



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE REDEEMER
Redeemer Reader · March 2026

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

Grace and peace to each of you as we fully enter the season of Lent.

As we feasted on pancakes, sausage, and grits on Shrove Tuesday, something struck me - something that's been quietly percolating in my mind for a while now, especially as I've been teaching Bible classes at Newberry College. We, as people of faith, often don't know the stories of our faith as well as we'd like.

This isn't an indictment of anyone. Even I, as a pastor, didn't know - or remember - some of the lesser-told stories of Scripture until I began teaching this class. It's not like the story of Lot and his daughters comes up in Sunday school very often (if ever... and for probably good reason). And yes - I went to seminary.

I've also heard from folks who feel a little disappointed that what they learned in confirmation didn't quite "stick." To be fair, some of us completed confirmation more than a few years ago, and many of these stories simply don't come up regularly.

So, what do we do with this gap in our knowledge? I think there are two common responses.

One is to think, "Well... I just don't know much, and that makes me feel bad." Unfortunately, that reaction often shuts learning down. We start to believe we aren't "smart enough" or "capable enough" to understand Scripture, so we leave it to someone else to know the stories and tell them to us. I'm not convinced that's the healthiest way to approach our faith.

The other response is to say, "Huh. I don't know as much as I'd like - but I want to learn more. How do I start?" And that's a holy and hopeful place to be.

Of course, a great place to begin is simply opening the Bible. But it helps to use a translation that's accessible. While many of us love the poetic, old-timey sound of the King James Version, it can be challenging to read and understand—and we've learned a lot about these texts since the 1600s. I often recommend the New Revised Standard Version (Updated Edition), the Common English Bible, or the New International Version. All are excellent for study and devotion.

Another key step is learning together. Gathering in a small group or class not only helps us stay accountable, but it also gives us space to talk through these stories—and talking about them helps them take root more deeply. To that end, during the Easter season I'll be offering a mid-week class on the New Testament, drawing from the same material I use at Newberry College. More details will be coming soon.

So remember: whether you feel like you know very little or more than the average person, you are not alone. All of us can learn more. And if you don't know some of these stories yet, you get the gift of hearing them for the first time. Thankfully—blessedly—knowing the stories of our faith is not a prerequisite for being loved and saved by Christ. It's simply a beautiful bonus in the life of faith God has given us.

As we journey deeper into Lent, crack open those Bibles. Enjoy the wonderful, wild, odd, and sometimes downright bonkers stories of our shared faith.

..... **Member Updates**

Sympathy is extended to the family of Margaret Chapman.

Prayer List: B.L. and Dale Brown • Rev. Dick Webber • Elaine Cornwell • Eve Kneece

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: Mary Lou Weir

**Do you have membership news to share? Please notify the church office at (803) 276-2003 or
info@redeemernewberry.org**

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

During Lent, the Handbell Choir rehearses on Sunday mornings following worship, and the Senior Choir rehearses after the Lenten service. If you would like to join our music ministry, come attend one of our rehearsals or contact Nicholas Shumate.

Our Children’s Choir rehearses 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 Caughman, Jr.

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

Easter Lilies are available for order through March 12th, plants cost \$8.00 each - an order form can be found in the Narthex or you may contact the church office to place your order.

..... **Fellowship Committee**

All are invited to join us as we continue our journey through Lent each Wednesday evening in the Family Life Center. The evening will begin at 6:15pm with a meal provided by the Fellowship Committee followed by an abbreviated worship service.

March 4 - All the Saints - Mark 9:2-8 - Baked Potato Bar & Salad

March 11 - Our Neighbor - Mark 2:1-12 - Chicken Strips, Corn Casserole, & Green Beans

March 18 - Those on the Margins - Mark 5:1-20 - BBQ Sandwiches, Baked Beans & Slaw

March 25 - Walking the Way of the Cross - Mark 10:32-45 - Committees Choice

..... **Stewardship Snippet**

STEWARDSHIP FAQs

What is stewardship?

Stewardship is our response to God's love and grace to us in the form of giving back our time, our talents, and our financial resources.

What is a pledge?

A pledge is your financial and time & talent commitment to support Redeemer.

What does pledging do?

Financially, pledging allows Redeemer to create and manage a budget for the year ahead. Time & talent-wise, pledging allows Redeemer to build and sustain our committees that carry out the mission and ministry of our parish.

Who should pledge?

Everyone! To faithfully support the mission and ministries of our parish, 100% of Redeemer's members need to give of our time, our talents, and our financial resources.

What is my pledge used for?

Your pledge supports Redeemer's annual operating budget, allowing us to continue our work of pastoral care, formation, parish life, music, worship, mission and outreach, and administrative costs.

How can I pledge?

You can pledge online at the link below. Contact Haley in the church office if you have any questions.

I want to contribute electronically. How can I do that?

Most banks allow account holders to direct a regular amount to a charitable organization. The bank mails a check to the church and it is recorded in your giving account. You can also set up automatic drafts through Vanco. Contact Haley in the church office if you have more questions.

Your Stewardship Committee thanks you for the commitment of your time, your talents, and your financial resources.

We Who Are Many

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

www.RedeemerNewberry.org/Give

..... **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.

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

March 8 March 22 April 12 April 26

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

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Thank you to all who participated in our BOLD Women's Sunday on February 22nd. **Congratulations** to Annette Belcher for receiving an Honorary Life Membership in SCWELCA for her faithful dedicated service to The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer.

WELCA will meet the second Sunday in March, March 8th, at 3:45 PM in the church library. We will be getting cards ready for St. Patrick's Day, Easter and May since we will not be meeting during the months of April and May. (On April 12th, we will be meeting with the Heartland Conference concerning the SCWELCA Convention.) Following our business meeting, Carol Ezell-Gilson will present the program. 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

Take me out to the ballgame! Saturday, March 21 at 4:00 pm, join the Redeemer LMM at Newberry College vs. Lincoln Memorial for a baseball game.

AMEN FOR LUTHERAN MEN!!





NEWBERRY COLLEGE SUNDAY – COMING SOON!

On **April 12**, Newberry College invites you to join us for a special Day of Giving: **“Newberry College Sunday.”** As part of **Scarlet and Gray Week 2026**, this meaningful day calls on our extended community—including our valued local churches—to come together in support of the mission and ministry of Newberry College.

Scarlet and Gray Week is a cherished annual celebration that unites alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends in a shared spirit of generosity and pride. Throughout the week, we reflect on the traditions that shape us and invest in the future that inspires us.

Every gift—no matter the size—makes a lasting impact, strengthening scholarships, academic programs, campus ministries, and the initiatives that help Newberry students grow in knowledge, faith, and service.

Join us. Give generously. Make a difference.

..... 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.

Join us for our next Intergenerational Sunday School gathering on Sunday, March 29th in the Family Life Center at 9:30am!

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

05 - Nick & Claire Grosshuesch	22 - Tommy & Helen Fellers, Jr.
06 - Adam & Alexis Lockyer	25 - Joshua & Mary Nancy Joseph
18 - Von & Kathy Dennis	25 - Nick & Rachel Manos
18 - George & Donna Franklin	31 - RJ & Cayse Dowd

BIRTHDAYS

01 - Huger Caughman Sr.	13 - 'Tres' Newell, III	26 - Brittany Hazel
01 - Colson Cooper	13 - Andy Sidden	27 - CJ Clary
01 - Polly Davis	14 - Zarek Reid	27 - James Hazel
01 - Austin Longshore	18 - Erin Vedrani	27 - Arlo Hill
04 - Christie Whitaker	18 - Christy West	28 - Justin Felix
07 - Mike Mature	19 - Steve Sligh	28 - Mary Alex Kopp
10 - Helen Fellers	20 - Kerry Stubbs	28 - Kirsten Lindsay
10 - Stevie Sligh, III	20 - Renee Stubbs	29 - Michelle Long
10 - Benji Westwood	22 - Mitchell Lewis	30 - Davy Wilson, III
12 - Sybil Cousins	22 - Erin Titus	31 - Tessie Bannister
13 - Ronnie Dickert, Sr.	23 - Joshua Joseph	
13 - Miles Hawkins, Jr.	24 - Grace Lindsay	

..... Financial Facts

Attendance	Sunday School	Worship	Online Views	Total Worship Attendance	Offerings Received
February 01	--	--	649	649	\$3,148.96
February 08	22	70	145	215	\$7,329.43
February 15	23	63	139	202	\$6,048.13
February 18	--	54	384	438	\$314.00
February 22	26	76	125	201	\$5,162.31
Average	23	65	288	341	\$5,500.71

Summary Treasurer's report for February 2026

Current Expenses:

Income: \$ 18,934.41
 Expenses: \$ 12,562.88
 Amount
 Over/Under: \$ 6,371.53

Major Maintenance/

Capital Improvement:

Income: \$ 2,012.50
 Expenses: \$ 0.00
 Amount
 Over/Under: \$ 2,012.50

YTD All Accounts:

Income: \$ 20,946.91
 Expenses: \$ 12,562.88
 Amount
 Over/Under: \$ 8,384.03

..... **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 Riggan, Nikki Chapman, Doggett Whitaker, Dennis Caughman

Communion Prep

- March 01 -
- March 08 -
- March 15 -
- March 22 -
- March 29 -

Altar Flowers

No flowers during Lent

Worship Assistant

- March 01 - Anne Caughman
- March 08 - Kevin Boozer
- March 15 - Nikki Chapman
- March 22 - Alanna Boozer
- March 29 - Mary Alex Kopp

Acolyte and Crucifer

- March 01 - McKenzie Garner/JC Hazel
- March 08 - Jacob Chapman/Taygen Hazel
- March 15 - Clyde Miller/Rosealynn Sexton
- March 22 - Ellie Nguyen/Adam Boozer
- March 29 - Miriam Titus/Zarek Reid

..... **Readings**

- March 01 - Psalm 51:7-12; John 13:1-17
- March 08 - Psalm 17:1-7; John 18:12-27
- March 15 - Psalm 145:10-13; John 18:28-40
- March 22 - Psalm 146; John 19:1-16a
- March 29 - Psalm 24; John 19: 16b-22

..... **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

..... **March**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Property Comm Mtg - 9:00am SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am WELCA - 3:45pm Music Showcase - 6pm	2	3	4 Meal & Lenten Worship - 6pm -FLC Senior Choir Rehearsal - after worship	5	6	7
8 SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am 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 Meal & Lenten Worship - 6pm -FLC Senior Choir Rehearsal - after worship	12	13	14
15 SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am	16	17 Library Reserved	18 Meal & Lenten Worship - 6pm -FLC Senior Choir Rehearsal - after worship	19	20	21 GAAP @ O'Neal St UMC - 10am
22 SS - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am FLC Reserved Confirmation - 4pm	23 Prayer & Care Card Making - 9:30am Newsletter Deadline	24 Prayer Shawl Ministry - 10am	25 Meal & Lenten Worship - 6pm -FLC Senior Choir Rehearsal - after worship	26	27	28
29 Intergenerational SS - 9:30am - FLC Palm Sunday - Gather Outside Worship - 10:30am (weather permitting)	30	31 Library Reserved	1	2 Maundy Thursday Service - 7pm	3 Church Office Closed Good Friday Service - 7pm	4

**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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