

December 2021 Newsletter

Sponsored by

Curt & Evie Low

In loving memory of Curt's parents

Jesse & Adeline Low

WHERE IS BETHLEHEM?

The shepherds said one to another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the lord has made known to us." (Luke 2:15)

Where is Bethlehem? Izzeddin, our foreign exchange student, could tell you exactly where Bethlehem is. He lives right next to it in Jericho. Jesus came to this little village. But Bethlehem can also be in our hearts. May He come again to each one of you this Christmas!

His coming to the earth centuries ago was a part of God's gigantic maneuver to get into our hearts. In fact, if people had not been drawn to him, there is a sense in which Bethlehem and Calvary could have failed. But good for us, God's objective is not the conquest of nations, but of people, you and me, one by one. It stretches our imaginations to their limits to believe that God would bother with this tiny planet or with us who despoil it and who, too often, ignore God and one another.

He did not come because great hosts of people awaited him. On that first Christmas night only a few scattered shepherds took note. The rest of the world, and even the little village itself, carried on as if nothing eventful had occurred. Even during Jesus' 33 years on earth, there was a relatively small amount of interest and loyalty. At Calvary virtually everyone had deserted him.

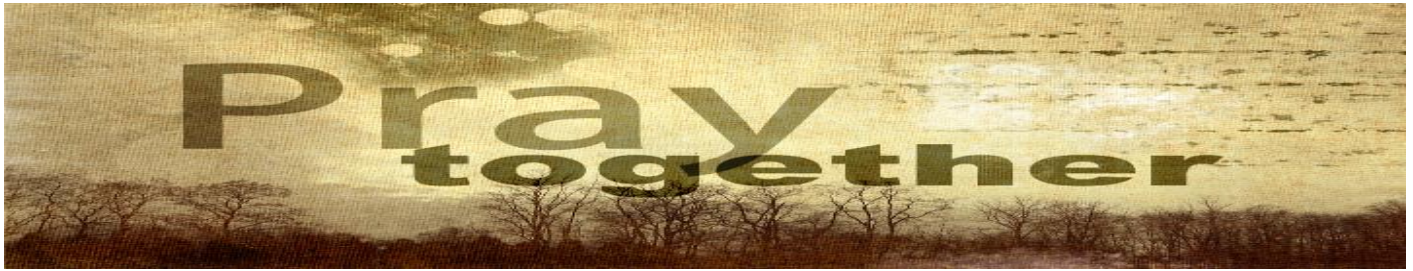
Only in the wake of the Easter resurrection did things happen, and even then, rather quietly. Not until three centuries later did he find a place in the courts of the empire, when emperor Constantine declared Christianity the official religion of the empire. But since that time the name of Jesus has become the most honored name in the world. Hundreds of millions have acclaimed him King and Lord and Savior!

God's objective remains the same as that Bethlehem night. Not nations, not civilizations, not cultures, not the planet itself (all these are passing away), but people, one by one, are in his eye. God, in Jesus, wants to take up residence within us, to hold and keep us now and forever. We are his Bethlehem, as Phillips Brooks says in his beloved hymn:

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

As you prepare for the coming of the Christ child, please take time out from your busy schedule to notice again how Christ fills your life! The spirit of God moves in our churches, our homes, and our hearts, so that faith comes alive. What joy to share this gift of extraordinary LOVE with all the world! See you at worship this Advent season as we light the candles and open our hearts for God's greatest gift!

Peace and Hope, Pastor Sharon and Phil



THE POWER OF PRAYER WORKS!!

Please remember in your prayers our homebound members...

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Ann Block | Kay & Reuben Carlson | Eugene & Joanne Pruess |
| Grace Hartleben | Arletta Crowell | Gert Schmidt |
| Verna Tellock | Vian Kersten | Maggie Guestchow |
| Gordon & Agnes Schlender | Donna Kubiacyk | June Norrbom |
| Lorna Alberg | Audrey Hartleben | Marcia Tellock |

We are thankful for continued healing of Evie Low, Joanne Pruess, Reuben Carlson, Nancy Pehlke, and Saul Hanke!

Your calls and visits are greatly appreciated. Pastor Sharon tries to visit monthly. She would welcome a volunteer to help. If you'd like to add a prayer request to this list please call the prayer chain below or the church at 715-253-2590 and leave a message.

Redeemer Prayer Chain...Please call anyone on this list with the name(s) of the person for whom you would like prayers. That person will call the next one on the list, etc. etc.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 1) Lorna Alberg | 715-253-2721 | 4) Faith Kristof | 715-253-2637 |
| 2) Ida Brekke | 715-253-2734 | 5) Lee Innerebner | 715-253-2200 |
| 3) Gail Koehler | 715-253-6275 | 6) Mary Netzler | 715-253-6290 |

Our Monetary Discipleship for October & November 2021

Worship Date	Worship Attend	General Fund	Missions	Building Fund	Sunday School Offering	Other Income	Total
10-31	38	\$990.00			\$53.00		\$1043.00
Total Oct.		\$10,155.02	\$245		\$211.27	\$2531.20	\$13,142.49
11-7	34	\$1430.00	\$20.00		\$25.00	\$5000 Memorial*	\$6475.00
11-14	42	\$1490.00			\$89.40		\$1579.40
11-21	26	\$930.00			\$28.00		\$958.00
11-28	26	\$1030.00					\$1030.00
Total Nov.		\$4880.00	\$20.00		\$142.40	\$5000.00	\$10,042.40

*Memorial: Charles Good Estate

Offering envelopes are available in the wall rack near the main entrance door in the Gathering Space.

Please use an envelope with your offering and write your name and amount on the envelope.

Using the envelopes insures you get credit for monies given to the church and helps with the accounting. Thank you!

ALTAR GUILD:

December: Linda Evje

**The duties include set up and clean-up of communion,
changing the altar cloths (when needed) and watering the plants.**

There is a sign-up for next year's Altar Guild in the Gathering Space. Please volunteer!

Guidelines for a Safe Sanctuary:

- In an effort to keep everyone healthy and safe, we ask that you consider the wellbeing of those around you.
- Masks, while not required, are considered a way to reduce the spread of airborne illness and the use of them is encouraged.
- Upon entering the church, during the service and after church, please allow ample distance to those outside of your family that are around you. The personal space and comfort zone around each and every one of us has increased over the last year. Please be aware.
- If you are not feeling well, please stay home. If you are a part of the service, we will find someone to fill in for you. You will be missed and we will most certainly pray for you.

**There will be a Fellowship/Devotional time in the Gathering Space on
Thursday Dec. 2nd at 1:00 p.m. ALL ARE WELCOME!**



Mary Netzler	12-2
Pam Daffron	12-3
John Anderson	12-5
Kevin Rosenow	12-6
Lori Hartleben	12-7
Karl Anderson	12-8
Katie Norrbom	12-8
Peggy Stelter	12-11
David Luber	12-16
Stacey Schrank	12-20
Danny Schrank	12-24
Dave Schmidt	12-25
Karen Kersten	12-26

Celebrating 
An Anniversary This Month

Andy & Mary Peterson	12-11
Gary & Laura Clark	12-31

If you would like to sponsor the newsletter for 2022, please make a check payable to Redeemer Lutheran Church for \$60.00 and write a note with your name and the month you would like to sponsor. Please include on the note in honor of or in memory of (if you wish.) This can be put in with the weekly offering or mailed to the church office. The monthly sponsorship covers the cost of those newsletters being mailed, along with the monthly fee for our website. Thank you to all who sponsor the monthly newsletter!

2021 NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Thank you to all the newsletter sponsors for this past year:

January, 2021	Arletta Crowell – In loving memory of her husband Elmer
February, 2021	Fay Rosenow – In loving memory of her husband Ron
March, 2021	June Norrbom – In loving memory of her husband Carl and son Loren
April, 2021	Lorna Alberg – In loving memory of her husband Robert & son Michael
May, 2021	Lee & JoAnn Innerebner – In loving memory of their daughter Jodi Behreant & Mark & Joan Carlson – In honor of their anniversary May 30 th
June, 2021	Carol Klinner & Family – In loving memory of Hilbert Klinner
July, 2021	Vian Kersten – In loving memory of her husband Milan
August, 2021	Carol Klinner & Family – In loving memory of Hilbert Klinner
September, 2021	Sharon Philipp & Family – In loving memory of John Philipp
October, 2021	Jean & Carleton Benz – In loving memory of their sons, Larry & Brian
November, 2021	Melana Schlueter – In loving memory of her parents, John & Shirley Hartleben
December, 2021	Curt & Evie Low – In loving memory of Curt's parents, Jesse & Adeline Low
March, 2022	June Norrbom – In Loving Memory of her husband Carl & son Loren

Zion's Ladies Christmas Party

The women of Zion will be having their annual Christmas party on Sunday, December 5th @ 1:00 pm. There is no Packer Game that Sunday, so we can have our own "holiday tailgate"! ALL ARE WELCOME!-so please join us-women of Redeemer! Please bring a dish to pass & your singing voices as we will share in the beauty of our favorite Christmas hymns following the meal & fellowship time.

Please help us update our records:

We would like to add email addresses to our contact information. Please fill out the form below and put it in the collection plate. (There will be extra forms available at church also.)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Email address: _____

Do you want to receive the monthly newsletter by mail e-mail both

LSS' Operation Christmas

Redeemer will participate in its annual collection of gifts for the residents at Homme Youth and Family. As in the past, we will be collecting gifts for the boys ages 10-18 (girls are no longer being served on the Wittenberg campus). Our goal is 20 gifts. There are about 30 boys, but others in the community also donate gifts. All of the gifts are greatly appreciated! Ideas include games, puzzles, sporting equipment, watches, shirts, jackets, hats, mittens and socks. (No candy or glass items, please.) You will find gift tags and extra copies of the approved list of gift items on the table in the Gathering Space. Gifts need to be brought back to Redeemer **NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, DEC. 12TH**. Until the Christmas tree is put up, you can put the gifts in the Gathering Space in gift bags or with wrapping paper is possible (but otherwise unwrapped). Thank you in advance for sharing the love and joy of Jesus this Holy Season!

2021 OPERATION CHRISTMAS LIST

HOMME YOUTH & FAMILY PROGRAMS

Population: Boys ages 10 thru 18

New Clothing sizes: M through XL

Legos for ages 10+	Remote Control Cars	Tech Deck toys
Badger/Brewer/Bucks items	Games	Socks
Winter Jackets/ Snow Pants	Snowboots sizes 8-11	Wallets
Snomo/Sledding Gloves	Stocking caps	Desk Organizers
Sweatshirts	Basketballs/Footballs	Bike Helmets
Fishing Gear / Tip Ups	Craft kits/models	Word Find/Crosswords
Watches	Mind Puzzle Books	Towels/Beach Towels
Mens/Teen Boys Necklaces	Young Teen Cologne	Teenage/Adult Coloring Books
Children's & young adult books (<i>age appropriate books-no violence or sexual content</i>)		

Wrapping paper and ribbon are always welcome, but please leave gifts unwrapped.

We always accept Quilts (homemade/store-twin bed size).

*** No Bathrobes, Food or Glass items, please.**

Youth News:

- **First Communion class (for grades 4-6) is scheduled for Thursday December 9th after school 3:30-5:00 pm & Saturday December 11th, 10:00 am-1:00 pm. First communion will be on Sunday December 12th.**
- Thank you so much to the students who enlivened our worship service on Nov. 14th by being greeters, ushers, readers, singing, and passing buckets for Noisy Coin Sunday. (There was a total of \$89.40 from the Noisy Coin and Sunday School offering for Anna Luis, our Compassion International child from Mexico.) Two additional students who didn't receive a Bible last year were presented with a Bible in October: (Paisley Anderson and Reed Mattes).
- **We will not have Sunday School on the following dates: Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.**
- **The Christmas program will be Dec. 19th at 10:30. We will also have Sunday School at 9:30 to get in a final practice.**
- Students in grades 4-8 will be acolytes. We will hand out the schedule during Sunday School. If you can't make your assigned day, please find someone else to take your duty. Thanks!

The Wausau Lyric Choir

The Wausau Lyric Choir (which includes Kari Zeinert) will perform its Christmas 2021 concert – **Gloria! A Time to Rejoice!** – at First Presbyterian Church (406 Grant Street, downtown Wausau) on **Friday, Dec. 10th and Saturday, Dec. 11th at 7:30 pm and Sunday, Dec. 12th at 3:00 pm**. There is no charge to attend. Instead the Choir will accept free-will donations at the concert.

A third concert has been added this year in an attempt to mitigate against COVID-19 by allowing better social distancing. All choir members have been vaccinated for COVID-19. In an effort to protect the health and safety of choir members and concert attendees, we are recommending audience members wear masks during the concerts. Thank you!



Walls of Wittenberg Christmas Craft Fair & Bake Sale and Christmas Tree Lighting!!

WOWSPACE

114 Vinal St. Wittenberg, WI
Friday-Dec.3rd. 3 pm- 8pm
Saturday-Dec.4th. 9 am - 3 pm

Come and see our beautiful selection of unique handmade gifts and baked goods!!

Tree Lighting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 3rd with the WBHS Choir.

(You may want to bring a flashlight to better see the words for singing.)



Safe Haven Donations Needed:

Safe Haven provides programming for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Shawano County.

Please consider making a donation to help provide Hope for the Holidays.

Safe Haven, Domestic Abuse Support Center of Shawano County, P.O. Box 665 Shawano, WI 54166

Reminder to council: Annual Reports Due to the church office by December 20th!

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES NOVEMBER 11, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Paul Norrbom. Members present included Vice-President Paul Norrbom, Treasurer Peggy Emmel, Mary Peterson, Paul Pehlke, Clint Horne, Judy Boda, Linda Evje, Gail Koehler, and Pastor Sharon. A quorum was present. Devotions were led by Linda Evje.

Motion made by Linda Evje, seconded by Judy Boda to approve the agenda. Carried.

Motion made by Paul Pehlke, seconded by Peggy Emmel to approve the October 14, 2021 minutes. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Peggy reported an account balance of \$66,237.99 as of October 30, 2021. Of that amount \$17,998.82 is non-budget, and the budget has a balance of \$48,239.17. Motion by Linda Evje, seconded by Mary Peterson to purchase \$50.00 Angels for the Angel Tree at Homme Home for each of our church members who reside there to be given to them after Christmas. Carried. Motion by Linda Evje, seconded by Paul Pehlke to send \$50 for Ana's 18th birthday. Carried.

Motion by Paul Pehlke, seconded by Judy Boda to approve the treasurer's report. Carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Upcoming services: Children's program December 19th
Christmas Eve service. 4:00 p.m. at Redeemer
Christmas Day no service
- Our one confirmation student is joining the class at Zion.
- Did many homebound visits to our members.
- Theological Retreat in Door County.
- Vacation: Nov. 18-25 and Dec. 26-31. Pastor Lois Graper will be on call for emergencies. (715-853-2549)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parish Life

Nothing new.

Parish Education

Working on Christmas program for Dec. 19th.

Will be having First communion instructions for several students.

Worship/Music/Arts

Need new Communion linens and candle wicks. Motion by Paul Pehlke, seconded by Clint Horne to take the money from the Memorial Fund. Carried.

Trustees

Office computer issues. May need to be replaced.

Water softener is needed for the church. Paul is meeting with someone tomorrow.

Looking into new carpeting for the church.

OLD BUSINESS

Reviewed the budget.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget meeting January 16th, 2022.

Annual meeting January 23rd, 2022.

Motion by Paul Pehlke, seconded by Peggy Emmel to adjourn. Carried.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Peterson



Youth Poinsettia Sale: It always looks so festive to have the church decorated with poinsettias on Christmas Eve. You are welcome to bring in your own plant, or there will be plants available for \$5 in the Gathering Space. You can take your plant home after worship on Dec. 26th. Be sure to include “in honor of” or “in memory of” on the form at church so we can include it in the bulletin. Thank you!

December 2021

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1 Adult Bible Study Breakfast 9 am at Schultz Restaurant in Tigerton (Bring your Bible) Confirmation: 3:30-5	2 Fellowship & Devotions 1:00 in Gathering Space. Church office hrs: 2-4 pm	3 WOW Craft Fair 3-8 pm With Tree Lighting @ 7 pm	4 WOW Craft Fair 9am-3 pm
5 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship w/Holy Communion Zion (& Redeemer) Ladies Christmas Party @1:00 at Zion	6	7	8 Confirmation: 3:30-5 Zion	9 Church Council 5:30 pm Church office hrs: 2-4 pm First Communion Class 3:30-5:00	10 Wausau Lyric Choir @ 7:30 pm at First Presbyterian Church- Wausau	11 First Communion Class 10am- 1pm Wausau Lyric Choir @ 7:30 pm at First Presbyterian Church- Wausau
12 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship w/Holy Communion (First Communion) Wausau Lyric Choir @ 3:00 pm at First Presbyterian Church-Wausau	13	14	15 Adult Bible Study Breakfast 9 am at Schultz Restaurant in Tigerton (Bring your Bible) Confirmation: 3:30-5 Zion	16 Church office hrs: 2-4 pm	17	18
19 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship w/Holy Communion & Sunday School Christmas Program	20 -Deadline for Jan. newsletter. Annual reports due!!!!	21	22 Confirmation: 3:30-5 Zion	23 Church office hrs: 2-4 pm	24 4:00 p.m. Worship w/Holy Communion (Candlelight service)	25
26 10:30 Worship (Redeemer & Zion at Redeemer)	27	28	29	30 Church office hrs: 2-4 pm	31	

****Worship time September-December is at 10:30 a.m. with Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.****
Zion will meet at 8:30 a.m.

January-March Redeemer worship will be at 8:30 a.m. & Sunday School remains at 9:30 a.m. Zion will meet at 10:30 a.m.



Communion

Communion will be given on the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Sundays of December and on Christmas Eve.

****Pastor Sharon will be on vacation Dec. 26-Dec. 31. On call pastor is Pastor Lois Graper @ 715-853-2549**

Redeemer Lutheran Church
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*The mission of Redeemer Lutheran Church
is to care for all people through the proclamation of the Gospel,
celebration of the sacraments, and service to our neighbor.*

*We strive to accomplish this by our witness at church, home, school,
work and play, all to the glory of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.*

Bringing people to Christ ~ Bringing Christ to people