

Pastor's Ponderings

²⁸ *Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of
the ends of the earth.*

*He does not faint or grow weary; his
understanding is unsearchable.*

²⁹ *He gives power to the faint and strengthens
the powerless.*

³⁰ *Even youths will faint and be weary, and the
young will fall exhausted,*

³¹ *but those who wait for the Lord shall renew
their strength;*

they shall mount up with wings like eagles;

they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

- Isaiah 40:28-31



Dear Siblings in Christ,

It has been a blessing to partner with Zion Redeemer Parish over the last six months. Thank you to all of you who participated in the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT). You have provided your leadership and new pastor with insight and direction for what God is calling you to in the next several years. The CAT listed the top 5 priorities for Zion Redeemer. They are:

- Make necessary changes to attract families with children and youth to our parish.
- Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.
- Provide more opportunities for Christian education and spiritual formation at every age and stage of life.
- Develop ministries that work toward healing those broken by life circumstances.
- Create more opportunities for people to form meaningful relationships (small groups, nurtured friendships, shared meals, etc.)

These are drivers of satisfaction and energy in your parish. By putting intentionality of time and energy into these priorities, they will fuel continued energy and growth. I encourage you to continue to use the CAT as a resource and tool as you discern the next steps together as the gathered people of God.

Thank you to the Transition/Ministry Site Profile Team which consisted of members from Zion and Redeemer congregations. They have worked thoughtfully and prayerfully in the writing and compilation of information for the Ministry Site Profile (MSP). The MSP is information about your parish and larger community that a prospective pastor would review before being interviewed by the Call Committee. After the congregations and councils review the MSP it will be submitted to the East Central Synod of Wisconsin for approval. Then the Call Committee will meet with Pastor Asher O'Callaghan, Assistant to the Bishop, for instructions and next steps. **Please be patient. The Call Committee process can be slow as a pastor and the Call Committee takes time to prayerfully discern.**

Thank you for your partnership with me in ministry. God's blessings as you move forward into the call for mission and ministry.

With a grateful heart,

Pastor Andrea Fluegel
Transition Facilitator



Thank you to everyone who donated items or purchased items for the Rummage/Bake Sale on May 6th! We were able to donate \$250 to the Wittenberg Food Pantry and \$250 to Crossways Camps in addition to our budgeted contributions. Items that weren't purchased were donated to Alpha House or the Elderon VFW for their annual auction in July. We will probably make this an annual event. Great job, Parish Life Committee!

THE POWER OF PRAYER WORKS!!

Please remember in your prayers the following members and loved ones...

Grace Hartleben	Vian Kersten	June Norrbom
Gordon & Agnes Schlender	Donna Kubiacyk	Rollie Hendrikson
Lorna Alberg	Jean & Carleton Benz	
Kay & Reuben Carlson	Eugene Preuss	

Pray for healing for Travis Nunnery, Marlee (niece of Mary Mattes), Judy Brekke (daughter-in-law of Ida Brekke), Dick Hansen (cousin of Lee Innerebner), Allan Innerebner (brother of Lee Innerebner), and Heather from Zion. Pray for those who have recently lost their spouse: Brad Block, Evie Low, and Mary Anderson. Pray for safety & guidance for Josie (Kari Zeinert's niece) as she continues her mission work in Osaka, Japan for 2 years. Pray for the family of Marcia Tellock whose funeral was May 13th.

Your calls and visits are greatly appreciated. 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) Ida Brekke | 715-253-2734 | 4) Lee Innerebner | 715-253-2200 |
| 2) Gail Koehler | 715-253-6275 | 5) Mary Netzler | 715-253-6290 |
| 3) Faith Kristof | 715-701-0300 | | |

There is an Adult Bible Study Breakfast 9 am at Schultz Restaurant in Tigerton (bring your Bible) the first and third Wednesdays of each month (June 7th and 21st).

*****Redeemer Bible Study-will start again on Sept. 17th, 2023 during Sunday School.*****



June Birthdays

Arianna Cismoski	6-3
James Clark	6-5
Pastor Sharon	6-6
Kimberly Backes	6-6
Landon Hull	6-6
Nicole Peterson	6-6
Brad Block	6-8
Andy Peterson	6-9
Fay Rosenow	6-11
Laylah Horne	6-16
Jeff Philipp	6-16
Jill Kristof	6-18
Chris Benson	6-21
Miriam Nelson	6-23
Gail Koehler	6-28
Donna Kubiacyk	6-29
Laken Buntrock	6-30
Mary Mattes	6-30

Celebrating

An Anniversary This Month

Mike & Kim Gilbertson	6-3
Ryan & Heather Buntrock	6-4
Jim & Mary Netzler	6-21
Chris & Kaylee Benson	6-23
Jeff & Sandra Lang	6-28
Ann & John Powers	6-29
Darwin & Betty Zeinert	6-30
Calon & Ann Hawley	6-30



Flag Day-June 14

Father's Day-
June 18



Our Monetary Discipleship for May 2023

Worship Date	Worship Attend	General Fund	Missions	Building Fund	Sunday School Offering	Other Income	Total
5-7	58	\$2,125.00			\$74.80	\$460 Charity Rummage/Bake Sale ←Noisy Coin Offering	\$2,659.80
5-14	35	\$1,210.00					\$1,210.00
5-21	30	\$635.00	\$50.00				\$685.00
5-28	20	\$850.00				\$20 Memorial for Marcia Tellock	\$870.00
Total		\$4,820.00	\$50.00		\$74.80	\$480.00	\$5,424.80

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!

Community Events

WOW Emerging Talent Show (to showcase artwork from area youth)

May 27-28, June 3-4, & 10-11 (which is Wittenberg Community Days)

11 AM-3 PM Free! Mural tours on June 10-11. Parade on June 11th at noon. We will have a float! You are welcome to come & help!

Saturday, June 10 from 2pm – 11pm

Fun activities for the whole family – food and beverage, vendors, crafters, business booths throughout the weekend.

3pm – 7pm Mike McAbee 7pm – 11pm Live Music by “Blindside”

DUSK: huge fireworks display by Fireworks Country

Sunday, June 11 HUGE parade at 12Noon.

Family fun activities, money dig, live music and food and beverage after the parade.

WOW Tuesday Concert – Free!

Tuesday, June 13th, from 6 PM – 8 PM at the WOW Art Park

Music by Yata, Sinz, & Orfield

Bring chairs & snacks

Birnamwood Polka Days: June 16-18

Friday 5 PM-midnight Tent: Zander’s Music Raymakers (5-6): Livewire & The New Generation (6 PM-12 AM) 6-10 PM Ballroom-The Music Connection

Sat. 4-11 PM Tent: The New Polish Sounds & The Maraszek Brothers

2-9 PM Ballroom: Gary’s Ridgeland Dutchmen & Mark Jirikovec

Sun.-Family Fun Day. Parade at noon. Petting zoo, bounce houses, games, etc. with music 1-6 PM The Polka Partners & The Golden Aces

Food Trucks & Refreshments in the Park all weekend.

Birnamwood Community Rummage Sales Fri. 7:30-4 & Sat. 7:30-noon

**The Sound Returns-a Solo Handbell Concert
featuring Kevin Mazimas Ko & accompanied by Irene Beethe**

Sunday, June 25, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

930 Edgewood Rd. Wausau, WI 54403

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

COUNCIL MINUTES

May 11, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Norrbom

Members present:

President: Paul Norrbom.

Treasurer: Peggy Emmel

Secretary: Lois Anderson

Vice President: Paul Pehlke

Education: Ann Hawley

WMA: Linda Evje, Judy Boda

Parish Life: Mary Mattes, Kim Timm

Trustees: Jeff Lang, Sandra Lang

A quorum was present.

Opening Devotions: Kim Timm led devotions.

Motion made by Paul Pehlke, seconded by Linda Evje, to approve the agenda. Carried.

Council Visitors: None

Motion made by Kim Timm, seconded by Judy Boda, to approve the April 13, 2023 minutes. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was perused by the council. There is a budgetary balance of \$47,845.14. Motion made by Sandy Lang, seconded by Mary Mattes, to approve the Treasurer's Report and the bills as presented to be paid. Carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT Contracted Pastor Sharon Fox-Bogen

- Ann Hawley noted Pastor Sharon said she was making visits and phone calls. Pastor Sharon does have the new forms developed by council to help her track her visits and hours.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parish Life

- Parish Life made \$485 from the Charity Rummage Sale and Bake Sale during the May 6th Wittenberg Area Rummage Sale weekend. Items left over were donated to Alpha House and the Elderon VFW. \$15 was added from the Bazaar fund to make \$500 which will be donated to local charities.
- Parish Life will plan and construct a float for the Wittenberg Community Days. We will collaborate with Zion on this float. We will purchase magnets and have brochures printed to pass out during the parade.
- The Bible Study that ended May 7th was attended by 6 participants. Plans are being made to start the Bible Study again when Sunday school begins in the fall.
- A joint Zion/Redeemer church service and picnic is being planned for June 25th at Washington Park in Wittenberg.

Trustees

- Kevin Rosenow and Jeff Lang will work on leveling areas of the cemetery.
- Trustees have contacted Appleton Marble and Granite concerning refurbishing stones in our cemetery. They will come in July or August for 1 to 2 days to repair stones in the cemetery.
- The flagpole has been updated and will be painted.
- Jim Onesti swept the driveway and will again mow our cemetery and church grounds.

Worship/Music/Arts

- Linda continues to schedule supply Pastors, and we are booked through August.
- Songs for worship have been chosen through August.
- Our committee will go to the Christian Bookstore in June to choose new banners and paraments.

Parish Education

- The last day of Sunday school and Confirmation was May 7th.
- Vacation Bible School will be at Zion again this year July 17-20.

OLD BUSINESS

- There is a council position open on the Parish Life committee. Please consider joining Kim and Mary on this committee.
- There was an update on the MSP process from our Transition Team. We will have a Congregational meeting on May 21st after worship.
- There was discussion as to which charities will benefit from the proceeds of the Rummage and Bake Sale in May. It was decided the money will go to Crossways Camp (\$250) and the Food Pantry (\$250).

NEW BUSINESS

- Our internet has been updated to fiber optic.
- Received a notice that we need our annual elevator inspection within 90 days of when it expires in August of this year. Ann Hawley will call ATIS to come in June or July.

Next Council meeting--Thursday, June 8th at 5:30 p.m. Ann Hawley will lead devotions.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Motion made by Linda Evje, seconded by Paul Pehlke, to adjourn. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Anderson
Council Secretary

Reminder: If you can't make it to church, our worship services are taped and posted on our Facebook page and website.

On Facebook at: www.facebook.com/redeemer.lutheran.568

On the Web at: redeemerlutheranwittenberg.weebly.com (This Month at Redeemer)

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 are not required, but feel free to wear one to reduce the spread of airborne illness.
- 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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please sign up today!

Our list is located on the table in the gathering space. Be an usher, greeter, reader, communion assistant, videographer, or bring treats. For those trained in counting collections after church, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the secretary's office. We also need people to volunteer to be on the altar guild. Please sign up to bring a dessert for our Lenten meals.

Thank you for helping!

We will have fellowship in the Gathering Space on the days that people bring treats.

There is a signup on the table in the Gathering Space. Thank you!!

Thank you to those who have volunteered to be on the Altar Guild in 2023.
All months are filled!

ALTAR GUILD 2023:

January: Gail Koehler & Ruthie & Dick Olsen

February: Gail Koehler & Ruthie & Dick Olsen

March: Kari Zeinert & Kim Timm

April: Kim Timm & Kari Zeinert

May: Deb Rieck

June: Linda Evje

July: Lois Anderson & Nancy Pehlke

August: Lois Anderson & Nancy Pehlke

September: Peggy Hartleben

October: Dianne Long

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.

Parade-Wittenberg Days

Zion-Redeemer Parish will have a float in the parade on June 11th at noon. We will be handing out a brochure about our churches including VBS information along with a magnet, stuffed animals, & candy. If anyone would like to help build the float on Sat. June 10th at 10:00 a.m. at Kim Timm's house (306 W Vinal St., Wittenberg) or hand out goodies during the parade, just contact Kim (715-691-6017) or Mary Mattes (715-302-3170).

Youth News



Vacation Bible School for Zion/Redeemer Parish will be at Zion July 17-20, 6:00-8:00 PM for 4K-5th grade. Older youth can be helpers. Those who attended last year had a great time. To register, email redeemerwitt@gmail.com or call Ann Hawley at 715-446-2119 if you have any questions or if your child(ren) need transportation to Tigerton.

Zion-Redeemer Lutheran Parish Schedule of Worship Leaders

Date and Time	Name
May 7, 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:30 Z.	Rev. Justin Smoot
May 14, 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:30 Z.	Rev. Dr. Karen Zutz Rendall
May 21, 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:30 Z..	Rev. Gary Froseth
May 28, 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:30 Z.	Rev. Justin Smoot
June 4, 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:00 Z.	Rev. William Schrub
June 11, 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:00 Z.	Rev. Gary Froseth
June 18, 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:00 Z..	Rev. Dr. Karen Zutz Rendall
June 25, 2023 10:00 a.m. Washington Park	Rev. Phil Bogen
July 2, 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:00 Z.	Lay Leader-Ann Hawley
July 9, 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:00 Z	Rev. Phil Bogen
July 16, 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:00 Z..	Rev. Dr. Karen Zutz Rendall
July 23, 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:00 Z.	Pastor Justin Smoot
July 30, 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:00 Z.	Pastor Justin Smoot
August 6 th , 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:00 Z.	Pastor Justin Smoot
August 13 th , 2023 10:00 a.m. at Zion (joint worship)	Pastor Phil Bogen
August 20 th , 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:00 Z.	Pastor Karen Zutz Rendall
August 27 th , 2023 8:30 a.m. R., 10:00 Z.	Pastor Nicole Behnke-Welke
Time Change Zion 8:30 a.m. - Redeemer 10:30 a.m.	
Sept. 3 rd , 2023 10:30 R., 8:30 a.m. Z	
Sept. 3 rd , 2023 10:30 R., 8:30 a.m. Z	Pastor Karen Zutz Rendall
Sept. 3 rd , 2023 10:30 R., 8:30 a.m. Z	Pastor Karen Zutz Rendall

Joint Zion-Redeemer Church Potluck Picnics

10:00 June 25--Outside Service at Washington Park (across from Wittenberg Grade School)

Bring yard games! Sign up sheet for food is on the bulletin board.

10:00 August 13th-- Service at Zion followed by picnic & games outside the church

Earthquake Disaster in Turkey (and neighboring Syria)

Make checks payable to Lutheran Disaster Response.

Write "Middle East Crisis" on your check's memo line and send to:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Synod Assembly 2023

Synod Assembly was different this year: Since the convention center in Oshkosh was sold out and it was too late to book other venues, this year's convention was held in one day at First English Church in Appleton. This meant that delegates had to do a lot of reading and watching videos ahead of time to be prepared. It also cut down time for discussion. Luckily it turned out that many things on the agenda had been discussed at the previous convention.

Reports were concise: While budgetary deficits were low, they were part of a trend as donations continue to be down. With the sale of the former synod building this week, the expenses and accompanying pressure will be going down.

Addresses throughout the convention were given by the leaders of local churches: Roman Catholic, Methodist, Episcopalian, and Presbyterian expressed confidence that, yes, we all have the same boss and we can work together.

Elections were held for synod positions: Elected were Rev. David Mannoja, Synod council, Green Bay conference; Rev. Crystal Lee, Synod Council, Oshkosh Conference; Rev. Paul Johnson, Synod Council, Shawano Conference (Church of the Wilderness); Paula Vandergriten, Discipline Committee, Green Bay Conference; David Leder, Discipline Committee, Tomorrow River Conference; Pam Pfaff, Consultation Committee, Oshkosh Conference; Connie Eisch, Consultation Committee, Tomorrow River Conference. Five positions are unfilled, including two from the Shawano Area Conference, that will be filled by appointment. If you are interested in either the Synod Council or the Consultation Committee, please contact the Synod Office.

A budgetary revision was passed that the endowment committee is to handle any property that comes to the synod, such as proceeds from the sale of property like the sale of the former synod office and property from churches that have closed, and any gift of property. Funds are to be distributed in accordance with the spending plan and in concurrence with the Synod Council.

Resolutions were about helping humanity go forward in accordance with Christian values; to encourage Land Acknowledgements of Native American tribes, to educate members to be Advocates in Preventing Hunger, and Action to End Racism. All resolutions were passed.

Even under uncomfortable quarters, the delegates were congenial and the staff welcoming. It was wonderful having discussions that were polite and respectful.

I have also included a form for a letter to send to Senator Johnson and Senator Baldwin concerning hunger in the world. If you have time, please write to them concerning this important issue.

Laura and I thank you for this opportunity to represent our church at the assembly. It was an honor and a privilege! Thank you!

Gary & Laura Clark

(And our congregation thanks you both for being our delegates!)

June 2023

Sen. Ron Johnson
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Johnson,

The farm bill is our nation's most important national food system legislation. It is critical to the work of ending hunger at home and abroad. Indeed, the farm bill impacts each one of us.

As Congress works to renew our food and farm programs through the farm bill, I urge you to support legislation that builds healthy, equitable, and sustainable food systems.

Specifically, I ask you to:

- Increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables by increasing support for produce specific Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP), which provides resources on top of monthly SNAP benefits for a limited number of households to use towards the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables primarily at farmers' markets.
- Eliminate barriers to SNAP for marginalized populations. For example, end the ban on former drug offenders, eliminate work requirements for college students, and permit indigenous communities to administer SNAP and other federal nutrition programs on reservations.
- Keep food out of landfills by increasing support for post-harvest food recovery efforts and addressing the threat to food security posed by extreme weather.
- Support funding for international food aid programs such as Food for Peace. As a person of faith, I am moved to help and advocate for people experiencing hunger and poverty—no matter where they live. This is why I urge you to support a farm bill that builds healthy, equitable, and sustainable food systems.

Sincerely,

(Sign, Print Name and Address)

(You can also send the letter to Senator Baldwin.)

Sen. Tammy Baldwin
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Baldwin,

...

June 2023						
Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 Church office hrs: 2-6 pm	2 Church open from 8:00 am-4 pm	3 WOW Emerging Talent 11-3
4 8:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion WOW Emerging Talent Art Show 11 am-3 pm	5	6	7 Adult Bible Study Breakfast 9 am at Schultz Restaurant in Tigerton (Bring Bible)	8 Church office hrs: 3-5 pm Church Council 5:30 pm church basement	9	10 Wittenberg Days & WOW Emerging Talent 11-3 Make Float at 10 AM at Kim T's house
11 8:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion Wittenberg Days, Parade at noon (w/our float!). WOW Emerging Talent Art Show 11 am-3	12	13 Free WOW Concert 6-8 PM in Art Park: Yata, Sinz & Orfield	14 Flag Day	15 Church office hrs: 3-5 pm	16	17
18 <u>Happy Father's Day</u> 8:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion	19	20	21 Adult Bible Study Breakfast 9 am at Schultz Restaurant in Tigerton (Bring Bible)	22 Church office hrs: 3-5 pm	23	24
25 10:00 am Outdoor Redeemer/Zion Joint Worship w/Holy Communion at Washington Park followed by potluck church picnic	26	27	28	29	30	

Communion: Communion will be given every Sunday that we have a pastor.

***Worship time is 8:30 am for Redeemer for May-August. Zion meets at 10:00 a.m. June-August. The two joint worship services followed by potluck picnics will be at 10:00 on June 25 at Washington Park (across from Wittenberg Grade School) and August 13 (at Zion). If you have yard games, please bring them along!**

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