



February 2019 Newsletter
Sponsored by Fay Rosenow
in memory of her husband, Ron

The East-Central Synod of Wisconsin recently hired Ben Stepanek to be the communications manager for the synod. Ben's primary task is to share news about the synod and its activities with pastors, congregations, and the larger community. At the synod council's quarterly meeting in January, Ben asked council about the success of the synod's communication in the past. Among the responses came this insightful comment from a pastor in Wausau, "We are not suffering from a lack of information. We are suffering from a lack of interest."

We live in an age where many have lost interest in organized religion. These are the "spiritual, but not religious" group. Others are only half-interested. Perhaps they attend worship occasionally. Perhaps they send their children to Christian education, but find little value in attending worship or engaging in activities at church themselves.

It seems the local church is no longer interesting, or not as interesting as some of the other things seeking our time and attention. This reality is one of the reasons Redeemer is discussing the benefits of parish model ministry with other churches in our area. Redeemer is negatively impacted by a lack of interest. What about our community?

Disinterest in the local church has a ripple effect in the community. I recently read an article that asserts, when we choose to have less connection to and less interaction with people and organizations who can lift us up, who can help us out, and who are always there for us, a certain way of life disappears. Churches, historically, provide vital social services to community members. When churches face a decline in resources, problems develop, or get worse, in the surrounding community. For example, looking at Redeemer's budget, we see our annual contribution to The Wittenberg Food Pantry dropped from \$1,000 in 2018 to \$500 this year. To adapt to our financial reality, Redeemer has decreased the positive impact we can make in the lives of those who are hungry in our community. Can you think of other ways Redeemer's declining resources impacts Wittenberg?

We are not suffering from a lack of information in this day and age. We are suffering from a lack of interest. In light of this, I wonder what keeps you interested in being active at Redeemer. What keeps you interested in attending worship, bringing youth to Sunday School and Confirmation instruction, going to a Bible study, giving an offering, and attending a fellowship events? What keeps you interested in growing in your relationship with Jesus and living out your faith day after day? I welcome your feedback.

Blessings to you,
Pastor Amy

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
January 13, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Rick Froom. Members present included Vice-President Rick Froom, Secretary Mary Peterson, Treasurer Kim Norrbom, Paul Pehlke,, Faith Kristof, Ann Hawley, Maribeth Netzler, Lois Anderson, Ryan Buntrock and Pastor Amy. A quorum was present.

Motion made by Lois Anderson, seconded by Paul Pehlke to approve the agenda. Carried.

Council visitors : Peggy Hartleben and Peggy Emmel with questions concerning putting money away after church.

No meeting minutes available from last meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- - Kim reported an account balance of \$76,983.90 as of December 31, 2018. Of that amount, \$62,247.82 is non-budget, and the budget has a balance of \$14,736.08.

Motion by Paul Pehlke, seconded by Ryan Buntrock to give Kevin Rosenow a \$500 Visa gift card for all the extra work he did on the window project, Carried.

Motion by Paul Pehlke, seconded by Maribeth Netzler to approve the bills as presented to be paid. Carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Conducted worship services at Redeemer and Homme Home.

Made hospital and home visits to those in need.

Attended joint council meeting for Trinity/St Johns in Birnamwood.

Two Intern meetings.

Ministerium meeting at Peace in Tilleda.

Con't Ed conference on Lutheran-Roman Catholic dialog.

Homme Aging board meeting.

Spoke at memorial service for Mike Long.

Met with Exploration task force.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parish Life

Met for evaluations for Pastor and Kim.

Parish Education

Met Jan 23

Worship/Music/Arts

Christmas trees need replacing.

Trustees

Replaced hot water heater and pump.
Thermostat in gathering space need attention.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual meeting Jan 20th.

Next Council meeting, Sunday February 10th.

Motion by Paul Pehlke, seconded by Ann Hawley to adjourn. Carried.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Peterson
Council Secretary

Our Monetary Discipleship for January 2019

| Worship Date | Worship Attend | General Fund | Building Fund | Sunday School Offering | Other |
|--------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------------|----------------|
| 1/6 | 57 | \$ 1555 | \$ 113 | | \$ 50 Missions |
| 1/13 | 58 | \$ 1415.05 | | | |
| 1/20 | 66 | \$ 4504 | \$ 111 | | |
| 1/27 | 36 | \$ 759 | \$ 10 | | |
| Total | 217 | \$ 8233.05 | \$ 234 | | \$ 50 |

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.

February Worship Assistants

| Date | Children's Time Reader | Usher | Reader | Communion Assistant | Acolyte |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Sunday February 3 | | Dick & Ruthie Olsen | Ann Hawley | Joy Hartleben | Joseph Meyer |
| Sunday February 10 | Ann Hawley | Linda Evje | Lois Anderson | ————— | NEEDED |
| Sunday February 17 | Fay Rosenow | Dan & Karon Weisensel | Fay Rosenow | Karon Weisensel | Owen Hanke |
| Sunday February 24 | | Dan & Karon Weisensel | Joy Hartleben | ————— | NEEDED |

ALTAR GUILD:

January & February: Gail Koehler & Ruthie Olsen
 March & April: Dianne Long & Leslie Hill
 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 2019 – **Arletta Crowell** – In memory of her husband, Elmer
 February 2019 – **Fay Rosenow** – In memory of her husband, Ron
 March 2019 – June Norrbom – In memory of her husband, Carl and son, Loren
 June 2019 – **Maribeth & James Netzler** – In honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary
 August 2019 – **Carol Klinner** – In memory of her husband, Hilbert

If you would like to sponsor the newsletter for 2019, 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!

Tithe\$ and Offering\$ for Mission and Ministry

Our Operating Budget for 2019 is **\$124,859.72**.

We need **\$10,404.98** a month OR **\$2,401.15** a week in tithes and offerings to meet our proposed expenses for ministry and mission promises.

What are some of Redeemer's ministry expenses?

- Utilities for the church – electricity, heat, sewer & water
- Utilities for the parsonage
- Office supplies – paper, stamps, copier maintenance
- Sunday School supplies and curriculum materials
- Confirmation supplies and curriculum materials
- Afterschool @ Redeemer supplies
- Vacation Bible School supplies and curriculum materials
- *Christ in Our Home* Devotionals
- *The Word in Season* Devotionals
- *Journeying Through Grief* booklet sets
- Newspaper advertising
- Synod Assembly registration fees
- Communion wafers and wine
- Baptismal candles and clothes
- Organ & Piano maintenance
- Salaries for organists, pianists, choir director, church secretary, custodian, and pastor.



What are Redeemer's mission promises?

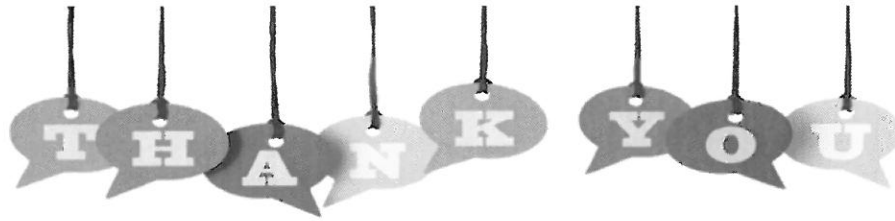
- \$2700 to the East-Central Synod of WI
- \$250 to Homme Youth and Family/LSS
- \$250 to Crossways Camping Ministries
- \$500 to Homme Home for the Aging Resident Fund
- \$100 to the Shawano Area Conference
- \$500 to the Wittenberg Food Pantry

According to the 2018 Annual Report, Redeemer has **180 potential giving units (household/individuals)**. Of that number, **102 are giving offerings**. That leaves **78 potential givers who are not contributing** to the mission or ministry of the congregation.

If you are not currently contributing financially to Redeemer, please prayerfully consider doing so. If you are a regular giver, thank you for your support! As you are able, continue your support, and if possible, consider increasing your support.

As a reminder:

- * Offering Envelopes are available in the Gathering Space.
- * Please write your name on the outside of the envelope, if you want your contribution recorded on your 2019 Giving Statement.
- * Please use an envelope each time you give to Redeemer and its ministries, even if you are contributing via check.



TO OUR OUTGOING COUNCIL MEMBERS

Vice President: *Rick Froom*
Secretary: *Mary Peterson*
Parish Life: *Mary Mattes*
Trustees: *Chet Matz*
Worship, Music, & Arts: *Evie Low*

TO CONTINUING COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: *Dan Weisensel*
Parish Education: *Tracy Dombeck & Ann Hawley*
Parish Life: *Karon Weisensel & Lois Anderson*
Trustees: *Ryan Buntrock*
Worship, Music, & Arts: *Faith Kristof & Maribeth Netzler*



TO NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

Vice President: *Arla Block*
Secretary: *Deb Rieck*
Parish Education: *Mary Peterson*
Parish Life: *Joy Hartleben*
Trustee: *Paul Pehlke (3 yr) & Brad Zeinert (1 yr)*
Worship, Music, & Arts: *Peggy Emmel*

TO SPECIAL MEETING DELEGATES

Synod Assembly: *Arla Block & Karon Weisensel*
Homme Home for the Aging Annual Meeting: *Arla Block & Judy Boda*
Crossways Camping Ministries Annual Meeting: *Ann Hawley & Miriam Nelson*
Shawano Conference Annual Meeting: *Dan & Karon Weisensel*

TO 2019 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Miriam Nelson, Carla Hanke, Rick Froom, & Leslie Hill

ONE more person is still needed to serve on this committee. The committee will meet in November. If you are interested in joining please contact Pastor Amy.

Redeemer Lutheran Church Council 2019

Pastor: Amy Perron, Pastoram00@gmail.com, 715-347-7555

President: Dan Weisensel, dan.weisensel@co.shawano.wi.us , 715-881-0505 (2nd yr, 1st term exp 12/19)

Vice-President: Arla Block, abblock@outlook.com, 715-454-6498 (1st year, 1st term, exp 12/21)

Secretary: Deb Rieck, drieck2bze@yahoo.com, 715-881-0387 (elected annually, no term limit)

Treasurer: Kim Norrbom, norrb5@gmail.com, 715-454-6217

Parish Life

| | |
|--|--|
| Karon Weisensel, hgrammakaron@gmail.com, 715-881-0178 | Church Council (3 rd year, 1 st term exp. 12/19) |
| Lois Anderson, bltanderson0@gmail.com, 715-253-2603 | Church Council (2 nd year, 1 st term exp. 12/20) |
| Joy Hartleben, jhartleben@wittbirn.k12.wi.us, 715-881-0960 | Church Council (1 st year, 1 st term, exp 12/21) |
| Fay Rosenow, plake@frontiernet.net, 715-793-4665 | WELCA President |
| Peggy Hartleben, hartlebenpeggy@yahoo.com, 715-581-2339 | Financial Secretary |

Trustee Committee

| | |
|---|--|
| Brad Zeinert (filled vacancy), bzeinert65@gmail.com, 715-881-1788 | Church Council (3 rd year, 1 st term exp. 12/19) |
| Ryan Buntrock, beagle04@hotmail.com | Church Council (2 nd year, 1 st term exp. 12/20) |
| Paul Pehlke, npehlke@gmail.com, 715-573-2231 | Church Council (1 st year, 2 nd term exp 12/21) |
| Deb Rieck | Congregational Secretary (elected annually, no term limit) |
| Arla Block | Congregational Vice President (1 st year, 1 st term exp 12/21) |

Parish Education Committee

| | |
|---|--|
| Tracy Dombek, dertra94@hotmail.com, 715-297-4666 | Church Council (3 rd year, 1 st term exp. 12/19) |
| Ann Hawley, annh54400@aol.com, 715-446-2119 | Church Council (2 nd year, 2 nd term exp. 12/20) |
| Mary Peterson, norwaypetefm@aol.com, 715-454-6603 | Church Council (1 st year, 1 st term exp 12/21) |

Worship, Music and Arts Committee

| | |
|---|--|
| Faith Kristof, fmkri51@gmail.com, 715-253-2637 | Church Council (3 rd year, 1 st term exp 12/19) |
| Maribeth Netzler, jmnetzler@gmail.com, 715-253-6290 | Church Council (2 nd year, 1 st term exp. 12/20) |
| Peggy Emmel, pemmel06@gmail.com, | Church Council (1 st year, 1 st term exp 12/21) |
| Leslie Hill, thehills5357@gmail.com, 715-253-2017 | Member at-large (choir) |
| David Schmidt, shirleyndave@hotmail.com, 715-253-2217 | Member at-large (choir) |
| Shirley Schmidt, shirleyndave@hotmail.com, 715-253-2217 | Member at-large (choir) |
| Fay Rosenow, plake@frontiernet.net, 715-793-4665 | Member at large |
| Miriam Nelson, mnelson@wolfrivermedia.com, 715-253-2737 | Member at-large |
| Barb Nelson, bknbdwi@gmail.com, 715-449-3077 | Organist |
| Linda Clough, alinl@hotmail.com 715-253-2789 | Organist |

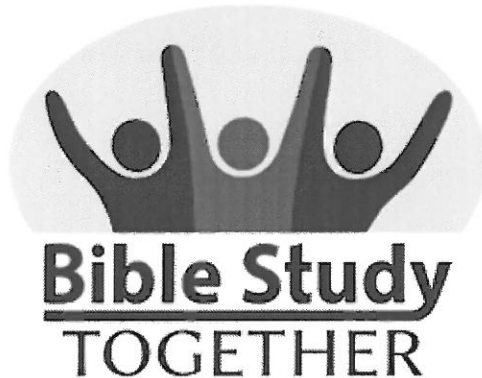
Copies of the 2018 Annual Report are available in the Gathering Space. Please take a copy home with you. Important documents in the report include:

Committee Reports
Details of our 2019 Operating Budget
Membership Directory with Addresses & Phone Numbers



THIS WINTER ... Please use your best judgment when it comes to traveling. We want to see you in worship and at other church activities, but *above all* we want to see you SAFE.

WORSHIP or CHURCH ACTIVITIES will be CANCELLED if: Pastor is unable to make it to the church building OR Witt-Birn schools are cancelled. Cancellations will be announced on the **Church Answering machine**, via **e-mail**, on **Redeemer's Facebook page and website**.



Men's Breakfast and Bible Study meets Thursdays at **8:00 am** at Homme Home for Aging in the Sewing Room. *Please note the time change.

Monthly Bible Study will meet **February 14th** at 9:30 am at **Homme Home for Aging in the Sewing Room**. *Please note the different date and location.

Choir Practices after worship on Sunday mornings.

Choral pieces add so much to our worship services, especially at Christmas.

Over years, as members have aged or moved away, our choir has gotten smaller. **NEW VOICES ARE WELCOME.**

You **DO NOT** need to know how to read music.

You do not need to attend every practice session or be present every time the choir sings. All you do need to do is enjoy praising God in song.

Please come to one practice session, and you'll see how much fun and rewarding it is to be part of the choir.



Parish Model Ministry - Exploration Task Force Update

The members of the task force are: Arla Block, Ryan Buntrock, Makenna Dombeck, Tracy Dombeck, Rick Froom, Shondel Hansen, Ann Hawley, Gail Koehler, Miriam Nelson, and Dan Weisensel.

The purpose of the task force is to think creatively, imagine, and explore the needs of Redeemer and the possibilities of collaborative ministry in a Parish Model, with one or more of the seven churches in our geographical area - Arbutus, Antigo (2), Aniwa (2), and Birnamwood (2).

The task force met on January 10 to go over individual responses to the following statements:

This is how we would describe our congregation's sense of purpose.

This is how working collaboratively with other congregations would help us achieve that purpose more effectively.

This is what we have to offer potential ministry partners.

This is what we are looking for from potential ministry partners.

From each member's individual responses a group response was recorded. If you would like to read the task forces' group response, please see Pastor Amy.

Pastor Amy, Arla Block, and Ann Hawley took Redeemer's group response to a meeting held on Jan. 27 in Antigo. Bishop Mansholt, Pr. Amy Engebose, Pr. Jean Devoll-Donaldson, Ben Stepanek and representatives of the seven churches attended to discuss each congregation's responses to the questions we were given. The other congregations' responses were very similar to Redeemer's for all the statements.

We collectively discussed the benefits and risks of Parish Model Ministry. Benefits include access to more ideas, people, and outreach opportunities; sharing financial resources; more consistent/better access to pastoral leadership; and building new relationships. Risks include change, the loss of individual congregational identity, potential loss of members, and geography/miles between churches. In reference to the scary thought of losing a congregation's individual identity, the group was assured that the Parish Model seeks to keep the rich histories and traditions of each congregation alive by creating a covenant among partnering congregations and a governing board for the parish comprised of representatives from all member churches.

Finally, we assessed our congregation's comfort level of involvement on a continuum from *Cooperation* (All church resources are separate; Share a leader(s).) to *Coordination* (Resources are partially pooled; Share a leader(s) and some programming.) to *Collaboration* (Resources are pooled; Share a leader(s), programming, and common mission.) Those of us from Redeemer believe Redeemer is on the continuum somewhere to the right of *Coordination*, but not yet ready for *Collaboration*.



**Please leave parking spaces
near the entrances for those who
need them.**

Get ready for a great
Fellowship Event for ALL AGES
Chili Dump + Game Night
Wednesday, February 20th 6-8 pm



Please bring a small pot of **chili**. The chili will get "**dumped**" together to make one big pot for all to share. Hot dogs will also be provided for those who don't like chili or may want a chili dog.

You can expect to have these games available to play: *Uno*, *Blank Slate*, and *Scrabble*. Other board and card games are welcome, so bring your favorite!

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6.

For our mid-week worship, we will partner with Pastor Lois Graper and the congregations of the United Lutheran Parish; Pastor Paul Johnson and The Lutheran Church of the Wilderness in Bowler; and possibly Trinity Lutheran and St. John's Lutheran in Birnamwood. The pastors will travel to a different congregation each week for mid-week worship. You can choose to worship at Redeemer or at any of these partnering congregations. A full schedule for worship times and locations will be provided in March.

Mark your calendars ... Synodical Bishop Gerald Mansholt will preach and preside for worship on Sunday, March 17.

IN OUR PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayers of Sympathy

For the family and friends of Rachel Jorgensen

Prayers for Healing

Ann, battling cervical cancer, friend of Kari Zeinert
Allen, battling cancer, friend of Faith Kristof
Jeanne, battling breast cancer, sister of Dave Schmidt
Julie, declining from aggressive Alzheimer's, friend of Leslie Hill
Marilyn, recovering from a stroke, sister-in-law of Rollie Hendrikson
Shawn, battling cancer, father of Jordan Hull
Siri, recovering from a concussion, granddaughter of Jim & Maribeth Netzler
Tim, brother-in-law of Kari Zeinert
Bonnie Almazar, battling cancer for the 2nd time, friend of Ida Brekke
Craig Benz, colon surgery, son of Carleton & Jean Benz
Jayne Closs, recovery from trauma
Alan Clough, living with prostate cancer
Pam Creydt, battling Stage 4 terminal cancer
Diane Dombeck, battling cancer, mother of Derek Dombeck
Rollie Hendrikson, battling prostate cancer
Pr. Erik Jelinek, battling brain cancer, friend of Pastor Amy
Todd Koehler, battling cancer, son of Bob & Gail Koehler
Jenny LeClaire, hip surgery, niece of Lois Anderson & Nancy Pehlke
Susan LeClaire, broken wrist, sister of Lois Anderson & Nancy Pehlke
Andra Olson, recovering from a car accident, friend of Kari Zeinert
Andy Peterson, undergoing treatment for cancer
Jim Saullerer, battling leukemia, family friend of Kari Zeinert
Brad Slack, battling lymphoma, brother-in-law of Kari Zeinert
Ed Tellock, in palliative care for a blood clot

Prayers for Expectant Parents

Jordan & Ashley Hartleben
Brandon & Callie (Rosenow) Hirsch

Prayers for Protection

Law Enforcement Officers including,
Dan Weisensel
Dave Rogers, husband of Amy Rogers
Those serving in the military including,
Danielle Carlson, daughter of Mark & Joan Carlson
Mark Coxen
Nathan Daniels, nephew of Bob & Lorna Alberg
Jordan Hartleben
Betsy Gleesing, niece of Leslie Hill
Brian Meyer, son of Phil & Bonnie Meyer
Kyle Premeau, boyfriend of Emily Norrbom



Celebrating

An Anniversary This Month

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Ann Johnson | 2-1 |
| Mary Aton | 2-4 |
| Carleton Benz | 2-6 |
| Alan Clough | 2-6 |
| Peter Norrbom | 2-6 |
| Gary Clark | 2-7 |
| Tracy Dombeck | 2-7 |
| Chet Matz | 2-9 |
| Verna Tellock | 2-9 |
| Charlie Wilhelm | 2-9 |
| Austin Frederick | 2-11 |
| Paul Norrbom | 2-12 |
| Jeffrey Bowers | 2-13 |
| Jeff Lang | 2-19 |
| Amy Rogers | 2-20 |
| Jaxson Gatz | 2-21 |
| Joan Carlson | 2-22 |
| Karen Carlson | 2-22 |
| Jeffrey Hartleben | 2-22 |
| Levi Hull | 2-24 |
| Mary Ann Peters | 2-24 |
| Pastor Amy | 2-25 |
| Sharon Philipp | 2-25 |
| Darwin Zeinert | 2-25 |
| Joseph Meyer | 2-26 |
| Robbie Dombeck | 2-27 |

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Brad & Kari Zeinert | 2-3 |
| Jerry & Andrea Nelson | 2-3 |
| Gordon & Agnes Schlender | 2-28 |



February 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 10:00am Jorgensen visitation & funeral |
| 3 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion Choir practice follows Parish Life mtg follows | 4 | 5 Pastor out of the office - meeting in Wausau | 6 6:00pm Confirmation | 7 8:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Homme Sewing Room | 8 | 9 |
| 10 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Church Council follows Choir practice follows | 11 | 12 Pastor out of the office - meeting in Little Suamico | 13 6:00pm Confirmation | 14 8:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Homme Sewing Room 9:30 am Monthly Bible Study @ Homme Sewing Room | 15 | 16 |
| 17 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion Choir practice follows 2:00 pm Shawano Conference meeting | 18 | 19 Pastor out of the office - meeting in Antigo | 20 6:00 - 8:00 pm Chili Dump & Game Night | 21 8:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Homme Sewing Room | 22 | 23 |
| 24 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Choir practice follows | 25 Pastor vacation day | 26 | 27 3:30 - 5:00 After School @ Redeemer 6:00pm Confirmation | 28 8:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Homme Sewing Room 3:00pm Worship, Music & Arts mtg | Office hours: Kim 8:00 am - Noon on Tuesday & Thursday Pastor: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm on Tuesday & Thursday, other times by appointment Pastor's Cell 715-347-7555 | |