



Redeemer Lutheran Church Newsletter

October, 2025

From Pastor Anne Wickland

October is here and this past Sunday was the 17th Sunday after Pentecost...but the good news is that we are nearing the end of Ordinary Time! October 26th is Reformation Sunday where we celebrate the birth of the Lutheran church because on October 31st, 1517, Martin Luther nailed the 95 Theses to Wittenberg's church door, which at the time was much like a news bulletin board. From there, because of this newer invention called the printing press, word was able to spread throughout Germany and beyond. And Luther was eventually excommunicated from the Catholic Church. In 2017 I was able to travel to Germany to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the start of the Protestant Reformation. It was the summer before I started seminary and as a history nerd and church nerd, it was so cool to see the sites I had read about— Like "The Door" where Luther allegedly nailed the 95 Theses. I was also able to visit the church where Martin Luther was baptized in his hometown of Eisleben. They have the original font that Luther was baptized in, but there is also a very unique font there as well. In the middle of the sanctuary there is a hole in the floor filled with water. And around it, in German it says something along the lines of, "to my young ones, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit". And as Beth shares a bit in her article, we recently had *two* unique baptisms here at Redeemer—Mariah, a 2.5 year old, and Amelia, 13. I always get excited about baptisms because my love for the sacraments is central to my personal theology, and lucky for us all, I can be your pastor because it's also central to Luther's theology. A sacrament is where we take a physical thing like water, or wine and bread, and combine it with God's Word, transforming ourselves. And we have these everyday things that can remind us of God's grace and love. Luther supposedly said, "when you wash your face, remember your baptism". So when you have a sip of water or when you wash your hands, remember that God is with you and you are a beloved child of God.

Blessings,

Pastor Anne



FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is hard to believe we are already in the last few months of the year. Before we know it, the leaves will be falling off the trees and snow flakes will appear. It has me planning for the end of the year and getting ready for next year. We will be starting to put together the 2026 budget soon and looking to nominate members for Council and other elected positions.

The boiler installation continues. The new boilers are in the boiler room and will be hooked up very soon as the cold weather is coming. See fundraising update in the newsletter.

On God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, we assembled school kits for Lutheran World Relief. A total of 131 kits were put together. Thank you to everyone who helped with this project.



We celebrated two baptisms recently. Mariah was baptized on September 21st and Amelia on October 5th. Congratulations to both.



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

The end of September and we are experiencing 80 degree weather! What a blessing. We have deconstructed our garden and it seems funny that with this beautiful weather I don't look out and see our garden.

According to Farmer's Almanac we could have a Winter that is not going to be very favorable.

As we continue to have upset in our country and world I can't help but wonder what God is thinking? There are so many unanswered questions for all of us today, not only in our communities, our schools, homes and even our places of worship. We, as Christians, need to pray, talk to each other and treat each other with respect. This is how Jesus wants us to live. We need to care, listen and act when there is a need.

As we listen to the Word of God, read devotionals or read our Bibles we can know that these are the guidelines we should follow.

The world is not perfect, people are not perfect but this is how the world and the people in it were made many, many years ago. Thanks be to God that Jesus forgave those who sinned and because he did we are all better for it!

God's blessings to all, *Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock*

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.

Approved Minutes – 9-16-2025

Present: President - Beth Laufenberg, **Vice President** – Ben Brusveen, **Secretary** - Debbie Reiersen, **Treasurer:** Austin Dahnke, **Trustees:** Steve Gilbert, Lynn Bubolz, Renee Miles and Pastor Anne Wickland.

Absent:

Meeting was called to order by President Beth Laufenberg at 6:01 p.m.

Approve Agenda

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

Devotions were given by Austin Dahnke. Renee Miles will have devotions for Sept. 16, 2025.

Review/Approve Minutes from: July 15, 2025 council meeting.

Motion was made by Pastor Anne Wickland to approve the July 15, 2025 council meeting minutes. Seconded by Lynn Bubolz. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Correspondence and/or Guest Comments: None.

Financial Reports –

- a. **General Fund:** Austin Dahnke - See report. Doing well. Council discussed the Neighborhood Table account and what should be done with these funds. The account is currently dormant due to inactivity. Lynn will talk to Rhonda Corning who is in charge of the account.
- b. **Bennett Mutual Fund:** Austin Dahnke - See report.
- c. **Memorial Fund:** Austin Dahnke - See report.

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

General Savings Fund CD – Discuss/Approve

We have a business savings CD coming due September 21, 2025. There was discussion as to what to do with this CD. It was felt that the CD should be renewed for no more than 13 months.

Motion was made by Lynn Bubolz to give Beth Laufenberg the authority to renew this CD at FMUB at the best interest rate for no more than 13 months. Seconded by Pastor Anne Wickland. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Standing Committee Reports – Review/Approve:

- a. **Property**— See report. Paul's Heating is continuing to work on our boiler replacement.
- b. **WELCA** – Debbie Reiersen – Not actively meeting.
- c. **Social Concerns** – Lynn Bubolz - Not actively meeting.
- d. **Outreach** – Steve Gilbert - Not meeting.
- e. **Stewardship** – Austin Dahnke – Not actively meeting.
- f. **Lay Ministry** – Renee Miles. Not actively meeting.
- g. **Education** – Beth Laufenberg - Not actively meeting. Confirmation will be starting.
- h. **Worship team** – Pastor Anne Wickland – Met recently to plan services for September.
- i. **Policy Committee** – Steve Gilbert – Not meeting.

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

Staff Reports:

- a. **Pastor's Report** – Pastor Anne Wickland has been doing visits, worship, communion. She participated in the vigil held at the park for Will Tomlinson at who passed away recently. Pastor and Darlene Cutsforth provided a short service at Covenant House. Pastor Anne will be attending a conference meeting in Reedsburg.
- b. **Other Staff** – None.

Motion was made by Beth Laufenberg to approve staff reports. Seconded by Steve Gilbert. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Church/Parsonage: Hazard, Liability, & Workman's Comp Insurance - Discuss/Update

Beth, Larry Gorman, and Bob Risgaard are working with different providers to see what insurance company would be best.

Electrical system partial upgrade – Discuss/Approve

This item was discussed. We need to replace 2 fuse electrical boxes to circuit breakers for one of the insurance companies to even consider providing us coverage.

Motion was made by Pastor Anne Wickland to approve up to \$2500 to upgrade at least 2 of the fuse boxes to circuit breakers. Seconded by Lynn Bubolz. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Boiler Project – Update/Review/Approve

- a. **Donations/Fundraising update**
Beth Laufenberg gave council members a report of the current financial situation for the boiler.
- b. **Other Fundraising Ideas**
Tossed around some ideas.

Thanksgivings:

- Thanks to Beth Laufenberg for coordinating the float in the Rio Street Dance Parade. Additionally, thank you to all who help decorate the float and/or pass out candy and fliers during the parade.
- Thank you to Pastor Anne Wickland, Lauri Porter and Ben Brusveen who volunteered to sell peanuts at the Rio Street Dance.

Adjourn/Closing Prayer

Motion was made by Lynn Bubolz to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Seconded by Steve Gilbert. All were in favor. Motion carried. Closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Dates to Remember:

- Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser – Wed., August 20, 2025
- God's Work, Our Hands Sunday – Assemble School Kits: Sun., September 7, 2025
- Next Council Meeting – Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Debbie Reiersen
Council Secretary

October Birthdays

Julie Swiggum	Oct. 2
Renee Miles	Oct. 5
Ron Reiersen	Oct. 8
Tyler Walker	Oct. 8
Kevin Falk	Oct. 10
Alfred Nelson	Oct. 10
Bob Lang	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

[illegible]

On-Going Prayers

We continue to hold in prayer those who have requested ongoing prayer: Pastor Jerome Pribbenow; Pastor Jack Way; 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 Dilley (Cooper Husom's grandmother); Kay Meier (Susan Brusveen's sister); Knute Nelson (Susan Brusveen's brother); LeRoy Zimmerman (Helen Risgaard's brother-in-law); Dave and Grace 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.



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

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

Quilts: 33



School Kits: 131



Personal Care Kits: 5



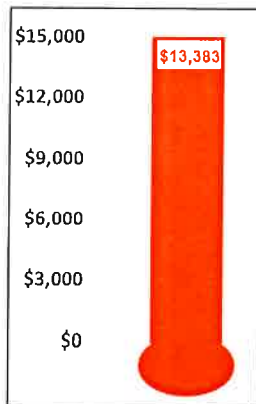


Are you interested in any of the positions below that will be voted on at the annual meeting in January? Please contact Pastor Anne, Beth Laufenberg, or Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock. We will be starting the nominating process soon.

Do you have questions on what the responsibilities are of any or all the positions? Please contact 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 9/30/2025, \$13,383 has been raised toward the \$15,000 fundraising/donations goal. We received \$138 from the Texas Roadhouse fundraiser. See the breakdown on the right of what has been received so far.

We are 89% of the way there. **We still need \$1,617 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	\$9,170
Easter Breakfast	\$1,400
Cobalt Glass, Woodworking, and Pew Sales	\$2,099
Culvers & Texas Roadhouse (including peanuts sales)	\$714
Total:	\$13,383

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 9/30/2025, \$30,750 has been paid to Paul's Heating and Cooling.

OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 6:00 pm- AA Meeting	3	4
5 9:00 Worship/Communion Amelia Maynard Baptism Facebook FM 101.7	6 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon 5:30 Bell Practice	7 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon Pastor's Hours 9:00 – 3:00	8 1:00 Senior Choir 7:00 Confirmation	9 6:00 pm- AA Meeting	10	11
12 9:00 Worship/Communion Facebook FM 101.7	13 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon 5:30 Bell Practice	14 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon Pastor's Hours 9:00 – 3:00	15 1:00 Senior Choir	16 6:00 pm- AA Meeting	17	18
19 9:00 Worship No Communion Facebook FM 101.7	20 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon 5:30 Bell Practice	21 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon Pastor's Hours 9:00 – 3:00	22 1:00 Senior Choir 7:00 Confirmation <i>November Newsletter Articles Due</i>	23 6:00 pm- AA Meeting	24	25
26 9:00 Worship/Communion Reformation Sunday Wear Red <i>Chili Cook-Off</i> Facebook FM 101.7	27 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon 5:30 Bell Practice	28 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon Pastor's Hours 9:00 – 3:00	29 1:00 Senior Choir	30 6:00 pm- AA Meeting	31	

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
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