



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Redeemer Reader · December 2025

..... **A Note from Pastor Matt**

Grace and peace to each of you as we enter this final month of 2025.

What a year it has been! We've had so much to celebrate as our community continues to grow in faith, service, and welcome. We've strengthened our outreach in Newberry, supported ministries near and far through our Endowment Fund, welcomed new leaders into important roles, and – most importantly – remained a place where God is at work and where all are truly welcome.

This year we welcomed 10 people into the congregation through baptism and affirmation of baptism. We confirmed 10 youth in June as they completed their Confirmation journey. We celebrated the weddings of five couples – with one more coming mid-month. Our Endowment Fund once again dispersed generous support to ministries both within Redeemer and throughout our community. It has truly been a year rich with God's blessings.

What fills me with the most gratitude, though, is the steady, faithful work of welcome, grace, hospitality, and love that defines Redeemer. I'm thankful every day to serve alongside people who look for God's presence in every person they meet. Ministry isn't always easy, but you consistently step into service with joy, compassion, and the kind of servant-hearted leadership Jesus models for us all. Thank you for showing Christ's love in all you do.

Of course, this year has also brought moments of mourning and goodbye. This month, we bless Aubrey as she completes her time as our Youth Director and steps into a new chapter – one with more family time on weekends and preparation for seminary as she pursues ministry in the ELCA as a deacon. We also remembered the saints among us who have died this year, giving thanks for their lives and the promise of the resurrection.

We marked milestones as well – celebrating ten years of ministry together as pastor and people (what a joy that has been!). And our wider church celebrated the election of a new Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, Rev. Yehiel Curry.

As we look ahead to 2026, there is much to anticipate. Here at Redeemer, we will continue living into our calling of radical welcome and hospitality. Within the South Carolina Synod, we will gather to elect a new bishop this summer. And looking even farther ahead, our youth and leaders are beginning to prepare for the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minnesota.

2026 is shaping up to be another wonderful year of ministry – and I thank God we get to walk into it together.

..... **Member Updates**

*Sympathy is extended to the family of Lloyd Layman upon his death
Sympathy is extended to Beth Hipp and family on the death of her sister-in-law,
Dayna Cousins*

Prayer List

B.L. and Dale Brown • Rev. Dick Webber

Remember these special members

with a visit, a card, or a telephone call

At Home: Sybil Cousins, Carolyn Cromer, Elizabeth Willingham, Carol Montgomery,
Carolyn Hammond, John Bodie, Olin Coppock

The Heritage at Lowman: Georgette Livingston

Springfield Place: Elizabeth Rodelsperger, Kitty Summer

JF 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 at (803) 276-2003 or info@redeemernewberry.org

Do you feel called to serve on a committee?

*If so, please contact the church office or sign up on the sheet on
the bulletin board in the narthex.*

..... **Fellowship Committee**

Join us for a spaghetti lunch on December 14th in the FLC following worship.
Sign up on the list in the narthex or by calling the church office.

..... **Evangelism Emphasis**

Some of the best evangelism is reaching out to people and inviting them to church.
With our upcoming Advent and Christmas season, invite a friend or neighbor to
attend Redeemer.

The Evangelism Committee ran an ad in the November/December issue of the
Newberry Magazine and ads will run on WKDK.

..... **Worship & Music Notes**

Plans are to have our annual Musical Showcase and Banquet, to be held on Sunday,
February 1, 2026. More information will be forthcoming.

Huger Caughman, Jr. and Christopher Dukes presented a benefit concert for GAAP
on Sunday, November 9th at 3:00 pm here at Redeemer. We collected \$2,361 for
GAAP.

..... **Property Points**

The Property Committee continues to work around our church campus to make improvements and upgrades. Two new commercial vacuums have been purchased and donated to the church by a member. The two vacuums we have been using have quit working and are around 20 years old.

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.

..... **Stewardship Snippet**

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" - Luke 2:8-14

Christian Stewardship gives deeper meaning to Christmas. As we begin our Advent and Christmas seasons, we have this familiar passage and remember the precious gift of our Savior, Christ the Lord. We are called to share our gifts of time, talent, and treasure which continue to share the Gospel ministry within our church and community.

Thank you for your continued support of our ministries here at Redeemer and beyond.

**Offering envelopes for 2026 will be mailed to you by One Write. You should receive them within the first weeks of December. If you do not receive yours, please notify the church office. If you are interested in setting up an auto draft or recurring donation, please contact the church office or visit www.redeemernewberry.org/give.



..... **Did You Know?**

When the new church opened, in 1965, it was equipped with broadcast equipment to connect with WKDK. It was originally housed in the storage sacristy under the organ's pipe chamber. The sound and lights were controlled from the back pew on the pulpit side. (Check it out - part of the seat lifts up where the controls were housed.) When the sound system was upgraded in the 1990s, the sound board was moved to the center of the balcony, and our broadcast capabilities were expanded to include a video recording system. Not only were we on the radio, we had a television presence on Newberry College's Channel 2. During the Growing in Grace, Building to Serve renovations to our campus in 2003, a "sound booth" was created that houses our broadcasting, lighting, and sound controls. We now broadcast live each Sunday and special services on our website (Box Cast), Facebook, and YouTube. We reach hundreds of viewers each week. This is a valuable ministry of our church and is completely staffed with volunteers.

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Redeemer's Lutheran Men in Mission will meet at Shealy's BBQ in Batesburg-Leesville at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 9th for supper and fellowship. We would like to invite all members and families to join us for this gathering. Please RSVP to Huger, Jr. by Sunday, December 7th if you plan to attend. This is important to make adequate space for our group is reserved.

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!!

..... **Christian Education Corner**

Start your Sunday right by joining us for Sunday School! It's a warm and welcoming place to connect with others, explore faith, and grow deeper in your understanding of the Bible. We have engaging classes for all ages, from children to adults. Come as you are and find a place to belong! Classes begin 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.



WELCA will meet Sunday, December 7th, at 2pm *please note the time change*, in the church library. We will be putting together the gifts for our shut-ins.

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..... Confirmation Class Schedule

January 11	February 8	March 8	April 12
January 25	February 22	March 22	April 26

..... Youth Events

December 5 - Holiday Movie Night - 6:30pm in the Youth Hall

December 7 - Confirmation - 4pm and Youth Group - 5pm-6:30pm

December 14 - Confirmation - 4pm and Youth Christmas Party - 5pm-6:30pm

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

.....

I wanted to let everyone know that I will be stepping down from my role as Youth Director. Serving this church and its youth ministry over the past 5 and a half years has been such a blessing. I am deeply grateful for the trust the Redeemer community has placed in me, the support you have offered, and the relationships that have grown during this time. I would like to thank the church leadership, volunteers, parents, and church members who have walked alongside me. This decision was not easy, but I believe it is the right step for me in this season as I prepare to look towards seminary in the future. My last day at Redeemer will be December 14th. I have spoken with the youth about this transition, and we will continue to have conversations about what the youth would like to see moving forward. Please know that I carry nothing but gratitude and love for this church. The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer has shaped me in ways I will always carry forward, and I will continue to pray for the youth ministry and the entire church community as God leads you into the next chapter.

Thank you, Aubrey Cisko

..... Celebrations

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

11 - Jason & Nikki Bruce
 13 - Stephen & Lauren Flynn
 19 - Les & Beth Hipp
 20 - Bill & Karen Krouse Jr.

21 - Chad & Lynn Cary
 23 - John & Laurie Hammond, Jr.
 28 - James & Brittany Hazel

BIRTHDAYS

03 - Zoe Reid
 04 - Linda Renwick
 06 - Paul Fesperman
 07 - John Green
 10 - Jaina Richardson
 12 - Bobby Willingham, Jr.
 13 - Griffin Long
 14 - Hogan Miller
 15 - Michael Reid
 16 - Jenny Chapman
 17 - Dale Brown
 17 - Anna Christina Cary

19 - Clyde Miller
 20 - Sandy Fretwell
 21 - Tom Gilson
 21 - Debra Metts
 22 - Summers Binnicker
 22 - Luke Layman
 23 - Becky Moody
 24 - Elaine Cornwell
 25 - Katerina Koon
 25 - Anna Newell
 25 - Kathy Riggan
 26 - Huger Caughman, Jr.

26 - Carol Gilson
 26 - Miller Groce
 27 - Matthew Loignon
 28 - John Bodie
 28 - Parker Goodwin
 28 - Curtis Haltiwanger
 28 - Will Hawkins
 29 - Lane Joiner
 30 - Margaret Chapman
 30 - Chuck Minick
 31 - Ellis Kemper

..... Financial Facts

Attendance	Sunday School	Worship	Online Views	Total Worship Attendance	Offerings Received
November 02	19	85	1293	1378	\$8,670.23
November 09	21	82	124	206	\$13,779.36
November 16	23	73	118	191	\$13,856.59
November 23	19	70	144	214	\$3,720.26
November 30	29	68	164	232	\$4,265.22
Average	22	75	368	443	\$8,858.33

Summary Treasurer's report for October 2025

Current Expenses:	Major Maintenance:	YTD All Accounts:
Income: \$23,201.61	Income: \$ 5,955.00	Income: \$ 240,046.59
Expenses: \$22,344.13	Expenses: \$ 0.00	Expenses: \$ 265,939.93
Difference: \$ 857.48	Difference: \$ 5,955.00	Difference: \$ - 25,893.40

**** All financial contributions for 2025 must be received in the church office by
 Wednesday, December 31st. ****

..... Worship Volunteers

Ushers

1st Sunday - Susan Thomasson, Walter Jacobs, Zeb Reid, Dennis Caughman
2nd Sunday - Chad Cary, Norris Long, 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

December 07 - Lynn Cary
December 14 - Erin Titus
December 21 - Kathy Lindsay
December 24 - Huger Caughman, Jr.

Altar Flowers

December 07 - Johnny & Kathy Lindsay
December 14 - B.L. Brown
December 21 - Caughman Family
December 24 - Caughman Family
December 28 - Poinsettias

Worship Assistant

December 07 - Derryl Satterwhite
December 14 - Robert Kneece
December 21 - Eve Kneece
December 24 - Nikki Chapman
December 28 - Kevin Boozer

Acolyte and Crucifer

December 07 - Dennis Caughman/Zarek Reid
December 14 - Elin Cary/Zoe Reid
December 21 - Ashleigh Titus/Griffin Long
December 24 - Levi Richardson/Henry Chapman
Bible Bearer - Thomas Boozer
Torch Bearers - Lendy Miller/Gavin Garner
December 28 - JC Hazel/Taygen Hazel

..... Readings

December 07 - Ezekiel 37:1-14; John 11:25-26
December 14 - Isaiah 55:1-13; John 4:13-14
December 21 - John 1:1-18; Psalm 130:5-8
December 24 - Luke 2:1-14; Psalm 96:7-10
December 28 - John 1:19-34; Psalm 32:1-2

..... The Redeemer Directory

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

..... December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Prayer & Care Card Making - 9:30am FLC Reserved - Basketball Practice	2 Library Reserved	3 Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm Senior Choir Rehearsal - 7pm	4 FLC Reserved - Basketball Practice	5	6
7 Property Comm Mtg - 9:00am SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am WELCA - 2pm Confirmation - 4pm Youth Group - 5pm	8	9 FLC Reserved Prayer Shawl Ministry - 10am Finance Committee Meeting - 6pm LMM - 7pm Library Reserved	10 Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm Senior Choir Rehearsal - 7pm	11	12 FLC Reserved - Derryl Satterwhite	13
14 SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am Fellowship Spaghetti Lunch Confirmation - 4pm Youth Christmas Party - 5pm	15 Prayer & Care Card Making - 9:30am Congregation Council Mtg - 6pm FLC Rsrvd - ADK	16 Library Reserved	17 Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm Senior Choir Rehearsal - 7pm	18	19 Newsletter Deadline	20 GAAP @ O'Neal St UMC - 10am
21 SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am	22	23 Prayer Shawl - 10am Library Reserved	24 Christmas Eve Church Office Closed	25 Christmas Day	26	27
28 SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am FLC Reserved - Susan Thomasson	29 Prayer & Care Card Making - 9:30am	30 Library Reserved	31	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY Church Office Closed	2	3

The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer

1515 Boundary Street

Newberry, SC 29108

Phone: 803-276-2003

www.RedeemerNewberry.org

E-mail: info@redeemernewberry.org

Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs: 8am - 2:30pm

Fri: 8am-12pm

Church Staff

The Rev. Matthew Titus, Pastor

Haley Stuhr, Office Assistant

& Bookkeeper

Dr. Huger Caughman, Jr.,

Music Director and Organist

Nicholas Shumate, Choir Dir.

Aubrey Cisko, Youth Director



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