



Redeemer Lutheran Church Newsletter

September, 2022

Pastor Ponderings

Pastor Jack Way

(Continued from the August Newsletter)

Finally, there are new(er) pastors available to serve the church of Jesus through the ELCA. I bring to your attention that the “baby boomer” generation of pastors continues to retire in higher numbers than in years past. The ELCA seminaries are receiving and graduating fewer new ministers than the number of those retiring pastors. This causes a continuing increase in the gap between the demand for and the supply of rostered leaders (ordained deacons and ordained pastors). For a number of years, we have seen the ongoing trend of having fewer members in a majority of congregations, not just in the ELCA but across denominations. Less people are choosing to actively serve congregations as volunteers and leaders. The ongoing effects of the changing Covid pandemic continue to require regular modifications and often unwanted adaptations within congregational ministry.

Along with this limited supply of available new(er) pastors, higher numbers of those new pastors require calls where the pastor’s spouse must be able to get employment within their respective field to maintain the economic support needed for their family/household. In recent years a greater percentage of new pastors are needing to remain in a particular geographic location to maintain a healthy family situation because of specific housing, insurance, health or social services and specialized employment necessities. For a variety of reasons there continue to be a limited quantity of new pastors who are available to accept a call that is less than full time. Many new(er) pastors carry high student loan debt and therefore require full time calls that will pay high enough compensation to cover both their living expenses and their loan repayment bills from seminary and/or college educations.

I am bringing these perspectives to your attention and request that you consider that we are no longer living in the decades within the ELCA. where, from at least the 1960’s through the middle 1990’s, there were more than sufficient numbers of pastors available for calls to nearly every congregation across this nation.

That said, there still are new(er) and older pastors that are available for a call like Redeemer’s. Because of the various reasons listed above it might take a longer time to find a healthy pastoral match for Redeemer. Please notice and be aware of these realities in the current call process within the ELCA. Do not forget that God’s Holy Spirit has always and will always continue to move where it acts to please the Lord. May we pray vigorously that God’s will be done for the sake of the salvation of the world through the future faithfulness of this community and congregation.

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

Pastor Jack

DevotionsCindy Drehmel

Minutes - 1st Larry, 2nd Lynn, motion passed

Rick went over treasurer report, discussion review followed. ... pastor made motion to accept, skyler second, motion passed

property Larry Gorman made motion new faucets, garbage disposed, about \$400 come out of Hinzman Memorial fund, skyler second, motion passed

property committe is researching new stair treads for the steps in stairways

outreach (Cindy Drehmel) - discussed campfire outing 7/16

Request that shopper advertisement paid by the church to the rio shopper out of the Faith formation Memorial. 168.75

and reimburse Cindy \$30.25 for banner - motion made by Lynn, 2nd Rick - motion passed

Note Cindy Drehmel used thrivent funds for community service from her account as a thrivent member.

standing committee

Finance updates - no updates

Lay ministry - no updates

education/sprouts - august 18th 6pm meeting will occur, Pastor reported on

worship team working on bulletins, Christmas in July (July 17th service), August 3rd seasons of the church year

motion to accept Steve, 2nd Larry. approved

Pastor Report, continuing education Pastor Julie Kraan will be oncall (Kristie has contact info)

August vacation

September vacation

July 31st worship in park 10:00 am with a potluck.

Tentative agenda was emailed and posted.

Friday 7/15 nominees for call committee are due, 16 envelopes are returned

New Members Trish and Scott McNeill

Women of the church had a meeting on 7/12 (officers only met) request that the offering/bills of the general fund be reported in bulletin

Larry made motion, Lynn seconded that they publish the general fund income/expenses monthly in the bulletin and newsletter, motion passed

prepackaged communion wine, and wafers, about twice the cost, and any interest, discussion, worship team will continue discuss

blood drive 3rd of August in the basement

first communion classes this fall

sustainability survey (people/Building/Finances)

christian celtic band are busy. Best time to book would be around christmas time. (\$700 for 2 hours)

discussion about having another outdoor activity in september

motion on celtic band to table until August 12th meeting, Steve made motion, skyler second, approved

summer lunch program: Monday 77 served, 87 served, 67 served redeemer provided see pastor for details

thrivent donation went to the library.

motion \$129 out of interest on business savings account to the pay the balance of the supplies for second (steve/ Rick) motion carried.

went over "general responsibilities for all council members"

tabled section 12.05 & 12.06 steve moved/ pastor seconded motion passed

skyler made motion that it is okay for campfire activity to occur on church premises in september, steve seconded.

Gerri: looking to increase senior choir, also is looking to recruit bell ringers for bonnet prairie, 3 sessions at bonnet prairie & 6 at redeemer.

asking for salary to begin in August. waiting for executive staff review.

skyer motion to start gerri bell choir salary in august because of the effort to coordination and getting group established, steve seconded. steve seconded.

larry made motion to have masks optional , skyler seconded , motion passed

devotions next time - Steve, Larry September, Rick October, skyler november

thanksgiving Oleg R. for playing, and bonnet prarie and list of volunteers/donations for the summer lunch program; campfire commitee

Skyler moved to adjourn, steve seconded, approved 8:36 pm

Thanks giving for Ole playing the piano

note on thrivent funds a member can utilize, can only use for one event

September Birthdays

David Laufenberg	Sept. 1
Emily Laufenberg	Sept. 2
Matthew Porter	Sept. 6
Richard Swiggum	Sept. 12
Alex Brewer	Sept. 17
Delores Erstad	Sept. 18
Spencer Wescott	Sept. 18
Dianna Pryse	Sept. 19
Bernie Spink	Sept. 27

September Anniversaries

Craig & Rhonda Corning	Sept. 11
Roger & Kristi Fehrman	Sept. 16
Pastor Jack & Valerie Way	Sept. 23
Scott & Julie Swiggum	Sept. 28

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Redeemer's Council met August 21st to open the locked up and sealed envelope containing the congregation nominations of candidates that were received and tabulated by Helen Risgaard. 30 member names were submitted.

Because council members are not to serve on a call committee, two names of council members were removed from the list. One other name was removed of a member who notified Redeemer that they have moved away from the Rio area.

The council prayed for God's will to be present in guiding them in selecting a slate of candidates to present for a congregational vote. A congregational meeting is yet to be scheduled by the council.

Council members were recommended to "sleep on", and pray additionally over the list of the 27 member names. A slate of 6-8 candidates, including one "alternate" will be selected by the council to go forward for a congregational vote.

Since August 21st Pastor Way has been calling the 27 nominated members and asking whether or not each is willing to continue being considered for the slate. If they say yes, Pastor is additionally asking if the member will commit to serving on the call committee, should they be chosen for the slate and approved by the congregation vote. The council was asked to keep all names in confidence until every nominated member has been contacted and has replied indicating whether they choose to continue as a potential member for the slate.

From those responding to Pastor, as of 9:45 am on August 30th:

13 members have replied "Yes" to serving

14 members have replied "No" to serving

The council also met on August 24th. They also met on August 31st for further discussions and decisions regarding the slate they will be recommending to the congregation.

All members are encouraged to attend the ***Congregational Meeting, which will be held on Sunday, October 2 – following worship.*** The item of business is to vote on the slate of Call Committee Members. The Call Committee slate is: Austin Dahnke, Beth Laufenberg, Bob Risgaard, Bob Skare, Darlene Cutsforth, Judy Sandberg, and Trish McNeill. Alternate: Pam Jaynes

Please pray for all council members and pray for all nominees.

Pastor Jack

ELCW EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

An ELCW Executive Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 18 at 9:30 am in the Lounge at Redeemer. If you are a Circle President, please be sure to attend this meeting.

ADDRESS UPDATE FOR SANDY HELMER

Sandy Helmer has a new address: N9250 St. Rd. 26, Eldorado, WI 54932



School Kits

for Lutheran World Relief

Once again, we will be collecting school supplies for Lutheran World Relief. We are inviting you to donate any or all of the items listed below needed for each school kit by Sunday, September 11th. A donation box will be placed in the north (covered) entrance. If you would prefer, cash donations can be made and we will do the shopping for you. Please indicate on your envelope or check that the donation is for "School Kits". To allow time for shopping, we would appreciate cash donations be made by Sunday, August 28th.

On Sunday, September 11th we will assemble the kits after church (approx. 10:15 am). All are invited to help.

School supplies needed for each kit:

- Four 70-sheet 8"x10½" notebooks, wide or college rule
- One 30-centimeter ruler, can have both inches and centimeters
- One pencil sharpener
- One pair of blunt scissors

- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2 ½" eraser



School Kits provide normalcy in times of crisis

In northern Iraq, many families were unable to buy school supplies for their children when returning to their homes after years of ISIS conflict. The students couldn't complete their schoolwork; some skipped school entirely because they lacked basic supplies.

Thanks to a shipment of more than 13,000 LWR School Kits, students of all ages received what they needed to continue their education and return to the normalcy of a regular school routine. As school absences decrease and schoolwork is completed, students are beginning to heal from the trauma of witnessing violence and conflict.

Other Kits for Lutheran World Relief — Lists of items for each kit are available at the north entrance. Completed kits must be at church by Sunday, September 11th.

- Baby Kit
- Fabric Kit
- Personal Care Kit

Reminder: School Kits are being assembled on Sunday, September 11 after worship.

SEPTEMBER

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

				<p>1 Pastor available By appointment 7:00 pm- AA Meeting</p>	<p>2 Pastor's Sabbath Day</p>
<p>4 9:00 Worship Facebook/YouTube FM 101.7</p>	<p>5 Office Closed No Quilting</p>	<p>6 Pastor's Office Hours: 1:00 – 3:00</p>		<p>8 Pastor available By appointment 7:00 pm- AA Meeting</p>	<p>9 Pastor's Sabbath Day</p>
<p>11 9:00 Worship Facebook/YouTube FM 101.7 Assemble School Kits after Service Pastor's Vacation</p>	<p>12 1:00 – Quilters Pastor's Vacation</p>	<p>13 Council Meeting Pastor's Vacation</p>	<p>14 Pastor's Vacation</p>	<p>15 7:00 pm- AA Meeting Pastor's Vacation</p>	<p>16 Pastor's Sabbath Day Pastor's Vacation</p>
<p>18 No Service at Redeemer-Celebrate 175 years w/Bonnet Prairie at 9:30 Catered Meal to follow Worship Pastor's Vacation</p>	<p>19 1:00 – Quilters Pastor's Vacation</p>	<p>20 Pastor's Vacation</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 Pastor available By appointment 10:30 – Worship at Covenant House 7:00 pm- AA Meeting</p>	<p>23 Pastor's Sabbath Day</p>
<p>25 9:00 Worship First Communion Facebook/YouTube FM 101.7 Outdoor Fellowship</p>	<p>26 Pastor's Office Hours: 9:30 - Noon 1:00 - Quilters</p>	<p>27 Pastor's Office Hours: 1:00 – 3:00</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Pastor available By appointment 7:00 pm- AA Meeting</p>	<p>30 Pastor's Sabbath Day</p>

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
610 LINCOLN AVE
RIO, WISCONSIN 53960
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

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

Kristi Fehrman – Interim 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

