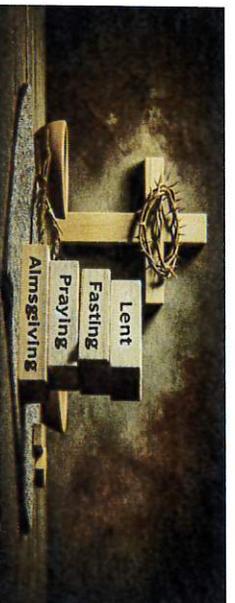


March 2026



| | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------|---|
| <p>Redeemer Lutheran Church 1300 E. Nora St. Thief River Falls, MN 56701 Phone: 218-681-3390 redeemer@gvtel.com Office Hours: 9:00am-2:00pm Mon-Fri</p> | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion | 12:00 First Look | 9:00 Quilters 6:00 All Committee Meeting | 5:15 Soup Supper 5:30 JAM 6:30 Worship | 1:00 Greenleaf 2:00 TRFCC 3:00 OPNH 5:30 SWEETS Meet at Bowling Alley | Pastor Sabbath | |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 9:30am Worship | 12:00 First Look | 9:00 Quilters 9:30 Martha Unit | 1:30 Ruth Unit 5:15 Soup Supper 5:30 JAM 6:30 Worship | 5:00 Finance 5:30 SWEETS Meet at | Pastor Sabbath | |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion | 12:00 First Look | 9:00 Quilters | 5:15 Soup Supper 5:30 JAM 6:30 Worship | 1:00 OPNH 2:00 TRFCC | Pastor Sabbath | 9:00 NWMN Synod Great American Get Together Calvary Lutheran Bernidji |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 9:30am Worship | 12:00 First Look | 9:00 Quilters | 55:15 Soup Supper 5:30 JAM 6:30 Worship | 5:30 SWEETS Meet at The Line on 59 | Pastor Sabbath | |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |
| 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion Fellowship Potluck Dinner | 11:00 OPNH 12:00 First Look | | | | | |

Redeemer Church Council

Minutes from: Monday, February 16, 2026

Council Members Present: Lexi Dennis, Deb Jacobson, Dolly Kainz-Ault, Terri Cuppsett, Missy Hall
Cory Anderson, Ken Froschheiser, Tim Maas, Scott DCamp

Council Members Excused: Dane Froiland, Pastor Steph

Council Members Absent:

Guest: Dianne Stroh

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm by President, Terri Cuppsett. Terri also gave devotions and prayer.

The agenda was reviewed and a motion to adopt was made by Ken F.. and seconded by Scott D. Motion carried.

The Secretary's report was reviewed.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed and discussed, noting we ended January with a deficit of \$2,851.75. As asked for at the annual meeting, the Finance committee reviewed current accounts and moved a total of \$4,833.90 was moved from savings to the general checking. Motion was made by Deb J. and seconded by Ken F. to approve treasurer's report. Motion carried. Report will be filed for audit.

A motion was entertained to remove Gary Hintz from the signature card at the bank and add Missy Hall. The motion was approved by Deb J. and seconded by Ken F. Motion carried.

Pastor Steph reported that she presided over 4 funerals, Cheryl Voecks, Janice Carlson, James Nelson and Sharon Nelson. She also gave communion outside the church to 32 individuals and performed 4 nursing home services. Neighbors in Need – We have reached an all-time low in our Good Samaritan Fund with only 2 grocery cards left and 1 gas card. Very little cash. So many reached out for help this winter. A donation was made to Community Safety Net of \$80.00 in Redeemer's name. Our church has also reached out into the community to help an elderly gentleman who had a heart attack and was hospitalized. We have had volunteers to clean his home and prepare it for his return. Meals are being donated and delivered. We will be taking up a collection in the Good Samaritan jar that will go to him. He is now home and extremely grateful for everything that was and is being done for him.

Pastor Steph extended thanks for time off to attend her grandson, Archie's baptism and to Pastor Terri for pulpit supply. Thank yous were also given to Reid, Chris, and Denice for filling in last Sunday while she was out with Covid. Thank you to all the church council members who attended the Leadership Retreat on February 7th. Going ahead, she will also be out March 20-23rd to attend the baptism of granddaughter Hannah Elizabeth in Baton Rouge, LA. Pastor Jonathan Dodson will fill in on that weekend.

All committees are urged to meet together on the first Tuesday of each month at 6pm. This will facilitate the sharing of information to all committees.

Annual meeting was on January. 25th. Pastor is pleased the congregation affirmed the desire to move forward with the Intergenerational Ministry Person. We have a candidate and will interview her in the coming weeks.

Also noted:

I was also caught off-guard at the meeting when the issue of the flag came up again after previously going through multiple committees and the whole council – with input from the Bishop and the witness of Scripture. Many others were caught off guard as well – including the committee whose purview is the Sanctuary space. It was not on the agenda, nor added to the agenda at the meeting, and there was no time allowed for discussion. I feel blind-sided as your pastor and spiritual leader of the congregation that I could not even speak to it. I would hope we could follow the rules that are designated in our constitution more faithfully in the future.

Ash Wednesday is February 18th. Jam will be at 5:30 with worship beginning at 6:30pm.

Lent services featuring "The Holden Evening Prayer" being on Wednesday, February 25th with a soup supper at 5:15, JAM at 5:30, and worship at 6:30pm. The theme of the year is prayer.

Committee Reports:

Faith Formation: did not meet

Evangelism and Social Ministry: did not meet

Property Committee: Committee removed Nativity.

Faith & Family Stewardship: Committee met and report was submitted.

Personnel Committee: did not meet.

Altar Guild: No report submitted.

Safety Committee: meet quarterly. Next meeting is in May.

Unfinished Business: Offering security was discussed and a schedule via sign up sheet for council members to be responsible to secure offering was passed around.

New Business: Change to safety policy – council members or ushers are point person for emergencies.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 17, 2026 @ 6:00pm

Respectfully submitted – Deb Jacobson/ds



Definition

Lent is the forty-day season (excluding Sundays) of penitence and preparation for the Three Days of Holy Week and Easter.

A Very Brief History

The term "Lent" originally comes from the Anglo-Saxon word "lencten" which means "spring." This is the time, in the Northern Hemisphere, when the days are lengthening. The season began as period of fasting leading up to the Vigil of Easter. Catechumens, those preparing for baptism at Easter, would fast and spend days in intense preparation. For those that were already baptized, Lent was a period to be renewed in their faith by studying the Bible, the Creed and the Lord's Prayer.

Although it was originally only a two-day period of preparation, Lent became a three-week preparatory period in the middle of the fourth century and then this was further expanded into six-weeks, or forty days. By the end of the fifth century, there was a desire to exclude Sundays from Lent since Sundays are always celebrated as feasts of the Resurrection. Thus Lent begins not on Sunday, but on Ash Wednesday.

The current practice of forty days of Lent recall Jesus' forty-day fast in the wilderness after his Baptism (Matthew 4:2, Luke 4:1-2) as well as Moses' forty-day fast on Mount Sinai (Exodus 34:28).

A Few Notes on Current Practice

- The appointed liturgical color for Lent is purple because purple has long been associated with royalty. In this case, Christ reigns from a cross.
 - Currently, the ancient understanding of Lent as both a time for baptismal preparation and baptismal renewal is being rediscovered in Lutheran rites and practice. Many congregations hold mid-week services during Lent and a baptismal renewal theme is particularly appropriate for these.
- Many congregations refrain from speaking or singing the word "alleluia" during Lent. "Burying" the alleluia occurs at the conclusion of worship on Transfiguration Sunday and it is restored at either the Vigil of Easter or Easter Sunday.

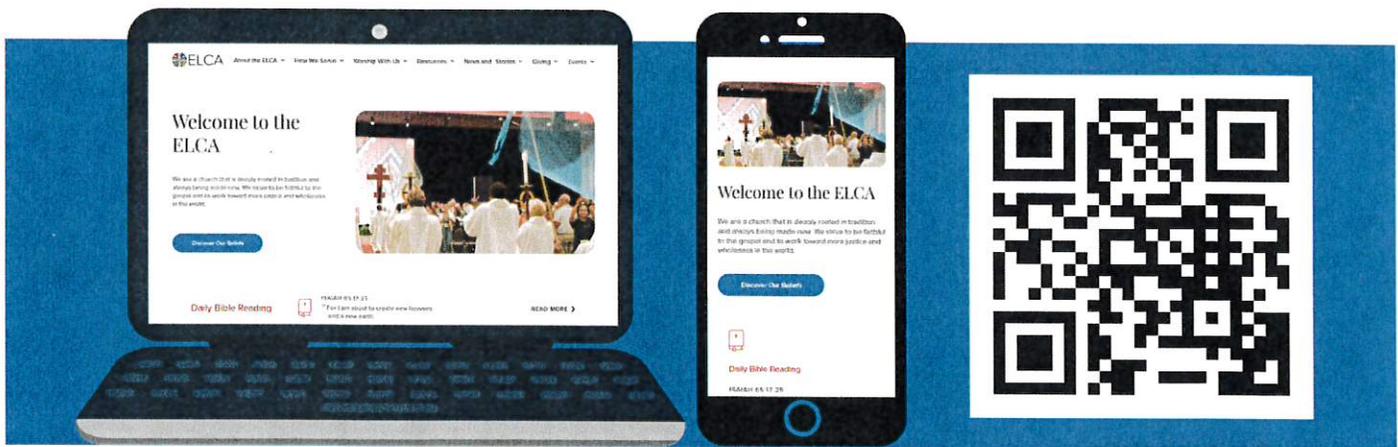
40 Lent Scriptures

TO DRAW NEAR TO GOD

- Day 1 "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." James 4:8
- Day 2 "And he is the image of the invisible God." Colossians 1:15
- Day 3 "Come, all you who are thirsty." Is. 55:1
- Day 4 "And from them will flow streams of living waters." John 7:38
- Day 5 "He is the firstborn over all creation." Colossians 1:15
- Day 6 "My ways are not your ways, nor my thoughts your thoughts." Isaiah 55:8
- Day 7 "There is a way that seems right to a person, but in the end, it leads to death." Proverbs 14:12
- Day 8 "Arise and shine for your light has come." Isaiah 60:1
- Day 9 "And the people living in darkness have seen a great light." Matthew 4:16
- Day 10 "No servant is greater than His master." Matthew 10:24
- Day 11 "That he lays down his life for his friends." John 15:13
- Day 12 "In you, we live and move and have our being." Acts 17:28
- Day 13 "I have set before you an open door which no man can shut." Rev 3:8
- Day 14 "I am the way, the truth, and the life." John 14:6
- Day 15 "In the beginning, God created." Genesis 1:1
- Day 16 "I looked and saw a great multitude, from every nation and tribe and people and tongue, standing before the Lamb." Rev 7:9
- Day 17 "Weeping may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning." Psalm 30:5
- Day 18 "There is no language where their voice is not heard." Psalm 19:3
- Day 19 "Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10
- Day 20 "You are the light of the world." Matthew 5:14
- Day 21 "A city set on a hill cannot be hidden." Matthew 5:14
- Day 22 "No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6
- Day 23 "I am the beginning and the end." Rev 21:6
- Day 24 "According to the eternal purpose that He accomplished in Christ Jesus." Ephesians 3:11
- Day 25 "I was dead, and behold, now I am alive forever more." Rev 1:18
- Day 26 "I hold the keys to death and Hell." Rev 1:18
- Day 27 "There is no one who can snatch them out of my hand." John 10:18
- Day 28 "And we have put our trust in His love." 1 John 4:16
- Day 29 "And lead me in the way everlasting." Psalm 139:24
- Day 30 "How abundant are the good things that you have stored up for those that fear you." Psalm 31:19
- Day 31 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven." Matthew 5:3
- Day 32 "All who come after me must deny themselves, pick up their cross, and follow me." Luke 9:23
- Day 33 "In your light, we see light." Psalm 36:9
- Day 34 "But small is the gate and narrow the way that leads to life and only a few find it." Matthew 7:14
- Day 35 "There is no other name under heaven by which men must be saved." Acts 4:12
- Day 36 "Truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God." John 3:3
- Day 37 "If you seek me, you will find me, if you seek me with your whole heart." Jeremiah 29:13
- Day 38 "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart." Romans 10:8
- Day 39 "Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free." John 8:32
- Day 40 "When he found one very precious pearl, he sold all he had and bought it." Matthew 13:46

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Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



Students making no-bake cookies

Faith in Action



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Olivia with the youngest J.A.M. class



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Those were good cookies!



Confirmation Students experiencing Holden Prayer around the Cross for the world.



J.A.M. /Confirmation Christmas program 2025



Fruit faces - so fun and tasty!



"Santa Lucia" Stevie

Pancake Breakfast

FUNDRAISER

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE
PENNINGTON COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY



SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH, 2026
9:30 AM to 1:00 PM



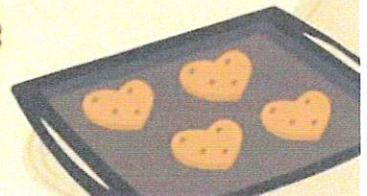
Pancakes
Scrambled eggs
Sausage
juice & coffee

Suggested
donation
\$10.00
Per Plate

LOCATION:
Eagles Club
305 Red Lake Blvd
TRF, MN

BAKED GOODS FOR SALE DURING FUNDRAISER

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FOR EVENT CONTACT SHEILA JOHNSON
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