

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH  
LCMS**

# MODIFY



**OCTOBER 2019 PUBLICATION  
VOLUME 12 ISSUE 10**

Redeemer *Reflection* Newsletter

*Loving People To Christ*

**Redeemer Lutheran Church 3637 Spring Arbor Road, Jackson, MI 49201  
Phone: 517-750-3100 Fax: 517-750-4590 Email: rlcofc@comcast.net  
Visit our website at: [www.redeemerjackson.org](http://www.redeemerjackson.org)**

---

# REDEEMER REFLECTION

---

## THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING

by Pastor Michael Geml

I thought that the word “modify” meant a slight change or minor alteration. I wanted to make sure that I knew the proper definition of this month’s newsletter theme, so I looked up the meaning. The dictionary said the word modify is a “transitive verb.” So, of course, I needed to look up what transitive meant. Here is the dictionary definition of transitive: *being or relating to a relation with the property that if the relation holds between a first element and a second and between the second element and a third, it holds between the first and third elements.*

There you have it. Clear as mud. Thanks to the dictionary, it became so clear; I’m a dunce. Sometimes definitions do not provide the help one desires. Sometimes definitions, even when they are understood, still don’t help. I will, therefore, modify my approach and head in another direction.

There are things we would change if we could; things about ourselves, our families, our world. And not just a slight change or minor alteration, but a wholesale, all-out transformation. We desire to be more faithful followers of Jesus. We have a desire for our children



to come back to the faith. We have a desire for our world to stop its continual spiraling downward. The challenge comes when the desire comes face to face with the magnitude of such endeavors. Change,

real change, is hard and it takes a persistence and a tenacity that never gives up. Most people are not willing to go that far, either with themselves or with others. Our God alone is that persistent. Our God desires all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth, (1 Timothy 2:4). To secure that desire of His, Jesus comes, not to slightly change things, or to provide a minor alteration, but to totally transform those who come to Him in faith. In our baptism into His death and resurrection, (see Romans 6) we are brought out of darkness into His light. We are brought from death to life. All who are in Christ are new creations (2 Corinthians 5). New creations with a new purpose and new desires.

Our purpose and our desires are guided by the Holy Spirit to please the Lord in thoughts, words, and deeds. In so doing, we glorify God, honor Christ Jesus, and we serve our loved ones and even the world, with the much needed presence of Jesus. Let us live and love as

those who have been eternally changed.  
To God alone be the glory through Jesus  
Christ our Savior.

*Pastor Geml*

## FROM THE GARDEN



### MODIFY (To Change)

by Judy Speed

Change can be difficult. The Bible is filled with stories of people who had to experience the pain associated with change in order to receive the blessings that positive change brought into their lives.

But we can draw great solace knowing that “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8).

No matter what life throws at you, get back into the garden with these accessible gardening techniques.



**Raised beds**—built to a height of 28 to 30 inches, they can reduce bending and eliminate gardening on your knees.



**Container gardening**—scale back and grow plants and vegetables in containers.



**Soaker hoses or inground irrigation systems**—alleviates the need to lug around regular garden hoses to water.



**Plant perennials vs. annuals**—grow annuals still in manageable containers while bedding areas can

be planted with perennials that come back year after year.



**Soil enrichment**—adding composted waste to your soil makes it light and easy to dig.



**Gardening aids**—Examples being rolling work seat or garden stool, foam knee pads, bucket/handyman’s tote. Painting garden tools bright colors helps prevent losing or misplacing.

Gardening is one of those hobbies you can enjoy your entire life; you may just need to modify your approach to achieve that enjoyment.



**Thursday, October 3: Alone, But Not Alone group** will meet for lunch at Westpoint Lounge at 1712 Spring Arbor Rd (Across from Polly’s) at **11:30 a.m.**



**Thursday, October 3: Bethel Bible Study** will begin. This series will meet every Thursday from **6:30-9:00 p.m.**, throughout the normal school year. Sign up with Craig Britton for this in-depth 2-year study of Scripture. The cost of materials is \$80.00 per person, with scholarships available if there is a need.



**Sunday, October 13: Dismemberment Abortion Ban Petition** signature gathering by Right To Life representatives from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.



**Sunday, October 13: Youth Night** resumes from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Youth

Night will be on the second Sunday of each month throughout the school year. Come join us for Bible study with discussion topics, food, fun, and fellowship.



Who's ready for Youth Nights? Youth night will start back up on Sunday, October 13. We would love to have anyone attend who is in 6<sup>th</sup>—12<sup>th</sup> grades who loves to eat and play games! Come meet us outside at the pavilion from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

All other Youth Nights will be in the RAC, on the second Sunday of every month. See Dave or Kim McFarland with any questions or email us at [damkrm@hotmail.com](mailto:damkrm@hotmail.com) for more information.



**Fundraising**—Attention all youth! We need your help and you need the funds for all of the activities we have in store this year! If you don't help with the fundraising events, you can't earn the

money you'll need to attend events and participate in trips and concerts.

**Coffee Sundays:** September 29, November 3, March 8, and May 10.

**Poinsettia Sale:** December 15 and 22.

**Easter Lily Sale:** April 5

**Sub Sandwich Sale:** January 19 and 26, with delivery of the sandwiches on February 2.

## DO SOMETHING!

by Kristin Rathje, guest writer, with selections and/or excerpts from her blog, *Next Chapter*; used with permission.

On Sunday August 4, 2019, Ohio Governor Mark DeWine addressed a crowd on the same day that a mass shooting killed 9 and left 27 injured. He had just barely begun to speak when someone shouted, "Do something!" Before long, many had joined the chant, "Do something! Do something!"

DeWine was moved to action. Within 48 hours, he had proposed several changes to gun laws including a red flag law and universal background checks; his initiatives also included measures related to education and mental health. He announced his actions saying, "We must do something."

Now that is what I'm talking about.

The people in that Dayton crowd, along with many others, are done with hand-wringing and weeping. They are tired of excuses and finger-pointing. They have seen enough bloodshed, and they are demanding change.

"Do Something!" they yell, and I find myself joining their cries, "Do Something! Do Something!"



...Pray. Keep praying. Never stop praying.



But here's the thing, we can pray with our breath and our movements at that same time that we are doing something. ... you can also put your prayers into motion. Much like you talk to a friend as you go for a run, drive down the road, or cook a meal, you can continue in conversation with God as you do something about the things you are lifting up to Him.



You can cry, "Do you see this, God? Two hundred forty-six people have been killed in mass shootings in the United States this year," while you are demonstrating in front of a governor, or writing a letter to your congressman, or donating money for mental health resources in your community or educational services at your local school.

You can say, "Lord, I'm really worried about the environment. I beg for your mercy and the renewal of our planet," as you ride on public transportation, use cloth shopping bags,



or carry your compost outside.

...We can be people of prayer and still do something. We can do more than put on sackcloth and ashes, grieving the loss of a life we once knew. We can speak out and fight for change. We can defend the defenseless, call out the unjust, and offer solutions.

....I don't know what your gifts are, but even while you are praying, you can do something.

Why should you? Why should you expend any effort? What difference is one person going to make any way? The problems we face are big—almost insurmountable—rampant gun violence, a drug epidemic, a decaying environment, a world-wide sex trafficking network, an immigration crisis, our dysfunctional families, and our own broken hearts.

We could crawl into our beds, cover our heads with blankets, and weep as we cry out, "Come, Lord Jesus, Come."

But, friends, He isn't here yet, and He is inviting us to do something.

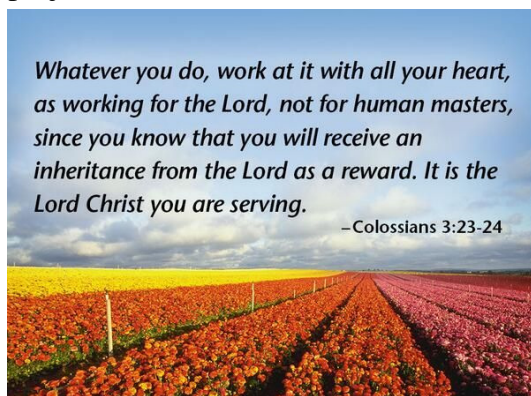
...You and I can consider the items we are continually lifting up in prayer: a family member with health concerns, a strained relationship, personal debt, the

environment, racial disparity, and violence against women, for example.

As we lift us these concerns, we can be asking, “What difference can I make? What is one thing that I can do? How can I help?” And we will begin to see opportunities: we can make a phone call to encourage that family member, we can respect the requests of the one who just needs some time and space, we can pay off some bills and move toward financial freedom, we can decide to buy fewer products packaged with plastic, we can vote for proposals that promote equity, or volunteer at a local women’s shelter. We can do something.

We don’t have to do everything, but we can each do something...You could be the start of transformational change, if you just decide that you are going to do something.

For the past few years I’ve been looking for something big to do. As I’ve been sorting through the broken pieces of my life, I keep trying to put them together into one redemptive action that will somehow turn my tears into wine. I want to end poverty and violence and heal all the broken hearts. I want a project, a mission, a cause.



And as I lift the broken pieces up in prayer, I hear a still small voice saying, “*You don’t need to single-handedly change the world, Kristin, but you can*

*do something. How about you just start with one small thing?*”

But there is so much that needs changing!

*“Behold, I am making all things new.”*

I want to help!

*“Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly.”*

Ok. I hear you. I’ll start small, but I’ll dream big.

I’m praying that others will pick their one small thing and join me.

## **FAMILY FAITH LIFE**

by Kimber Walsh, Director of Family Life Education, CFLE, Redeemer Lutheran Church

### **Terminal Mindset**

I heard recently of a man who received a terminal diagnosis. His family was shocked and angry that this is happening to him all of a sudden. So I was thinking about terminal diagnoses and the too many others that I know who have received them and what I would do if I were to hear that same news someday. Then it struck me—I already have a terminal diagnosis. And so do you. Each of us has had a terminal diagnosis since conception, and the cause is sin.

As I type this, my soon-to-be-born baby is terminal due to his or her original sin. Just like you and me and our mothers and fathers before us all the way back to Adam and Eve. Sometimes in this world, people get a secondary terminal diagnosis because of cancer or diseases, but no one in the history of the world has ever received a physical terminal diagnosis that was their first

terminal diagnosis. The spiritual terminal diagnosis (which also takes the body with it) is the first and foremost for us all. The outcome will be the same for each one of us. We will die.

So the question I'm considering is, how can we modify our thought processes regarding this? How does our terminal diagnosis of the spirit anger us as much as a physical terminal diagnosis? How can we see our terminal diagnosis daily in a way that makes us live differently? Don't misinterpret what I'm saying. We cannot do anything about our terminal diagnoses ourselves. But we do know someone who can.

God sent Jesus to rescue us out of the incurable state we are in. Jesus came not to leave us in the grave that is the outcome of every terminal diagnosis, but to forgive us, to claim us as His own, and to give us an eternal home with him.

I'm working on modifying my thinking—so that my terminal diagnosis angers me in a way that causes me to repent and turn to the only one who can do anything about it.

*"Where, O death, is your victory?  
Where, O death, is your sting?" The  
sting of death is sin, and the power of sin  
is the law. But thanks be to God! He  
gives us the victory through our Lord  
Jesus Christ.*

*1 Corinthians 15:55-57*



People love to eat food. Gathering around a table and satiating our bellies

has a way of bonding us to one another and helping us feel comfortable talking. Much of our day is spent thinking about, planning for, preparing, or eating our next snack or meal. It's so much a part of our lives! We can use our eating times as opportunities to talk about God and shape faith as we are charged to do in Deuteronomy 6:6-7:

*"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the way, when you lie down and when you get up."*

Here are some ideas for how we can talk about faith and point our families to God while we're eating:



**The Menu**—Some days we haphazardly scour the refrigerator for something that can be thrown together quickly, some days we have a hodge-podge of leftovers that don't quite seem to go together, and some days we carefully craft a well-balanced and executed menu that covers all the food groups and somehow gets onto the table before everyone breaks from hunger. Whether or not your family plans meals in advance, the menu can be a great jumping off point for conversation about God. What items on the menu did God make? Consider how each fruit and vegetable and animal is so unique and tastes so different. Consider how the preparation method can make each food taste different still. Talk about your favorite tastes that God made and why you like them so much. Maybe even take a minute

to thank God together specifically for those perfectly ripe raspberries or crunchy snap peas or whatever those favorite tastes are.



**Savoring**—So many times we are scrambling to eat quickly and onto the next thing. But have you ever just savored the food you are eating? Enjoying every detail of how it tastes and going back for more to enjoy? We can take a lesson from this on savoring God's goodness too. Going back for more of His Word. Really reflecting on His promises. What are some ways you as individuals can savor the good things of God? How can you savor His goodness as a family?



**Table Time**—Sitting at the table gives us the comfort and space to simply be together and have conversation. There are great conversations that can happen when we are at the table. That means two things 1) we have to actually be sitting at the table together sometimes to eat and 2) we have to sit there long enough to have conversations. Share what happened during your day—highs, lows, how you saw God at work, blessings God gave you today, etc. Or read a Bible verse, discuss a question about God or spend an extra minute in prayer together. Table time is great faith-building time.



**Unwanted Items**—Rather than guilt children to eat the foods they don't like because "there are starving children in Africa," consider requesting them to take a single bite of a new or disliked food. Even in the less than preferable items, we can thank God for providing for us. We can model

that and discuss how we know that God gives us good gifts always. Some of us may love the mashed potatoes and others think "yuck," but ultimately God gives us all the food that we have. How can we thank God for all the food that He provides to our family? How can we show gratitude through our words, actions or attitudes even when we don't like something? Talk about how God uses food to sustain our bodies.

Your challenge now is this: eat together and think and talk on the things of God while you do!

---

## MODIFY

by Peggy Bennitt

"Whatever our age, job, or relationships, busyness creeps up on us. Even when we love our families and jobs, even when life feels like everything's going smoothly, we get busy and stress rises. Before we know it, we can start to feel a little tired. We might feel guilty if we can't keep up with all the things that we used to do or would like to do."

This statement by Tanya J. Johnson just jumped out at me as I read my *Portals of Prayer* the other day. Especially the part about feeling "*guilty if we can't keep up with all the things that we used to do ...*" This is a constant battle for me almost every day, and I bet that many other people, who are knocking on the age of 70 from the back side of it, feel that way too. We expected to be healthy and active until God took us home, right? Never did we ever figure



that God's plans would differ from our own.

Well, surprise! God's plans rarely line up with the plans of humans. Ever since Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit, mankind has been set in our own ways, on our own path, busily pursuing our own plans, and rarely consulting God about any of it. That still, small voice



buzzing in our ears couldn't possibly be the voice of God...maybe with instructions for us...could it be?

In all our busyness and our search for success, we often forget that God is in control. Say what? Yep! I'm here to tell you that...God. Is. In. Control. He's the Boss, and until we learn to modify our behavior, there'll be no living with Him!

Do you remember when as kids someone would try to boss you around? Maybe an older sibling or a bigger kid at school. Often our defense was, "you're not the boss of me!" Remember? Or your younger sister (or brother) wanted the bottom bunk, and to the tune of "You're not the boss of me!" you chucked her up on the top bunk and told her to go to sleep? Good times, but not always fair.

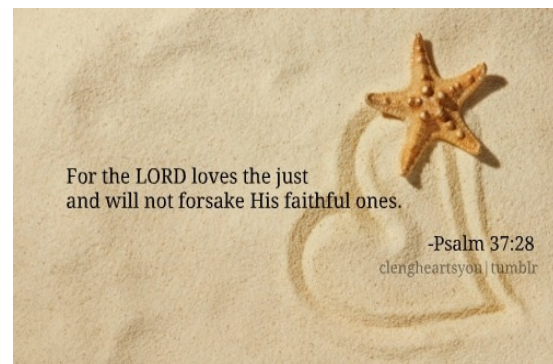
As we mature, we come to recognize and respect the fact that we always have a Boss, even when we *are* the boss. God, in His infinite wisdom, gave us His instruction book to show and tell us how

to modify our behavior and actions in order to please Him and live in harmony with all of creation. When the Boss tells you what He wants done, it is always wise to follow those instructions. Your job and your livelihood depend on it in this world, and your eternal life depends on it in the world to come.

As my body continues to remind me that it cannot and will not do many of the activities it used to, my God shows me, in His Word, how to modify my behavior and still follow His instructions. If I am mature in my faith, I will take His Word to heart and remember that He has good plans for me.

Someone once observed that people seem to study their Bibles more as they age. Are we studying for a final exam, or are we trying to hear His voice more clearly as we get closer to home? Do we just have more time, or are we more motivated as the home stretch comes into view? His words still have a message for us to hear no matter how old or how young we are. We are all His children, and that has not changed from the time of Adam and Eve.

Let's modify our lives so that His plan can mold and transform them in every age and stage. God never said, "Be busy." He said, "Be faithful."





## OCTOBER

Daniel Farley	10/01
Riley Gannon	10/02
Beth Richardson Dewey	10/04
A.J. Hunter	10/08
Bill Huhn	10/10
Gay Alcenius	10/13
Ron Hock	10/13
Robin Melton	10/14
Betty Lathrop	10/20
Mary Haas	10/21
Linda Hunter	10/21
Brian Boyle	10/25
Connie Grafe	10/30
Patrice Jones	10/30
Loretta Rice	10/30
Mike Hoffer	10/31

## QUILTERS

by Marilyn Rockwell

The Quilters of Redeemer have been meeting and making quilts for over 40 years as a part of LWML. Our quilts have been donated to World Relief, a Veteran's Hospital, the Aware Shelter, an orphanage, families in need at Christmastime, and the Interfaith Shelter, just to name a few.

We are struggling now to get even four people to tie the quilts. We would like to invite anyone and everyone to help "tie" quilts maybe once a month. It's easy to do and requires no special skills; just the ability to poke a threaded needle through fabric, pull it through, and tie. It's easy, relaxing, and a chance to get together with other gals (and guys) in the church for a good cause in a much needed ministry area that is a wonderful service to our community.



We are now meeting at church from April to December. In the winter months, we do not meet at church, but continue to cut squares and "tie" quilts in our homes as we each have opportunity.

If we do not get more people involved, the Quilters may have to disband altogether. Quilting is a great craft to learn, and the "cutting" and tying are simple enough for older children to learn and participate in, especially over the winter months. This could be added to homeschooling activities/education curriculum. Definitely a great tool to teach planning, organization, and follow-through to a completed project.

Come and join us on the second and forth Wednesdays of each month, April through December, in the Choir Room in



our lower level at church. Come help us out, maybe learn a new skill, or just check it out to see how it's all done and then join in if you like. We really do have fun...and it's fun for any age. Fellowship and helping hands are always a great combination! Please join us and keep a great thing going. Thank you

## CHURCH PICNIC

The weather was chilly and it felt like Fall had arrived early this year. But the Church Picnic still boasted excellent



food, great desserts, and good fellowship at the pavilion tables and around the fire pit.

Over the years, the annual church picnic has been held at many different timeframes, such as in the spring to coincide with the end of the Sunday school year or the school year. It has been held at the beginning of summer, mid-summer, as a carnival, and a



Funfest, and even as a Harvestfest event. It has been “just a church picnic” and it has more frequently been a theme-oriented event, such as Western or Tropical, with games as well as crafts and other

activities for attendees.

The whole reason for a church picnic is to allow a relaxed time for fellowship together with other members, friends,



and guests. Good food is a bonus, but the “gathering together” is the main focus.

This may be the last year for this annual event. This picnic used to be a joint effort by the church body. Everyone helped out and turned out if possible. Someone or some group always organized it, but everyone helped as they could. The McFarlands and the Rockwells have been the organizers for many years now and are stepping down. Another group is needed to take this on for next year, and to maybe move it on into planning for the future. This can be a group of families, several Bible study groups, a specific ministry undertaking, or just a bunch of friends who love picnics. Next year is up for grabs.



Is the church picnic still wanted? Something to think about as we look to the future at Redeemer.

## ALONE, BUT NOT ALONE GROUP

After a wonderful first lunchtime get-together, it was clear that **Redeemer singles** (*Alone, But Not Alone*) want to join for fellowship, support, and fun. There are so many interests and



talents within the group we should not have any problem finding things to do. We totally understand that some still work and may have a hard time meeting for lunch, but that certainly does not preclude you from joining for any and all future activities. Several said they were uncomfortable driving at night, so we may carpool for evening activities.

It is our hope that some within the group will want to step up and join in the planning of activities.

**Let's meet again for lunch on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at Westpoint Lounge at 1712 Spring Arbor Rd (Across from Polly's) at 11:30 a.m.**

- We will discuss: Celebrating Aging with God in our Lives.
- Future get-togethers, projects, sharing our thoughts, and goals.

Looking forward to seeing you all. Please RSVP Gail Kleimola at 517-745-3640 or [gailbkleimola@gmail.com](mailto:gailbkleimola@gmail.com)

A parting Prayer: Loving Savior, you showed up for me when it mattered

most. Help me to show up for others. Amen.

## LIFE CHAIN 2019

The Jackson area *Life Chain* is Sunday, **October 6<sup>th</sup> from 2:30—3:30 p.m.** Christian people of all denominations will form a human chain in the shape of a cross, on W. Michigan Avenue and West Avenue, while praying publicly (silently or aloud) for an end to abortion and healing for those affected by its destructive path. We stand together to pray for this one concentrated hour, asking God for healing and mercy for this ongoing holocaust in our nation. Redeemer has done this in the past, and we hope and pray that God will tug at the hearts of us as *Lutherans For Life*, to turnout to protect the unborn children.

Redeemer members, friends and families who wish to participate are asked to meet on the corner of Norfolk and West Avenue. We will stand along West Avenue, from Norfolk up to Michigan Avenue. Carol Faris will have signs for us to hold as we quietly stand and pray. For more information, please contact Carol Faris at 517-750-3057 or [carolann39@comcast.net](mailto:carolann39@comcast.net).

## CHRISTIANITY: MODIFICATION OR MORTIFICATION?

by Craig Britton

*"Jesus Christ did not come into the world to make bad men good. He came into the world to make dead men live."*

Anonymous





I cannot tell you where I first heard that quote. Since then, I have heard it from the lips of the likes of Leonard Ravenhill and Jim Cymbala, and read it from the pen of A. W. Tozer. And like them, I wish it was original with me. It is one of those quotes that some might even take as being from the Bible itself. And although it is not a citation from Scripture, it certainly reflects Biblical truth about both the mission of Jesus and the responsibility of the Christian under His lordship.

Many of you will be familiar with the name of Phil Vischer (originally from Jackson), and if not his name, certainly



his animated series, *Veggie Tales*. A smash hit among Christians in the '90s and beyond, Phil eventually discontinued

his series citing the fact that the focus had become “moralism,” in other words, teaching kids to “be good.” Phil realized upon the counsel of some pastors and other believers that he, in a back-handed way, was teaching that our role as Christians is to please God by living outwardly moral lives. Now this is not to say there was nothing of value in the

*Veggie Tales* series. There was. But Phil concluded that the Biblical prescription of seeing ourselves as guilty before a Holy God was not being represented. He has since produced a new series for children titled, “What the Bible Says.” We utilize that with our children here at Redeemer.

All of that to point to a tragic misunderstanding that many in the Christian Church, and certainly many outside, have of the nature of the Christian life. But there is a radically different message found in the pages of Holy Scripture, both Old and New Testaments. That is that the issue is **MORTIFICATION** not **MODIFICATION**. Suffice it to say that the quote that opens this article points to the issue as clearly as can be stated.

Colossians 2:20, “*Wherefore, if ye be dead with Christ ...*”, Galatians 2:20, “*I am crucified with Christ ...*” and even Romans 6:3 inquires, “*Know ye not, that so many of us were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?*”

The issue begins with our death *with* Christ, and then the exhortations of the Lord Jesus to take up our cross and Paul’s exclamation that he dies daily, give a fuller picture of what becomes of the life of the one following the Savior.

Tragically, even many professing believers, when asked, “Are you going to heaven?”

will answer with a shaky, “I hope so.” Stop right there. There is no uncertainty. In the work and promises of Christ are the way to our eternal home.



That's not presumption. It's faith in the rock-solid promises of Christ. Heaven is gained not by modifying behavior but by death and resurrection. But along the way, the death and resurrection of Jesus is to be exhibited in your life and mine through a process of sanctification (living out our "set apart" status) by our putting to death those attitudes and practices that belong to our life before Christ. And if you were baptized in infancy then, we are called to put to death those barnacles and accretions of sin that attach to all in this earthly journey.

The great Apostle exhorts us, "*For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live*" (Romans 8:13 KJV), and in Colossians 3:5 Paul writes, "*Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth*" and then lists affections and practices that do not belong to the raised-up children of God in Christ. Do notice that our practice of mortifying sin is by the work of the Holy Spirit and not due to our efforts exclusively. Do remember that.



So is our life in Christ simply a modification of the "bad-boy/bad-girl" behaviors we all exhibit regularly OR is it something entirely different? Paul also asks in Colossians 3:1, "*If ye then be risen with Christ ....*" The

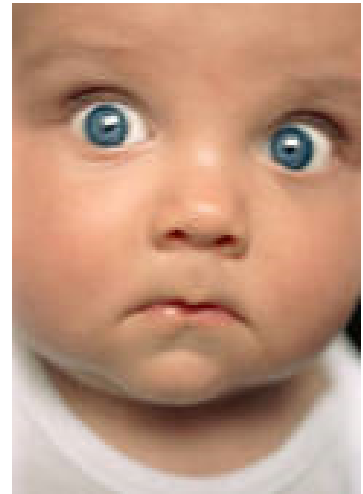
presupposition is that you have already been given new life by the only One who can give it. And that presupposes that you and I have also already died.

Living the Christian life is no mere "make-up job." It is in every respect new life, resurrection life, His life. And it is His life from start to finish, God be praised. So don't clean up. Look up. And receive the gifts given in your death and resurrection with One who is God.

## STAND UP FOR LIFE! Sign the petition to ban Dismemberment Abortion.

Excerpts from blog article by Rev. Dennis W. Matyas retrieved from <https://michigandistrict.org/compassion/sorting-through-pro-life-petitions-in-michigan-this-summer/> on September 16, 2019.

Right To Life of Michigan is in the midst of a petition drive to end Dismemberment abortions in Michigan. You may remember the ban on partial birth abortion that Governor Snyder signed in 2011. You may know that the



Michigan Heartbeat Coalition is organizing a petition drive to ban all abortions after a heartbeat is detected, similar to what has been signed in Georgia and Alabama. What you may not know, however, is that *Michigan already has a law that bans all abortions* (unless to preserve the life of



the mother). It is MCL 750.14, signed in 1846 when the state itself was less than a decade old, and remained a firm precedent several times afterwards. Essentially, MCL 750.14 makes it a felony for any doctor to willfully use whatever means to produce a miscarriage, and if the woman dies as a result it becomes manslaughter.

Then came *Roe v. Wade* in 1973, which superseded the state law. Now here's the tricky part: if the Heartbeat bill is successful and goes into law in Michigan, it will be immediately enjoined (a legal term meaning "basically useless"). If *Roe* is overturned with the heartbeat bill in effect, *the heartbeat bill may supersede the 1846 ban and make pre-heartbeat abortions legal in Michigan*. Current estimates by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHS) place 50–78% of abortions occurring before 9 weeks, and that does not even include abortifacients like the morning-after pill and birth control pills, which cannot be accurately tracked.

Let me say that again, because this blew my mind: If and when *Roe v. Wade* is overturned (because it's a garbage law based tenuously on the fourteenth amendment), *all abortions would be illegal in Michigan automatically*. If, however, there was the said heartbeat bill, then if and when *Roe*

*v. Wade* were overturned, **50–78% of abortions performed would still be legal in Michigan** (if, as I said, the heartbeat law superseded the 1846 ban).

Pick your jaw up. What an interesting



time we live in, when an anti-abortion petition could actually shoot the cause for life in its own foot.

### Right To Life's Petition

Enter Right To Life of Michigan, which is an extremely well organized and successful pro-life organization. It has put together a different petition, one that would not supersede the original ban should *Roe* be overturned, and one that would go into effect immediately without

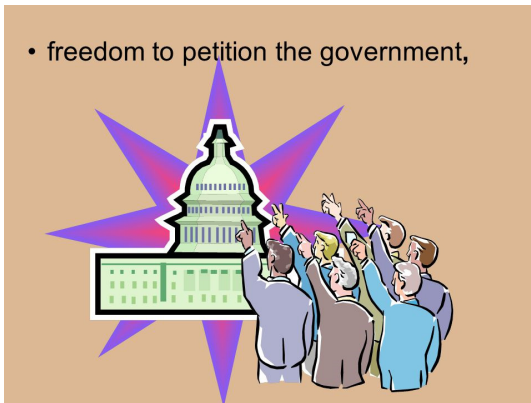
being enjoined and without the ability for the governor to veto it (and *she*

[our governor] **has pledged to veto all pro-life bills**). The petition bans the procedure of dismemberment...





Around 1,770 Dismemberment abortions are performed in Michigan each year, assisting abortion's boastful claim as the number one cause of death in the Great Lakes State. That's 4-5 babies *per day* having their limbs ripped off while our countrymen celebrate a woman's "right to choose."



Are you a registered voter in Michigan? Do you believe that dismembering a baby piece-by-piece as he bleeds to death in his mother's womb should be illegal? Sign the petition...

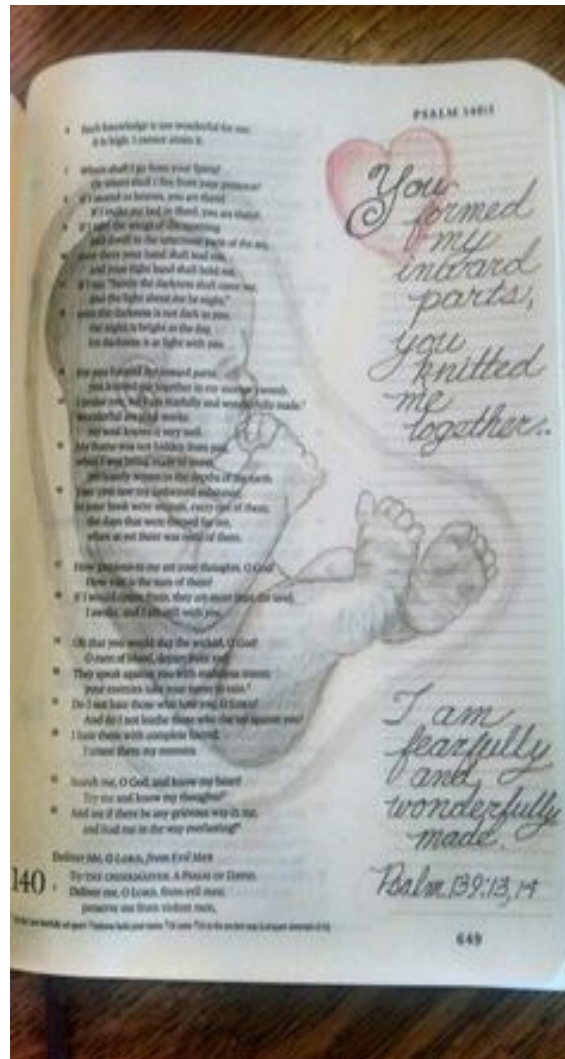


## HOW TO SIGN THE PETITION


Representatives from *The Right To Life* will be at Redeemer to take more signatures for the petition to ban the **Dismemberment Abortion** bill. They will be at Redeemer on October 13, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the narthex (lobby) to collect more signatures to ban this bill. They were here in July and more than 70

people signed the petition to ban this proposed bill in Michigan.

If you have already signed this petition, you do not need to sign it again. But if you have not signed, please *do* sign the petition to block this brutally savage and inhumane bill in Michigan. We are the only protection that stands between political brutality and disrespect for human life, and the unborn child. God help us to protect our future generations from this inhuman treatment of babies before they can even take their first breaths. God help us stand firm for **LIFE!**





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <b>2019</b>		1 Hour of Prayer— Chapel 7:15 a.m.  C—Denotes Communion Service	2 Craig's Bible Study 1:30 p.m.— Countryside  Praise Team 7:00 p.m.	3 Community Prayer 7:00-8:00 a.m.  Craig's Bible Study 2:30 p.m., Ganton's, S. A.  Bethel Bible Study 6:30-9:00 p.m.	4	5 Men's Choir 9:30 a.m.  Men's Buddy Ball 10:00 a.m.
6 Divine Service— C 8:00 a.m.  Bible Classes for Ages 4—Adults 9:20 —10:20 a.m.  Praise Service 10:30 a.m.  Life Chain 2:30-3:30 p.m.	7 Adult Choir 6:30 p.m.  Handbells 7:30 p.m.	8 Hour of Prayer— Chapel 7:15 a.m.  Ministry Council 6:30 p.m.  Elders' Meeting 7:00 p.m.	9 Quilters 9:00 a.m.  Craig's Bible Study 1:30 p.m.— Countryside  Praise Team 7:00 p.m.	10 Community Prayer 7:00-8:00 a.m.  Women of Redeemer 10:00 a.m.  Pastor's Bible Study—2:00 p.m.  Craig's Bible Study 2:30 p.m., Ganton's  Bethel Bible Study 6:30-9:00 p.m.	11	12 Men's Choir 9:30 a.m.  Men's Buddy Ball 10:00 a.m.
13 Divine Service 8:00 a.m.  Bible Classes for Ages 4—Adults 9:20—10:20 a.m.  Praise Service— C 10:30 a.m.  Petition Signing 9:00-11:00 a.m.  Youth Group 5:30—7:00 p.m.	14 Adult Choir 6:30 p.m.  Handbells 7:30 p.m.	15 Hour of Prayer— Chapel 7:15 a.m.  <b>REFLECTION DEADLINE</b>	16 Craig's Bible Study 1:30 p.m.— Countryside  Praise Team 7:00 p.m.	17 Community Prayer 7:00-8:00 a.m.  Pastor's Bible Study—2:00 p.m.  Craig's Bible Study 2:30 p.m., Ganton's  Bethel Bible Study 6:30-9:00 p.m.	18	19 Men's Choir 9:30 a.m.  Men's Buddy Ball 10:00 a.m.
20 Divine Service— C 8:00 a.m.  Bible Classes for Ages 4—Adults 9:20—10:20 a.m.  Praise Service 10:30 a.m.	21 Adult Choir 6:30 p.m.  Handbells 7:30 p.m.	22 Hour of Prayer— Chapel 7:15 a.m.	23 Quilters 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon  Craig's Countryside Bible Study 1:30 p.m.  Praise Team 7:00 p.m.  Leadership Board 7:00 p.m.	24 Community Prayer 7:00-8:00 a.m.  Pastor's Bible Study—2:00 p.m.  Craig's Bible Study 2:30 p.m., Ganton's  Bethel Bible Study 6:30-9:00 p.m.	25	26 Men's Choir 9:30 a.m.  Men's Buddy Ball 10:00 a.m.
27 Divine Service 8:00 a.m.  Bible Classes for Ages 4—Adults 9:20—10:20 a.m.  Praise Service— C 10:30 a.m.	28 Adult Choir 6:30 p.m.  Handbells 7:30 p.m.	29 Hour of Prayer— Chapel 7:15 a.m.	30 Craig's Bible Study 1:30 p.m.— Countryside  Praise Team 7:00 p.m.	31 Community Prayer 7:00-8:00 a.m.  Pastor's Bible Study—2:00 p.m.  Craig's Bible Study 2:30 p.m., Ganton's  Bethel Bible Study 6:30-9:00 p.m.	