

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
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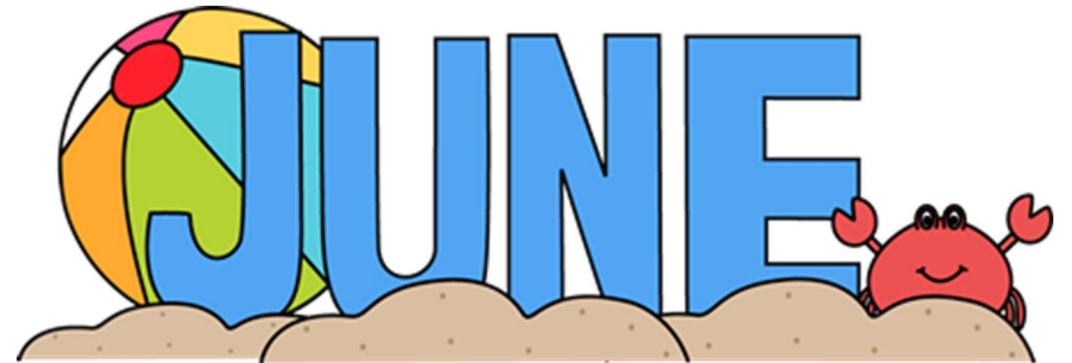
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Go Disciple All Nations

Sharing Christ, Changing Lives



Lutheran Church Missouri Synod



2026

IN TOUCH WITH REDEEMER

A newsletter by and for the family of Redeemer Lutheran Church

Volume XXXVI, Issue VI

Life has a way of wearing us down, doesn't it? The daily grind, the unexpected losses, the quiet doubts that creep in when the world feels heavy. We try to push through, to be strong, to keep the faith. But if we're honest, we know our own strength isn't enough. That's not failure on your part—it's the honest confession of every sinner. The Law shows us that clearly: we fall short, we grow weary, we need something outside ourselves.

That's why our Lord Jesus doesn't leave us to fend for ourselves. He comes to us in the most ordinary, yet extraordinary, way: at His Table. In the Lord's Supper, He gives us His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Not as a symbol or a memory, but as real food for real people in a real world. As Dr. Luther reminds us in the Large Catechism, this Sacrament is "a daily pasture and sustenance" that strengthens us against sin, death, and the devil.

Think about it. When you come forward, you're not just receiving bread and wine. You're receiving the very gifts Christ won on the cross. You get His perfect obedience credited to you, His suffering and death applied to your guilt. The words "for you" echo from the Words of Institution right into your ears and heart. This isn't abstract theology; it's personal mercy. The same Jesus who said, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden" (Matthew 11:28) now says, "Take, eat; this is my body... Drink of it, all of you; this is my blood" (Matthew 26:26-28).

I've seen it in our own congregation. The young mom battling exhaustion finds quiet strength here. The older saint facing illness receives assurance that death has no final say. Even in my own life, when the weight of ministry feels crushing, this Table reminds me: Christ is enough. He carries what I cannot.

As it happens, June 28 marks the 28th anniversary of my ordination into the holy ministry. Twenty-eight years of standing in the pulpit, at the font, and at the Lord's Table, watching the Lord do what only He can do: forgive, renew, sustain. If there's one thing these years have taught me, it's that the pastor doesn't stand up here on his own steam. The same gifts Christ gives you in the Supper are what keep any of us going. Week after week, the Lord feeds His undershepherds right alongside His

SERVING GROUPS

We have monthly serving groups and if you're not on the list and would like to be, contact the church office.

JUNE

Doris Ast – 320-214-7016
Sally Bierbaum – 612-751-9274

Bob & Doris Ast
Michael Baumgarn
Gordon & Betty Behm
Vern & Sally Bierbaum
Lyle & Vera Ehrenberg
Jon & Jessica Friton
Brennen Gulden
Steven & Beverly Hanson
Molly Jeppesen
Josh & Briana Jensen
Joel & Sharon Jergenson
Larry Jorschumb
Matt & Sarah Juven
Bruce & Judy Kastel
Jon & Dawn Lingbeek
Jim & Alex Malkuch
Bill & Deb Paterson
Don & Carol Ryks
Jeffrey & Linda Weitzel

JULY

TBD

Randy & Jill Augustin
Ken & Alix Behm
Andrew & Kristine Benson
Mark & Amy Boeschen
Michelle Corti
Chris & Heidi Dahline
Wayne & Kelly Dahlke
Marv & Sharon Erdelt
Melanie Garberich
Bill Houselog
Shane & Brooke Jensen
Steven & Christine Kurtzbein
Judy Linhoff
Craig & Heather Petersen
Bob & Lila Rekedal
Jose & Wendy Reyes
Leon & Carole Schultz
Wayne Streich

NOTE: Please remember to contact your co-chair and ask them how you can be of assistance or just to let them know you are available.

LUTHERAN ISLAND CAMP NEWS

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION is well underway. Some camps are already full and have a waiting list. Go to the Lutheran Island Camp website to register. There are camps for EVERYONE! If you aren't ready for a week-long camp yet, then try out one of the weekend camps. There are even camps for your little tykes. Parents (or any adult) can partake in the Little Lambs Camp. What a great way to get your child interested in Lutheran Island Camp.

LUTHERAN ISLAND CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS are available if your child is interested in attending this year! Scholarship codes will be given out upon request and online registration is required to use the codes. Please let the church office know when your child will be attending camp. Forms for these scholarships can be found in the church office.

Redeemer will pay the following:

- \$100 per child/youth for a week long camp per calendar year
- \$50 per child/youth for a weekend camp per calendar year
- \$100 per family for a week long family camp per calendar year.
- \$50 per family for a weekend family camp per calendar year.
- Friends of Redeemer youth will receive \$50 for any week long or weekend camp per calendar

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO VACATION THIS YEAR? Contact Lutheran Island Camp to see if they have a house or cabin available. Check out the "More" tab and then the "Facilities" tab on their website to find out more information. They have great options available!

DO YOU WANT TO HELP LUTHERAN ISLAND CAMP OUT, BUT JUST NOT SURE HOW? Go to their website, click on the "More" tab, then the "Donate" tab, then on the "Amazon Wish List" tab. Pick out an item to buy and donate it to camp -- EASY!!!

flock. No special indulgence, no self-help formulas, just the plain, sure promise of Jesus, the same one that stands for you: "This is my body, given for you."

This isn't magic or a ritual we perform to earn favor. It's pure Gospel; Christ coming down to us because we can't climb up to Him. The Lord's Supper is where the crucified and risen Lord serves us, not the other way around. In a world that demands we prove our worth, here we simply receive.

So come to the Table, friends. Bring your weariness, your doubts, your sins. Leave them there with the One who bore them all. And go out strengthened for whatever your week may hold. For in this meal, the Lord of the universe says, "I am with you always" (Matthew 28:20), not just in theory, but in bread and wine, body and blood.

In the peace of Christ, Pastor Craig

PRESCHOOL

Summer is here! The preschool finished up the school year with DQ dilly bars (thank you Lori!) and lots of time playing on the playground! Gretchen and I have had a great year with these kids and will miss the graduates so much.

We have some spots still open for this coming school year and would love for you to help spread the word. We are also hiring an assistant teacher. If you or anyone you know would be interested in working part time with some great kids and super fun co-workers ;) let us know!

We will still be around this summer getting ready for the school year and hopefully up-dating some things in the playground. We hope you have a fantastic summer, see you in the fall!

God bless

Gretchen and Michelle

Keeping God's Word in Your Heart

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." **2 Timothy 3:16-17**

Throughout Scripture, the Lord calls His people not only to hear His Word in worship, but also to keep it close in daily life. Moses told Israel, "These words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children" (Deuteronomy 6:6-7).

Through the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit strengthens faith, comforts the troubled, and points sinners to Jesus Christ for forgiveness and salvation. The home, YOUR home, becomes a place where God Himself is at work through His Word.

Families don't need to be perfect teachers or have long devotions every night. Even simple habits -like reading a Bible story together, praying before bed, singing a hymn, or talking about what your kids learned in Sunday School or in worship-plant God's promises deep in your hearts.

When you dig into the scripture as a family, it shapes how you speak, forgive, serve, and love one another. In times of joy, the Word gives thanks. In suffering, it gives comfort. In temptation, it gives strength. And in every season, it reminds us that we belong to Jesus, who loved us and gave Himself for us.

This summer our Sunday School kids received 16 Bible verses to memorize over the summer-one each week until Sunday School starts again. They have been encouraged to learn them as a family and share the verses with me as they learn them!

I would like to encourage you to learn these same verses over the summer so that you can be ready to share God's Word with anyone at any time!

Philippians 4:13, Ephesians 2:8-9, John 8:12, Proverbs 30:5, Psalm 56:3, Isaiah 41:10, Hebrews 13:8, Psalm 105:6, Thessalonians 5:11, Luke 18:16, Mark 16:15, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, Ephesians 4:32, Psalm 119:105, James 1:17, Deuteronomy 6:5.

See you in worship!
Anna

ARE YOU ABOUT READY TO DITCH YOUR SCHOOL SHOES and start wearing sandals? Donate your school shoes, your work boots, your tennies, anything EXCEPT FLIP FLOPS, to Lutheran Island Camp. Just put them in the shoe collection box in the narthex.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!! June collections will be previously viewed DVD's (comedy and action), paperback novels, board games, electronic games, hand-held games, car games, crossword and word find books, and journals. Please place donated items in the box located in the narthex.



REDEEMER WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB Our next book will be *"He Should Have Told the Bees"* by Amanda Cox. We will meet on June 27th at 9am. Breakfast and coffee will be provided. No need to sign up. Read on your own and join us to discuss the book together. Contact Briana Jensen or Deb Kruger for any questions.

JUNE GIFT CARDS! Redeemer receives a percentage back in which you may apply to a Preschoolers tuition, to our Youth account or our General Education! No service fee! Forms are located in the narthex! The deadline for this month is Monday, June 8th.

REDEEMER'S MEN'S GROUP The Redeemer Men's Group will meet on Tuesday, June 30th at 6 pm. Come join us!

THRIVENT GRANTS NEEDED! If you are a Thrivent member and would be willing to write a grant to help with the Higher Things trip this year, please contact Anna Barber.

FELLOWSHIP BOARD is looking for a chair or co-chair for the July serving group. If you are interested please reach out to Sharon Skaro or Stacy Pollock.

If you do not receive calls or texts from Redeemer on events that are coming up or that have occurred, it means we didn't receive an information card from you. Cards are available in the narthex or church office, just fill out and return to the church office. This will ensure you receive updates and important information as events occur.

SUN	ATTEND	COMM	ADULT	ELEM	H.S.	SHUTINS
May 3	220	174	30	21	4	
May 10	144		26	13	0	
May 17	195	141	26	17	1	
May 24	122	98				
May 31						
TOTALS	681	413	82	51	5	23
In by Baptism: Emma Jean Norlien, Cesar Ordell Velasquez Abrahamson						
In by affirmation of faith: Charlie Berghuis, Oliver Berghuis, Eli Forst, Amyah Hebrink, Aspen Krakow, Elise Reznecheck						
Out by Death: Robert Hillenbrand						

Lutherans Roam Rome: January 13–21, 2027

Imagine walking the historic streets of Rome, while experiencing the joy of fellowship across continents. We warmly invite you to join our missional group trip to Rome from January 13 to 21, 2027.

This trip offers more than a typical vacation. It is an opportunity for spiritual growth as we explore the ancient Christian history of Italy, share in vibrant worship at Christus Victor Lutheran Church, and build meaningful connections with fellow Lutherans who serve faithfully in a unique context. Whether this is your first trip to Rome or a return visit, the experience promises lasting memories, the joy of seeing God's church alive in another culture, and participating in worship.

Brochures with details are available at the Church's Welcome Desk. Registration remains open through August 1, 2026, now is the ideal time to secure your place.

With airfares still reasonable for January travel, this is an excellent time to begin exploring flight options. One of the best resources is www.google.com/flights, which allows you to track prices and set alerts. Pastor Craig stays current on flight strategies and would be happy to speak with you about coordinating airfares and other trip details.

For more information, visit our dedicated website: www.LutheransRoamRome2027.net.

Don't miss this chance for fellowship and adventure. We would love for you to be part of this special journey. Questions? Contact Pastor Craig or stop by the church office.

We look forward to roaming Rome together in 2027!

++ JUNE 2026 ++		
	ELDERS	ACOLYTES
June 7 9:00 AM Communion	Jim Malkuch, Ted Wurm	Kian Pitt
June 14 9:00 AM Communion	Stan Skaro, Ron Jaspersen	Charlie Berghuis
June 21 9:00 AM Communion	Bill Paterson, Brandon Kopacek	Gus Malkuch
June 28 9:00 AM Communion	Matt Akerson, Jeff Pitt	Amyah Hebrink
USHERS (*Head Usher) 9:00 *Larry Miller, Brad Marcus, Lori Schroeder, Judy Linhoff		LIBRARY Marcia Gilman

LIC DONOR AND VOLUNTEER DINNER Thursday, June 5th starting at 5:00 pm. If you plan to attend, RSVP by emailing licbusiness@islandcamp.org or by calling the office at 218-583-2905.

JOIN US! Friday, June 19th from 5-7pm for the Redeemer Summer Picnic! There will be games, food, and more! If you would like to volunteer, please reach out to Jon Barber.

IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO GO TO LUTHERAN ISLAND CAMP THIS SUMMER, OR ANYWHERE NEAR HENNING, would you be willing to take some bags of shoes with you to drop off at camp? If you are, check with the office to see if there are some bags ready to go. We would really appreciate your assistance with this!

THE LWML GROUP will take a break for the month of June and will meet again Tuesday, July 14th. Chloe Jensen will be sharing with us about her mission trip to Seaside Heights in New Jersey at the July meeting.

PASTOR FUNG LO will be visiting our church Sunday, June 7th. He will be preaching Sunday morning and leading bible study after service!

YOUTH IN THE NEWS!



2026 GRADUATES

**Chelsea Lopez, Tangh Conklin, Isaac Marcus, Evan Peterson,
Andrew Sandau, Abby Behl, Jasmine Peterson, Wyatt Dahline.**

2026 CONFIRMANDS

**Back row: Charlie Berghuis, Eli Forst,
Oliver Beghuis, Pastor Craig Donofrio**

**Front row: Amyah Hebrink, Elise
Rezneck, Aspen Krakow**



JUNE - AUGUST SUMMER SCHEDULE

9:00 am Worship with
Lord's Supper offered every Sunday.
10:15 Bible Study - Pastor Craig Donofrio

Listen to Pastor Craig on For You Radio. "The Gospel for the believer and the unbeliever, alike!" You can subscribe for free on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, or wherever you find your podcasts. You can also go to www.ForYouRadio.org to listen.

****A Warm Welcome to Vicar Joshua Galindo****

It is with great joy and thanksgiving that we welcome Vicar Joshua Galindo to Redeemer Lutheran Church. On Sunday, July 5th, we will have the privilege of installing him as our vicar during the Divine Service. Following the service, please join us for a celebration brunch as we greet our new brother in the Lord.

Our Lord Jesus once looked upon the crowds with compassion and said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:38). God has heard our prayers and answered them by sending Vicar Galindo to labor among us for this season of formation.

In our Lutheran understanding, a vicar is a seminarian placed in a congregation for intentional training under the supervision and authority of the called pastor. Vicar Galindo will preach the Gospel, teach, visit, and assist in the various tasks of ministry as he grows in the ways of faithful service. This is not an independent ministry but an apprenticeship in the Office, shaped by the cross and grounded in the Word.

We receive him as a gift from the Lord Himself. Let us commit to supporting Vicar Galindo with our prayers, our patience, and our partnership in the Gospel. May the Lord bless his time among us, strengthen his faith, and use him for the building up of this congregation and the glory of Christ's name.

In Christ's service,
Pastor Craig

REDEEMER ALTAR GUILD Curious about an easy, meaningful way to serve? Try Altar Guild! Join us for a meeting on Tuesday, June 9th at 5:00 pm in the conference room. Come see what we do and whether it's a good fit for you. All are welcome, men included!

BLUE STAR MOTHERS is hosting a Military family meet and greet dinner on June 8th at the Pennock Community Center from 5-8 pm. The meal will be provided.

ROAD TO RECOVERY GROUP Are you struggling with addiction? You're not alone. Or maybe you know of someone that would benefit from this group. If interested in joining, please contact Penny at (320) 220-2585. All are welcome!