Redeemer Lutheran

Sharing HIS love.



REDEEMER NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2026

Dear Sons and Daughters of the King,

Wow, where has all the time gone! It's time to get ready for Christmas already.There are all sorts of things that need to be done; shopping to do, gifts to wrap, decorations to be put up, cards to send, programs to practice. How will we ever fit it all in? We enjoy Christmas so much that we don't mind putting in the extra effort to make it joyful and special for as many people as we possibly can. The joy of Christmas is not in what we do or in the preparations we make. Although these things may help to enhance our joy, and maybe even add to our joy a little, the real source of the joy of Christmas is not found in any these things.The real source of the joy of Christmas, is of course all the work and preparations that God made on the very first Christmas.

God sent an angel to Zacharias to announce to him the birth of his first son, John the Baptist, the prophet who would do a lot of preparation for the coming of the Messiah. The next angel that God sent was the angel Gabriel, to the home of a young Jewish maiden, a virgin named Mary. The message to Mary was that she had conceived and was with child by the Holy Spirit. Joy filled the lives of Zacharias, Elizabeth, and Mary as they received promises of future blessings from the Lord, as He made His future preparations. And with these three people too, the joy was not in the preparations that God announced that He was making, but their joy was in the end result that He promised. Elizabeth was joyful that Mary, the mother of the Messiah had come into her presence to share the good news with her. Mary was joyful that she had received the honor of being the mother of the Savior of the world. Their joy was that the Savior that God had promised to send was finally on His way, and that they were a part of what was happening.

Do you want to be a part of what is happening?The real meaning of Christmas is that God gave his only Son to come to earth and to be born of a virgin. It was God who gave the very first Christmas gift to all people, not wrapped in pretty red and green paper, but wrapped in swaddling clothes. Not lying under a brightly lit and decorated evergreen, but lying in a humble manger filled with hay. The real spirit of Christmas then is giving. When we receive a gift at Christmas time, the first reaction is thankfulness and joy, and the second reaction is "What can I or did I give them?" The gifts that are most important to God are worship, praise, thanksgiving, and expressions of our faith through sharing the Christmas message with others.

Christmas time is such a wonderful time because we can state the real meaning of Christmas in many ways, in many displays, and in all kinds of services towards our neighbor. Cards, gifts, visits, caroling, and outdoor nativity scenes as decorations are all ways that we can give witness to the real meaning of Christmas, while making an expression of our faith and sharing our faith at the same time. These are all ways that we can enjoy the loving and giving spirit of Christmas, the remembrance of the Savior of all mankind given by our heavenly Father to a world in need. Praise and thanks be to God and joy to the world.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Paul Pitt

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 2026

- The meeting was called to order by Randy Pfister.
- In attendance: Randy Pfister, Jim Wirch, Wesley Pett, Pastor Pett, Marsha Gomoll, Ben Kiley, Dianne Rentmeester, Llewellyn Kramer and Julie Kramer
- Pastor Pett led us in a devotion from Ezekiel 24 and a prayer.
- October minutes for the Executive Council were approved as written.

Pastor's Report for October: November 2, 2026
Worship

Date(s)	*Wed - 6:30*	*Sunday – 9:15*	*Virtual*	*Total*
9/30 & 10/4	*50*	*136*	*484*	*670*
10/7 & 10/11	*51*	*83*	*464*	*598*
10/14 & 10/18	*43*	*148*	*819*	*1010*
10/21 & 10/25	*54*	*140*	*617*	*811*

Teaching:
- **1** Adult Bible Classes
- 12 Online Noon Devotions
- 2 Services - Blue Jay Springs
- 1 Chapel Services

Pastoral Care:
- 1 Hospital Visit
- 15 Shut In Visits

Funerals/Deaths:
Neal Anderson died October 10, 2026.
Funeral was October 15, 2026

Administrative:
- Bd of Elders Mtg 10/6/26
- Bd of Property Mtg 10/5/26
- Trunk or Treat 10/24/26
- Exec Committee Mtg 10/20/26

Virtual Views of Online Devotions:
- Info unavailable at this time

New Member:
Zayden Elliott Alexander LaRue by Holy Baptism
October 29, 2026

Membership:
- Current Baptized Members = 358
- Current Communicant Members = 290

Elders' Report - Jim Wirch reported that the Bd of Elders met on November 2, 2026 and the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 4, 2027 at 6pm.
Re: Compliance Risk Management Policy/Child Protection Policy:
- Bryan Nehring contacted "Protect My Ministry", a Christian-based background screening provider with over a decade of experience, serving many churches in all 50 states. They supplied subscription information for services.
- After discussion, the Bd of Elders voted to approve "Protect my Ministry" as the church's background check provider, contingent on the per-check cost being minimal. The elders vote to go ahead to implement the CRMP/CCP with its poicies phased in over time.
- Benjamin Scherbarth from Kaukauna has submitted his application to the general pastoral colloquy program of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Ben completed his seminary studies at the WI Lutheran Seminary in Thiensville and will prepare for this colloquy under Pastor Pett's supervision for up to 6 months. During this time, he will lead the liturgy and occasionally preach the weekly sermon. Pastoral colloquy is the process by which men who meet specific criteria may be admitted to the ministerium of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.
- The monthly Bible Study on the Book of 1 Timothy was continued.

BD OF MISSION & MINISTRY: Marsha Gomoll reported on the Tuesday, November 10, 2026 meeting. Their next meeting will be January 12, 2027.

- Trunk or Treat- 19 vehicles were decorated, 422 people (240 children/182 adults); sold out of 2 Nesco roasters of chili; sold 45/48 hot dogs. Sales were slightly less than last year.
- Christmas Giving Tree – discussed and selected House of Hope as our recipient.The tree will be set up on 11/30 with gift tags, and the wish list will be in the bulletin on 12/2. Collection dates are Dec 2-20, 2026.
- Advent meals will be served by M&M, Redeemer Women in Mission, and Fellowship. Sign-up sheets for desserts/salads are in the narthex.
- Redeemer will participate in the Family Radio Network's Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive in February 2027.
- Upcoming Events:
  - Christmas Giving Tree- Dec 2-20, 2026
  - Advent Meal - Dec 2, 2026
  - Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive - Feb 14 to Mar 7, 2027
  - Lenten Meals - 2027

GBTLSA (Green Bay Trinity Lutheran School Association)- Jean Borchardt reported On the October 2026 meeting.

- Brenda still working through breaking out financials between NEW LHS & Trinity.
- Working through the structure of the Board, looking for additional "at large" members to fulfill roles i.e. Governace Committee, Finance Committee, etc.
- Discussed existing Strategic Plan, reaching the end of the timeframe, need to build out future years.
- Apporved reisssuance of divine calls for staff members from the new association.

NEWLSA (Northeast Wisconsin Lutheran School Association) Angela Truskowski reported from the November 2026 meeting:

- Finance: The finance committee plans to enlist additional CPA support to assist Brenda with new QuickBooks Online implementation and establish a more streamlined accounting process.
- Building & Grounds:
  - Future Facility Planning- Josh met with Keller to discuss preliminary building additions that would accommodate projected enrollment growth to approximately 300 students. Keller has a strong reputation based on previous projects, particularly for being collaborative, completing projects on schedule and staying with budget.
  - Soccer Field Expansion- Preliminary discussions are underway with a landscaping contractor regarding an extension of the soccer field, with a target availability date of August 1, 2027.
  - Act 89 Train is currently being conducted with coaches & staff and will continue throughout the remainder of the school year.
- Tuition : The board approved a recommended 7% tuition rate increase for the 2027-2028 school year as part of its annual tuition-setting process

Board of Property -Wesley Pett reported that they met on Tues. November 3, 2026. The next meeting will be December 1, 2026 at 6:30 PM.

- Storage Shed — Organizing with tables, shelves and hanging tools — 75% of this has been completed
- Cameras– Doug Laatsch continues to work on the 17 cameras. Much is finished and hopes to soon complete the task. The key-fob door locks will also be integrated into this system. Two of the three doors are switched over to the new display.
- Need to finish ceiling tile in the church basement Sunday School room and kitchen
- Future Project- new ceiling tiles in the ministry center.
- Signage for the doors outside and inside of both buildings has arrived and will soon be mounted in accordance with the Safety Team's plan
- Closet doors in the altar Guild room are done
- New Business:
  - Rat Issue by old shed.
  - Wax Ministry Center kitchen floor and gym floor
  - Air exchange filters in Church building need to be changed
  - Create maintenance schedule for both buildings

Financial and Treasurer Report –Dianne Rentmeester reported that:

- Offerings for October were $25,258 against a budget of $26,349. We were short $1091 or 4.1% below budget.YTD we are at $85,648 against a budget of $99,618, $13,970 short or 14%. Against last year we are down 4.1%.
- We are actually at 65% of the year's budget for Thrivent Income– so thank you to those who have already directed their money this year.
- Expenses are in great shape as of October. We are 7.8% under budget YTD.
- We need to add insurance to cover the Media Equipment.

Old Business:

- Constitution changes: Approved last month by the Executive Committee and will be presented to the congregation at the next 2 Congregational Meetings.
- Switching Internet and phones from Spectrum to TDS – in process
- New signage on the Ministry Center Building — 3 signs will cost about $10,000. There was a suggestion to just take off the "SCHOOL" logo for the time being and then put the awning as an idea for Memorial Funds.

New Business

- October 25, 2026 Congregational Meeting
  - Constitution Committee Changes- Aproved and will again need to be approved at the next Congregational Mtg in February 2027.
  - Newly Elected Officers - Ross Corey, Financial Secretary, Mike Lehrkind, Bd of Property, Melissa Kiley, Mission & Ministry, and Heather VandeVyver, Mission & Ministry
  - Open Position- Vice Chairman needed
- Switching internet & phones to TDS completed.
- New signage on the Ministry Center building- Perry Wegener is getting a quote for the door entrance. The Bd of Property will revise the 2 other signage areas.
- Redeemer Safety Team
  - Keyless Lock System: Update from Nate Losinski: Phone and office done.Heneeds to get electricity to the west doors before the camera can get installed. Pastor & Cathy have the app downloaded on their computers. The council discussed who should be the main contact for training, issuing keys and re-programming. There was also much discussion about who should have the fobs, how we will end the current keys/ rekey the church & ministry center. Randy Pfister volunteered to make the spread sheet and maintain it during the transitional time.

Upcoming Meetings

1. Executive Committee with Elders Gathering December 8, 2026
2. Executive Committee Mtg January 19, 2027

Adjournment and Closing Prayer: Llewellyn Kramer made motion for adjournment, seconded by Marsha Gomoll. Pastor Pett led us in Luther's Evening Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Kramer

PRAYER LIST

INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS:
- Persecuted Christians
- Natural Disaster Victims,
- People of Columbia, Iran, Israel, Lebanon, Menasha, Nepal, Ukraine, & Venezuela
- Victims of Senseless Violence

HOSPITALIZED:
- Neal Zastrow

UNDERGOING TREATMENT:
- Thea Beaudette
- Mark Brefczynski
- Sarah Brancefield
- Taylor Brancefield
- Bea Buchholz
- Jill Davies-Kern
- Brenda Gunder
- John Hanmann Jr
- Marie Harder
- Ken Herman
- Tom Hickey
- June Jabas
- Bill Jones
- Tom Klatt
- Lisa Kosmoski
- Kaydra Lee
- Dave Lindsley
- Emily Meyer
- Jean Palomino
- Lolly Pleshek
- Payton Sanoval
- Mark Stindt
- Melodie Wardecke
- Joan Zittlow

RECOVERING:
- Randy Gomoll
- Cathy Haber
- Belinda Hunter
- Carol Knapowski
- Mike McCoy
- Roger Nowak
- Don Smith
- Francis Thyes
- Perry Wegener

ONGOING HEALTH PROBLEMS:
- Naomi Bahrke
- Dorothy Bloede
- Denise Brefczynski
- Sharon Eichman
- Ed Forel
- Cindy Gentz
- LouAnn Gerzmehle
- Penny Grambihler
- Debbie Hribel
- Vi Howard
- Ron Howard
- Tom Jablonski
- Sue Kienitz
- John Kiley
- Roy Krouse
- Carol Kuske
- Sydney Miracle
- Josh Moede
- Kim Rorrer
- Bob Zittlow
- BJ Zittlow
- Laurie Zoellner

ALL CAREGIVERS
SCHOOL MINISTRY:
- NEW Lutheran High School
- Trinity Lutheran School

MISSIONARIES:
- Ashley Lehr
- Katie Ludwig

MILITARY PERSONNEL:
- Kaden Dabbs
- Jeremy Nelson
- Paige Ramon
- Tess & Shaun LaRue
- Roy & Esmeralda McDonough
- Nathan Schroeder

Updated: November 25, 2026

CHURCH NEWS

REMEMBERING OUR SHUT INS
Will you send a Christmas card? A kind word and Christmas wish brightens up everyone's Advent season. We have printed out address labels to make it even easier. Please ask an usher for a set of shut-in address labels today.

MEDICAL EMERGENCY TEAM VOLUNTEERS
The Safety Team will be holding informational and update meetings for the Medical Emergency Team volunteers on the following dates: November 29th -right after services in the back of the sanctuary, December 2nd @6:05 (between Advent services) in the Church meeting room. The meetings will cover the same information. Attendance at only one is needed. A make-up meeting, covering the same information will also be held on December 6th right after services in the back of the sanctuary.

REDEEMER $CRIP
Stop in and order $crip gift cards for your Christmas gift giving! The last date to order any $crip cards that are not in inventory is the weekend of Dec. 5-6. Lists showing the many, many types of $crip available are on the table in the $crip room. Please feel free to take either or both lists to help you with your planning. One stop shopping! Deadline to ordering is Sunday, Dec. 6. Your Scrip will be available for pick up the following Sunday, Dec. 13. Thank you!

CHRISTmas DECORATING
Please join us on Saturday, December 5th at 8 am to help decorate the church for CHRISTmas. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help us prepare for the CHRISTmas season! We look forward to seeing you there.

CARD SHOP
Christmas cards are in the card shop. Price is $5 per box.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

DECEMBER
2 Jody Barrette, Robin Paul, Trenton Tucker
3 Sue Druckrey
4 Steven Nienow
6 Wendy Klatt
9 Scott Westerfeld
11 Kathy Bongel, Rachael Dufek,
11 Frank Hekenberger
12 Isla Barrette
14 Jodie Ellingson, Emma Laatsch
20 Travis Truskowski
24 John Pieper
28 Richard Bogner
29 Abigail Umentum
30 Chris Charles, Evan Kern

ANNIVERSARIES:

December 1st
Thomas & Christie Kloehn

December 3rd
Thomas & Beverly Jablonski

December 9th
Jim & Chong Cha Wirch

December 30th
Curtis & Julie Moede

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday, 9am-2pm
The Church Office is located in the Redeemer Ministry Center building.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CALENDAR - DECEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 2:00p TKD (gym) 3:45p Trinity BB (gym) 6:15p TKD (gym) 6:30p Bd of Property Mtg	**2** 9:00a Quilting 10:30a Caregiver Support Group 4:00p Advent Worship 5:00p Advent Meal 5:00p Confirmation 6:15p TKD (gym) 6:30p Advent Worship	**3** 9:30a Bible Study 1:00p Cribbage 3:45p Trinity BB (gym) 6:15p TKD (gym)	**4** 8:30a Pickle Ball (gym) 6:15p TKD (gym)	**5** 8:00a Christmas Decorating 9:00a TKD Testing (gym)
6 9:15a Worship HC 10:25a Bible Study	**7** 3:45p Trinity BB (gym) 6:00p Handbells 7:00p Choir	**8** 2:00p TKD (gym) 6:00p Exec Comm/Elder Mtg 6:15p TKD (gym)	**9** 8:30a Pickle Ball (gym) 4:00p Advent Worship 5:00p Advent Meal 5:00p Confirmation 6:15p TKD (gym) 6:30p Advent Worship	**10** 9:30a Bible Study 1:00p Cribbage 6:15p TKD (gym)	**11** 8:30a Pickle Ball (gym)	**12**
13 9:15a Worship HC 10:25a Bible Study	**14** 3:45p Trinity BB (gym) 6:00p Handbells 6:00p Safety Team Mtg 7:00p Choir	**15** 2:00p TKD (gym) 3:45p Trinity BB (gym) 6:15p TKD (gym)	**16** 8:30a Pickle Ball (gym) 4:00p Advent Worship 5:00p Advent Meal 5:00p Confirmation 6:15p TKD (gym) 6:30p Advent Worship	**17** 9:30a Bible Study 1:00p Cribbage 6:15p TKD (gym)	**18** 8:30a Pickle Ball (gym)	**19** 10:00a Nienow Family (gym)
20 9:15a Worship HC 10:25a Bible Study	**21** 6:00p Handbells 7:00p Choir	**22** 2:00p TKD (gym) 6:15p TKD (gym)	**23**	**24** Christmas Eve 11:00a Groh Family (gym) 4:00p Christmas Eve Worship 6:00p Christmas Eve Worship	**25** Christmas Day 10:00a Christmas Day Worship HC	**26**
27 9:15a Worship HC	**28**	**29**	**30** 8:30a Pickle Ball (gym) 6:30p Worship HC	**31**		