



## **Redeemer Lutheran Church Newsletter**

March, 2022

**Pastor Ponderings**

**Pastor Jack Way**

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Another month together has come and gone. We prepare for the process of establishing a call committee to look to the future.

Some questions and clarifications came up at the February council meeting. New recommendations from the ELCA and the South Central Synod of Wisconsin are changes from some of the details I shared with you last month. Because of the possibility of carrying extra influence when including an officer of the council as part the call committee, it is now recommended that no officers or council members be a part of the call committee. Although there continues to be the necessity for a council member to be a liaison (a person who communicates between the council and the call committee).

It was also asked at the February council meeting if the interim pastor chooses the call committee. No. The pastor does not choose the call committee members.

It was asked at the council meeting, "Why can't the congregation look and find their own pastor"? The policy of the ELCA is to have congregations, the rostered leaders (pastors and/or deacons) and the ELCA, along with the Synod work together to fill a call for a pastor, or deacon. They want the call to be prayed about, issued and accepted with the examination of God's will for each faith community. This is in contrast to the methods used in other denominations and also differs from the hiring processes used outside of churches.

It was asked at council, "What happens if there are not enough members that will be on the call committee?" My (interim pastor Jack's) answer was, "Can a church survive if it is not able to get enough members to fill a call committee?"

There is a process to use to select the call committee where congregation members anonymously submit names of the members they would like to be on the call committee. Another distinct letter/email will be sent to all current members describing what will take place. That letter from your interim pastor will describe in detail how this "nominating" process will work. This anonymous method is used with the intention of helping the call committee not to be about popularity, or about electioneering, or about someone on the call committee with an ax to grind, etc. The work of the Holy Spirit will arise from the use of these anonymous submissions of names. From the names submitted anonymously, they will be collated and reviewed to see that many ministries have representation – women and men, youth, young adults, elders, education, community, worship, visitation, etc. The council, with some guidance from the interim pastor, then finalizes which members they recommend be on the call committee to a congregational vote. Again, more details will come to you in the upcoming letter/email.

You are welcome to ask me, interim pastor Jack, any of your questions about Redeemer moving into the call process. No questions are turned away. As this is my first time as an interim, I remind you that I don't automatically have the answers instantly available for you. I do have other very skilled and seasoned interim pastors available to help guide me along.

At council we received a communication from LSS (Lutheran Social Services) informing us this year is their 140<sup>th</sup> year of existence. In honor of that anniversary, the council approved a gift in honor of LSS

140<sup>th</sup> birthday. You are welcome to donate to their gift through your Redeemer offering. Just list on your check or your offering envelope that you want your "gift amount" to go to LSS. LSS is hugely involved in social services across our nation, including with adoptions, refugees, premarital and other counseling, along with support for all forms of human crises. We are glad to support the mission of LSS. Happy 140th Birthday LSS!

You probably noticed in our worship bulletins that you can also donate by giving through Redeemer using the same method toward aid for the war in Ukraine. 100% of your funds will go directly to ELCA's Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) where 100% of your gifts will be used directly to fill needs in the Ukraine. There are no marketing fees or administrative overhead, etc., because it is going through the LDR of the ELCA. It's a wonderful mission!

Although I cannot join in because of our families memorial service for our great nephews, please watch for news of the return of the Rio area Easter Egg hunt on Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup>. The Rio library and our Rio Area Clergy Association, along with our library and congregational helpers will be hosting this event. If you can volunteer to help fill and/or hide eggs, or be at the Rio grade school for the Easter Egg hunt, please let the Redeemer office know right away. If you can help for as little as an hour in preparing or hosting or cleaning up, your hour is valuable to the children and families in the community. Thank you!

Watch for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Sunday details as we move back to in person worship, along with continuing our Radio transmission, the YouTube and the Facebook Live streaming of our worship services.

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

*Pastor Jack*

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## **FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT**

March has come in like a lamb, so we know what we can expect at the end of the month, if you believe the old adage of March coming in like a lamb and going out like lion. It will be a mystery to all, but we will know at the end of the month.

We should all be very excited as Redeemer Lutheran Church opened up on March 6, 2022 with services being held in the Sanctuary. Masks are only required during singing. We pray that Covid 19 is somewhat subsiding in its rage and the Council felt it was time to get our members worshipping together again. We will continue with car service in the parking lot. Facebook and You Tube airings will also continue until further notice. If anyone has questions, they may call the church or talk to any council member.

Our annual meeting will be held inside the Sanctuary on April 3, 2022 after the regular service. It is very important for members to attend this meeting. Election of council members and new and old business will be addressed.

Camron Pribbenow has volunteered to get Redeemer's Web Page up and running. Thank you to Camron.

Sometimes the sound system isn't as good as it should be during the service. Chad Risgaard has volunteered to coordinate people who would be willing to work on this project. Thank you to Chad.

There was much discussion of a Call Committee being set up. Pastor Jack will be sending out a letter to all members so please be watching for this in the mail. We ask you to pray about this and if there is anyone who would like to serve in this capacity please call the office, talk with Pastor Jack or let a council member know. We are all eager to see this move forward and with some help we can make it happen.

It seems like it has been forever since we have been together for worship. It will be good for all of us to come together again, see a friendly smile, hear "I have missed you" and to say "God's peace". We know that "with God, all things are possible." See you in church!

God's blessings to all,

***Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock***



### March Birthdays

<b>Isaac Severson</b>	<b>Mar. 1</b>
<b>Gloria Lang</b>	<b>Mar. 3</b>
<b>Kristi Fehrman</b>	<b>Mar. 7</b>
<b>Bob Risgaard</b>	<b>Mar. 10</b>
<b>Camron Pribbenow</b>	<b>Mar. 12</b>
<b>Lois Dott</b>	<b>Mar.13</b>
<b>Roger Fehrman</b>	<b>Mar. 14</b>
<b>Terry Tarpley</b>	<b>Mar. 15</b>
<b>Chad Risgaard</b>	<b>Mar.16</b>
<b>Norma Nelson</b>	<b>Mar. 20</b>
<b>Jennifer Swiggum</b>	<b>Mar 24</b>

### March Anniversaries

**None that we are aware of**

### FUNDS FOR THE UKRAINE

Anyone interested in supporting people in the Ukraine are invited to make monetary donations through Redeemer.

You must write your check out to Redeemer, but you must note in the memo line that the money is designated for the Ukraine.

Your donation will be recorded on your offering record.

Our Redeemer Bookkeeper, Beth, will then write a check to the ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response. 100% of the offering goes to the Ukraine. There are no administration or other fees.

***Please make sure your donation is received at Redeemer by March 27<sup>th</sup>.***

Thank You!

### LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES

At council we received a communication from LSS (Lutheran Social Services) informing us this year is their 140<sup>th</sup> year of existence. In honor of that anniversary, the council approved a gift in honor of LSS 140<sup>th</sup> birthday. You are welcome to donate to their gift through your Redeemer offering. Just list on your check or your offering envelope that you want your "gift amount" to go to LSS. LSS is hugely involved in social services across our nation, including with adoptions, refugees, premarital and other counseling, along with support for all forms of human crises. We are glad to support the mission of LSS. Happy 140th Birthday LSS!

## **YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU AND YOU NEED YOUR CHURCH**

As church attendance numbers fade across the nation, and on-line services become very convenient, it's important to remember why church attendance for you and your family matters so much.

You can't serve from your sofa; you can't have community of faith on your sofa; you can't experience the power of a room full of believers worshipping together on your sofa.

Christians aren't consumers. We are contributors. We don't watch. We engage. We give. We sacrifice. We encourage. We pray by laying hands on the hurting. We do life together.

Your church needs you.  
And you need your church.

### **BARABOO CONFERENCE SPRING GATHERING**

*This information was provided by Sherri Kranz*

Dear Women of the Baraboo Conference,

Attached is your invitation to the Baraboo Conference Spring Gathering. This year it will be at St. Peter's, Loganville, 325 Mill Street on Saturday morning, April 9. At this time, we require masks be worn at all times, except when eating or drinking.

The speaker will be from Sugar Creek Bible Camp at Ferrysville. The focus will be on the impact Christian outdoor ministry has on our youth. Consider letting your youth leaders know about this also.

Registration is from 8:30-9:30. Lunch is included for \$10. If anyone has special dietary needs, let Lorinda Broughton know when you make your reservations. **RSVP before April 4.** 608-727-2200 or [broughton.lm@gmail.com](mailto:broughton.lm@gmail.com)

Blessings,  
Carolyn Meyer  
608-727-3511



## Sugar Creek Bible Camp

Sugar Creek Bible Camp's Executive Director, Jesse Klosterboer, will speak on the impact Christian outdoor ministry has on today's youth, both with their social and faith development.



Sugar Creek is a unique, beautiful, and vibrant Summer Camp for grades 1-12, as well as a comfortable year-round Retreat Center.

wp.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org  
608-734-3113  
13141 Sugar Creek Bible Camp Rd.  
Ferryville, WI 54628

## Women's Baraboo Conference Spring Gathering

It's time to come together again for our Spring Gathering. Join us for a morning of fellowship and education. We look forward to welcoming Jesse Klosterboer, from Sugar Creek Bible Camp in Ferryville, WI.

### Saturday, April 9th

**Location:**

St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
325 Mill St., Loganville, WI

**Cost:** \$10 (Includes Registration & Lunch)

**Schedule:**

8:30-9:30 - Registration

- Fellowship
- Business Meeting
- Speaker (Sugar Creek Bible Camp)

12:00-Lunch

### RSVP

Please RSVP with Lorinda Broughton before April 4<sup>th</sup>.

608-727-2200

broughton.lm@gmail.com

Women of the ELCA

# MARCH

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

		<b>1</b> Pastor's Office Hours: 1:00 – 3:30	<b>2</b> Ash Wednesday	<b>3</b> Pastor available By appointment 7:00 pm- AA Meeting	<b>4</b> Pastor's Sabbath Day
<b>6</b> 9:00 In-Person Worship Facebook, YouTube FM 101.7 Pastor Vacation	<b>7</b> Pastor Vacation 1:00 - Quilters	<b>8</b> Pastor Vacation	<b>9</b> Pastor Vacation	<b>10</b> Pastor Vacation 7:00 pm- AA Meeting	<b>11</b> Pastor Vacation
<b>13</b> 9:00 In-Person Worship Facebook, YouTube FM 101.7 Pastor Vacation Turn Clocks Ahead	<b>14</b> Pastor Vacation 1:00 - Quilters	<b>15</b> Pastor Vacation	<b>16</b> Pastor Vacation	<b>17</b> Pastor Vacation St. Patrick's Day 7:00 pm- AA Meeting	<b>18</b> Pastor Vacation
<b>20</b> 9:00 In-Person Worship Facebook, YouTube FM 101.7 First Day of Spring	<b>21</b> Pastor's Office Hours: 9:30 - Noon 1:00 - Quilters	<b>22</b> Pastor's Office Hours: 1:00 – 3:30	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Pastor available By appointment 7:00 pm- AA Meeting	<b>25</b> Pastor's Sabbath Day
<b>27</b> 9:00 In-Person Worship Facebook, YouTube FM 101.7	<b>28</b> Pastor's Office Hours: 9:30 - Noon 1:00 - Quilters	<b>29</b> Pastor's Office Hours: 1:00 – 3:30	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Pastor available By appointment 7:00 pm- AA Meeting	<b>1</b> 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)

**“Like Us” on Facebook**  
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)	(414) 573-8520
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**

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