



Redeemer Lutheran Church Newsletter

January, 2022

Pastor Ponderings

Pastor Jack Way

In this month's "Ponderings" I want to first express our profound appreciation and thanksgiving for the various forms of loving, kind, sympathetic and caring ways that you shared your support of us during the past month. Your prayers, cards, hugs, memorial gifts and more have been a Godsend in this time of mourning.

For any who may not be aware, our family continues grieving the death of my dad, Paul Jackson Way, Sr. Additionally, we are still staggering from the horrifying murders of our two great nephews, Benjamin 7, and Sebastian, 5. Because of the unhealthy parental situation, for nearly all of the past 5 years, the boys have been under the guardianship of my brother and sister-in-law. There is a suspect arrested who is charged with the deaths of these boys. The boys were intentionally murdered along with the troubled, bad-decision making young man who was their dad. Significant details are still under wraps while the murder investigation by law enforcement continues. Your prayers continue to be of comfort to us and to our extended family. Thank you!

Next, I have such emotional feelings about the ways that so many of the various leaders at Redeemer were supportive in our time of crisis. Council president Chad Risgaard was such a steady and comforting support as we figured out what was best for me and our extended family.

Chad then worked with the worship team consisting of Kristi Fehrman, Geri Gorman, and Claudine Hanson, as well as, with Bishop Joy Mortenson-Weibe and the Synod staff. Together they arranged for everything that needed to be done in my absence for Christmas Eve and the Sunday of Christmas weekend. The Rev. Cindy Crane from the Synod office stepped in as preacher and presider. Together, with all of their prayers for us, we were relieved from the duty and the worry and the burden of having to make arrangements for my/our replacement during such an important week in our faith lives. The celebration of God becoming incarnate in the birth of Jesus.

Additionally, many, many behind the scenes details were completed by the worship team, by council members and others of you with very little awareness among the congregation that all of this was done last minute during the week of Christmas Eve. To any and all of you who helped - Thank you, Thank you, Thank YOU!!!

To the others of you who called us, emailed us, texted us, sent us cards of sympathy and messages of kind and caring Christian love to us throughout the weight of and the blur of our overwhelming grief during this past month – you have been such blessings to us – Thank you! God be with you!

Words. In this time spoken words seem inadequate. Yet, God's love to God's people repeatedly offers us redemption and restoration. It is God's gracious eternal offering. God's love becomes flesh so we might better understand the height, and the depth, and the breadth of God's infinite compassion for us. God, in Jesus, empties God's own self of complete divinity to enter humanity as the human and divine baby of Mary. No matter what befalls us in life, our hope is always in the promise of God's unending faithfulness. The promise is real that God, in Christ Jesus, is with us beyond even death, to the end of the ages. The resurrection always delivers. Even, and particularly, when the death of the innocent one(s) reveals God's everlasting commitment of love to the suffering. "I believe; help my unbelief." Mark 9:24

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

Pastor Jack

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
November 18, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.

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

Meeting was called to order by Council President Chad Risgaard at 6:09 pm.

Approve Agenda

Motion was made by Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock 2nd by Craig Corning to approve the agenda with additions. Motion carried.

Devotions were given by Rick Olson – Reading from Book of Mark 11 Chapter about Receiving Grace. Whatever you ask in prayer, believe it and you will receive.
January devotions will be given by Craig Corning

Review and Approve Minutes from October 2021 council meeting

Motion made by Craig Corning seconded by Larry Gorman to approve the minutes of Oct. 28, 2021 council meeting. Motion carried.

Correspondence and/or Guest Comments

Geri Gorman presented for the Nominating Committee. The committee is putting together a slate of nominees for 2022. Elections and installations will be adjusted so that each year four board members will be elected beginning in 2023. For 2022, a total of 11 positions will be filled, some of them being one-year terms in order to balance out the election process. Current council members have been asked to move into executive positions and one new board member will be installed.

Consent Agenda

Financial Reports for October 2021

General Fund
Bennet Mutual Fund
Memorial Fund

Discussion took place regarding Social Concerns expenditures. Currently all expenses go to Council for approval. Next year there is a set dollar amount budgeted for the Social Concerns Committee to spend as they see appropriate. The expenditure only needs to be brought before Council if it exceeds the budget. No names will be in the report so that it is confidential.

Motion made by Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock 2nd by Rick Olson to approve. Motion carried.

Standing Committee Reports for October 2021

Property

Parsonage trees trimmed.
Upstairs bathrooms – new locks on doors, new paint, new light fixtures.
Window installation continued.

WELCA

Social Concerns

Outreach

Turkey and ham giveaway December 5, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Finance Committee

Lay Ministry- Not Actively Meeting
Education
Worship team

Motion made by Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock, seconded by Craig Corning to accept standing committee reports.
Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Sprouts Attendance – 8 in attendance.

Christmas Eve will be one service at 4 p.m. with communion.

No Ecumenical Choir. Advent Sundays begin on Nov. 28. There are four Advent Sundays. Looking for readers to participate.

New Business

Budget Committee met Sunday, Nov. 14. The 2022 budget was reviewed. Discussion took place regarding the proposed spending plan for 2022.

Motion by Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock to add \$50 for outreach to the 2022 spending plan, seconded by Rick Olson.
Motion carried.

Motion by Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock to approve the proposed spending plan for 2022, seconded by Larry Gorman. Motion carried.

Parsonage – Discussion took place regarding the decision to keep or sell the parsonage. The Property Committee's suggestion is to wait until after the next call for a Pastor is complete.

Thanksgivings

For Dean Roberts for all that he does for the good of the church.

For the Property Committee.

For the Budget Committee.

For the Nominating Committee.

For the Council members, leaders of the church, and worship team.

Next meeting is Jan. 10 at 6 p.m. at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

There is no December meeting.

Adjourn/Closing Prayer

The Lord's Prayer. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Patti H. Walker, Council Secretary

Patti H. Walker, Council Secretary

WORSHIP UPDATE

Due to the rise in the number of Covid cases, Council has decided to return to virtual/recorded worship for the unforeseeable future.

In addition, the Annual Meeting is being postponed indefinitely.

If anyone not currently receiving a hard copy of either the weekly bulletin OR the monthly Newsletter – please contact the office if you would like one mailed to you.

If anyone would like to have some of the pre-packaged communion wafers/cups to use at home, please contact the office to make arrangements.

January Birthdays

Kelsey Wismar	Jan. 2
Donna Kearney	Jan. 13
Kathy Johnson	Jan. 13
Debbie Reieron	Jan. 19
Ben Wismar	Jan. 22
David Hinzman	Jan. 23
Kristie Falk	Jan. 24
Arline Bradley	Jan. 25
Marilyn Rowley	Jan. 29

January Anniversaries

Tom & Gayle Krueger	Jan. 16
Scott & Laurie Olson	Jan. 26

Thank You!

Our family would like to thank everyone who sent a card, a memorial, or verbally gave their condolences on the loss of our Dad, Gerald Ward, on Christmas morning. And special heartfelt thanks to Pastor Jack for the beautiful service at the funeral home. Our Redeemer family means a great deal to me – and we greatly appreciate your care and concern.

Kristi Fehrman and Family

“Thank You” to the following:

- **Dean and Toni Roberts** for organizing the turkey and ham giveaway. They reported as follows:
“The Ham/Turkey Giveaway held at Redeemer on December 5th was a huge success! We gave away 20 turkeys and 24 hams as well as 16 gallons of milk in one hour! Thank you to Mark’s Market for donating the milk! Thank you to all who volunteered and helped to hand out the turkeys, ham and milk!”

- Individuals who donated toward Poinsettias and Wreaths
- Our volunteer candle lighters during the Advent Season: The Laufenberg Family, The Austin Dahnke Family, Samantha Jaynes and Leslie Berndt, and Ben Brusveen and Cooper Husom.
- The individuals involved in putting up and taking down the Christmas decorations: The Property Team, Larry and Geri Gorman, Lola Bortz, and April Severson.

Redeemer Scholarship Opportunities

Redeemer is fortunate to be able to offer scholarship opportunities to many of its members. If you are furthering your education, be sure to check out the following scholarships:

The **Redeemer General Scholarship** is for Redeemer's graduating high school seniors.

If you received this scholarship last year, you may also reapply for a second year scholarship. Request the same **Redeemer General Scholarship** form.

The **Willis Hinzman Scholarship** is available to participating Redeemer members who are current year high school graduates and have completed their first semester of college.

The **Bennett Trust Fund Scholarship** is open to members of Redeemer Lutheran who are continuing their education at an ELCA Lutheran College.

For details and applications for the above-mentioned scholarships, please contact the church office.

The **Viola Jurgerson Baker Scholarship** is offered to graduating Rio High School seniors and past Rio High School graduates who are members of Redeemer Lutheran or Bonnet Prairie Lutheran. Please contact the Rio High School Guidance Counselor for this application.

JANUARY

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

<p>2</p> <p>NO WORSHIP TODAY</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Pastor's Office Hours: 9:30-Noon</p> <p>1:00 Quilting</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Pastor's Office Hours: 1:00-3:30</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Pastor available By appointment</p> <p>7:00 pm-AA Meeting</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath Day</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:00 Worship via Facebook, YouTube FM 101.7</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Pastor's Office Hours: 9:30-Noon</p> <p>1:00 Quilting</p> <p>6:00 Council Mtg.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Pastor's Office Hours: 1:00-3:30</p> <p>9:15 Worship Team Meeting</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Pastor available By appointment</p> <p>7:00 pm-AA Meeting</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath Day</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:00 Worship via Facebook, YouTube FM 101.7</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Pastor's Office Hours: 9:30-Noon</p> <p>1:00 Quilting</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Pastor's Office Hours: 1:00-3:30</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Pastor available By appointment</p> <p>7:00 pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath Day</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9:00 Worship via Facebook, YouTube FM 101.7</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Pastor's Office Hours: 9:30-Noon</p> <p>1:00 Quilting</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Pastor's Office Hours: 1:00-3:30</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Pastor available By appointment</p> <p>7:00 pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath Day</p>
<p>30</p> <p>9:00 Worship via Facebook, YouTube FM 101.7</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Pastor's Office Hours: 9:30-Noon</p> <p>1:00 Quilting</p>				

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
610 LINCOLN AVE
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

“To Live and tell the story of Jesus”

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

Chad Risgaard (President)	(920) 992-6704
Bonnie Paddock(Vice-President)	(608) 835-0787
Patti Walker (Secretary)	(920) 623-9936
Craig Corning (Treasurer)	(608) 513-9578
Cindy Drehmel (Trustee)	
Joan Reiersen (Trustee)	(608) 516-8368
Rick Olson (Trustee)	(920) 992-5418
Larry Gorman (Trustee)	(920) 992-3213
Robert Risgaard(Bennett Treasurer)	(920) 992-5258
Geri Gorman (Memorial Treasurer)	(920) 992-3213

Interim Pastor Jack Way

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Kristi Fehrman – Administrative Assistant

Office # (920) 992-3553

E-mail: office@rioredeemerLutheran.org

Beth Laufenberg- Bookkeeper

April Severson- Custodian

Kurt Johnson- Yard Maintenance

Geri Gorman- Music Director

Gayle Krueger- Choir accompanist

Claudine Hanson- Organist