



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF THE REDEEMER  
Redeemer Reader · February 2026

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

Grace and peace friends!

So... much to Haley's dismay... I'm writing this newsletter article on February 2nd – about a week later than I usually get this part of my ministry done each month.

Needless to say, the last two-and-a-half weeks have been strange, haven't they? Not since COVID have we missed more than two consecutive weeks of in-person worship. First came an ice storm (thankfully not as bad as predicted), followed by a snowstorm that blanketed South Carolina and brought along some seriously frigid temperatures. Together, they kept us from gathering in person. Schedules shifted. Appointments were postponed. Events were canceled. Frustrating, right? We all carry a vision of how things should go – and then, suddenly, those plans get knocked off the proverbial rails. These moments of adjustment happen far more often than we'd like to admit.

Sometimes it's a major weather event. Other times it's much smaller: a slip of the mind, someone not showing up, or something we were sure would happen... just doesn't. People respond differently than we expect, and we're forced to adjust course so that what we hope for can still, somehow, happen.

None of this is new. Humanity has been dealing with disrupted plans since the first person discovered fire – and probably learned the hard way how quickly it spreads.

But this kind of adjustment happens in our life of faith, too. Things don't always go as hoped, planned, or predicted. Even God encounters moments of change. Even Jesus adjusts – most notably when he is challenged by the Syrophenician woman and expands how he understands his ministry.

And yet, no matter how many curveballs life throws our way, God continues to work. Christ remains present. The Holy Spirit is steadfast, guiding us to do mercy, love justice, and walk humbly together. We are invited into this strange, sometimes chaotic, but always grace-filled life of love and mercy.

These last weeks of January were anything but typical. Services were canceled. Communities didn't gather. The comforting sounds of hymns echoing off creaky pews fell silent. But God was still at work. Christ was still present. The Spirit was still guiding us.

In the quiet, we found moments of prayer, creativity, rest, and grace. New ideas surfaced. Love showed up in unexpected ways.

No matter how much life changes, God remains steadfast – always seeking to bring comfort, love, and mercy to all, even when the paths for doing so need to shift.

I hope and pray that as we (hopefully!) gather again in person on February 8, it will be the kind of worship that reminds us just how deeply God is at work among us – and sends us back out ready to serve those in need, near and far.

No matter who they are. No matter where they're from. No matter what. Because the hope Jesus brings into the world is always worth sharing – even when our schedules get a little wonky.

Grace and peace, y'all. Be warm, be safe, and I'll see you soon.

..... **Member Updates** .....

*Sympathy is extended:*

*to Tessie Bannister on the death of her husband, Richard Bannister, on January 7  
and also to Robert Cole on the death of his mother, Hilde Cole, on January 10*

**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](mailto:info@redeemernewberry.org)**

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

The Handbell and Senior Choirs have regular rehearsals on Wednesday evenings 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.

Our Children’s Choir will resume regular rehearsals on Sunday mornings after worship in the choir room. The Children’s Choir is open to any children in kindergarten through 3rd grade. For more information, please contact Huger, Jr.

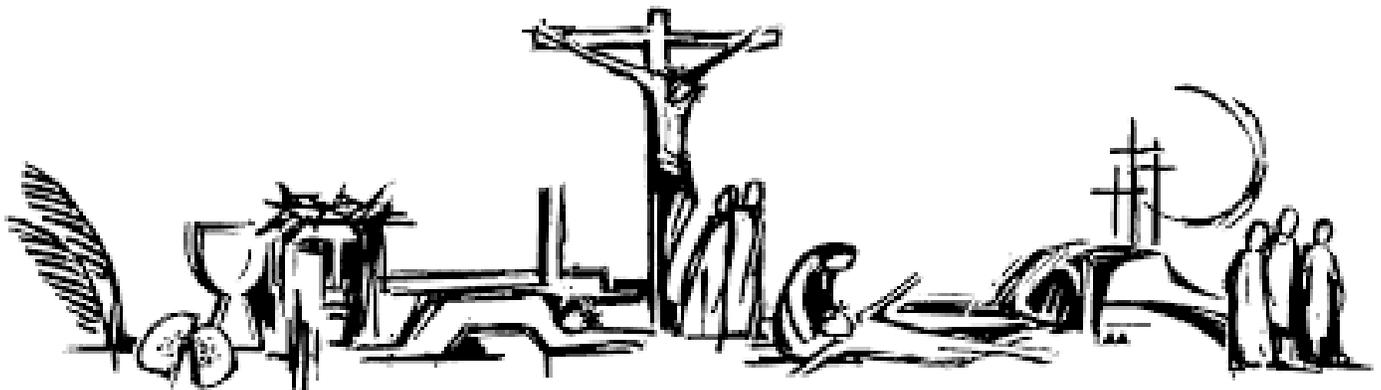
Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18. Worship is at 7:00pm in the church.

**Some upcoming dates to remember:**

Maundy Thursday - April 2, Worship at 7:00pm in the church

Good Friday - April 3, Worship at 7:00pm in the church

Easter Sunday - April 5, Sunrise Service at 7:00am; Worship at 10:30am in the church



..... **Fellowship Committee** .....

The Fellowship Committee will be heading up the Lenten Meals beginning on Wednesday, February 25 at 6:00pm in the Family Life Center.

..... **Property Points** .....

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

Volunteers are now taking care of the interior cleaning of our campus. Kathy Riggin is coordinating this endeavor. If you would like to help, please let her know.

..... **Stewardship Snippet** .....

We Who Are Many

... so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members of one another. ~ Romans 12:5

The Redeemer community is made up of many individuals who bring unique gifts to this parish - our hearts, our voices, and our financial support. All of these are key components of our continued ministry here and beyond. We are many, but one body in Christ; we share one bread and one cup.

Stewardship invites us to reflect on ways in which we can share in something larger than ourselves. The strength of Redeemer lies in all of us coming together, offering what we can, and putting our trust in God to multiply our gifts.

Please prayerfully consider how you can take part in our ministry - not only through financial gifts, but through your presence, prayers, and commitment to our parish life. Working together, we are far greater than the sum of any of our parts.

Ways to contribute to our main operating accounts are:

Current Expenses

Major Maintenance/Capital Improvement

Other ways in which you can contribute:

Endowment Account

Mayer-Kibler-Bowers-Feagle (helps the indigent)

Choral Scholar Fund

Music Fund

Youth Fund

God bless you for your continued support!

Your Stewardship Committee

..... **Confirmation Class Schedule** .....

February 8      March 8      April 12  
February 22    March 22    April 26

Classes are held at 4:00pm in the Youth Hall.



.....  
WELCA will meet on the second Sunday in February, February 8th, instead of its regular meeting date, February 1st. We will meet at 3:45 PM in the church library for our business meeting. Then at 4:00, Anne Caughman will present the program on Fanny J. Crosby.

On February 22nd, we invite you to join us for a special BOLD WOMEN'S Sunday service, presented by WELCA. The service will be led by the women of our congregation. Additionally, our sermon will feature a highlight of a "BOLD WOMAN" from history. We look forward to sharing this meaningful service with you.

.....  
**Redeemer's Lutheran Men in Mission** will not have a regular meeting in February, but will gather at 4:30pm on Tuesday, February 17 to prepare the meal for Shrove Tuesday. All help is needed!



The SCLMM Convention will be held on Saturday, February 21 at Living Springs Lutheran Church on Hardscrabble Road. Registration begins at 9:00am.

The Heartland Conference LMM will meet on Thursday, February 26 at Bethel Lutheran Church in White Rock. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Huger, Jr. by Sunday February 22.

**AMEN FOR LUTHERAN MEN!!**

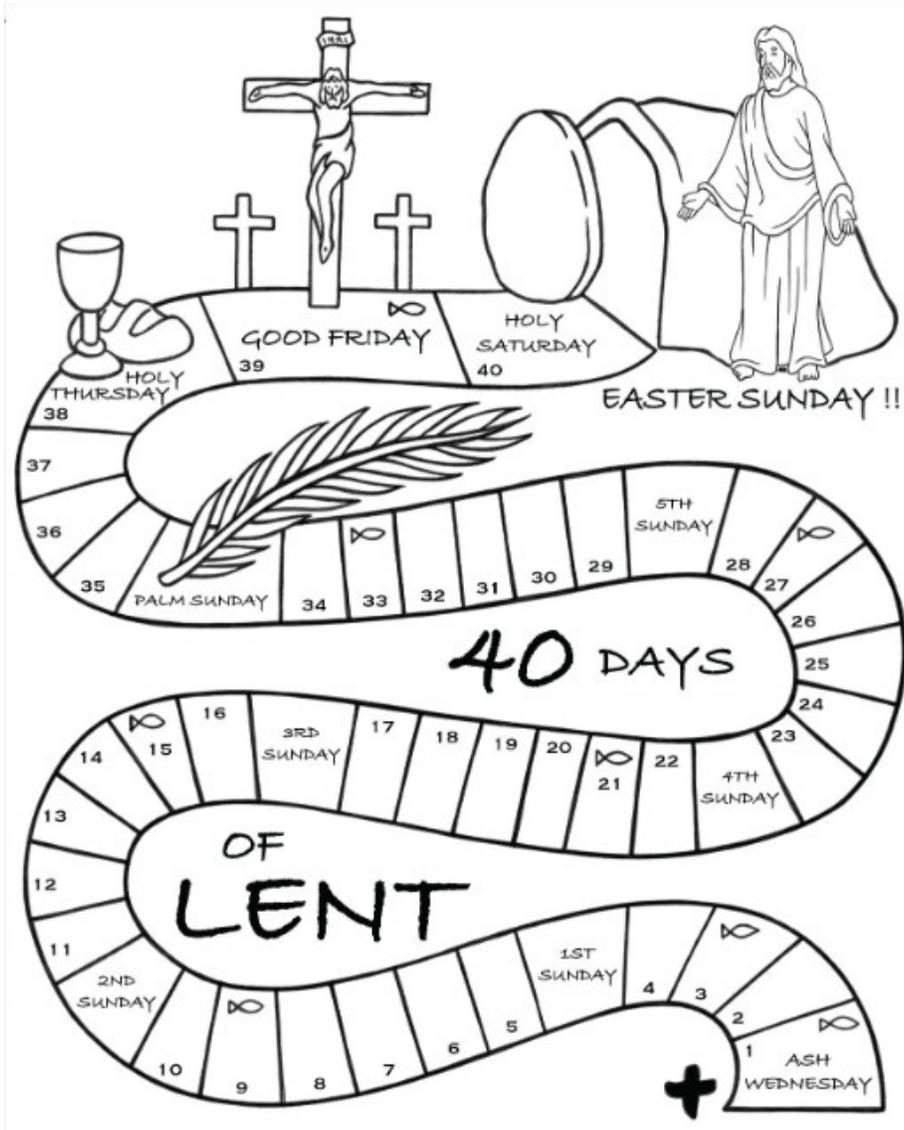


.....  
**Redeemer's Annual Musical Showcase and Banquet** will be held Sunday, March 1 at 6:00pm in the Family Life Center. The meal will include Tuscan chicken, rosemary potatoes, sauteed brussel sprouts, broccoli salad, chocolate lasagna, tea, water, and coffee.

**Tickets:** Adults: \$20 • Students: \$10  
ages 5 and under are free.

Tickets on sale now!

..... Travel Through Lent .....



..... 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

**R&R Rest & Refuel** - Montessori style class - Room 219 • **Prayer in Color** - Room 216

**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 - Youth Hall

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**

09 - Ray & Misty Cooper  
 14 - 'Tres' & Anna Newell  
 15 - Billy & Patty Davis  
 21 - Rob & Becky Livingston, IV

**BIRTHDAYS**

01 - Mack Garner	11 - Andrew West	19 - Sabin West
03 - Charlie Lockyer	12 - Wayden Caughman	20 - Chad Cary
04 - Jacob Chapman	12 - Cayse Dowd	20 - Brian Pitts
04 - John Cromer	12 - Nick Layman	21 - Lee Davis
04 - Lori Justice Gray	13 - Kerri Moose	21 - Laurel Keen
05 - George Franklin	14 - Pat Kelly	23 - Kristin Caughman
06 - Amelia Vance	16 - John Hammond, Jr.	23 - Lawson Cooper
07 - Nancy Riggan	16 - Deedee Westwood	23 - Thomas Groce
07 - Dylan Sligh	17 - Jared Abrams	24 - Rey Lominack, Jr.
08 - Dennis Caughman	17 - Robert Kneece, Jr.	25 - Levi Keen
09 - Jessica Cole	17 - Cynthia Lominack	27 - Stewart Layman
09 - Walter Jacobs	18 - Ben Bowers	27 - Jeff Spotts
09 - Cathy H. Turner	18 - Matthew Bowers	27 - Elizabeth Willingham
11 - Andy Senn	19 - Molly Fortune	

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

Attendance	Sunday School	Worship	Online Views	Total Worship Attendance	Offerings Received
January 04	26	74	143	217	\$2,181.91
January 11	23	83	117	200	\$6,444.19
January 18	24	57	246	606	\$10,559.26
January 25	--	--	--	--	\$461.90
<b>Average</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>\$4,911.81</b>

**Summary Treasurer's report for January 2026**

<b>Current Expenses:</b>	<b>Major Maintenance/ Capital Improvement:</b>	<b>YTD All Accounts:</b>
Income: \$ 17,313.46	Income: \$ 2,412.50	Income: \$ 19,725.96
Expenses: \$ 23,186.73	Expenses: \$ 0.00	Expenses: \$ 23,186.73
<b>Amount</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Over/Under: \$ - 5,873.27</b>	<b>Over/Under: \$ 2,412.50</b>	<b>Over/Under: \$ - 3,460.77</b>

..... **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***

February 08 - Kathy Riggin

*If anyone is willing and able to sign up to assist with communion prep and clean up please call the church office or speak with Kathy Riggin.*

***Altar Flowers***

February 08 - Gayle Lindley

February 15 - Caughman Family

February 18 - No flowers during Lent

February 22 - No flowers during Lent

***Worship Assistant***

February 08 - Kristin Caughman

February 15 - George Franklin

February 18 - Robbie Kopp

February 22 - Derryll Satterwhite

***Acolyte and Crucifer***

February 08 - Zoe Reid/ Ashleigh Titus

February 15 - Griffin Long/Levi Richardson

February 18 - Henry Chapman/Thomas Boozer

February 22 - Lendy Miller/Gavin Garner

..... **Readings** .....

February 01 - Psalm 42:1-3; John 4:1-42

February 08 - Psalm 40:1-5; John 4:46-54

February 15 - Psalm 27:1-4; John 9:1-41

February 18 - Psalm 23; John 10:1-18

February 22 - Psalm 104:27-30; John 11:1-44

..... **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)

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

..... February .....

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Property Comm Mtg - 9:00am SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am  WELCA - 3:45pm Confirmation - 4pm	9 Prayer & Care Card Making - 9:30am  Congregation Council Mtg - 6pm	10 Prayer Shawl Ministry - 10am Finance Committee Meeting - 6pm Library Reserved	11 Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm Senior Choir Rehearsal - 7pm	12 Rm 141 Reserved	13 FLC Reserved	14 FLC Reserved
15 SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am  FLC Reserved	16	17 LMM - 7pm Shrove Tuesday  Library Reserved	18 Handbell Rehearsal - 6pm Ash Wednesday Worship Service - 7pm Senior Choir Rehearsal - after worship	19	20 FLC Reserved	21 FLC Reserved  GAAP @ O'Neal St UMC - 10am
22 SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am FLC Reserved Confirmation - 4pm	23 Prayer & Care Card Making - 9:30am	24 Prayer Shawl Ministry - 10am	25 Meal & Lenten Worship - 6pm -FLC Senior Choir Rehearsal - after worship	26	27 Newsletter Deadline	28 FLC Reserved
Property Comm 1 Mtg - 9:00am SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am WELCA - 3:45pm Musical Showcase & Banquet - 6pm	2	3       Library Reserved	4 Meal & Lenten Worship - 6pm -FLC Senior Choir Rehearsal - after worship	5	6	7

**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  
 Haley Stuhr, Office Assistant  
 & Bookkeeper  
 Dr. Huger Caughman, Jr.,  
 Music Director and Organist  
 Nicholas Shumate, Choir Dir.

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