



PARISH PARCHMENT



Holy Redeemer
Lutheran Church

www.holyredeemer.church

Growing to and for Christ!

July 2026



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Liberty and Justice for All was the premise on which our nation was founded. As we prepare to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the US “Liberty & Justice for All” is still an ideal worth celebrating.

It is also Jesus’ call in his farewell address in John’s Gospel when he says: *“I give you a new commandment that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”* (John 13:34-35).

Civic renewal is a way to live out the call to truth-telling and loving our neighbors as ourselves. It is a call to remember the mistakes of our past, to learn from them and create a new future reality where everyone belongs and is treated with respect and dignity to love as Jesus loved us.

We need to always ask ourselves, who is welcome here? Do we welcome people of different nationalities, religions, languages, colors, ages, genders, sexual identities? Do we welcome and accommodate people with different abilities, physical and/or mental? Do we welcome those who have been incarcerated or dealt with addictions? Do we welcome the poor and homeless? Do we welcome people with different political ideologies? The list goes on.

It is not always easy to welcome people who are different than we are or who have different understandings. But when we remember they are loved by God, just as we are, we can welcome them, listen to their stories and share our stories. Our loves are interdependent and inner connected.

The teaching of Civic Renewal – Liberty & Justice begins with our youth. The Peace Camp that we are hosting this year for youth entering grades 1–8 is one way in which we can reach out to our youth. Our objectives include:

- Appreciation and respect for different cultures and backgrounds
- Recognizing prejudice, exclusion, and harmful language
- Understanding fairness in communities and everyday life
- Building confidence to respond to unfair situations
- Learning how to make a positive difference

The congregation also demonstrates Civic Renewal by serving at Mission of Hope, The Neighbors Table, The Free Medical Clinic, The Food Pantry etc. It also happens when we invite people to join us in our “extra-curricular activities such as quilt making, book studies, Chair yoga, or lunch. The list goes on. Inviting people to belong and treating each individual with dignity and respect is a gift of love. Let us sing together: All Are Welcome!

Hymn: “All Our Welcome”

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive;
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Pastor Franzenburg

Council Corner

Coffee & Council met Sunday, June 14. Highlights of their printed reports and meeting minutes include:

Finances: For the month of May, we did not meet our monthly goal of \$15,220. We had a **general fund shortage of \$3,316** and a **slight overage of \$315 in the building fund** for a total shortage of \$3,001. Our year-to-date shortage is being recalculated but is approximately \$12,500. Our end of May contingency fund balance is \$40,259 and our mortgage balance is \$214,260.

Again, year-to-date giving compared to last year is being recalculated.

Old Business: There was no old business discussed.

New Business: Topics included a pictorial directory, website maintenance, Peace Camp scholarships, celebration of semi quincennial on Sunday, July 5, and Pastor's schedule for July.

Pastor will be attending the ELCA rostered ministers gathering in Indianapolis July 6-9 and will be out of the office July 10. She will be helping with Peace Camp at St. Stephen's July 13-17 and here at Holy Redeemer July 20-24. The congregation is invited to her 80th birthday celebration on Saturday, July 25 from 4:00-7:00 pm at Indian Creek Nature Center. (Please RSVP so she can plan for food.)

Our next Coffee & Council is scheduled for **Sunday, July 19, 2026, at 10:30 am.**

Synod News

Welcome Jackie Baumhover

Associate to the Bishop for Candidacy, Events, and Governance

Please join Bishop Amy Current and the Office of the Bishop in welcoming **Jackie (Pepin) Baumhover** as the Southeastern Iowa Synod's new Associate to the Bishop for Candidacy, Events, and Governance. Jackie begins her ministry with us on July 6, 2026.



Most recently serving as Director for Strategy in the ELCA Office of the Presiding Bishop, Jackie brings extensive experience in leadership development, strategic planning, and accompanying leaders in discernment. She is passionate about the future of the

Church and excited to serve alongside congregations and leaders throughout Southeastern Iowa.

We invite you to join us in welcoming Jackie and encourage you to read more about her background, family, and call to this ministry in our [blog post](#).

Synod Assembly Recap



Curious about what happened at this year's Synod Assembly? A full recap of the 2026 Assembly, including highlights from worship, key decisions made by voting members, Bishop Amy Current's re-election, updates from synod ministries, and the impact of this year's offering

supporting our Companion Synods in Tanzania is available on the synod website. Explore the full recap, photos, reports, and additional resources [\[here\]](#).

Additional Synod Information

For other information from our synod, visit <https://seiasynod.org/> to find weekly newsletters (<https://seiasynod.org/news>), messages from Bishop Current, and other information about our synod.

ELCA News

ELCA Receives Lilly Endowment Grant

The ELCA has received a major grant from the Lilly Endowment to strengthen and expand the work of Lutheran Disaster Response. This funding will help the church deepen its capacity to accompany communities before, during, and after disasters. The initiative will support long-term resilience, leadership development, and more effective disaster ministry across the ELCA. [\[More information\]](#)

Conscience & Conversation Study

The ELCA task force reconsidering a section of the social statement *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust* has released a new study inviting congregations into meaningful conversation this summer. "Conscience and Conversation" offers ready-to-use sessions with prayers, hymns, scripture, and discussion questions to help guide reflection on agreement, disagreement, and our shared call to pursue justice and peace.

Congregations are encouraged to engage in the study and share feedback to support the task force's ongoing work. Click [\[here\]](#) to learn more and access the study.

Congregation News



Tuesday Euchre Canceled

Card playing on the first and third Tuesdays of the month is canceled until fall or such time that someone would like to restart and coordinate it.

Chair Yoga

Chair yoga sessions are scheduled each Wednesday at 11:30 am. All sessions are held in the narthex –chairs are moved to provide ample space. All are welcome to give it a try. The cost is \$10.00 per session – you may pay at the end of class. Talk to Jeri Hansen or Shari Singelstad for more information.



Note: Chair yoga will **not** meet on July 22 due to Peace Camp.

Book Discussion Group

Book Discussion Group is taking July off. Read – read – maybe outside on a nice day. We will resume in August.

Women's Bible Study

Bible Study will meet on Thursday, **July 9 (9:30 am)** at the church. The summer Bible study is entitled ***I Am Worthy*** by Sarah Olson Smith. Session #2 is entitled ***I Am Worthy – I am more than one thing***. The reading for this lesson is: Luke 2:41-51. Come join us for the hour-long study.

Let's Do Lunch – July Canceled



The next **Thursday, July 11** will be held on **Thursdays** (Westdale) at **11:30 am**. **Up on the bulletin board if you** d.



Adult Coloring

Adult coloring is scheduled for **July 15 from 9:00-11:00 am**. This month the group will meet at Villas at Stoney Point.

DUO (Do Unto Others) Day

DUO will meet at the church on **Tuesday, July 28**, from 9:30 am – 1:30 pm. Come help tie or pin quilts together. Bring your lunch! If you wish to purchase a quilt, contact Jeri or DeAnna after church.

Blood Drive – July 2



RED WHITE & YOU

AMERICA NEEDS BLOOD DONORS

BLOOD DRIVE

Holy Redeemer & Gloria Dei
Lutheran Churches

Thursday, July 2 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Holy Redeemer Fellowship Hall - 720 Edgewood Rd NW



To book an appointment, scan the QR code or
contact Jeff Hand at secretary@holyredeemer.church
or Karen Goedeken at kdgoedeken@gmail.com.

Group Code:
2583
Last Date to Donate Elsewhere:
7/5/20

Good Old Church Potluck – July 12

We have relatives coming from Norway in July. There will be 13 visitors to Cedar Rapids to visit us and other Benton County relatives. The visitors plan to attend worship at Holy Redeemer on **Sunday, July 12** and we're planning a "good old church potluck" after worship at Noon. **The congregation is invited - please help us welcome these folks.** If you plan to attend, please bring a dish to share. (Tableware and drinks will be furnished.) Watch for a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board so we know how many to plan for.

Ron & Jeri Hansen
Phil & Connie Hansen
Lee & Lanny Eggers

National Night Out – August 4

Mark your calendar now for National Night Out – August 4. Holy Redeemer will be hosting an event with food, yard games, and a visit from local law enforcement (perhaps a K-9). More details to come as the event nears.

Outreach

Linn Community Food Bank

With the help of worship attendees and our youth who enjoy gathering quarters, our quarter tube is very nearly full again. By early July we will be able to send another \$150+ to Linn Community Food Bank.

Linn Community Food Bank is always grateful for our contributions. Donations to the quarter tube and loose and designated offerings on the second Sunday of each month all go to the food bank.

Our next designated Food Bank Sunday is **July 12**.

For more information about Linn Community Food Bank, refer to: <https://linncommunityfoodbank.org/>.

Mission of Hope

Holy Redeemer served 130 plates at Mission of Hope on Thursday, June 18. We saw a lot of new people, including kids that are out of school. Thank you to everyone who shopped for groceries – three different times, cooked, donated cookies/bars and transported and served.

Our next meal will be scalloped potatoes and ham on **Thursday, July 16**. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

Fourth Sunday Offering

The proceeds of our **July 26** fourth Sunday offering are designated for **Cedar Valley Habitat for Humanity**.

Habitat for Humanity International has built and rehabilitated more than 800,000 houses with partner families, helping house more than 4 million people and becoming a true world leader in addressing the issues of poverty housing. [More information]

Loose and designated offerings on July 26 will be sent to Cedar Valley Habitat for Humanity.

The Neighbors' Table

The Neighbors' Table was held June 25. Attendance numbers were not available at the time of print.

Our next scheduled Neighbors' Table is **Thursday, July 30, 2026**. The menu includes maid-rites, mac 'n' cheese, corn, coleslaw, and pudding along with beverages.

How to Give to Special Offerings

Donate to Cedar Valley Habitat for Humanity, Linn Community Food Bank, Mission of Hope, Neighbors' Table, or other community partners by simply indicating on your offering envelope, the memo line of your check, or in a separate note. Counters will ensure your donation gets designated properly and funds will be distributed to the organizations. Thank you for your generous support.

Offering Envelopes

Speaking of giving, we encourage all members to use their offering envelopes when making contributions on Sunday morning. These envelopes make the job of counting offerings easier and ensures you are credited with the appropriate amounts. If you happen to forget your envelope on a Sunday, you can also write your envelope number in the memo line of your check.

If you do not have offering envelopes and would like a box for the remainder of 2026, please talk to Gwen Leonard (Financial Secretary) or Jeff Hand (Admin Assistant).

LSI

Without Amy's support, I would still be an addict, and I wouldn't be where I am today," said Michelle, an LSI client.

Michelle was struggling with substance abuse, legal issues, and mental health issues when she found LSI therapist Amy Davis back in 2021.

"God helps us in ways we don't always want him to," said Michelle. "When the coronavirus pandemic hit, I lost my job. The unemployment lines were long at the time, so we went several months without a paycheck, so I decided to get creative with my finances. I started selling drugs and was later arrested with a large quantity of drugs. They came in, took my kid, and I went to jail. After that, I was referred to work with Amy at LSI."

Michelle and Amy worked through Michelle's childhood trauma, processing the significant losses in her life due to drug overdose and death. Amy helped Michelle work on building a positive support system, a list of future goals, and a relationship with her daughter, Rachel.

"Rachel and I had a lot of problems when we entered therapy because I was a drug addict, and there was a

lot of broken trust between us,” said Michelle. “LSI therapists helped us rebuild that trust and helped show her the progress I had made when she couldn’t see it herself.”

Rachel, in therapy as well, has been seeing LSI Therapist Chelsea Zaragoza since 2019. In addition to one-on-one therapy sessions with their respective therapists, Michelle and Rachel also do family therapy sessions with Amy and Chelsea. These sessions help the mother and daughter have time set aside to talk about issues they are having in a healthy, productive way.

“Michelle has had a lot of struggles, loss, and a lot of people who didn’t believe in her, and her daughter was one of them,” said Amy Davis, LSI Therapist. “We have worked hard doing family and individual therapy to bring those two back together, and it has worked. Where they are now, I don’t think I’ve seen a mother-daughter relationship as healthy as the two of them are.”

“To see how far Michelle has come since I met her is truly remarkable,” said Amy. “She built the ladder, and she climbed out.”

“I was a mess when I first came to LSI,” said Michelle. “Now, I’m sober, in college, have a high-paying job, and have my daughter back. Amy believed in me when no one else did, not even myself. She gave me hope.”

Stories like Michelle’s are only possible because of compassionate donors. For more information refer to <https://lsiowa.org/>.

In Our Family

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy birthday wishes to: Sarah Cones, Bob Leonard, Karoline Finn, Jordan Renner, John Fuoto, Tracy Kisling, Dave Anderson, Linda Singelstad, Lanny Eggers, Connie Hansen, and Pastor Kathryn Franzenburg!

Happy anniversary to: Jan & John Millet, Amy & Rick Renner, Jessica & James Renn!

Pastor’s Birthday Celebration

Please join Pastor Franzenburg and her family as they celebrate her 80th year of life, July birthday, and the memories they have shared over the years.

The celebration will be held Saturday, July 25, from 4:00-7:00 pm at the Indian Creek Nature Center (3500 Otis Road SE). Music will be provided by The Old Man Band featuring lead singer, Allison Hershberger.

Light refreshments will be provided. No gifts, please. RSVP: KFranzenburg@hotmail.com / 319.360.7815.

Cards Needed

As many of you know, Shari Singelstad sends out birthday cards to members 75 years of age or older, sympathy and get-well cards congregation members, and a few special requests. Shari is currently in need of new birthday cards for men plus sympathy and get-well cards for men, women and children. Shari has not requested help with cards for a while because she previously received a donation of three shoe boxes full of assorted cards. These are now running low. If you have cards to donate, you can give them directly to Shari or drop them off at the church office.

Thank you from Shari!

Ministry of the Month

July 5	Greeter	Loretta Shannon
	Reader	Jeri Hansen
	Communion Asst	Jeri Hansen
	Counters	Loretta/Linda
	Communion Prep	Jeri Hansen
July 12	Greeter	1 needed
	Reader	1 needed
	Communion Asst	1 needed
	Counters	Loretta/1 needed
	Communion Prep	Laura Fowler
July 19	Greeter	Loretta Shannon
	Reader	Loretta Shannon
	Communion Asst	Loretta Shannon
	Counters	Loretta/1 needed
	Communion Prep	TBD
July 26	Greeter	1 needed
	Reader	Gwen Leonard
	Communion Asst	Gwen Leonard
	Counters	2 needed
	Communion Prep	TBD
Altar Care (June): Gwen Ehler		

Bits & Pieces

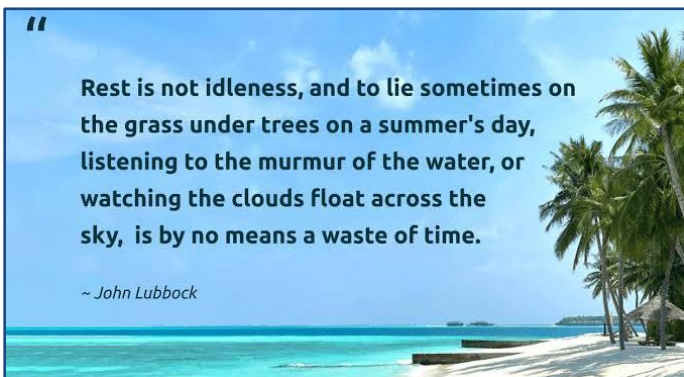
"Heat waves ahead, but so is the fun. Welcome, July, let's get things done." — Unknown



"July is when I learn to appreciate every cold drink I've ever had." — Unknown

"If ant hills are high in July, the coming winter will be hard." — American folklore

"If I had my way, I'd remove January from the calendar altogether and have an extra July instead."
— Roald Dahl



"I drifted into a summer nap under the hot shade of July, serenaded by a cicada lullaby, to drowsy warm dreams of distant thunder." —Terri Guillemets

July goals: Find seashells, lose worries.

"I'd like to be remembered as a person who wanted to be free and wanted other people to be free also."
— Rosa Parks



"May we think of freedom not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right." —Peter Marshall



"True patriotism hates injustice in its own land more than anywhere else." — Clarence Darrow



Future Events

(All Events Tentative and Subject to Change)

July 2026

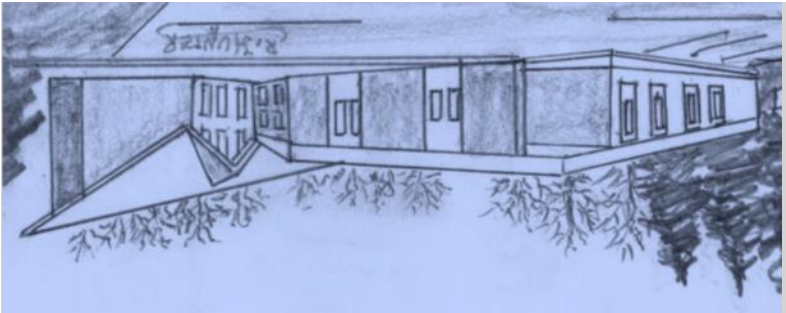
July 1 (We) 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
July 2 (Th) 3:00 pm – **Summer Blood Drive**
July 4 (Sa) **Independence Day**
Happy 250th America!
July 5 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 6 Pentecost**
July 6 (Mo)–July 10 (Fr)
 Pastor @ ELCA Rostered Minister
 Gathering (and travel)
July 8 (We) 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
July 9 (Th) 9:30 am – Women’s Bible Study
July 12 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 7 Pentecost**
 Food Bank Sunday
 12:00 pm – **Church Potluck**
July 15 (We) 9:00 am – Adult Coloring @ Villas
 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
July 16 (Th) **Mission of Hope Meal**
July 19 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 8 Pentecost**
 10:05 am – Outreach committee meeting
 10:30 am – **Coffee & Council**
July 20 (Mo)–July 24 (Fr)
 9:00 am – 3:00 pm: **Peace Camp**
July 20 (Mo) **11:59 pm – Newsletter Deadline**
July 22 (We) NO Chair Yoga
July 24 (Fr) 11:30 am – Habitat Home Lunch
July 25 (Sa) 4:00-7:00 pm – Pastor’s 80th Birthday
 Celebration (Indian Creek Nature
 Center)
July 26 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 9 Pentecost**
 4th Sunday Offering
 10:15 am – Neighbors’ Table meeting
July 28 (Tu) 9:30 am – DUO Day
July 29 (We) 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
July 30 (Th) **4:30 pm – Neighbor’s Table**

August 2026

Aug 2 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 10 Pentecost**
Aug 4 (Tu) **National Night Out**
Aug 5 (We) 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
Aug 6 (Th) 9:30 am – Book Club (L. Shannon)
Aug 9 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 11 Pentecost**
 Food Bank Sunday
10:30 am – Coffee & Council
Aug 12 (We) 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
Aug 13 (Th) 9:30 am – Women’s Bible Study
 11:30 am – Let’s Do Lunch @
 Whiskey River (Palo)
Aug 16 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 12 Pentecost**
 10:15 am – Outreach committee meeting
Aug 19 (We) 9:00 am – Adult Coloring @ Villas
 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
Aug 20 (Th) **Mission of Hope Meal**
11:59 pm – Newsletter Deadline
Aug 23 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 13 Pentecost**
 4th Sunday Offering
 10:15 am – Neighbors’ Table meeting
Aug 25 (Tu) 9:30 am – DUO Day
Aug 26 (We) 11:30 am – Chair Yoga
Aug 27 (Th) **4:30 pm – Neighbor’s Table**
Aug 30 (Su) **9:00 am – Worship: 14 Pentecost**
 5th Sunday Offering

Wednesdays – Admin out of office
Friday mornings – Cleaner Image (Mike)

Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church
 720 Edgewood Road NW
 Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405



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Church Staff

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Director of Music Ministries

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Cleaner Image

Custodian(s)

Worship Services
Sunday, 9:00 a.m.
(In Person and FB Live)



*If we live by the Spirit, let us also
 be guided by the Spirit.
 Galatians 5:25 (NRSV)*



Join us as we grow to and for Christ!!!