

**Ms. Linda Lael**  
**Redeemer Lutheran Church, Atlanta, GA**

**Tell us a little about yourself and how you serve.**

I attend Redeemer in Atlanta and live in Decatur. I'm a retired high school math teacher and enjoy volunteering in the community by doing taxes for AARP, working in the library and at the festivals, and driving seniors with no transportation to medical appointments. My real passion, though, is the Novus Way camps. I started as a camper at Lutheridge way back in 1956. I served as a counselor then program director for a year. Since 2013, I've been a full time summer volunteer at Lutheridge and am responsible for the camper health forms – over 3000 of them! It's such a great fit for my skills, plus I am living in a place that I love. I also serve as a host at Lutheranch for conferences (pre-pandemic) and serve with the Light the Fire Appeal, inviting donors to help raise \$1.8M to offset the severe impact of the pandemic.

My parents and grandparents were great models of community service for me and the need to give back. During this pandemic, too, I realize just how fortunate I am.

**What is your favorite Bible verse and why?**

Philippians 4:13 *I can do all things through him who strengthens me.* Even when diagnosed with colon cancer, God gave me strength to get through it. Together, no matter what comes along, God and I can handle it together.

**Where have you seen God recently?**

Last March, my mother, age 97, was moved from assisted living into memory care. She didn't understand what was happening and my two siblings and I were unable to be with her due to the pandemic. Kathy, a wonderful staff member in the memory care unit, took it upon herself to make sure that every member of that unit facetimes with their children at least once/week. There were three of us and that was six calls per week! Kathy give us such a wonderful way to communicate and I was with my mother on facetime the day before she died. Kathy had such kindness and patience and I just know that God was at work through her.

**When/how have you been blessed by God's abundance?**

How have I not been blessed? I have good health and a supportive family. My parents and grandparents were such wonderful role models, bringing us in to the church and leading me to Lutheridge!