



April 2021 Newsletter
Sponsored by Lorna Alberg
In loving memory of her
husband Robert & son Michael

Christ is risen! Alleluia! He has risen, indeed, alleluia!

Easter joy to you and your families! It has been a wonder to be back together in both of our churches. If you have not yet been able to be with us in body, we hope that you were with us in spirit and maybe even with us on FB live as we livestream Redeemer's service. Each Sunday you can join us at 10:30 am or you can pick your own time as it is available for one month on Redeemer's Facebook page. Just "like" that page and click on the video. Note that the service time switches in May - August to 8:30am live. Zion, you will switch to 10:30am. Here is my prayer for you this season of Easter. It is from Guerrillas of Grace by Pastor Ted Loder, entitled,

"I Praise You for This Resurrection Madness"

Lord of such amazing surprises as put a catch in my breath and wings on my heart,
I praise you for the joy, too great for words but not for tears and songs and sharing;
For this mercy that blots out my betrayals and bids me begin again, to limp on, to hop-skip-and-jump on,
To mend what is broken in and around me, and to forgive the breakers;
For this YES to life and laughter, to love and lovers, and to my unwinding self;
For this kingdom unleashed in me and I in it forever, and no dead ends to growing,
To choices, to chances, to calls to be just; no dead ends to living, to making peace,
To dreaming dreams, to being glad of heart;
For this resurrection madness which is wiser than I and in which I see how great You are, how full of grace.
Alleluia!

Easter makes me feel alive again! How about you? Together we have come a hard road! And we have grown! We have had to adjust our worship, so that it is safe and welcoming for the most vulnerable. Many of you have fought sickness and overcome; others have suffered loss of income or loved ones. Funerals, weddings, and baptisms look different. As your pastor, I truly appreciate the smaller gatherings. Teachers and students are learning in many new and varied ways. Adult children are delivering groceries to their parents while they have their own kids underfoot at home. Perhaps you have felt crowded, but I imagine that you also found joy in spending more time together. Relationships are developing as we slow down, as we notice each other and relish new ways of being friends and family and colleagues. Thank you all for "being the church" - beyond our two beautiful buildings. The world needs God's good news of Easter! May we continue to live it and tell it! Jesus Christ has risen; you are forgiven and free to live in this new Kingdom. Time to make peace with one another!

My hope is that we will not slip back to the "old normal" but instead, take time to be open to what God has in mind for us. Some resurrection madness? Are there new dreams and new ways to be glad of heart? Zion –

Redeemer Lutheran Parish was born this past year, raised up by God. May we all be open to surprises springing up! I am looking forward to some of those wonderful meals and events you have shared in the past. Soon, I hope and pray, we will celebrate loud Hosannas as we sing together in praise and thanksgiving!

Spring is in the air. How does our garden grow? Please share your resurrection stories - your hopes and dreams for church, for community, and for individuals. Spread grace – Alleluia! Bring life to places that lack love by listening, connecting, forgiving, and treating others like they truly matter! On the journey with you, dear church! **Pastor Sharon**

I really miss my Kid Christianity

I was raised on the stories of Jesus. They were the sweet milk of my childhood. Long before I ever knew what a political party was, before I ever heard the words Conservative or Liberal; long before I knew what denominations or media bias or culture wars were, I had this Jesus:

He was the one who was born into barren smallness, amidst the smell of damp straw and animal dung.

The one who called people to leave security and home and livelihood behind, in order to model the truly blessed life together.

The one who lived in homeless humility, living off the generosity of those whose thankful hearts gave a home to his words.

The one who defied rules of decorum and purity and tradition in order to bring healing and comfort and hope.

The one who spoke of relentless forgiveness for wrongdoing, of praying earnestly for enemies, of lavishly loving the least, of radically showing mercy.

The one who fed thousands of strangers on a hillside, not because they were deserving or morally fit, but because they were hungry.

The one who preached about the Kingdom of God; a way of being rooted in selflessness and sacrifice; one in direct, defiant opposition to the greed and power and inequality of the day.

The one who spoke unflinchingly into injustice and corruption and religious hypocrisy, and into the hearts and the systems that created and nurtured them.

The one who regularly ate with the priests and the prostitutes, treating both with equal dignity.

The one who endured wrongful imprisonment, brutal violence, and excruciating execution to show the world what love looks like when it pours itself out completely for others.

This is the Jesus that first spoke to me and inspired me and gripped my spirit, and the one that still compels me today even as I struggle to find my place in the faith tradition of my childhood.

It is this Jesus that I cling desperately to when hope in my people and our religion is failing.

<http://johnpavlovitz.com/2015/09/10/dear-world-im-a-christian-but/>

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of the. ~**Matthew 18:20**

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
~**Psalm 23:1-3**

Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.
~**Romans 12:12**

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth,
where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal,
but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and
where thieves do not break in and steal.
For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
~**Matthew 6:19-21**



Easter Flower Garden

If you would like to share a plant or flowers for Easter Sunday worship, please call the office to arrange a drop off time, or if you'd like someone can pick one up for you.

Please call the church office (715-253-2590) and leave your name and telephone number. Someone will return your call with the details.

If anyone has artificial flowers they would like to donate,
Please bring them to the church.



ALTAR GUILD:

April: Dianne Long & Kari Zeinert

May & June: Dave & Shirley Schmidt & Linda Evje

July: Lois Anderson & Nancy Pehlke

August: Miriam Nelson

September: Peggy Hartleben & Peggy Emmel

October: Deb Rieck

November: Lori Hartleben & Fay Rosenow

December: Linda Evje

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

2021 NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Thank you to all the newsletter sponsors:

- May** **Lee & JoAnn Innerebner** – In loving memory of their daughter Jodi Behreant
Mark & Joan Carlson – In honor of their anniversary May 30th
- June** **Carol Kliner & Family** – In loving memory of Hilbert Kliner
- July** **Vian Kersten** – In loving memory of her husband Milan
- August**
- September** **Sharon Philipp & Family** – In loving memory of John Philipp
- October** **Jean & Carleton Benz** – In loving memory of their sons, Larry & Brian
- November** **Melana Schlueter** – In loving memory of her parents, John & Shirley Hartleben
- December**

If you would like to sponsor the newsletter for either August or December 2021 or to start 2022,

Please make a check payable to Redeemer Lutheran Church for \$60.00

And write a note with your name, month and year, 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 the newsletters being mailed,

Along with the monthly fee for our website.

Thank you to all who sponsor the monthly newsletter!

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
March 11, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by President Arla Block

Members present:

President: Arla Block

Secretary: Deb Rieck

Treasurer/WMA: Peggy Emmel

Education: Shondel Hanson

Parish Life: Gail Koehler

Worship, Music, & Arts: Linda Evje, Kim Timm

Trustee: Paul Pehlke

Pastor Sharon Fox Bogen

A quorum was present.

Opening Devotions by Arla Block

Motion made by Linda Evje, seconded by Peggy Emmel, to approve the agenda. Carried.

Council Visitors: Olivia

Motion made by Paul Pehlke, seconded by Kim Timm, to approve the February 11, 2021 Council Minutes. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report shows an account balance of \$62,055.29 as of February 28, 2021. Of that amount, \$23,620.55 is non-budget, and the budget has a balance of \$38,434.74.

Motion made by Linda Evje, seconded by Gail Koehler, to approve the Treasurer's Report and the bills as presented to be paid. Carried.

Peggy informed us that Redeemer did not qualify for PPP funds this time around. She also reminded everyone that they should be filling out Purchase Orders properly. Purchase orders are meant to be authorized prior to purchase not after.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Has been working on planning Worship services for both churches which includes Lent services and double bulletins. Currently planning for Holy Week services.
- Working with both sets of confirmation students on various worship activities. Redeemer Confirmation May 9.
- Installed both councils.
- 3 Redeemer Baptisms in February and March.
- Working closely with Kim during her training period.
- Made homebound and hospital visits/phone calls to parishioners of both churches.
- Will be on vacation April 27-May 2

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parish Life

- Motion Tracking is up to date per Arla

Parish Education

- We need to look at the Christian Education Fund and how it can be used for the kids.
- Sunday School contact list needs to be updated.

Worship/Music/Arts

- Meeting coming up to discuss upcoming Spring/Summer services. Worship time will be back to 8:30. What adjustments need to or can be made?
- Covid precautions an on-going discussion. Current practices will be maintained for now. Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday will be busier.
- Would like to buy new Communion Cloth Paraments and new white alter coverings in the near future.

Trustees

- Fire extinguisher inspection was done which included hydro testing this time. Some needed replacing.
- Norrboms donated a portable heater for the secretary's office. Thank you, Kim and Paul!
- Spring/Summer projects need to be scheduled so bids are needed soon.

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

- Motion made by Paul Pehlke, seconded by Shondel Hansen, to have Arla purchase equipment for live streaming worship services, including a 1-year license, at the total cost of around \$600.00 coming from Non-Budget Funds. Carried.
- Motion made by Paul Pehlke, seconded by Linda Evje, to purchase a new wireless headset for Pastor to use during services, money coming from Non-Budget Funds. Arla will also look into this. Carried.
- Filtration system on new furnaces should be replaced every few months. Trustees need to look into this.
- Key list needs to be updated. Some keys need to be tracked down and returned. Some current trustees still need keys.
- Kim Timm will be trained in April for money counting duties.

Next Council meeting, Thursday, April 8 at 5:30pm.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Rieck
Council Secretary

APRIL CELEBRATIONS!!!!



Tom Schrank	4-1
Jean Benz	4-3
Julie Olson	4-4
Josh Lang	4-5
Kody Evje	4-6
Ruthie Olsen	4-6
Peggy Emmel	4-6
Betty Zeinert	4-9
Ann Hawley	4-12
Erin Hawley	4-15
Charlie Sparr	4-16
Kurt Evje	4-19
Jennifer Schrank	4-20
Ann Block	4-22
Gareth Clark	4-23
Kimberly Timm	4-23
Linda Clough	4-24
Mary Peterson	4-24
Chad Peterson	4-27

Dick & Ruthie Olsen	4-11
Bruce & Joy Hartleben	4-18
Jesse & Carla Hanke	4-20
Joel & Peggy Hartleben	4-30

Our Monetary Discipleship for March 2021

Worship Date	Worship Attend	General Fund	Building Fund	Sunday School Offering	Other Income	Total
3-3	32	\$105.00				\$105.00
3-7	26	\$1785.00			Kersten/Alberg/Philipp Newsletter \$180 Greater Wausau Christian \$100	\$2065.00
3-10	Zion	\$10.00				\$10.00
3-14	34	\$1597.00				\$1597.00
3-17	Zion	\$130.00				\$130.00
3-21	27	\$2574.00			Benz/Klinner Newsletter \$120	\$2674.00
Total	119	\$6201.00			\$400.00	\$6601.00

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.

Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday, April 1

6:30pm Redeemer

5:00pm Zion

Good Friday, April 2

6:30pm Redeemer

Easter Sunday, April 4

10:30am Redeemer

8:30am Zion



**We are pleased to announce that our attendance has been increasing.
And with Holy Week approaching we welcome you and your guests.**

The council has been diligent with keeping up with CDC guidelines.

**We will be opening every other pew and
will sing together the last song for Easter Sunday service.**

**MASKS WILL
BE REQUIRED
INSIDE
THE CHURCH**

Don't have one? They are available inside.

**Thank you for your understanding
as we work together to keep everyone safe.**

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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