



Redeemer Lutheran Church Newsletter
October, 2024

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Time keeps moving on. Here we are in October already. If you look closely, you can see some trees starting to change color. Fall often feels like a time of new beginnings for me. The weather changes, the kids are back in school, choirs, Sprouts, and Confirmation are back at it.

Sprouts and Confirmation will have their first night on October 3rd at 6pm. If you have any family, friends, or neighbors that might be interested in participating, please invite them to come. They are invited to participate at any time of the year.

We are considering starting an adult bible study led by Pastor Anne. If anyone is interested in participating in this, please let the office (Kristi) know. If there is enough interest, we will look to start this. Right now, we are thinking Sundays after church or late afternoons on Wednesdays but are open to other time suggestions.

We have been having issues with water getting into the basement during heavy rains. With our most recent rain, a significant amount of water came in the furnace room and into the kitchen and fellowship hall. I would like to thank April and Skyler Severson to their hard work getting the water cleaned up. The main contributing factor to the water coming in was caused by Spectrum cutting a section out of the sidewalk to install lines to the church outside the furnace room. After spending the last few months trying to get them to come out and repair the sidewalk, I am happy to say they completed the repair last week.

We continue to meet with Bonnet Prairie regarding sharing a pastor. Our next meeting is scheduled for the first week of October. Feel free to talk with myself, Nancy Washington, or Barb VonAhsen with any questions or concerns.

Thinking about next year, the Nominating Committee will be meeting soon to start the process of contacting members to find individuals to nominate for the council. Please take some time to pray about this. We could really use more men on the council.

Additionally, the Stewardship Committee will be meeting to start the process of putting together the budget for next year.

Until next month...

God's Blessings,

Beth Laufenberg

Council President

FROM A MEMBER

My life in retirement is more busy than it ever was when I was employed. This article was due yesterday so I am hoping "grace" abounds.

When There Is Love

With love in your heart,
You can't ever go wrong
You'll welcome each day
With a SMILE and a song.
You can look to your heart
When it's guidance you need,
Never finding a trace
Of malice or greed.
Each challenge you'll meet,
You will see as a test
To prove to the world
It can bring out your best.
With love in your heart,
You'll be certain to find
The end of the rainbow
And sweet peace of mind - *Catherine Janssen Irwin*

I have been thinking a lot lately about what it means to SMILE; when we do it, why we do it and how we do it. I have started asking my grandkids, "did you do anything in school today to make you smile" or "did someone else do something to make you smile?" I feel if they can say "yes" to either of these questions then a SMILE is a wonderful thing and should be appreciated. How many of us think about this and say to ourselves, "this made me feel good, maybe I should do it more."

WHY do we SMILE? Maybe the answer to this question could be: WHEN we are happy, when we make others happy, when our children give us a hug for no reason after they make a beautiful picture for us, when a friend gives you a compliment that was not expected or you see someone you haven't seen in a long time. Maybe we hear something in a sermon that we didn't expect to hear. I could go on and on for sure but I think we all get the idea.

The last part of "SMILING" is HOW? There is always the big old SMILE that extends from "ear to ear." When we see a SMILE like that we know a good thing just happened. There is a thing called a "smirk" and to me that means maybe I was the only one who thought something was funny! A "grin" would be a broad smile that would show some of your teeth. Many reasons to SMILE and many ways to do it also.

I tried this the other day. I was at an appointment and I asked the person sitting across from me, "Did anyone make you SMILE today?" and the person said, "thank you for asking me that question." They didn't share what it was but I was glad I asked.

As Jesus traveled the desert and went into towns I don't know if that was a question he would have asked but I think the people were SMILING as he passed by or when he stopped to talk to them. That is how happy the people in Jesus' day were because they believed he was the Savior as he witnessed to them.

As our author eluded to if we have love in our heart it will bring a SMILE.

However we handle our faith in expressing Jesus as our Savior I pray it brings a SMILE to your face. As we pray for all that is happening at Redeemer I pray we can all find one thing that makes us SMILE!

God's Blessings,

Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.**

Approved Minutes - 9-17-2024

Present: President - Beth Laufenberg, **V.P.** - Barb VonAhsen, **Secretary** - Debbie Reierson, **Treasurer**, Nancy Washington, **Trustees:** Steve Gilbert, Kristi Fehrman, Renee Miles.

Excused Absence: Trustee – Austin Dahnke

Meeting was called to order by President Beth Laufenberg at 6:02 p.m.

Approve Agenda

Motion was made by Nancy Washington to approve the agenda. Seconded by Debbie Reierson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Devotions were given by Kristi Fehrman. Steve Gilbert will have devotions for Sept. 17, 2024.

Review/Approve Minutes from: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 council meeting minutes.

Motion was made by Nancy Washington to approve the July 16, 2024 council meeting minutes. Seconded by Renee Miles. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Correspondence and/or Guest Comments:

- a. Discussed letter regarding music at Redeemer.
- b. Discussed suggestion to offer our worship space to St. Joseph's Catholic church while their building is being assessed for structural issues. Based on additional information obtained, it is unlikely that the diocese would supply a priest to lead a service in Rio. Therefore, it was decided to not reach out to St. Joseph's at this time. Should St. Joseph's approach us, we are open to making our worship space available for them.

Financial Reports –

- a. **General Fund:** Nancy Washington - See report. No shortfall for August 2024.
- b. **Bennett Mutual Fund:** Nancy Washington - See report.
- c. **Memorial Fund:** Nancy Washington - See report.

Motion was made by Debbie Reierson to approve financial reports. Seconded by Kristi Fehrman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

General Savings – The Hinzman Youth CD has come due.

Motion was made by Nancy Washington to renew the CD for 13 months at 4.75% at Farmers and Merchants Union Bank with Nancy Washington and Beth Laufenberg as signers. Seconded by Kristi Fehrman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Standing Committee Reports for February 2024 – Review/Approve:

- a. **Property**– Written report. Discussed replacing the parsonage front door. The Council requests that the Property Committee reach out to a member to do this work.
- b. **WELCA** – Debbie Reierson - No report. Discussion about doing school kits again this year.
- c. **Social Concerns** – Open - Not actively meeting.
- d. **Outreach** – Steve Gilbert - Not meeting.
- e. **Stewardship** – Nancy Washington - No meeting.
- f. **Lay Ministry** – Open. Not actively meeting.
- g. **Education** – Open - Not actively meeting.
- h. **Worship team** – Kristi Fehrman – September worship has been decided with Pastor Anne Wickland. Will meet first week of September to plan for October.
- i. **Policy Committee** – Steve Gilbert - No meeting.

Motion was made by Steve Gilbert to approve standing committee reports. Seconded by Nancy Washington. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Staff Reports:

- a. Administrative Assistant: Kristi Fehrman
Discussed whether to order more "Christ in Our Home" devotions – large and small. It was decided that Kristi will order only large devotions next quarter.

Shared Pastor Update

We are in conversation with Bonnet Prairie around the idea of sharing a Pastor. Several meetings have been held and they continue to meet. Beth Laufenberg, Nancy Washington, and Barb VonAhsen met with individuals from Bonnet Prairie and Marie Leafblad from the synod recently to discuss sharing a pastor. There will be another meeting in September at Bonnet Prairie for more discussion.

Call Committee Update - No activity.

Parking Lot Repairs - The parking lot is in need of repair. Will talk to Property Committee to get bids on repairing it.

Elevator Repairs - Item was discussed. An elevator repair company is working on the elevator repairs. Motion was made by Nancy Washington to approve and pay the elevator repair estimate to replace the motherboard of \$3,882 using interest in the General Savings Fund and designated monies for property maintenance in the Memorial Fund. Seconded by Steve Gilbert.

Pregnancy Resource Center request update

18 care bags were put together with \$200 Redeemer gave to Pregnancy Resource Center. A thank you card was received.

Thanksgivings: No thanksgivings were shared.

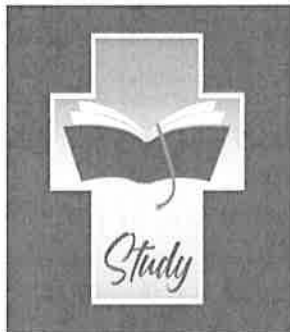
Adjourn/Closing Prayer

Motion was made by Debbie Reiersen to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Seconded by Nancy Washington. All were in favor. Motion carried. Closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Dates to Remember:

- God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, September 8, 2024 – Assemble School Kits
- Next Council Meeting – Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Debbie Reiersen
Council Secretary



Are you interested in participating in a bible study?

We are considering starting a bible study led by Pastor Anne. If you would be interested in participating in the bible study, please let the office (Kristi) know. If there is enough interest, we will look to get this started. Currently we are looking at Sundays after church or late afternoons on Wednesday but would be open to other times if that works better for those interested in participating.

October Birthdays

Julie Swiggum Oct. 2
Renee Miles Oct. 5
Ron Reiersen Oct. 8
Tyler Walker Oct. 8
Kevin Falk Oct. 10
Bob Lang Oct. 11
Shirley Benzine Oct. 11
Bob Skare Oct. 12
Gayle Krueger Oct. 13
Sharri Krantz Oct. 21
Bryan Wittman Oct. 21
Patti Borde Oct. 22
Sarah Risgaard Oct. 29
Gregory Pryse Oct. 31

October Anniversaries

Bob & Helen Risgaard Oct. 9

Wedding Announcement

Joseph Severson, son of Skyler and April Severson, married Grace Quade, daughter of Rich Quade (Cheryl Scott) and Stacy and Ron Raube, on September 10, 2024.

Congratulations to the happy couple!



Call Committee Corner

The Call Committee is still in a holding pattern until a candidate comes forward to interview. We ask that you continue to pray for everyone involved in this process.

Call Committee Members:

Beth Laufenberg

Austin Dahnke

Bob Risgaard

Bob Skare

Darlene Cutsforth

Judy Sandberg

Trish McNeill

Pam Jaynes (alternate)

Submitted by Beth Laufenberg

OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1 Office Hours: 9:00 - Noon	2 Sprouts and Confirmation at 6:00 pm	3 7:00 pm- AA Meeting	4
6 9:00 Worship Facebook FM 101.7	7 Office Hours: 9:00 - Noon	8 Office Hours: 9:00 - Noon	9 1:00 Choir Practice	10 7:00 pm- AA Meeting	11
13 9:00 Worship Facebook FM 101.7	14 Office Hours: 9:00 - Noon 5:00 – Bell Practice	15 Office Hours: 9:00 - Noon Council Meeting 6:00 pm	16 1:00 Choir Practice Sprouts and Confirmation at 6:00 pm	17 Worship at Covenant Place 10:00 am 7:00 pm- AA Meeting	18
20 9:00 Worship Facebook FM 101.7	21 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon 5:00 – Bell Practice	22 Office Hours: 9:00 - Noon	23 1:00 Choir Practice	24 <i>November Newsletter Articles Due</i> 7:00 pm- AA Meeting	25
27 9:00 Worship Facebook FM 101.7	28 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon 5:00 – Bell Practice	29 Office Hours: 9:00 - Noon	30 1:00 Choir Practice	31 7:00 pm- AA Meeting	

**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

Beth Laufenberg (President)	(608) 572-2051
Barb Von Ahsen (Vice president)	(920) 992-3666
Debbie Reiersen (Secretary)	(608) 347-1952
Nancy Washington (Treasurer)	(608) 575-1680
Kristi Fehrman (Trustee)	(608) 837-8144
Steve Gilbert (Trustee)	(920) 992-5219
Renee Miles (Trustee)	(920) 992-6220
Austin Dahnke (Trustee)	(608) 408-0018
Robert Risgaard (Bennett Treasurer)	(920) 992-5258
Geri Gorman (Memorial Treasurer)	(920) 992-3213

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

Worship Music Provided by Multiple Musicians