



Redeemer Lutheran Church Newsletter

November, 2025

From Pastor Anne Wickland

This past Sunday was All Saints Sunday, where we honored those of our church community who have died this past year, along with our many loved ones who have passed in the years before. I know grief can be strange, with laughter one moment and tears the next, and you could have lost someone 20 years ago or 20 days ago and sometimes the grief just hits you. Many thanks to all who helped set up the sanctuary, it looked beautiful with all the candles lit, the flowers and pumpkins. The Reverend Emmy Kegler has a series of infographics about All Saints Day and why we as Protestants, who don't pray to saints like Catholics do, honor this day. Catholics pray directly to "saints", those whose life on earth and miracles in death are marked as special and ask them to help with particular issues. Like...praying to St Anthony for lost items, St Francis for animals, and St Christopher for travelers. And they also have a tradition of honoring loved ones who have passed that they call "all souls day". As Emmy Kegler put it, "early Christians objected to the distinction between "saints" and "souls". They felt everyone had equal access to God's grace and shouldn't feel 'lesser'. For Protestants, like us Lutherans, every believer is a saint. Which is why in the Apostle's Creed we say "communion of saints".

I would also like to invite you all to our Community Thanksgiving Eve service that we are hosting. Living Gospel and Bonnet Prairie are our partners and it is November 26th, at 6:30pm. If you would like to help with snacks for fellowship, please let me or Kristi know!



Blessings,
Pastor Anne

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The weather has finally turned colder and you may have noticed the church is a little chilly. I have been told that the heat should be turned on today (11/4/2025). My hope is that the whole building will be a comfortable temperature on Sunday.

We are still a little short of the \$15,000 boiler donation/fundraising goal. We still need \$1,280 to meet the goal. Thank you to those that have already contributed. If you haven't already or would like to donate more towards the boiler, please get that in ASAP. Any amount will help us reach our goal.

While I'm on the subject of money, the Bookkeeper tells me that for the first time this year, we were a little short of money in the general fund to cover our expenses in October. Giving was down slightly in October and our expenses were up. I anticipate expenses to be higher over the next few months due in large part to an increase in the church's property & liability insurance premiums and heating costs. Please keep Redeemer in mind when putting together your monthly budget.

Redeemer will be hosting the Community Thanksgiving Eve service this year. Please plan to come out and participate in this special service followed by fellowship with our neighbors.

The nominating process for council and the other elected positions has started. If you haven't been contacted and are interested in any of the open positions, please come forward. More info can be found in the newsletter.

As always, feel free to reach out to me or any Council member with any questions or concerns.

God's Blessings,

Beth Laufenberg

Council President

FROM A MEMBER

For the month of November, when we celebrate what happened between the Pilgrims and the Native Americans, we too gather with family and friends to remember why we celebrate.

As Christians we gather together to celebrate Thanksgiving also, not by eating a feast but by coming together to worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We sing songs about being thankful and recite prayers which address being thankful for many things in our lives. People may have different ideas of what Thanksgiving may look like but hopefully the end result is the same for all.

As we gather to celebrate the holiday of Thanksgiving we all may differ on what we are thankful for. I pray we are thankful for family, friends, a church to worship in and especially that we have a Savior who grants forgiveness to all of us! In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

God's blessings to all.

Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.

Approved Minutes – 10-21-2025

- 1) **Call meeting to order** – Meeting was called to order by Beth Laufenberg at 6:15 pm.

Present: Beth Laufenberg - **President**, Austin Dahnke - **Treasurer**, Steve Gilbert - **Trustee**, Lynn Bubolz - **Trustee**, Renee Miles – **Trustee** (arrived late) and Pastor Anne Wickland.

Absent: Debbie Reiersen – **Secretary** (excused) and Ben Brusveen – **Vice President** (excused).

- 2) **Approve Agenda** – A motion to approve the agenda as written was made by Lynn Bubolz and seconded by Steve Gilbert. Motion carried by voice vote.
- 3) **Devotions** – Renee Miles led devotions.
- 4) **Review and approve minutes** – August 19th, 2025 – A motion was made by Pastor Anne Wickland and seconded by Austin Dahnke to approve the August 19th, 2025 minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
- 5) **Correspondence or guest comments.** - None
- 6) **Financial Reports** –
- a. General Fund
 - b. Bennett Mutual Fund
 - c. Memorial Fund

Financial reports were presented and questions answered by Beth Laufenberg. A motion was made by Austin Dahnke and seconded by Lynn Bubolz to approve the financial reports. Motion carried by voice vote.

- 7) **Neighborhood Table Account** –

The Neighborhood Table checking account at FMUB is currently dormant due to inactivity. The account has a balance of \$905.53. Some of the funds remaining in the account appear to be part of a donation from RACA with other funds coming from sources at Redeemer. The Council discussed what to do with the account. A motion was made by Lynn Bubolz and seconded by Pastor Anne Wickland to close the checking account and donate \$250 to RACA and use the remaining funds towards the new boilers. Motion carried by voice vote.

Note: The Neighborhood Table also has a \$5 cash donation and \$50 Walmart gift card. Beth Laufenberg to purchase the gift card and deposit a total of \$55 into the Neighborhood Table checking account prior to it being closed.

- 8) **Standing Committee Reports** –

- a. Property – Report provided.
- b. WELCA – no update
- c. Social Concerns – no update
- d. Outreach – no update
- e. Stewardship – no update
- f. Lay Ministry – no update
- g. Education – no update
- h. Worship Team – Report provided.
- i. Policy Committee – no update

A motion was made by Pastor Anne Wickland and seconded by Steve Gilbert to approve the Standing Committee Reports as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

- 9) **Staff Reports – Review/Approve**

- a. Pastor's Report – Provided verbally
- b. Other Staff – None

Pastor Anne Wickland shared that she continues to do visits, teach Confirmation, and will be attending the Synod Fall Theological Conference in Madison.

A motion was made by Steve Gilbert and seconded by Austin Dahnke to approve the staff reports. Motion carried by voice vote.

- 10) **Church/Parsonage: Hazard, Liability, & Workman's Comp insurance update** – Quotes were obtained by the Property Committee from three companies. In the end, our existing insurer provided a quote and it was decided to stay with Acuity. The church has been with Acuity for years.
- 11) **Electrical system partial upgrade** – two fuse boxes were updated to circuit breakers.
- 12) **Boiler Project** –
 - a. Donations/Fundraising update
 - b. Other Fundraising Ideas

Beth Laufenberg shared that as of 9/15/2025 \$12,395 has been raised towards the \$15,000 goal. To date, \$25,375 has been paid to Paul's Heating and Cooling. The Texas Roadhouse fundraiser raised \$138 however the check has not been received yet. Texas Roadhouse peanuts will continue to be for sale.
- 13) **2026 Health Insurance Plan** –
 The 2026 health insurance plans offered by Portico were reviewed. A motion was made by Lynn Bubolz and seconded by Austin Dahnke to offer the Select Copay 2000 plan. Motion carried by voice vote. Pastor Anne Wickland abstained.
- 14) **AED Training & First Aid Kit items** –
 Training options for the new AED were discussed as well as items that should be on hand for a first aid kit. Lynn Bubolz will work on this.
- 15) **Thanksgivings**
 - To Bob, Larry, and Beth for their work on obtaining the insurance quotes.
 - For the music programs being up and running again.
 - For volunteers who continue to come forward to Lead and Read each week.
 - For those who have volunteered to help get Barbara Nelson back and forth to church
- 16) **Adjourn/Closing Prayer**
 A motion was made by Lynn Bobolz and seconded by Steve Gilbert to adjourn at 7:34 pm. Motion carried by voice vote. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Dates to Remember:
 - Next Council Meeting: October 21st, 2025

Beth Laufenberg
 Acting Secretary

November Birthdays

Don Washington	Nov. 4
Alisa Porter	Nov. 13
Nancy Drehmel	Nov. 20
Grace Hinzman	Nov. 21
Trish McNeill	Nov. 23

November Anniversaries

Bob & Joanne Skare	Nov. 9
Steve & Melanie Gilbert	Nov. 26

On-Going Prayers

We continue to hold in prayer those who have requested ongoing prayer: Pastor Jerome Pribbenow; Kim Huber Ross; Geri Gorman; Jane Roberts, Wayne and Norma Nelson; Janet Corning; Jeff Hendrickson (Nancy Washington's brother); Carter Schultz (age 6, great grandson of Nancy Wescott's cousin, Caryn Schultz and her husband, Carl); JoAnne Husom Dille (Cooper Husom's grandmother); Kay Meier (Susan Brusveen's sister); Knute Nelson (Susan Brusveen's brother); Dave Hinzman; Stacie Wheeler; Nancy Drehmel; April Landphier; Bob Adams; Bev Stankiewicz; Bob Strauss; Gloria Lang; Sue Pulver; Brenda Vogeler (Harry Thompson's daughter); Virginia Olson; Ken Wescott; and Raymond Endres.

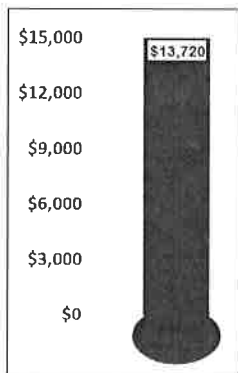


Are you interested in any of the positions below that will be voted on at the annual meeting in January? Please contact Pastor Anne, Beth Laufenberg, or Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock.

Do you have questions on what the responsibilities are of any or all the positions? Please contact Bonnie or Beth to have your questions answered.

Position	Currently Held By	Commitment	Eligible for Re-Election in 2026
President	Beth Laufenberg	2 year term	Yes
Secretary	Debbie Reiersen	2 year term	No
Trustee	Renee Miles	2 year term	Yes
Memorial Fund Treasurer	Geri Gorman	1 year term	Yes
Bennett Mutual Fund Treasurer	Bob Risgaard	1 year term	Yes
Nominating Committee	Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock	1 year term	No
Nominating Committee	Open	1 year term	No
Nominating Committee	Open	1 year term	No

Boiler Funding Update



As of 11/3/2025, \$13,720 has been raised toward the \$15,000 fundraising/donations goal. See the breakdown on the right of what has been received so far.

We are 91% of the way there. **We still need \$1,280 to reach the goal of \$15,000.** If you are still waiting to make your donation, please get that in soon. We are so close.

Donations	\$9,475
Easter Breakfast	\$1,400
Cobalt Glass, Woodworking, and Pew Sales	\$2,121
Culvers & Texas Roadhouse (including peanuts sales)	\$724
Total:	\$13,720

How We Plan to Pay for the Boilers	
Source of Funds	\$
Fundraising & Donations	\$15,000
Thrivent Choice Matching	\$5,000
Existing Church Funds	\$21,500
Total Boiler Project Cost:	\$41,500

As a reminder, here is a breakdown of how we plan to pay for the new boiler system.

As of 11/3/2025, \$36,125 has been paid to Paul's Heating and Cooling. We plan to withhold final payment until the work is fully completed and the heating system is working as intended (the church is warm).

NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 Worship/Communion Facebook FM 101.7 All Saints Remembrance	3 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon	4 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon Pastor's Hours 9:00 – 3:00	5 Sr. Choir – 1:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm	6 6:00 pm- AA Meeting	7	8
9 9:00 Worship/Communion Facebook FM 101.7	10 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon	11 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon Pastor's Hours 9:00 – 3:00	12 Sr. Choir – 1:00 pm	13 6:00 pm- AA Meeting	14	15
16 9:00 Worship/Communion Facebook FM 101.7	17 Office Hours: 9:00 - Noon	18 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon Pastor's Hours 9:00 – 3:00	19 Confirmation 7:00 pm <i>December Newsletter Articles Due</i>	20 6:00 pm- AA Meeting	21	22
23 9:00 Worship No Communion Facebook FM 101.7	24 Office Hours: 9:00 - Noon	25 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon Pastor's Hours 9:00 – 3:00	26 Thanksgiving Eve Community Worship At Redeemer - 6:30 pm	27 <i>Thanksgiving</i> 6:00 pm- AA Meeting	28	29
30 9:00 Worship No Communion <i>First Sunday of Advent</i> Facebook FM 101.7						

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
Ben Brusveen (Vice President)	(608) 469-3479
Debbie Reiersen (Secretary)	(608) 347-1952
Austin Dahnke (Treasurer)	(608) 408-0018
Steve Gilbert (Trustee)	(920) 992-5219
Renee Miles (Trustee)	(920) 992-6220
Lynn Bubolz (Trustee)	(920) 992-349
Robert Risgaard (Bennett Treasurer)	(920) 992-5258
Geri Gorman (Memorial Treasurer)	(920) 992-3213

Pastor Anne Wickland

Church # (920) 992-3553

E-mail: office@rioredeemerlutheran.org

Kristi Fehrman – Administrative Assistant -

Office: (920) 992-3553 Cell: (608) 837-8144

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