

# THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Redeemer Reader

**March 2024**

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 March

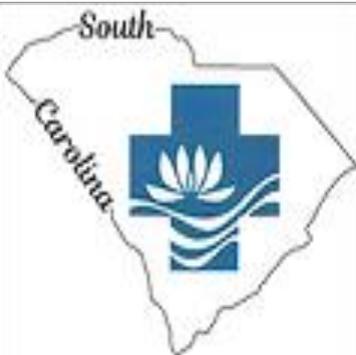


Redeemer's Lutheran Men in Mission will meet on Tuesday, March 12 at 7:00 pm at Steelhorse Smokehouse (1506 Main Street). If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Huger, Jr. by Sunday, March 10. All men and boys are invited to attend.

Matt Bowers and Huger Caughman, Jr. attended the annual SC Lutheran Men in Mission Convention on Saturday, February 17 at St. James, Summit (Leesville). Redeemer was once again awarded an Outstanding Unit Award. We are also the third largest contributor in SC to the Committee of 100.

**AMEN FOR LUTHERAN MEN!!**

## Redeemer WELCA News for March



WELCA will meet on Sunday, March 3d, in the church library at 3:45 PM for its business meeting. At 4:00 we will be looking at Chapter 3 in our Love Stories of the Bible. This chapter is about Adam and Eve. All women and friends of the congregation are invited to attend.

Congratulations to Aubrey Guyton who was honored on BOLD Women's Sunday with a South Carolina Women of the ELCA Honorary Life Recognition. Aubrey received this for her dedicated work with the children and youth of the Lutheran Church of The Redeemer and the Newberry Community.

Grace and peace to each of you this month! We enter into March and hit the ground running, don't we? We will journey through the bulk of Lent and into Easter (Easter Sunday is March 31st).

As I think about where we've been and where we will go as a community of faith this month and year, knowing the stories of our faith continues to be squarely on my mind.

As most of y'all know, we have been moving through the Narrative Lectionary, which – if you discuss it with your friends after services on Sundays – is different than what other Lutheran churches are doing. We get to enter into the story of faith from Genesis, through the prophets, into the story of Jesus, and the work of the Apostles. We get to see where we are a part of this story and how we can continue to know this story of faith more deeply and intimately. It is truly a blessing for us to walk through the stories of our faith each year.

As I've been teaching at Newberry College at the end of last semester and throughout this semester, I'm struck by how little we know about these stories. There has been quite a lot that I didn't even remember. I had a conversation with one of my students who was a bit bummed because, as she stated, 'I've gone to church all my life, and I feel like I don't know any of this.' I assured her that she was not alone in that thought. There are a lot of faithful folks who don't know these stories very well.

So, what a perfect opportunity during this season of Lent to read into these stories that we might not know much about. Do you remember the story of Judge Ehad? How did the prophet Elisha deal with some kids who were bullying him? Has God only spoken through people (no, God has not...)? Do you remember what Moses made those who worshipped the golden lamb do before they continued their wandering in the wilderness? There are so many exciting stories about our faith.

Then, when we read these stories, it makes us wonder why those stories might have been written – who was that initial audience, what was the author hoping to convey to their people, and how do we fit into that story as well? Of course, some of these stories are not the easiest to digest. Some can be confusing; many are long and appear daunting to read. One of the best resources I've come across that helps give context and guidance into how we read scripture is the Bible Project. A series of videos that help summarize, share highlights, and touch on themes within scripture. You can check it out at [bibleproject.com](http://bibleproject.com).

Lent provides us with many opportunities to sit, pause, and reflect on this story of faith we are part of. May each of us dive into these stories, learn more about our faith, and be invited into deep conversations with one another about how we all fit into this grand story that God has placed us in!

Thanks for being y'all, y'all. God loves you and so do I!



Attendance	Sunday School	Online Views	10:30 am	Total Worship Attendance	Lenten Service
February 4	19	99	75	174	
February 11	13	127	65	195	
Ash Wednesday			57	57	
February 18	17	100	84	184	26
February 25	28	132	80	212	36
Total	77	458	304	765	

February Offerings:      February 04 - \$10,646.26  
    February 11 - \$6,605.78  
    February 18 - \$4,734.06  
    February 25 - \$3,052.89

**Calling all Singers and Handbell Players.** If you have an interest in joining either the Senior Choir or Handbell Choir, please contact Nicholas Shumate, Senior Choir & Handbell Director, for more details. This is a great time to come and check out what we are all about!

Nicholas Shumate-(803) 448-7361 or [nshumate@redeemernewberry.org](mailto:nshumate@redeemernewberry.org)

Handbell Choir-Wednesdays 6:00 pm-7:00 pm

Senior Choir-Wednesdays 7:00 pm-8:00 pm

**There are times** that Pastor Matt and Donna both have to be away from the office at the same time. So as not to leave the office unattended, we are asking for volunteers that will answer the phone and take messages during these times. If you are available and can help out, please let Donna know.

**Flower Chart** - The 2024 Flower Chart is in the Narthex. Members and friends are encouraged to sign up for a Sunday. You may sign up on the chart or contact the church office to reserve a particular date.

**HELP NEEDED!** Help is needed with the audio/visual operations. If you are able to assist with this, please contact the church office or Annette Belcher.

**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; dates will be announced soon.

### **Bob Montgomery**

The Endowment Committee of The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer would like to recognize and thank you for all of your hard work; your leadership; your thoroughness; your knowledge; and your willingness to serve as chairman for the past five years.

With your leadership in the development of endowment by-laws, investment policies, and distribution policies, the Endowment for Mission has become a reality, and should endure for generations to come.

### **Vickie Wiseman**

The Endowment Committee of The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer would like to thank you for your services as Secretary and Treasurer of the Endowment Committee these past five years. You have done an exemplary job in dealing with committee matters, and with dealing with grant applicants. You have been so helpful to many people in this community. Your hard work has been appreciated by this committee.

*Thank  
You*

Dear Lutheran Church of The Redeemer Congregation,  
Thank you so very much for the cards, text messages, call and most importantly the prayers during my surgery and the passing of my grandmother. I am so blessed to have you all in my Christian family. Each of you gave me such love and strength during this time and I am so thankful for you.

Sincerely, Nikki Chapman

## TREASURER'S REPORT JANUARY 2024

Summary Treasurer's report for Jan. 2024

<u>To meet the monthly Ministry Spending Plan we need:</u>		\$28,810.00
For Jan. - Income:	\$	30,532.20
For Jan. - General expenses:	\$	<u>26,098.78</u>
For Jan.- Income is more than expenses by:	\$	4,433.42
2024 YTD Income:	\$	30,532.20
2024 YTD General Expenses:	\$	<u>26,098.78</u>
2024 YTD Income is more than expenses by:	\$	4,433.42

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

### Altar Flowers

March 3 - LENT  
March 10 - LENT  
March 17 - LENT  
March 24 - LENT  
March 31 - Denise Reid

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

### Wedding Anniversaries

March 5 - Nick & Claire Grosshuesch  
March 6 - Adam & Alexis Lockyer  
March 18 - George & Donna Franklin  
March 18 - Von & Kathy Dennis  
March 22 - Tommy & Helen Fellers  
March 25 - Joshua & Mary Nance Joseph  
March 31 - RJ & Casey Dowd

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

**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](http://www.redeemernewberry.org/give)

**Easter is the season** where we recognize and celebrate the Resurrection. Traditionally, we offer the option to purchase Easter Lilies to adorn our church on Easter Sunday. They will be available this year at a cost of \$15.00 per plant. However, if you want to contribute in other ways, please remember the other ministries of our church, most recently highlighted in our Stewardship campaign. Special donations to these areas can also be included in our Easter gifts folder which is included in the Easter bulletin. Some of these areas that were highlighted include: Music Program, Choral Scholar Program, Youth Program, Property Maintenance Program, and many other areas.



### 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; Jackie Perry, friend of Ann Stone; Terri McMurtury, 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; James Hunter, friend of Jane Moose.

*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).

Redeemer has been helping GAAP quite a bit on the THIRD Saturday of each month, you are all welcome to come volunteer every Saturday, but especially SATURDAY, March 16, don't hesitate to get in touch with Kevin Dove or the church office for more information.

## *Happy Birthday!*



3/1 Austin Longshore	3/14 Zarek Reid	3/29 Michelle Long
3/1 Colson Cooper	3/18 Christy West	3/30 Davy Wilson III
3/1 Huger Caughman Sr.	3/18 Erin Derrick	3/31 Tessie Bannister
3/1 Polly Davis	3/19 Andrew Cousins	
3/4 Christie Whitaker	3/19 Steve Sligh	
3/7 "Sis" Williamson	3/20 Kerry Stubbs	
3/7 Mike Mature	3/20 Renee Stubbs	
3/10 Benji Westwood	3/22 Erin Titus	
3/10 Helen Fellers	3/22 Mitchell Lewis Jr.	
3/10 Stevie Sligh III	3/23 Joshua Joseph	
3/12 Sybil Cousins	3/24 Grace Lindsay	
3/13 'Tres' Newell III	3/27 Arlo Hill	**These dates are according to our church records. If there are any errors or omissions, please notify the church office.
3/13 Andy Sidden	3/27 CJ Clary	
3/13 Miles Hawkins Jr.	3/28 Justin Felix	
3/13 Ronnie Dickert Sr.	3/28 MaryAlex Kopp	

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER  
CONGREGATION COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS  
FEBRUARY, 2024

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5:45 Devotions

Business Meeting 6:00 PM

**Call to Order**

Welcome

Members Present: Paster Matt Titus, Annette Belcher, Dr. John Green, Ben Bowers, Walter Jacobs, Denise Reid, Huger Caughman Sr., Jerry Haltiwanger, Kristin Caughman and Gretchen Haskett.

Members on Zoom: Faith Felix, Kathy Riggin, and Chad Cary.

**Reports**

Pastor's Report – Pastor Matt: Need to point out that Newberry College has asked current adjunct pastors to continue through fall 2025.

There were a few questions from the council regarding adjunct position.

Pastor Matt has not confirmed with the college about future semesters.

Positive response to the Stewardship Campaign

Thank you, response letters will go out soon.

Received 35 commitment cards = pledge increase of \$40,000.

No report from Community Compassion – Denise Reid, liaison; Endowment Committee Dr. Elmer Long, chairman; Faith Formation – Walter Jacobs, liaison; Stewardship – Jerry Haltiwanger, liaison; 1853 Committee—Chad Cary, liaison;

Family and Social – Kathy Riggin, liaison: email; have helped with several meals and continue through Lent.

Finance Committee /Treasurer's Report – Dr. John Green, liaison and chairman: – added \$2,400 to general and \$2,000 to maintenance budgets.

The Constitution states to provide a written report of all transactions to the council. This was recently realized, and we want to ensure the council gets the desired material.

Discussion highlighting the council's desire not to have a detailed report of all transactions.

The current report method to the council each month is appropriate.

Note: Change needed to the Constitution. This is a goal for this year's council.

Property Committee – Huger Caughman, Sr., liaison: emailed report.

Question: Is the roof going to fall in? Was work completed from the last repair?

Still working to fix leaks in the roof. As we fix one area, problems shift to new locations.

Testing tiles, but underlayment still seems to be the significant issue.

Worship and Music – Kristin Caughman, liaison: report emailed.

Youth – Faith Felix, liaison: report emailed and stressed helping Aubrey.

President's Report – Ben Bowers: report emailed.

Minutes from January Meeting- Gretchen Haskett: Will email the council immediately following the meeting. Will make sure to email out before meeting so approval can occur.

**Old Business**

Committee Night Report

Nice evening with dinner and discussion. Ben has a list of all the individuals serving on each committee. Learned we might need to consolidate how to define and explain committees.

Administrative Assistant Position

The committee has met and is working to finalize details of this position.

Church Cleaning Services Update

Positive start for our new cleaning service

Executive Session

Motion: Huger Caughman Sr. 2nd: Walter Jacobs. Move into Executive Session.

Motion: Huger Caughman Sr. 2nd: Walter Jacobs. Move out of Executive Session.

**Adjournment and Lord's Prayer**

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

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**The Redeemer Directory**

The Rev. Matthew Titus, Pastor  
*pastor@redeemernewberry.org*

Aubrey Guyton, Youth Director  
*youth@redeemernewberry.org*

Donna Price, Administrative Assistant  
*info@redeemernewberry.org*

Woody Cornwell, Bookkeeper  
*finance@redeemernewberry.org*

Nicholas Todd Shumate,  
Sr. Choir Director  
*music@redeemernewberry.org*

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  
March 18, 2024. Please send submissions to  
*dprice@redeemernewberry.org*