br/> <br/> Graduation<br/>  </p> | <p>24</p>   |
| <p>25<br/>9:30AM Worship<br/>Baptism of Drew Jacob Bernier</p>  | <p>26<br/>Meals On Wheels<br/>OFFICE CLOSED<br/>Happy Memorial Day</p>                | <p>27<br/>Meals on Wheels<br/>9:00 Quilters<br/>5:00 Altar Guild<br/>5:00 WIC - Kitchen</p> | <p>28<br/>Meals on Wheels<br/>5:30 Worship Retirement of Paula, Greg, and Dean</p>  | <p>29<br/>Meals on Wheels<br/>5:30 SWEETS at Line on 59</p>               | <p>30<br/>Meals on Wheels<br/>Synod Assembly At Concordia</p>  | <p>31<br/>Synod Assembly At Concordia</p>   |



## **Redeemer Lutheran Church Congregational Council Minutes Tuesday, April 15, 2025**

**Council Members Present:** Jan Nordin, Pastor Steph, Terri Cuppett, Ken Froschheiser, Deb Jacobson, Missy Hall, Kristie Huseeth, Leona Bugge

**Council Members Excused:** Gary Hintz, Scott D Camp, Wenda Sumrall

**Council Members Absent:**

**Guest:** Dianne Stroh

The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm by President, Jan Nordin. Devotions were given by Deb Jacobson.

**The agenda** was reviewed, and the motion was made by Ken and seconded by Missy to adopt it.

**The Secretary's report** was reviewed, and a motion was made by Deb and seconded by Kristie to adopt and file the minutes.

**The Treasurer's report** was reviewed. Items of note were snow removal by Olson Construction for \$240.00 and the MN Energy bill of \$1184.41 which has dropped about two hundred dollars since the previous month. One other item for discussion was the purchasing of a new software for the church that would integrate our current outdated and separate programs into one program. Cost would be similar to what we are currently doing with the biggest benefit coming from converting the printed newsletter to electronic email form. Print version would be available by request from those who do not have computer or internet access.

**Pastor Steph reported** that she had visited 3 members of Redeemer hospitalized in Fargo. Two funerals were performed. One for member John Wayne Olson and one for William Nelson who is not a member. 25 Communions including 5 with anointing for healing.

Ash Wednesday and Lent services went well. Many mentors expressed how much they liked the idea and enjoyed getting to know the youth. There was frustration, however, that so many kids skipped out of worship and confirmation class during this time. Attended Conference 2 Spring Theological class and the TRF Ministerium. Led two worship services at Greenleaf and the TRF Care Center. Attended the concert series and SWEETS every Thursday. Attended Synod Council Day Retreat in Bemidji on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Upcoming Events:**

Communion Instruction – 4/16 5:30

Olivia Maas, Corbyn Kertz, Tatum Fay, Ava Erickson and

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Worship At 6:30pm

Easter Resurrection Worship at 7:00 and 9:30 with Brunch in between

Honor flight participant leave – Dale Dillon, Ken Froschheiser, Ken Kain and Mark Jenkins.

Last day of BLAST – April 30

Reid is gone May 4

WELCA May Spring Salad Luncheon May 6

Armed Services Celebration May 14

Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> – Senior Recognition and Worship

Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup> – Worship and Baptism(Bernier)

Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> – last Wednesday Service – Paula, Dean and Greg retirement – celebration to honor their dedication for the last 33 years.

May 30 – June 1 – Synod Assembly at Concordia in Moorhead – Bishop Election – Pastor gone that Sunday

**Committee Reports:**

**Faith Formation** – Did not meet

**Evangelism and Social Ministry** – May Salad Luncheon Sign up sheets in Narthex and bulletins

**Property Committee:** Continuing to work on existing problems. New items include restriping the parking lot, recaulking the windows above the sanctuary, dishwasher has been fixed, 2 trees in rear lot need to be removed.

**Faith and Family Stewardship Committee:** Lenten Soup Suppers went well and free will donations will be given to the Heritage Center, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday potluck was well attended and many great dishes were shared. Easter breakfast will be served between services. Senior recognition Sunday is scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Worship and Music Committee:** Continuing to work on sound system issues. Summer outdoor services set for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of June, July and August.

**Personnel Committee** – will meet in May

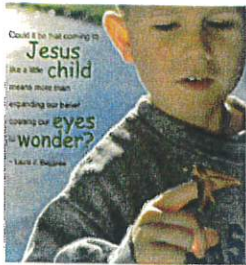
**Altar Guild:** Continues to do an awesome job.

**New Business:** Subsplash software discussion and other software research provided. Pastor Steph and Dianne will look at programs and report back. Tabled until May.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m. with a motion by Leona and a second by Kristie. Followed by The Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.





## Har Du Glemte Din Barnetro?

This is one of my favorite Children's faith songs I learned when I was young. It means ***"Have you forgotten your childlike faith that you learned so long ago?"*** It has taken on more meaning for me as I have grown older – and looked deeper into the meaning of God, love and the scriptures. I think, perhaps the



reason Jesus says we must accept faith as a little child is that they are open, curious, ask questions and see the wonder in the moment as they expand their understanding and begin to live differently because of it!

***Have you ever thought you knew something so well, you polished the story you told yourself – and perhaps others about experiences you've had – only to miss the power and learning that could come from it?***

If so, you are not alone. Our Easter Season is full of stories of the disciples and others – not recognizing Jesus – whom they have been in constant contact with for about three years. These begin in Holy week and continue on to Pentecost. Like the disciples, we often become so polished in our repeating the story every year that it fails to grab us and empower us – and we forget to recognize Jesus' presence by our side.



Sometimes what we remember brings us a warning of our shortcomings or the shallowness of our faith or convictions. Peter experiences that shortly after vowing that he would never leave Jesus but would follow to prison or even death (**Luke 22:31-34**). Just a few hours later, Peter follows at a distance, and when confronted in the courtyard three times, denies he follows or even knows Jesus. And immediately the cock crows. Jesus looks at Peter – ***and then he remembers...and he went out and wept bitterly.*** ***Have we ever claimed undying allegiance to any idea or to faith in action – and then realized we've misplaced our conviction – and not followed through on what we proclaimed? How did that feel when you remembered? What did you do about it then?***

Easter season Gospel readings give us several more hopeful stories of remembering in faith. Each Gospel tells the experiences a bit differently and they include different stories – but they all call us to remember what we have seen, read, heard or experienced – through the disciples and in our own lives.

Easter morning – the first day of the week, the women went to care for the body of Jesus. (**Luke 24:1-12**) But when they got there, the tomb was bare! They were perplexed. Two beings appeared saying, ***"Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinner, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again?"*** ***Then they remembered his words, and returning...they told this to the eleven, and all the rest.*** ***When have you remembered something and made a point to share that news or experience with others?***



John records the event a little differently with Mary Magdalene coming to the tomb while it was still dark. When she saw the stone rolled away, she went to get Peter and John. Unlike Lazarus who was still wrapped when raised by Jesus, the burial clothes from Jesus are left behind. All Peter and Mary know is Jesus is gone. John, perhaps has come to understand



that Jesus is risen, but cannot yet understand the fullness of the Resurrection. After the men leave, Mary remains, weeping. When she turns around, she sees Jesus standing there – but does not recognize him. She thinks he might be the gardener and asks where they may have taken Jesus. Jesus calls her name – as he did so many times. Then she remembers his voice and the special relationship they had as he healed her from so many things. *How does Mary's story connect with your life experience? Have you ever heard the voice of someone you trusted that immediately calmed your spirit or brought light into you day? How does God's voice sound in your heart of hearts?*

Early evening that same Easter day, two followers of Jesus were walking to Emmaus. **(Luke 24:13-35)** Jesus begins walking beside them asking what they are talking about. After listening, he began opening up the scripture explaining all they had experienced, yet they still didn't recognize him – they were so overwhelmed with grief and shock. But when they sat down at dinner, he took the bread and blessed it and broke it – as he had always done before. **Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him** – and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, *"Were not our hearts burning within us, while he was talking to us on the road?"* They ran back to Jerusalem to tell the others.



*Have you ever had a conversation with someone when faith came up, and you remembered more of God's story – or your own experience in a new way? Has God's presence seemed to speak through other's words as you reflected on the experience?*

Later that Easter evening, the disciples were gathered together in an upper room, with the doors locked because they were afraid. Jesus appears in the room with them. They were startled and terrified, thinking he was a ghost or apparition. Jesus offers them *"Peace"* and asks for something to eat – something a ghost would not do! **Jesus invites them to touch his wounds** – to confirm their hopes in tangible ways. Then **he opens their minds to understand the scripture** – words they knew from childhood and had heard him speak on. Yet now they understand in full measure: Jesus did suffer and die; Jesus was resurrected and is now before them in the flesh; and Jesus now sends them to proclaim forgiveness in his name throughout the world. All three things the scriptures had proclaimed have been fulfilled in Jesus. *When have you experienced scriptures coming to life or being fulfilled in your life? Who have you told about these experiences?*



From John's Gospel (*John 20:19-29*) we find that Thomas was not there with them. Perhaps things in his past have left him scarred and bitter over loss, perhaps he feels he misses out or is left out of 'happenings', perhaps too many close to him have died. We will never know – but Jesus knows. The following week, Jesus again finds the disciples in that upper room – along with Thomas. **Jesus offers what Thomas thinks he needs.** But it wasn't the toughing that brought belief – it is **remembering who Jesus is** and the relationship they had shared. We do not know if Thomas touched Jesus – he only expresses his recognition. *"My Lord and my God!"*

*When have you thought you needed something specific – and later found that was not what fulfilled you, but something even better did come your way? Who or what did you credit for that realization and gift?*





Later (*how much later is unknown*) Peter, And the others went back to Galilee to go fishing. But they caught nothing the whole night. (*John 21:1-14*) After daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach but they did not recognize it was Jesus. Jesus told them to put down the nets on the right side – even though they said they had caught nothing. When they did that, there were so many fish they could not haul it all in – yet the nets did not break! Peter and Andrew had that same experience when they first met Jesus, along with James and John. ***John and Peter realized it was the Lord and hurried to him.*** Jesus invited them to come have breakfast. He took the break and broke and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. *Have you had an experience that happened to repeat later in a different context...or a similar situation where you could right a wrong or choose a different response?*

After breakfast, Peter and Jesus talk alone again. Just as Peter had denied Jesus three times before the cock crowed, here Jesus asks Peter three times if Peter loves him. By the third time, Peter is feeling the weight of his earlier denials of Jesus. Yet each time – when Peter answers that he indeed does love Jesus, Jesus commands him to show that love to the sheep (flock of believers) and the weakest and most vulnerable (lambs) – as Jesus has shown to him. That love Jesus shows is in welcoming, caring, providing, and forgiving Peter – and all people – even as he hangs on the cross. *When have you experienced this love, forgiveness and reconciliation of God in your life? How do you live this love of Jesus out toward people and the vulnerable in your own life? Where else is God calling you to love others?*



An even more startling transformation is found in ***Acts 9:1-20***. Saul has been a persecutor of the early Christian movement from the beginning. Saul was Jewish, but was also a Roman citizen. He was ruthless in his pursuit of followers of “The Way” – the early Christians. He was given permission to go search out “Christians – followers of Jesus” in Damascus. While traveling, suddenly a light flashed and he was thrown from his horse. He heard a voice saying, ***“Saul, Saul! Why do you persecute me?...I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.”*** Those around him were speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul was blinded by the light and needed to be led by hand to Damascus. He stayed there three days without eating or drinking. Ananias heard God call him to go lay hands on Saul. Ananias was reluctant, but he went. When he prayed over Saul, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, his sight was restored and he was filled with the Holy Spirit. He got up, ate, and was baptized. He became a vocal preacher and evangelist for Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit throughout the Gentile world.



*Have you or someone you know changed dramatically through an experience? It may be after a crisis that has left you unable to continue the same life – or that has unlock a passion for another way of living or serving humanity. Saul’s transformation began with Jesus – but was nurtured and furthered through the Christian community – many of whom were leery of him – scared he may not continue to follow or keep his word. How have you responded to someone whom God has placed in your life?*

These Easter stories remind us of the transformation that happens through the Resurrection – the new life we are called to when we are united with Christ! *What are your memorable connections to the stories of your faith experiences? Watch for the Remembering Board and add your stories of faith – connect your “Barnetro” with your life experience and lets us know how it has grown!*



Jorge Mario Bergoglio, better known as **Pope Francis**, has led the Roman Catholic Church for the past 12 years. He was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1936, and died on Easter Monday morning this year. He was the first Pope from the Americas and championed the care of creation, the poor, social justice and welcoming all people. He often said that the worst thing that could happen to the church would be to become “self-centered” – similar to Luther’s understanding of sin as being “curved in on one’s own selfish desires.” A key teaching he embraced was simple: “If you follow Christ you understand that **“trampling upon a person’s dignity is a serious sin.”**”



The picture of Christ standing at the door knocking is familiar in many of our Lutheran Churches in the Midwest. The inspiration for it comes from Revelation 3:20. **“Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door. I will come in to him and sup with him, and he with me.”** But as Jorge reflected on this image, he saw a deeper meaning. If one breaks bread with Jesus, and follows him, they



too, identify with the poor and oppressed - the very ones Jesus came to lift up and set free. As Jorge reflected on the picture, the perspective changed from Jesus knocking to come in – to Christ knocking to invite us out into the world to bring forth the

healing, feeding, caring and liberation for all – to live into new life in the Kingdom of God’s reign. ~ One of the Cardinals who heard his homily, knew at that moment that Jorge was to one to be the new Pope. May his memory be blest.

**May we learn and live into that simplicity, love, and faith!**

## 2025 NWMN

### Synod Assembly

Pr. Stephanie White  
Jan & Diedre Nordin  
Deb Jacobson

\_\_\_\_Your Name Here\_\_\_\_

**Can you serve? We need one more delegate. Call the office to volunteer.**

*Pray for our delegates and for the Bishop Election*

## Senior Recognition



Briggs Anderson  
Paul Anderson  
Javyn Eidelbes  
Spencer Hemple  
Christopher Johnson  
Payton Leier  
Josie Peterson  
Vanessa Thibert  
Rebecca Vogel  
Landon Wikert

**Sunday, May 18, 2025**

## SWEETS

### Single Women Enjoy Eating Together

*Tired of always eating alone? Come join us on Thursdays at 5:30. Each week we gather at a different restaurant in the TRF area and share a meal. Join us and bring a friend if you like!*

|        |            |
|--------|------------|
| May 1  | Moe's      |
| May 8  | Subway     |
| May 15 | Black Cat  |
| May 22 | Hive       |
| May 29 | Line on 59 |



NWMN SYNOD  
**highways & hedges**  
ASSEMBLY 2025

May 30-June 1  
Concordia College, Moorhead





# *Thank you Barbecue*

*Join us for our  
retirement bbq for  
Paula, Greg and Dean*

May 28th

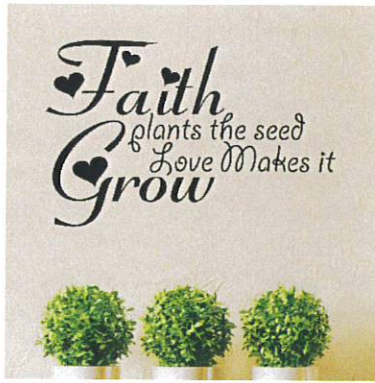
following worship

Redeemer Lutheran Church

1300 Nora St. E

Thief River Falls, MN 56701





# May Birthdays

## May Birthdays –

1 – Greg Hallstrom, Ken Niemela, Yolanda Blechinger, Morgan Little 2 – Robby Brateng, Mandy Schuster, ElleEickman 3 - 4 – Robert Horien, Elizabeth Schoon 5 – Shirley Booth, David Bruggeman, Gregg Ornquist 6 – Jacqueline Philipp, Nancy Johnson, Kinley Beito, Valerie Lindgren 7 – 8 – Mike Gilbertson 9 – Brianna Berg, Sandra Stavenes, Destany Haphey 10 – Ann Goethe 11 – Mother's Day 12 – Mackenzie Harstad 13 – Jeff Sele, Ellen Brateng 14 – Aleah Conely, Corey Johnson, Channing Dally 15 – Shannon Jesme, Isla Kemnitz, Brenda Ectstein, Gene Lunsetter 16 – Wyatt Nelson, JJ Nelson, Chaz Cullen 17 – Dolly Kainz-Ault 18 – Carter Anderson 19 – Josslyn Voecks 20 – Esther Collins, Elizabeth Barry, Bailee Walker, Erick Huseth 21 – Jim Ortloff, Dale Nelson, Jared Eidelbes 22 – Roger Hible, Claire Kemnitz 23 – Mike Burkel, Pastor Steph 24 – Morgan Hickerson 25 – Scott Pream 26 – Kaden Mostrom 27 – Haven Lunsetter, Dakota Savich 28 – Megan Hall 29 – Ruth 30 – Stuart Peterson, Lucas Eckstein 31 – Cal Michaels

## REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

1300 Nora Street E,  
Thief River Falls, MN 56701  
Web: [www.redeemertf.org](http://www.redeemertf.org)  
Email: [redeemer@gvtel.com](mailto:redeemer@gvtel.com)

Rev. Stephanie White, *pastor*

Dianne Stroh, *administrative assistant*

Marit Knutson, *financial secretary*

Mike Lundgren, *custodian*

Jan Nordin, *council president*

Reid Froiland, *organist/liturgist/choir director*

Chris Cuppett, *cantor*

Paula Adamson, Greg Dally, and Dean Dalen,  
*staff musicians*

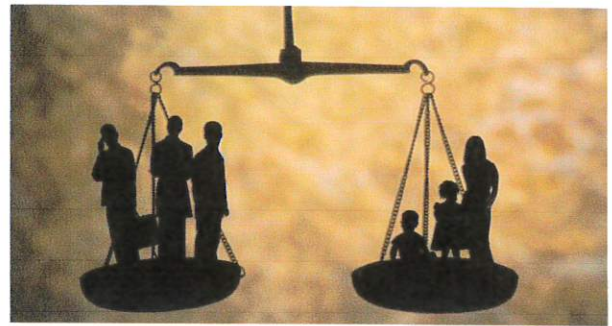
Dave Ulrich, *videographer*



## Summer's Dilemma: Church or Family?



Christina Embree



### Last day of school!!!

Ours is today; I bet yours is soon or you've already had it. The official start to summer is here. *Summer vacation means sleeping in, sunny days, water sports, sandy beaches, campfires, parades, and plenty of time with family and friends.*

### It also means that church attendance in the United States plummets.

Like seriously takes a nosedive. Attendance becomes sporadic and spotty. When school lets out for the summer, it seems like church does too. The response of the church has been to cut programming (no Wednesday nights for the summer anyone?) and plan "fun events" like picnics and Vacation Bible School.

**As a parent, I get it.** All year long our calendar is held captive by the school calendar that informs when we can go away and for how long. Seeing extended family is difficult when you have two days to travel. And spending quality time together can suffer. So planning vacations and day trips during the summer months makes sense.

**As a minister, I dread it.** It's hard. You develop relationships with kids and you have really cool things going like small groups and prayer teams and discipleship, and then, you don't see them but off and on for weeks. And then there is Vacation Bible School; don't even get me started on that. The sheer amount of time and effort that is put into pulling off a "successful" VBS event takes all the energy you have, so the regular programming starts to suffer.

I've seen so many posts recently from children's pastors around the country utterly discouraged by this attendance reality and frustrated and what seems like a lack of commitment and concern. On the other hand, I've seen equally as many posts from parents excited about the cool things they have planned this summer to do as a family and the memories they are looking forward to making.

### So who's right? What's more important? Family or church?

And therein, I believe, lies the problem. Because of the "way" we do church (Sunday morning, Wednesday night and/or separate ministries for the family members), if someone misses one of these times, it leaves a gap; a sizable gap. But families who want to spend these summer months together don't want to come to a place where once again they are separated and unable to be with each other. ***So it becomes a choice – do I want to be with my family OR do I want to go to church?***

Ugh. Those choices kinda stink.

What ends up happening then is that when the opportunity arises by default of the summer school schedule to spend that quantity of quality time together, **the choice becomes clear – family.** And when the default schedule makes finding that quantity of quality time together more difficult – **church.**

(Hemera Technologies/Getty Images)

But I don't think either of those reflect God's heart for family or for church. **In fact, I think that it creates a tension where the two are opposed to each other rather than being in partnership with one another. Where there should be mutual edification, there is instead unhealthy**



**competition.** And let me be clear, this also takes place with sports, especially travel ball, and academics, especially academic teams, and friends, especially non-churchgoing friends. And I don't have all the answers, but I do know this.

*Church isn't supposed to be a building or a program or a set time in the week. And family isn't supposed to be vacations and softball games and straight As on report cards.*

Those things might be a part of what church and family are, but they are not supposed to define them.

The Bible is clear that what brings us together isn't things and it isn't programs and it isn't activities. What unites us is the **Holy Spirit** (I Cor. 6:17) and what holds us together is **love** (John 14:34-35). We are not supposed to make a habit of skipping out on our times of meeting with other believers, but we are supposed to be encouraging one another all the more (Heb. 10:25). We (ministers explicitly) are also encouraged to ensure our homes are in order before taking care of the church and to love, honor, respect, and obey within our families (I Tim. 3:5). It sounds to me like "church" looks less like meeting on Sunday and more like **being in relationship with one another** in and outside of a building and all week long, not just on Sunday. It also looks like we are committed to one another in love and service so we strive to be together and not make a habit of letting things come between us, even good things and fun things and "family" things.

Ultimately I think **it means we adopt of philosophy of "church" that is less about "ME" and more about "WE"** – that we view the decisions we make not out of a cost-benefit analysis about what works best for us, but rather from a Kingdom mindset of what is best for Him. Sometimes, this may mean you take your family on vacation. Sometimes, it may mean you skip a game. Sometimes it may mean that you meet outside of a building or on a different night. Sometimes it may mean you cancel a program.

But *IF* it is about the kingdom of God and not about what works best with our schedules or our plans, **it will bear fruit. It will grow God's kingdom in our families, our churches and our communities.**

It won't send a message that "church" is a choice that we can take or leave but that "church" is a life we choose to live in relationship with others. And it won't send a message that family is somehow less spiritual or less important but that family is an extension of the church in the broader community and in the home.

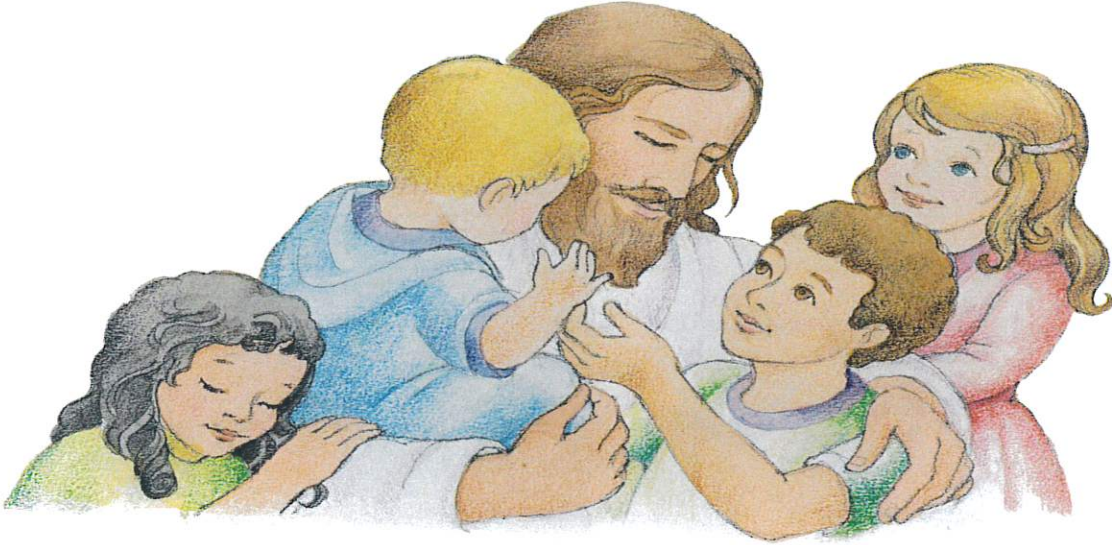
**It's not supposed to be a competition.** And whether we've made it that or the pace of modern world has made it that, I think it's up to us, each and every one, to step back and see if we've adopted that mindset in any way. Families, are you being the church in loving relationships, committed to the "WE" of God's kingdom in the choices you make? Ministers, are you supporting the family in partnering relationship, committed to the "WE" of God's kingdom in the ministry you serve?

It can't be about one or the other. It has to be about ONE and no other.

"Be very careful then how you live – not as unwise, but as wise...understand what the Lord's will is." Eph 5:15,17



# Children Come to Jesus



Some boys and girls went out to play,  
But they saw Jesus coming their way.  
"Let's go see him !" the children said.  
And all the mothers nodded their heads.

But Jesus' disciples said with a frown, "Just look at the children in this town!  
We can't allow those girls and boys— They'll make entirely too much noise!"  
So when the children came and said, "We'd like to see Jesus:"  
They shook their heads. "Can't you see he's busy teaching? Don't  
Interrupt while Jesus is preaching!"

The children sadly turned away, but Jesus called for them to stay.  
He scolded the men, "Now let them be! I want the children to come to me!"  
The children crowded all around and sat beside him on the ground.  
They laughed and had a lot of fun as Jesus blessed them one by one.



**"And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them."**

*Mark 10:16*