



January 2021 Newsletter
Sponsored by Arletta Crowell in
memory of her husband, Elmer

January 2021 Newsletter

Pastor Sharon Fox Bogen

Happy New Year! May it be filled with faith and fun, friends, and family, and just enough challenges to help us grow closer to each other and to God! A simple reminder before 2021 grabs hold - Christmas lasts until January 6. Do not rush its good news. Our tree lights still capture my attention each evening, reminding me to relax and be still. Marvel at memories shared. Consider the year past. What joy met you? What trouble taught you? What adventure called you to something new? Where did you meet God in human flesh? Did anything change you? Who walked with you through this most amazing, surprising, complex year?

We made it together! Our churches went virtual for a while and it worked for many. Why, we even learned that we likely will continue connecting virtually. It allows for many to meet with us on their own schedule and for us to be in our homebound members' living rooms at their convenience. I, along with many of you, enjoyed worshiping in comfy clothes with a cup of coffee. Please, technically able-bodied people, help us prepare for this possibility in our near future. A big thank you to both councils and worship committees for making difficult decisions that would allow us to be as safe and as caring as possible as we began to worship again in person. Thank you to all of you who helped lead worship during these unique times. Kudos to the Sunday School teachers and children who told us the good news of Jesus again this year.... clever, creative, and marvelous programs!

God showed up for me in our children who live daily, simply trusting us adults to lead them and take care of them. A good reminder of the relationship we are invited to have with God!!! God showed up in all the times we let go of something we thought we could not give up: meeting in our buildings, singing for the time being, our preferred pew, shaking hands, all those delicious, church potlucks and treats, and all those fall events held in our buildings and in our communities. A great loss! But also, a nudge to not take for granted our habit of fellowship, touch and gathering as the body of Christ. Bring on the vaccine, 2021. We want to get back together and be close!

2020 taught me about essential workers: thank you to all of you who continued working as you fed, healed, transported, invented, and fixed what was broken. Big shout out to our funeral home directors and staff for their tireless service. Good works shine far beyond our church walls! Thank you, people of God, for serving our communities!! Thank you all for continuing to give to your church. Without you, we would not be warm with a new furnace in each church. Your gifts keep our staff fed and able to serve. They also help our Synod do its ministry to help 100 churches reach out beyond our buildings to feed the hungry, clothe the poor, and provide shelter and education for those in need. Grateful for each one of you!

We need each other as we continue to do God's work in the world! May these words from Hebrews 13:1-2 be our guide, **"Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show**

hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” As you and I move into this New Year, may we take what we have learned from last year and use it for good. Weep with those who weep, celebrate with those who feel joyful, stand by those who need support, and welcome each person we meet to a place and a people to whom they can belong.

Hoping that 2021 will surprise you in many ways! May you experience the epiphany of the wise travelers...who followed a star, met Jesus in the flesh, gave him their gifts; and then, to their own surprise, chose not to follow King Herod's bidding, but went home a different way. I am guessing that they went back to work! Time for Redeemer and Zion to get back to our work, too! That may be at church or out where you feel called to be an angel or welcome an angel. Share your delightful and God-given gifts as you Light up the way for others! See you at church, if you are well, or give me a call to share what is going on with you and/or to ask for prayer! Please put your annual meeting date(s) on your calendar and come to vote. Your voice is important!

Lent is not far away.

Ash Wednesday is February 17

Services are: at Redeemer 5:00 pm at Zion 6:30 pm

Palm Sunday is March 28

Services are: at Redeemer 10:30 am at Zion 8:30 am

Maundy Thursday is April 1

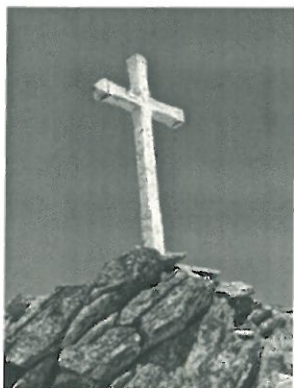
Service is: at Redeemer 6:30 pm

Good Friday is April 2

Service is: at Zion 6:30 pm

Easter is April 4

Services are: at Redeemer 10:30 am at Zion 8:30 am



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
December 10, 2020

The meeting was called to order by President Arla Block

Members present:

President: Arla Block

Secretary: Deb Rieck

Education: Mary Peterson

Parish Life: Lois Anderson

Worship, Music, & Arts: Maribeth Netzler

Trustee: Ryan Buntrock

A quorum was present.

Treasurer/WMA: Peggy Emmel

Pastor Sharon Fox Bogen

Opening Devotions by Lois Anderson

Motion made by Peggy Emmel, seconded by Ryan Buntrock, to approve the agenda. Carried.

Council visitors: None

Motion made by Peggy Emmel, seconded by Maribeth Netzler, to approve the November 12, 2020 Council Minutes. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report shows an account balance of \$70,126.56 as of November 30, 2020. Of that amount, \$45,318.15 is non-budget, and the budget has a balance of \$24,808.41.

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

Motion made by Mary Peterson, seconded by Maribeth Netzler, to purchase Splash Top for the Church Computer. This will allow remote access to the church computer from home. Carried.

Motion made by Mary Peterson, seconded by Ryan Buntrock, to approve the 2021 Budget recommendations as presented to Council. Carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Planning around Children's Program on Sunday December 20th,
- She is wondering if there has been any feedback on the proposed Christmas Eve service.
- Need to start thinking about Easter services.
- Discussion was had on lack of help/assistance during Sunday services.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parish Life

- There are a few tags still on the Giving Tree. Gifts going out next week.
- Christmas cards are being sent to some of our members.
- Shared the rough draft of the new Funeral Policy. One major change: Meals will not be provided by the church. It will be up to families to organize caterers.

Parish Education

- Working on December 20th program

Worship/Music/Arts

- Have been planning the Christmas Eve worship.
- Church was decorated and new blue Christmas lights were purchased.
- Starting in January service will be back to 10:30.
- Pianos and Organs have been tuned.
- Discussion on how to distribute news of church cancelation due to weather.

Trustees

- Waiting on furnace installation.
- Ryan will touch base with someone again regarding technology for virtual services.

OLD BUSINESS

- Two-point parish

NEW BUSINESS

- No recommendations yet from the Nominating Committee for 2021 new council members.
- Budget Review Date will be January 17, 2021
- Annual Meeting Date January 24, 2021
- Lois Anderson presented Council with her resignation as Church Secretary as of February 1, 2021. Church will be looking for a new secretary. Please contact the church if interested.

Next Council meeting, Thursday, January 14 at 5:00pm.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Motion made by Peggy Emmel, seconded by Maribeth Netzler, to adjourn. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Rieck
Council Secretary

Please Note the following important dates:

January 5, 2021 – Worship time changes to 10:30 am. This time will remain for the months of January, February, March, and April.

January 10, 2021- Sunday School and Confirmation resumes at 9:30 am.

January 17, 2021 – Budget Meeting following worship

January 24, 2021 – Congregational Annual Meeting following worship

Our Monetary Discipleship for December, 2020

Worship Date	Worship Attend	General Fund	Building Fund	Sunday School Offering	Other Income	Total
12-6	15	\$2435			Memorial for Bob Alberg \$880	\$3315
12-13	19	\$4137.25			His Kids Cards \$24 Memorial-All \$60 Newsletter - \$60	\$4281.25
12-20	38	\$6578				\$6578
12-27	13	\$865			Missions - \$250	\$1140
Total	126	\$16315.25			\$1334	\$17694.25

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.

January Worship Assistants

Please sign up to assist with worship.
The sheets are located 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 Jan. 3					
Sunday Jan. 10					
Sunday Jan. 17					
Sunday Jan. 24					
Sunday, Jan. 31					



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: 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.

2021 NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Thank you to all the newsletter sponsors:

January, 2021 **Arletta Crowell** – In memory of her husband Elmer
February, 2021 **Fay Rosenow** – In memory of her husband Ron
March, 2021 **June Norrbom** – In memory of her husband Carl and son Loren

If you would like to sponsor the newsletter for 2021, 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!

*You will find as you look back upon
your life that the moments when you
have really lived are the moments when
you have done things in the spirit of love.*

Henry Drummond (1851-1897)

*God is love. If we keep on loving others, we will stay one in our hearts with God,
and he will stay one with us. 1 John 4:16b*



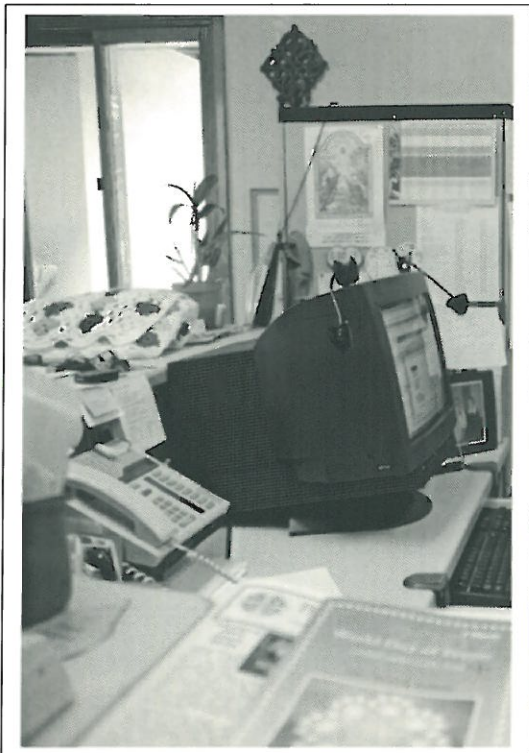
Happy Birthday!

Mike Gilbertson	1-1
Peggy Hartleben	1-2
Roland Hendrikson	1-3
Callie Hirsch	1-3
Sharon Backes	1-19
Derek Dombeck	1-20
Cody Hartleben	1-21
Alan Hanke	1-30
Jan Wormuth	1-31



Happy Anniversary!

Carleton & Jean Benz	1-1
----------------------	-----



Lois is resigning as church secretary on January 31, 2021.

If there is anyone who may be interested in this position, please contact:

Arla Block at
715-454-6498

or

Pastor Sharon at
715-507-0618

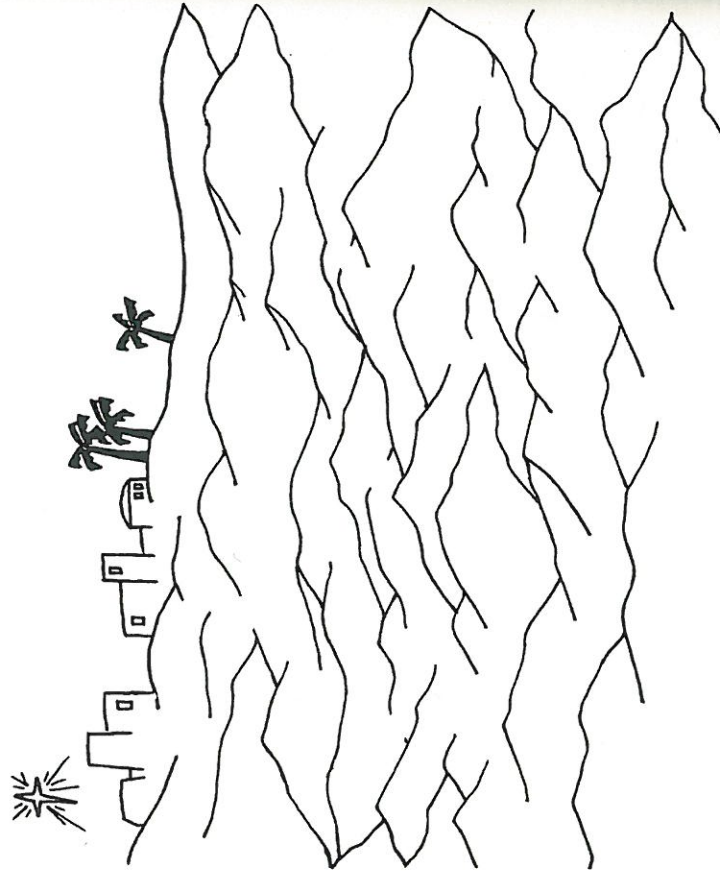
The Wise Men Visit Jesus

Matthew 2:1-12

One night, while looking at the sky, some wise men who lived in the east saw a new star. They knew it was a special star. "Let's follow it," they said. "That star is announcing the birth of a great king!"

The wise men prepared for their long journey and took with them some wonderful gifts for the new king. After traveling for weeks and months, they finally arrived in Jerusalem.

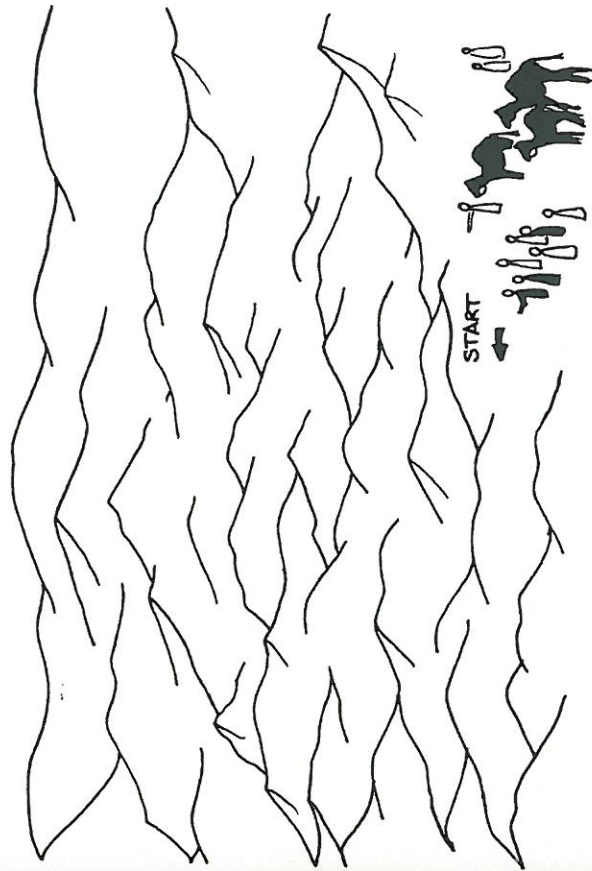
"Where is the new king?" they asked. Herod, who was the ruler over Jerusalem, did not know the answer. He became



afraid, because he did not want another king to replace him. Herod asked the Jewish leaders about it. They said, "This child was to be born in Bethlehem."

The wise men then followed the star to Joseph and Mary's house. They saw the young child Jesus with Mary and bowed down to worship Him. Then they gave the treasures they had brought for Him.

Can you help the wise men find their way to Bethlehem?



January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Year's Day	2
3 10:30 am Worship	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 9:30 am Sunday School /Confirmation 10:30 am Worship	11	12	13	14 5:00 pm Council	15	16
17 9:30 am Sunday School /Confirmation 10:30 am Worship Budget Review	18 M L King Day	19	20	21	22	23
24 9:30 am Sunday School /Confirmation 10:30 am Worship Annual Meeting	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 9:30 am Sunday School /Confirmation 10:30 am Worship						