

# CONNECTIONS



## *God's Sovereign Choice*

BY REV. RYAN EDEN

*“So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.”*

-Romans 9:16

On March 17th, we'll all celebrate St. Patrick's day, a day where we all wear green, and for those of past generations, if one is caught not wearing green, you've earned yourself a pinch on the arm.

But have you ever wondered about the tradition of St. Patrick's day? It's really quite interesting. St. Patrick was born Maewynn Succat in Britannia.

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When he was 16, he was kidnapped by a group of Irish pirates and taken to Ireland, where he was held captive for 6 years. During that time, he worked as a shepherd and strengthened his relationship with God through prayer, eventually leading him to convert to Christianity. After 6 years, he escaped captivity and returned to Britain. After returning Britain, he continued to study the Scriptures and the Christian faith and became a priest. After he became a priest, he couldn't stop thinking about those he met, and returned to Ireland as a missionary, leading many to faith in Christ Jesus.

It is amazing how the Lord works. As St. Paul says, "It depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy." If you would have asked Maewynn Succat how he felt about being kidnapped, you would have, probably, gotten a negative response.

But, God was doing something greater. As we read, God's thoughts are not our thoughts, His ways are not our ways.

And that's why we celebrate. Because, no matter what you may be enduring, no matter what you may be going through, God is working a new thing.

And it's not just Maewynn Succat that tells us that. We are entering the season of Lent, which reaches its high point on Good Friday, where God took the greatest evil, His own death, and used it for the greatest good, our salvation.

God has done such great things for us. So, now, we are sent, on the same mission that Maewynn Succat, Saint Patrick, was sent on. We may wonder if we can fulfill this Call, if we are equipped for the missionary task set before us. But, that's where we live in the wonderful truth, "So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy."

The great Gospel truth is that it's not about us, but about God who works. We are His instruments, but He is the One who does the work. So, as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day, let us remember that great, comforting, truth. It all depends on God, who has mercy.

*May the God of  
hope fill you with  
all joy and  
peace as you  
trust in him, so  
that you may  
overflow with  
hope by the power  
of the Holy  
Spirit.*

*- Romans 15:13*





Happy March! We have officially begun our Candy Bar Fundraiser. If you are interested in buying or selling any we would greatly appreciate your support. We would like to thank all that assisted us in our Parents Night Out Event that was held on February 15th. We held an Open House on February 20th looking to fill some enrollments spots for both this year and next year. We will welcome the author and the main character of The Adventures of Moo Cow into our classroom this month. We also hope to have Happy Dancing Turtle back for some more fun interactive lessons. We will have our spring break the second week of March and end the month with some Parent/Teacher Conferences. We hope March brings those springtime vibes!

-RLP staff

## *Parents' Night Out*



Parents' Night Out was a great success! It's an evening of collaboration between the Redeemer Preschool and the Redeemer Congregation to give parents a night out to reconnect with one another. Preschool staff, National Society student volunteers and Redeemer volunteers helped organize activities and prepared a meal for the children. It was great fun for everyone!



Redeemer is one of the association churches for Hope Lutheran High School. The other association churches are Grace Lutheran Church-Stockton, Immanuel Lutheran Church and School-Lewiston, St. Marin's Lutheran Church and School, Immanuel Church and Preschool-Plainview and St Matthew Lutheran Church and Preschool-St Charles.

As an association church, we have responsibilities. Redeemer has members serving on the Hope Lutheran High School Board. Pastor Eden, David Fruechte, and Marcie Borgschatz are currently serving. Marcie has a granddaughter, her school picture is hanging by the kitchen, attending. Redeemer pays an annual association fee to help sustain the school.

Hope's mission is to "Preserve and Extend the Kingdom of Jesus Christ." It was established in 2003 with 7 students. Today there are 49 students. St. Martin's is constructing a new school building and Hope will be renting space. The building construction is moving right along and is scheduled to be completed on time—June 6, 2020.

Hope is accredited by the National Lutheran School Accreditation and provides a fine education and life experiences to the students. Lutheran Schools are rated #1 in the country. We pray for their continued success.



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

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**Rev. Mark Meier Sr. was installed as pastor of Grace Evangelical, Stockton, and Messiah, Stockton, on Dec. 1**



From left, Revs. William Meilner, Immanuel, Lewiston; Bruce Stam; Richard Moore, St. Martin, Winona; Frederick Morck; Ryan Eden, Redeemer, Winona; Meier; David Mumme, Trinity, Waterville, and district first vice-president; Mark Triplett, Emanuel, Hamburg; and Samuel Morsching, St. Matthew, St. Charles

# FEASTING ON HIS PRESENCE

## A LENTEN BIBLE READING GUIDE

Day 1 begins on Ash Wednesday and Day 40 ends on Holy Saturday.  
Taking Sundays off.

Day 1	Isaiah 6:1-7	Day 21	Malachi 4:6
Day 2	Psalms 139	Day 22	Psalms 122
Day 3	Revelation 4	Day 23	Isaiah 9:1-7
Day 4	Psalms 19	Day 24	Isaiah 7:10-16
Day 5	Isaiah 11:1-10	Day 25	Luke 1:26-38
Day 6	Psalms 27	Day 26	Luke 1:46-55
Day 7	Lamentations 3:19-26	Day 27	Luke 2:1-14
Day 8	Psalms 30	Day 28	Isaiah 61
Day 9	Isaiah 43:1-13	Day 29	Luke 4:14-21
Day 10	Psalms 136	Day 30	Psalms 95
Day 11	Job 38: 1-11	Day 31	John 10:11-18
Day 12	Psalms 42	Day 32	Psalms 23
Day 13	Job 38:12-38	Day 33	Zechariah 9:9-10
Day 14	Psalms 16	Day 34	John 12:12-19
Day 15	1 Kings 19:11-13	Day 35	John 16:5-14
Day 16	Psalms 34	Day 36	Isaiah 53
Day 17	1 Chronicles 29:11-13	Day 37	Matthew 27:33-54
Day 18	Psalms 121	Day 38	Psalms 22
Day 19	Exodus 15:1-21	Day 39	Mark 16
Day 20	Psalms 103	Day 40	Revelation 21:1-7

# Events

## Lenten Midweeks

- March 4th: "The Miraculous Tearing of the Temple Curtain" *Matthew 27:51a*
- March 11th: "The Miraculous Earthquake" *Matthew 27:51b*
- March 18th: "The Miracle of the Splitting of the Rocks" *Matthew 27:51c*
- March 25th: "The Miraculous Raising of the Saints from Death" *Matthew 27:52-53*

All Lenten midweeks will have a light dinner @ 5:30pm before services.

## Other Happenings

- March 7th: "Built on the Rock" Leadership Summit (9am-4pm) @ Good Shepherd Owatonna
- March 10th: Church Council @ 6:30pm
- March 15th: Newsletter Deadline
- March 17th: St. Patrick's Day
- March 28th: 13th Annual Auction & Casino (5-9pm) @ Winona D.A.C.     \$25

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

March 2: Aaron Engler's Birthday

March 14th: Clifton & Sharon Kjos' Anniversary

March 16: Ron Bray's Birthday

March 18th: Randy Rolbiecki's Birthday

March 20th: Sophia Rae McQuinston's Birthday

March 30th: Amanda Flesch's Birthday

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Redeemer is a servant community where  
people experience and grow in a  
relationship with Jesus Christ by grace  
through faith.

Phone: (507) 452 - 3828

Pastor Email: [pastor@rlcwinona.com](mailto:pastor@rlcwinona.com)

Office: [officeassistant@rlcwinona.com](mailto:officeassistant@rlcwinona.com)

Website: [rlcwinona.com](http://rlcwinona.com)

Redeemer Church ...

Welcomes you to come praise His Love for Us!

Sunday at 9 am.

Communion is served on the 1st, 3rd and 4th  
Sundays.

Office Hours:

Mon - Fri

9:30-12:30pm

