



# THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Redeemer Reader · October 2025

## ..... A Note from Pastor Matt .....

Grace and peace to each of you as we make our way into the month of October!

Over the last few weeks and months, I've run into something that saddens me: people who claim to be "more faithful" or who think they "know better" in their service to God than others. Not here at Redeemer, mind you—but in conversations and communities outside of our own.

I've seen it in churches arguing, in strange calls to the office, and even on TikTok with endless "rapture countdowns." (By the way, I've personally survived about 70 end-of-the-world predictions since birth!) What all of these have in common is a spirit that says: "If you don't believe exactly as I do, you're not part of God's family."

On the one hand, I respect the zeal. It's good to be passionate about faith. But on the other hand, it breaks my heart when that passion becomes a wedge that divides people.

Here's the truth: there will always be disagreements—about how we read Scripture, how we shape ministry, or even about where we see God at work in the world. But disagreements don't have to make us 'enemies' who seek to destroy one another. To me, that is the antithesis of what Jesus has called us to live into.

I recently came across a quote attributed to Tupac Shakur: "Just because you lost me as a friend doesn't mean you gained me as an enemy. I'm bigger than that—I still want to see you eat, just not at my table." What wisdom! Disagreeing doesn't mean burning bridges or destroying one another. We can still wish others well, still pray for their good, and still advocate for care—even if we're no longer walking side by side.

That, to me, is the radical grace of God in Christ. A love that refuses to divide the world into winners and losers. A love that calls us to care for one another, even when we don't see eye to eye.

So may we, here at Redeemer, keep lifting one another up. May we advocate for care and compassion, even when we disagree. And may our love reflect the love of Christ—the kind of love the world so desperately needs.

Grace and peace, y'all.

## ..... Member Updates .....

*Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Austin Westwood on their recent marriage! A joyous and memorable ceremony was held on Saturday, September 20, 2025, with family and friends at Chateau Amelia in Cross Hill, SC. The couple will reside in Easley, SC. Austin is the son of Benji and Deedee Westwood, and his bride, Cheyenne, is the daughter of Tim and Melissa Hollaway.*

### **Remember these special members**

*with a visit, a card, or a telephone call*

At Home: Sybil Cousins, Carolyn Cromer, Ann Felker, Elizabeth Willingham,  
Carol Montgomery, Carolyn Hammond

The Heritage at Lowman: Georgette Livingston

Springfield Place: Lloyd Layman, Elizabeth Rodelsperger

IF Hawkins: Margaret Chapman, Mary Lou Weir

**If you know of, or have a pastoral care need such as an illness, hospitalization, or upcoming surgery, please contact the church office.**

## ..... Stewardship Snippet .....

*Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. - Matthew 6:21*

Do you remember? This line is quite popular because of the Earth, Wind, and Fire hit *September*.

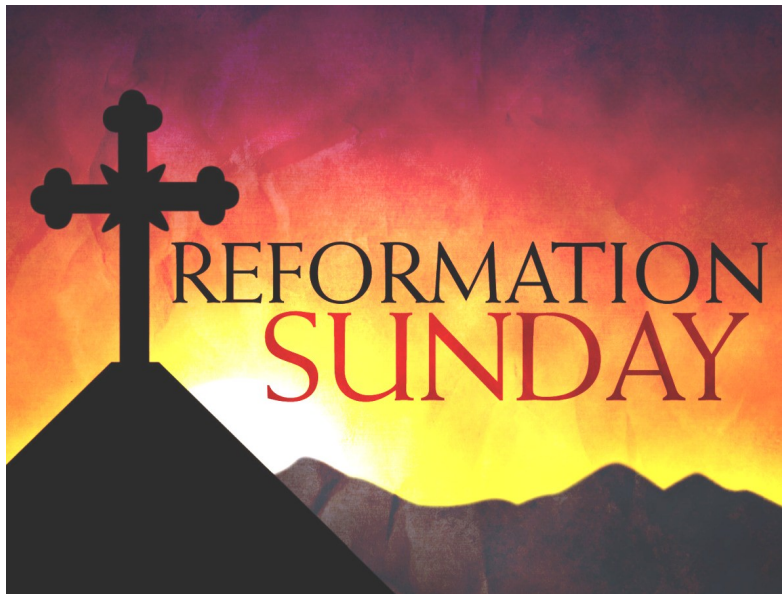
Do you remember a moment this past year where you were moved to tears during worship?

Do you remember a time you volunteered with our church or with another group and found that you were the one being served the most even though you came to serve?

Do you remember a time in which you were suffering heartache and members of our church or community came to offer support and love?

Ministry does not happen in a vacuum. It takes everyone doing every part to make things happen, to change lives, and to share the gospel message. During this last quarter of 2025, think about how you can share of your time, talent, and resources to help carry forth our mission and ministries here at Redeemer. Invite someone to join us for worship. Invite someone to Sunday School. Invite someone to one of our fellowship events. God is calling us together to proclaim the good news and to grow in faith, love, and charity. Do you remember?

..... Fellowship .....



**Reformation Sunday, October 26th - join us for a luncheon after service in the Family Life Center and help us celebrate Pastor Matt and his family in recognition of their 10 year anniversary with Redeemer! Lunch will be catered. All are invited!**

..... Evangelism Emphasis .....

The Evangelism Committee will meet on Monday, October 13 at 6:00pm in the church library. If you are interested in helping with Evangelism projects and outreach ministries of our congregation, please plan to attend this meeting.

..... Property Points .....

The Property Committee continues to work around our church campus to make improvements and upgrades. Recently, we have upgraded our computer system in the office, cleaned grates for water drainage around our campus, replaced the sump pump in the boiler room under the church, replaced the thermostats in the water heater in the Family Life Center on the bathroom end, and are working to clean up some of the shrubbery beds around the campus.

We continue to gather information about our roofing project on the church. As we know more about it, we will share that information. If you want to contribute to this project, please make a note on your offering envelope.

## **The Redeemer Lutheran Men in Mission -**

The Heartland Conference Committee of 100 banquet will be Tuesday, October 7 at Grace Lutheran Church in Prosperity. The meal will consist of fried cubed pork, green beans, rice and gravy, slaw, rolls, dessert, and beverage. The cost is \$15. If you would like to attend, please contact Johnny Merck (text or call (803) 924-1945 or email johnnymerck@gmail.com)

Redeemer Lutheran Men in Mission will meet Tuesday, October 14 at 7:00pm in the Family Life Center. Tommy Fellers and John Green are the head chefs. All men and boys are invited to attend.

If you plan to join the Committee of 100 for 2025, please submit those forms and money to Kevin Wicker. Forms are available in the narthex. For more information, please contact Johnny Lindsay.

**AMEN FOR LUTHERAN MEN!!**



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Women<sup>of the</sup>ELCA 

**Redeemer WELCA News** - Redeemer WELCA hosted the Fall WELCA Heartland Conference on September 7th. The meeting was held in the FLC at 3:00pm with 25 in attendance. There were both greetings from the Heartland Conference and Redeemer. The purpose of this meeting was mainly to conduct business. Sarah Cheesman, Conference Leader, led that portion of the meeting. Under Old Business, WELCA Board Members were introduced and an update of the convention was given. During New Business, officers for the Heartland Conference were elected. Those elected will serve a two year term - Coordinator, Sarah Cheesman - Secretary/Roll Call, Janet Ballentine - Financial Secretary, Cathy Meetze. These officers were all installed. Following the meeting, Redeemer WELCA provided refreshments for those present.

In October, WELCA will meet Sunday, October 5th at 3:45pm in the church library for its business meeting. Then at 4:00pm, Erin Titus will be presenting her favorite hymns from Then Sings My Soul, Book 2. All women and friends of the congregation are invited to attend.

SC WELCA Convention Project - Redeemer WELCA chose as its convention project the Newberry College Nursing Scholarship Fund. Instead of sending the money to the convention, we sent it directly to the college. WELCA is proud to announce that with your support, we collected \$600.00 in donations for the scholarship. How proud we should be of this accomplishment! Thank you for your continued support of WELCA and its projects.

## ..... Thank You .....

Dear Pastor Matthew,  
On behalf of the Christian families of Bethlehem in the Holy Land, we want to thank you for having us at your church and for supporting Bethlehem Christians during this very difficult time. We really enjoyed being with you and were impressed by the interest of your church members. *Please thank every one of them on our behalf.*  
Yours in Jesus, Dr. George Ghanem  
[www.hlcsc.org](http://www.hlcsc.org)



## ..... Confirmation .....

All those in SIXTH grade and up who have not completed Confirmation requirements are encouraged to attend. This year we will hear, learn, and grow into the stories of our faith as we move through the Old Testament.  
The fun continues in the Youth Hall.

October 12	December 7	February 8	April 12
October 26	December 14	February 22	April 26
November 9	January 11	March 8	
November 23	January 25	March 22	



## ..... Youth Events .....

**October 5** - SC Faith • **October 12** - Confirmation & Youth Group  
**October 19** - Marty Party (Lutheran Statewide Event)

**October 25** - Trunk or Treat • **October 26** - Confirmation & Youth Group

If you have any questions about upcoming events or would like to help with an event, please let Aubrey know!

## ..... Christian Education Corner .....

Join us as we grow in faith on Sunday mornings beginning at 9:30 am.

**Nursery** - Room 133 • **Children** - Rooms 134 & 135 • **Youth** - Youth Hall

**R&R Rest & Refuel** - Montessori style class • **Prayer in Color**

**The Gathering** - Room 141 - Currently studying "What is Sin?"

**The Men's Bible Class** - Room 142

**S.P.I.R.I.T. - Seeking Presence In Relationships, Identity, and Truth** - Room 225/226

If you feel called to help teach or lead Sunday School or want to start a new class, please contact Erin Titus, chairperson

Are you interested in Bible Study at a time other than Sunday morning? If so, what topics interest you? Please sign-up by contacting the church office



..... Celebrations .....

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

01 - Ryan & Shannon Lindsay  
 04 - Marty & Donna White  
 08 - John & Mary Sue Green  
 09 - Sabin & Christy West

17 - Kevin & Alanna Boozer  
 20 - Robbie & Mary Alex Kopp  
 29 - Brad & Lane Joiner

**BIRTHDAYS**

01 - Danielle Connelly  
 02 - John Wessinger  
 03 - Hunter Riggin  
 05 - Bob Hawkins, Jr.  
 05 - Cameron McRacken  
 08 - Clint Harshaw  
 09 - Trey Dowd  
 09 - Wyatt Hazel  
 09 - Rick Livingston

10 - Kevin Boozer  
 12 - Philip Livingston  
 13 - William Binnicker III  
 15 - Emma Hymes  
 16 - Jeremy Tyson  
 17 - Kathy Livingston  
 19 - Beckett Miller  
 21 - Palmer Kopp  
 22 - Jonathan Irons

22 - Brad Pitts  
 23 - Madeleine Long  
 24 - Kevin Dove  
 24 - Asha Isabella Kaikini  
 26 - Laura Dominick  
 26 - Chris Jay  
 27 - Nikki Bruce  
 30 - Shayne Harris  
 30 - Denise Reid

..... Financial Facts .....

Attendance	Sunday School	Worship	Online Views	Total Worship Attendance	Offerings Received
September 7	18	79	104	183	\$5,198.55
September 14	20	61	120	181	\$5,457.80
September 21	24	82	151	236	\$6,789.71
September 28	23	80	124	204	\$9,173.37
Average	21	75	124	201	\$6,654.85

**Summary Treasurer's report for August 2025**

To meet the monthly Ministry Spending Plan we need: \$ 30,794.00

Income: \$ 18,703.41

General expenses: \$ 36,798.45

Income is less than expenses by: \$ 18,095.04

2025 YTD Income: \$183,459.22

2025 YTD General Expenses: \$218,640.61

**2025 YTD Income is *less* than expenses by: *-\$35,181.39***

**ONLINE CHURCH OFFERING OPTION: [WWW.REDEEMERNEWBERRY.ORG/GIVE](http://WWW.REDEEMERNEWBERRY.ORG/GIVE)**

## ..... Worship Volunteers .....

### *Ushers*

1st Sunday - Chad Cary, Norris Long, Zeb Reid, Dennis Caughman  
2nd Sunday - Susan Thomasson, Walter Jacobs, Justin Guy, Dennis Caughman  
3rd Sunday - Tommy Fellers, Joey Nicosia, Aubrey Guyton, Dennis Caughman  
4th Sunday - Elmer Long, Mack Garner, Robert Kneece, Dennis Caughman  
5th Sunday - Kathy Riffin, Nikki Chapman, Doggett Whitaker, Dennis Caughman

### *Communion Prep*

October 05 - Lynn Cary  
October 12 - Kathy Lindsay  
October 19 - Rachel & Nick Manos  
October 26 - Ann Jacobs &  
Susan Thomasson

### *Altar Flowers*

October 05 - available  
October 12 - Mary Sue & John Green  
October 19 - Mary Alex & Robbie Kopp  
October 26 - Derryl Satterwhite

### *Worship Assistant*

October 05 - Anne Caughman  
October 12 - Mary Alex Kopp  
October 19 - Alanna Boozer  
October 26 - Ernie Shealy

### *Acolyte and Crucifer*

October 05 - Zoe Reid/Elin Cary  
October 12 - Griffin Long/Ashleigh Titus  
October 19 - Henry Chapman/Lendy Miller  
October 26 - Thomas Boozer/Levi Richardson

## ..... Readings .....

October 05 - Exodus 16:1-18; John 6:51  
October 12 - 1 Samuel 3:1-21; John 20:21-23  
October 19 - 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 51:10-14; John 7:24  
October 26 - 1 Kings 5:1-5, 8:1-13; John 2:19-21

## ..... The Redeemer Directory .....

The Rev. Matthew Titus, Pastor, [pastor@redeemernewberry.org](mailto:pastor@redeemernewberry.org)  
Dr. Huger P. Caughman, Jr., Music Director & Organist, [organist@redeemernewberry.org](mailto:organist@redeemernewberry.org)  
Nicholas Todd Shumate, Choir Director, [music@redeemernewberry.org](mailto:music@redeemernewberry.org)  
Aubrey Cisko, Youth Director, [youth@redeemernewberry.org](mailto:youth@redeemernewberry.org)  
Haley McBride-Stuhr, Office Assistant & Bookkeeper,  
[info@redeemernewberry.org](mailto:info@redeemernewberry.org), [finance@redeemernewberry.org](mailto:finance@redeemernewberry.org)  
All Members: Ministers in Worship and Daily Life  
Jeffrey Truscott, Missionary - Japan

# ..... October .....

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am Confirmation Class - 4pm Youth Group - 5pm FLC Reserved	FLC Reserved	Library Reserved	1 Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm Senior Choir Rehearsal - 7pm	2	3	4 FLC Reserved
5 Property Committee Mtg - 9:00am SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am WELCA - 3:45pm Youth - SC Faith	6 Prayer & Care Card Making - 9:30am	7 Prayer Shawl Ministry - 10am  Library Reserved	8 Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm Senior Choir Rehearsal - 7pm	9	10	11
12 SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am Confirmation Class - 4pm Youth Group - 5pm	13	14 Finance Committee Meeting - 6pm LMM - 7pm Library Reserved	15 Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm Senior Choir Rehearsal - 7pm	16	17	18 GAAP @ O'Neal St UMC - 10am
19 SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am  Youth Group - 5:15pm Marty Party	20 Prayer & Care Card Making - 9:30am  Congregation Council Meeting - 6pm	21 Prayer Shawl - 10am  Library Reserved	22 Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm Senior Choir Rehearsal - 7pm	23 Newsletter Deadline	24	25 Trunk or Treat 10am-12pm
26 SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am Reformation Luncheon - 12pm Confirmation - 4pm Youth Group - 5pm	27	28 Library Reserved	29 Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm Senior Choir Rehearsal - 7pm	30	31	1

## The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer

1515 Boundary Street  
Newberry, SC 29108

**Phone: 803-276-2003**

[www.RedeemerNewberry.org](http://www.RedeemerNewberry.org)

E-mail: [info@redeemernewberry.org](mailto:info@redeemernewberry.org)

Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs: 8am - 2:30pm

Fri: 8am-12pm

### Church Staff

The Rev. Matthew Titus, Pastor

Dr. Huger Caughman, Jr.,

Music Director and Organist

Nicholas Shumate, Choir Dir.

Aubrey Cisko, Youth Director

Haley Stuhr, Office Assistant

& Bookkeeper



**NON-PROFIT ORG.**

**U.S. POSTAGE**

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**NEWBERRY, SC**