



**ASH WEDNESDAY EVENING**

Wednesday, March 5

Soup & Bread Dinner: 5:30pm

Imposition of Ashes Service: 6:30pm

Contact Steph - [steph@ourredeemerlives.org](mailto:steph@ourredeemerlives.org) or

Liz - [liz@ourredeemerlives.org](mailto:liz@ourredeemerlives.org) if you wish to bring a soup or some bread.



# OUR REDEEMER'S

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

### THE VOICE

February 2025



The Our Redeemer's Property Development Committee has been on a long and educational journey, and we are profoundly grateful for the support and patience this congregation has granted us along the way.

It was over five years ago that we as a congregation started earnestly exploring ways in which our land could be used to serve a community need. We the church are landowners, but we are not developers, and so the pursuit began for a mission-driven development partner whose mission aligned with the church's. Seeing the housing crisis we are now in approaching five years ago, this committee reached out to various community partners working in the affordable housing realm. These partners and the relationships established have been significant and life-giving to this committee and the congregation. Community relationships created in this process have led to new church memberships and engagement on this committee. It has been an engaging process and much has been gained and learned through it.

As a reminder, in 2020, Our Redeemer's entered a partnership with Rocky Mountain Development Council (RMDC), Helena Area Habitat for Humanity, the YWCA, and the City of Helena to apply for a Department of Commerce planning grant, which we were awarded. This allowed the partnership to engage in extensive conversation and planning to develop a master plan for the property and resulted in adding Trust Montana, a community land trust, to the partnership. The information developed through this grant served as the basis for a grant application to the City of Helena in 2023 made by RMDC, the selected lead developer, on behalf of the partnership. The grant request made was for \$2.4 million in seed money for RMDC to purchase the land from the church and to install Horseshoe Bend Rd. to access the property and realize the city's requirement that Benton Ave. and Green Meadow Dr. be linked by this connector road. The city granted RMDC \$1.58M for the project. This funding was welcomed but fell short of the projected need. In the interim period several additional head winds have come into play.

Helena Area Habitat for Humanity has been able to acquire 107 acres of land in East Helena where they are visioning a mixed-income neighborhood

of up to 1,700 homes. It is the largest land development project by a Habitat for Humanity affiliate in the world! We rejoice in this and fully support their efforts to create affordable housing in our community. At the same time, it means that their staff and board are fully engaged on a much larger and extremely challenging project. Additionally, the YWCA's executive director has left her post, and the organization is currently being led by an interim director. They have their hands full maintaining their existing programs and building. Lastly, as we have all seen, the economy does not look the same as it did five years ago. Construction costs, interest rates, insurance rates, utility costs, maintenance costs, labor rates, and property taxes have all risen significantly. At the same time, the funding mechanisms used by affordable housing developers have not kept pace.

The reality of these headwinds has led us to the point where RMDC has determined they are unable to move forward on the project. The committee has been in communication with two alternative affordable housing developers who have given us the same message – the project requires somewhere between \$5-\$7.5M of capital upfront to realize. Through these conversations we have learned a lot. We have a renewed respect for the complex financing models these affordable housing developers navigate and continued respect for their efforts. We respect the work of each of our partners and understand that each one of them must move forward in their missions on a clearly navigable path.

This committee is disheartened but not disbanding. We are open to where the Holy Spirit is leading this congregation. We will continue to learn all we can about property development and will continue to reach out to potential partners and learn from similar projects. We believe that someday the vision for this property will become clear and the path forward straight. We pray for that discernment.

Gretchen Krumm

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Permit No. 96  
Helena, Montana



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

**See Through The Scriptures Bible Workshop - March 29**

Pastor Brad Ulgenes will lead a six hour Bible workshop using a manual called *See Through The Scriptures* on Saturday, March 29 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The cost of the manual for the workshop will be \$15. For an additional \$5 participants can order a workbook (not mandatory) that can be used for personal study following the workshop. Free or loaner manuals will be available for those who request one. The church will provide a free Jimmy John's sandwiches for lunch for members of Our Redeemer's .

Understanding the Bible can be daunting. *See Through The Scriptures* makes the Bible more accessible by taking readers step by step through the entire biblical narrative, especially the Old Testament, putting everything in clear context. 44 full color teaching graphics are used to help people grasp and remember the key events and concepts of the Bible, especially the three major covenants in the Old Testament and how Jesus in the New Testament fulfills those covenants. *See Through the Scriptures* is part of the Crossways/Divine Drama series authored by Pastor Harry Wendt.

Students will gain a new appreciation for everything that preceded Jesus in order to more fully understand the deeper meaning of Jesus' ministry and his message of love and servanthood. This workshop is perfect for students who have not studied the Bible before and will teach mature Bible readers new Biblical concepts and overarching themes in the Bible to enrich their faith.

Sign up for Bible workshop and materials will begin February 16 in the church lobby and end March 9. You can also call the church office at 406-442-7842 . You can also email Pastor Brad at [brad.ulgenes@gmail.com](mailto:brad.ulgenes@gmail.com) to sign up, ask questions or get information. Sorry no zoom or streaming of this workshop.

Pray about attending this exciting Bible workshop on March 29 as part of your Lenten journey. Come and bring a friend it will change your understanding and knowledge of the Bible and it will be a lot of fun!



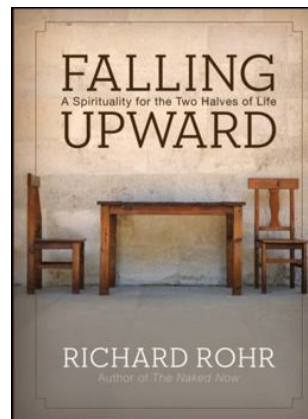
**Falling Upward by Richard Rohr**

Are you living and loving your golden years, or maybe not? The second half of life is more than getting old, health issues, loss. We'll be offering insights in a six-week discussion based on Richard Rohr's book, *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life*. Our first gathering is on **Tuesday, March 11, 6:30-8:30pm** at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, 3580 North Benton Avenue. We will have six gatherings, finishing on April 15.

Facilitators are Father Dan Shea and Charlotte Neill. The book is available on Amazon. Both 2011 and 2023 editions, new or used, are appropriate.

Father Dan Shea  
406-422-6674 (text)  
dshea@carroll.edu (email)  
406-449-2521 (voicemail)

Charlotte Neill  
651-587-8083 (text or voicemail)  
cneill001@luthersem.edu (email)



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, Office Manager**

LoriW@OurRedeemerLives.Org

**Sarah Magee, Director of Finance**

Sarah@OurRedeemerLives.Org

**Jason Callon, Director of Worship and Music**

Jason@OurRedeemerLives.Org

**Steph Richardson, 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 Ministry Associate**

**Jan Martin, Lay Ministry Associate**

**Jeff Martin, Lay Ministry Associate**

**Kevin Mathews, Lay Ministry Associate**

**Lisa Williams-Mathews, Lay Ministry Associate**

**Brenda Stoltz, Preschool Director**

Brenda@OurRedeemerLives.Org

**Wendy Vukonich, Preschool Teacher**

Wendy@OurRedeemerLives.Org

**Marie Grissom, Preschool Teacher**

Marie@OurRedeemerLives.Org

**Kristen Sapp, Preschool Teacher**

Kristen@OurRedeemerLives.Org

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

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

Saturday, February 15 at 5:00pm

LoriW@OurRedeemerLives.Org

**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

Liaison: Facilities and Administration

**Tracy Moseman, Second Vice President**

mtmoseman@hotmail.com

406-431-4350

Liaison: Faith Formation

**Tracey Tintinger, Treasurer**

tvting@bresnan.net

406-459-8478

Liaison: Finance

**Linda Nelson, Secretary**

ralinelson@yahoo.com

406-422-3751

Liaison: Outreach

**Kevin Mathews, Past President**

kllpmath@msn.com

406-465-1839

Liaison: Worship

**Julie Penner, Member at Large**

julianne.penner@gmail.com

406-227-7096

Liaison: Congregational Care and Fellowship

**Ed Johnson, Member at Large**

edwardmartinjohnson62@gmail.com

406-492-6177

Liaison: Worship

**Jennifer Colegrove, Member at Large**

colegrove@bresnan.net

406-465-3453

Liaison: Congregational Care and Fellowship

**Sarah Sampson, Member at Large**

sarahmarieirvin@hotmail.com

406-460-0133

Liaison: Faith Formation

**Attila Fohnagy, Member at Large**

attilafohnagy@gmail.com

208-640-3198

Liaison: Facilities and Administration

**Mary Kay Linke, Member at Large**

grizlinke@gmail.com

406-465-1099

Liaison: Outreach



# February BIRTHDAYS

|     |  |      |  |      |                                  |      |                                 |
|-----|--|------|--|------|----------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|
| 2/1 | Heidi Fohnagy<br>Cindy Steinmetz<br>Wayne Weikart  | 2/10 | Dennis Heffner<br>Bryan Bergquist<br>Faith McAlpin | 2/17 | Lynsey McHugh<br>Matty Meldrum   | 2/27 | Pauline Knatterud<br>Anna Young |
| 2/2 | Karen Nelson<br>Julie Peck                         | 2/12 | Izaak Dike<br>Kayla Forgey<br>Kent Haab            | 2/18 | Chad Richards                    | 2/28 | Charlee Beto                    |
| 2/3 | Gail McKinnon<br>Signe Richardson                  |      | Dwight Hiesterman<br>Alicia Reber-Jensen           | 2/19 | Dan Rispens                      |      |                                 |
| 2/4 | Eileen McLane                                      | 2/13 | Jim Anderson                                       | 2/20 | Linda Gaughan<br>Christie Helley |      |                                 |
| 2/5 | Todd Passage                                       |      | Kathleen Ford                                      | 2/21 | Dan McLean                       |      |                                 |
| 2/7 | Janine Robertson                                   | 2/15 | Cathy Grace<br>Ava Meldrum                         | 2/22 | Claire Boe<br>Billeta Dunn       |      |                                 |
| 2/8 | Eleanor Byrne<br>Hunter Henschel<br>Brennan Jensen |      | Hannah Robertson                                   | 2/24 | Janet Benson<br>Toni Guay        |      |                                 |
|     | Linda Read   | 2/16 | Wayne Gabbert<br>Delores Rosin                     | 2/25 | Phyllis Michelson                |      |                                 |
| 2/9 | Marie Rauch  |      |  |      |                                  |      |                                 |

## Did You Know?

If you come to worship at the 8:30am worship service, the first people you will probably meet are our personable ushers, Tom and Edward Johnson, who will greet you with a smile and a friendly "good morning" or "hello." Tom and Edward are brothers and were raised on a farm east of Helena. They come from a big family, thirteen in all, five boys and eight girls. Tom, the older brother, remembers they transferred their membership in the fall of 1964 from St. John's Lutheran here in town, originally a Swedish Augustana Lutheran Church, and joined Our Redeemer's, which came out of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of the American Lutheran Church.



Three out of four Sundays, you'll find Tom and Ed ushering. Why do they do it? Ed said, "I like it. I don't consider it work. It's fun!" Tom said, "I'm a people person, ushering is a way to get to know more people and develop deeper relationships with other members. It's a way to help out." "Plus," Ed added, "you can sit in the back!"

Tom remembers one service where there was a medical emergency with a member with heart problems. Since he was an EMT and served as a firefighter at Ft. Harrison for 34 years in the guard, he was able to assist. Ed says he enjoys helping people, like bringing their walkers to some members at the end of the service. Ed works for the city of Helena and did the building inspections on the new Our Redeemer's building.

Both Tom and Edward have served on the church council. Tom said some of those meetings were contentious, but he could freely share his views, especially his Biblical perspectives. Ed said with a wry smile, "Some of them won't stop talking, and some meetings went on and on." I think both enjoyed their time on the church council.

Edward attended the Caregiver's Support Group when his wife Millie had Parkinson's and cancer. Millie was Catholic and recently died this summer, having been married 36 years to Edward and together raising four kids. Tom and his wife also raised four children. Ed shared a tender story about a routine that he and Millie had before he left for work each morning. He said they would say the Our Father prayer together. After Millie died, Ed still goes to the cemetery daily and says the Our Father with her.

We are indebted to dedicated servants like Edward and Tom who freely give of their time to usher. The church is really about relationships: relationships with one another and our relationship with God. It sure feels good to have Tom and Edward welcoming us to God's house of prayer on Sundays.

They encourage others if they would like to usher, to join them in this ministry of hospitality. Jason will even give you a training on ushering so you, too, can extend the hand of fellowship and friendship to present members and new folks who worship with us. Perhaps whole families can do it together! You, too, can develop deeper relationships with sisters and brothers by ushering. And besides, like Ed says, "It's fun and you can sit in the back!"

### 90+ years old

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

Delores Rosin (age 93)  
915 Saddle Drive #126  
Helena, MT 59601



### February Anniversaries Celebrate with those married 40 years or more this month!

|           |                         |          |
|-----------|-------------------------|----------|
| 2/26/1977 | Clayton & Kathy Schenck | 48 years |
| 2/4/1974  | Gene & Kathleen Ford    | 51 years |
| 2/16/1974 | Ron & Donna Greenwood   | 51 years |

Happy New Year from Our Redeemer's Preschool!

2025 has kicked off as a promising year!

Our students are growing, learning, and having a grand time at the other end of the building.

This January has brought some much-needed snow, and the children have had fun getting on their snow gear, tumbling, and climbing/sledding on the outdoor snow piles.

At the end of this month, there will be parent-teacher conferences. The parents will meet with teachers to learn about their child's progress. From the director's point of view, the students have grown and made great strides. It's amazing what a fantastic job our teachers have done. Thank you, Mrs. Vukonich, Mrs. Grissom, and Mrs. Sapp!

On the note of thanks, we will truly miss Mrs. Vukonich next year as she travels onward to become a grandma and create a powerful new preschooler. From the little time I have spent here at Our Redeemer's Preschool, Wendy has shown me the influential teaching experience she displays daily with her PreK class and other teachers. She transforms her classroom into a magnificent learning environment for all her students. I have caught her teaching lessons that are inspiring, imaginative, and realistic. She shows her students respect and receives it in return. She is very passionate about her job! Wendy's 19 years at our preschool is an encouraging example to all educators!!

The Preschool Board, Pastor Trina and I have spent a great deal of time planning for the 2025-26 school year. We will be offering expanded programming that should meet some new needs in our community. Registration has begun - encourage your neighbors and friends to take a look at Our Redeemer's Preschool

Brenda Stoltz  
Preschool Director



**"We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children."** Native American proverb

From Heather White's book, *60 Days to a Greener Life*, on learning the law of simplicity and consistency: "We need substantial policy and market solutions, but sometimes we overlook an important point. Individual action can create **culture change**, so these comprehensive strategies work."

"Tiny changes create momentum...my favorite resource is James Clear's *Atomic Habits*. He reminds us that 'we often dismiss small changes because they don't seem to matter very much in the moment.' However, if we create systems that allow for small changes, their impact compounds over time. Our daily actions make up our lives. If we focus on tiny, consistent actions, we can make time itself a powerful agent for transformation of our individual and collective experiences."

"Another way to think about creating a new habit is focusing on cue, action, and reward, as Charles Duhigg writes about in *The Power of Habit*. This means that something reminds you to take action (the cue), you take the action, and then your brain is rewarded for that action. Naming the reward is powerful enough to create a new habit. In the context of living a greener life, the feeling of positive contribution to the planet and your community can be the reward."

Contacts: Nelson Bock - [Nbock6552@gmail.com](mailto:Nbock6552@gmail.com) or Elaine Ulgenes - [Elaineulge@yahoo.com](mailto:Elaineulge@yahoo.com)

## Long Term Prayer Concerns

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

### Our Members

|                         |                        |                        |                     |
|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Gordon Blomquist</b> | <b>Greg Johnson</b>    | <b>Nikki MacMillan</b> | <b>Laurie Simms</b> |
| <b>Richard Carey</b>    | <b>Noreen Johnson</b>  | <b>Lorna Meyer</b>     | <b>Ruth Straley</b> |
| <b>Roberta Carey</b>    | <b>Carol Kimble</b>    | <b>Dale Mickus</b>     |                     |
| <b>Jim Haubein</b>      | <b>Chloe MacIntyre</b> | <b>Julie Mehl</b>      |                     |

### Our Family and Friends

**Danny McCaughan** (nephew of Lori & Dave Swenson)  
**Scott Linke** (brother of Craig Linke)  
**Ron Paulson** (former member)  
**Jacki Riley** (sister of Lori Walter)

### Our Seminarian

**Shawn, Sara, Addie & Kaden Juers**

### Our Family and Friends Serving in the Military

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

**Solar and More**

Jerry Hoover, Nelson Bock, and Herb Kulow, representing the Solar and More Committee, presented a proposal for installing solar panels on the roof of Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church. This proposal will be presented at the annual meeting **on February 9**, seeking approval of a \$170,000 loan to pursue this project. Because Northwest Energy provides grant reimbursements for nonprofits (50-90%) to assist with solar projects, and because the Inflation Reduction Act also includes provision for direct pay to nonprofits (30%) for solar projects, it appears to be a good time to pursue this project, which will provide 80% of the electricity needs for the church building and pay for itself in about two years. No contract will be signed until an initial grant from North Western Energy is awarded.

**Financial Report for December**

The Council approved the payment of \$13,604.50 to the Building Fund and \$8524.06 to the Dedicated Fund, leaving a balance of \$13,705.69. Although no further amount was given to the Synod, it should be noted that Synod gifts for 2024 have totaled more than \$18,000, considerably more than has been donated in recent years.

**Staff and Pastor's Report**

Staff reports were submitted in written form and will appear in the Annual Report available to the congregation.

Pastor Trina reported that the Preschool board has recommended an adjustment to next year's schedule, expanding offerings for 3 and 4-year-olds. They have also recommended an increase in prices to be more in line with similar preschools in the area.

**Annual Meeting**

Ballots are being prepared for the Annual Meeting on February 9. Congregation members will vote on nominations for Council, Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp delegates, a Perpetual Fund member, and Synod Assembly delegates.

**Council Training for New Members**

A training session will be held for new Council members sometime after the Annual Meeting in February.

**Expression of Thanks**

Ingrid Childress, outgoing President, expressed appreciation for the service of outgoing Council members Kevin Mathews, Tracy Moseman, and Julie Penner.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Linda Nelson  
 Secretary

**Family Promise Week**

Our Redeemer's will host Family Promise guests the week of February 2-8. As always, we need plenty of help to assist our guests. At the moment, we are expecting two families, but this number could change. We need folks to assist in setting up the rooms on February 2 and tearing down the rooms early on Sunday, February 9. Please notify Judy McMaster (406-465-7118) if you can help with either of these duties.

We shall also need overnight hosts for all seven nights. We are required to have two persons each evening. Please contact Linda Coty (406-443-5857) if you'd like to do an overnight at the church. This job is essential to our success as a host church.

And yes, as always, we provide meals for our guests Sunday through Thursday. These meals are delivered to First Christian Church, 3:00-5:00 PM. Please contact Linda Nelson (406-422-3751) if you would like to help with this part of the ministry.

**Do You Like Granola Bars?**

The kids receiving the Kid Packs each week certainly like them. Helena Food Share has requested that we keep donating low-sugar granola bars for the remainder of this school year. So put granola bars on your grocery list and place them in the Helena Food Share crates in the hallway. THANK YOU for your amazing generosity.

**Want to Get Acquainted with Some of the Most Passionate People in our Congregation?**

If you are passionate about hunger or homelessness and its effects on the lives of our community, this is the group for you. The next Hunger Team meeting will be **on Tuesday, February 25, at 6:30 PM** at the church. The group always welcomes new members and new ideas.



**CAREGIVER'S SUPPORT GROUP**

The words "in sickness and in health" recited as a part of the traditional wedding ceremony sometimes seem far away and not applicable to couples sharing vows. "Honor your father and mother" are commands that may come to mind when parents experience health changes and require assistance. Caregiving is a roller coaster with highs and lows arriving unexpectedly. A group of individuals who provide support for loved ones meet monthly to share their experiences along the caregiving journey. We gather at Our Redeemer's Lutheran in the Conference Room **on Sunday, February 23 at 9:45 AM**. Please join us to share stories, challenges, and joys. Companionship for your loved one is provided.



**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

The grief group will meet between services on **February 2**. All who are grieving a loss are welcome. Our group understands that each grief journey is unique and that each person must find their own path. We offer a safe place to share our feelings, express our fears, and, yes, even laugh. We cannot change what has happened, and as we move forward, we are meeting a new person, one who has lost part of themselves and is discovering new pieces of themselves. If you have questions, please feel free to call Lori Bigwood-Pecarina or Jane Peachey, who facilitates the group.



**If you wish to speak to one of the leaders during the week or have any questions, please get in touch with us at the following numbers:**

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

**Touchmark Worship Services**

Our Redeemer's members provide a worship and communion service monthly at Touchmark Retirement Community. We will meet on **Tuesday, February 18, at 10:00 AM** in the forum. Lori Bigwood-Pecarina LPA 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.



## Vacation Bible School 2025

**Theme:** True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World!

**Dates:** June 23-26, 2025

**Hours:** 9AM - Noon, Monday through Thursday

**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/g2C85RovDnnE2CDd8>



Also...we need **YOUR HELP!** We are in need of **VOLUNTEERS** to make VBS possible. Here are the following areas we need help:

- ◆ Crafts
- ◆ Classroom Leaders
- ◆ Classroom Assistants
- ◆ Games
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Decorating
- ◆ Set-up and Clean-up Assistance



Contact Liz for more information,  
[liz@ourredeemerlives.org](mailto:liz@ourredeemerlives.org).

## First Communion Preparation

Classes will be held for children in **Second** through **Fourth** grade and **any** other families interested in learning about Holy Communion.

- ⇒ **April 13 at 1:00pm - Fed and Forgiven:** An instructional time for both communicant and parents about Holy Communion.
- ⇒ **Maundy Thursday, April 17 at 6:30pm -** We invite the children and their families to celebrate their deepened understanding of communion and for those who are not yet communing, to receive their First Communion.

An invitation will be sent to all second, third and fourth grade children and their families. If you have any questions, please contact Liz at [liz@ourredeemerlives.org](mailto:liz@ourredeemerlives.org) or Pastor Trina at [trina@ourredeemerlives.org](mailto:trina@ourredeemerlives.org).



## February Schedule



- 2 Sunday School—Jesus & Disciples
- 9 **No Sunday School!** - Annual Meeting and Potluck
- 16 **No Sunday School!**
- 23 Broadwater Hot Springs @3-5pm
- 23 Sunday School—Widow's Mite

## PART 1: Basic Information

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parents: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ High School Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

## PART 2: Student Activities and Awards

Student Activities in High School:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

High School Honors & Awards: \_\_\_\_\_

Our Redeemer's Activities: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## PART 3: Financial Component and School Information

Other Scholarships Applied For:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Employment (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

College or university planning to attend (must be a four-year school):

\_\_\_\_\_

How do you intend to finance your college education (please list any special circumstances):

\_\_\_\_\_

**College Scholarship Application**

**Qualifications:**

A \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior from our congregation who will be attending a four-year religiously affiliated college or university. The applicant will be judged on leadership skills, student and community activities, financial need, academic promise and personal recommendations. (You must be registered for at least one class in religion.)

**Instructions:**

1. Complete the application form.
2. Provide a letter of recommendation from two adults, one from within your church family.
3. Transcript from your last two years of high school.
4. Deadline to apply is May 1, 2025. Please return your completed information in a manila envelope to the church office addressed to:

WELCA - President  
College Scholarships

**Payment of Scholarship:**

The scholarship will be disbursed to the institution in one payment - \$1,000 at the beginning of your school year.

1. Student must carry a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester.
2. A GPA of 2.0 must be maintained.
3. A copy of your college transcript must be sent to the following address at the end of your school year:  
WELCA, President, 3580 N. Benton Avenue, Helena, MT 59602
4. Student must provide WELCA the name of the school they will be attending and their student ID by August 1 of the year scholarship is awarded. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of scholarship.



**FLATHEAD LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP  
SUMMER DATES**

**July 6 - 11 & July 13 - 18, 2025**

Steph will be helping with transportation up to FLBC. Please let her know if you are interested in this.

**Rest, Relax and Soak Together**

**Broadwater Hot Springs**

**Sunday, February 23 from 3:00-5:00pm**

This is free and open for the whole family. Small children and those that cannot swim must be accompanied by an adult.



**ASH WEDNESDAY EVENING**



Wednesday, March 5

Soup & Bread Dinner:

5:30-6:30pm

Imposition of Ashes Service:

6:30pm

If you are interested in helping to provide a soup or bread, reach out to Steph or Liz.



**HIGH SCHOOL  
BACKPACKING TRIP AT  
CHRISTIKON**

**July 27-August 2, 2025**

Let Pastor Trina or Steph@ourredeemerlives.org know if you are interested, or if you have any questions.

**All Youth Winter Retreat**

**What:** We will be busy with all sorts of things... hiking, devotionals, meditative time, sledding, sauna sitting (optional), polar plunging (optional), crafts, and Bible studies.

**When:** Depart from the church the morning of Saturday, February 15. Return to the church the evening of Monday, February 17.

**Where:** Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp

**Who:** This is an all youth retreat for 6th-12th grade.

FRIENDS ARE WELCOME TO COME!

**Cost:** \$100/person. This includes transportation, lodging, food, and all activities. This fee is due to the church by February 9. DO NOT LET \$\$ stand in your way. The church will make this happen for you if you cannot budget the fee.



Register at - <https://forms.gle/8qGhDeJxuG4gq84o8>

# February 2025

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday   |
|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |
| <b>2</b><br>8:30am - Worship + KidTime<br>9:45am - Sunday School<br>9:45am - Confirmation - Loft<br>9:45am - Grief Support Group - Conference Rm<br>11:00am - Worship + KidTime<br>***** Family Promise Week ~ February 2-9 ***** | <b>3</b><br>10:00am - Staff Meeting   | <b>4</b><br>9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief - CR#5-6<br>10:30am - Knitters for Peace  |
| <b>9</b> New Members Welcomed<br>9:30am - Worship + KidTime<br>10:30am - Annual Meeting and Potluck   | <b>10</b><br>10:00am - Staff Meeting<br>6:00pm - Preschool Advisory Board Meeting - Conference Rm   | <b>11</b><br>9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief - CR#5-6<br>10:30am - Knitters for Peace   |
| <b>16</b> 2025 Council Installed<br>8:30am - Worship + KidTime<br>11:00am - Worship + KidTime<br>12:30pm - Executive Committee - Conference Room<br>Middle / High School Youth Retreat<br>February 15 - 17                        | <b>17</b><br>President's Day<br>Church office closed  | <b>18</b><br>9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief - CR#5-6<br>10:00am - Touchmark Worship and Communion<br>10:00am - WELCA Board - Small Conference Room<br>10:30am - Knitters for Peace<br>5:30pm - Council Meeting |
| <b>23</b><br>8:30am - Worship<br>9:45am - Sunday School<br>9:45am - Confirmation - Loft<br>9:45am - Care Givers Support Group - Conference Room<br>11:00am - Worship<br>3:00pm - Broadwater Hot Springs Family event              | <b>24</b><br>10:00am - Staff Meeting<br>Lori will be out of the office from February 20 - 28. The office will be open for limited hours (9:00am - 2:00pm) during this time. | <b>25</b><br>9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief - CR#5-6<br>10:30am - Knitters for Peace<br>6:30pm - Hunger Team - Conference Room   |

**Annual Congregational Meeting**  
 Sunday, February 9, 2025 Worship at 9:30 AM  
 Meeting and potluck at 10:30 AM  
 Only one service that day!

| Wednesday   | Thursday                                  | Friday    | Saturday   |
|---|---|-----------|--|
|   |   |           | <b>1</b><br>Joint Campus Ministry Retreat  |
| <b>5</b><br>9:00am - Men's Group - Great Room<br>9:00am - Contemplative Prayer - Youth Loft<br>6:00pm - Confirmation<br>6:00pm - Youth Group                                | <b>6</b><br>9:30am - Sew In Love - CR5-6  | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>   |
| ***** Family Promise Week ~ February 2-9 *****  |   |           |  |
| <b>12</b><br>9:00am - Men's Group - Great Room<br>9:00am - Contemplative Prayer - Youth Loft  | <b>13</b><br>9:30am - Sew In Love - CR5-6 | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b> Voice Articles Due<br>Middle / High School Youth Retreat<br>February 15 - 17 |
| <b>19</b><br>9:00am - Men's Group - Great Room<br>9:00am - Contemplative Prayer - Youth Loft<br>1:00pm - WELCA Bible Study<br>6:00pm - Confirmation<br>6:00pm - Youth Group | <b>20</b><br>9:30am - Sew In Love - CR5-6 | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b>  |
| Lori will be out of the office from February 20 - 28. The office will be open for limited hours (9:00am - 2:00pm) during this time.   |   |           |  |
| <b>26</b><br>9:00am - Men's Group - Great Room<br>9:00am - Contemplative Prayer - Youth Loft<br>6:00pm - Confirmation<br>6:00pm - Youth Group                               | <b>27</b><br>9:30am - Sew In Love - CR5-6 | <b>28</b> |  |



## ASH WEDNESDAY EVENING

Wednesday, March 5

Soup & Bread Dinner: 5:30pm

Imposition of Ashes Service: 6:30pm

Contact Steph - [steph@ourredeemerlives.org](mailto:steph@ourredeemerlives.org) or

Liz - [liz@ourredeemerlives.org](mailto:liz@ourredeemerlives.org) if you wish to bring a soup or some bread.