



August 2020 Newsletter
Sponsored by
Carol Klinner and family
in memory of Hilbert

From Pastor Sharon:

My dear friends in Christ, grace and peace from God, our Creator, our Redeemer, and our Sanctifier!

This past month has been a whirlwind for me - so many transitions happening all at once: a move from country to city, a major change for my husband Phil from working full-time to retirement. It meant so much to me to hear him lead worship and say good-bye to his beloved congregations last Sunday. You can hear his final sermon at Trinity and St. Peter on our FB page or on You Tube. You will also be able to see him in person as he begins to worship with us.

Redeemer folks were shaken by the death of Tim Backes, mourning his loss, and celebrating his life at his funeral last Tuesday. Our prayers continue for God to be close to this beautiful family who had to say good-bye way too soon to their dad and brother and spouse. Blessed be his memory! Thanks be to God who has won the victory over death through Jesus' death on the cross and resurrection.

Amid these big changes, Covid 19 took a back seat in my personal life. A relief and a reality check! Our arguments over political divides seem so petty compared to the value of each single life! "Normal" life with family concerns and job/school realities need our attention. Life and death need our respect! May God help each of us to hold off on our quick, often insensitive, comments so that we can take the time to truly listen. How can we decide to first see the good in others? Politics should not be our religion. Our faith is what calls us to seek out the treasure that God has created in each precious person! This kind of thinking and believing is bound to change each one of us and then to change the world that surrounds us. Is it easy? Not at all! Thank God for grace and forgiveness!

These devotions helped me this morning... from Ted Loder's book **Guerrillas of Grace, Prayers for the Battle. A prayer entitled "Go with Me in a New Exodus"**

"O god of fire and freedom, deliver me from bondage to what can be counted, and go with me in a new exodus toward what (truly) counts, but can only be

measured.....in bread shared and swords becoming plowshares; in bodies healed and minds liberated; in songs sung and justice done; in laughter in the night and joy in the morning; in love through all seasons and great gladness of heart; in all people coming together and a kingdom coming in glory; in your name being praised and my becoming an alleluia, through Jesus the Christ.” Amen

As Christians, those who, by the power of the Holy Spirit, put Jesus first, who look to Jesus as their example, we must note our own tendency to count our needs and desires as all that matters. This is our “bondage” – the drive to be right, even if it strips away another’s dignity. We need each other and God to help us be still and return to God’s ways. What is good and healing, freeing, and providing justice and joy for all of God’s people?

Pray with me again from the same author:

“O God, turn your Spirit loose now, and me with it, that I may go to where the darkness is to face with you the terrible uncertainty of tomorrow: of what will happen, of what might happen, what could happen, to me and to my children and to my friends, to my job, to my relationships, to my country; all that I cannot see, but fantasize, that I would prevent, but cannot, and so must accept as possibilities. Facing the uncertainty, Lord, grant me grace to look at it directly and openly and truly, to laugh at it with crazy faith in the crazy promise that nothing can separate me from your love; to laugh for the joy of it, the joy of saving surprises that also stir in the darkness. And so, I trust, despite the dark uncertainty of tomorrow, in the light of my todays, in the cross, and in a kingdom coming, and, so I move on and pray on with Jesus, my friend and redeemer.” Amen

Do not lose heart, people of God! God can use these turbulent times for good. Look for that goodness! Let your speech and actions be about what God is doing in our world: still creating, redeeming, and sanctifying. Working through your creativity to live a life of forgiveness, as part of God’s kingdom! God promises to be close beside us in our suffering, to change the world’s brokenness into wholeness.

See you at worship as we share the Word of God and the bread of life!!!!

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
July 16, 2020

The meeting was called to order by President Arla Block

Members present:

President: Arla Block

Pastor Sharon Fox Bogen

Secretary: Deb Rieck

Treasurer/WMA: Peggy Emmel

Education: Ann Hawley, Mary Peterson

Parish Life: Lois Anderson,

Trustee: Paul Pehlke, Brad Zeinert, Ryan Buntrock

Worship, Music, & Arts: Linda Evje, Maribeth Netzler

A quorum was present.

Opening Devotions by Pastor Sharon

Motion made by Lois Anderson, seconded by Brad Zeinert, to approve the agenda.
Carried.

Council visitors: Miriam Nelson. Motion made by Mary Peterson, seconded by Lois Anderson, to appoint Miriam Nelson to the Parish Life Committee for the remainder of this calendar year. Carried.

Motion made by Paul Pehlke, seconded by Miriam Nelson, to approve the June 2020 Council Minutes. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report shows an account balance of \$58,528.26 as of June 30, 2020. Of that amount, \$43,217.14 is non-budget, and the budget has a balance of \$15,311.12.

Peggy shared with Council the Cemetery Association Investments. Total investments as of June 30, 2020 is \$65,544.83.

Peggy along with Paul Pehlke wrote and applied for a \$500 Synod Technology Grant.

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

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Shared June worship attendance numbers.
- Reviewed safe practices
- Continues to provide pastoral support via home visits, phone calls, and other online portals.
- Attends Zoom meetings on Tuesdays with Synod officials and/or other Pastoral Leaders in our community.

- Shared that this year's Synod Assembly on September 25-26, 2020 will be a virtual meeting.
- Updated Council on the plans for a Memorial Worship and Graveside Ceremony on September 19 for Betty Schoepke.
- Will be taking off Sunday, July 26, to attend Pastor Phil's last services before his retirement. Is planning to take off October 1-8 to attend an out of town wedding if it is safe to travel.
- Met with Laura Clark and our confirmation families to plan for Confirmation when it resumes.
- Insurance Update: Pastor's son will be removed from the family Portico Insurance provided by the church as of August 1, 2020. He will receive these benefits from his employer. The rate for this insurance coverage is close to the monthly stipend that will be provided by Zion and Redeemer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parish Life

- Will be looking at funeral and wedding policies at an upcoming meeting and will share these with the council,

Parish Education

- VBS will be canceled this year.
- Sunday School resuming in the fall will depend on if public schools reopen. Once a decision is made plans, dates, and regulations will need to be in place. Will there be a Rally Sunday?
- Plans are in place for confirmation to resume if possible.

Worship/Music/Arts

- Services with current precautions in place will continue.
- Communion will be offered every Sunday in August.
- New Usher and Communion instructions are needed for these new procedures.
- Discussed possibly having a Park Service on September 20th and inviting Zion.

Trustees

- Paul met with the state elevator inspector. Once Ottis comes for their inspection the Inspector will sign off on the elevator.
- Furnace meeting won't happen until August.
- Cemetery restoration quote came in way higher than what we were told so we did not have it done. More information is needed before we could proceed with this.
- Leaf Gutter Quotes: \$10,000 to replace gutters with guards and \$5,000 for just guards. The price is high due to the pitch of the roof and supports needed. This will be tabled until next spring.

OLD BUSINESS

- Window donor list found. Ann will work on this.
- Furnace committee recommendations: None yet
- Office Computer: Tabled until we hear about the Tech Grant

NEW BUSINESS

- The \$40,000 CD came due it received \$182 in interest. Interest rates are extremely low right now. The \$85,000 will come due in August. These are currently 3 month CDs. Discussion on if we should make changes was tabled.
- There will be a Memorial Worship & Graveside Ceremony for Betty Schoepke in September. Pastor was contacted by her family. She was an active member here years ago and her husband is buried in our cemetery. The family will be gifting back to Redeemer one gravesite they have here that they will not be using.

Next Council meeting, Thursday, August 13 at 5:00pm.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Rieck
Council Secretary

Our Monetary Discipleship for July, 2020

Worship Date	Worship Attend	General Fund	Building Fund	Sunday School Offering	Other Income	Total
7/5	13	\$ 1750			\$60 - Deb Rieck Newsletter sponsor	\$1810
7/12	25	\$1796	\$50		\$100 - Missions	\$1946
7/19	18	\$1775				\$1775
7/26	17	\$972				\$972
TOTAL	Average: 18	\$6293	\$50		\$160	\$6503

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** if you include cash. Using the envelopes insures you get credit for monies given to the church.

August Worship Assistants

Please sign up to assist with worship.
The sheets are on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space.
or call Linda Evje (715-454-6613), Peggy Emmel (881-0858),
or Mary Netzler (715-253-6290) Thank you.

Date	Usher	Reader	Communion Assistant	Soloist	Organist/ Pianist
Sunday August 2	Linda Evje	Joy Hartleben	Deb Rieck	Arla Block	Linda Clough
Sunday August 9				Kari Zeinert	Barb Nelson
Sunday August 16		Lois Anderson	Linda Evje	Arla Block	Linda Clough
Sunday August 23	Linda Evje			Kari Zeinert	Barb Nelson
Sunday, August 30				Arla Block	Linda Clough

Your help is needed to assist with worship services, as a reader, communion assistant, or usher. Please contact one of the members of the Worship, Music and Arts committee if you are able to help.

Linda Evje 715-454-6613 Maribeth Netzler 715-253-6290

Peggy Emmel 715-881-0858



Ushers

Fortunately at Redeemer, we are not passing the offering plates, so anyone can be an usher!

Following our current guidelines, there is a change to ushering duties.

- Ushers are asked to wear masks as they dismiss for communion.

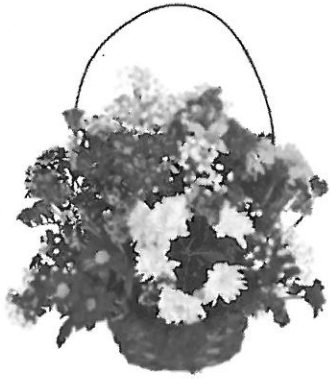
- Ushers are asked to dismiss members for communion starting at the rear of the church and moving to the front. Please dismiss so that social distancing is followed.
- Please keep in mind this is still part of the service, and not a time for socializing.

Communion Servers

- Please wear a mask and gloves during the time you are assisting.
- Place a wafer and cup of wine or grape juice on a napkin. Have approximately 4 set-up at a time.

Readers

- Read as usual from the lectern. You do not need to wear a mask.
- Monthly readings are in the mailboxes, in the slot marked lessons.



If anyone has artificial flowers they would like to donate,
please bring them to the church.
Worship, Music and Arts Committee

ALTAR GUILD:

January & February: Gail Koehler & Ruthie Olsen
March & 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 & December: Lori Hartleben & Fay Rosenow

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

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Thank you to all the newsletter sponsors:

January, 2020 **Carleton & Jean Benz** – In honor of their 65th Wedding Anniversary and in memory of sons Larry and Brian
February, 2020 **Arletta Crowell** – In memory of her husband, Elmer
 Roland & Karen Hendrikson – In memory of Roland's sisters Margaret, Carol and Karen
March, 2020 **June Norrbom** – In memory of Carl and Loren
May, 2020 **Bob & Lorna Alberg**
June, 2020 **Lee & JoAnn Innerebner**
July, 2020 **Vian Kersten** – In memory of her husband Milan
August, 2020 **Carol Klinner and family** – In memory of Hilbert Klinner
September, 2020 **Sharon Philipp** – In memory of her husband John Philipp
October, 2020 **Melana Schlueter** – In honor of her mother, Shirley Hartleben
November, 2020
December, 2020 **Deb Rieck** – In memory of her parents, Richard & Patricia Semrow

If you would like to sponsor the newsletter for 2020, 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!

August Birthdays

Pastor Phil Bogen 8-1
Jesse Hanke 8-2
Lacey Czerwonka 8-2
Alexandria Lee Dombeck 8-3
Lorna Alberg 8-4
Jami Johnson 8-4
Kim Gilbertson 8-8
Ida Brekke 8-9
Sharla Philipp 8-17
Brad Zeinert 8-18
Brandon Froom 8-20
Joy Hartleben 8-20
Kyli Hartleben 8-22
Owen Hanke 8-27
Ian Zeinert 8-28
Lois Anderson 8-30
Tom Kersten 8-31



**& Birthdays
Anniversaries**

Anniversaries

Blake & Lacey Czerwonka 8-3
Adam & Kaylin Karcz 8-12
Randy & Jackie Berndt 8-15
Karl & Lois Anderson 8-19
David & Nancy Lubber 8-19
Phil & Sharon Bogen 8-29

Bible Word Search:

NAMES AND TITLES OF JESUS

U Q O K A I S N S M T K R P M
V L F Z J T Y O A E E O A O R
O M G Y V O N T N Z I C B X K
Y D N Y M O E N U V A N B O A
D L O V F H T C A S I R I X R
E R I G W A R S P D S H E W E
N T O G B M A L I D O V Z N D
F D J L H Q Y V K R T T R Z E
I G Q R R T A E G T H V E P E
P B Y I H D S E K E U C T X M
T S W K F T Y A J I O Q S L E
L I I O N A M F O N O S A H R
V N N Q Z Y K V A D E J M V R
G O J E S U S E M M A N U E L
S V B G G W T Z T P B Q J F E

CHRIST	EMMANUEL	JESUS
KING of the Jews	LAMB of God	LIGHT of the World
LORD	MASTER	NAZARENE
RABBI	REDEEMER	SAVIOR
SON OF DAVID	SON OF GOD	SON OF MAN

Ref: Wikipedia

Instructions: Find and circle the words shown in all capital letters.
Words may be forward, backward, vertical, or diagonal within the puzzle.

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August

2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10:30 Worship with Holy Communion						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
10:30 Worship with Holy Communion				5:00 pm Council Meeting		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
10:30 Worship with Holy Communion						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
10:30 Worship with Holy Communion		6:00 pm Redeemer/ Zion Meeting @ Zion				
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
10:30 Worship with Holy Communion						