



Newsletter—December, 2017

Dear Friends in Christ,

Advent is the season of preparation. Think about all the things that you do to prepare for everyday life. You prepare to go to work by taking a shower, men shave their face, ladies might put on some makeup, we comb or brush our hair, and then we put on the appropriate clothing for our work day. We may make similar preparations for going to church, or for going out for the evening. We make special preparations for special events. We have special preparations for a Thanksgiving dinner, we have special preparations for celebrating someone's birthday, and we have special preparations for a large dinner party, or family gathering.

Pretty much all of these things are physical preparations for earthly concerns. But do we spent nearly enough time making spiritual preparations for heavenly or eternal concerns. More and more people are living their lives for the now, and either forgetting, or ignoring, or putting off preparations of a spiritual nature, or of a future and eternal nature. Jesus tells us that His return will come without warning, like a thief in the night.

So while we prepare for Christmas celebrations by baking, and shopping, and wrapping, and parties, are we taking the same amount of time to make our spiritual preparations? This why we create a different worship schedule during the season of Advent. Hearing God's Word, and applying it to our lives is how we prepare spiritually and eternally.

For millennia, God spoke to His people, and wrote to His people through the words and writings of His prophets in order to prepare them for the arrival of His Son. All the signs were recorded so that the people should have known and been ready for His arrival, but they weren't. Will history repeat itself? When Jesus' second Advent comes, will He find us as unprepared, and uninformed as He did the first time that He came to earth?

Please take the extra time to hear God's Word this Advent season. Take the extra time to prepare your heart and your mind to receive Him who came to be your Savior. Take the extra time to be ready for Him now and always.

In Christ's love,

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Executive Committee Meeting

Redeemer Lutheran Church
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 14, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brad Van Lanen at 6:30 p.m. Pastor opened the meeting with a devotion based on this week's Gospel reading from Matthew 25: 14-30; The Parable of the Talents. The devotion was followed by a prayer.

Guest Presentation: Christel Laatsch, GBLSA Board President, presented information regarding Strategic Planning for Christian Education in Northeast Wisconsin.

Minutes from the October 10, 2017 Executive Committee meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Perry Wegener to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Ross Corey. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Pastor's Report: Pastor shared the following report for the month of October:
In the name of Jesus

Worship

Date	Wed. – 6:30	Sun. – 8:45	Sun. – 10:45	Total
9/27 & 10/1	64	96	30	190
10/4 & 10/8	52	112	37	201
10/11 & 10/15	57	94	29	180
10/18 & 10/22	70	82	32	184
10/25 & 10/29	55	115	26	204

Teaching: Adult Bible Class – 8 classes, confirmation – 3 classes, Chapel Services – 1

Pastoral Care: 8 hospital visits, 16 shut-in visits, 1 Prison Visit, 1 Nursing Home Service, 2 counseling sessions

New Members:

Lindsay Prah, Lauren Prah, and Alaina Prah transfer from St. Paul, Luxemburg

Funerals/Deaths: none

Weddings and Anniversary Services: None

Other Membership Changes: None

Membership

- Current baptized membership - 507
- Current communicant membership - 404

Administrative

- Elder's Meeting – 10/2/17, Board of Property Meeting-10/3/17, Executive Committee Meeting – 10/10/17, Circuit Pastors' Meeting-10/12/17, Board of Mission and Ministry – 10/17/17, Ruby's Pantry – 10/23/17, District Church Worker's Conference – 10/26/2017, Trunk or Treat – 10/29/2017

To God alone be the Glory!

Executive Committee Meeting

Board of Elders' Report: Jim Wirch reported the following:
The Board of Elders met on Monday, November 13, 2017.

The One Call Now messaging service is being used for meeting reminders. Reminders will also be sent for Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas services.

The Truth Project video series led by Doug Laatsch will be starting in January.

Elders discussed weekly attendance at worship services and ways to improve attendance.

Pastor discussed the book, Growing Young, about innovative ways to reach out to younger people, ages 15 – 29 years and get them more involved in our church. Also, a kit for the Lutheran Evangelism Program from LCMS Witness and Outreach Ministry, Every One His Witness, was introduced to the Board. These tools are to help our outreach and grow our church. It was decided to move forward first with the Every One His Witness program. The Elders will start with this program after the Christmas season.

Dan Mannisto suggested that the usher roster be reviewed and updated periodically and new members be recruited, especially from recently confirmed or added members.

Board of Mission and Ministry Report: Laurie Thyes provided the following update:

- DCE Report: Alex provided an update on the 4th and 5th grade catechism class. Youth Group updates were also provided, including the decision to attend the Higher Things youth conference with Faith Lutheran for the Summer 2018 trip. This will take place at Carleton College in Northfield, MN from July 3rd-6th. A youth outing was held at Commando Paintball on Sunday, October 22nd.
- Trunk or Treat was held on Sunday, October 29th from 5-7 pm. Approximately \$700 was raised from this event. There were more than 25 vehicles that participated in the event and it was well attended by the general public.
- Youth Room Fundraiser Coffee Bar: Laurie has been running the coffee bar between Sunday Services to raise money to put towards a new television for the Youth Room.
- New member packet/basket: The Board is currently discussing items to be included in future/new member packets/baskets.
- NWDR Mission Mini-Grant: Laurie is in the process of following up with NWDR regarding a mini-grant that would be used for outreach efforts. Potential uses for the grant money could include gifts for seniors, shut-ins, Giving Tree, food boxes for Thanksgiving/Christmas.
- Advent Meals: Will be provided on Dec. 6th, Dec. 13th and Dec. 20th following the 3:30 pm services. The Board is in the process of planning these meals.
- Salvation Army: Redeemer has signed up to Ring Bells at the Salvation Army Red Kettle at Woodman's on Saturday, December 9th from 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be posted soon.
- October Ruby's Pantry served just over 200 guests. We are seeking people to step into two Leadership roles for Ruby's Pantry at Redeemer.
- Upcoming Events:
 - Advent Meals: December 6th, 13th, and 20th
 - Adopt-A-Kettle: December 9th from 9 AM – 7 PM at Woodman's
 - Giving Tree- December
- Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Executive Committee Meeting

Board of Property Report: The following report was submitted by Perry Wegener:

1. Construction is moving along on the new choir area on the lectern side of the sanctuary. Will be ordering the carpeting and railing for this area soon.
2. The youth room in the church basement is getting closer to being finished.
3. We are looking into better storage by the school. We are looking into a couple of different options. We are still waiting on cost estimates and architect drawings to get a definitive cost for the project.
4. The two doors on the northeast and southeast of church have been installed.
5. We are waiting to see that all of the bats have left the building. The exit doors for the bats will stay in place until Spring.
6. The Church Facility Usage Policy has been completed.
7. We are looking for people to serve on the Board of Property. If anyone is interested please contact a Board member or Pastor.

NEW Lutheran High School Report: The following report was submitted by Mary Pett:

1. Two shadow students toured NEWLHS as prospective students; one freshman and one sophomore.
2. The raffle for the NFL Helmet signed by all living NFL Hall of Fame quarterbacks is proceeding very well.
3. A Christian estate planning meeting was held on Tuesday, November 7th. Another session will be held in February 2018.
4. NEWLHS Board members are asking the churches to provide NEWLHS with their full membership lists of families with children.
5. All Things New: a new campaign for NEWLHS will kick off with a dinner on January 28, 2018. This campaign is aimed at raising money to fully fund a building addition to the school.
6. A spaghetti dinner will be held on December 9th from 4:30 – 8:00 to help fund the mission trip.

Financial Updates: The following financial report as of the end of October was submitted by Elmer Nienow: Mortgage LCEF loan balance is \$320,460.21. Checking Account balance is \$18,531.62. Designated (Held in Savings) balance is \$65,301.90. Ruby's Pantry: \$732.04. Adopt-a-bill: \$78,533.00. The Cougar Care LCEF loan balance was paid off in full in the amount of \$30,729.86 as a result of money collected through the Debt Reduction Challenge.

Ross Corey, Financial Secretary, reported that October 2017 offerings were \$30,004, compared with \$24,729 in September. Total October income was \$52,981 including offerings, designated gifts, debt reduction, and Thrivent Choice. Total expenses paid in October were \$71,196.

As of October 31, the balance for the mortgage stands at \$320,460.21 Our income from Thrivent Choice came in lower than projected. We are thankful to all who have contributed so that we remain current on our bills and obligations.

Through October 31st, we have raised \$39,302.40 towards our Debt Challenge. Due to the large amount raised in such a short amount of time, we were able to fully pay off our Cougar Care loan. Thank you all very much who have contributed so far. The Debt Challenge runs until March 2019.

Old Business:

- A. Debt Reduction Challenge: Discussed as noted above.
- B. GBLSA Rep/Open Board Positions. Pastor has followed up with a potential representative for the GBLSA Board. The ballot for open Board positions was updated. The ballot will be brought to the Congregational Voter's meeting later this month.

Executive Committee Meeting

New Business:

- A. GBLSA Proposal: Christel Laatsch will be asked to provide an update at the congregational voter's meeting.
- B. Facility Usage Policy: Has been finalized and will be brought to the congregational voter's meeting.
- C. Congregational Meeting: The next Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 26th at 12:00 noon. Agenda topics were discussed.
- D. Pastor informed the Executive Committee that he has been elected to serve as the next Circuit Visitor. He will start serving in this role after the District Convention in June.

Upcoming Meetings:

Sunday, November 26, 2017: Congregational Meeting at 12:00p.m.

Tuesday, December 12, 2017: Executive Committee Meeting/CHRISTmas Party

Tuesday, January 9, 2018: Executive Committee Meeting at 6:30 pm

Adjournment and Closing Prayer:

Ross Corey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Perry Wegener seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote. The meeting was closed with a prayer led by Pastor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Nehring
Congregational Secretary

Prayer List

International & Local Concerns:

Persecuted Christians
Natural Disaster Victims
Victims of Terrorist Attacks

Hospitalized:

Marcella Antonneau

Undergoing Treatment:

Nora Brown
Sara Burskiewicz –friend of Michelle Mueller
Karen Clark –sister of Becki Larson
Cecelia Chlopek
Sharon Eichman
John Kern
Tianna Lange
Chad Marohl –friend of Jerry & Joanne Pludeman
Dave Strehlow
Glenda Wipperfurth-friend of Dave Tucker

Recovering

Bob Barrette –son-in-law of Bette Woodhouse
Phil Holmes
Lisa LeRoy
Gayle Maytan
Braden Morlan –grandson of Cathy Hartman
Dolores Niermann
Dolores Schulz

School Ministry:

N.E.W. Lutheran High School
Trinity Lutheran School

Missionary Overseas:

Anne Davies
Elliot & Serena Derricks

Ongoing Health Problems:

Neal Anderson
Don Bahrke
Paul Berntson - brother-in-law of Kathy Kieweg
LaVern Burt
Karen Caperall –daughter of Ed & Janet Groh
Ed Forrel –father of Sheila Ferron
Marjory Holmes
Orval Howard
Ron Howard
Helen Joslin
Sue Kienitz - sister in law of Neal & Ann Anderson
Ruth Kohn –mother of Joanne Pludeman
Gladys Meath
Dolores Mueller
Lucille Schmidt
Lila Schroeder - sister in law of Pat Taylor
LaDonna Tratz
Todd Valitchka
Don Van Pay - Jim Delvoye Sr. stepfather
Doug Vercauteren
Larry & Bernice Vomastic

All Caregivers

Military Personnel Overseas:

Paige Bogner
Kaitlin & Diego Gonzales –niece of Brad Van Lanen
Theresa Kendl –daughter of Becky Kupsky
Trent Lehrkind
Roy McDonough- grandson of Orval & Vi Howard
Marcus & Maggie Noll - friend of Tess (Bogner) Sunderlin
Nick Olp - NEW Graduate in the Marines
Ron Pezze –grandson of Fred John
Nathan Schroeder - nephew of Pat Taylor
Tess Sunderlin

Updated: 11-27-17

Church News

REDEEMER \$CRIP

The last \$crip order date of 2017 will be Sunday, December 10. Please order any non-inventoried items by that date, if you want them in time for CHRISTmas gift-giving! Thanks for every order received! Each one helps raise funds for Redeemer Debt Challenge Grant. Also, we are still looking for a few \$crip Workers once a month before and after church services.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING/POINSETTIAS

We will be decorating the church Saturday, December 2 starting at 8:00 AM. Please come and join us to make our church beautiful for the arrival of our Savior's birth. Look forward to seeing you! If you are interested in purchasing a poinsettia, please see the signup sheet at the back of church. Make checks payable to Jennifer Anderson. They are \$10.00 each.

FELLOWSHIP CLUB NEWS

The Fellowship Club will be going out to eat on Friday, December 8th, 5:30 PM, at the Village Grille, 801 Hoffman Rd. Everyone is invited to join us. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex. We will be ordering off the menu. You can check them out at villagegrillegreenbay.com. Call or email Susan Kupsky if you need a ride. 920-490-9111, skupsky@aol.com.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP 2017

Christmas Eve Worship will be on Sunday, December 24th at 4pm & 6pm. Please note that there will be NO morning Worship Services on that Sunday! Christmas Day Worship will be on Monday, December 25th at 10am.

THANK YOU

to all our association church members and N.E.W. for the wonderful support already this school year! We did a walk a thon, and many of you contributed to that, and we raised over \$14,000 with our first walk a thon fundraiser! Also, for all the box tops you are sharing with Trinity. We just received notice that for our December payment(of which we get 2 one in December and one in April) we will receive over \$1000! We can't succeed without you. We are so blessed and thankful for your support.

-Green Bay Trinity Lutheran Students and Staff

RUMMAGE SALE

Please save your items for the Spring Sale.

CLOSED DUE TO WINTER STORMS

Do you want to be notified when Redeemer Lutheran Worship Services, Rehearsals, Meetings, etc are cancelled due to weather?

We have the technology (One Call) to text or email you and we have cell phone numbers and email addresses for may Members in our system.

Have you done your part? In order for you to receive our texts you must give your permission to receive them!

Text: ALERT

To: 22300

Most Members who shared their cell phone numbers for this service have not given permission by texting ALERT to 22300.

BELL RINGING FOR THE SALVATION ARMY

Redeemer Lutheran has committed to ringing bells for the Salvation Army on Saturday, December 9th at Woodmans from 9am to 7pm.

Members are asked to sign up for a one hour time slot. Times are still available from Noon to 7pm. Please sign up in the Narthex by Wednesday, December 6th or you can call the Church Office on Monday-Wednesday between 9am and 2pm.

Thank you so much for helping to celebrate this Advent Season by giving a little time to this worthy cause!!

Redeemer Worship Volunteers - December 2017

Date	3-Dec	6-Dec	6-Dec	10-Dec	10-Dec	13-Dec	13-Dec	17-Dec	20-Dec	20-Dec	24-Dec	24-Dec	24-Dec	25-Dec	31-Dec	31-Dec
Elder	8:45am Tim Ahtonen	3:30pm Jeff Goin	6:30pm Jim Wirch	8:45am Tim Ahtonen	10:45am Doug Laatsch	3:30pm Dan Mannisto	3:30pm Elmer Nienow	8:45am Dan Mannisto	6:30pm Dan Mannisto	3:30pm Jeff Goin	4:00pm Jeff Goin	6:00pm Jim Wirch	6:00pm Jack Lyndon	10:00am Bryan Nehring	8:45am Jeff Goin	10:45am Doug Laatsch
Greeter	Ron Miller	Elmer Nienow	Mike DeGrave	Mike DeGrave	Elmer Nienow	Elmer Nienow	Elmer Nienow	Gary Behnke	Elmer Nienow	Elmer Nienow	Linda Haag	Jack Koivisto	Lyndon Zoellner	Bryan Nehring	Elmer Nienow	
Greeter	Kathy Miller	Polly Nienow	Lori DeGrave	Lori DeGrave	Polly Nienow	Polly Nienow	Polly Nienow	Grace Ebert	Polly Nienow	Polly Nienow	Pat Taylor	Arlene Koivisto	Laurie Zoellner	Laurie Zoellner	Polly Nienow	
Sacristan	NONE	Mark Sprague	Joel Westerfeld	Mike DeGrave	Mike DeGrave	NONE	NONE	NONE	Mark Sprague	Mark Sprague	NONE	NONE	NONE	Chris Stewart	Lorin Sternberg	
Lay Reader	Judy Westerfeld	NONE	NONE	Tim Ahtonen	Tim Ahtonen	NONE	NONE	Kristina Hazen	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	Bryan Nehring	Jeff Goin	
Usher	Carl Hazaert	SELECT	Jim Wirch	Gerald Pludeman	SELECT	SELECT	SELECT	Kathy Bongel	Bud April	SELECT	Carl Hazaert	Jim Wirch	Gerald Pludeman	Gerald Pludeman	Kathy Bongel	
Usher	Fred John		Jim Martin	Lorin Sternberg		Harold Sisel	Harold Sisel	Christopher Hazen	Mae April	Christopher Hazen	Dan Mannisto	Jim Martin	Lorin Sternberg	Lorin Sternberg	Christopher Hazen	
Usher	Dan Mannisto					Mark Sprague	Mark Sprague	Kristin Arellano			Chris Stewart				Kristin Arellano	
Usher	Chris Stewart															
Acolyte	Anya Kahl	NONE	Abigail Umentum	Aubrey LeCleir	Emma Laatsch	NONE	NONE	Mason Teske	NONE	NONE	Kaven Stewart	Mallory Walton	NONE	NONE		
Altar Guild	Helen Baldwin	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>				Cindy Pfister	Cindy Pfister	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>		
Altar Guild	Shirley Strehlow	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>	Rachel Strehlow	Rachel Strehlow	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>
Altar Guild	Polly Nienow	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>	Sharon Strehlow	Sharon Strehlow	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>	>>>

Volunteers are listed for each week in the bulletin.
Please call the Church Office (499-1033) if you exchange times with someone else, so the bulletin is accurate.
If you would like to become a Redeemer Worship Volunteer, please contact Ruth Borchardt (336-8580).

Happy Birthday!

December

- 1 Michael Ellingson
- 2 Delton Bongel
Trenton Tucker
- 3 Sue Druckrey
- 4 Steven Nienow
- 6 Wendy Klatt
- 9 Scott Westerfeld
- 10 Howard Knudtson
David Strehlow
- 11 Katherine Bongel
Russell Ellingson
Frank Hekenberger
Rachel Strehlow
- 12 Elmer Dotz
- 13 David Fenner
- 14 Jodie Ellingson
Jeffrey Gerrits
Emma Laatsch
- 15 Robert Wegener
- 16 Indie Druckrey
Holly Moede
- 17 Harold Sisel
- 21 Charles Peters
Lois Valitchka
- 23 Cheryl Schreiber
- 24 LaVern Burt
Louis Wassenberg
- 26 Thomas Duffek
- 27 Matthew Bongel
John Jones
Amanda Thyes
- 28 Richard Bogner Jr
- 29 Abigail Umentum
Kayden VanNorman
- 30 Evan Kern

Happy Anniversary!

December

- 1 Thomas & Christie Kloehn
- 3 Thomas & Beverly Jablonski
- 9 Janes & Chong Wirch
- 17 Tyler & Rebecca Lohmiller
- 30 Curtis & Julie Moede

Upcoming Events

Ruby's Pantry

- Monday, January 22nd 4-6pm
- Monday, February 26th 4-6pm

Pancake & Porkie Breakfast

February 11th

Official Acts

New Members

- Lindsay Prah
- Lauren & Alaina

Church Office Hours: Mon- Fri 9am-2pm

Note: The Church office is located in the school building.

December Newsletter Deadline: Sunday, December 17, 2017