



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

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JUNE 2022

† Mission Statement †

“We are called to be a family of faith, sharing the love of Jesus Christ.”



Greetings Members and Friends, In case you were wondering: no, the church did not print a May newsletter and forget to send it to you. Most of you know that we had many members from Our Redeemer Lutheran and First Presbyterian contract COVID-19 shortly after Easter. Myself included. For almost a week, I did what needed to be done to get by. Thankfully, everyone in the church has recovered, though some have minor lingering effects.

Following is a devotion I wrote for the Northern Great Lakes Synod regarding our ordeal:

Text: Psalm 116:10 (NRSV) **I kept my faith, even when I said, “I am greatly afflicted”;**

We did everything according to guidelines (“we” meaning the church). We were one of the last requiring masks, social distancing, and refraining from physically sharing the *peace*. You name it. We were one of the last churches in our area that followed the strict recommended guidelines to protect our members from getting Covid-19.

We knew members were eager to celebrate Christ’s Resurrection together. A brunch and fellowship were planned for Easter Sunday. What a joyous time! Until shortly thereafter, when Covid-19 hit with a vengeance (*please note: due to those who tested positive, we assume transmission occurred on Easter and at a subsequent gathering a few days later.*)

Should we not have gathered? Should we not have celebrated? Did we let our guard down too soon? Do we have to wear masks and social distance for years to come? No. No. No. No. And yet, we must take a step back and ask ourselves, how did this happen? Did we miss something? And, how can we learn to live with this virus knowing that, in all likelihood, an outbreak may happen again?

Thankfully, no one from the church needed hospitalization but some are still dealing with lingering symptoms.

The psalmist tells us to *keep the faith, even when greatly afflicted*. There is no doubt that we were all afflicted with Covid-19 through our contact at the church. Yet, I’m pretty sure no one blames God, the church, or Easter Sunday for contracting the virus. And I’m quite confident that those who were afflicted with the virus will return to services as soon as they are healed.

Let us pray...

Creator God, we thank You for the blessings of this day. We pray that those who are afflicted with pain and illness – physically, spiritually, emotionally, and financially – may be healed and brought to new life. We lift up those we ask special blessings upon, naming them in our hearts, our minds, and with our voices at this time (please name your prayer concerns). Continue to strengthen our faith; in Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Have a Blessed Day! Pastor Melinda

Important Notice!

At the May 19th Church Council meeting, a motion was moved and supported to transfer \$8,020.74 from the Anderson Bequest to cover the April shortfall in the General Fund. This leaves a balance of \$3,980.70 in the Anderson Bequest. Factors include increased heating bills, decrease in giving for the month, and not being able to worship on the last Sunday of April due to Covid-19.

Please consider a special gift to the church this month. Thank You!

Due to the financial situation at Our Redeemer, the Church Council felt it was necessary to eliminate the secretarial position at this time.

Pastor Melinda will assume the secretarial duties and Chris Ison will assume the financial administrative duties.

Church Council Members

Are you interested in serving on the Church Council?

The Council typically meets once a month, though there are times additional meetings are necessary. If you would like a copy of what the Constitution says are the duties of the Congregation Council, please see Pastor Melinda.

However, during these past two pandemic years, the Council has also:

- Delivered offering envelopes to members
- Delivered Holy Communion elements and bulletins for Christmas and Easter
- Been asked to call members to keep in touch

If you are interested in serving, please contact Paul Gaberdiel or Pastor Melinda. Thank you!

Pastor Melinda continues to work out of the office at Our Redeemer. She may be contacted at: orlcrev@jamadots.com or at (906) 291-0897.



May 22nd was the last day of the Joint Sunday School until fall.

We thank the parents and grandparents who brought their children to faithfully share in God's love.

A special thank you is extended to Marge Rovenko (K-2), Penny Obey (3-4), and Bob Moody (5-6) for teaching this year!

Congratulations to all who may be graduating from high school, college, trade school, or other venture!



May God continue to bless you in your journey!



The offering plate will remain in the narthex. You may place your contribution in it before or after the service.

Thank you for your contributions!

NOISY SUNDAY
June 19, 2022



Bring your change and make some noise!
The Noisy Sunday Offering helps to end world hunger!

 **myEoffering**

Want the ease of online giving? It is very easy!

Go to www.redeem-me.org and click on the myEoffering button.

For assistance, please call Paul Gaberdiel and leave a message at (906) 293-8331.

Thank you!

Worship SCHEDULE

“What may God be calling us to do?” At the request from members of First Presbyterian Church and Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, the Session and Church Council met jointly for the first time on Tuesday, May 17th, to plan Joint Worship Services for this summer.

Please note the following:

There will be one Worship Service on Sundays, alternating churches each Sunday.

Worship Services will begin at 10:00 am.

Fellowship will be held following worship *except for Sunday, June 5th, at Our Redeemer.*

Loose offering will be contributed to the host church.

Offering envelopes will go to the respective congregation.

- June 5** *The Day of Pentecost Sunday*
Worship Service at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church (ORLC) w/Holy Communion
Receive the Presbyterian Church USA’s Pentecost Special Offering
All members are encouraged to participate. Envelopes will be available at ORLC.
- June 8** NAMA’s End of School Bash-lunch for the community from noon-1:30 pm TAS playground
- June 12** *Holy Trinity Sunday*
Worship Service at First Presbyterian Church (FPC) w/Holy Communion
- June 15** 3:30 pm Church Council
- June 19th** *Second Sunday after Pentecost*
Father’s Day
Worship Service at ORLC
Noisy Sunday Offering for ELCA World Hunger
- June 26th** *Third Sunday after Pentecost*
Worship Service at FPC



Building Renovation Ministry - is a fancy title given to the members and process that has occurred over the past few weeks of “cleaning out every nook and cranny in the church building”! Thank you to all who have assisted! It’s remarkable to see all of the hidden gems that have accumulated and were found!

Initially, it was hoped to have the items dispersed and the fellowship hall cleaned by Memorial Day Weekend. However, that is not possible. There simply was not enough time.

ORLC will host the first Joint Worship Service with First Presbyterian on Sunday, June 5th (see bulletin insert). There will not be fellowship w/refreshments that day.

HOWEVER, members are encouraged to attend worship on June 5th so that, following Worship, you may go through the items in the fellowship hall to see what may belong to you. If it is yours and you wish to have it back, PLEASE TAKE IT! Then, whatever is left over will be available for any member to take THAT SAME DAY.

After June 5th, anything left on the tables in the fellowship hall will be donated to God’s Country Cooperative Parish, the Senior Citizens Center, or disposed of properly.

Again, thanks to all who helped clean the nooks and crannies!

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Melinda.

Birthdays in May

- 1 - Molly Tervo
- 1 - Cindy Hellerstedt
- 3 - James Mattson
- 9 - Addison Schroeder
- 10 - Mike Kalnbach
- 10 - Collin Alexander
- 10 - Franklin Uhlbeck
- 11 - Derek Miller
- 11 - Joshua Rovenko
- 13 - Sean Dayton
- 13 - Brian Ronquist
- 14 - Donna Revord
- 15 - Stan Ronquist
- 16 - Joshua Rivard
- 17 - Kaylen Clark
- 20 - Erica Hilliard
- 23 - Doug VanderSys
- 24 - Mya Tervo
- 24 - Keith Rovenko
- 27 - Elliott Gordon
- 27 - Dustin Gaberdiel
- 28 - Dalliss Egert
- 29 - Pete Miller
- 29 - Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**
- 31 - Tammy Salter
- 31 - Erik Rocker



Birthdays in June

- 1 - Zachary Rovenko
- 5 - Jan Brill
- 7 - Chris Ison
- 9 - Nancy Brocke
- 9 - Austin Faith Warren
- 10 - Skyler Egert
- 11 - Krysta Parker
- 12 - Mike Brocke
- 12 - Jodi Bruno
- 14 - Wayne Hellerstedt
- 15 - Shelly Fox
- 17 - Emmett Plato
- 18 - Thaddeus Cox
- 18 - Jeffrey Burbach
- 18 - Pastor Melinda VanderSys
- 19 - Ken Uhlbeck
- 21 - Melvina Amble
- 21 - Denvir Johnson
- 23 - Larry Miller
- 23 - Michelle Teske
- 23 - Steve Crossett
- 24 - Larry Crossett
- 26 - Bob Hill
- 26 - Susie Holbrook
- 26 - Bob Moody
- 28 - Diane Burbach
- 30 - Chris Cox

Anniversaries

- 4 - David and Lynn Kihm
- 4 - Keith and Charlotte Rovenko
- 5 - Mitch and Nora Brow
- 13 - Michael and Mary Aho
- 13 - Frank and Lora Spincich
- 17 - Ken and Laverne Haggart
- 19 - DJ and Penny Obey
- 25 - Pete and Gail Miller
- 26 - Brian and Marcie Kaven

Please notify Pastor Melinda with any changes or corrections.

The Newberry Area Ministerial Association will host the End of School Bash at Tahquamenon Area Schools' playground on Wednesday, June 8th.

The community is invited to have a FREE LUNCH from noon-1:30 pm. Hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, homemade cookies and water will be provided. Courtesy of NAMA. All are welcome!



Please keep in your prayers...

Lucille Adler, Melvina Amble, Lois Anderson, Wanda Dahn, Linda Ellis, Arlene Hill, Mark Hill, Ruth Hill, Jo Ann Hautata, Bill Kingren, Cris Kihm, Anna Marie Miller, Sharon & Mike Painter, Towanna Rovenko, Pearl Schnorr, Ken & Jan Uhlbeck, Linda Wacek (Melvina Amble's Daughter).

If you would like to add or update anyone on the prayer list, please contact Pastor Melinda.

The addresses of our shut-ins are posted on the bulletin board or you may call the church office. We encourage you to send a card or note to them. It certainly will brighten their day!



SAVE THE DATES

Mon-Wed., August 8-10
5:30 pm-7:30 pm

