

Coming Soon to a Panda Express Near You!



Preschool fundraiser coming on Tuesday, October 3rd from 11:00am to 9:00pm. All in-person orders placed this day will automatically be programmed to donate 20% of the sale to Our Redeemer's Preschool! If ordering online, please make sure to enter code 360518; this will ensure 20% of the online sale is donated to our preschool. Please mark your calendars! Your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you!!

OUR REDEEMER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH THE VOICE

October 2023



And we're off to the races...!

We just experienced a good first Sunday of our fall schedule. Liz had 17 children in Sunday School, the first youth event for middle school kids had 20+ kids plus parents and siblings. Worship attendance continues to be strong, and we are looking ahead to later this week as our confirmation and high school programming begin. A couple of new fellowship groups have formed (Singles over 40 and Young Adults), we're teaming up with St. John's Lutheran for some fall activities, and the Hunger Team has raised over \$22,000 and grown 1500 lbs. of produce to help the hungry in Helena. Now, if we can only get a couple of staff positions filled!

Speaking of filling positions, the job description for the Director of Worship can be found here:

<https://tinyurl.com/2s4xc6yr>

Please share it far and wide. If you have a Facebook page, post it there. If you know of anyone who might be interested, encourage them. If you can think of places we should advertise (besides Indeed.com, with the synod, on JustChurchJobs.com, and throughout Helena), please email me your suggestions (Trina@OurRedeemerLives.org).

The Call Committee is hard at work helping us fill the Associate Pastor position, and I know they covet your prayers for their work and the person we trust even now the Holy Spirit is preparing to join us in ministry at Our Redeemer's. And thanks for your patience at this point in the process when confidentiality is so important.

The staff feels a bit breathless in these busy early weeks of the fall schedule, so please hold us all in prayer. Name each one (David, Sarah, Lori, Liz, Steph, Jason, Linda, Kris, Wendy, Marie, Alenna, Baird, Trina) and ask that we be given creativity, good health, patience, and joy in our work.

And while you're at it, pray for those who offer their gifts of music, hospitality, and technology each week in worship. Pray for our LPAs and our Deacon. Pray for the scouts who are here on Mondays and Thursdays and the Helena Symphony, who practices in the Great Room. Pray for Knitters for Peace and Sew in Love and the quilters. Pray for the Hunger Team, the Stewardship Committee, the Personnel Committee, the IT Team, and the newly formed Long-Range Planning Committee. The Women of the ELCA, the Wednesday Men's group, and the women's Bible study could all use prayer. Please don't leave out Council, those who bake bread for communion, Dennis Trotter who is our primary confirmation teacher, or the youth who staff the nursery each week. The 60 preschoolers, their families, and their teachers could always use a good word. In your mind, walk through the building, thinking of all the ministry that takes place in this holy space, and lift it all to our loving God.

It is an exciting time in the life of this congregation. We are growing. We are making a difference in Helena and beyond. We are being shaped by the Holy Spirit. Thank you for the role each of you play in being the body of Christ in this place.

Pastor Trina



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OUR REDEEMER'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
3580 North Benton
Helena, MT 59602
406-442-7842

EMBRACED BY GOD'S LOVE WE REACH OUT TO SERVE BECAUSE OUR REDEEMER LIVES

Children's Ministry Registration Open!

Please follow the link **OR** use the following QR code to register for the 2023-2024 Children's Ministry Christian educational opportunities.

<https://forms.gle/yK1e1bBBCjapQU1TA>



Contact Liz at liz@ourredeemerlives.org with questions.

Children's Activities This Month . . .

October

- 1 Sunday School—Creation
- 4 Family Campus Clean-Up @6:30pm
- 8 Sunday School—Creation
- 15 Sunday School—Creation
- 15 Walk Through the Bible—3rd Graders
- 20 Addams Family Movie Night @6pm
- 22 No Sunday School!
- 28 Trunk-or-Treat @1-3pm
- 29 Sunday School—Noah

Campus Clean-Up Night Service Project Event!



When: October 4 at 6:30pm - Dinner provided!

Who: All ages - bring the whole family!

What: Bring some work gloves, and join us to pull weeds, rake leaves and pick up garbage around the church.

Like our Children's Ministry Facebook page to stay in the loop!

<https://www.facebook.com/orlcchildrensministries/>



Join Us . . .
Saturday, October 28
1:00-3:00pm

All Children and Families are welcome!

If you would like to host a trunk at this event, please follow the link, use the QR code below **OR** contact Liz or Steph!



We are in need of Candy Donations or Treat! There is a bin located outside of the Sanctuary for you. Thank you!



Contact Liz, liz@ourredeemerlives.org **OR** Steph, steph@ourredeemerlives.org with questions!

The Voice is published monthly as an update on the ministry and mission of

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church

3580 N Benton Ave
Helena, MT 59602
406.442.7842
www.ourredeemerlives.org

Ministry Team

Ministers: **All the People of God**

Pastor Trina Johnsten, Lead Pastor
Trina@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Lori Walter, Administrative Assistant
LoriW@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Sarah Magee, Director of Finance
Sarah@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Jason Callon, Director of Worship and Arts
Jason@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Steph Richardson, Interim Director of Youth Ministry
Steph@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Liz Swenson, Director of Children and Family Ministry
Liz@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Linda Keim, Organist

David McHaley, Custodian

Carol Will, Deacon

Lori Bigwood-Pecarina, Lay Pastoral Associate

Jan Martin, Lay Pastoral Associate

Jeff Martin, Lay Pastoral Associate

Kevin Mathews, Lay Pastoral Associate

Lisa Williams-Mathews, Lay Pastoral Associate

Kristine Thatcher, Interim Preschool Director
Kris@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Wendy Vukonich, Preschool Teacher
Wendy@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Alenna Maw, Preschool Teacher
Alenna@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Marie Grissom, Preschool Teacher
Marie@OurRedeemerLives.Org

A congregation of the
Montana Synod of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America

Our Redeemer's Church Council

If you have questions or concerns and would like to visit with a council member, please feel free to contact any of us at the following email or phone:

Kevin Mathews, President
president@ourredeemerlives.org
406-465-1839

Ingrid Childress, First Vice President
ichildress@bresnan.net
406-431-3344

Tracy Moseman, Second Vice President
mtmoseman@hotmail.com
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tvting@bresnan.net
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colegrove@bresnan.net
406-465-3453

Sarah Sampson, Member at Large
sarahmarieirvin@hotmail.com
406-460-0133

Voice articles due on the 15th of each month

Friday, September 15 at 5:00pm
LoriW@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Long Term Prayer Concerns

Help us update our Long Term Prayer Concerns list by calling the church office.

Our Members

Phyllis Bauer	Linda Huso	Nikki MacMillan	Vicki Poore
Richard Carey	Pr. Trina Johnsten	Lorna Meyer	Laurie Simms
Roberta Carey	Carol Kimble	Ron Paulson	Ruth Straley
Jim Haubein	Dale Mickus	Jim Poore	Thea Swenson

Our Family and Friends

Ken Acord (Linda Coty)	Jared Larsen (Ruth Reed's grandson)
Zachary Ark	Lindsey Madsen (Julie Penner)
Victor Bachmier	Janessa and Maryssa Martin and Cheyene Bade (Roberta Carey's great nieces)
Julie Bliss (Nadine Sim)	Ricki McDanold (Denise Richards)
Steve Boyter	Sharon McLane Ryan & Abigail McLane)
Diane Brown (Susan Sielbach)	Julie Mehl (daughter of Dave Mehl)
Peggy Campbell	Ruth Naegele
Cody Carey (Richard & Roberta's great grandson)	Chris O'Connor (Cheri Goosen's cousin)
Tom Carter	Laura Oleson (Debbie Hurni's sister-in-law)
JLD (Gary and Joy Novota)	Evelyn Sabo (Janet Erickson's mother)
Karen Elliot (Chas Elliot's mom)	Brandy Spaid (Shannon Bartole)
Brandon Erickson	Dorothy Tangen (Craig Erickson's aunt)
Stormy Flinders	Jory Van Antwerp
Pat Graham	Doug Williams (Leona Williams' son)
Tom Hammond (Sue Hill's dad)	Families of suicide victims
Donna Hurni (Neal Hurni)	Sefra
Larry Kuntz (Dave & Lori Swenson)	Sue
Adeline Lagerquist	

Our Family and Friends Serving in the Military

Brandon Bach	Adam Guay	Colton Johnson	Courtney Rath
Kyle Begger	Ryan Girard	Chance McDowell	Tanner Reddig
Lonnie Cook	Austin Grieve	Kent McGowan	Cody Stipcich
Erin DenHerder	Travis Gronley	Dean McLain	Darrell Stipcich
Kellan Elder	Charlie Heidbreder	Sawyer Linke	Victoria Stipcich
Travis Elder	Roger Henschel	Erin Mills	Tait Strom
Micah Emmons	Paul Horst	Brian Neal	Andrew Zimmer
Jessilyn Emmons	Anela Hemry	Keith Nordquist	
Joe Fischer	Wade Hemry	Chris Oelkers	
Grant Gagnon	Cody Johnson	Scott Pocha	

Our Seminarians

Baird Linke
Shawn, Sara, Addie & Kaden Juers

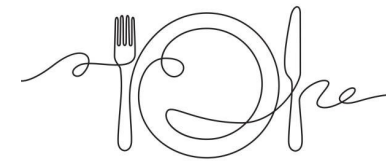
middle school.

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church



Join us for our Fall Middle School Retreat in Cascade, MT on **October 18 & 19**. Please drop your child off at Our Redeemer's by **5:30pm** on October 18. Plan to pick your youth up at **2:00pm** at Our Redeemer's on October 19.

Please RSVP by placing your phone camera over the QR code! It will take you to the registration page. We hope to see you there.



Wednesday Night Dinner Help -Volunteers Needed-

Liz and Steph are in need of volunteers to help prep/pickup and cleanup dinner for about 25 people on Wednesday nights. The church funds this, we just need your hands and hearts to get this done. If you have some free time, please consider signing up to help feed these kids.

Sign up by hovering your camera over the QR code. It will take you to the online sign up page.



Check out the calendar of events to stay up to date on all of the happenings.

high school.

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church

ELCA National Youth Gathering



Calling all students grade 9 - 12! Anyone interested in going to the ELCA National Youth Gathering, let Steph know of your interest by **October 8th!** St. John's Lutheran Church in Helena is going, and wants to know if we are interested in joining them.

WHEN: July 16-20, 2024

WHERE: New Orleans, LA

WHAT: Every three years, thousands of high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

COST: \$150 deposit, estimated cost for the whole trip is ~\$1700/youth. This is offset by fundraising.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: check out www.elca.church/gathering

Event Registration

What: High Schoolers get locked into the church for a full night. Dinner and breakfast will be served.

When: Nov. 3, 6:00pm - Nov. 4, 10:00am

Where: Inside the Church

Who: High Schoolers, St. John's Lutheran Church High Schoolers and friends.

Host: FLBC staff will come and lead this event.

To Bring: Clothes to lounge/sleep in, blankets, pillows, water bottle, and one bag of candy for a cornhole tournament.





Questionnaire Results

In August, a questionnaire was mailed and emailed to all Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church families with Middle School and High School students. The purpose of this questionnaire was to ask important questions about youth ministry here at the church. This provided a reflection of the past and the desires for the future. Your thoughts were heard and valued.

Most people expressed joy and appreciation to the youth ministry of the past and where it can go in the future. A summary of what was found in the questionnaire is generally as many would expect. Parents and youth are involved in some, but not all activities. The most popular offerings that people participate in are social opportunities. It was seen reflected in most questionnaires that youth look for the 'fun' and the food that comes with all offerings. Many youth want to have fun incorporated in educational opportunities as a way to get to know other youth outside of sports and school, and having it be something that their friends outside of the church might like to participate in. In addition to 'fun' and food, another very important aspect to youth is service opportunities. Many youth that are not concerned with finding friends at church see that this is the most valuable offering. Volunteering in the community and fundraising for charities fosters spiritual growth by showing how much difference one can make for others.

Some great things that should not change were heard over and over again! Sunday school and Vacation Bible School were very positive and informative programs for their children coming into Middle School and the Confirmation program. In addition, the Confirmation content helped the youth understand the Bible, religion and their faith better through education and the activities. Along with Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and Confirmation, Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp (FLBC) was another extremely strong area where youth find spiritual growth. It was said that FLBC is a 'home away from home.' Many said that FLBC is something that kickstarted their faith again, created a desire to worship and develop a closer relationship with God. Another area that is going extremely well in the congregation, is that adults of the congregation express sincere interest and care for the youth of the congregation. Youth have said that it is nice to have adults come up and talk to them. These caring adults keep in touch with them and show that they care about their lives.

Some reflections regarding improvements in the youth programming were comments stating that there were no offerings for Middle Schoolers outside of Confirmation. Others said the youth are going to have a very difficult time transitioning from previous staff to the new one. Others said that youth activities are weird and only suited for a few youth and not all. The church service on Wednesday evenings were not well attended and made it feel like the church group was small. Dinner was also a problem for families, and adding dinner to Wednesday nights would help both the parents and bring youth together through a shared meal.

In regards to the name 'Safehouse,' overwhelmingly people thought the name gave off the wrong meaning. It made people think of a domestic violence shelter, children seeking safety from something or simply asking the question, *Safe from what...?*


(Continued to next page...)



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

(Remember our friends in Christ with a Birthday prayer!)

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Richard Chase | Brenda Gustafson | Haley Jurecki |
| Gary Fischer | Amanda Haab | 24 Tyler Harrington |
| 3 Roy Hemry | Renie Lacey | Marisa Mailand |
| Kapp Johnson | Cindy Stipcich | Tom Naegele |
| Haley Walter | 10 Kellen Deboer | 25 Megan Cail |
| 4 Kyler Deboer | 12 Tim Williamson | Richard Livesay |
| Natalie Gates | 14 Danica Boe | 26 Shawn Juers |
| Joy Novota | 15 Jaden Maharg | Julie Lake |
| 5 Bonnie Heimbach | Todd Will | Alexander Morsette |
| Roxanne Hiesterman | 16 Marki Jo Sharkey | Amber Skillman |
| Kale Wetherell | 17 Terrance Young | 27 Natalie Byrne |
| 6 Baird Linke | 18 Anna Forseth | 29 Helen Hammond |
| Kelsi Rummel | 19 Dewey Santy | Bethany Lindner |
| 7 McKenna Michalson | Wyatt Smith | 30 Karen Reinhart |
| Brooklyn Swenson | 22 Kim Anfinson | Paula Strand |
| 8 Patrick Johnson | Dana Meldrum | 31 Jeff Downhour |
| 9 Gordon Blomquist | Brett Penner | Jackson Lake |
| Carol Ferris | 23 Walker DesRosier | Jane Peachey |




Baptisms
9/3/2023 - Brady David Swenson



Happy Anniversary
Celebrate with those married 40 years or more this month!

Mike & Carol Maynard	10/1/1982	41 years
Ron & Claudia Morley	10/1/1982	41 years
Roy & Evalena Hemry	10/24/1975	48 years!
Ken & Sharlene Kolb	10/06/1962	61 years!

Come to The Water
Baptism Class at Our Redeemer's



Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters!

Interested in baptism? Please let Pastor Trina know! We offer a one-hour session during which we discuss what Lutherans believe about baptism and go through what happens in the baptismal rite. These sessions are scheduled at a mutually agreeable time. Pastor Trina can be reached at trina@ourredeemerlives.org or 406-442-7842.

HOSPITALIZED? LET US KNOW...

We have a caring group of individuals who are happy to visit hospitalized members. The hospital staff is not currently asking religious preference or church membership on admission. Please notify the church office if you, your family, or friends are hospitalized. We want to be a part of your healing process.

FLBC'S FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL & AUCTION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14TH, 2023

@ Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp

550 Lutheran Camp Rd., Lakeside MT 59922

An event to help make camp financially accessible to all!

Following the FLBC Annual Meeting at 2:30, join us for the Fall Harvest Festival & Auction events!

4 PM - 5:30 PM Silent Auction, Happy Hour, & Appetizers

5:30 PM Dinner served

6:15 PM Live Auction & Program

Silent Auction closes after program

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Individual Tickets: \$50 each

Table Package (8 tickets): \$350

(Kids 16 & Under are free; activities & dinner for youth from 4-7 PM)

Contact FLBC at 406-752-6802 to purchase tickets, or visit one.bidpal.net/flbcauction/ to buy tickets online and browse our online auction items (online bidding opens 10/1/23 and ends 10/15/23).

Visit flbc.net to view the full schedule for October 14th, which includes the FLBC annual meeting.



The timeframe for the Wednesday evening offerings were mixed. Many families did not like the split timeframe for the ending of Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers, especially in the winter months with poor driving conditions. Others suggested Sunday afternoon offerings instead of Wednesday evening.

In conclusion, many of these suggestions will be implemented this coming year. Starting with how Wednesday nights are framed. The ending time for Wednesday evening will be the same across the board at 8:00pm. This provides students with time for homework and ease for parents picking up youth. Dinners will be included for all on Wednesday evenings, starting at 6:30pm when worship used to be scheduled. Instead of worship before confirmation and high school youth group, a short devotion in a smaller, more intimate setting is being offered right after dinner. The name Safehouse will be dropped, and it will simply be High School Youth Group. More social offerings and service work opportunities will be offered for all ages. For example, please check out the Habitat or Humanity service work will take place on Saturdays, outside of Wednesday evenings. More examples of increased social offerings are Lock Ins, Retreats and local social events. In addition, all youth are encouraged to invite friends to any and all events through the church.

This congregation is doing a great job of fostering spiritual growth in the younger generation and providing a space for youth to feel welcomed and supported. It is nice to see the energy and desire for youth programming here in our congregation! Something to work towards in the next few months is a Steering Team for Youth Ministry. If you have any interest in helping out with this, please contact Steph at steph@OurRedeemerLives.org. This team will be a great way to keep this ministry going in the direction desired by the youth and congregation as a whole.



Service Work Opportunity

Steph is putting together a group of interested youth and adults to volunteer at Habitat for Humanity.

Contact Steph@OurRedeemerLives.org to get involved.

ReStore: Anyone 14 years of age or older is welcome to sign up to help on a Saturday to stock items, take in donations and help in general. This can be a few hours of service to many hours. The ReStore accepts donations and sells a constantly changing inventory of diverse, high-quality merchandise to the public at a fraction of the retail price, while diverting reusable household items and building materials from area landfills. Sales of donated items help Habitat for Humanity partner with local families to build, rehabilitate and repair safe and affordable homes in our community.

East Helena Site Build: Anyone over 16 years of age and older is welcome to sign up to help on a Saturday to take part in helping a local family build or repair their home in East Helena. This would involve a group from out church comprised of adults and youth. This is a great opportunity to get your hands dirty and to see real help take place before your eyes in our community.



It has been a while since you have heard from your Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church Property Development Team, but progress is still being made behind the scenes. As you may recall, back in March of this year Rocky Mountain Development Council (RMDC) was allotted \$1.58 million in ARPA funding by the Helena City Commission towards the Our Redeemer's affordable housing

project. Since then, agreements have been put into place between RMDC and the city about the utilization of these funds. This spring, RMDC was also invited by our County Commissioners to make an application, on behalf of this project, for \$500,000 of federal grant funding. As of August, the county is still assessing internal expenses and has not yet designated this money. Currently, the ORLC Property Development Team is engaged in conversations with RMDC to outline each party's expectations related to the transfer of property for affordable housing.

It is likely that legislation passed during this latest legislative session has changed the expected process for subdivision, simplifying and shortening the process required prior to sale of a portion of the ORLC property to RMDC. SB 170 allows for an administrative minor subdivision process for properties located in an area subject to and complying with zoning regulations, have a letter of commitment from the municipality to serve the property with water and sewer service, have physical access to each lot, and do not require a variance. The administrative minor subdivision is exempt from several of the requirements of a typical subdivision process, thus greatly shortening and simplifying this process. Our consulting engineer believes that the first subdivision of the ORLC to prepare the portion of the property for sale to RMDC can comply with this simplified subdivision process.

While the engineers develop an understanding of this new subdivision process, the church's attorney is drafting preliminary language for a buy-sell agreement, outlining each party's obligations and expectations. Any negotiated sale of the property will require approval by congregational vote.

The Property Development Team includes the members listed below. If you have any questions about the development planning, please reach out to one of these team members.

Bonner Armstrong	Nelson Bock	Craig Erickson
Sharon Haugen	Jerry Hoover	Gretchen Krumm
Herb Kulow	Kim Mangold	Jan Martin
Ryan McLane	Cody Salo	Del Schubring

As the new Activities Director at Beehive Homes of Helena Assisted Living, I am looking for volunteers to help once a month for 1-2 hours, assisting me with crafts or doing devotional readings, reading books, playing music, or singing to our seniors. As Christians, we are asked to serve and give to those in need, and this could be as simple as just coming up to visit with our folks. Please contact me, Stacy Grimmis, if you are interested in giving your time. Call me at 406-461-2819.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Stacy Grimmis
 Activities Director
 Beehive Homes of Helena
 Cell:406-461-2819
 9 Bumblebee Court
 Helena, MT 50601
 phone: 406-457-0092



At one point in the documentary "Lakota Nation vs. United States," which recently played at the Myrna Loy Center, an Indian activist describes the Lakota tribe's efforts to reclaim its sacred territory of the Black Hills as a "beautiful struggle." What a strikingly marvelous description. After more than a century of resisting seemingly irresistible forces, the Lakotas persist. It is an interminable fight against incredible injustice that has caused incalculable suffering. But it's not just a struggle; it's a beautiful struggle. The goal is what makes the struggle beautiful. The goal is to right past and present wrongs; to reconcile people who have long been at war,

literally and virtually; to promote healing; and to preserve and honor what is sacred.

Struggle is our active resistance against an opposing force to create a reality different from the one that would emerge absent the struggle. We all struggle in many ways throughout our days and lives. We expend much of our energy trying to shape our own realities. But God has revealed to us Christians an ultimate, eternal reality: a reality of love that has resisted and defeated the power of death and that creates life wherever it goes.

In one sense, then, we no longer have to struggle. The reality of God's creation, of which we are part, is perfect, everlasting goodness. God has struggled for us against the infection of sin and has reclaimed us to live in the shelter of God's love. The work is finished ... and the work is ongoing. That's the weird thing about eternity; it's not linear. Sin and death have been defeated, and yet they are still very much active in this world. So God invites us to join forces with God's Spirit and with each other to sow seeds of love that will crowd out death and replace it with life.

That is the struggle in which we engage at Our Redeemer's. We struggle joyfully together to help feed the poor, to educate young and old about God's reality, to remind one another in the midst of death and sickness of the everlasting life that God has graciously bestowed. We struggle together to embody the reality of God's kingdom by sheltering the unsheltered, by giving sacrificially and joyfully of the resources God has given us, and by directing our lives and our energies toward struggles aimed at enriching not only ourselves but others as well. We struggle to illuminate the darkness with the light of God's grace.

That, truly, is a beautiful struggle.

Kevin Mathews, Council President

Did You Know?

I had the opportunity to visit with Joe Ruby following a service at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church. You may remember Joe at the counter during coffee hour following the Sunday Service. Joe is there making sure everything is provided for all to have an enjoyable visit after church.

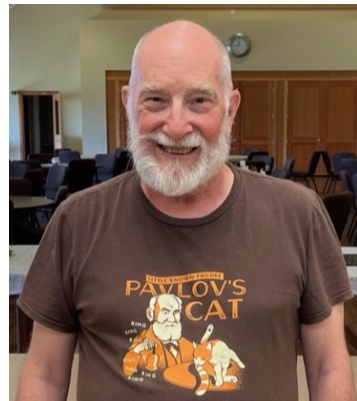
Joe joined Our Redeemer's in 1995 and volunteered to take care of the Sunday coffee hour during the ministry of Kathy Phillips. I asked him why Our Redeemer's and he said he came from an ELCA church and visited Our Redeemer's one Sunday. He recognized Jim Prim, one of the ushers, as a friend in high school and joined because he knew someone.

Joe has a step son with his wife Melanie and two grandkids; a boy and a girl. He and Melanie have been married 20 years.

He first worked in the fast food industry at Taco John's. He laughed saying this prepared him well for handling coffee hour! He ultimately hired on with the Montana Department of Labor and is a Research Analyst. In the past he worked with Ingrid Childress who some of you might know as the current First Vice President of ORLC.

Joe attended Gonzaga University in Spokane. As an undergraduate in Political Science he had considerable training in accounting. He also studied Philosophy and Theology in his past.

While growing up in a small town in Montana, Joe attended the local Catholic church and noticed during the coffee hour that many attending were actually Protestant. The coffee hour provided an opportunity for those present to exchange information and socialize. During their discussions, there might be a question raised about growing a certain strain of wheat and whether others have tried it. Other conversations were more social in nature. Stories were passed from one person to another. Everyone could participate and did! The church was not only important for the ministry but also the social interchange between people.



Call Committee

Anticipation is about expectation. It means that we look ahead to what is coming and believe with certainty it will happen. Another word for anticipation and expectation is faith.

Faith is the confidence that what we believe is true (Hebrews 11:1). And our faith as believers is rooted in who Jesus is, what He has done, and what He will do. As your Associate Pastor Call Committee works toward finding the best candidate for our church, we firmly believe that the Lord is guiding us in our endeavor. We feel your prayers in support of this effort.

As you are aware from our many communications in August – we do have a viable candidate. We are moving ahead with preliminary interviews, background research and other beginning steps to properly vet this individual. Given the timing of THE VOICE deadline we cannot inform you of any determinations and/or next steps at this time. Please feel confident that when we are able to communicate with you, we will do so through all the formats available to us.

Remember the work we are doing must remain confidential, for the sake of the candidate as well as those of us on the committee. Please continue your prayers that the Holy Spirit will guide us as we move forward in our work.

Respectfully,

Abby McLane (chair)
Shauna Helfert

Kristi Antosh
Dwight Hiesterman

Lori Chase
Craig Linke

Dee Dee Fischer



Thankoffering

Let us give thanks for blessings received – and we do receive so many blessings!

Thankofferings support the ongoing ministries of the church-wide women's organization. Some of our ongoing ministries include our justice and advocacy work, training and development for elected leaders throughout the women's organization, our constant work in support of congregational and synodical women's organizations, and even the administration of grants and scholarship programs. Please consider a donation on our Thankoffering Sunday, October 29 to the Women of the ELCA. (WELCA)

WELCA Holiday Bazaar & Luncheon

Saturday December 2, 9:00am - 1:00pm in the Great Room

Join us again this year for our WELCA Holiday Bazaar, bake sale and craft fair.

Support the work of our Our Redeemer's women through our Quilt raffle, Sew in Love and bake sales. This year we are adding back our collectibles table and a soup luncheon. Mark your calendar now for this special holiday event at Our Redeemer's, Saturday, December 2.

And join us for our monthly WELCA Bible Study on Wednesday, October 18 at 1:00pm.

HUNGER TEAM NEWS

FOR A POPPIN' GOOD TIME

Yes, Helena Food Share is requesting microwave popcorn for the kid packs during the month of October. Who doesn't love popcorn? A packet of popcorn provides both fun and nutrition for these weekend supplements. Can you help? If so, please leave popcorn packets in the Helena Food Share display in the hallway. And thanks again for all you do for Helena Food Share!

GOD'S LOVE

World Homeless Day is October 10

The day raises awareness by drawing attention to the issues that cause homelessness and by encouraging people to make a difference. One of the ways is to "donate goods to your local shelter." ORLC definitely does this and more. A representative from Our Redeemer's checks in weekly with God's Love to find out their greatest needs for the upcoming month. October is a magical month with its beauty of changing color, and it also means cooler nights and crisp mornings. This month God's Love is asking for the following:

- warm socks - priority
- warm hats, gloves
- twin sized warm blankets or sleeping bags
- shoes without holes/boots
- any men/women hygiene products

Thank you! And, continue to keep the homeless and those struggling in your daily prayers and that someday... some day we find creative and compassionate solutions.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The garden has been healthy and happy all summer long, thanks to its excellent care, as well as lots of rain and sunshine. As of late September, Our Redeemer's had donated 1,450 lbs. of produce to Helena Food Share. This produce is delivered weekly to the Helena Food Share and distributed throughout the Helena community. It makes a huge difference in helping many individuals and families have free access to healthy, fresh produce.

Our church sends a giant **Shout out** and special thanks to Vicki Downhour for her amazing heart, compassion, and devotion to the garden. It takes lots of volunteer hours to keep the garden functioning over the summer months. With that being said, Vicki is having to step down as main manager of the garden. The Hunger Team is searching for an individual or individuals [can be a group] to take over the community garden. If this piques your interest, please contact Vicki Downhour at greenxena@msn.com. This ministry of our church cannot continue without willing volunteers to take on this task of love and care for our earth and our neighbors.

COMFORT FOOD CHALLENGE

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Comfort Food Challenge for Family Promise at the Lewis and Clark Fairgrounds on Sunday, September 10. Many of you volunteered to haul tables and chairs, cut and serve watermelon, purchase tickets, and donate silent auction items. All of your efforts were greatly appreciated. It was delightful to share in the camaraderie we all feel when working as people of faith to share our gifts with homeless families in our community.

KENDRA WILDE HUNGER ENDOWMENT FUND

The Hunger Team recently donated the Hunger Endowment earnings from the first two quarters (\$589.60) to the Helena Area Community Foundation for assisting residents who were displaced during the recent fire at the Iron Front Apartments.

Anyone who wishes to contribute to this fund may do so by putting Kendra Wilde Hunger Fund on the memo line or directly contributing to this fund online at www.ourredeemerlives.org.

YOU DID IT! YOU ARE "UDDERLY" AMAZING

On Sunday, September 24, the Hunger Team presented a check to Helena Food Share for \$22,651.95. You exceeded our goal of \$21,000, and Helena Food Share is extremely grateful for all your donations. This amount will provide milk for every kid pack that will be distributed during the 2023-24 school year.

God is Good, and Each of You is a Blessing!

ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE

DATE	CLEAN/PREP Before Sunday	SET UP FOR 8:30 and RESET for 11	CLEAN UP AFTER 11:00	OTHER INFO
10.1	Sonja	Kristi	Sharon	Green Paraments
10.8	Lisa <i>Communion kits</i>	Kristi	Lisa	Green Paraments
10.15	Lisa <i>Baptism</i>	Kristi	Lori C <i>Baptism</i>	Green Paraments
10.22	Lori W	Lori W	Lori C	Green Paraments
10.29	Sonja	Lori W	Sharon	Green Paraments

Interested in joining this ministry? Contact Lisa Williams-Mathews, lewm03@gmail.com or 406-465-5580.

Movie and Pizza

Looking for something fun to do on a Friday night? Join your friends at Our Redeemer's for a movie!

- October 20 The Addams Family
- November 17 Encanto
- December 15 Elf

Pizza, popcorn and drinks provided.
Bring a dish to share.
Invite your friends!

Movies start at 6:00pm.



CRAFTING NIGHT

Do you enjoy crafting but can't seem to find the time or space? Join us for a fun evening of crafting and fellowship in the Community Room. Bring your project and work away. We will be meeting on October 27 from 6:30pm until about 10:00pm. If you have questions, call Lori at 406-431-5906.



Financial Review

Benevolence and Dedicated Funds for August were held until the following month. Much of the dedicated funds will be disbursed during the month of September. Property taxes are due in November.

Special Reports

- Land sale
 - The attorney is presently working on contract details. More information will follow at a later date
- Network/Technology Report
 - The council approved a proposal with All on IT for upgraded wireless coverage for the network at Our Redeemer's. The company will also upgrade the infrastructure to a modern network that has better potential for expansion.
 - Payment for these upgrades will come out of the Deferred Maintenance account.
 - The Council approved the establishment of a permanent Technology Committee.

Ministry Team and Committee Reports

- Long Range Planning Committee hopes to meet in October.
- Stewardship Committee is working on improvements for online giving.
- Call Committee continues its work in visiting with candidates.
- The Director of Worship job description will be posted this week.
- Church Directory is receiving good responses. Work will continue on getting information and photos during the next month or so.
- Audit committee will be meeting soon.

New Business

- In October, the Council will engage in a discernment process to determine a better organizational structure that could more accurately reflect the ministries of the church and provide better communication with the congregation.

Linda Nelson
 Secretary



Young Adult Fellowship forming

Are you between the ages of 21 and 35 and looking for a way to connect with other young adults? Seminarian Baird Linke will gather with interested young adults on Wednesday, October 11 at 6:00pm at Lewis and Clark Brewing Co. (1535 Dodge Ave).

Contact Baird at 406-465-9532 for more information.



Touchmark Worship Service

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church members provide a worship and communion service monthly at Touchmark retirement community. We will meet in the forum on October 17 at 10:00am. Brenda Olson and Sharlene Kolb will lead this month. Brenda recently moved to Helena and has led worship in North Dakota for several years. She is the daughter of Sharlene and Ken Kolb. We are blessed to have her join us in this ministry.

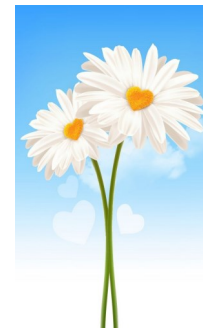
If you would like to worship with them and our member residents at Touchmark, you are welcome to attend (915 Saddle Dr).



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The grief group will continue to meet between services the second Sunday of October. We offer a safe place with caring others as each person finds their way on their Grief journey. As the holiday season approaches many people find they are dreading the holidays. We share ideas and compassion, not fixes. You are not broken you are a feeling, caring, child of God. Join us on

October 8 at 9:45am. The group is led by Jane Peachey and Lori Bigwood-Pecarina.



CAREGIVER'S SUPPORT GROUP

We are sometimes given the role of Caregiver along life's journey. It is an honorary title filled with both joys and challenges. Our group meets to share these experiences with compassion and encouragement. We will meet after the 11:00am service on the last Sunday of the month, October 29 in the Conference Room. We gather for an hour beginning at 12:10pm.

If you wish to speak with one of the leaders during the week, please contact us at the following numbers:

Lori Bigwood-Pecarina 406-672-2470
 Jane Peachey 234-567-1461



October 2023



AD = Administrative Wing
CR = Classrooms
PS = Preschool

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
1 8:30am - Worship + KidTime 9:45am - Sunday School (ages 3—5th grade) 9:45am - Confirmation Class 9:45am - Adult Ed Class - Community Rm 11:00am - Worship + KidTime 12:15pm - Stewardship Committee - Conference Rm	2 9:00am - Staff Meeting	3 9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief –CR#5-6 11:00am - Knitters for Peace
8 8:30am - Worship + KidTime 9:45am - Sunday School (ages 3—5th grade) 9:45am - Confirmation Class 9:45am - Grief Support Group - Conference Rm 9:45am - Adult Ed Class - Community Rm 11:00am - Worship + KidTime	9 9:00am - Staff Meeting 7:00pm - Bell Choir - Sanctuary	10 9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief –CR#5-6 11:00am - Knitters for Peace 6:30pm - Executive Committee meeting - Conference Rm
15 Voice Articles Due 8:30am - Worship + KidTime 9:45am - Sunday School (ages 3—5th grade) 9:45am - Confirmation Class 11:00am - Worship + KidTime 1:00pm - Walk through the Bible	16 9:00am - Staff Meeting 7:00pm - Bell Choir - Sanctuary	17 9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief –CR#5-6 10:00am - Touchmark Worship and Communion 11:00am - Knitters for Peace 5:30pm - Council Meeting - Community Room
22 8:30am - Worship + KidTime No Sunday School or Confirmation 11:00am - Worship + KidTime	23 9:00am - Staff Meeting 7:00pm - Bell Choir - Sanctuary	24 9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief –CR#5-6 11:00am - Knitters for Peace
29 8:30am - Worship + KidTime 9:45am - Sunday School (ages 3—5th grade) 9:45am - Confirmation Class 9:45am - Caregiver's Support Group 11:00am - Worship + KidTime WELCA Thank offering Sunday	30 9:00am - Staff Meeting	31 9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief –CR#5-6 11:00am - Knitters for Peace 6:30pm - Hunger Team - Conference Room



Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 9:00am - Men's Group - Conference Rm. 6:30pm - Middle & High School - Church Campus Clean up	5 9:30am - Sew In Love - CR5-6 5:30pm - Long Range Planning Committee	6	7
11 9:00am - Men's Group - Conference Rm. 11:30am - Women's Bible Study - Conference Rm. 6:00pm - Young Adult Fellowship - Lewis and Clark Brewing Co.	12 9:30am - Sew In Love - CR5-6	13	14
18 9:00am - Men's Group - Conference Rm. 1:00pm - WELCA Bible Study - Great Rm	19 9:30am - Sew In Love - CR5-6	20 6:00pm - Movie Night - Addams Family	21
~~~ Fall Middle School Retreat ~~~			
<b>25</b> 9:00am - Men's Group - Conference Rm. 11:30am - Women's Bible Study - Conference Rm.  6:30pm - Confirmation Class 6:30pm - High School - Trick or Treat for Helena Food Share	<b>26</b> 9:30am - Sew In Love - CR5-6	<b>27</b> 6:30pm - Crafting Night - Community Room	<b>28</b> 1:00 - 3:00pm - Trunk or Treat

