



**August 2019**

## **REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**

1300 Nora St. E., Thief River Falls, MN 56701

Phone: 218-681-3390; Fax: 218-681-3397

Office e-mail: [redemer@mncable.net](mailto:redemer@mncable.net)

Website: [www.redemertrf.org](http://www.redemertrf.org)

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

### **Our Mission Statement**

Being chosen by God and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, Redeemer Lutheran Church gathers together to worship, serve and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people, to provide meaning and purpose for daily living.

#### **Our Staff:**

<b><i>Pastor</i></b>	Darrel Cory (phone: 218-791-0141, e-mail: <a href="mailto:darrelcory@gmail.com">darrelcory@gmail.com</a> )
<b><i>Youth Director</i></b>	Vacant
<b><i>Secretary/ Volunteer Coordinator</i></b>	Vanessa VanDam (phone: 218-681-3390, e-mail: <a href="mailto:redeer@mncable.net">redeer@mncable.net</a> )
<b><i>Organist/ Choir Director</i></b>	Reid Froiland (phone: 218-681-3733; e-mail: <a href="mailto:reid_froiland@hotmail.com">reid_froiland@hotmail.com</a> )
<b><i>Cantor</i></b>	Chris Cuppett
<b><i>B.L.A.S.T. Coordinator/ Custodian</i></b>	Megan Eickman (phone: 402-310-2192; e-mail: <a href="mailto:redemerblast@gmail.com">redemerblast@gmail.com</a> ) Mike Lundgren
<b><i>Financial Secretary</i></b>	Marit Knutson (e-mail: <a href="mailto:mknutson@mncable.net">mknutson@mncable.net</a> )
<b><i>Church Council President</i></b>	Jan Anderson (phone: 218-681-2641; email: <a href="mailto:randson@mncable.net">randson@mncable.net</a> )

*Dear Redeemer Saints,*

*First read Matthew 7:24 – 27*

*I have fond memories of this “story” from Matthew. I remember hearing it when I was a boy in Sunday School. I liked the image of the man who is wise enough to build his house on a solid rock foundation. I could see and almost feel the sand slipping away from under the house built by the foolish man.*

*It was years before I realized that this word picture is used to conclude the Sermon on the Mount. “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like . . .” or “. . . everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like . . .”*

*So everyone who hears Christ’s words or call and responds in faith is wise and those who hear Christ’s words or call and ignores it is the foolish. We have heard the words and there are ways we have responded. Some of those ways; the Lenten Food Shelf Drive that Kylie Westling has guided us through, the quilting ministry for missions and graduating high school seniors, the Rocking Redeemer Block Party, the hospice dinner, our support of WIC, our journeying with Zion Lutheran in Churches Together, backpacks full of school supplies. This is not an exhaustive list and other responses to “these words” are still waiting to be discovered. They are as many as our imaginations can create when we are guided by the Spirit of God.*

*At this year’s Synod Assembly the theme was, Building a Bigger Table. At the assembly, this phrase was repeated often . . .”Radical Hospitality”. Those of us who attended the assembly have talked about that phrase. One of the things we all agreed on was that Redeemer is really, really, REALLY good at hospitality!! So we are going to continue our discussion about Radical Hospitality and see where it might lead us. The other thing we agreed on is that hospitality is everything that Jesus was about. So it seems that Redeemer has a very strong foundation.*

*Peace be with you,*

*Darrel*

## ***A note from the Council President***

Summer is passing oh so quickly. We are busy planning late summer and fall events at Redeemer. So, save these dates!!

July 17 – No Wednesday worship service

July 31 – Church swap! Redeemer members will worship with Zion members at Zion

August 20 – annual Block Party

September 8 & 11 – annual Church Council Expo and BLAST rally

I want to thank Redeemer for the opportunity to attend the NWMN Synod Conference in June along with Chris Burnham, David & Linda Ulrich and Pastor Cory. What an inspiration! From the opening worship service to the last vote and prayer. Please read the report about the Synod Conference for details and information about the newly elected Bishop. If you have never attended a Synod conference, please speak to one of us about attending next year. Redeemer is authorized to have four voting delegates.

The Synod theme is Building a Bigger Table, with hospitality, radical hospitality at its core. You will be hearing more about the theme as Redeemer moves forward into the church year. How can we as a church and individually step up and step out to help and serve others in our church, community and world. It sounds very exciting. Hope you will be ready to join in!

Redeemer is an exciting place to be!!

God's Blessings,

Jan Anderson



Greetings Redeemer!

Hope you have all had a wonderful summer! How can it be that August has already arrived, and school is right around the corner?! Time sure flies by quickly when there is sunshine and warm weather to enjoy.

A few pieces of information regarding BLAST and Confirmation for the 2019-2020 school year:

"Rally Wednesday" will be held Wednesday, September 11th. We will kick off the year meeting teachers, enjoying fellowship, and maybe even round out the evening with a sweet treat! We will also bless the children's backpacks and install our teachers at the service following classroom time.

BLAST and confirmation will follow the same schedule this school year. Stay tuned for more information.

Can't wait to see everyone's smiling faces this fall!

Peace & Blessings,  
Megan Eickman

## ***Remember Redeemer this summer!***

Please remember Redeemer Lutheran Church as you enjoy family, friends, camping, fishing, golfing, days at the cabin, and lazy vacations. Church services are held Wednesday's at 6:30 and 9:30 Sunday mornings. We hope to see you in church, but if not, Redeemer needs your support throughout the summer! If you look at the chart showing Redeemer's financial status (located elsewhere in this newsletter) you will see that current expenses are higher than actual income.

Summer is the perfect opportunity for you to give electronically. Your donation is made even when you are not present. To sign up for electronic giving go to the Redeemer Church website <http://redeemertrf.org/> and click on the bright blue electronic giving box. Follow the online prompts to create an account. It is just that easy!

There is No Wednesday service July 17<sup>th</sup> - enjoy the parade!

On Wednesday, July 31<sup>st</sup> we will worship at Zion. Hope to see you there.

*Thank You from the Redeemer Stewardship Committee and  
Finance Committee*



The **Evangelism & Social Ministry Committee**  
is on the hunt for



If you would like to donate any of the following items, we will see that backpacks are filled and delivered to the VIP Center in TRF and to students who stop by Redeemer in need of supplies.



**Drop any of these items in the collection box located in the Narthex  
from August 1<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>!**

Backpacks – Folders – Rulers – Spiral (wide-rule)  
Notebooks - Composition Books – Loose-leaf Paper  
– Large Pink Erasers – Pencil Cap Erasers – Pencils –  
Pencil Boxes – Glue Sticks – Colored Pencils –  
Markers – Expo, Highlighters, Broad Tip, Fine Tip –  
Colored Pencils – Crayons - Kleenex



**Thank you!**



# NOTES FROM THE ORGAN BENCH—AUGUST 2019

## FIRST COMMUNION: WELCOME TO THE TABLE!

This spring, the Faith Formation and Worship and Music Committees had much discussion about when children should receive their first communion and be “welcomed to the table” at Redeemer. The committees recommended, and the Council approved, this modification to what we do:

Redeemer will now follow the standard of the ELCA, which is that young children may receive communion for the first time when their parents desire for them to receive it, and this will be done in consultation with the pastor.

Redeemer will still have a “first communion” class and celebration in fifth grade, both for those children who have not yet received their first communion and for those who have.

What the discussion has boiled down to is the question “Whose table is it to extend/deny invitation to?” It’s not ours—it’s Christ’s! Darrel has had some wonderful conversations with parents, usually over a meal at church, in teaching the first communion classes these last two years about what communion is and means and that all are welcome to the table. We look forward to continuing those conversations with parents whenever they believe their children are ready to receive communion, whether in fifth grade or earlier.

If you believe that your child is ready to receive communion, talk to Darrel. He will meet with you and your child in preparation to come to the table. If you do not yet believe your child is ready, your child is still welcome to come to the table to receive a blessing from a communion minister. The rest of us will notice younger children coming forward to receive communion. Let us welcome them, as we welcome all, to the table! Feel free to talk to Darrel, me, or any members of the Faith Formation or Worship and Music Committees for more information.

## YOUTH AND HANDBELL CHOR SURVEYS

I am investigating whether there is interest in expanding our music ministry at Redeemer in two ways: a youth choir, and a handbell choir. I have had some requests over the last year to incorporate these types of ensembles into our congregation’s music life. We have celebrated the addition of our elementary-age choir, Sing and Ring, and Suzanne Brown-ing has done a commendable job of welcoming these children and teaching them about music and our worship. But, there are opportunities to go beyond that group. These surveys will help me discern how and when we could expand our ensemble opportunities.

If you are interested in either of these, please go online and fill out either of the surveys:

Youth choir: <https://forms.gle/wGsmCqc677CbzxtW6>

Handbell choir: <https://forms.gle/kRB9GUgVEURCjF697>

These links will also be on the Redeemer Facebook page and website.

If you’re not an online person, simply call the church office and let Vanessa know of your interest and she will pass the information on, or e-mail or call me!

If you have interest in either of these ensembles, please fill out the survey by August 15.

Thank you for your continued involvement in our worship and musical life at Redeemer!

Reid

You're Invited!



Join the women of

Zion, Trinity and Redeemer Lutheran Churches

for supper and Bible Study with Pastor Darrel ~

Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>  
Redeemer Lutheran Church

Meal at 5:30



Bible Study (Gathering Magazine) to follow!





Redeemer Expo will be held after worship service  
Sunday, September 8th  
and  
Wednesday, September 11th

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**Vacation Bible School will be held on August 5-8<sup>th</sup> from 9am-3pm.** The cost for Redeemer members will be covered by Redeemer. The cost for Zion members will be covered by Zion. The fee for all other families will be \$40 per child, with a cap of \$80 per family. Bring your check (made out to Redeemer) or cash to Redeemer's office on the first day of camp. Please allow a few extra minutes to fill out Pathway's registration and health forms Monday morning. We will be going to Lion's Park for free lunch daily.

**You can register at the church office, or thru our website [www.redeemertrf.org](http://www.redeemertrf.org)**

## Report from Redeemer delegates attending 2019 Synod Assembly

The three-day Synod Assembly's theme "Building a Bigger Table" focused on discerning, electing and welcoming a new synod bishop; recognizing and praising God as the master table builder; and understanding that all Christians are called to welcome everyone to God's table.

### Election

After five ballots, the Northwestern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA 2019 Assembly called Pastor William (Bill) Tesch as its next Bishop. According to the Synod's Constitution, the bishop is elected to a six-year term by ecclesiastical ballot. "This is not just an election; it is also a call process. As such, we pray that the Holy Spirit will be among us as individuals and within this whole church, as we engage in discernment regarding the election of the Bishop. Individual and group reflection, discussion, and prayerful consideration are all important parts of the discernment process - both for individuals who may become nominees and for all members of this church as we reflect on its needs and the attributes desired of our leaders." Bishop-elect, Pastor Bill Tesch, grew up in Green Bay, Wisconsin and has been serving as the Director of Evangelical Mission and Associate to the Bishop in South Dakota since 2007. He is also a Chaplain (Colonel) in the SD Air National Guard. He will assume his new office on September 1, 2019. Installation of the new bishop will be held September 8, 2019 in Moorhead, MN.

### Biblical Reflection and Call to Action

Dr. Michael Chan led us in three reflections on the Book of Jonah. Jonah resents the graciousness of God toward the repentant inhabitants of Nineveh. He is angry and says he would rather die than see God's mercy shown to them. In Dr. Chan's words: "Jonah reminds us that fueling a life on rage goes nowhere. Rage runs out. There are certainly things to be angry about – injustices to rage against. But - let's fill ourselves with resolve rather than rage. It gets us much further. Jonah's private sin had public consequences. His 'no' to God was also a 'no' to his neighbor." However, God did not give up on Jonah, giving him multiple opportunities to see that it is God alone who gives mercy and forgiveness. Just like Jonah, it is not up to us to decide who is worthy of love, forgiveness, or inclusion as we are all equal in the eyes of God.

*We were introduced to extending hospitality; radical hospitality. One definition by Robert Schnase- Churches characterized by Radical Hospitality are not just friendly and courteous, passively receiving visitors warmly. Instead, they exhibit a restlessness because they realize so many people do not have a relationship to a faith community. They desire to learn about inviting and welcoming more people and younger people and more diverse people into their congregation.*

Building a Bigger Table Growth Groups included sessions stretching our concept of hospitality. Hospitality is the work of Christian Discipleship. People need to know that God loves them, that they have value and are significant, that they are not alone in troubled times, know how to forgive and be forgiven. God tells us over and over to reach out, include everyone, love without limits, serve the hurting and needy. Sessions included:

Grasping the Limitlessness of God's Love through inclusion and understanding differences; Experiencing Homelessness; Childcare Crisis; In the Dark-helping and lifting up people suffering loss of jobs, broken relationships, illness and death; Welcoming Immigrants and Refugees; Exploring the Historical Relationship between Native American and Non-Native People; Building a Bigger Table around the Baptismal Font and Altar; using ELCA Worship Resources to help churches expand and understand worship including the role of music and culture.

### Business

The Synod budget passed. The resolution supporting the energy innovation and carbon dividend act was sent back to Synod Council for more adequate definition and intermediate action.

Thank you, Redeemer, for the opportunity to attend the Synod Assembly.

Respectfully submitted by Jan Anderson, Chris Burnham, David & Linda Ulrich, Pastor Cory

## Volunteer Schedule for August

Please make a note on your calendar of the date(s) when you're scheduled to help.

If you can't assist on your assigned date, please find a replacement and let Vanessa and Pastor Darrel know of the switch.

Make sure you are at the church by 6:00pm on Wednesdays and 9:00 on Sundays.

Thanks for your willingness to serve.

Vanessa VanDam 218-681-3390; redeemer@mncable.net

### August – Readers

<i>Sunday, August 4</i>	<i>Tommy VanCamp</i>
<i>Wednesday, August 7</i>	<i>Orley Gunderson</i>
<i>Sunday, August 11</i>	<i>John Wollenzien</i>
<i>Wednesday, August 14</i>	<i>Denice Nelson</i>
<i>Sunday, August 18</i>	<i>Jan Anderson</i>
<i>Wednesday, August 21</i>	<i>Jan Nordin</i>
<i>Sunday, August 25</i>	<i>Chris Burnham</i>
<i>Wednesday, August 28</i>	<i>Linda Olson</i>

### August – Ushers

<i>Sunday, August 4</i>	<i>Myron and Juneal Peterson</i>
<i>Wednesday, August 7</i>	<i>Angie Westling, Leslie Rogalla</i>
<i>Sunday, August 11</i>	<i>John Wollenzien, Eric Tjelle</i>
<i>Wednesday, August 14</i>	<i>Dale and Denice Nelson</i>
<i>Sunday, August 18</i>	<i>Myron and Juneal Peterson</i>
<i>Wednesday, August 21</i>	<i>Jan and Diedre Nordin</i>
<i>Sunday, August 25</i>	<i>Open (2 needed)</i>
<i>Wednesday, August 28</i>	<i>Open (2 needed)</i>

### August – Communion

<i>Sunday, August 4</i>	<i>Harold and Sue Dupree, Carol Ihle</i>
<i>Wednesday, August 7</i>	<i>Open</i>
<i>Sunday, August 14</i>	<i>Terri Cuppett</i>
<i>Sunday, August 18</i>	<i>Jan Anderson, Betty Carlson, Open</i>
<i>Wednesday, August 21</i>	<i>Carol Ihle</i>
<i>Wednesday, August 28</i>	<i>Cindy Dally</i>

# MEMORIALS



In memory of :

From:

## Stained Glass Fund

Bob Dotson	Obert and Sandy Sundahl
Harlon Sundahl	Obert and Sandy Sundahl
LaVerne Hamre	Delores Ault
Grace Adams Cory	Dale and Denice Nelson
	Dave and Linda Ulrich
	Al and Phyliss Johnson
	Edward Braaten
	Ken and Marlys Kain

## Quilting

Grace Adams Cory	Shirley Booth
	June Johnson

## Bible

Grace Adams Cory	Annabelle Cuppett
Gladys Hallstrom	Annabelle Cuppett

## Youth

In honor of Kylie Westling graduation and community services	Mike and Sandy Parker
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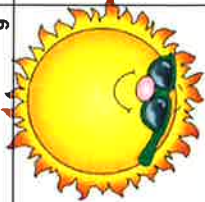
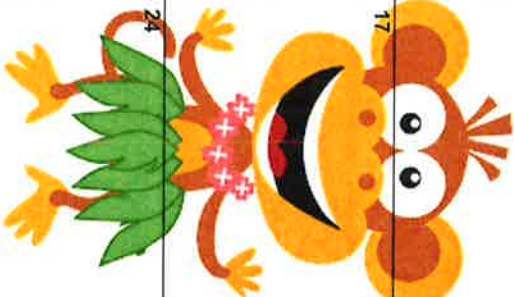
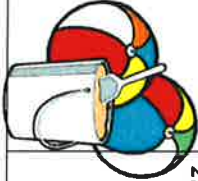

**Note: All gifts given before the fifteenth of the month will be printed in this month's newsletter. All gifts received after the fifteenth will be recognized in the next month's newsletter.**

***When you send in a memorial, please identify which account you want it credited to.***

**Some of the accounts are as follows:**

Altar Guild, Audio/Visual, Building, Campership, Capital Improvement, Choir, Library, Organ, Parish Nurse Fund, Women of the ELCA Bible Fund, Sunday School, Undesignated, Women of the ELCA, Flower Garden, Garage, CSI Fund, Quilters and Youth

# August

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Redeemer Lutheran Church 1300 E. Nora St. Thief River Falls, MN 56701 Phone: 218-681-3390 Fax: 218-681-3397 redeemer@mncable.net Office Hours: 8:30am-1:30pm Mon-Fri</p>						
4 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion	5 9-3 VBS	6 9-3 VBS	7 9-3 VBS 6:30pm Worship with Holy Communion	8 9-3 VBS	9	10
11 9:30am Worship	12	13	14 6:30pm Worship with Holy Communion	15 5:30pm Joint bible study at Redeemer	16	17 
18 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion	19	20 5-7pm Block Party 7:00pm Council meeting	21 6:30pm Worship with Holy Communion	22	23	24
25 9:30am Worship	26 	27	28 6:30pm Worship with Holy Communion	29	30 	31