

Redeemer News ~ December 2024



Redeemer Lutheran Church
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*Hark the herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and
mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled"
Joyful, all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With the angelic host
proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

"Sharing God's Love Through Jesus Christ"

A message from Pastor Ed

It is that busy time of the year! Lists and plans to make, presents to order, buy, and perhaps make. Cards and cyber greetings to prepare and send. Not to mention the food, decorating, and social events. For many it can be very hectic so it is also good to pause in the midst of it all – to pause and prepare for the celebration of the birth of our King. Advent offers a variety of ways for us to get ready spiritually so that we can celebrate fully what it means to hear the angel pronouncement – “*Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.*” (Luke 2:10)

This year with Advent beginning on the first of December we have the unique opportunity to use the Gospel of Luke as an advent calendar and devotion. Luke has 24 chapters; so, if one reads a chapter a day, one can wake up Christmas morning - December 25 - with the full appreciation of Who and Why we celebrate Christmas!

I would also invite you to attend, and bring a friend, to our midweek advent services. We will focus on Isaiah 40 with the following messages of hope.

Advent 1 | Comfort, Comfort Ye My People (Isaiah 40:1–2)

Advent 2 | Prepare the Royal Highway (Isaiah 40:3–5)

Advent 3 | Hark the Glad Sound (Isaiah 40:6–8)

An early church father Jerome wrote of Isaiah, “He should be called an evangelist rather than a prophet because he describes all the mysteries of Christ and the Church so clearly that you think he is composing a history of what has already happened rather than prophesying about what is to come.” Likewise, when Augustine (345–430) asked Ambrose (c. 327–400) for his advice on what he should read, the latter suggested Isaiah, “Because, I believe, he is more plainly a foreteller of the Gospel and of the calling of the Gentiles than are the others.” Isaiah is one of the most theologically significant books in the Bible.

Our series for Advent and Christmas employs a section in this book—Isaiah 40:1–11. For Advent grandeur, majesty, and supreme artistry, no section in Isaiah comes close to these verses. Their soaring language and unforgettable imagery are tightly woven into the fabric of the season’s hymnody, liturgy, and devotional writings. Please join me as together we sing anew, “Savior of the Nations Come.”

Located on the front of the historic Trinity Church in Boston are the sculptures of six men. At the center are four Gospel writers who are flanked on the right by Paul and on the left by Isaiah. Isaiah’s presence in this distinguished cloud of witnesses speaks volumes about his importance for the church and his message for us in Advent.

May God bless all of our preparations this season as we await the arrival of the King!

In Christ, *Pastor Ed*





Redeemer Lutheran Church
Worship Helpers ... December, 2024

Sheila Sandell	1
Pilar Norenberg	2
Wilma Bird	3
Rana Knutson	8
Charles Frohn	9
Lucy Moll	9
Jason Jones	11
Julie Powers	12
Jim Meyer	18
Janet DeLong	20
Mike Cress	20
Doug Pratt	20
Keith Luehman	24
Eric Buss	26
Terry Holman	27
Shirley Schulte	28
Emily Loverude	30

LAY MINISTER:

December 1	Jerry Langland
December 8	Dan Meyer
December 15	Dale Koehler
December 22	John Kuhl
Christmas Eve	Tyler Kuhl
Christmas Day	
December 29	Jim Danielson

USHERS:

John and Peg Kuhl

GREETERS:

John and Peg Kuhl

ACOLYTES:

December 1	Colton Buss
December 8	Carli Cress
December 15	Josie Kuhl
December 22	Skyler Salmon
December 29	Hazel Kuhl

READERS:

December 1	Jerry Langland
December 8	Dennis Nelson
December 15	Mike Sandell
December 22	Sunday School
December 29	David Brown

VIDEO:

December 1	Dale Koehler
December 8	David Brown
December 15	Randy Richter
December 22	Larry Loverude
December 29	Tom Cuper

COUNTERS:

Joanne Gorres and Larry Kuhl

COMMUNION:

Joanne Gorres



Jeff and Sandy Young 1

Ladies Luncheon at the Pizzeria

Wednesday, December 4th @ Noon

Ladies Aid is treating but asks that we bring a food item to church as a donation to the Food Pantry.

Youth Cookie Bake and Card Making for the Shut-ins

Saturday, December 7, 10 am to Noon

Sunday, December 8th—Caroling for the Shut-ins. Everyone is welcome!



Amery Secret Santa 2024

Sunday, December 8th is the last day to bring in gifts for the family of 4 children.

Thank You for helping to brighten Christmas for this local family!



Children's Christmas Program



December 22nd

Please Note our 2 Christmas Services:

Christmas eve Service—7:00 pm with H/C

Christmas Day Service—9:30 am

Reverse Advent Calendar

We are using this calendar as a way to donate to the Food Pantry through the month of December.

All details are on the Bulletin Board

Gift cards are a great way to gift a loved one at Christmas.

Order forms available for each business participating.

See Pam Humpal for details.



REDEEMER LADIES AID MINUTES

November 6, 2024

Members Present: 13 + Pastor Ed.

The meeting was called to order by President Nancy. Thank you to Janet DeLong for the delicious bars.

Sheila gave a presentation about her LAMP Ministry trip. She showed us pictures and projects they did with the children and invited us to take pictures of the children home to include in our prayers.

The minutes of the October meeting were read. A motion was made by Nancy Danielson and seconded by Cathy Loverude to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Janet gave the treasurer's report. Month-end balance for October is \$8,341.62. A motion was made by Pat Meyer and seconded by Linda Burich to approve the report as presented. Motion carried. Thank you cards were shared from the Kuhl family and Nancy Danielson, along with cards from Kathy Krarup. Bring your red LWML stockings to the December lunch.

Old Business

Rummage Sale – Everyone did a fantastic job. We took in over \$5,000, including \$62 J and G dollars. Nancy and Larry took the leftover items from the sale to the St. Vincent DePaul store in Rice Lake on the Monday following the sale.

New Business

- Santa Sack – Nancy passed out a list of items. Bring them to church by December 1 since they need to go to Milltown by December 9. A motion was made by Joanne Stumo and seconded by Pat Meyer to buy four \$25 gift cards from Walmart to include in the sack. Motion carried.
- Christmas Luncheon – Wednesday, December 4, at noon at the Village Pizzeria. A signup sheet will be posted. Please bring food pantry items (but bring them to the church instead of the restaurant).
- Christmas Cross Wreaths – A motion was made by Debbie Raether and seconded by Shirley Schulte to buy two wreaths for outside the church (\$32 each). Motion carried.
- Secret Santa Tree – Cathy will see about getting names from the Salvation Army.

Reverse Advent Calendar – A motion was made by Nancy Danielson and seconded by Joanne Stumo to have the Ladies Aid buy the 24 items listed on the sheet, to be given to the food pantry. Motion carried. No December meeting. Patty will serve in January.

A motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Danielson and seconded by Debbie Raether. Motion carried. Pam Clemens showed us how to make cute pumpkins with pipe cleaners and beads!

Respectfully submitted, Patty Kuhl, Secretary

PARISH PLANNING COUNCIL

November 12, 2024

Present: Mike Sandell, Patty Kuhl, Jim Danielson, Nancy Danielson, Kate Koehler, Pam Humpal, Peg Kuhl.

Mike Sandell called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM and opened with a

The minutes of the December Parish Planning meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Nancy Danielson, seconded by Jim Danielson, to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Peg handed out the balance sheet and budget performance report for October 2024. Our total balance in General Checking is \$24,652.26; the balance in Social Ministry is \$1,217.71, and \$3,053.67 in J-Dollars savings. A motion was made by Jim Danielson, seconded by Pam Humpal to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report - Our Advent series is titled Savior of the Nations Come. A 4th confirmand has joined the class. Facebook issues have arisen and we are in the process of fixing them.

Board Reports:

Education: Christmas Program has been chosen and details for practices and preparation were discussed. The program will be during the Sunday service on December 22. Caroling for our shut-in members will be Sunday, December 8. Youth will meet on Saturday, December 7 to make cards and bake cookies.

Evangelism: The committee will be purchasing items for the backpack program.

Fellowship: After the service on December 1st, the church will be decorated for Christmas. The sign-up for our Advent soup supper is posted for our three weeks of services; suppers start at 5:30. Fall Dinner was well attended; thanks to all who helped. The Christmas flower sign-up is complete, many participated and bought flowers. There will be a reverse Advent Calendar drive in December to collect donations for the food shelf.

Lay Ministry: December duties were assigned. The Community Thanksgiving Service is Wednesday, November 27th at 7:00 PM at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Advent starts Sunday, December 1st; there will be 3 Wednesday Advent Services, December 4th, 11th, and 18th. Advent Services start at 6:30 PM with soup and sandwich supper served starting at 5:30. Acolyte schedule has been developed, and began on October 27. Students Grades 5-8 will be lighting candles and helping with communion. We will not be having a Christmas Day service as pastor will be leading a service in Connorsville, this congregation is currently vacant. Social Ministry donations this month: Northwoods Homeless Shelter - \$500, Salvation Army - \$250, and WPCA Radio - \$50 for Christmas Programming.

Properties: The cleaning duties sheet has been updated. This will be shared with the volunteers and posted in the janitor's closet. Thanks to Jeff and Sandy Young for cleaning in October. The sidewalk to the south of the parsonage has been completed and was done with pavers. The second-floor bathroom fan in the parsonage has been replaced.

Ladies Aid: Having Christmas dinner at the Pizzeria for their December meeting. Thanks to all who helped with our successful Fall Dinner

Public Relations: Ads will be in the Free Press for Advent and Christmas services; will include notice of the Children's Program at the December 22nd service. Encourage everyone to continue to support the Gift Card Program

Old Business

None

New Business

None

A motion was made by Pam Humpal, seconded by Nancy Danielson to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next parish planning meeting will be on December 10, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Koehler

Congregational Secretary

Redeemer Voters Meeting

October 20, 2024

(33 members in attendance)

President Mike Sandell called the meeting to order. Pastor Ed Clemens opened with a scripture reading and prayer.

We began our meeting with a motion by Debbie Raether, seconded by Jim Danielson to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

New members, Pilar, Chris, & Ean Norenburg, Phyllis Powers, Dan Streff, Reverend John & Jeanne Wilman were welcomed. A motion was made by Jim Danielson, seconded by Dale Koehler to accept them as voting members of Redeemer Lutheran Church. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the April 24, 2024 Voters Meeting were read. A motion was made by Patty Kuhl and seconded by Nancy Danielson to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Peg Kuhl presented the budget report from January 1, 2024, to September 30, 2024; the Profit Loss Budget Performance was also summarized. The total reported in Bremer checking/savings which includes social ministry is \$26,398.37. A motion was made by Larry Loverude and seconded by Jim Danielson to accept the report as presented. Motion Carried.

Board Reports:

Lay Ministry: Thank you to Mike Sandell and Larry Loverude for leading Worship Services when Pastor Ed has been gone. Lay ministers voted that lay persons who lead services will receive a \$50 gift card. Summer Community Sunday service was well attended. Thanks to the fellowship committee for their organization and help with food, all the workers and people who donated food, and Debbie Raether and Bruce Knutson for music. A donation was given to First Lutheran for hosting Community VBS. Jeff & Deb Manlove requested a transfer. A motion was made by Jim Danielson, seconded by Dave Brown to grant the transfer, motion carried. Lay Ministers lists have been updated with new members.

Social Ministry: Donations from April to October totaled \$1,900 and included donations to Salvation Army, Shepherd's Canyon Retreat, Kops & Kids (Amery PD), Trick or Trot, Orphan Grain Train/Hurricane Relief, and Amery Schools Mental Health Collaborative.

Properties: Thanks to all volunteers who help with regular maintenance and upkeep of the church, build a garage, complete spring clean up, and paint the south wall exterior brick of the fellowship hall.

Special thanks to Jeff Young for all the HVAC work he does at the church properties. New garage cost estimate was \$25,000, final total was \$29,216.74.

Education: Youth game night in May was a success. A number of Redeemer students participated in the Community Vacation Bible School in July. Sunday School is off to a good start. Thanks to Music leaders Cathy Loverude and Debbie Raether as well as our teachers Sheila Sandell and Kate Koehler.

Fellowship: Rib Fest in June was a fun evening for all in attendance, thanks to Dale & Kate Koehler for hosting. Community Sunday Service was well attended, thanks to everyone who helped with brunch. Organized the fall festive pie stand, thanks to all who made pies and helped prepare and clean up for the day. A portion of the proceeds was used to purchase Save A Lot gift cards which were donated to the Amery Food Pantry.

Stewardship: Time and talent sheets were completed, the new offering envelopes are working well, stewardship is developing the 2025 counter schedule.

Evangelism This board still needs a director. Activities of the Stewardship committee include donations to the backpack program, publishing the Engage announcement in the weekly bulletin, organized the kids activities at our Fall Festival booth, October Community Radio Devotions - every 11 weeks Redeemer has 5 days of devotions, replaced the two church signs on HWY F east and west of Amery.

Public Relations: Gift cards are available through Pam Humpal, large list of local businesses who participate. Consider using them as the money helps pay for projects at church. \$1000 was used for the painting inside the church. Ads are placed in the paper for special services and we had an ad in the Amery Free Press Laker edition for 7 issues this summer.

Ladies Aid Thank you to everyone in the congregation who has helped our congregation through the projects ladies aid sponsors. Gavin Salmon's graduation was celebrated in May. We filled a large Santa sack for CRA during Christmas in July. Our summer picnic at the Henk's was enjoyed by many. Greeting cards and napkins are available for purchase, thanks to Marcia Meyer for keeping everything supplied. Thanks to Pam Clemens for repairing our table cloths. Thanks to Deb Raether for her many trips to Sam's Club for church supplies. A donation was given to Sheila and Mike Sandell for their Lamp Ministry. Thanks to all who help served lunch at the funeral services of Duane Luehman and Ethel Nelson.

Pastor's Report

An emphasis has been placed on Sunday worship and Bible study planning and implementation. Confirmation class has started with three engaged confirmands. All of the shut-in members have been visited and Individual family units are also receiving pastoral visits. Community outreach has included the Fall Festival and the WPCA radio devotions. The Amery Ministerial Association has been utilized for area opportunities.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

The 2025 work program was thoroughly examined and discussed. The final 2025 work program presented was \$168,529.12; an increase of \$8,037.08 from our 2024 program. A motion was made by Dale Koehler, seconded by Sandy Young to approve the 2025 work program as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Cathy Loverude, seconded by Jim Danielson to adjourn the meeting, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM and we closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,

Kate Koehler, Congregational Secretary