

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Redeemer Reader

December 2023

The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer is a community of diverse people called and guided by the Holy Spirit to nurture with God's love those within and beyond our congregation.

1515 Boundary Street
Newberry, SC 29108
Phone: (803) 276-2003
www.redeemernewberry.org



Office Hours
Monday – Thursday
9:00 am – 4:30 pm
Friday
Closed

Redeemer Lutheran Men in Mission News for December



The Redeemer Lutheran Men in Mission will travel to Shealy's BBQ on Tuesday, December 12. Plan to meet there at 7:00 pm. Please RSVP to Huger Caughman, Jr. by Sunday, December 10 if you plan to attend.

If you plan to join the Committee of 100, please do so by December 31 to be counted for 2023. If you have any questions, please contact Johnny Lindsay.

Redeemer WELCA News for December



Since GAP is having a fundraiser concert to feed the hungry, on Sunday, December 3, at 3:00 PM, at O'Neal Street United Methodist Church, WELCA will not be meeting.

This concert will be featuring two of our own - Kevin Dove and Huger Caughman, Jr.

An opportunity to say thank you! - On November 26th, we recognized the completion of Gayle Lindley's ministry as our Choir Director after 15 faithful years. On December 10, we will have a dinner in honor of her and her ministry in the Family Life Center. As a part of that thank-you we are collecting a love offering in Gayle's honor. You may donate at the dinner or please contact Nikki Chapman or the Church Office before that date.



Grace and peace to each of you as we enter full swing into the holiday season!

We remember (as difficult as it is at times), that this time of year ushers us into the new church year with the season of Advent. This season is where we celebrate and wait in expectant hope for God's in-breaking into the world as the Word made flesh. This moment is to remind ourselves that our God has come down to be with us – in all the weirdness that we are – fully and completely.

I'm not sure how often we recognize that this is where we begin with God. The church year begins with God coming to be with us. That's awesome, isn't it? God dwelling with us isn't a 'gift' or a 'prize' to be won after attaining certain marks. It isn't a 'final grade' that we seek to achieve by being 'good' in the eyes of others.

No, we start with God's presence with us in the person of Christ our Lord. That presence of God in Jesus is what drives us forward in this life of faith. Too often, I believe we think of God's presence with us only as a reward after we jump through a certain number of proverbial 'hoops' in life. Unfortunately, there are plenty of folks and flavors of faith that will attempt to drive that thought into our hearts and minds. Where God is only with us once we become right with God.

Yet, we hear and proclaim during the season of Advent about the one who has come down to be with us. Not because we are exceptionally good at living in faith. Not because we have done something extraordinary in our life, living up to God's commands. No, God comes to dwell with us because God simply loves us.

This is what God wants to do. God wants to be with us. God wants to be with you. Not because you've done something incredible, but because God loves you, which is how God shows us that love.

As we head into this season of Advent and Christmas, we begin with God's presence with us. That is where we start. That's pretty incredible, isn't it?

Remember always, in the midst of all the stress, busyness, and rush of this season in the world; remember that you are already good enough for God to be with you. You are good enough for Christ to dwell in your heart. Good enough already.

Grace and peace y'all! Happy Advent and a Merry Christmas!



Attendance	Sunday School	Online Views	10:30 am	Total Worship Attendance
November 5	20	127	75	202
November 12	21	89	70	159
November 19	14	97	75	172
November 26	32	98	88	186
Average	22	103	77	180

ELCA GOOD GIFTS TREE



Beginning on December 3 and throughout the seasons of Advent and Christmas, we will have our Good Gifts Tree where you can purchase needed items for people and communities in need from around the world.

November Offerings: November 05 - \$4,286.22
 November 12 - \$7,007.41
 November 19 - \$3,614.98
 November 26 - \$8,827.24

Helping in December

God's Abundance for All People

Help us feed families this holiday season!

**Feed Thy Neighbor
Kitchen
Benefit Concert**

Showcasing
**Janet Hopkins, soprano
Armen Shaomian, piano**
and community talent --
voice, guitar, keyboard, flute,
and more.

**3:00 p.m. December 3
with reception following**

**O'Neal Street UMC
501 O'Neal Street, Newberry**

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat." Matthew 25:35



Donate small turkeys or hams to GAAP so we can provide holiday meal boxes to those in need.
 #HolidayGiving
 #GivingTuesday&Beyond

Turn Donations in by
 Dec. 10

Prayer Shawl Ministry meets in the Church library each 2nd and 4th Tuesday beginning at 10:00 am. New members are invited to join this group of knitters to make baby caps and prayer shawls. For more information contact Deryll Satterwhite or Gayle Lindley.

The Prayer & Care Card Class meets on Monday afternoons from 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm in the Fesperman Classroom (Room 212) upstairs in the Educational Building. They meet every Monday afternoon unless the Church Office is closed. Everyone is welcome to come and join us for some creative card making. No experience required.

Manna House



You can always donate food to Manna House by placing those items in the shopping cart in the narthex or outside the church office. Thank you! Redeemer will be volunteering at Manna House on the following days:



Music Notes

Thank you to all who supported our Musical Showcase and Banquet on Sunday, November 12. We were able to raise over \$1,200 to support our music ministry here at Redeemer.

We give thanks to Gayle Lindley and her 15+ years of musical leadership as our choir director. Gayle has retired from her director role, but will be shifting roles to playing handbells and singing with the Senior Choir.

Nicholas Shumate began his role as choir director on Wednesday, November 29. Nicholas is a graduate of Limestone College (BA in Music Education with a concentration in Choral/Vocal music education) and Winthrop University (MMus in Choral Conducting). Nicholas is the choral director at Chapin High School.

If you would like to contribute to the Music Ministry or Choral Scholar program, please make sure to mark those donations on your contribution envelope or contact the church office. If you are interested in joining the Handbell Choir or Senior Choir, please contact Gayle or Huger.

Do you play a brass instrument? Are you interested in participating in a brass ensemble at Redeemer? If so, please contact Huger for more information.

Church Offering - Every person at Redeemer is encouraged to give as they are able. Your offering helps make ministry happen not only in and through the community of faith at Redeemer, but throughout the SC Synod and Churchwide through the ELCA. If you are able, you may place your offering in the plate each Sunday morning or you are welcome to use the online giving option on our church website:

www.redeemernewberry.org/give

TREASURER'S REPORT OCTOBER 2023

Summary Treasurer's report for Oct 2023

To meet the monthly Ministry Spending Plan we need: \$27,408.00

For Oct - Income: \$ 32,344.94

For Oct - General expenses: \$ 24,112.42

For Oct - Income is more than expenses by: \$ 8,232.52

2023 YTD Income: \$ 224,443.64

2023 YTD General Expenses: \$ 238,106.28

2023 YTD Income is less than expenses by: \$ (13,662.64)

A detailed treasurer's report is available in the Church office during regular office hours.

Altar Flowers

December 3 - Ernie Shealy

December 10 - Angela Reid

December 17 - Kathy Riggin

December 24 - Caughman Family

December 31 - Annette & Bob Belcher

***If you would like to sign up for
any of those dates, please notify***

Wedding Anniversaries

December 11 - Jason & Nikki Bruce

December 13 - Stephen & Lauren Flynn

December 19 - Les & Beth Hipp

December 20 - Bill & Karen Krouse

December 21 - Chad & Lynn Cary

December 23 - John & Laurie Hammond

These dates are according to our church records. If
corrections need to be made, please notify the
church office.**

Christian Sympathy is expressed to the family of Diane DeZemler Mistele, mother of Michelle Long, and grandmother of Madeleine, Amelia and Griffin Long.



Prayer Concerns

Redeemer Members: Georgette Livingston, Debra Metts, Lloyd Layman, Carolyn Cromer, Mary Lou Weir, Cindy Mills, Ann Stone.

Extended Parish Family: Maxine Koon, cousin of Debra Metts; Kent and Mary Beth Richardson, cousins of Debra Metts; Reese Burdette, great-niece of Ernie Shealy; Danny Burden, friend of Jessica Draeger; Tom Phair, friend of June Seymour; Jackie Perry, friend of Ann Stone; Terri McMurtry, niece of Debra Metts, Mia Stabile and family, great-niece and family of Ann Jacobs, Walter Jacobs, and Susan Jacobs Thomasson; Kerry Frick, friend of Ann Stone and Deedee Westwood; Dean Wise, friend of the Caughman family; Stan Lathren.

If you have updates to the prayer list, please notify the church office.

GAAP - God's Abundance for All People is open to all in need from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm each Saturday at O'Neal Street UMC. GAAP is a free clothing and food pantry which also provides a meal (beginning at 11:00 am). Please contact Kevin Dove or the church office for more information.

The Community at Redeemer gathers to help at GAAP on December 16.

Happy Birthday!



12/3	Jeff Debacker	12/20	Sandy Fretwell	12/28	Will Hawkins
12/3	Zoe Reid	12/21	Tom Gilson	12/29	Karen Summer
12/4	Linda Renwick	12/21	Debra Metts	12/29	Lane Joiner
12/6	Paul Fesperman	12/22	Luke Layman	12/30	Margaret Chapman
12/7	John Green	12/22	Summers Binnicker	12/30	Chuck Minick
12/10	Lloyd Layman	12/23	Becky Moody	12/31	Ellis Kemper
12/10	Jaina Richardson	12/24	Elaine Cornwell		
12/12	Bobby Willingham Jr.	12/25	Kathy Riggin		
12/13	Griffin Long	12/25	Anna Newell		
12/14	Hogan Miller	12/25	Katerina Koon		
12/15	Michael Reid	12/26	Carol Gilson		
12/16	Jenny Chapman	12/26	Huger Caughman Jr.		
12/17	Dale Brown	12/27	Matthew Loignon		
12/17	Anna Christina Cary	12/28	John Bodie		
12/19	Clyde Miller	12/28	Curtis Haltiwanger		

****These dates are according to our church records. If there are any errors or omissions, please notify the church office.**

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
CONGREGATION COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS
OCTOBER 18, 2023

5:45 Devotions

Business Meeting 6:00 PM

Call to Order

Welcome

Members Present – Pastor Matt Titus, Nikki Chapman, Chelsea Ellisor, Faith Felix, Huger Caughman, Kristin Caughman, Dr. John Green, Annette Belcher, Kathy Riggan

Members present on Zoom – Mary Alex Kopp, Arlo Hill, Ben Bowers, Chad Cary

Reports

Pastor – Pastor Matt – Talked with 3 couples who would like to join the church. Will be attending the Rostered Leaders Convocation at Lutheridge from October 24-26.

1853 Committee – Chad Cary; Faith Formation, Arlo Hill; Endowment Committee – Bob Montgomery; Property Committee – Huger Caughman, Sr. – No report.

Community Compassion – Chelsea Ellisor, planning White Oak Manor’s birthday party.

Family and Social Fellowship – Kathy Riggan – helped with Homecoming and having an upcoming meeting to plan something for end of year and first part of year.

Finance Committee/Treasurer – Dr. John Green – September 2023 – in the negative by \$7,796.90.

For the year 2023 – in the negative by \$21,895.16. 3 separate votes were made by Congregation Council regarding the upcoming year/new budget. Vote 1: Love offering – motion made by Kristin Caughman and seconded by Huger Caughman, Sr. All in favor except Pastor Matt who abstained. Vote 2: Moving forward with budget option 2 – Motion made by Annette Belcher and seconded by Ben Bowers. All in favor except Pastor Matt who abstained.

Vote 3: Negotiations begin with Shumate to start in November/ be willing to go up to \$25,000 for salary – Motion made by Kristin Caughman and seconded by Mary Alex Kopp. All in favor except Pastor Matt who abstained.

Stewardship Committee— Ben Bowers – Stewardship for All Seasons plans to kick-off in January. February 11th to be the kick-off Sunday.

Worship and Music – Mary Alex Kopp - - Family Day at the Winery October 29th from 3-5pm. Newberry College Singers will also be performing at church at 7pm.

Youth – Faith Felix Liaison – The Youth Hall renovations are well under way

Staff – Annette Belcher – Need to think about how to get a replacement for Woody.

President – Nikki Chapman – Thank you cards have been sent to several members. Working on Stewardship campaigns with Pastor Matt and Ben Bowers. 2 temple talks have been made regarding music and the Youth. Reformation Sunday will have the 3rd temple talk regarding our church.

Minutes from Previous Meeting – Chelsea Ellisor – Approved.

Old Business

Roof Information – section fixed above the St John’s room. Working on getting the gutters fixed.

New Business:

A. Members we would like to invite to serve on Council for 2024

B. Nominating Committee: Robbie Kopp, Gretchen Haskett, Beth Hipp, Mary Maercklein, & Ernie

C. Annual Meeting - November 12

Executive Session

Next Council Meeting will be November 20th in the Church Library/Zoom

Adjournment –

The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer
1515 Boundary Street
Newberry, South Carolina 29108

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NEWBERRY, SC

The Redeemer Directory

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Nicholas Shumate, Sr. Choir Director
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Dr. Huger P. Caughman, Jr., Music
Director and Organist
organist@redeemernewberry.org

All Members:
Ministers in Worship and Daily Life
Jeffrey Truscott, Missionary - Japan

The next Redeemer Reader deadline is
December 21, 2023. Please send submissions
to dprice@redeemernewberry.org