



**Redeemer
Connection
July 2017**

Is America a Christian Nation?

President Barack Obama, at a press conference in Turkey on April 6, 2009, he said: *"One of the great strengths of the United States is . . . we have a very large Christian population—we do not consider ourselves a Christian nation or a Jewish nation or a Muslim nation. We consider ourselves a nation of citizens who are bound by ideals and a set of values."*

The religious right did not like the president's words that I have put in italics above. Of course, what he was saying is that we are no longer (if the USA ever was) a nation made up solely of the Christian religion.

It is actually the last words of that quote above that required our attention. Considering all the different religions, are we "bound" by the same "ideals" and "set of values." We often hear this nation was founded on Christian values and ideals. Read the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution and see how many times there are references to God. Not the gods of other religions but the God of Christianity.

President Obama is not the only one saying that America is no longer a Christian nation. Jon Meacham, the Pulitzer Prize-winning editor of Newsweek magazine, wrote a piece in the April 13, 2009, edition entitled "The End of Christian America."

Is America a Christian Nation? What do we mean when we say that America is a Christian nation?

Does it mean that all citizens of the USA are Christian? No. Our constitution guarantees that no religion shall be established.

Though it was and remains the dominant religion in the USA, Christianity is not the established religion. In that respect, the USA is not a Christian nation. We could say, America is a country where the majority religion is Christian. That may not be true in years to come.

All politicians must be Christian say some on the right, but that, too, would be unconstitutional. Religion, at least constitutionally, can't be a test for public office.

All the laws in our land should reflect Christian values and beliefs. That would be great for the country, but it is not the case.

So what does it mean? Supreme Court Justice David Brewer (1837–1910) said that America was "of all the nations in the world . . . most justly called a Christian nation" because Christianity "has so largely shaped and molded it." Christianity made America what she is today. Most of our cherished traditions are derived from Christianity. That America is a Christian nation in this sense has been confirmed by presidents, Congress, and the courts numerous times.

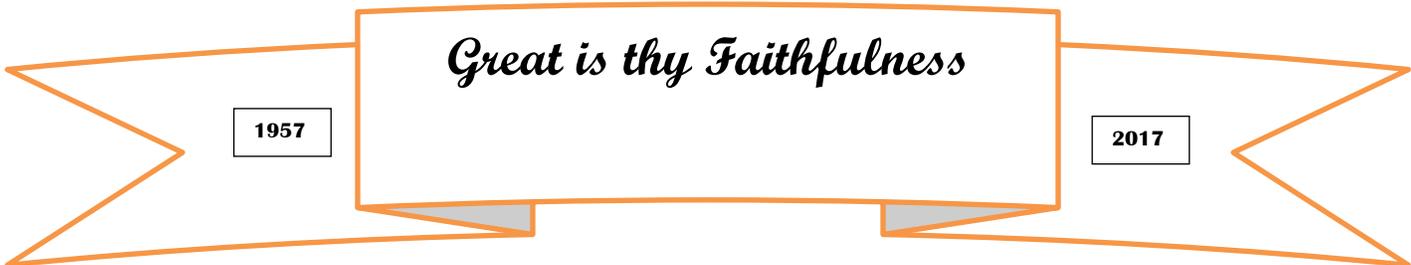
Isn't it just semantics? Is it really that important? Listen to these words from Orthodox rabbi Daniel Lapin of the Jewish Policy Center: [I] understand that I live . . . in a Christian nation, albeit one where I can follow my faith as long as it doesn't conflict with the nation's principles. The same option is open to all Americans and will be available only as long as this nation's Christian roots are acknowledged and honored."

God bless the USA!
Pastor Kevin

SAVE THE DATE
November 5, 2017

Members of the congregation are working on a history of Redeemer.
Any pictures or articles are welcomed.
Contact Sandy Bauer
507 450-8668 or leave in office.

60th



Dr. Dean Nadasdy, Minnesota South District/The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod President, will join us on November 5 to preach.
The service will include special music.
A 50's style lunch is being planned.



Come and help us celebrate.

Dear M.C.

In this article, congregation members pose questions to M.C. (our Music Coordinator) who thus responds with whatever words of wisdom the Lord chooses to give him.

Dear M.C., What changes can we expect in the music ministry now that you are Music Coordinator? (Part 4)

MC: Did you take piano lessons years ago? Play in the school band? Sing in the choir? If you did any of these, God began developing a talent to use to His glory. However rusty the skill, those dormant talents can be resurrected and refined, and are useful in furthering the Kingdom work at Redeemer.

There was a man in my congregation that hadn't played tuba for over 35 years, but when given an instrument, rediscovered his lost art, and played regularly in church from then on. He was not a concert performer, but merely brought his gift in the measure that God had provided.

Is there someone you know that has a hidden ability? Or, how about you? Please reach out and let me know what God has planted on your heart, and we'll find a suitable way to use the given talents to build up the saints at our congregation!



If you have a question you would like addressed, please feel free to ask our Music Coordinator personally, send an email to paklemp@hotmail.com, or call him at 507-312-4784.



**The next
Church Council
Meeting is 6:30 pm
Monday, July 10, 2017**



**Communion is held on
1st , 3rd & 4th Sunday**



Attendance Record
May 28--62
June 4--43
June 11-48
June 18-48



Before



After

Pastor Kevin Froelich celebrates 35 years of service in the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church

VBS Day Camp

Redeemer's Vacation Bible School Day Camp will be August 7-11. The VBS Day Camp will be held on Monday through Thursday from 9:00 to 3:00 and on Friday from 9:00 to Noon. A morning snack and a noon lunch will be provided each day. The VBS is open to children who will be age 33 months (and potty trained) by August 8th through grade 6 in the fall. Children over grade 6 are welcome to come and assist the adult leaders. We are working with Camp Omega again this year. Our goal is to enable all campers to experience God's grace, love, and guidance through hands-on Bible activities, devotions, skits, games and other traditional camp-related activities. Please pre-register by calling (507) 452-3828 or stop by the church office 9- Noon.



Redeemer Lutheran Church & Preschool
1664 Kraemer Drive, Winona, MN
Invites you to our

Vacation Bible School

August 7-11, 2017

Experience God's Grace, Love and Guidance

Games

Music

Crafts

Bible Study

Skits

Open to (Fall) PS through Grade 6 † Snack and Lunch Provided
Monday – Thursday, 9AM-3PM † Friday, 9AM-Noon
Preschool Class, 9:00 – 11:30
Call (507) 452-3828 to Register

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Mon-Fri 9:00-5:30
Sat. 10:00-2:00

winonafeed@hbc.com
winonafeed.com

Formerly Kupietz

Be Healthy



How the steps you take can make your brain stronger.

It seems logical that doing a daily crossword puzzle can keep your brain sharp. Did you know that exercise can also improve brain function as you age?

Why is this important? By the year 2050, it is estimated that over 115 million people will have dementia worldwide. A new person is diagnosed with dementia every four seconds. Fitness appears to be important in keeping the aging mind sharp, according to a recent study in the journal *Neurobiology of Aging*. Findings were based on MRI scans of 331 healthy adults between the ages of 19 and 79. Scans showed that for every flight of stairs a participant climbed daily, physical brain age was slightly more than a half year younger than non-stair climbing participants.

In other studies, exercise has been shown to help memory and thinking. One study found that regular aerobic exercise appeared to boost the size of the hippocampus, the area of the brain involved in verbal memory and learning.

Physical activity reduces inflammation and stimulates the release of chemicals in the brain that affect the growth of new blood vessels and the health of brain cells. Additionally, exercise lowers stress, boosts your mood and helps you sleep better.

To protect your brain, keep exercising if you already do – or start exercising if you don't. Of course, it's important to check with your doctor before beginning any type of physical activity.

Aerobic exercise appears to be the best type of activity for keeping your mind sharp. Aim for a half hour of moderate aerobic activity five days per week. Start by moving for just a few minutes a day and add additional time as you are able.

Choose moderate-intensity exercise such as walking, stair-climbing, swimming or dancing. Join a class, hire a personal trainer or ask a friend to be your workout buddy. Even everyday chores can meet your aerobic activity goal, such as cleaning the house, gardening or raking. If you break out in a light sweat, it means you're getting your heart pumping – and that's good for your brain, too.



Redeemer Lutheran Church
1664 Kraemer Dr.
Winona, MN 55987

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Phone : 507-452-3828

E-mail: pastor@redeemerlutheranwinona.org

officeasstant@redeemerlutheranwinona.org

Website: www.redeemerlutheranwinona.org

Redeemer Church ...

Welcomes you to come praise His Love for Us!

Sunday at 9 am.

The 1st and 3rd Sundays are Communion Sundays.

Office hours are:

Mon-Thurs 9 a.m.—1 p.m.

Fri 9 am— noon

