



Redeemer Lutheran Church Newsletter

September, 2024

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to September....

The kids are back in school and the choirs are starting to meet again at Redeemer. Our students will be starting Sprouts and Confirmation in October. Fall feels like a time of new beginnings as we kick things off with the start of the school year.

As I mentioned, the choirs are starting to meet. If you are interested in joining the Senior Choir or Bell Choir, please reach out to Geri Gorman or the church office for more information. New participants are always welcome.

Sprouts and Confirmation will start up on Wednesday, October 2nd at 6pm. Feel free to invite your friends or neighbors to participate.

Pastor Anne Wickland will be with us in September and has also agreed to lead worship in October. If you have a chance, please share your gratitude with her for leading our worship. We are very fortunate to have her.

Pastor Anne is also available should anyone like a pastoral visit. Please let the office know and we will work to connect you with Pastor Anne to set up a time for her to visit.

We thought we had the elevator fixed but unfortunately it is not cooperating. We had the brains of the operation replaced (motherboard) however it has now been discovered that another part needs replacing. I am told that this part is no longer manufactured so the elevator repair company is exploring options to repair the existing part. Please pray that this part can be repaired. If not, we may be exploring options of how to provide individuals with mobility issues a safe transport up and down within the building.

We continue to meet with Bonnet Prairie regarding sharing a pastor. Our current conversations have been around the pastor's compensation and expenses related to the parsonage and what that might look like. So far, it is looking like a win-win financially. Keep in mind that no decisions have been made. Feel free to talk with myself, Nancy Washington, or Barb VonAhsen with any questions or concerns.

Putting on my bookkeeper hat, I want to encourage everyone to keep up with your tithing. Since Pastor Jack left, we have seen a decrease in monthly offerings. Due to not having a pastor, we have been able to meet our financial obligations each month however when we have a new pastor, at the current tithing level, we may not be able to afford them. Please take some time to pray about this.

Until next month...

God's Blessings,

Beth Laufenberg

Council President

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.**

Approved Minutes 8-20-2024

Present: President - Beth Laufenberg, V.P. - Barb VonAhsen, **Secretary** - Debbie Reiersen, **Treasurer**, Nancy Washington, **Trustees:** Kristi Fehrman, Renee Miles, Austin Dahnke.

Excused Absence: Trustee - Steve Gilbert

Meeting was called to order by President Beth Laufenberg at 6:00 p.m.

Approve Agenda

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

Devotions were given by Beth Laufenberg. Kristi Fehrman will have devotions for Aug. 20, 2024.

Review/Approve Minutes from: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 council meeting minutes.

Motion was made by Kristi Fehrman to approve the June 18, 2024 council meeting minutes. Seconded by Nancy Washington. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Correspondence and/or Guest Comments:

None.

Financial Reports – Review/Approve:

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

Motion was made by Debbie Reiersen to approve financial reports. Seconded by Austin Dahnke. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Standing Committee Reports for February 2024 – Review/Approve:

- a. **Property**– Written report. New blinds in the Pastor, Administrative Assistant’s offices and hall windows have been installed.
- b. **WELCA** – Debbie Reiersen - 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 – August worship has been decided with Pastor Anne Wickland. Will meet first week of August to plan for September.
- i. **Policy Committee** – Steve Gilbert - No meeting.

Motion was made by Austin Dahnke to approve standing committee reports. Seconded by Renee Miles. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Staff Reports:

- a. **Pastor’s Report:** None.
- b. **Other Staff Members:** Kristi Fehrman
Kristi Fehrman mentioned that there was a leak in the ceiling in front of the fellowship cupboards in the back of church – wet ceiling tile. The source of the leak was identified and fixed.

Motion was made by Beth Laufenberg to accept Kristi Fehrman’s report. Seconded by Nancy Washington. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Shared Pastor Update

We are in conversation with Bonnet Prairie to see if we can share a Pastor. Beth Laufenberg, Nancy Washington, and Barb VonAhsen met with Owen Landsverk, Lori Larson, and Doug Waterworth from Bonnet Prairie recently to discuss sharing a pastor. They plan to meet again in August at Bonnet Prairie for more discussion. Beth gave council a sample “Shared Agreement” between two churches that we discussed.

Call Committee Update

No update. Short discussion.

Elevator

The elevator is not working. Item was discussed. Will continue to look for someone to come and look at it.

Confirmation

There are two students who are eligible for confirmation. Discussion was held to see how this might work.

Pregnancy Resource Center Request

Pregnancy Resource Center in Portage is looking for donations of items for hygiene kits. Lynn Bubolz is working with them. Faith Vangen will come to our August 4, 2024 church service to talk to us more about what they do and need for this outreach project.

Motion was made by Nancy Washington to spend \$200 from Memorial Community Outreach funds to purchase items for Pregnancy Resource Center. Seconded by Renee Miles. All were in favor. Motion carried.

God's Work, Our Hands – September 8, 2024

We talked about putting together school kits for God's Work, Our Hands. As in the past we would have our congregation help put these kits together after church. This would also be a good service project for our confirmation students to help set this up. More information will be coming about collecting items for the kits.

Thanksgivings:

- Many thanks to Pastor Anne Wickland for July and August pulpit supply.
- We are very thankful to Kristi Fehrman who coordinated the summer library lunches. This was a joint venture with Redeemer and Bonnet Prairie Lutheran churches.

Adjourn/Closing Prayer

Motion was made by Nancy Washington to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Seconded by Debbie Reiersen. All were in favor. Motion carried. Closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Dates to Remember:

- Ecumenical Park Service – Sunday, July 28, 2024
- Next Council Meeting – Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Debbie Reiersen
Council Secretary

September Birthdays

David Laufenberg	Sept. 1
Emily Laufenberg	Sept. 2
Matthew Porter	Sept. 6
Abby Dahnke	Sept. 7
Richard Swiggum	Sept. 12
Alex Brewer	Sept. 17
Delores Erstad	Sept. 18
Spencer Wescott	Sept. 18
Bernie Spink	Sept. 27

September Anniversaries

Craig & Rhonda Corning	Sept. 11
Roger & Kristi Fehrman	Sept. 16
Scott & Julie Swiggum	Sept. 28

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	Darlene Cutsforth
Austin Dahnke	Judy Sandberg
Bob Risgaard	Trish McNeill
Bob Skare	Pam Jaynes (alternate)

Submitted by Beth Laufenberg

LUNCH ON THE LIBRARY LAWN

This year we partnered again with the folks from Bonnet Prairie. While we were given an estimate of 50 lunches each day for the week of July 15-19, the numbers were as follows: Monday, July 15 - 62 kids/6 adults; Wednesday, July 17 – 59 kids/6 adults; and Friday, July 19 – 53 kids/10 adults.

I'd like to thank those who came forward and volunteered their time: Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock, Linda Olson, Geri Gorman, and Kevin & Darcy Stoddard. Our friends from Bonnet Prairie who volunteered their time: Sandy Colby, Linda Elert, Ellen O'Brion, Elsie Taylor, Don & Marge Hoffmann, Mary Gunderson and Phyllis Baumgartner.

Thanks to everyone for another successful year!

Kristi Fehrman

Confirmation

Confirmation classes will begin Wednesday, October 2nd at 6pm. We will meet on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

Confirmation classes are designed for students in 7th and 8th grade. We would welcome any older students to also participate. Please contact Beth Laufenberg to find out more information at 608-572-2051 or bethlaufenberg@centurytel.net.

If anyone would like to assist with Confirmation please contact Beth. Currently we are aware of two Confirmation students.

Thank You

On behalf of Redeemer Ringers Steve and Melanie Gilbert, Joleen Frank, and myself, I want to thank the Redeemer Council for co-sponsoring us at the annual Handbell Clinic in Madison July 31-August 2.

Sincerely,
Geri Gorman, Redeemer Music Director

Thank You

Thank you to everyone for helping me celebrate my 90th birthday with well wishes, cards, and fellowship after church on Sunday, August 18th. Thank you to Geri Gorman for her kind words at the beginning of the service, for daughter Karen for the beautiful flowers, cake and lemonade, for Bob & Helen Risgaard and Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock for hosting the event, to son Kurt who helped with the clean-up, and to all who attended. What a special day it was!

God's Blessings to all,
Barb Johnson



Thank you to everyone involved with quilt making and donating and assembling the school and personal care kits. We will be sending the following to Lutheran World Relief:

Quilts: 64



School Kits: 130



Personal Care Kits: 9



Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

Dear Members of Redeemer,

Please count your blessings. Please realize how blessed we are to have live music at Redeemer.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to Claudine Hanson, Carla Gerhardt, and Oleg Rudnytsky for leading us in worship on the organ, clavinova, and piano!!

I have been searching for over a year to find a new Senior Choir accompanist. Gayle would like to retire from that responsibility. THERE IS NO ONE.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to GAYLE for agreeing to serve another year. Otherwise, we would not have a Senior Choir this year.

THANK YOU to all the people who commit their time to our Senior Choir and our Bell Choir. We couldn't do it without you!

Words are inadequate to express how much I appreciate each of them!
Let's count our blessings!

Geri Gorman
Redeemer Music Director

SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<p>1 9:00 Worship</p> <p>Facebook FM 101.7</p>	<p>2 Office Closed</p>	<p>3 Office Hours: 9:00 - Noon</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:00 pm- AA Meeting</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>8 9:00 Worship Assemble School Kits</p> <p>Facebook FM 101.7</p>	<p>9 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon</p> <p>9:00 Worship Team</p> <p>5:00 Bell Practice</p>	<p>10 Office Hours: 9:00 - Noon</p>	<p>11</p> <p>1:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 pm- AA Meeting</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>15 9:00 Worship</p> <p>Facebook FM 101.7</p>	<p>16 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon</p> <p>5:00 Bell Practice</p>	<p>17 Office Hours: 9:00 - Noon</p> <p>Council Meeting 6:00 pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>1:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Worship at Covenant Place 10:00 am</p> <p>7:00 pm- AA Meeting</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>22 9:00 Worship</p> <p>Facebook FM 101.7</p>	<p>23 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon</p> <p>5:00 Bell Practice</p>	<p>24 Office Hours: 9:00 - Noon</p>	<p>25</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>October Newsletter Articles Due</i></p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00 pm- AA Meeting</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>29 9:00 Worship</p> <p>Facebook FM 101.7</p>	<p>30 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon</p> <p>9:00 Worship Team</p>				

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

“To Live and tell the story of Jesus”

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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

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