



## **Redeemer Lutheran Church Newsletter**

June, 2022

**Pastor Ponderings**

**Pastor Jack Way**

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(Part 1 - of at least 3)

The Redeemer call committee you are currently in the act of nominating will have multiple responsibilities:

Their first task is to prayerfully seek to listen to God for how to serve the future that God has in store for this particular congregation, Redeemer in Rio. They start by asking themselves the question, “What do we see that God is actively doing around us?” After that, the committee begins working together on the process in preparation for calling a new rostered leader, a pastor or deacon.

It is recommended for the call committee to use intentional methods to initiate different kinds of conversations/communication within the congregation. For example, the call committee might ask you, as active congregation members, to provide them with your answers to the question they have been asked to answer – from the above paragraph in bold font. As a reminder to all of you, please be aware that there is not a “right answer”. Every congregation and every member of Redeemer has their own perspectives about God’s active ministry within this community, among the members, out into this village, then across the county, state, nation and the world.

In using the guidance of the interim pastor, along with the synod, another call committee task is to create a tentative timeline for task to be done. It is created for this specific process of preparing to call a new pastoral servant-leader at Redeemer. It is recommended that this timeline be prominently displayed in the church for people to view.

Additionally, the call committee will choose when and how to seek the congregation’s input on both general and more specific topics. They are available to use various methods that are recommended by the ELCA, the synod and by other resources. As examples: There could be gathering together in small group/“cottage” meetings with members. There might be mail and/or email questionnaires asking for the congregation’s response(s) – some of these may orient to a specific group, committee, or ministry. There may be forums held to discuss specific call related subjects, as well as, call committee members speaking directly with individual members during informal conversations, etc... All of these methods are connected with the specific topics to be completed in the necessary paperwork.

Speaking of the paperwork, one of the bigger challenges is completing the necessary forms included in the paperwork. This is called an MSP, “Ministry Site Profile”. A portion of the work for the committee is for it to be concise and for it to also use sufficient clarity. Potential candidates to be the next pastoral servant-leader here at Redeemer will see all of your MSP information.

(To be continued, at least through, the July and the August newsletters).

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

*Pastor Jack*

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### The Great Commission

Many have heard of the Great Commission but what does it mean and what does it entail? First, Matthew reported in Matthew 28:18-20, "*Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age"*

Second, the disciple Mark wrote, Jesus stated, "*Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. 16 He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.*" (Mark 16: 15-16).

Third, Luke also recorded, *Jesus opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, 46 and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, 47 and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high"* (Luke 24:45-49). Later Luke also stated in the book of Acts, "*Gathering them together, Jesus commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."* So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "*Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; 8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth"* (Acts 1: 4-8).

Fourth and lastly, John wrote," So Jesus said to them again, "*Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you.*" 22 *And when He had said this, He breathed on them and \*said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained."* (John 20: 21-23).

So, what was so important that all four of the Gospel disciples felt they needed to record the commission? What is a commission? The Meriam Webster dictionary defines commission as: an authorization or command to act in a prescribed manner or to perform prescribed acts. This command is weighty and important. Jesus gives us marching orders to Love our God with one's heart, mind and soul and to love one another as he first loved us, which is a culmination of the 10 commandments. So we are to lead in love, filled with the Holy Spirit and share the gospel. Let's face it, the last couple of years have been trying for each of us, the pandemic, Ukraine War, Monkey Pox. But we know that Christ has saved us and give us hope to cling to. But what about your family, friend or neighbor? Do they know of Christ's love for them? Jesus has given us this command (commission) to go and share the love of Christ by teaching others that God loved us so much that he gave his only son, Jesus, to die for all of our sins and be triumphant over the grave walking on the earth 40 days later, before ascending to heaven. (John 3:16). Interesting to note, the command to share the gospel was given to all when Jesus returned to earth after conquering the grave giving all the proof needed to share confidently that He is the Messiah foretold in the Old Testament.

Have you ever felt that nudge when speaking to someone, or had a thought race through your mind...hmmm "It's too bad they don't know about God and Jesus and how safe God make me feels... If so, maybe it's the Holy Spirit saying, "Talk to them, I got this. I will give you the words to speak."

So how do we at Redeemer Lutheran Church as individuals and collectively follow this command in this day and age? The Council has been discussing this topic and has come up with a few fun, family friendly ideas for which we would love for you to participate.

### **How to Participate in the Great Commission**

1. Join a Committee. There are many committees to participate in: Education, Evangelism, Financial, Out Reach, Property. Some need to begin anew following the pandemic. We encourage all to come to our next council meeting July 12, 6 pm, to learn more about committees and projects
2. If you are a Thrivent annuity or life insurance member, learn how Thrivent will donate \$250 towards a documented event or program
3. Help set up, take down or help lead an Outdoor Worship Service this summer once per month
4. Pray for and Encourage one another, visit members, including our elderly, as part of the FM101.7 Ministry
5. Help and Participate in an upcoming summer event, our first one will be a Campfire Fun Night, Saturday, July 16, 7-9 pm.

### **Information News:**

In the interest of transparency, the council has voted to send an email of the proposed agenda to all members approximately one day prior to the monthly council meeting. Anyone who does not have an email address may also view the agenda which will be posted at the church approximately one day before the council meeting.

Additionally, (unapproved) minutes will be posted across the hall from the administrative office approximately one week after each meeting.

### **Mark Your Calendars**

**Saturday, July 16, Campfire Fun Night 7pm- 9pm**

Redeemer Lutheran is planning a **Campfire Fun Night** for all ages to around the camp fire, sing and roast marshmallows, make s'mores lemonade. Just bring your lawn chair, come and enjoy the fun. The community of Rio is invited.



gather  
and sip on

***Cindy Drehmel, Council President***

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## REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

April 19, 2022 6:30 p.m. Approved Minutes

**Present:** Cindy Drehmel, Lynn Bubolz, Joan Reiersen, Pastor Jack Way, Rick Olson, Larry Gorman, Steve Gilbert, and Skyler Severson. **Absent:** Patty Walker

**Meeting called to order by Council President Cindy Drehmel at 6:32 p.m.**

**Agenda was approved with a motion from Skyler Severson, seconded by Lynn Bubolz, Motion carried**

**Devotions were led by Pastor Jack with readings from Hebrews and Titus.**

**Secretary's Report:** March's Secretary Report read by Cindy Drehmel. Motion made by Larry Gorman to accept the minutes as read with no additions nor deletions, Skyler Severson seconded. Motion carried.

**Treasurer Report:** Motion made by Skyler Severson, seconded by Larry Gorman to approve the Treasurer report with clarification on expenditures from Bennett Trust. Motion carried.

**New signature card needed for various accounts:**

**General Fund Checking/Saving:** Rick Olson, Beth Laufenberg, Kristi Ferhman

**Memorial Fund:** Geri Gorman and Beth Laufenberg

**Bennett Fund:** Bob Risgaard and Beth Laufenberg

Motion made by Rick Olson, seconded by Larry Gorman to approve the new signatories for Checking/Savings Accounts, Memorial Fund Account and Bennett Fund Account. Motion carried.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

- **Property:** Motion by Skyler Severson to accept report. Seconded by Lynn Bubolz
- **Finance:** Motion by Skyler Severson seconded by Joan Reiersen to approve signatures on three accounts.

Motion by Rick Olson to reimburse Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock for memorial to Pastor Jack for his father. Seconded by Joan Reiersen, carried

- Motion by Joan Reiersen to allow families to direct donations to a designated fund or leave as undesignated. Larry Gorman will help to reorganize fund names. Lynn Bubolz seconded motion. Motion carried 4 yea and 2 nay.
- Motion by Rick Olson seconded by Skyler Severson to approve Standing Committee Reports
- Representatives from any standing committee are welcome to attend and participate in the monthly meetings. Motion by Skyler Severson and seconded by Larry Gorman. Carried

### **Pastor Report:**

- Pastor has been asked to officiate at the funeral for Ina Boge at Bonnet Prairie.
- Redeemer will provide lunches for one week this Summer for the School/Library Program Date to be announced
- May 1st new council members will be installed.
- HS Graduates will be recognized in June
- No new applications for the scholarships received
- Worship Committee suggests the recruitment of new volunteers to set up and take down equipment if the church wants to return to Outdoor Worship once per month beginning in May
- Clarification/goal of the Community Egg Hunt is requested.
- Redeemer has been asked to host a Covid-19 vaccination station. It was discussed by Council but declined as it is felt there are enough vaccination sites locally offered in the community.
- A letter is being prepped by Pastor Way and will be sent out to all members asking for volunteers for the Call Committee. Hoping for 5-7 to make up the committee.

Motion by Steve Gilbert and seconded by Skyler to accept Pastor Jack's report. Motion Carried

### **Old Business:**

Copies of Roles and Responsibilities of Council Members handed out. Discussion Tabled until May Council Meeting giving Council ample time to review their roles.

- Annual meeting minutes are being completed and will be provided at May Council Meeting
- Lutherdale registration insert will be included in the April Newsletter
- Sound System: Larry Gorman met with Sound System Company and requested an evaluation and bid to replace our sound system. Bid should be available for Council review for May meeting to further discuss
- Turkey/Ham giveaway tabled until May meeting
- Church member safety was discussed based on Information provided by ELCA and Wisconsin Council of Churches and an update provided for Columbia County increased levels of Covid 19 based on Waste Water was discussed.

Council agreed to continue mask wearing during singing and request Pastor to make an announcement reminding individuals to use all doors when entering/exiting, remain six feet from fellow parishioners, and wear masks when singing.

### **New Business:**

- Council meetings will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month, beginning at 6:00 p.m.
- Pastor will arrange for coverage in his absence.

• A motion was made by Larry Gorman and Seconded by Skyler Severson to investigate and research a new computer with corresponding software for Office Administration. Larry Gorman reported that the current computer is antiquated and 12 years old. Skyler Severson will meet with Kristi Fehrman to appraise her current system, discuss options for computer/software update and provide options for purchase at the May Council Meeting.

• To increase membership/attendance, summer programs will be discussed. Council members encouraged to brainstorm ideas. Tabled to May Council Meeting.

• May Devotions will be offered by Rick Olson

• Invited Guests May Meeting: Beth Laufenberg, Book keeper; Darlene Cutsforth, Out Reach

Motion to adjourn by Larry Gorman, seconded by Lynn Bubolz carried

Next Council Meeting: May 10, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m

Acting Secretary : Lynn Bubolz

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**June Birthdays**

**Ashley Laufenberg      June 1**  
**Jack Risgaard          June 4**  
**Nancy Wescott          June 5**  
**Rick Olson                June 13**  
**Kory Falk                 June 17**  
**Randy Baerwolf         June 18**  
**Samantha Jaynes        June 19**  
**Ryan Risgaard            June 26**  
**Sharon Wismar          June 30**

**June Anniversaries**

**Norman & Marie Nobbs      June 23**  
**Randy & Jennifer Baerwolf    June 24**  
**Rick & Linda Olson            June 26**

**Willis Hinzman Scholarship Awards**

Jane Risgaard and Isaac Severson have been awarded the Willis Hinzman Scholarships after successfully completing their first semester of college studies. Both students have impressive grade point averages. God's blessings and our best wishes to them as they continue their educational journeys!

The Scholarship Committee

## **Summer School Lunch Program**

Redeemer and Bonnet Prairie will be partnering together to prepare and serve lunches at the Library during the week of June 27 – July 1. We need a few volunteers for each day – you do not have to volunteer for the entire week. If you are unable to volunteer, but wish to contribute – you can donate food items or cash. Please contact the office if you would like to be involved. If you wish to provide a donation, please mark the envelope “***School Lunch Program***”.

## **Birth Announcement**

Ron and Debbie Reiersen would like to announce the recent birth of their grandson, Hudson James Koehler, born on June 6<sup>th</sup> to daughter Joanna and Jonathan Koehler of Sun Prairie, WI. He was 9 lbs., 15 oz. and 22” long. Hudson joins big sister, Adeline (Addie) Koehler of Rio.



# JUNE

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                    |                                                                                       |                                                                   | 1                        | 2 Pastor available<br>By appointment<br><br>7:00 pm- AA Meeting  | 3<br>Pastor's Sabbath Day                       |
| 5 9:00 Worship<br>Facebook/YouTube<br>FM 101.7                                     | 6 Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 9:30 - Noon<br><br>1:00 - Quilters                        | 7 Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 1:00 – 3:30                           | 8                        | 9 Pastor available<br>By appointment<br><br>7:00 pm- AA Meeting  | 10<br>Pastor's Sabbath Day                      |
| 12 9:00 Worship<br>Facebook/YouTube<br>FM 101.7<br><br>Recognition of<br>Graduates | 13 Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 9:30 - Noon<br><br>1:00 - Quilters                       | 14 Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 1:00 – 3:30<br><br>9:15 Worship Team | 15                       | 16 Pastor available<br>By appointment<br><br>7:00 pm- AA Meeting | 17<br>Pastor's Sabbath Day                      |
| 19 9:00 Worship<br>Facebook/YouTube<br>FM 101.7                                    | 20 Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 9:30 - Noon<br><br>1:00 - Quilters                       | 21 Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 1:00 – 3:30                          | 22                       | 23 Pastor available<br>By appointment<br><br>7:00 pm- AA Meeting | 24<br>Pastor's Sabbath Day                      |
| 26 9:00 Worship<br>Facebook/YouTube<br>FM 101.7                                    | 27 Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 9:30 - Noon<br><br>School Lunches<br><br>1:00 - Quilters | 28 Pastor's Office<br>Hours: 1:00 – 3:30                          | 29<br><br>School Lunches | 30 Pastor available<br>By appointment<br><br>7:00 pm- AA Meeting | 1<br>Pastor's Sabbath Day<br><br>School Lunches |

**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

