



Redeemer Lutheran Church Newsletter

February, 2026

From Pastor Anne Wickland

Happy February everyone! I hope you all stayed warm and safe during the extremely cold days recently. This month our Lenten journey through the wilderness begins with our Ash Wednesday service on February **18th** at 7pm.

And throughout Lent our Wednesdays will be filled with fellowship, Bible study, and worship. We will have our Soup Suppers and Holden Evening Prayer like normal, but I will also be leading a Bible study. The Wednesday schedule will look like: **6pm-Soup supper, 6:15pm-Bible study, 7pm-Holden**. For those interested in joining the Bible study, this gives us enough time to get our food and then we'll meet at a table in the Fellowship Hall. You don't need to "sign up" for the Bible study, but if you are interested in attending, please let me or Kristi know! It's helpful to have a rough estimate when preparing.

Another new thing this Lent is that we will have a beautiful puzzle of Davinci's The Last Supper to work on as a congregation. Many thanks to Geri Gorman for donating this! We'll work on it the whole of Lent and once it's finished it will be framed and placed somewhere in the sanctuary or narthex.

Our theme for Lent is "Tell me something good: grounding ourselves in the Good News this Lent". We are using 'A Sanctified Art' for our worship services and sermon series, along with their Lenten devotionals during our Bible Study on Wednesday evenings. We previously used this resource for Advent in 2024 and we actually used their confession and forgiveness for Advent this year. Our weekly themes are, The Good News is...All are invited; So good it catches us by surprise; Great love for God and neighbor; Together, the impossible is possible; Protection and care for the vulnerable; and Rooted in justice, mercy, and faithfulness. If you would like to have a devotional printed for you, please let Kristi know! We also have a link for you to have the devotional on your phone or computer, which is <https://online.flippingbook.com/view/546389771/>. I look forward to this month and all of us growing together in our faith as we reflect on the Good News this Lenten season!

Blessings,
Pastor Anne

FROM A MEMBER

*and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted,
forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's
sake hath forgiven you. - Ephesians 4:32*

One thing I believe, all people should practice kindness. As I get older, I feel this is more important than ever!

During the most recent snow storm our neighbor girl, who is 12, trudged through the snow from across the road and brought us some of her mom's homemade chili for supper which Dale and I ate gratefully. Later that week Dale and I encountered a car in the ditch. We pulled over, stopped, checked on the passengers and finding only the driver, who was uninjured, we delivered him to his house.

We encountered kindness in two different directions that week. We received kindness from our 12-year-old neighbor and her mother and we extended kindness to the man caught in the ditch. Those two interactions allowed me to experience Jesus' command to love my neighbor as myself closer to home. Through those two situations Jesus gave me a nudge to show kindness more often. Maybe open a door for someone at a store, drive a shut-in to church, who otherwise couldn't attend, or maybe just call someone on the prayer list to see how they are doing. Through these examples Jesus is showing us that acts of caring and kindness are possible for everyone, whether receiving or giving.

The world today is very conflicted and my prayer, and I hope yours, is that our Lord and Savior keep us from being polluted by things that do not help us live our faith.

Kindness is definitely a gift and should not remain unused or unpracticed!

God's blessings,
Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025 – 10:00 A.M.

Approved Minutes – 1-13-2026

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

Absent: Treasurer: Austin Dahnke & **Trustee:** Lynn Bubolz. Both excused.

1) Meeting was called to order by President Beth Laufenberg at 10:05 a.m.

2) Approve Agenda

Motion was made by Ben Brusveen to approve the agenda. Seconded by Renee Miles. All were in favor.

Motion carried by voice vote.

3) Devotions were given by Beth Laufenberg. Lynn Bubolz will have devotions for Jan. 13, 2026.

4) Review/Approve Minutes from: Nov. 18, 2025 council meeting.

Motion was made by Pastor Anne Wickland to approve the Nov. 18, 2025 council meeting minutes. Seconded by Steve Gilbert. Motion carried by voice vote.

5) Correspondence and/or Guest Comments: None.

6) Financial Reports – Review/Approve

- a. **General Fund:** See report.
- b. **Bennett Mutual Fund:** See report.
- c. **Memorial Fund:** See report.

Motion was made by Debbie Reiersen to approve financial reports. Seconded by Renee Miles. Motion carried by voice vote.

7) Standing Committee Reports – Review/Approve:

- a. **Property**– See report.
- 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.
- h. **Worship team** – Pastor Anne Wickland – Met recently to plan upcoming services.
- i. **Policy Committee** – Steve Gilbert – Not meeting.

Motion was made by Debbie Reiersen to approve standing committee reports. Seconded by Pastor Anne Wickland. Motion carried by voice vote.

8) Staff Reports:

- a. **Pastor’s Report** – Pastor Anne Wickland written report provided.
- b. **Other Staff** – None.

Motion was made by Ben Brusveen to approve staff reports. Seconded by Renee Miles. Motion carried by voice vote.

9) Synod Payment – Discuss/Approve

Motion was made by Pastor Anne Wickland to send \$500 to Synod. Seconded by Debbie Reiersen. Motion carried by voice vote.

10) Draft 2026 Spending Plan/Budget – Discuss/Approve

Motion was made by Pastor Anne Wickland to approve the 2026 Spending Plan. Seconded by Renee Miles. Motion carried by voice vote.

11) Nominating Committee Update – Report provided.

12) Auditors – Discuss/Approve

Motion was made by Steve Gilbert to approve Nancy Washington and Lola Bortz to audit the church books. Seconded by Debbie Reiersen. Motion carried by voice vote.

13) Thanksgivings:

Thank you to Geri Gorman and all the choirs for their beautiful music at Redeemer on Music Sunday.

14) Adjourn/Closing Prayer

Motion was made by Steve Gilbert to adjourn the meeting at 10:29 a.m. Seconded by Ben Brusveen. Motion carried by voice vote. Closed with The Lord’s Prayer.

Dates to Remember:

- Music Sunday – December 21, 2025, 9:00 a.m.
- Christmas Eve service – Wednesday, December 24, 2025, 4:00 p.m.
- Next Council Meeting – January 13, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

Debbie Reiersen
Council Secretary

February Birthdays

Sandy Brewer	Feb. 5
Barb Nelson	Feb. 7
Lauri Porter	Feb. 12
Cooper Husom	Feb. 14
Lynn Bubolz	Feb. 17
Kurt Johnson	Feb. 18
Kelly Falk	Feb. 20
Timothy Jaynes	Feb. 25

February Anniversaries

Don & Nancy Washington	Feb. 16
Spencer & Nancy Wescott	Feb. 27

On-Going Prayers

We continue to hold in prayer those who have requested ongoing prayer: Clint Chadwick (Tom & Gayle Krueger's son-in-law); Nancy Drehmel; Justin Yonkie (relative of Helen Risgaard); June Bennett (friend of Barbara Nelson); Brian Von Ahsen (Barb Von Ahsen's son); Alfred & Barb Nelson; Nancy and Spencer Wescott; Pastor Jerome Pribbenow; Kim Huber Ross; Jane Roberts, Wayne and Norma Nelson; Janet Corning; 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); Dave Hinzman; Stacie Wheeler; Nancy Drehmel; April Landphier; Bob Adams; Bev Stankiewicz; Bob Strauss; Gloria Lang; Sue Pulver; Virginia Olson; Ken Wescott; and Raymond Endres.

FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 Worship/Communion Facebook FM 101.7	2 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon	3 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon Pastor's Hours 9:00 – 3:00	4 7:00 Confirmation	5 6:00 pm- AA Meeting	6	7
8 9:00 Worship/Communion Installation of Council Facebook FM 101.7	9 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon	10 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon Pastor's Hours 9:00 – 3:00	11 7:00 Confirmation	12 6:00 pm- AA Meeting	13	14
15 9:00 Worship/Communion Birthday Brunch Facebook FM 101.7	16 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon	17 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon Pastor's Hours 9:00 – 3:00 Council Meeting 6:00	18 Ash Wednesday Worship at 7:00 pm	19 6:00 pm- AA Meeting	20	21
22 9:00 Worship/Communion Facebook FM 101.7	23 Office Hours: 9:00 - Noon	24 Office Hours: 9:00 – Noon Pastor's Hours 9:00 – 3:00	25 Soup Supper 6:00 Bible Study 6:15 Worship 7:00 <i>March Newsletter Articles Due</i>	26 6:00 pm- AA Meeting	27	28

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

“To Live and tell the story of Jesus”

www.rioredeemerlutheran.org

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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
Kristi Fehrman (Secretary)	(608) 837-8144
Austin Dahnke (Treasurer)	(608) 408-0018
Rick Olson (Trustee)	(920) 992-5418
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