

Excerpts from “Not Lutheran, Baptist, or Methodist, but the Church”

by Esther M. Bailey, (L Magazine-Empowering ELCA Leaders for Vital Service, Sept/Oct 2013)

***The primary incentive comes from Jesus in his second commandment in Matthew 22:39:
“Love your neighbor as yourself.”***

“If there was an award to be given to the church best practicing the art of neighboring, it might well go to Faith Lutheran Church in Golden, Colorado, pastored by Peter Morin. The church ministers jointly with other churches. “We don’t think of ourselves as Lutheran, Baptist, or Methodist,” the pastor said. “We think of ourselves as ‘the church.’” ...

The concept of Building Blocks Initiative was not new to Pastor Morin. Through a conversation with a friend about 20 years ago, he recognized that poor and marginalized people lived in the area where he ministered, and he needed to do something about it. “Following Jesus includes a concern about the whole world—not just about me and Jesus,” he said.

The churches jointly serve a community of 19,000 in various ways. Children who receive meals at school need food for the weekends, which they receive from food-filled backpacks distributed on Fridays. From a bus converted into a food wagon, people in poverty-stricken areas are served. In the community garden, food is grown for shelters and food pantries. Once a year, construction crews go through the neighborhood looking for run-down houses and buildings to repair. When school and city leaders enlist help to solve a problem, they go all in.

The group of pastors and volunteers do not need accolades for their efforts, but their rewards come in the form of a changed community. That is enough until they hear the words of Jesus: “Well done, good and faithful servant.” (Matt 25:23) ...

Authors of “The Art of Neighboring” describe a Building Block Initiative that takes us through the process. It’s like the answer to our prayer that God’s kingdom on earth come to us and to all persons, one block at a time.

Block 1: Know your neighbor. Learn their names and their children’s names too. Addressing people by name shows that you value them as individuals. The personal touch breaks down barriers so that people are more willing to listen to what you say.

Block 2: Bring on the party. Jesus loved a good party. He performed his first miracle at a wedding. He ate with sinners and called Zacchaeus, the tax collector, down from the tree to join him for a dinner party. It doesn’t have to be elaborate. Think Mary, not Martha. Just share what you have. Put on a barbecue in the back yard. Invite the neighbors to watch a sporting event on TV. Eat together, play games, share stories, laugh a lot, and have fun. ...

Block 3: Build relationships. Here comes the hard work. We have to take off our masks (figuratively) and become vulnerable. By so doing we encourage others to let down their guards. They share their hurts and we listen. When we understand where people are coming from, we become more tolerant of the inconveniences that come with living in community. ... There may be difficult people on our block. There will be times when we say, "It's not worth it to me to try to build a relationship with so-and-so." But God says, "It's not about you. It's about making a difference in your community."

Block 4: Postpone evangelism. Approaching people as the representative of a church tends to turn them off. Instead of feeling God's love, they think cult. As relationships progress, however, there will be opportunities to introduce God. ... When we are asked how we got through cancer or a tough situation, it's okay to point to faith. At Christmas time, a note on a card that accompanies a check or gift to someone in need might read, "I asked Jesus what he wanted for his birthday. He gave me his list and you are on it." That tells the recipient that he or she matters to God as well as to us.

Block 5: Form a united front. "We're better together. We can do together what we cannot do alone." Ask for ideas from the town leaders, other churches, the teachers, the principals, police officers, or anyone in authority. For more information on this initiative, check out www.ArtOfNeighboring.com.

Thank you to all our Redeemer members who are good neighbors in our community by helping with the food pantry, Alpha House, VFW, Lion's Club, our church, schools, ... and visiting those at Homme Home or shut-ins, and giving to charities throughout the world. Our community is a better place because of you!



THE POWER OF PRAYER WORKS!!

Please remember in your prayers the following members...

Ann Block	Kay & Reuben Carlson	Maggie Guestchow
Grace Hartleben	Vian Kersten	June Norrbom
Verna Tellock	Donna Kubiacyk	Marcia Tellock
Gordon & Agnes Schlender	Jean & Carleton Benz	
Lorna Alberg	Eugene & Joanne Pruess	

We are thankful for continued healing of Curt Low, Joanne Pruess, Reuben Carlson, Nancy Pehlke, and Saul Hanke, Kim Timm, and Lindsey Kersten!

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	715-393-0104	4) Lee Innerebner	715-253-2200
2) Ida Brekke	715-253-2734	5) Mary Netzler	715-253-6290
3) Gail Koehler	715-253-6275		

Our Monetary Discipleship for August 2022

Worship Date	Worship Attend	General Fund	Missions	Building Fund	Sunday School Offering	Other Income	Total
8-7	46	\$2,156.00					\$2,156.00
8-14	30	\$2,071.00					\$2,071.00
8-21	18	\$817.00					\$817.00
8-28	25	\$1575.00					\$1575.00
Total		\$6549.00					\$6549.00

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. Thank you!



September Birthdays

- 9-5 Carla Hanke
- 9-10 Sara Horne
- 9-13 Grace Hartleben
Dianne Long
Cheryl Tellock
- 9-17 Bonnie Sparr
- 9-22 Clint Horne
- 9-23 Makenna Dombeck
Saul Hanke
- 9-26 Amanda Boge
Vivian Hartleben
- 9-29 Bruce Hartleben
Paul Kristof
Courtney Rosenow

September Anniversaries

- 9-4 Paul & Kim Norrbom
- 9-11 John & Mary Anderson
- 9-23 Jordan & Amber Hull



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 (September 7th and 21st).



Community Events:

Mark your calendars for Redeemer's Fall Bazaar on Sat. Oct. 8th! 9am-2pm

It's not too soon to think about getting your craft items ready for sale or a basket raffle!

Basket ideas include, but are not limited to: a Movie Basket which might include DVD's, microwave popcorn, a popcorn bowl, sparkling juice; a Coffee Lovers' Basket which might include coffee, creamer, mugs, cookies; a Packer Fan Basket or a Badgers Fan Basket including sports themed items; a basket with products from a local business.

Ideas are endless! We also have a book sale and bake sale!

For questions, contact Arla Block or Lois Anderson.

Fall Art Show

WOW presents – 5 Photographers, "Life Through the Lens"

The fall art show will be an exhibition of photography at the WOWSPACE Gallery. The photographers are Roger Bloemers, Wausau; Brian P. Gutheinz, Bowler; Hans Schmitt, Birnamwood; Tom Walchesky, Howards Grove; and Brent Zeinert, Wittenberg.

A Free Grand Opening, "Meet the Photographers" reception will be held on Saturday, September 17th, 2 – 5 PM, with a cash bar, fresh apple cider, and light refreshments. Continuing shows will be Saturdays & Sundays, September 18th – October 2nd, 11 AM – 3 PM.

WOW Fall Theatre Production—"The Red Velvet Cake Wars"

Fridays and Saturdays, Oct 7-8 and Oct. 14-15 at 7:30 p.m.

This comedy, written by the team of Jones, Hope, and Wooten, is filled with colorful characters, crazy plot twists and lots of Southern charm. Tickets (\$12) are available from cast members and Wittenberg Sentry. You'll see lots of familiar faces (Miriam Nelson, Lois Anderson, and Nancy and Paul Pehlke.)



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
August 10, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Norrbom

Members present:

President: Paul Norrbom

Treasurer: Peggy Emmel

Secretary: Deb Rieck

WMA: Linda Evje

Education: Ann Hawley, Mary Peterson, Tracy Dombeck

Parish Life: Gail Koehler, Lois Anderson

A quorum was present.

Opening Devotions: Lois Anderson

Motion made by Lois Anderson, seconded by Gail Koehler, to approve the agenda.

Carried.

Council Visitors: Fay Rosenow

Motion made by Mary Peterson, seconded by Ann Hawley, to approve the July 14, 2022 minutes. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report shows an account balance of \$70,581.78 as of July 31, 2022. Of that amount, \$32,999.34 is non-budget, and the budget has a balance of \$37,582.44.

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

Motion made by Linda Evje, seconded by Lois Anderson, to use Thrivent Choice dollars to pay Dave U'Ren for the audio mixer sound board and cable. Carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parish Life

- Pie Social was on July 31st following the evening worship service.

Trustees

- Elevator was fixed. Dave U'Ren cleaned the connections of the smoke detector. Council discussed servicing of the elevator. Do we need a contract, or can we schedule as needed? Ann has been in contact with Otis and will contact NEIS regarding inspections.
- Dave U'Ren also worked on the sound system, so all the microphones are working. Thanks Dave!
- Church needs to be sprayed for bugs.

Worship/Music/Arts

- Fellowship will begin again sometime in September after service.
- Met with Zion regarding the upcoming service needs.
 - Redeemer farewell service will be August 14 with fellowship/snacks after.

Zion's will be August 28.

- August 21 Lois Anderson will lead a Lay Service at Redeemer and Zion
- August 28 Pastor Phil Bogen will lead worship with communion at Redeemer.
- September 4 Ann Hawley will lead a Lay Service at Redeemer and Zion.
- Substitute pastors will be contacted for future services.
- All white paraments will be purchased.

Motion made by Linda Evje, seconded by Lois Anderson, to have Ann Hawley purchase farewell gifts/food and fellowship snacks using Thrivent choice dollars. Carried.

Parish Education

- Sunday School teachers same as last year: Tracy Dombeck, Ann Hawley, Makenna Dombeck. Substitute teachers: Mary Peterson and Mary Mattes. Classes will start September 18. Parents will be emailed. There are 12 potential students.
- Confirmation will be during Sunday School time. They will alternate between Zion and Redeemer where students can stay for services after. Zion is getting a curriculum and parents will teach.
- Laura Clark will lead singing.
- Went through the supplies, curriculum, and bibles to see what is needed.
- Sunday School students will be helping at worship services on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

OLD BUSINESS

- Pastor Sharon's farewell service was moved to August 14th since she will be out of town on the 21st.
- Substitute Pastors need to be contacted for future services.

NEW BUSINESS

- Lois Anderson will lead the Nominating Committee this year.

Next Council meeting, Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 5:30pm.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Motion made by Linda Evje, seconded by Mary Peterson, to adjourn. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Rieck
Council Secretary

ZION/REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Meeting with Pastor Asher

August 10, 2022

Pastor Asher, Associate to the Bishop, met with Zion/Redeemer Councils and church members to discuss the transition process. He shared two handouts: *When a Pastor Leaves* and *Responsibilities of Church Council in the Call Process*.

Highlights:

-One MSP Committee needs to be formed with members from both churches. This committee needs to complete the Ministry Site Profile. This is lengthy and could take 3 to 6 months.

-One Call Committee needs to be formed with members from both churches. The MSP and Call Committees can overlap if anyone is interested on being on both.

-A 2/3 vote from each church is needed to call a pastor.

-Responsibilities of the Councils: Create a joint vision plan for both churches and work on a salary package that is realistic and sustainable for both the new pastor and the parish.

Things to note:

-There is a pastor shortage. There are more calls than available pastors, and it is more difficult to find pastors in rural areas. There are no available interim pastors, so we need to reach out to substitute pastors as soon as possible.

-If anyone from the parish has been considering going into ministry, please consider the Teem Program. This program allows an individual to serve as a pastor while going through the seminary process.

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)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please sign up today!

Our list is located on the table in the gathering space. Be an usher, greeter, reader, communion assistant, or videographer. For those trained in counting collections after church, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the secretary's office.

Thank you for helping!

Starting Sept. 11, we will have fellowship in the Gathering Space. There is a signup on the bulletin board for treats. Thank you!!

Transition Process for Pastor Sharon's retirement: May – Aug. 31, 2022

1. ✓ Announce to 2 councils
2. ✓ Announce in writing to all members
3. ✓ Connect 2 council presidents with Bishop's office
4. ✓ Schedule exit interview with councils and Pastor O'Calligan
5. ✓ Complete Administrative checklist. Then send to Synod. Update all rosters and procedures.
6. ✓ Agree with Parish Council on boundaries after I leave. (*working on it*)
7. ✓ Plan time/space for farewells
-with colleagues, community groups, congregation individuals & families, &
homebound members. Arrange final Sunday worship and celebration with
councils/committees.
8. ✓ Clean office

I will work with 2 congregations, councils, and secretaries to accomplish the above. I ask you to pray for me and your leaders, that we will help this be a good transition, celebrating our time together and working to have all things in order for your next pastor. Now is a good time to write down your constructive comments regarding where we all can improve.

Pastor Sharon thanks you for the words of encouragement, memories shared, and gifts from the congregations! Happy Retirement, Pastor Sharon!

Community Giving

WB Weekend Backpack Program



The Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District along with the Wittenberg Food Pantry has implemented a backpack program which provides nutritional, easy-to-prepare food for students in families that are struggling to have food needs met over the weekends during the school year. Pantry volunteers fill backpacks that students take home Friday and return on Monday. There are over 40 students enrolled in this program and the cost of feeding each one is about \$100 per year.

Redeemer Lutheran has donated \$200.00 collected from the Lenten

Soup/Sandwich donations to support this program.

Individually if you are interested in sponsoring a child for a year for the WB Weekend Backpack Program, please send \$100 to Wittenberg Food Pantry, PO Box 212, Wittenberg WI 54499. Include a note denoting that it is for the WB Weekend Backpack Program, and also list "In honor of" or "In memory of" if you wish. If it better fits your budget, you could also sponsor a child for a semester for \$50. All donations will be listed on their website at wittenbergfoodpantry.weebly.com Thank you for helping feed the hungry in our community!

Aspirus Angels: Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice Services is in need of volunteers to work with terminally ill patients and their families by providing presence, respite, and companionship. There is more information on becoming a Hospice Volunteer on our bulletin board, or go to www.aspirus.org/volunteers. Go to the middle of the page and click on "Wausau Area" and then your area of interest. Training is based on your schedule and needs.

Zion-Redeemer Lutheran Parish Schedule of worship leaders	
Sept. 4th, 2022	Lay leader Ann Hawley
*Sept. 11th, 2022	Rev. Trphine Schruba
*Sept. 18th, 2022	Rev. Trphine Schruba
Sept. 25th, 2022	Lay leader Arla Block
Oct. 2nd, 2022	Lay leader Lois Anderson
*Oct. 9th, 2022	Rev. Asher O'Callaghan
*Oct. 16th, 2022	Rev. Gary Frofeth
*Oct. 23rd, 2022	Rev. Jen Hoffman
*Oct. 30th, 2022	Rev. Jen Hoffman
*Nov. 6th, 2022	Rev. Jen Hoffman
*Nov. 13th, 2022	Rev. Trphine Schruba
*Nov. 20th, 2022	Rev. Jen Hoffman
Nov. 27th, 2022	Lay leader Ann Hawley
*Dec. 4th, 2022	Rev. Jen Hoffman
*Dec. 11th, 2022	Rev. Phil Bogen
*Dec. 18th, 2022	Rev. Jen Hoffman

*** We will have communion every Sunday that we have a pastor.**

Altar Guild

September: Peggy Hartleben & Kimberly Timm

October: Deb Rieck

November: Lori Hartleben & Fay Rosenow

December: Linda Evje & Judy Boda

[Many thanks to Linda Evje for arranging pastors and lay leaders for Redeemer and Zion through December 18th!](#)

Thank you to Fay Rosenow, Paul Norrbom, and Sarah Horne for volunteering to be on the Call Committee/Ministry Site Profile Committee. (Alternates: Kaylin Karcz and Kimberly Timm) We plan on having our 1st brainstorming session after church on Sept. 18th at 9:30 to help the committee: talking about what we will be looking for in our new pastor. All are welcome! Please come and share your ideas.

Info from the Aging and Disability Resource Center: Shawano County

Book Club: The ADRC offers a free book club to anyone interested in attending. If you need a copy of the book just let us know! The book club will be held on the following dates:

- October 12: at the Shawano Library from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm. The book being discussed is “The Wounder Healer” by Dr. Omar Reda. This meeting will be discussing the first half of the book. The Second half will be discussed on November 9.
- September 15: at the ADRC office in Oconto Falls from 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm. The book being discussed is “Still Alice” by Lisa Genova.

Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body: September 13 from 11:00 am – noon at Shawano County Human Services.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers: This course will help caregivers learn strategies and self-confidence while caring for a friend or family member. The class will be held on Wednesdays (Sept 28 – Nov 2) at the Bond Center in Oconto from 9:30 am – noon.

Boost Your Brain: This course is designed to help individuals learn new habits to maintain cognitive health while also practicing skills for better memory performance. The class will meet on Mondays (Oct 17 – Dec 5) at the ADRC office in Oconto Falls from noon – 1:30 pm.

Memory Café (Oconto County): The Oconto County Memory Café meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm.

Memory Café (Shawano County): The Shawano County Memory Café meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm.

Caregivers Support Group (Oconto Falls): This caregiver support group takes place at the ADRC in Oconto Falls the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

Caregiver Support Group (Shawano): This caregiver support group takes place at the Shawano Library the 4th Wednesday of each month from 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm. Contact Mary Jo at 715-526-4712 or Kristin Waukau at 715-799-5270 for more information.

Early Stages Support Group (Shawano): This support group is geared towards those in the early stages of dementia. The meetings take place at the Shawano Library the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

Brain Check-Ups

A brain check-up is a wellness tool that helps identify possible changes in memory and cognition. Brain check-ups take about 15 minutes and will be held at local libraries from 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm on the following dates:

September 7 – Lakewood Library

October 4 – Menominee Library in Keshena

Shawano County UW-Extension is also offering the following events: (see fliers on bulletin board for more info)

- Mental Health First Aid: September 3rd from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, virtual. Contact 715-526-6136 to register.
- Youth Mental Health First Aid: October 3rd from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, virtual. Contact 715-526-6136 to register.

Thank you!!

Krissy, *Fiscal Support Specialist*, W7327 Anderson Ave, Shawano WI 54166, (855) 492-2372 (715) 526-6787 – Fax krissy@adrcwolfriver.org

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.

Dear Redeemer & Zion Friends,

I appreciated worship and so loved reading the memories ring binder. It reminded me of all the good ministry we did together and all of the precious relationships God has given us as a two-point parish.

I cherish this keepsake !!!!! I'll write more in the October newsletter.

**Love,
Pastor Sharon**



Youth News

Sunday School will start on September 18th at 9:30 a.m. after our 8:30 worship. For those in second grade or younger, your teachers will be Tracy and Makenna Dombeck. For those in grades 2-5, your teacher will be Ann Hawley. Laura Clark will be the music leader again this year. Thank you also to Mary Peterson and Mary Mattes for volunteering to be substitute teachers.

There will be a planning meeting for Confirmation on Sept. 7th at 6:30 pm at Zion Lutheran Church for parents and other teachers. Confirmation will be on Sunday mornings at 9:30 (the same time as Sunday School.) The location will alternate monthly between Redeemer and Zion. Confirmation will start either Sept. 25th or Oct. 2nd.

Crossways Camping Ministries Homecoming 2022 – Save the Date

**Homecoming 2022 at Waypost Camp
Saturday, October 8, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**



Last fall, we decided to try something new. Instead of holding a fancy Gala dinner, we planned a Homecoming event to welcome people back to camp after Covid kept so many of us away. It was a wonderful day of reunion and outdoor fun. The response was so positive, we're planning Homecoming 2022.

We're still planning all the details, but we hope you'll put a note on your calendar now. We'll have classic camp activities, a great meal, and a chance to tour the site. This will also be a fundraiser event, helping to raise campership money for our Summer 2023 campers!

September 2022

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 Church office hrs: 3-5 pm	2	3
4 8:30 am Worship	5	6	7 Adult Bible Study Breakfast 9 am at Schultz Restaurant in Tigerton (Bring Bible) Confirmation meeting at Zion at 6:30 pm for parents/teachers	8 Church office hrs: 3-5 pm Church Council 5:30 pm church basement	9	10
11 8:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion	12	13	14	15	16	17 WOW Fall Art Show- reception 2-5 pm
18 8:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School & Brainstorming mtg for all concerning new pastor skills WOW Fall Art Show- 11 am-3 pm	19	20	21 Adult Bible Study Breakfast 9 am at Schultz Restaurant in Tigerton (Bring Bible)	22	23	24 WOW Fall Art Show- 11 am-3 pm
25 8:30 am Worship 9:30 Sunday School WOW Fall Art Show- 11 am-3 pm	26	27	28 Newsletter deadline for September newsletter	29 Church office hrs: 3-5 pm	30	

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

*****Worship time changes to 8:30 am for Redeemer for September-December. Zion will meet at 10:30 am.**

(Ann Hawley will be on vacation Sept. 9-28. Contact Linda Evje if needed.)

Redeemer Lutheran Church
W18205 College Avenue
P.O. Box 220
Wittenberg, WI 54499
(715) 253-2590
redeemerwitt@gmail.com



*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