



Redeemer Lutheran Church Newsletter

May, 2023

Pastor Ponderings

Pastor Jack Way

Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; Praise the Lord in his mighty firmament. Praise God for his mighty deeds; praise him according to the Lord's surpassing greatness!

Praise the Lord with trumpet sound; praise God with lute and harp!

Praise God with tambourine and dance; praise the Lord with strings and pipe!

Praise the Lord with clanging cymbals; praise God with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!

Psalm 150

Such amazing joy was shared between the gathered people of God during the Music Sunday worship at Redeemer on May 7th 2023. There were 30 musicians offering their gifts to God.

The bell choir rang out in praise to God with multiple hymns and anthems. Delightful leadership during worship was provided by the *Sprouts* (our faith formation/Sunday school) youth. They lifted up song, played kazoos, clapped, danced, and also marched while singing along to the piano while the trombone was played, New Orleans style, by Steve Gilbert. Joining together the congregation joined in singing a portion of "*When the Saints Go Marching In*". Some details were shared of the background story regarding young Rick Olson's harmonica. It had been lost for several decades. It was fairly recently recovered by Rick through some "divine providence" when he unexpectedly found it in a store. He then chose to put in the necessary practice and took harmonica lessons. Rick dedicated himself to relearning how to play the instrument and provided a wonderful version of a harmonica solo as he played, "*Amazing Grace*".

"*How Great Thou Art*" was delightfully played on the flute by Trish McNeill, with Gayle Krueger as accompanist. Gayle also played piano for Trish when she joined in singing with a quartet of men. All five together sang a couple Gospel anthems as tenors and basses (the low voices). It was a blessing to offer thanksgiving to God through the voices of the Senior Choir as they proclaimed God's praises through several anthems, including music with multiple part harmonies. Under the faithful guidance of Music Director, Geri Gorman, the service concluded with a rousing rendition of "*On Our Way Rejoicing*". This "Sending Hymn" included the bell choir, the pipe organ with accompanist Claudine Hanson, the *Sprouts*, the Senior Choir, the piano with Gayle Krueger, accompanist, and adding in the congregation with all joining together in a glorious song of praise our Triune God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We were overjoyed with the 92 people in attendance, especially appreciating the approximately 2 dozen members attending from Bonnet Prairie Lutheran. They had been welcomed to celebrate in worshipping God

together on Music Sunday through song, tambourine, dance, as well. Little did those attending expect to be serenaded with kazoos, as an offering of joyful noises being given for the glory of God. We certainly were all together praising God by making a variety of faithful sounds to the Lord. Thanks be to God!

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

Pastor Jack

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am sure that the New Sound System is on everyone's mind. I received an update on May 1st. It was reported to me that all the components have been delivered to Audio Contractors except for the Amplifier and the Mixer. Audio Contractors has sent their vendors an email asking what the status is on both items. They will let me know what the status is when they get their answer from their supplier. Audio contractors assured me that Redeemer is on top of the list of projects that they must complete. It is not a firm guess, but they are estimating completing the project in about three weeks or a little longer. I will keep you informed in announcements in the weekly bulletin and newsletter.

Another project that is in the works is the New Fellowship area in the Sanctuary. Please see the article from the council and property committee that is in this newsletter.

I am asking all of you to take a drive around the church some night when it is dark and look at the stained-glass window that is on the east side of the church facing the parking lot. Thanks to Dean Roberts for lighting the window. The material and supplies were a donation from an anonymous church member.

We want to thank Rick and Linda Olson for being our representatives to the Synod Assembly on May 20th located at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mt. Horeb, WI.

A couple of things to remember: this Sunday is Music Sunday for Redeemer. Please plan to attend the event. Redeemer has invited our Bonnet Prairie friends to also attend.

Redeemer members are invited to attend May 28th service at the Bonnet Prairie cemetery for Memorial Day Services to Honor all our veterans that have passed away. Redeemer has cancelled their services on May 28th so everyone can attend church at the Bonnet Prairie cemetery.

I want to thank all the Senior Choir and Bell Choir members for their wonderful music that they presented to Redeemer this past season. They all have volunteered many hours to make this special music happen for our church services.

We also want to thank all the people that have volunteered their time to our Sprouts program this year. It is a blessing to watch our Sprouts perform for our services at the church.

Have a safe Memorial weekend.

In God's Service,
Larry Gorman
Council President

- j. **Education** – Debbie Reiersen – Sprouts meeting on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. They are singing in church. Hymnal for graduating Seniors?
- k. **Worship team** – Kristi Fehrman
- l. **Policy Committee** – Steve Gilbert

Motion was made by Lynn Bubolz to approve standing committee reports. Seconded by Debbie Reiersen. Motion carried. All were in favor.

Staff Reports:

a. Pastor's Report:

Pastor Jack Way gave a verbal report.

- Baptism on Sunday, March 26, 2023, for Lindsey Jo Lange, daughter of John and Emily Lange. Grandparents are Alan and Patti Borde and Jeff and Geniene Lange.
- Funeral for Jason Hepler was Saturday, March 18, 2023, grandson of Bev Hepler. He passed away on March 4, 2023.
- Don Holstein passed away on March 14, 2023. A celebration of Life will be held at Rio Fireman's Park Saturday, May 13, 2023 from 1 to 5 p.m.
- There is a couple who are in the process of joining our church.

Motion was made by Steve Gilbert to accept Pastor Jack Way's report. Seconded by Kristi Fehrman. Motion carried. All were in favor.

b. Other Staff Members: None.

Old Business:

a. Easter Breakfast

7:30 – 8:45 a.m. Trish and Scott McNeill coordinators for Easter Breakfast – April 9, 2023. Looking for volunteers for prep and cleanup.

b. "Swing into Spring" Donation, Baskets to RACA

Rio Community Library has asked Redeemer to provide 20 \$5.00 gift cards.

Provide 4 or 5 "themed" baskets with a value of around \$20.00.

Contact Roxanne Staveness at the Rio Library to volunteer on Saturday, April 1, 2023 from 10 to noon.

Motion was made by Lynn Bubolz to donate \$200.00 from Thrivent Choice funds - \$100. for gift cards and \$100.00 for gift baskets to Rio Community Library. Seconded by Rick Olson. Motion carried.

c. Master Calendar

Table until April 17, 2023 meeting.

d. Redeemer Youth Group (Acct# 3.509.000)

A search of past minutes found that on August 29, 2018 - **"a motion was made by Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock, to put the "Redeemer Youth Group Balance", currently in the General Fund savings account, into the General Fund checkbook to be used as Larry Gorman, bookkeeper, needs. Seconded by Sherri Kranz. Motion carried."**

This was not done in 2018. Beth Laufenberg, bookkeeper, was given the August 29, 2018 minutes now in March, 2023, and has now moved this money to the General Fund checking account.

e. Review Annual Meeting Minutes 1/30/2023.

Council reviewed the Annual Meeting minutes with suggested changes. These minutes will be filed away until our Annual Meeting in January 2024. They will be approved at that time.

f. Update on Sound System.

Discussed under Property Committee report.

New Business:

a. Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday – 7:00 p.m. in fellowship hall

Good Friday – 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary

Easter – 9:00 a.m., 7:30 – 8:45 breakfast

b. Neighborhood Table

There was discussion about starting up the Neighborhood Table again. It was decided to table this for now and talk about it in another month or two.

c. Pew Cards – Rick Olson

This is an electronic way to give an offering by using a cell phone to scan a QR code that could be in each pew. Through Vanco Services. Rick will look into this.

d. Stipend for Chris DeLapp who spoke on Sunday, March 19, 2023 about AED and CPR.

Motion was made by Debbie Reiersen to give Chris DeLapp a stipend of a \$50.00 Kwik Trip gift card for his outstanding message on Sunday, March 19, 2023 about AED and CPR, as a gesture of appreciation for his time and mileage. Seconded by Lynn Bubolz. Motion carried. All were in favor. Lynn Bubolz will get the Kwik Trip gift card and Geri Gorman will include it in a thank you note to him.

Lynn Bubolz mentioned a gift card program that Bonnet Prairie uses to make money called the “Scrip Program”. She will be giving council information on this fundraising program.

Thanksgivings:

- Thank you to the property committee and volunteers for plowing/shoveling snow.
- Thank you to the Sprouts for the wonderful music on Sunday, March 19, 2023.

Adjourn/Closing Prayer

Motion was made by Steve Gilbert to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Seconded by Debbie Reiersen. Motion carried. Followed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Dates to Remember:

- March 22, 2023 – Soup Supper 6:00-6:45; 7:00 Lent service
- March 29, 2023 – Soup Supper 6:00-6:45, 7:00 Lent service
- April 1, 2023 – Rio Library “Swing into Spring” (Redeemer donating money) 10-12 noon

- April 2, 2023 – Palm Sunday 9:00 a.m.
- April 6, 2023 – Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m.
- April 7, 2023 – Good Friday 7:00 p.m.
- April 9 – 2023 - Easter 9:00 a.m.; Easter Breakfast 7:30 – 8:45 a.m.
- April 17, 2023 – Next Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Debbie Reiersen
Council Secretary

May Birthdays

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

May Anniversaries

Beth & David Laufenberg	May 4
Kevin & Kristie Falk	May 15
Skyler & April Severson	May 22
Larry & Geri Gorman	May 24

Sound System

The sound system is currently scheduled to be upgraded/finished during the last week of May.

Thank You from the Rio Community Library

We received the following in a Thank You card from the Rio Community Library Board of Directors:

“Dear Members of Redeemer Lutheran Church: Thank you for the donation towards The “Swing Into Spring”. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.”

We Need Your Help!

Redeemer’s Property Committee and Redeemer’s Council have worked together to give a trial run on creating a gathering/fellowship area in the back of our Sanctuary. Feedback has been very positive, and we are now ready to make this a more permanent space.

Our goals include a new floor covering in this area, two round tables with padded folding chairs for seating; two tall tables for people to stand near but have a place to set their beverage, etc.; a

safe and portable coffee server; and perhaps eventually a counter/cupboard for serving and storage.

We have been getting estimates on what funds we may need to develop this space and are looking at up to \$2500 to make it an attractive area in our Sanctuary.

Anyone choosing to help support this endeavor is invited to designate additional offerings for this purpose.

Sincerely,

Redeemer Council and Property Committee

Redeemer WELCA

“Happy Mother’s Day to all the Women of Redeemer”

Circle News

Adah/Esther Circle has announced that they will no longer be an active circle here at Redeemer. We want to thank all the ladies, who have been a part of Adah/Esther, for their many years of service to Redeemer. Their circle will be missed.

Our current active circles are Mary Circle, Rebekah Circle, Deborah Circle and Ruth Circle. They meet as they are able to and continue to serve as needed at Redeemer especially for fellowships and at funerals. They also participate with quilting, putting together mission kits, providing backpacks for student kits and have circle service projects. Please note that there are boxes of greeting cards, napkins, and dish clothes for sale in the Narthex (near the front door) that help support WELCA and its circles.

Circle Treasurers be sure to get your quarterly dues to me throughout the year. Those funds go towards are budgeted dues which go to the Synod WELCA at the end of the year. This lets the Synod know we have active circles here at Redeemer. All women at Redeemer are considered to be members of a circle, but if you are not actively involved with a circle, you can still support our WELCA with individual donations. Treasurers’ checks and donations can be made out to **Redeemer WELCA** and sent to Dianna L. Pryse, P.O. Box 332, Pardeeville 53954.

We thank you all for your continued support, prayers, and service.

God bless you all as sisters in faith.

Dianna L. Pryse, Treasurer

Redeemer WELCA

Call Committee Corner

At this time, we are waiting for a candidate.

The Call Committee team met with Marie to talk about the interviewing process. We got together the week of May 8 to finalize questions to ask in an interview. Beth sent those questions to Marie on May 15 for her review. In the near future the committee will have a mock interview to practice. At this point, we do not have any potential candidates, but that could change at any time.

The Call Committee asks for your continued support and Prayers.

Call Committee Members:

Beth Laufenberg
Austin Dahnke
Bob Risgaard
Bob Skare

Darlene Cutsforth
Judy Sandberg
Trish McNeill
Pam Jaynes (alternate)

Submitted by Larry Gorman on behalf of Beth Laufenberg

Reminder: There is no worship at Redeemer on Sunday, May 28. 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

	1 Pastor's Office Hours: 9:30 - Noon	2 Pastor's Office Hours: 1:00 – 3:30 Worship Team - 9:15	3 Sprouts 6:00 – 7:00 Both Choirs – 6:00	4 Pastor available By appointment 7:00 pm- AA Meeting	5 Pastor's Sabbath Day
7 MUSIC SUNDAY 9:00 Worship Facebook, YouTube FM 101.7	8 Pastor's Office Hours: 9:30 - Noon	9 Pastor's Office Hours: 1:00 – 3:30	10 Sr. Choir – 6:30 Combined Choirs at 7:00	11 Pastor available By appointment 7:00 pm- AA Meeting	12 Pastor's Sabbath Day
14 9:00 Worship Facebook, YouTube FM 101.7 New Members	15 Pastor's Office Hours: 9:30 – Noon Council Meeting 6:00	16 Pastor's Office Hours: 1:00 – 3:30	17 Sprouts 6:00 – 7:00 Last Meeting Until Fall	18 Pastor available By appointment Covenant Place Worship/Communion 7:00 pm- AA Meeting	19 Pastor's Sabbath Day
21 9:00 Worship Facebook, YouTube FM 101.7	22 Pastor's Office Hours: 9:30 - Noon	23 Pastor's Office Hours: 1:00 – 3:30	24	25 Pastor available By appointment 7:00 pm- AA Meeting	26 Pastor's Sabbath Day
28 <i>No Worship at Redeemer</i> Memorial Day Service at Bonnet Prairie Cemetery 9:30	29 <i>Memorial Day Office Closed</i>	30 Pastor's Office Hours: 1:00 – 3:30 Articles due for June Newsletter	31		** <i>Saturday, May 13 – Celebration of Life For Don Hohlstein at Firemen's Park 1:00 – 5:00 **</i>

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
610 LINCOLN AVE
RIO, WISCONSIN 53960
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

“To Live and tell the story of Jesus”
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

Larry Gorman (President)	(920) 992-3213
Barb Von Ahsen (Vice president)	(920) 992-3860
Debbie Reiersen (Secretary)	(608) 347-1952
Rick Olson (Treasurer)	(920) 992-5418
Kristi Fehrman (Trustee)	(608) 837-8144
Steve Gilbert (Trustee)	(920) 992-5219
Lynn Bubolz (Trustee)	(920) 992-3494
Dean Roberts (Trustee)	920))992-5675
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