



Redeemer Lutheran Church Newsletter

April/May, 2022

Pastor Ponderings

Pastor Jack Way

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies: Christ our God to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.

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How can I keep from singing on this gorgeous day here in Rio? Everything in God's good creation is exploding with life. We are immersed in the wonder of new life promised in the resurrection, from death to life, of the Lord Jesus. God's breathing life into all living things in this season makes me want to sing out, to connect with bare feet and hands with the good earth, to absorb the sounds, the sights, the scents of existence floating on the breezes. How marvelous are the works of God! Soon, along with the bounty of the Creator, there will be swarms of irritating mosquitoes. We were just relieved from the recent high humidity, arriving early along with July temperatures. Next to arrive can be the alternating conversations about beginning prayers by pleading for the much needed rain to come. There could be prayers lifted for any additional rains in the forecast to be avoided, or, our prayer petitions could ask that potentially damaging storms stay away. In us there is the sense of beauty, along with dread, over the uncontrollable wildness of God's creation. Joy bursts among us like the innumerable blossoms of infinite color from that eternal Source of life! Thank you, Lord, for springtime! How can we, you and I, keep from singing?

Graduation season is upon us. The council will invite three high school graduates to honor them during a June Sunday morning worship service. A date is yet to be confirmed. Watch for updates in the June newsletter, and/or weekly bulletins.

The Property Committee is working with providers about upgrading our sound and video technology. Initial bids are being sought. References will be checked and a recommendation proposed before a special congregation meeting is called in order to vote. You'll be updated as progress is made.

A **New Member meeting** is scheduled for June 5, 2022 following worship service at church. Contact the church office to RSVP, or if you have questions.

Sprouts (young people's Christian education) has ended for the school year. **Starting again in September, additional volunteers are necessary** to share in the planning for and the teaching of Sprouts, along with Beth Laufenberg.

Bibles will be given to Sprouts youth in September for those who have not yet received them because of these pandemic times. A specific September date has not yet been scheduled. Watch for details to come.

A **first communion class** is being scheduled, soon. Contact the church office, or Pastor Jack, if you, or someone you know, is interested in further details.

Council has discussed having **outdoor worship services during the summer**. No dates, or frequencies are set. **Several volunteers, or a small group of volunteers** are necessary to commit to setting up and moving the equipment, getting equipment connected, moving other resources, insuring the equipment is operating correctly and after the service to unhook and return all the equipment and resources to the places they belong. Items that are necessary to hold each outside worship service include a heavy amplifier/speaker, power cords, microphones, altar, cross, altar communion set, keyboard, music stand, folding table, pre-packaged individual communion sets, offering plate, bulletins, etc.... Contact the church office if you will volunteer, or need further details.

The **Outreach Committee and the Social Concerns Committee** recently decided to work together to send cards to various home bound members, and/or members who have lost loved ones recently, and/or to members who were (fairly) recently hospitalized. Thanks to Darlene Cutsforth and Lynn Bubolz for their willingness to work together with their committee members to accomplish this. Visiting and communing those in facilities, memory care, assisted living, etc... continue to have differing Covid related requirements. Thankfully, Darlene continues working with the facilities and pastor to plan and set up visits.

Our **prayers for the families** of Scott Thompson, Jerry Sandberg, Mary Gray, Arline Bradley, Phyllis Selle (@ Redeemer, Rev. Yvonne Kiefer Marshall presiding), Lois Dott, Ina Boge (@ Bonnet Prairie, Pastor Jack Way presiding), Vernon Wavra (@ Grasse Funeral Home, Elliott Grasse, officiant). Many thanks to Nancy Wescott and to the many circle members that set up, served and cleaned up for the three luncheons held at Redeemer. Thanks to April Severson, Geri and Larry Gorman, multiple organists, for the various funeral homes involved in services, in luncheons and more. Additionally, to those other witnesses of the good news which reminds us how it takes just such an extended community of believers to care for one another in these times of grief and times of celebrating the new life that began in Jesus Christ at each of their baptisms, and is now fulfilled through the amazing resurrection promises of Jesus Christ. Thank all of you!

Remember the **Memorial Day (Sunday, May 29th) worship** will be outdoors at the Bonnet Prairie cemetery, W4700-W4812 Sampson Rd, Rio WI 53960. Folding chair seating is available. Some may find bringing their own lawn chairs more comfortable. Worship will be moved to Bonnet Prairie in case of inclement weather. **There is no worship at Redeemer on May 29th.**

With you a brother in Christ, for you a shepherd of Christ,

Pastor Jack

FROM THE PRESIDENT

One Church One Body As we embark on a new year after our Membership meeting of April we pray that we can continue to safely begin more activities within and outside our church. First, Thank you to retired Council members Chad Risgaard, Craig Corning and Bonnie Pribenow-Paddock for serving faithfully. Second, your new Council consists of Cindy Drehmel: President, Larry Gorman: Vice President, Rick Olsen: Treasurer, Patti Walker: Secretary and Trustees: Joan Reiersen, Skyler Severson, Lynn Bubolz and Steve Gilbert. Our goals are lofty, but attainable, for the remainder of 2022 1. To elect a Call Committee with the members help of suggesting representatives to be on the call committee. (A letter will be mailed separately to each household. 2. To select a permanent pastor for 2023. 3. To invigorate and encourage communication and meetings of Committees and Circles 4. To encourage growth of Sprouts and other youth and family oriented projects 5. To promote and encourage active participation in worship services in all forms: Indoor, FM 101.7, Facebook Live and You Tube to spread the Gospel.

As we work to obtain the above goals, we are reminded of *Ephesians 4:4-16*: "4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. 7 But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. 8 This is why it[a] says: "When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave

gifts to his people.”[b] 9 (What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions[c]? 10 He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) 11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. 14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”

So how does this work at Redeemer Lutheran? First, what is your spiritual gift? Apostle? Prophet? Evangelist? Pastor? Teacher? Each of us as Christians have been given a gift from God and have a strength in one or more of these areas. Pray and ask God where you personally may be able to help. As we continue to again grow our committees, we need everyone’s help and participation , no contribution is too small. Some areas of need to consider: 1. Set up/take down for 1 monthly outdoor summer service 2. Help reach out to the community to invite people come to a church service 3. Reach out to current members for comfort and support 4. Assist the Parking Lot, FM101.7 team 1 weekend per month delivering bulletins/ communion to homes (Saturday) and attend to vehicles in parking lot (Sunday) 5. Become a part of a committee such as Out Reach/Social Concerns, Property, Education, etc 6. Give ideas, the Council is open to ideas for new programs such as men’s ministry, women’s ministry and family ministry projects, Summer projects 7. Offer to serve on the Call Committee to help in the selection of a permanent pastor We are one body, with many working parts. The bible tells us that all must work together in peace, love, faith and harmony for Christ Jesus. No part is too small.

Blessings,
Cindy Drehmel, Council President

FROM THE FORMER VICE-PRESIDENT

This will be my last article as Vice-President at Redeemer Lutheran Church. I have enjoyed doing this, so, this is my last as VP but I will be continuing to write articles as a member because I feel it is very important to keep everyone informed of happenings in our church.

As you read this we will have already had our Annual Meeting. The biggest thing is that we had no one to fill the position of President. We pray that during the meeting, someone will have decided to take on the position, to support our council and our congregation. We thank sitting council members who were willing to move around to take a different position and we thank Lynn Bubolz and Steve Gilbert for volunteering to be on council. We also voted on our Spending Plan for 2022.

We have had to say, "good-bye", to three of our members. Jerry Sandberg's funeral was held March 26, 2022; Mary Gray's funeral was held April 2, 2022; and Arline Bradley's funeral was held on April 8, 2022. We also mourn with Harold and Julie Thompson, as they lost their son, Scott. We send many thoughts and prayers to the families as they continue to experience grief for their loved ones.

There will be an Audio Company from Brandon, WI coming to check out our sound system. Redeemer's system hasn't been working to full potential so it is felt it should be looked at.

Pastor Jack reported that there will be a Maundy Thursday service at 6:00 PM, a 6:00 PM Good Friday service and our regular service on Easter Sunday will be at 9:00 AM. As we celebrate the suffering and death of our Savior, Jesus Christ during Holy Week and his resurrection on Easter Sunday may we feel great joy during Holy Week.

We had an at length discussion regarding the Call Committee and what that will look like.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

February 24, 2022 - 6:00 P.M.

Present: Pastor Jack Way, Chad Risgaard, Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock, Larry Gorman, Rick Olson, Joan Reiersen, and Cindy Drehmel. Absent: Patti Walker and Craig Corning

Meeting was called to order by Council President Chad Risgaard at 6:35 P.M.

Bonnie Pribbenow - Paddock made a motion to approve the agenda as edited, Larry Gorman seconded. Motion carried.

Bonnie Pribbenow - Paddock did Devotions on "Waiting with Hope." Larry Gorman will do devotions in March.

No minutes were presented. They will be approved in March. A Thank You was read from the Jack Way Sr. family for the memorial given from Redeemer Lutheran Church.

The Financial Reports for January, 2022.

General Fund

Bennett Mutual Fund

Memorial Fund

Motion made by Cindy Drehmel to accept the Financial Reports, seconded by Chad Risgaard, to approve. Motion carried.

Larry Gorman gave the report from the Property Committee. The windows installed in the Education Wing have been paid in full. New batteries were put in the thermostat in Pastor's office.

Cindy Drehmel passed around a flyer from Lutherdale for campers. She will be putting an article in the newsletter regarding this. Cindy also reported that the parking lot ministry is going well. There is an average of three cars on Sunday and she visits 6-7 homes with bulletins and communion. She also reported that there is a problem with the door knobs on the doors at the underpass and at the back of the church. Property committee will check into this.

Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock is now doing the taping for You Tube service and Camron Pribbenow will be working on Redeemer's Web Page.

It is our hope to get our Sound System in the Sanctuary upgraded for better quality. Chad Risgaard volunteered to coordinate people. There were no reports from WELCA, Social Concerns, Outreach, Lay Ministry, Education or Worship Team. Cindy Drehmel made a motion to accept standing reports, Rick Olson seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

One member of our church had passed away. The 9th of April will be the Easter Egg hunt in Rio. RACA is working with the library again this year. Churches are asked to help if they can. Pastor will be calling people who are requesting a call and making hospital and nursing home visits as places will let him in. Pardeeville Shopper would like to know if we would like to advertise in their paper as they are becoming the Columbia County Shopper. A Mission Project was discussed. Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock made a motion to give \$280.00 to Lutheran Social Services as a mission project from the Bennett Trust Fund. Larry Gorman seconded, motion carried. There are no Confirmands at this time from Redeemer.

The Call Committee was discussed at great length. Pastor informed us of all the requirements that are to be met to form a Call Committee. Pastor Jack will be writing and sending out a letter to all members of Redeemer. We are asking for prayers as this process moves forward. If the Spirit guides you maybe you would like to volunteer to be on the Call Committee as we are looking for members.

Pastor Jack will be on vacation from March 4-19. Pastor Yvonne from Bonnett Prairie will be our on-call Pastor during that time.

Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock made a motion to start having church in our Sanctuary starting March 6th, 2022 with wearing masks while singing. Larry Gorman seconded. Motion carried.

The Annual Meeting will be held April 3rd, 2022 in the Sanctuary at 10:00 A.M.

Redeemer's Council would like to thank EVERYONE for their patience and peace during these most difficult times.

Next meeting will be March 24, at 6:30 P.M.

Rick Olson made motion to adjourn, Joan Reiersen seconded at 8:46 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,
Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock

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**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

MARCH 24, 2022 - 6:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Chad Risgaard, Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock, Pastor Jack Way Jr., Joan Reiersen, Cindy Drehmel, Larry Gorman ABSENT: Craig Corning, Rick Olson and Patty Walker

Meeting was called to order by Council President Chad Risgaard at 6:36 P.M.

Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Lutherdale report, Synod Assembly nominees, and Call Committee all under New Business. Seconded by Chad Risgaard. Motion carried.

Larry Gorman presented devotions, "Have you Forgotten Something?" Pastor Jack will do devotions in April to welcome the new council.

Cindy Drehmel made a motion to approve the minutes from February, Larry Gorman seconded, carried

Joan Reiersen made a motion to accept the Financial reports for February, Chad Risgaard seconded, carried.

As part of the Property Committee report an Audio/Visual Company from Brandon, WI will be coming to evaluate our sound system. Chad Risgaard made a motion to accept the Standing Committee reports, Cindy Drehmel seconded, carried.

**Pastor's Report**

Holy Week services will be as follows:

Maundy Thursday service, 6:00 P.M.

Good Friday service, 6:00 P.M.

Easter Sunday, one service at 9:00 A.M.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be held at the Rio Grade School on April 9, 2022. Each church is encouraged to donate two \$25.00 gift baskets. Any questions call the church office.

Mary Gray has been moved to hospice, Pastor officiated at Scott Thompson's funeral, son of Harold and Julie Thompson Pastor will also be officiating at Jerry Sandberg's funeral.

Old Business

Chad Risgaard will contact Craig Corning and ask if he available to give the Mission Spending Report for 2022 as our Bookkeeper, Beth Laufenberg, is out of state and doesn't know if she will be back in time.

New Business

Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock is willing to work with Kristi F. and call members of the Altar Guild to see if we can get this committee serving again.

Cindy Drehmel handed out information from Lutherdale and gave a report on the same.

There was much discussion in regards to the Call Committee.

Joan Reiersen made a motion to elect Larry and Geri Gorman as our delegates, along with Pastor Jack to attend the Synod Assembly to be held in May. Chad Risgaard seconded, carried. Pastor Jack will let Beth Laufenberg know so registration can be paid. Chad Risgaard made a motion to give \$100.00 to the Synod as a gift from Redeemer Lutheran, as has been practice in the past, Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock seconded, carried.

The next meeting will be April 19, 2022 at 6:30 P.M.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted: Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock

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**An Invitation For Support**

Dear Redeemer Members,

Most of you are aware that our Rio H.S. Band and Chorus teacher, Jesus Valencia, has been unable to teach all year as he has been dealing with a malignant brain tumor.

Recently I received a text from him asking me to forward the following information to anyone who would be interested in and willing to contribute to the National Brain Tumor Society in Madison in support of Team Valencia.

You are able to do this online at: <https://nbtsevents.brainumor.org/team/420571>.

If you are not able to access the internet and would like assistance in contributing to this cause, feel free to contact the office and we will assist you.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Geri Gorman

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**April Anniversaries**

|                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>David &amp; Grace Hinzman</b> | <b>April 9</b>  |
| <b>Daniel &amp; Lynn Bubolz</b>  | <b>April 17</b> |
| <b>Ron &amp; Debbie Reiersen</b> | <b>April 28</b> |

**April Birthdays**

|                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Don Hohlstein</b>   | <b>April 3</b>  |
| <b>Barb Brewer</b>     | <b>April 4</b>  |
| <b>Jane Risgaard</b>   | <b>April 9</b>  |
| <b>Dorothy Homman</b>  | <b>April 20</b> |
| <b>Jeffrey Corning</b> | <b>April 27</b> |
| <b>Loreli Jenkins</b>  | <b>April 28</b> |
| <b>Ray Berry</b>       | <b>April 29</b> |
| <b>Skyler Severson</b> | <b>April 30</b> |
| <b>Linda Olson</b>     | <b>April 30</b> |

**May Birthdays**

|                          |               |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Larry Wavra</b>       | <b>May 8</b>  |
| <b>Beverly Hepler</b>    | <b>May 14</b> |
| <b>Jennifer Baerwolf</b> | <b>May 15</b> |
| <b>Harper Wittmann</b>   | <b>May 19</b> |
| <b>Jon Pribbenow</b>     | <b>May 22</b> |
| <b>Beth Laufenberg</b>   | <b>May 25</b> |
| <b>Larry Gorman</b>      | <b>May 28</b> |
| <b>Molly Wittmann</b>    | <b>May 29</b> |
| <b>Scott Nelson</b>      | <b>May 29</b> |
| <b>Joseph Severson</b>   | <b>May 30</b> |
| <b>Tom Krueger</b>       | <b>May 31</b> |
| <b>Donovan Selle</b>     | <b>May 31</b> |

**May Anniversaries**

|                                    |               |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>David &amp; Beth Laufenberg</b> | <b>May 4</b>  |
| <b>Skyler &amp; April Severson</b> | <b>May 22</b> |
| <b>Larry &amp; Geri Gorman</b>     | <b>May 24</b> |

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***Reminder: There Is no worship at Redeemer on Sunday, May 29. You are welcome to worship at the Bonnet Prairie Cemetery on Sampson Road at 9:30 am. In the event of inclement weather, worship will be moved indoors.***

**MAY**



**Sun****Mon****Tue****Wed****Thu****Fri**

|                                                                                    |                                                                        |                                                                                |                                       |                                                                         |                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> 9:00 Worship<br>Facebook, YouTube,<br>FM 101.7                            | <b>2</b> Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 9:30 - Noon<br><br>1:00 - Quilters  | <b>3</b> Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 1:00 – 3:30                                 | <b>4</b>                              | <b>5</b> Pastor available<br>By appointment<br><br>7:00 pm- AA Meeting  | <b>6</b><br>Pastor's Sabbath Day  |
| <b>8</b> 9:00 Worship<br>Facebook, YouTube,<br>FM 101.7<br><br>Mother's Day        | <b>9</b> Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 9:30 - Noon<br><br>1:00 - Quilters  | <b>10</b> Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 1:00 – 3:30<br><br>Council Meeting<br>6:30 | <b>11</b><br>Last night of<br>Sprouts | <b>12</b> Pastor available<br>By appointment<br><br>7:00 pm- AA Meeting | <b>13</b><br>Pastor's Sabbath Day |
| <b>15</b> 9:00 Worship<br>Facebook, YouTube,<br>FM 101.7                           | <b>16</b> Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 9:30 - Noon<br><br>1:00 - Quilters | <b>17</b> Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 1:00 – 3:30                                | <b>18</b>                             | <b>19</b> Pastor available<br>By appointment<br><br>7:00 pm- AA Meeting | <b>20</b><br>Pastor's Sabbath Day |
| <b>22</b> 9:00 Worship<br>Facebook, YouTube,<br>FM 101.7                           | <b>23</b> Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 9:30 - Noon<br><br>1:00 - Quilters | <b>23</b> Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 1:00 – 3:30                                | <b>25</b>                             | <b>26</b> Pastor available<br>By appointment<br><br>7:00 pm- AA Meeting | <b>27</b><br>Pastor's Sabbath Day |
| <b>29</b><br><br>9:30 am Worship<br>At Bonnet Prairie<br>No Service at<br>Redeemer | <b>30</b><br>MEMORIAL DAY<br>Office Closed<br><br>1:00 - Quilters      | <b>31</b> Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 1:00 – 3:30                                | <b>1</b>                              | <b>2</b> Pastor available<br>By appointment<br><br>7:00 pm- AA Meeting  | <b>3</b><br>Pastor's Sabbath Day  |

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**610 LINCOLN AVE  
RIO, WISCONSIN 53960  
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

*“To Live and tell the story of Jesus”*  
[www.rioredeemerlutheran.org](http://www.rioredeemerlutheran.org)

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Redeemer Lutheran Church-Rio, WI

**Staff & Council Contacts**

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**

If you have any comments or needs that should be addressed, please contact our leadership:

**THE CHURCH COUNCIL**

|                                     |                |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Cindy Drehmel (President)           | (414) 573-8520 |
| Larry Gorman (Vice-President)       | (920) 992-3213 |
| Patti Walker (Secretary)            | (920) 623-9936 |
| Rick Olson (Treasurer)              | (920) 992-5418 |
| Skyler Severson (Trustee)           | (920) 992-3860 |
| Joan Reiersen (Trustee)             | (608) 516-8368 |
| Steve Gilbert (Trustee)             | (920) 992-5219 |
| Lynn Bubolz (Trustee)               | (920) 992-3494 |
| Robert Risgaard (Bennett Treasurer) | (920) 992-5258 |
| Geri Gorman (Memorial Treasurer)    | (920) 992-3213 |

**Interim Pastor Jack Way**

Church # (920) 992-3553

E-mail: [office@rioredeemerlutheran.org](mailto:office@rioredeemerlutheran.org)

**Kristi Fehrman – Interim Administrative Assistant**

Office # (920) 992-3553

E-mail: [office@rioredeemerLutheran.org](mailto:office@rioredeemerLutheran.org)

**Beth Laufenberg-** Bookkeeper

**April Severson-** Custodian

**Kurt Johnson-** Yard Maintenance

**Geri Gorman-** Music Director

**Gayle Krueger-** Choir accompanist

**Claudine Hanson-**Organist

