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Redeemer Lutheran Church 1300 E. Nora St. Thief River Falls, MN 56701 Phone: 218-681-3390 redeemer@gvtel.com, www.redeemertfi.org Office Hours: 9am-2pm		9am Quilters 12:00 First Look 6:30 Worship and Music Committee	2 5:15 Soup Supper 5:45 BLAST 6:30 Lent Worship	3 Joint Theological Conference – Hillsboro 3:30 – 7 – WIC Kitchen	4 Pastor Sabbath	ıo
6 9:30 Worship with Holy Communion	7 4:30 Faith & Family Stewardship 5:30 Property Committee	8 9am Quilters 12:00 First Look 9:30 Martha Unit	9 1:30 Ruth Unit 5:15 Soup Supper 5:45 BLAST 6:30 Lent Worship	10 5:00 Finance Committee	11 7:00pm Rend Collective Concert at LHS Pastor Sabbath	12
W O W	14 Holy Week Holy Week	15 9am Quilters 12:00 First Look 6:00 Church Council	16 5:30 First Communion Class	6:30 Maundy Thursday	6:30 Good Friday Accord Friday	19
20 Easter 7:00am Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 Worship with Holy Communion Holy Communion	21	9am Quilters 12:00 First Look	23 5:30 Worship/BLAST 6:30 Confirmation	24	25 Pastor Sabbath	26
27 9:30 Worship 6:30 BLOC	28 11:00 OPNH	29 9am Quilters 12:00 First Look 5:00 Altar Guild	30 5:30 Worship Last BLAST 6:30 Confirmation	29	30	

Foretaste of the Feast to Come!

This phrase from our Lutheran liturgy has always captured my attention. Perhaps because when it first came out in the Offertory in the LBH (green book), I was teaching a class on the liturgy, as the "new



hymnal" was being introduced. It seemed so fresh, both musically upbeat and visionary compared to the SHB (old red book)! There is value in looking back at traditions and the roots of our practices. But there is also immense joy that is still to come in the story of God and God's people!

Maundy Thursday is one of those services that has always held special meaning for me. It took me some time to understand the "Maundy" was not just a typo for Monday! Maundy come from the Latin word "Mandatum" meaning Mandate or order Command. Maundy Thursday is the day before



Jesus was crucified. As he gathered with his closest friends – even those who would betray him, deny knowing him, or just running away into hiding, Jesus washes their feet. This action shows them in a concrete way what it means to follow him - as a servant of all. Jesus gives them – and us – that commandment to go and do the same.

Pope Francis has taken to washing the feet of imprisoned women – which crosses the borders of conventional society both for associating with prisoners – and

with women in such an intimate way. Mother Teresa also washed the feet of all the poor who came to her refuge in Calcutta. Closer to home, at *People Serving People*, a homeless resource center in Minneapolis, the director would do the same for the people who came seeking help. There is something about being up close and personal with kindness that helps level the playing field and

draws people closer to honest interaction. Jesus commands us to be engaged with people – to help them in their needs, but also to show them the love of God in tangible ways.



The other *Mandate* or *Command* that we hear Jesus give in this setting revolves around the meal. They were gathered together to celebrate the Passover meal – the annual observance for the Jewish people to remember their slavery in Egypt and how God had led them out of bondage and into a new life – dependent on God. Jesus takes the Unleavened Bread, prays blessing over it and gives it to these followers, friends, disciples. He calls the bread his own body, saying "*Do this to remember me!*" After supper, he does the same with the wine, saying "*This is my blood shed for you for forgiveness of sins. Do this, too, to remember me.*"

This is how Communion gets the familiar name "Lord's Supper" or the "Last Supper." As they gather for this last meal -and as Jesus uses the familiar common items of bread and wine, he gives them new meaning and significance. In it Jesus shares himself – the bread as his Body and the wine as his Blood - feeding us, strengthening us, comforting us, and encouraging us to live as his followers in this world.

"Sacrament of the Altar" is another name for this special communion with God. For Lutherans, we see a Sacrament as God acting "for us" or "on our behalf", using common physical elements which we encounter daily as a reminder of the grace we are receiving. It is also something that Christ commands us to do. In this Sacrament, we remember that God forgives our sins — not just the deeds we do or don't do, but the condition we have of desiring to be or replace God — individually and as a community.

"Holy Communion" is the meal we share to remember Christ's sacrifice for us. It is not a sacrifice that we make for God, but a recognition and attesting to what Christ has done for us through Jesus sacrificing his own life – for us! In it we proclaim our belief that "Christ has Died. Christ is Risen. Christ will come again!"

Here is where we begin to see beyond the meanings of events in the past – to the realization of New Life to come. "Eucharist" comes from the Greek word for Joy! I remember retreats where this was dealt with in depth. As we shared our experiences, it allowed us to begin experience this Chistian Family and the New Life image as being something that truly spanned beyond the limits of space and time – feeling connected to people we knew believed – that had long since passed – to those whom we envisioned may come to be in the future. It filled us with an overwhelming sense of God's vastness and the joy of being connected beyond what we could even imagine.

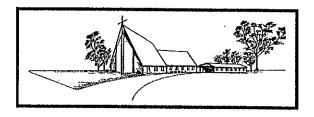
Maundy Thursday is an especially great time to experience this connection – as Christians all over the country – and all over the world will pause to remember and follow these Commands of Christ...even in Mexico and India, even in Ukraine and Russia, even in China and El Salvador and Guatemala, even in Israel and Gaza, and Sweden and Spain.

On Wednesday, April 16, students in Grade 5 and those older who have not had a Communion Class in the past, will join to learn these truths, bake bread, and prepare to join in Communion with the whole church. We ask that those who plan to attend call the office to register by October 9. (218-681-3390) We ask that all of you keep our young members in your prayers as they begin this step in the faith journey. The class will be from 5:30-7:30. We will have supper as a part of the class. Many students may receive their first communion on Maudy Thursday this year.

The movie, "Babette's Feast" — set and filmed in Scandinavia — tells of a harsh Pietistic community whose pastor could only see contrition and personal sacrifice as a means of approaching God. Babbette comes to town and begins sharing of herself — to the shock of the whole community as they see the joy set before them. This movie will be available to watch in the Youth Room while the students are learning in Fellowship Hall. No registration is necessary, (but it is helpful.)



May this holy journey of Lent and Holy Week, surprise you with new insights and deepen your faith and commitment too following Jesus Christ. See you in church!



Redeemer Lutheran Church Congregational Concil Minutes Monday, March 17, 2025

Council Members Present: Jan Nordin, Wenda Sumrall, Pastor Steph, Terri Cuppett, Scott D

Camp, Ken Froschheiser, Deb Jacobson, Missy Hall, Kristie Huseth

Council Members Excused: Leona Bugge Council Members Absent: Gary Hintz

Guest: Dianne Stroh

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm by President, Jan Nordin. Devotions were given by Wenda Sumrall.

The agenda was reviewed, and the motion was made by Deb and seconded by Ken to adopt it.

The Secretary's report was reviewed, and a motion was made by Wenda and seconded by Kristie to adopt and file the minutes.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Items of note were the MN Energy bill went up again due to the subzero weather in January/February. Other items of note were \$1400 for snow removal, \$440 for our Annual One License fee, and \$550 for office supplies(paper for bulletins). Motion made by Kristie and seconded by Wenda to approve the report. Will be filed for audit.

Pastor Steph reported that she performed a wedding ceremony for Mark Counter and Ashley Ingraham on March 3rd. They are non-members but Ashley is interested in coming to worship. 20 communions were also given outside of the church.

Attended the Conference 2 gathering with Pastor Genelle – Focus Synod Assembly at Zion on 02/27. Attended Conference 2 Pastoral gathering on March 13 at Zion.

Attended the TRF Ministerium at the Community Church on March 5 with Bishop Bill, Pastor Genelle, Pastor Kristin, and Pastor Clay with the focus being on the closing of Arctic Cat and what that may mean to our community. There are 4 ordained Pastors in this area of about 40 Lutheran Churches. What will our role be? Where will we be called to help?

Rend Collective, a worship band will be in concert on 04/11 at the LHS Auditorium. TRF Ministerial helping to sponsor them.

Pastor will be on vacation for a family wedding March 18th through the 24th. Will need Pulpit supply on March 23rd. Pastor Terri Cuppett will fill in.

Subsplash tabled until more comparative programs are looked into. Deb Jacobson will do this and make a spreadsheet.

Committee Reports:

Faith Formation: did not meet.

Evangelism and Social Ministry: did not meet - Grocery carts put out for food shelf.

Property Committee: did not meet

Faith & Family Stewardship: Committee met, and report was submitted. March 30th is a 5th Sunday so there will be a congregational potluck. Easter Breakfast will also be served

between the Sunrise Service and the 9:30 service on Easter.

Personnel Committee: did not meet

Altar Guild: Report submitted.

Safety Committee: meet quarterly next meeting May 1st.

Unfinished Business: Subsplash tabled until April meeting. Pastor Terri wants to explore

Radio ministry.

New Business:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 @ 6:00pm

Respectfully submitted – Dianne Stroh

Theme: It is Well with my Soul

Bible verse: Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul.

3 John 1:2

Fall Gathering – Conference 2
Women of the ELCA
Northwestern Minnesota Synod
Saturday, April 12, 2025
Trinity Lutheran Church
325 North Horace Ave
Thief River Falls MN 56701

Registration and coffee: 8:30-9:00

Program starts: 9:00

Lunch: 11:30

Registration fee \$10

Speakers: Lori Thompson and Jane Aandal will be speaking on mental and physical wellness.

Meals On Wheels FUNDRAISER



SUNDAY, APRIL 6 9 am - 1 pm American Legion

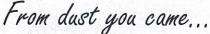
Thief River Falls

Lent Begins With Ash Wednesday





















... to dust you shall return.

Soup Suppers are a Lent tradition at Redeemer











Followed by the Holden Evening Prayer

National Quilting Day was added this year.



















AVAILABLE DATES: JUNE 22, 24, 25 & JULY 30

You're invited to gather with your congregation and join us for a day at Camp Emmaus! We will spend the day together in community as we make crafts, play games, explore nature and worship around the campfire!

There will be plenty of activities for all ages.

We can't wait for you to join us!

CRAFTS | GAMES | CAMPFIRE WORSHIP

Camp Emmaus

14248 374TH ST, MENAHGA, MN 56464

COST: \$30 PER PERSON

To Sign Up and Learn More: 218-227-5107 | pathwaysbiblecamps.org/congregations



April Birthdays

1 – Deb Waterworth 2 – Lynn Teie, Zach Brateng 3 -Enid Sande, Roxanne Milender 4 –Lyle Johnson 5 – Dan Aandal, Vanessa Thibert 6 –Carson Dally, Shawn Maslowski, Michael Magnusson 7 –Gannon Kempert 8 –Ann Haugen 9 –Arlene Huot 10 – Tylus Northup, Brian Berg 11 – Marlys Kain 12 – Ruth Tweet, Julie Bugge, Alexis Reuter 13 – Scott Hesse, Zach Wikert 14 – LeAnn Fremling, Jeremy Houske 15 – Jeff Poe 16 – Natalie Dahlin, Evan Browning 17 – Michelle Hickerson 18 – Andrew Dally, Jeff Kertz 19 – Casey Wilson 20 – Jack Houske, Alexa Anderson 21 – Hunter Skallet, Kaitlin Nessen 22 – Ashley Hejlik 23 -Sharon Bugge, Nathan Lindgren 24 – Dawson Beito 25 – 26 – Cash Conely, Ian Lund, Ryan Herzberg 27 – Marit Martel, Hudson Hall 28 – Tom Kays, Sara Bakke 29 – Jerry Sandahl 30 – Terri Cuppett, Sandra Hible

Memorials

In Memory of

Sherry Carriere Darlene Kelley Stained Glass
Darlyne Holmgren Dale & Jan Dillon Quilters
John Olson Nate & Dianne Stroh Quilters

