

REDEMPTION
LUTHERAN CHURCH

update

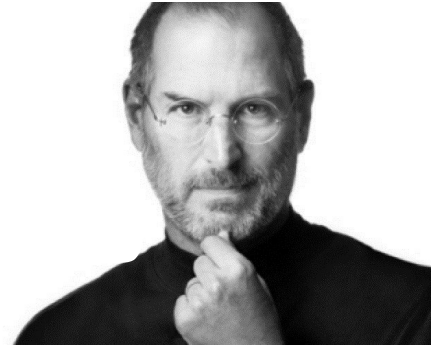
**STAY
HUNGRY
STAY
FOOLISH**

APRIL

**National
Month
of Hope**

April 2018

Stay Hungry Stay Foolish



Pop that phrase into your Google science-machine browser thingie and you will immediately discover hits that attribute it to Steve Jobs and specifically to a Steve Jobs' commencement speech delivered at a Stanford university commencement ceremony in 2005. Jobs would be the first to tell you he did not invent the phrase but he would tell you, as he did that graduating class, that he attempted to live it. So what in all the Google-world does it mean? Stay Hungry? Stay Foolish?

The conventional wisdom of "Stay Hungry" is that one ought remain eager to learn more and more and more. One ought not become satiated to the degree that he or she no longer pushes on to discover more about themselves or the world around them. Basically this is another way to state that we are learners until the moment we draw our final breath. The hunger to learn is hardwired into us. The only remaining question is "what do you do with your hunger?"

"Stay Hungry" certainly ought to resonate with a group of bright-eyed college graduates who are about to step out into the jungle. It ought also resonate with the Christian disciple. "Stay Hungry"— isn't that essentially what Jesus was imparting to the two "Emmaus disciples" as He walked along the road with them on Easter Sunday evening? Their heads were down, their feet were dragging, their spirits were deflated as they had concluded they had lost their mentor, friend and teacher. They figured Jesus had been unjustly and yet definitively wiped out by a Roman crucifixion. So they slouched back home to the village of Emmaus with no little to no appetite for what might come next, or what had been said about all this prior to it unfolding!

Luke tells us that Jesus, risen from the dead earlier that very day, "came up and walked along with them" however, He decided not to allow them to recognize Him, not just yet.

Do you find that a bit odd? Why wouldn't the newly resurrected Jesus just stop them in their tracks and grant them an instantaneous "big reveal?" He doesn't offer what we might suggest He should, instead He launches into a, wait for it, a lengthy Bible study!

"Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them
what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself."
(Luke 24:27)

Jesus was essentially teaching these men to STAY HUNGRY right? Stay hungry with the Word of life! Don't figure a casual contact from time to time will satiate your soul's need. Matter of fact, that applies to us as we walk away from the big Easter Sunday celebration of April 1, doesn't it? I mean, is it over? Is Easter over? Were you hoping Jesus would have made a bigger splash, big enough to draw you in tomorrow, and the next day and the next Sunday?

Were you expecting Jesus was someone or something He actually isn't? Are you actually convinced that if Jesus did something other than launch into a lengthy Bible study going all the way back to Moses and slugging through all the prophets that He has misread your deepest needs?

I find it self-indicting whenever I figure Jesus should do this or Jesus should do that to satisfy my spiritual quest and hunger. How can I miss it so blatantly? On the grandest day of triumph and victory, He who knows us better than we know ourselves calls for a lengthy Christ-centered Bible study.

This might tell us is that we best be careful how we define our hunger in the first place. The One who called Himself the Bread of Life, who lauded Mary for choosing "the one thing needed" i.e. listening to His Word, the One who created us, redeemed us and gave us His Spirit, certainly knows best how to create and satisfy our hunger!

What a minute, there's a second half to the phrase—what about "Stay Foolish?" What's that all about?



In Luke's account of this learning event, note that Jesus actually introduced His Bible

study with this statement: "'O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!'"

Would Jesus advocate a "Stay Foolish" like that? The Greek vocable used here essentially means "no mind" in other words, they were never-minding what the risen Lord had lovingly, carefully given them in His Word. Pay no mind, pay no attention, pay no time, obviously this can't be a "Stay Foolish" with any true-benefit for us.

That's precisely why Jesus led these two done-with-Easter-Jesus disciples back into the rich, nourishment of His Word.

"Stay Foolish," From Steve Jobs to eager college grads means to get out there and try, even if, especially if, what you try fails. Stay foolish enough to believe your failures are as much about your success as anything else.

"Stay Foolish" has an entirely different slant in Jesus lengthy Bible study. Listen:

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1Cor. 1:18)

The Greek term for this type of foolishness is "moronic." By the Lord's definition we are not to be fools who pay no mind, no attention to what He has done or what He has to say. But we are to be and stay fools who cling to His Word and His cross as if the power of God were present. Alas, it is:

For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength. (1Cor. 1:25)

As we "walk away" from Easter Sunday it would make perfect Christian sense for us to **Stay Hungry, Stay Foolish** the rest of our days.

Go! and make disciples

Our Mission to Share Christ Around the Globe

We celebrate and thank our Lord for allowing Redemption to participate in global mission work through our prayers and free-will offerings! This month, behold what the Lord currently allows us to support and do in the country of Malawi.

Malawi means “flame” in the national language of the land, Chichewa. Certainly the Spirit’s fire can be witnessed at work in the WELS’ largest foreign mission. Since our beginning in 1963, the Lutheran church has grown to more than 44,000 members in 136 plus congregations served by 26 national pastors and 9 vicars and aided by four missionaries. The good news of Jesus Christ is proclaimed in both rural and urban communities from the north to the south of the country.

An extensive pastor training program works to provide more national pastors for the future. Work is progressing to develop the Lutheran Church of Central Africa (LCCA)—Malawi Synod into an independent sister body of WELS. Indeed the Spirit’s fire is burning brightly in Malawi, Africa.

Mission update

After 15 years of faithful service to the congregations of Southern Malawi, Rev. Robert Wendland recently accepted a call to Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary to teach Old Testament and Homiletics. He and his wife Rebecca and their children will be moving back to the United States in October 2017. Please keep them in your prayers as they transition to their new ministry after being abroad so many years.

The mission is also welcoming Rev. John and Nancy Roebke to the field. Pastor Roebke has been called to serve as the Missionary of Publications for Malawi. He is also part of the new One Africa Team which helps coordinate mission efforts across the continent of Africa. Pastor and Mrs. Roebke have two adult daughters, who are full-time college students in the United States. Pray that God gives them and their family members patience and understanding.

Mission Statistics

Baptized national members: 44,248
Organized congregations: 136
Missionaries: 4
National pastors: 26
National evangelists: 2
National vicars: 9
Bible institute students: 10
Seminary students: 4



Praying for Malawi

Dear Jesus, Lord of the Church, we ask you to bless our brothers and sisters in Malawi. Raise up leaders to shepherd your flock in this place. Give these leaders of our sister church body the courage and insight they need to lead their people as they bear witness to your name. Give the peace of eternal forgiveness to hearts and lives that struggle with hardships that we seldom experience. Use these many witnesses to spread your Good News in this place.



This Joyful Eastertide

What's an **Eastertide**? You might be tempted to hastily throw together some laundry detergent jokes in answer to that one. Once that subsides you may be surprised to learn that Easter is not over. Not by a long shot! "Tide" is an older English word meaning "time" or "season." That means you and I have just entered an Easter season that will take us all the way to Pentecost Sunday! That's fifty days of Easter!

One gentleman describes this tide as "the director's cut of Easter Sunday." In other words you will have the opportunity to dive deeper and more broadly into the multifaceted message of the Lord's resurrection and how it affected this world.

Did you know? In the ancient Christian church they actually celebrated each of the fifty days as an Easter day? It's uncertain when the church moved away from the daily celebration but there is no reason why any of us can't individually celebrate each of those fifty Easter season days. And what we may do as a family of faith is come back Sunday after

Sunday during this joyful Eastertide. Sound foolish? We answer: "Stay Hungry, Stay Foolish!"

"This Joyful Eastertide" has also become a beloved hymn we sing during this season.

Ponder what the hymn verses allow you to say to your risen and victorious Lord:

1. This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow! My love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow.

Refrain

Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day prison, our faith had been in vain. But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.

2. My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season slumber till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number. *Refrain ...*

3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river.

Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.

Refrain ...

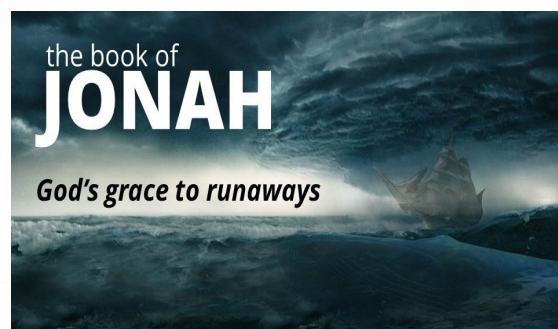


Redemption is committed to adult learning strategies and methods. We want you to have the optimal environment in which to conduct your honest investigation of Christ and His Word of life.

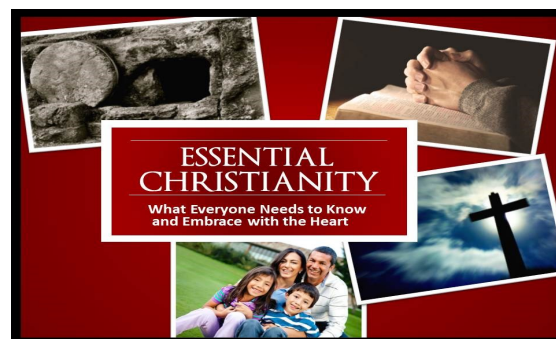
Thursday nights are our prime night to meet right here at our Redemption ministry center to study as a group. Our studies begin at 6:30 and go to 8:00 p.m. Please come as you are. No formal dress required. All materials will be provided. Scoobie snacks and a variety of beverages are always available.

Note that our website: www.redemptionsg.com contains a daily Bible reading plan if you'd like to get into the Word at your own time and pace.

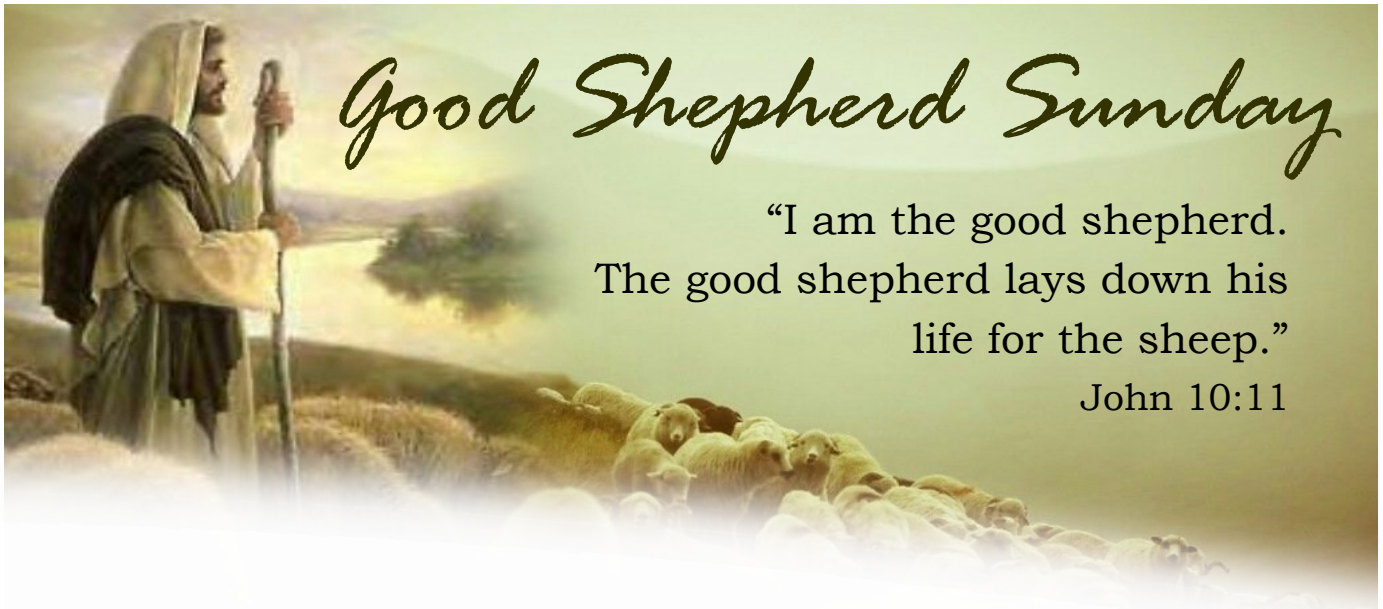
Lastly, note that Redemption will offer it Essential Christianity (a basic introduction to Christianity) course during our Thursday nights. If Thursday night do not work for you please contact Pastor Quandt to schedule a more suitable time. P.Q. is most willing to meet you even at your home if you'd like to study this Essential Christianity course.



Join us here at Redemption **Thursday April 12th** (and following Thursdays) as we study the book of Jonah under the theme: God's Grace to Runaways. You will marvel at the commonalities you share with Jonah, especially the relentless grace of the LORD extended to you.



This is Redemption's signature Bible study course. Inquire with Pastor if you are interested in taking the course!



Good Shepherd Sunday

"I am the good shepherd.
The good shepherd lays down his
life for the sheep."

John 10:11

Devotional Thoughts re: "Your voice lessons"

How are your voice lessons going?

"His sheep follow him because they know his voice" (John 10:4).

One way to summarize our calling as God's children is to speak of it as voice lessons. In these voice lessons our Good Shepherd captivates us with His unique voice so we never follow any voice that doesn't resonate with his.

"But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize stranger's voice" (John 10:5).

The approaching Eastertide and then summer months will provide opportunity to reflect on how our voice lessons are going. A sure sign of needing to ponder that question is when we are so harassed and hassled by deadlines and duties that our voices sound shrill and impatient. A sure sign of needing to ponder that question is when all the voices calling for our attention have stretched us so thin that the one Voice that matters is drowned by the clamor.

Then stop. Listen carefully, listen intently to the voice of him who says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). Push "pause" on your frenzied pace long enough to hear his voice remind you: "In repentance and rest is your

One of the beloved Sundays of Eastertide is the fourth Sunday of Easter a.k.a. Good Shepherd Sunday. This year we celebrate and worship our Good Shepherd Jesus on April 22nd.

Join us for a Christ-centered worship service that will focus on your Good Shepherd as found in:

John 10:11-18

Psalms 23

Acts 20:28-32

1 John 3:1,2

salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength" (Isaiah 30:15).

Our Good Shepherd has a patch of rich green grass on which he has written your name. He has some quiet waters marked off only for you. Resting there daily teaches you to love his voice even more. Pausing there day by day enables you to be amazed at how beautifully your heart and voice can mimic his.

How are your voice lessons going?
Stay hungry. Stay Foolish.

April 2018

1	Easter Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 a.m. "He is Risen!"
3-6	Morning Refreshment Lounge open 9:00 -11:30 a.m.
5	Thurs. Nite Bible Study - off until next week April 12 th
8	Second Sunday of Easter Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.
10-13	Morning Refreshment Lounge open 9:00 -11:30 a.m.
12	Thurs. Nite Bible Study - 6:30 p.m. Book of Jonah "God's Grace to Runaways"
15	Third Sunday of Easter Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.
17-20	Morning Refreshment Lounge open 9:00 -11:30 a.m.
19	Thurs. Nite Bible Study - 6:30 p.m. Book of Jonah "God's Grace to Runaways"
22	Fourth Sunday of Easter Worship Service - 10:00 a.m. "Good Shepherd Sunday"
26-27	Morning Refreshment Lounge open 9:00 -11:30 a.m.
26	Thurs. Nite Bible Study - 6:30 p.m. Book of Jonah "God's Grace to Runaways"
29	Fifth Sunday of Easter Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.

Visit our website

www.redemptionsg.com

for further details and up-to-date information