



January 2019 Newsletter
Sponsored by Arletta Crowell
In memory of her husband, Elmer

This is the daily e-mail devotion from the Henri Nouwen Society dated January 1, 2019, entitled "A New Beginning."

We must learn to live each day, each hour, yes, each minute as a new beginning, as a unique opportunity to make everything new. Imagine that we could live each moment as a moment pregnant with new life. Imagine that we could live each day as a day full of promises. Imagine that we could walk through the new year always listening to the voice saying to us: "I have a gift for you and can't wait for you to see it!" Imagine.

Is it possible that our imagination can lead us to the truth of our lives? Yes, it can! The problem is that we allow our past, which becomes longer and longer each year, to say to us: "You know it all; you have seen it all, be realistic; the future will just be a repeat of the past. Try to survive it as best you can." There are many cunning foxes jumping on our shoulders and whispering in our ears the great lie: "There is nothing new under the sun... don't let yourself be fooled."

When we listen to these foxes, they eventually prove themselves right: our new year, our new day, our new hour become flat, boring, dull, and without anything new.

So what are we to do? First, we must send the foxes back to where they belong: in their foxholes. And then we must open our minds and our hearts to the voice that resounds through the valleys and hills of our life saying: "Let me show you where I live among my people. My name is 'God-with-you.' I will wipe all the tears from your eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone" (Revelation 21:2-5).

This meditation was too good for me to not share it with you. Imagine the possibilities!

Happy New Year,
Pr. Amy

January 13 2019 BUDGET REVIEW MEETING following worship

January 20 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING following worship.
CONGREGATIONAL CELEBRATION POTLUCK following the Annual Meeting.

Our Monetary Discipleship for December 2018

Worship Date	Worship Attend	General Fund	Building Fund	Sunday School Offering	Other
12/2	72	\$ 1503.54			
12/5	19	\$ 76			
12/9	59	\$ 8160.72	\$ 10		\$ 218 Poinsettias
12/12	14	\$ 180			
12/16	93	\$ 1289		\$ 136.23	\$ 50 Missions
12/19	12	\$ 1896			\$ 150 Missions
12/23	40	\$ 996			
12/24 10:00am	35	\$ 375			
12/24 4:00pm	101	\$ 1754	\$ 25		\$ 10 Missions
12/25	21	\$ 785	\$ 17		\$ 60 newsletter
12/30	48	\$ 841			
Total	514	\$ 17,856.26	\$ 52	\$ 136.23	\$ 488

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.

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.



January Worship Assistants

Date	Children's Time Reader	Usher	Reader	Communion Assistant	Acolyte
Sunday January 6	Lois Anderson	Dan & Karon Weisensel	Ann Hawley	Karon Weisensel	Makenna Dombeck
Sunday January 13	Ann Hawley	Dick & Ruthie Olsen	Joy Hartleben	—————	Saul Hanke
Sunday January 20	Fay Rosenow	Dan & Karon Weisensel	Fay Rosenow	Joy Hartleben	NEEDED
Sunday January 27	NEEDED	Dan & Karon Weisensel	Dan Weisensel	—————	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
 June 2019 – **Maribeth & James Netzler** – In honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary

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!

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/or **website**.

January 13 2019 BUDGET REVIEW MEETING following worship

January 20 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING following worship.

On the agenda:

- * Election of officers and special meeting delegates
- * Approval of the 2019 Operating Budget
- * Information about the Exploration Task Force

Please make every effort to attend these meetings as we'll discuss and approve issues important to Redeemer's properties and ministry for 2019. One of the privileges of church membership is the ability to vote during these meetings.



Let's come together to celebrate the completion of both the Window and the Roof Projects with a Congregational Celebration Potluck January 20, 2019 following the Annual Congregational Meeting!

Election Slate of 2019 MEETING & COMMITTEE DELEGATES

Synod Assembly Delegates – **2 Needed**

Homme Home of the Aging Annual Meeting – **Arla Block & Judy Boda**

Crossways Camping Ministries Annual Meeting - **Miriam Nelson & Ann Hawley**

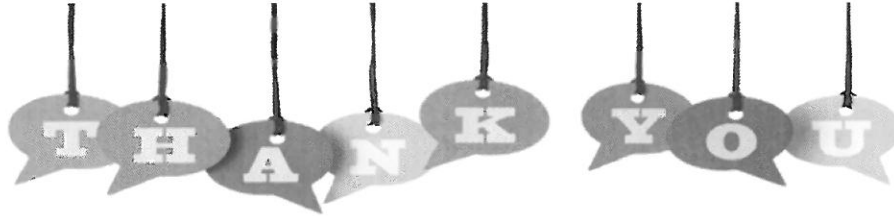
Shawano Conference Annual Meeting – **2 Needed**

Nominating Committee – **Miriam Nelson + 2 more candidates Needed**

Outgoing Council Members – Rick Froom + 1 more candidate Needed

2019 Election Slate for COUNCIL MEMBERS

Vice President (2 year term) – **Needed**
Secretary (1 yr term) – **Deb Rieck**
Education (3 yr term) – **Mary Peterson**
Parish Life (3 yr term) – **Joy Hartleben**
Trustee (3 yr term) – **Paul Pehlke**
Trustee (1 yr term) – **Brad Zeinert**
Worship, Music, and Arts (3 yr term) – **Peggy Emmel**



TO COUNCIL MEMBERS LEAVING COUNCIL FOR THEIR DEDICATION & SERVICE

Rick Froom (Vice President)
Mary Peterson (Secretary)
Chet Matz (Trustee)
Leslie Hill (Parish Education)
Mary Mattes (Parish Life)
Evie Low (Worship, Music, & Arts)

TO COUNCIL MEMBERS WHO'VE COMPLETED A TERM OF SERVICE AND ARE RUNNING TO CONTINUE SERVING

Paul Pehlke (Trustee)

AND THOSE CONTINUING ON COUNCIL

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



- Many thanks to all the “elves” who helped decorate our sanctuary before Christmas and to those who also helped to take the decorations down. Your creativity and help is greatly appreciated.

- And to the Puppeteers – *Lois Anderson, James Clark, Ann Hawley, & Karon Weisensel* - who brought our Friends to life for this Advent Season.

Parking Notice

- PLEASE leave parking spots directly across from the church entrance for our senior members and those with difficulty walking.
- Our driveway is ONE WAY. Please enter only by the church sign and exit only by the lower parking lot area.
- ANGLE park on the new cemetery side and please DO NOT park opposite the angle parking. This creates much too narrow of a driveway should the need for emergency vehicles to get through.
- Please leave an area open at the walk-way from the lower parking lot so people can easily walk through.
- Please use caution when walking in the lot and backing up.
- Thank you for your cooperation!

Gathering of Tithe\$ and Offering\$

A Note from Pastor Amy:

Redeemer has undertaken two major building improvement projects in a relatively short amount of time, raising \$126,000 through direct donations and fundraisers. That is an amazing accomplishment for a congregation with an annual budget of \$123,600! We can be proud of ourselves and celebrate our perseverance and teamwork, which we will do at the Congregational Celebration Potluck on January 20.

Members generously stepped up to meet the needs of an aging building. During the same time period we noticed a decline in giving to the General Operating Budget causing Council to shift funds from non-budget accounts to pay the monthly bills.

We greatly appreciate all the offerings of time, talent, and treasure given to Redeemer in 2018. We pray for prosperity in 2019, so everyone can continue living and giving of themselves and their many gifts, as generously as possible. And, now that the major building improvement projects are complete, please consider shifting your gifts back to or increasing your gifts to the General Operating Budget.

Together our gifts help us achieve Redeemer's mission: *Bringing People to Christ. ~ Bringing Christ to People.*

Offering Envelopes are available in the Gathering Space.

For the ease of our money counters and financial secretary:

* 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.

Mark your calendar for a great Fellowship Event – Chili Dump + Game Night, February 20th 6-8 pm



Staying Connected

Newsletter:

If you are a snowbird and wish to receive the newsletter while you are down south, please give us your winter address. Likewise, if you have any address change, please alert the church office.

If you don't receive a paper copy of the newsletter by mail or by picking it up at church, remember it is always posted on Redeemer's website (see address on the next page)

Phone:

Several people are abandoning their land-lines. If you've gone completely cellular or prefer to be contacted on your cell phone, please alert the church office to your phone number.

E-mail:

If you would like to receive e-mail updates and announcements from Pastor Amy, please send her an e-mail message (pastoramy00@gmail.com) so she can add you to her Redeemer Mailing List.

If you are already on Pastor's E-mail Mailing List and have an e-mail address change, please keep Pastor and the office aware of your new address.

FYI the church office's e-mail is: redemerwitt@gmail.com

Facebook:

If you are active on Facebook please check out and "like" Redeemer's page. You can find it by searching on Facebook – Redeemer Lutheran, Wittenberg - ELCA

Website:

Please bookmark www.redeemerlutheranwittenberg.weebly.com and visit it for weekly calendar updates, faith development resources, and other useful information.



Youth Page

***** Christian Education *****



at 8:45 am.

* Friends are always welcome.

* We support our *Compassion International* friend, Ana Luis, with Sunday School Offering.

Congratulations! These students had OUTSTANDING Sunday School attendance from September – December: Robbie Dombeck, Laylah Horne, Nathaniel Horne, Levi Hull, Maddie Hull, Jenna Meisner, Stephanie Meisner, Olivia Starr



Wednesday at 6:00 pm.

Congratulations! To the Confirmation students for PERFECT class attendance – Saul Hanke & Joseph Meyer; and NEAR PERFECT class attendance – Makenna Dombeck from September – November and Advent Worship.

***** Fellowship & Fun *****

We'll try this again. Maybe there will be enough snow ...



Wednesday, January 30 - Afterschool @ Redeemer

Shedding - Bring your gear and warm clothes!

From 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Kindergarten – 8th grade Youth – Friends are invited!

Adult helpers are welcome, too!

*** *Worship* ***

Acolyte Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
January 6	Makenna
January 13	NEEDED
January 20	Saul
January 27	NEEDED

What Worship Does for Kids By Peggy Nelson

Edited by Pastor Amy from full article located at <https://ministrytodaymag.com/life/children/20746-what-worship-does-for-kids>

Parents typically spend hundreds of dollars on extracurricular activities for their children. Money spent on training in martial arts is considered an investment in children's safety. Private tutoring is often purchased for a child struggling academically. It is quite average for a family to spend \$9,076 yearly on expenditures for three youth participating in sports.

We need to invest in our children's spiritually.

One way to invest in our children's spiritually is by advancing what I call their "worship training." Participation in worship training is a major component to a child's spiritual development and well-being. I consider this second in importance only to helping them obtain assurance of their salvation. The author has four practical applications of worship training, both at home and in children's ministry, and how they can benefit children. Two of the four are highlighted below:

1. Worship helps kids in their spiritual walk. Children who experience true worship grow in their personal relationship with God as they learn to put their trust in God and to be led by His Spirit. Children who are given the opportunity to worship God both publicly and privately will be less stressed and more able to deal with negative emotions.

Children who worship on a regular basis will develop hearts filled with gratefulness as they recognize God's goodness and mercy. They will be much more able to extend those graces toward others.

2. Worship ushers peace into their environment. Worship can be a wonderful avenue to release peace into an environment, whether it is the church or home setting. Encourage parents to play worship music before bedtime, or sing songs they've learned in Sunday School together. Especially for those children who have difficulty falling asleep or who struggle with fearful dreams, religious music can usher peace into their hearts and home.



Happy Birthday!

Mike Gilbertson	1-1
Peggy Hartleben	1-2
Roland Hendrikson	1-3
Callie Hirsch	1-3
Dee Gildseth	1-4
Aidan Frederick	1-7
Shirley Hartleben	1-15
Sharon Backes	1-19
Derek Dombeck	1-20
Erica Hill	1-20
Cody Hartleben	1-21
Alan Hanke	1-30
Jan Wormuth	1-31



Happy Anniversary!

Carleton & Jean Benz 1-1



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 **January 17th** at 9:30 am at **Homme Home for Aging in the Sewing Room**. *Please note the different date and location.

January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Year's Day	2 6:00pm Confirmation	3 8:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Homme Sewing Room	4	5
6 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion	7 Pastor out of the office - meeting	8	9 6:00pm Confirmation	10 Pastor out of the office - continuing education 8:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Homme Sewing Room	11	12
13 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Budget Review follows worship Church Council follows	14	15	16 6:00pm Confirmation	17 8:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Homme Sewing Room 9:30 am Women's Bible Study @ Homme Sewing Room	18	19
20 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion Annual Meeting & Potluck follows worship	21	22	23 Noon - Parish Education Meeting @ church 6:00pm Confirmation	24 8:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Homme Sewing Room	25	26
27 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 6:00 pm Parish Model Meeting in Antigo	28	29	30 3:30 - 5:00 After School @ Redeemer 6:00pm Confirmation	31 8:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Homme Sewing Room	<p>Office hours:</p> <p>Kim 8:00 am - Noon on Tuesday & Thursday</p> <p>Pastor: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm on Tuesday & Thursday, other times by appointment</p> <p>Pastor's Cell 715-347-7555</p>	