



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Redeemer Reader · January 2026

..... A Note from Pastor Matt

Grace and peace, friends!

We march—perhaps not triumphantly, but at least faithfully—into 2026! I truly cannot believe how quickly 2025 came and went. No matter how this past year treated you, my hope and prayer is that, as we step into this new one, we remain attentive to the ways God continues to be present with us and among us.

Full confession: I'm writing this newsletter from Universal Studios. Because... life happened, deadlines arrived, and it turns out I'm a champion-level multitasker. But being here has given me a moment to reflect on how much has changed in our family this past year—and in some really good ways.

On every theme park trip we've ever taken, we've had to navigate the delicate reality of one kid who wanted to ride everything and another who wanted to ride almost nothing. It was a careful balancing act. Longer lines. Longer waits. Bigger frustrations.

But this year, Miriam surprised us all by discovering her inner thrill-seeker—and suddenly she wanted to ride all the rides. Watching her reactions afterward has been pure joy: big thumbs up, even bigger smiles. She told me she still gets nervous, still feels that flutter in her stomach before each ride—but the excitement of what's coming helps her push past that initial fear.

And it got me thinking.

Maybe that's not a bad way for us to approach 2026—especially in our faith and in our life together. Where might God be leading us that feels a little intimidating? Where have we hesitated to step into service, to advocate for a neighbor, or to practice radical hospitality? What invitations from God have made us pause at the entrance, wondering if we're really ready?

What if this is the year we trust that the joy, grace, and love that await us on the other side are greater than the anxiety we feel at the start? What if we lean into faith, into Christ's love, and into the life we have been created for—a life shaped by grace, service, love, and hope?

So, friends, let's make 2026 a year to remember. A year of faith. A year of courage. A year of joy.

Grace and peace to you as we begin.

..... 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 · Elaine Cornwell

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

The Heritage at Lowman: Georgette Livingston

Springfield Place: Elizabeth Rodelsperger, Kitty Summer

JF Hawkins: Margaret Chapman, Mary Lou Weir

Do you have membership news to share? Please notify 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 .

..... Fellowship Committee

Thank you to all who helped provide the Christmas meal and desserts on Sunday, December 14th.

..... Evangelism Emphasis

Some of the best evangelism is reaching out to people and inviting them to church. With the start of the new year, reach out to your neighbors, friends, and community members and invite them to join us for worship.

The Evangelism Committee ran Christmas ads 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 Sunday, February 1, 2026. More information will be forthcoming.

The Handbell and Senior Choirs will resume regular rehearsals on Wednesday, January 7 at 6:00pm and 7:00pm, respectively. If you would like to join our music ministry, come attend one of our rehearsals or contact Nicholas Shumate.

..... Property Points

The Property Committee continues to work around our church campus to make improvements and upgrades.

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

"Each one must give as they decided in their heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

Beloved in Christ,

We just completed the Advent and Christmas Seasons. During Advent, there are four themes that we focus on each year: hope, peace, joy, and love. It is our hope that you have experienced each of these during this joyous season!

During the Christmas Season, there are myriad versions of A Christmas Carol that are performed. In this timeless story, Ebenezer Scrooge has three visitations. We are all familiar with this story and know how it ends: Scrooge is given a chance to change and start anew. On Christmas morning, he transforms and becomes extremely generous.

Our generosity is needed at Redeemer. Our gifts continue to maintain our campus, pay our bills, and ensure that ministry is carried out within our congregation, in the community of Newberry, and within the SC Synod. Through the generosity of countless members and friends, we are making an impact. Consider Redeemer as the recipient of required minimum distribution (RMA). Consider making Redeemer a beneficiary of your IRA or 401 retirement plan. Consider directing your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Redeemer or conduct a Thrivent Action Team that benefits one of our ministries. There are many ways to be generous here at Redeemer.

Continue to share the joy of Christmas with members and friends of our parish. Encourage each other to fully support our mission and ministries here. Please give freely and cheerfully with joy and abundance.

Financial gifts can be made to:

Current Expenses	Major Maintenance/Capital Improvement	
Abiding Memorial	Endowment	MKBF Fund

God bless you for your continued support!

Your Stewardship Committee

..... Confirmation Class Schedule

January 11

February 8

March 8

April 12

January 25

February 22

March 22

April 26



WELCA will meet on Sunday, January 4th at 3:45 PM in the church library for its business meeting. At 4:00, Derryll Satterwhite will have the program. She will be sharing two selections from our Then Sings My Soul, Book 2, or she may have found two other hymns that may be of interest to us. Whatever the case may be, we look forward to her presentation. All women and friends of the congregation are invited to attend.

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Redeemer's Lutheran Men in Mission will meet Tuesday, January 13, 7:00pm, in the Family Life Center for a breakfast meal of French toast, bacon, and eggs.

If you plan to join the Committee of 100 for 2026, 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 - Studying the narrative lectionary series

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.

.....Community.....



**SATURDAY
JANUARY 24TH, 2026**



Gathering 5:30 PM • Silent Auction • Burns Supper 6:00 PM

The Old Newberry Hotel, 1110 Caldwell St, Newberry, SC

Join us for an evening celebrating Scottish cuisine and the world-renowned bard, Robert Burns. Enjoy traditional Scottish dishes such as haggis along with authentic music and poetry.

The event promises a night of culture, flavor, and fun.

\$60 PER PERSON
CASH BAR AVAILABLE

LIMITED SEATS ARE AVAILABLE. RSVP BY JANUARY 20TH
TO THE NEWBERRY MUSEUM (803) 597-5215

Do you know "Auld Lang Syne" or "My Love is Like a Red, Red Rose"? Both of these famous pieces are part of the works of Robert Burns.

A wi' bit of Scotland and Robert Burns

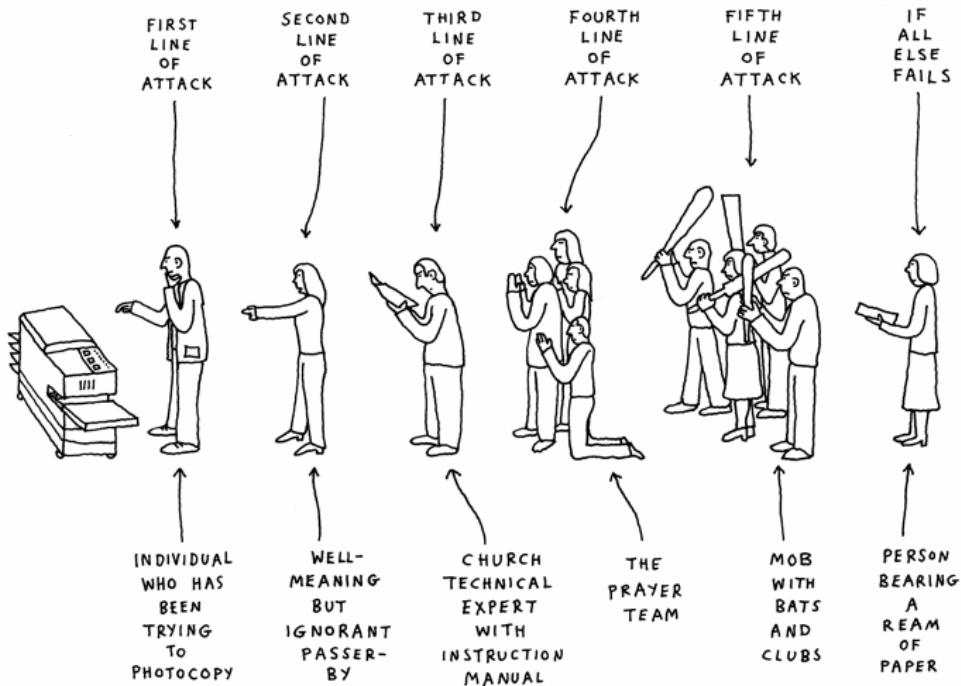
Saturday, January 24, 2026 at
The Old Newberry Hotel

Gathering at 5:30pm, Burns
Supper at 6pm

For more information contact
The Newberry Museum at
(803) 597-5215 or visit
thenewberrymuseum.com.

Please forgive our delay
in publishing this
month's newsletter -
there have been copier
woes in the office.

THE PHOTOCOPIER



..... **Celebrations**

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

24 - Rey & June Lominack

BIRTHDAYS

02 - Ledare Livingston
06 - Virginia Ahern
06 - Marty Cousins
07 - Barry Richardson
07 - June Seymour
12 - Mahala Melton
12 - Brenda Smith
12 - Dick Webber
13 - Matthew Cole

14 - Cherrie Longshore
14 - Slade Richardson
17 - Nikki Chapman
20 - Liam Felix
21 - Paul Loignon
21 - Tammy Wilson
22 - Margaret Bucher
23 - Ben Chapman
23 - Rob Livingston IV

24 - Matthew Titus
27 - Leslie Sligh
27 - Dawn Stone
28 - JC Hazel
29 - Benji Chapman
30 - Drew Senn
31 - Marie Whatley

..... **Financial Facts**

Attendance	Sunday School	Worship	Online Views	Total Worship Attendance	Offerings Received
December 07	20	83	175	258	\$6,198.38
December 14	18	81	142	223	\$8,825.72
December 21	17	75	128	203	\$8,274.26
December 24	--	168	314	482	\$4,694.00
December 28	16	45	214	259	\$2,268.00
Average	17	90	194	285	\$6,052.07

Summary Treasurer's report for December 2025

Current Expenses:

Income: \$ 22,166.69

Expenses: \$ 16,692.53

Amount

Over/Under: \$ 5,474.16

Major Maintenance:

Income: \$ 605.00

Expenses: \$ 3,900.00

Amount

Over/Under: \$ - 3,295.00

YTD All Accounts:

Income: \$ 302,337.00

Expenses: \$ 311,611.29

Amount

Over/Under: \$ - 9,274.29

.....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, Tom Gilson, Dennis Caughman

4th Sunday - Elmer Long, Mack Garner, Robert Kneece, Dennis Caughman

5th Sunday - Kathy Riggin, Nikki Chapman, Doggett Whitaker, Dennis Caughman

Communion Prep

January 04 - Ann Jacobs & Susan Thomasson

January 11 - Kathy Riggin

January 18 - available

January 25 - available

Altar Flowers

January 04 - Poinsettias

January 11 - available

January 18 - available

January 25 - available

Worship Assistant

January 04 - Robbie Kopp

January 11 - Anne Caughman

January 18 - Mary Alex Kopp

January 25 - Alanna Boozer

Acolyte and Crucifer

January 04 - Jacob Chapman/McKenzie Garner

January 11 - Ellie Nguyen/Clyde Miller

January 18 - Rosealynn Sexton/Miriam Titus

January 25 - Adam Boozer/Dennis Caughman

.....Readings.....

January 04 - Psalm 66:1-5; John 1:35-51

January 11 - Psalm 104:14-16; John 2:1-11

January 18 - Psalm 127:1-2; John 2:13-25

January 25 - Psalm 139:13-18; John 3:1-21

.....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

Haley McBride-Stuhr, Office Assistant & Bookkeeper,
info@redeemernewberry.org, finance@redeemernewberry.org

All Members: Ministers in Worship and Daily Life

Jeffrey Truscott, Missionary - Japan

.....January.....

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 NEW YEAR'S DAY Church Office Closed	2	3
4 Property Comm Mtg - 9:00am SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am WELCA - 3:45pm Confirmation - 4pm	5 Prayer & Care Card Making - 9:30am FLC Reserved - Basketball Practice	6 Library Reserved	7 Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm Senior Choir Rehearsal - 7pm	8	9	10
11 SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am Confirmation - 4pm	12 Prayer Shawl Ministry - 10am Finance Committee Meeting - 6pm LMM - 7pm Library Reserved		13 Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm Senior Choir Rehearsal - 7pm	14	15	16 GAAP @ O'Neal St UMC - 10am
18 SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am FLC Reserved	19 MLK, Jr Day - 19 Church Office Closed Prayer & Care Card Making - 9:30am Congregation Council Mtg - 6pm	20	21 Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm Senior Choir Rehearsal - 7pm	22	23 Newsletter Deadline	24
25 SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am	26 Prayer & Care Card Making - 9:30am	27 Prayer Shawl - 10am Library Reserved	28 Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm Senior Choir Rehearsal - 7pm	29	30	31

**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.



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