

# OUR REDEEMER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH THE VOICE

May 2024



Our combined 9:30am worship schedule begins Sunday, May 26.

Join us for outdoor worship on June 16, July 7, and July 28. Bring your own chair and sunscreen! Dates are weather-pending.



### May is a month of celebration

The Our Redeemer's Preschool children will share with us the art they've created this year and sing at both services on May 5, and that day, we also rejoice with those who have completed confirmation and are moving on to the youth group. On May 19, we cheer on those who are graduating from high school and give thanks for Baird Linke's presence with us this year as he heads off to Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp. I hope you will join in the celebrations as we give thanks for all that God is doing with our young people.

### Looking ahead to the future

The Long-Range Planning Committee has been hard at work this spring as they prepare to draft a document outlining our goals as a congregation as we head into the next chapter of our ministry. They have spent time reviewing recent Pew and Gallop data on religious trends in the US, heard from Baird Linke on what draws (and repels!) young adults seeking a faith community, reviewed many articles on church growth and culture, and met with members involved in the last strategic planning process and the purchase of our current property.

Their next step is to begin gathering information from us. This will happen in small groups throughout the late summer and into fall, and by using the Holy Cow survey that Our Redeemer's has used in the past. Look for opportunities to meet with committee members in later editions of *The Voice* and the weekly e-news. The committee is comprised of Lonnie Cook (co-chair), Sharon Haugen, Gretchen Krumm (co-chair), Tracy Moseman, Clayton Schenck, and Ryan Swenson. The current president of the congregation (Ingrid Childress) and the pastor are also members.

### For your prayers

We have a lot of folks who are in the midst of health trials right now. We have a lot of folks who've recently lost a loved one and are grieving. We have a candidate for Associate Pastor who will soon meet with staff and leaders. We are interviewing for a Preschool Director. We are planning for Vacation Bible School. There is a lot to hold in prayer right now, people of God. Please lift these things and the work of this congregation to the Lord as often as possible. And know that I am always lifting you before God.

*Pastor Trina*

**CHOIR CORNER** Thank you to the Chancel Choir for bringing us wonderful celebrations of Christ's resurrection through special music! A special thank you to Jim Penner, who has stepped up as the choir director. If you would like to participate in singing, please contact Jim or Jason Callon (email [Jason@ourredeemerlives.org](mailto:Jason@ourredeemerlives.org)). If you have questions about worship or music at Our Redeemer's, please contact Jason. Thank you!

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

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

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Permit No. 96  
Helena, Montana

The Call Process for our potential next Associate Pastor is moving forward. We had an insightful first round video conference interview with the candidate and have now also completed our sermon review (multiple examples) and have chatted with all of the references. We are ready to move forward to an in-person visit with our candidate! Hurray! The Holy Spirit has been working with all of us and we so appreciate your prayers.



Abby McLane, our chairperson, is now working on finding a time for an on-site visit. Trying to find a mutual time between the committee's availability and the candidate's is a challenge. Should our candidate successfully complete the in-person interviews, we would then make the candidate available to all of you so that you can meet the individual and learn more about the candidate, and be prepared to vote on whether or not to call the individual to serve as a Minister of Word and Sacrament as our Associate Pastor. Voting, per our church constitution, would occur two weeks after the first notification of a congregational meeting for that purpose.

Thank you again for your continued support of this process and those of us on the Call Committee. We pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide us in this endeavor.

In Christ, Abby McLane (chair), Kristi Antosh, Lori Chase, Dee Dee Fischer, Shauna Helfert, Dwight Hiesterman, and Craig Linke



### CAREGIVER'S SUPPORT GROUP

A small group of individuals who provide support for loved ones meets monthly at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in the Conference Room. We will meet on Sunday, May 26 at 10:45am, after the single worship service. We gather for an hour to share stories, challenges, and successes.



If you wish to speak to one of the leaders during the week or have any questions, please contact us at the following numbers:

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

### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Grief can be a lonely, confusing journey. As time goes on and we begin adjusting to a new life, one we don't want or understand, it can be helpful to share with others who are going through the same but different experiences. Grief has no time frame, and each person's journey is different. We welcome you to join us as you find your path. We will meet Sunday, May 12, between services. Please feel free to call Jane Peachey 234-567-1461 or Lori Bigwood-Pecarina at 406-672-2470 with questions or if you need support.



### Touchmark Worship Services

Our Redeemer's members provide a worship and communion service monthly at Touchmark Retirement Community. We will meet Tuesday, May 21 at 10:00am in the forum. Lori Bigwood-Pecarina and Sharlene Kolb will provide leadership. If you would like to worship with them and our member residents at Touchmark, you are welcome to attend. Touchmark is located at 915 Saddle Drive.

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 Music**  
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:

**Ingrid Childress, President**  
president@ourredeemerlives.org  
406-431-3344

**Tracy Moseman, Second Vice President**  
mtmoseman@hotmail.com  
406-431-4350

**Tracey Tintinger, Treasurer**  
tvting@bresnan.net  
406-459-8478

**Linda Nelson, Secretary**  
ralinelson@yahoo.com  
406-422-3751

**Kevin Mathews, Past President**  
kllpmath@msn.com  
406-465-1839

**Julie Penner, Member at Large**  
julianne.penner@gmail.com  
406-227-7096

**Ed Johnson, Member at Large**  
edwardmartinjohnson62@gmail.com  
406-492-6177

**Jennifer Colegrove, Member at Large**  
colegrove@bresnan.net  
406-465-3453

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

**Attila Fohnagy, Member at Large**  
attilafohnagy@gmail.com  
208-640-3198

**Mary Kay Linke, Member at Large**  
grizlinke@gmail.com  
406-465-1099

Voice articles due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month

Wednesday, May 15 at 5:00pm  
LoriW@OurRedeemerLives.Org



# MAY BIRTHDAYS

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

- |                      |                   |                          |                     |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Carol Calkins      | 8 Alli Darlow     | 16 Fred Goughnour        | 23 Sharon MacMillan |
| Audrina Combs        | Bonnie Johnson    | Jenna Lauf               | Gary Novota         |
| Teresa Schulz        | Jim McFarland     | Mark Sharkey             | 24 Carl Anfinson    |
| 2 Vicki Downhour     | 10 Amber Lamping  | Kimmy Skiftun            | 25 Chace Bingham    |
| Joe Wadhams          | Pam Lemieux       | Kayleigh Starman         | 26 Merlyn Huso      |
| 3 Pastor Ron Paulson | 11 Greg Johnson   | 17 Richard Knatterud     | 27 Bill Goosen      |
| Linda Winfield       | Olivia Tackett    | Codie Rummel             | 28 Cameron Dole     |
| 4 Adeline Juers      | 12 Donna Thomas   | 18 Lisa Williams-Mathews | Colton Dorrington   |
| Iris Ziegler         | 13 Steven Ziegler | 19 Kennedy Bartole       | Linda Robbins       |
| 5 Parker Grundmeier  | 14 Linda Lynch    | Carol Kimble             | 29 Liz Bacon        |
| Libby Linder         | Dallas Miller     | Lexi MacMillan           | Cody Smith          |
| Tizer Mummy          | Liz Swenson       | 20 Charlie Gustovich     | 30 Judy Golob       |
| Kelly Robertson      | 15 Gretchen Coble | Katie Lindner            | 31 Bob Calkins      |
| Clayton Schenck      | Dan Gaughan       | 21 Sawyer Glueckert      | Renee Liston        |
| 7 Jeff Martin        | Marci Sim         | Pat Keim                 | Clair Schilling     |
|                      | Tami Wadhams      | 22 Donald Gilbertson     |                     |


**May Anniversaries**  
Celebrate with those married 40 years or more this month!

5/25/1974	Linda & Randy Coty	50 years
5/19/1979	Roger & Liz Bacon	45 years
5/31/1980	Richard & Pauline Knatterud	44 years
5/26/1984	Gary & Joy Novota	40 years


**90+ years old**  
Let's celebrate our friends who have turned 90 years or older this month by sending them a birthday card.

Clair Schilling, age 94  
1101 Le Grande Cannon Blvd  
Helena, MT 59601

**Baptisms**

 Chloe Anne MacIntyre 4/21/2024

**Funerals**

 4/17/2024 Vicki Poore  
4/17/2024 Jim Poore

**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](mailto:trina@ourredeemerlives.org) or 406-442-7842.

# children.

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church

## Join us this SUMMER...

◆ All events are FREE for the whole family!

June - August - KidTime all Summer

June 2 - Family Hike

June 10-14 - Vacation Bible School

June 23-28 - Our Redeemer's at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp

July 14 - Family Hike

July 28-Aug 2 - Our Redeemer's at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp

August 7 - Suds~N~Swim @ Last Chance Splash Park, 4:00pm

August 18 - Family Hike

August 25 - Blessing of the Backpacks Service



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL DONATIONS

Would you like to help bring God's word to **100 families**?!



Did you know about 50% of the children who attend VBS are guests? What a great evangelist event! Check out the VBS board found in the narthex!

*Your help is truly appreciated!*



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

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



## Vacation Bible School 2024

**Theme:** *SCUBA: Diving into Friendship with God!*

Kids will take an undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God.



**Dates:** June 10 - 14, 2024

**Hours:** 9:00am - Noon, Monday thru Friday

**Age:** PK - Grade 5 (4yo by Sept. 2024)

**Price:** Only \$10! (The church helps to cover the remainder of our expenses.)

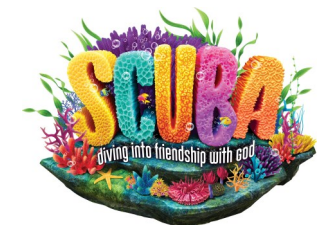
**REGISTER TODAY:** Follow the link below or use the QR code to register your child for our upcoming VBS, we can't wait to see you there!

<https://forms.gle/ZsVRgarmiZqAeZKEZ6>



Also...we need **YOUR HELP!** We are in need of **VOLUNTEERS** to make VBS possible. Please contact Liz or register below if you are interested in volunteering your gifts for an undersea adventure this June!

<https://forms.gle/qJVQy7GYz2aaJVSy6>



Contact Liz for

more

**Long Term Prayer Concerns**

Help us update our Long Term Prayer Concerns list by calling the church office, 406-442-7842.

**Our Members**

Phyllis Bauer	Richard Carey	Carol Kimble	Nikki MacMillan	Ron Paulson
Janet Benson	Roberta Carey	Mark Langdorf	Lorna Meyer	Laurie Simms
Mike Caplis	Jim Haubein	Dale Mickus	Julie Mehl	Ruth Straley

A new year means updating our prayer list. Please reach out to Lori Walter with prayer requests. LoriW@OurRedeemerLives.org or 406-442-7842

**Our Family and Friends**

**Luke Brown** (brother of Charlie Brown)  
**Brandon Erickson** (son of Janet & Glenn Erickson)  
**Sawyer Ewan** (cousin of Mary & Mark Robertson)  
**Millie Johnson** (wife of Ed Johnson)  
**Danny McCaughan** (nephew of Lori & Dave Swenson)  
**Scott Linke** (brother of Craig Linke)

**Our Seminarrians**

Shawn, Sara, Addie & Kaden Juers

**Our Family and Friends Serving in the Military**

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

**Grade 5 - 8**  
**End of the Year Lock-In**

**What:** Get locked into the church for a full night. Dinner and breakfast will be served.  
**When:** June 6, 6:00pm - June 7, 10:00am  
**Where:** Inside the Church  
**Who:** Those entering 6th grade - 8th graders.  
**Host:** Dennis Trotter and Steph Richardson will be leading this, along with some high schoolers' help.  
**To Bring:** Clothes to lounge/sleep in, blankets, pillows, and water bottle.

Register Now by clicking this link, or scanning the QR code.

<https://forms.gle/Tp2LtZ3GmpTGQTD08>



**MIX IT UP MAY**  
**6:30-8:00PM - PIZZA PROVIDED**

**MAY 1:** Large GROUP GAMES AND WATERCOLOR. DID YOU GET YOUR MOM OR THAT MOM-LIKE FIGURE SOMETHING SPECIAL YET? WE WILL BE DOING THAT WITH WATERCOLOR.  
**MAY 8:** THE GAME OF SHOE. TWO CARS WILL BE TRAVELING AROUND HELENA, (WITH KAPRI BYRNE AND STEPH RICHARDSON DRIVING), PLAYING THE GAME OF SHOE.  
**MAY 15:** DISC GOLF AT 3187 CABERNET DR, HELENA. STEPH WILL PROVIDE DISCS, BUT BRING YOUR OWN IF YOU HAVE ONE. MEET AT THE THIS LOCATION FOR PICK UP/DROP OFF.

**Spring/Summer Dates to Remember**

April 28/May 1- Last Day(s) of Confirmation  
 May 5 - Confirmation Sunday  
 May 8 & 15 - High School Nights, Mix it Up May  
 May 18 - Habitat for Humanity Site Build (16+ years of age)  
 May 19 - Senior Graduation Sunday  
 June 2 - Congregational Hike, Skidway Campground Wildflower Hike  
 June 6-7 - 5th grader-8th grader Lock-In  
 June 10-14 - Vacation Bible School  
 June 23-28 - Week 1 at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp  
 July 14 - Congregational Hike  
 July 14-19 - Senior High Rafting Trip with Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp  
 July 28 - August 2 - Week 2 at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp  
 Aug 7 - Family Swim Night  
 August 18 - Congregational Hike

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**We have a few openings remaining in our Summer Preschool Fun camp, Montana Wildlife.** This camp is scheduled for July 15-19. Our summer camps are multi-age programs that provide a full week of exciting projects, adventures and activities. The camps are designed for:

- Children who turned 3 by September 2023 **and** have completed a year of preschool.
- Children who are 4 and 5 years old regardless of preschool attendance.
- Children who will complete kindergarten this year.

Camp cost is \$150, discounted to \$140 for siblings. This fee covers all supplies, a daily snack, and a special Preschool t-shirt! Registration form and details are on the preschool webpage and in brochures throughout the church.



Come join us for some summer fun!

## Did You Know?

If you want to know what's going on at Our Redeemer's ask Jerry or Judy Hoover and they can probably tell you. Life in the Lutheran Church started out for Judy at First Lutheran Church in Wolf Point, Montana. She and Jerry met at Montana State University and were married.

Judy's parents moved to Helena and started attending Our Redeemer's and soon Judy was attending with them. Like the women who were the first evangelists, Judy soon was telling Jerry about Our Redeemer's. Jerry had no church upbringing, but when Pastors Doug and Brenda Pederson were here Jerry was baptized as an adult and confirmed by Pastor Doug. That's the way disciples are made, person to person, one by one, many times within our own family. Evangelism and discipleship are about relationships.



The relationships that Jerry and Judy have made within the church have been meaningful and lifegiving. Judy has served behind the scenes singing in choir, helping with the newsletter, taking meals to new parents, and serving on the funeral reception committee.

Jerry has never been a joiner, but when our new church was being built he was fully a part of a team of volunteers that helped the Mission Builder's for two summers build the church from the ground up. Soon Jerry was organizing and recruiting volunteers to help build the church. He says that meaningful engagement with other members was its own reward. From that group of committed volunteers a core group was established that continues to meet as the men's group on Wednesday morning.

The men's group gives Jerry a hard time when he brings out his notebook or clipboard with designated projects that the men volunteer to complete. He continues to serve on the Property Development Committee working on contracts, the buy-sell agreement, and other essentials for selling our current land for the wonderful housing development that is being planned.

Judy and Jerry have enjoyed the small groups they have been a part of since Carol Will first asked them to join. They have been inspired going to Guatemala on several mission trips, seeing the strong faith and joy of the local people even though they are not materially rich. They have also joined Mission Builders on mission trips to Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp and the Synod House.

They are excited to see Our Redeemer's growing and reaching out to the community in so many ways. The Preschool is another great blessing and outreach to our community. But it all comes down to meaningful relationships, relationships with other brothers and sisters of the faith at Our Redeemer's and relationships with people in our community.

### Greetings From Preschool!

**We cannot express enough gratitude** for the generous support of our preschool. The Silent Auction brought in an all-time high of \$5,388.00!! This along with all the support given to our other fund-raising efforts throughout this school year has been tremendous and is so very helpful to our preschool program. Those volunteering with Lunch Bunch, in our classrooms and bringing in books, toys, etc., are all invaluable. **Thank you.** ❤️



**The sound of music is in the air!** Our preschool children will be singing at our 8:30 and 11:00 services on Sunday, May 5. Their artwork for the year will also be on display in the Great Room from May 5 through the 9. They are excited to sing and show how much they have learned and grown; please mark your calendars for this fun event!

**Our fall registration numbers are good,** we still have some openings in the afternoon 4-year-old and afternoon PreK classes; and just two openings in our three-year-old class. Please spread the word every chance you get as our goal is to fill every space! Registration and details are on our preschool webpage; they may always give us a call at 406-442-7842, ext. 20, and visit with Kris Thatcher.

continued



**Creation Hikes** are a fellowship opportunity to join one another in a community while enjoying God's creation together. There will be three hikes this summer: June 2, July 14, and August 18. Gretchen and Blair Krumm will lead the hikes, which depart from the Church parking lot at 11:00am. These moderate hikes are open to all ages.

### JUNE 2: Wildflower Hike

On June 2, we have a special treat for you—a Wildflower hike at Skidway Campground. Located on US Highway 12 in the Deep Creek Canyon, about 21 miles east of Townsend, this hike offers two options. You can choose a one-mile hike up to a meadow that is usually adorned with a stunning array of wildflowers. From there, you can either head back to your cars for a 2-mile out and back trip, or continue on a loop trail that is about 4-4.5 miles round trip back to the campground. Leashed dogs are welcome to join. We'll meet in the south church parking lot at 11am for carpooling and departure. Remember to bring lunch and water; bear spray is recommended for your safety.



On **Saturday, May 18**, our Redeemer's Lutheran Church is scheduled to volunteer at Habitat for Humanity's current build site in Highland Meadows Subdivision in East Helena. The build is from 9:00am-4:00pm on Saturday. This is a time for the congregation to come together to physically help build a home for a family in need alongside them. There is an age requirement of 18 years or older to volunteer on the construction site. All youth 16 -17 years of age must provide a waiver (printed and signed by a parent/guardian) and be accompanied by an adult for the duration of their volunteer experience. Youth under the age of 16 are not able to help with this project.

### Sign Up to Help:

1. Create a profile at [helenahabitat.volunteerhub.com](https://helenahabitat.volunteerhub.com).
2. Once you have created an account, go to the calendar date of May 18 and click the link labeled "Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church." It will open some details and directions to the build site.
3. Click the sign-up button, and you will be asked to agree to their standard volunteer waiver, which is required before volunteers come to the build site.
4. Remember your username and password. Once you arrive, you will have to scan a QR code to start tracking your volunteer time.

### Directions to the Site:

A map in Volunteer Hub exists, but just in case...

Heading East on Canyon Ferry Rd., you will come to Valley Dr., you will want to take a right turn. Heading down Valley Dr., you will pass East Helena High School and come to Meadow View Loop on your right. Make a right and go all the way towards the back; you will come upon Glenfinnan Court. That is the Cul-De-Sac we are building in. Feel free to park anywhere in the Cul-De-Sac.

# HUNGER TEAM NEWS

## In the Garden

Treat yourself to a visit to the Our Redeemer's Community Garden. It is a calming place in a beautiful setting. Consider renting a plot on the north side (only \$25), or helping with the Helena Food Share garden on the south side (planting, weeding, mulching, harvesting). If you avoid poisons in your yard, donate your grass clippings for mulch - donation spaces are marked, south of the chicken coop. This is your garden, too! Enjoy! Email Vicki at [greenxena@msn.com](mailto:greenxena@msn.com) or contact Lori at the ORLC office for information.

**Thank you to Carroll College students** who volunteered in the garden in April! Their energy and enthusiasm are greatly appreciated! Also, a huge **thank you to the Montana Synod Hunger Team** for awarding a \$600 Montana Synod Hunger Grant to the Our Redeemer's Garden to support the purchase of seedlings for the garden! We are blessed!

## Helena Food Share Kid Packs

Thank you for keeping the bins full of additional weekend supplements for the Kid Pack Program this year: pudding cups, granola bars, popcorn, juice cups, fruit cups, fruit snacks and more. You provided in abundance. Also, the Hunger Team gives a shout-out of gratitude to Dave Mehl, who has faithfully picked up these crates and hauled them to Helena Food Share for several years.

April 16 was our last Tuesday for assembling Kid Packs. We are beyond grateful for the amazing crew of volunteers who have shown up at the Helena Food Share Warehouse, the first three Tuesday's of each month, October-April, to assemble weekend food bags. What a gift these volunteers bring each Tuesday with smiles, compassion, dedication, and get er' done attitude. They make this happen and the children of this community are blessed by your commitment. We filled **23,288 bags, 2,911 crates**, and volunteers gave **504 hours** of their time to this wonderful cause. Thank you!

## Summer Milk Campaign

Yep, we wrapped up Kid Packs assemblies in April, but our quest to support this program continues. Each school year, over 44,000 cartons of milk are needed to provide this important nutritional necessity for each child receiving a Kid Pack. We are asking for compassion and help for the children of our community, one carton of a milk at a time.

On Mother's Day, May 12, the Hunger Team will launch its campaign to raise \$22,500 to provide milk for the upcoming school year. As we launch this necessary campaign for Helena Food Share, please "Don't Forget the Milk!" The Montana Synod Hunger Team has awarded the church a grant of \$800 to be matched by our Hunger Team prior to the launch of the campaign. Stay tuned for more information.

## Family Promise

Our Redeemer's will be hosting Family Promise guests the week of May 12-19. Families will be housed overnight in our church, and meals will continue to be delivered to the Day Center at 2814 Cooke. We shall need folks to set up accommodations on Sunday, May 12, as well as some to tear down the rooms before worship on Sunday, May 19. We also are responsible for providing overnight hosts and meals for that week. It takes about 30 people to help provide welcoming accommodations for our guests. If you wish to help with this ministry, please contact Kathy Olson, (406-431-8686, [kathyolson8686@gmail.com](mailto:kathyolson8686@gmail.com)).

First Christian Church is now the headquarters for all administrative services. Changes are always in the works for Family Promise. So stay tuned for more details as they emerge.

## God's Love

Thank you for giving a hand to those in need month after month. For the month of May, God's Love is continuing their request for the following items:

### Cleaning Products (high request)

This is the most needed item at God's Love. Suggestions include Pine-Sol, Spic N' Span, or other type of floor cleaner, as well as bleach and toilet bowl cleaner

### Hygiene Products - especially for men

### Sunscreen



"Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?" God says in Job 38:4.

Indeed, as humans, we did not get to participate in God's creation of our world. But God has invited us to be part of it all by enjoying it and being good stewards of this precious gift. In the Crossways Bible study, author Harry Wendt envisions God putting a rope around the earth with a label that says, "MY PROPERTY! HANDLE WITH CARE!" We are called to continue as responsible partners in the ongoing regeneration and recreation of planet Earth.

Before we get overwhelmed, the purpose of this Creation Care Corner is to identify small or big ways we each can make a difference. So what about plastic grocery bags? If you already use few to none... kudos to you! Carry on! What can we all do to decrease this consumption of plastic?

- ◇ Avoid single use bags as much as possible.
- ◇ Keep reusable bags in the car and work at forming the habit of taking them into the store with us.
- ◇ Continue to reuse the bags you have until they fall apart, then recycle them in the bins at grocery stores.
- ◇ Keep them out of the landfill! You get the idea!

Hopefully, this will get us thinking about our use and disposal of other plastics, cans, etc. Next month- what and where can we recycle in Helena?

If you missed the first 2 Adult Ed. Climate Care classes in April, here are links to them to review or share

Melting Point, Svalbard, Norway at <https://www.cbs.com/news/climate-solutions> Loving All God's Creation, Katharine Hayhoe at <https://youtu.be/Rh9lpTMT6CI?si=o2jt80LjH0ncgw7M>.

Creation Care Team contacts; Nelson Bock at [Nbock6552gmail.com](mailto:Nbock6552gmail.com)  
Elaine Ulgenes at [Elaineulge@yahoo.com](mailto:Elaineulge@yahoo.com)

*Welcome  
New  
Members*



Janet Benson



Amber Jellison



Matthew Haas



Chad Ripley and Kris Vladic

**Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp Master Plan**

Dan Richardson, a board member of Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp, presented information on the recently approved

master plan for the camp. He reminded the Council of the ministries of the camp, presently serving campers of all ages. Recognizing that many Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp congregation churches no longer have camper-age young people in their church and that less than half of adults in the U.S. now identify as Protestant, the board recognized the following needs:

- ⇒ the need to recruit and retain summer and year-round staff
- ⇒ the need for a master plan for facilities, infrastructure, property and land use that would best meet the needs of the camp
- ⇒ the need to provide services to congregations in the development of their youth and family ministries
- ⇒ the need for an education and innovation center for programming
- ⇒ a need for a comprehensive fundraising campaign

**Personnel Committee**

The Personnel Committee presented information on their work of updating the Our Redeemer's Personnel Policy Manual. The group meets twice a month and hopes to have its work completed by the end of 2024.

**Financial Report**

Because of generous giving during March, the Council approved to pay \$17,234.70 to the Building Fund, \$18,549.69 to the Dedicated Fund, and \$2,657.88 to the Montana Synod. The total of \$38,442.27 still leaves a cash balance of \$23,755.15. Property taxes of \$9,729.97 are due at the end of May. The Council expresses its deepest appreciation to the congregation for their generous support of the church's ministries.

**Ministry Team and Committee Reports**

Lots of things are happening around Our Redeemer's right now. As the preschool begins to wrap up its end-of-year activities, the search for a director is now underway. Interviews should begin soon.

Jerry Hoover and the Men's Coffee Group have done a huge amount of work in keeping the facilities in good repair. The Council expresses its appreciation to this group for the many hours of labor they give so generously to keep everything in working order.

The Hunger Team recently received two grants from the Montana Synod Hunger Team: \$800 for seed money to begin the Summer Milk Campaign, and \$600 to assist with needs for the Community Garden plot for Helena Food Share. Recently, Carroll College students assisted in preparing part of the Helena Food Share plot. The team is also working with Pastor Trina for a display and movie focusing on homelessness in the fall of 2024. The team is presently looking for a person to serve as a liaison with God's Love, to check on their needs monthly. If you are interested, please contact Kathy Olson ((406) 431-8686, [kathyolson8686@gmail.com](mailto:kathyolson8686@gmail.com)).

**Unfinished Business**

The Buy/Sell agreement for the property sale to Rocky Mountain Development is now in their hands. They plan to meet with their partners in early May.

The church directory is ready to be printed. If you have not turned in your contact information, please do so immediately. Only submitted information will be included in this directory. Photos are optional.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Nelson  
Secretary

WELCA celebrates in May as they finish their year-long Lutheran World Relief (LWR) creations of Quilts, Baby Care, School and Personal Care kits for this past year. We welcomed new members to the Lutheran World Relief teams here at the church who organize and prepare, with the help of many members of the congregation, all of the kits that will be sent to LWR in May of 2024. Thank you to our organizers Baby Care Kits - Nikki Whearty, School Kits - Elaine Ulgenes and Steph Richardson and the church youth who organize and finish the Personal Care kits.



**Our totals this year:**

**Quilts: 275**

Lutheran World Relief Mission Quilts are a tangible way to express love to our neighbors in need. Quilts can be used as warm bedding, simple tents or floor coverings. Each one reflects God's loving presence in a world rife with suffering.



**School Kits: 80**

Lutheran World Relief School Kits contain essential supplies to help children — and in some cases, adults — continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities.

**Baby Care Kits: 40**

**Personal Care Kits: to be assembled**

Whether you make one or a few Lutheran World Relief Baby Care Kits as a solo kit-maker, or make hundreds as part of a kit assembly with your congregation, every kit you make will be cherished by person who receives it in their time of need.



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**SUMMER GARAGE SALE - JULY 27, 9:00am - 2:00pm.**

WELCA, with churchwide assistance, will organize a summer Garage Sale here at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church. The date of the sale will be Saturday, July 27, 9:00am-2:00pm. Everyone will be able to bring their items to sell beginning on Wednesday, July 24. All items can be brought to the Great Room. So if you're moving, cleaning, or re-organizing now is the time to put stuff aside for the church summer garage sale.

Volunteers will be needed to assist Wednesday through Saturday July 24-27. Please contact Charlene Mayala, Jan Martin, Hildegard Krumm, or Kay Patterson if you are interested in volunteering to help.

# May 2024

AD = Administrative Wing  
CR = Classrooms  
PS = Preschool

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                       | Monday                                                                                                                                                         | Tuesday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>5</b><br><b>Confirmation Sunday</b><br>8:30am - Worship + KidTime<br>11:00am - Worship + KidTime                                                                          | <b>6</b><br>10:00am - Staff Meeting<br>6:00pm - Preschool Board Meeting - Conference Room<br>5:30pm - Stewardship Committee<br>7:00pm - Bell Choir - Sanctuary | <b>7</b><br>9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief –CR#5-6<br>11:00am - Knitters for Peace<br>6:30pm - Executive Committee meeting - Conference Rm<br>6:30pm - Young Adult Group - Lewis & Clark Brewery                                        |
| <b>12</b><br>8:30am - Worship + KidTime<br>9:45am - Grief Support Group - Conference Rm<br>11:00am - Worship + KidTime<br><br>Milk Money Campaign Begins<br><br>Mother's Day | <b>13</b><br>10:00am - Staff Meeting<br>7:00pm - Bell Choir - Sanctuary                                                                                        | <b>14</b><br>9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief –CR#5-6<br>11:00am - Knitters for Peace<br><br>5:30pm - Council Meeting - Community Room                                                                                                    |
| ~~~~~ Family Promise Week ~~~~~ May 12 - 19 ~~~~~                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>19</b><br><b>Graduation Sunday</b><br><br>8:30am - Worship + KidTime<br>11:00am - Worship + KidTime<br><br>Baird's last Sunday                                            | <b>20</b><br>10:00am - Staff Meeting<br>7:00pm - Bell Choir - Sanctuary                                                                                        | <b>21</b><br>9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief –CR#5-6<br><b>10:00am - Touchmark Worship and Communion</b><br>11:00am - Knitters for Peace<br>6:30pm - Hunger Team - Conference Room<br>6:30pm - Young Adult Group - Lewis & Clark Brewery |
| <b>26</b><br>9:30am - Worship + KidTime<br>10:45pm - Caregiver's Support Group - Conference Room                                                                             | <b>27</b><br><b>Memorial Day</b><br>10:00am - Staff Meeting<br>7:00pm - Bell Choir - Sanctuary                                                                 | <b>28</b><br>9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief –CR#5-6<br>11:00am - Knitters for Peace                                                                                                                                                     |

| Wednesday                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Thursday                                                              | Friday                                                                                | Saturday                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b><br>9:00am - Men's Group - Great Room<br>6:00pm - Long Range Planning Group -<br>6:30pm - Last night of Confirmation<br>6:30pm - Mix It Up May - Games & Watercolor                                  | <b>2</b><br>9:30am - Sew In Love - CR5-6                              | <b>3</b>                                                                              | <b>4</b>                                |
| <b>8</b><br>9:00am - Men's Group - Great Room<br>11:30am - Bible Study - Conference Room<br>6:30pm - Mix It Up May - Game of SHOE                                                                            | <b>9</b><br>9:30am - Sew In Love - CR5-6<br>9:30am - Bundle Baby Kits | <b>10</b><br>Lutheran World Relief Pick-up<br>11:00am - Norm Rognlie Memorial Service | <b>11</b>                               |
| <b>15</b><br><b>Voice Articles Due</b><br>9:00am - Men's Group - Conference Rm.<br>1:00pm - WELCA Bible Study - Great Room<br>1:00pm - Technology Team - Conference Rm<br>6:30pm - Mix It Up May - Disc Golf | <b>16</b><br>9:30am - Sew In Love - CR5-6                             | <b>17</b>                                                                             | <b>18</b><br>Habitat for Humanity Build |
| ~~~~~ Family Promise Week ~~~~~ May 12 - 19 ~~~~~                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                       |                                                                                       |                                         |
| <b>22</b><br>9:00am - Men's Group - Conference Rm.<br>11:30am - Bible Study - Conference Room                                                                                                                | <b>23</b><br>9:30am - Sew In Love - CR5-6                             | <b>24</b>                                                                             | <b>25</b>                               |
| <b>29</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>30</b>                                                             | <b>31</b><br>~~~~~ Synod Assembly ~~~~~                                               |                                         |

The Lutheran World Relief Quilters would like to thank all of you who have donated fabric, thread, sheets, and batting as well as money to buy supplies for our quilts that go to Lutheran World Relief. With your generous donation, we have been able to finish 275 quilts this year that we will be shipping on May 10. Your continued donations allow us to continue making quilts. Thanks!



Please join us Thursday, May 9 at 9:30 am to help bundle up baby kits and pack into boxes. Coffee and goodies will be available. Many hands make light work!!!