



October 2026

Redeemer Lutheran Church

360.384.5923



**858 WEST SMITH ROAD
BELLINGHAM, WA 98226
360.384.5923**

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Sunday Worship Service Schedule

9:00 AM: Adult Bible Study

10:30 AM: Worship Service

November Newsletter deadline is
Monday, October 26th, 2026

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From the Pastor's Pen



October often feels like a return to normal. Summer vacations are behind us, school is well underway, and the calendar begins to settle into its familiar pattern. The days grow shorter, the mornings cooler, and many of us find ourselves returning to regular routines.

There is something good about a regular rhythm. God has not created us to live without order. He gives us times for work and rest, for gathering with others, and for attending to the ordinary responsibilities of life. These daily routines may seem unremarkable, but they are places where God serves our neighbors through us in our various vocations.

The same is true of our life together as Christians. We are not meant to encounter God's Word only when it is convenient, or when we happen to feel spiritually inclined. The Christian life has a regular rhythm because God has given us regular means by which He delivers His gifts. We return again and again to the Divine Service because there our Lord gathers His people around His Word and Sacraments. We hear the Gospel of Christ's saving work. We receive the forgiveness of sins. We confess the faith together. We receive Christ's true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. These are not merely religious routines; they are God's gracious gifts to His people who need Christ every day.

Perhaps the return to an autumn routine is a good opportunity to examine our spiritual routines as well. Have we allowed busyness, travel, recreation, or other activities to push worship to the margins? Have we become accustomed to thinking of church as something we attend when nothing else is scheduled?

Our Lord's invitation is not a burden. *"Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest"* (Matthew 11:28). The Divine Service is where weary sinners receive that rest—not because of anything we do for God, but because of what Christ has done and continues to give us.

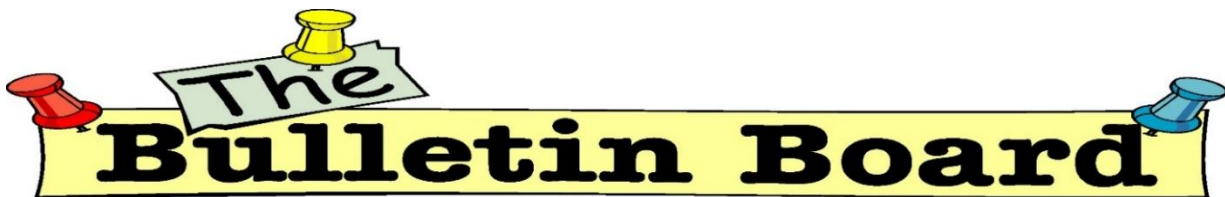
So as October brings us back into familiar routines, let us give thanks for the ordinary gifts of God: daily work, family, friendships, and the blessings of our vocations. And let us especially give thanks for the regular rhythm of Word and Sacrament by which our Lord keeps us in the faith.

Our routines will change. Seasons will come and go. But Christ remains faithful. His Word endures, His promises do not change, and His mercy is new every morning.

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Thy faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:22-23).

See you in church...

Pastor Rex E. Watt



The Bulletin Board

TITHES AND OFFERINGS: *Thank you for your faithful giving!*

DEVOTIONALS: “Our Daily Bread” for September-November and “Portals of Prayer” for October-December are available on the offering table.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY: MEETS AT 9:00 am, a study of the Apostles’ Creed.

MEN’S SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY & BREAKFAST: 8:00 am the first Saturday of each month here at the church. A Study of Matthew led by Anthony McLeod. ***October’s meeting will be on Saturday, October 3rd.***

LWML BIBLE STUDY AND MEETING: The third Friday of each month at 11:00 am. A Bible study followed by a LWML meeting. ***The next meeting will be Friday, October 16th.***

WEDNESDAY MORNING LADIES BIBLE STUDY: Wednesday mornings at 9:00 am. “God’s Word for Today: Psalms”, led by Lynnata Marttila.

Scam of the Month - “The Reply Trap”

A text lights up your phone screen from a number you don't recognize, saying, "Hey, are we still on for dinner tomorrow?" The message is clearly meant for someone else, but it seems ordinary and friendly. Since it feels rude not to respond, you consider sending a quick reply just to let the sender know they've got the wrong person.

But that seemingly harmless text is actually a trap set by cybercriminals! Scammers rely on your reply to mark you as an easy target. Your reply confirms to cybercriminals that your number is active, and then they'll sell it on the dark web to other scammers. Once your phone number appears on one of these dark web lists, you might see more scam texts or calls in the future!

Follow these tips to avoid falling victim to this smishing, or text phishing, scam:

- If you receive a suspicious text, mark it as spam or junk and block the sender’s number. These actions also help your phone provider flag and block similar messages for other users.*
- Avoid sharing your phone number publicly. The less accessible your number is, the harder it is for cybercriminals to find and target it in the first place.*

You may think replying to these kinds of texts is friendly, but it could mark you as a target for future scams. Always stop and think before you respond!

The KnowBe4 Security Team



<u>October Birthdays</u>
10/08 Linda Reinikka
10/10 Darryl Edin
10/10 Rowan Hogle
10/12 Elsie Werre
10/12 Connor Dupuis
10/13 Les Anderson
10/31 Deanne Bowen

<u>November Birthdays</u>
11/02 Karl Noste
11/07 Kari Marttila
11/11 Annie Thorsen
11/16 Micah Potvin
11/18 Dave McKay
11/21 Draven Cobb
11/25 Randy Bowen
11/25 Connor Noste

<u>Elder Care List</u>
A - D: Doug Bender (Head Elder)
E - Hog: Kari Marttila
Hov - Ma: Les Anderson
McK - R: Colin Grabish
S - W: Jon Dixon

<u>September Sunday Attendance</u>	
September 06	50
September 13	63
September 20	56
September 27	52



<u>October Anniversaries</u>
10/17 Pastor Rex & Deanna Watt
As the angels sing heavenly praises for our God above, As the dawn touches the Earth with its soft rays, As another chapter of your life starts anew, I wish that God will grant you your heart's greatest desire And your presence endows peace to others as refreshing as the morning dew. Have a blessed and wonderful birthday or anniversary!
Note: If your birthday or wedding anniversary is not listed on this page or if it is incorrect, please contact the church office so we can make the correction.

<u>Fellowship Host/Hostess Volunteer Schedule</u>
October 04 – Kitchen Committee
October 11 – Janet, Marsha & Peggy
October 18 – Joy and Heidi
October 25 – Potluck (Reformation Day)

<u>ASSISTING US IN WORSHIP – OCTOBER</u>
<u>Altar Care</u>
Arenda

Worship Volunteer Schedule

	Elder/Assistant	Usher	Lay Reader	Soundboard	Counters
Oct. 04	Doug/Colin	Anthony M.	David K.	Ian M.	Wendy/Corinne
Oct. 11	Doug/Colin	Ian M.	Corinne T.	Kari M.	Ron/Jon
Oct. 18	Doug/Colin	Anthony M.	Lowell M.	Travis K.	Anthony/Travis
Oct. 25	Doug/Colin	Ian M.	Rachel V.	Matilda K.	Wendy/Corinne

October

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				01	02 office closed	03 8:00 am: Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
04 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion	05	06 6:30 pm: Elders	07 Bulletin Deadline 9:00 Women's Bible Study	08	09 office closed	10
11 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion	12	13	14 Bulletin Deadline 9:00 Women's Bible Study	15	16 11:00 am: LWML Bible Study and Meeting office closed	17 11:30 am: Autumn Tea Party Make & Bake
18 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion	19	20 6:30 pm: Council	21 Bulletin Deadline	22	23 office closed	24
25 Reformation Sunday 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study 10:30 am: Worship /Communion Potluck	26 Saltshaker Deadline	27	28 Bulletin Deadline	29	30 office closed	31 

**“FALL BACK” DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS!
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1st!**

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour when you go to bed on Saturday night, October 31st!

REFORMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 25th

“SPECIAL FELLOWSHIP TIME”

(following 10:30 worship)

Festive Accordion Music

“Fun Facts” of Germany

GERMAN FOOD POTLUCK

Our potluck for Sunday, October 25th will have a
“German Theme.”

If you have a **“FAVORITE GERMAN DISH or
DESSERT”** please bring it for our potluck lunch
OR any food of your choosing to share.

**“JOIN US”
FOR THIS SPECIAL REFORMATION
SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP**

Should you have any questions, please contact Annette or Dee.



MAKE AND BAKE AUTUMN TEA PARTY

YOU'RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE THE SEASON

Join Us for a Charming Afternoon of Tea,
Learn How to Make Apple Roses



WHEN: Saturday, October 17th, 2026 | **TIME:** 11:30 AM

WHERE: Redeemer Lutheran Church

Please Sign-up by October 11th or contact Annette or Dee

Come and warm your heart this autumn!

LWML/LWIM Sunday 2026

MITE Box Sunday ~ October 4, 2026

This year's LWML Sunday is October 4th. This is a special Sunday where we celebrate the ladies of Lutheran Women in Missions. This year's theme is: "As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others."

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League was established in 1942 as the official women's auxiliary of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. Beginning with the launch of our new logo in 2023, we have shifted toward the use of the descriptive name 'Lutheran Women In Missions'. This phrase truly describes who we are and what we do.

On this special Sunday, we honor who we are and look towards the future. We are also encouraging all ladies of the congregation to wear **purple** as a sign of support and unity for LWIM.

Redeemer Lutheran Women In Missions

Redeemer Ladies have a lot going on in the month of October. We start the month with Lutheran Women in Missions Sunday on Oct.4th which is also MITE Sunday. We encourage everyone to wear purple, (men, we encourage you to wear purple also!), bring your MITE boxes and check out our display in the fellowship area.

MITE box Sunday is your opportunity to bring your donations which are used to support LWML's mission grants. Remember, your mites can be in coin but we also except and appreciate dollar bills in all denominations. There is a list of all the new Mission Grants posted on the LWML bulletin board.

October Fall Rally is on Saturday, October 24th at Messiah LC in Marysville. These are always enjoyable events, hosted by ladies' groups in the Mt Baker Zone. If you have not attended, I encourage you to consider going - car pooling is a great option. These rallies start with a no host continental breakfast bar and includes a bible study, in gathering, craft and lunch. It's a great way to see how other ladies' groups are organized and connect with ladies from all over our zone. These rallies are usually finished by 1 so you can be home in time for dinner with the family.

The end of September we finished our Mugs for Outreach project, with 25 coffee mugs being filled with goodies and donated to Opportunity Council's Homeless Outreach program. These mugs will be given to the many people that the Outreach program comes in contact with while they are serving the community on the streets of Whatcom County.



In the months of October and November the Ladies are encouraging the congregation to donate to the Food Bank Outreach by donating staples and canned goods. The collection box is located under the stairs in the fellowship area. If you have any questions about what is needed, please talk to David Ketah.

December, January and February mission projects for local organizations have already been planned, but if you have an idea for a local project please contact Wendy or Cindy. We are always looking for ways to support our local community and neighbors.

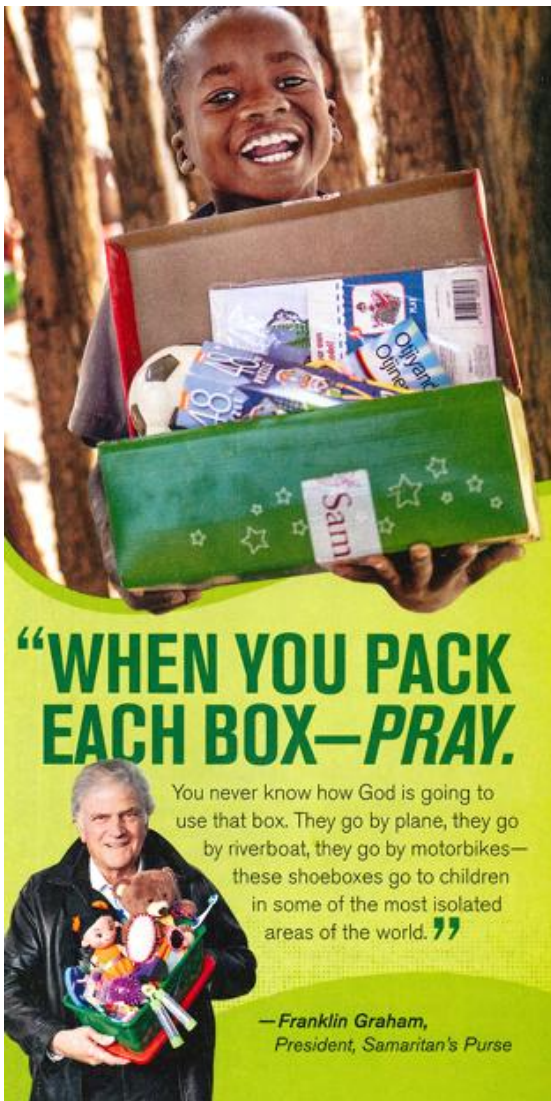
Each month I will include a position description for our officers and committees - this month is for our group president, Wendy McLeod.

RLL president: It shall be the duty of the president to preside at all meetings, and to Conduct the same in orderly fashion. It shall also be her duty to appoint two members of the society to audit the Treasurer's books. Said audit to correspond with the election of a new treasurer. To attend or see to the representation of Redeemer ladies at various LWML (LWIM) functions. Wendy and her husband, Anthony (Tony) have been active members of Redeemer. Wendy works for the Whatcom Library system. She has been the president of RLL for more than 4 years and has done a great job representing us at the various local and district gatherings. Recently she attended the LWML District Conference in Spokane.

Redeemer Ladies, also known as Lutheran Women in Missions, meet on the third Friday of every month. We start our meetings with a bible study led by Pastor Watt and then a devotion led by Jeanette Stroming, our Christian Growth chairperson. We enjoy a light lunch and a business meeting. All ladies are invited to attend. No pressure to join a committee or group. We would love to see you there.



Thank you to all who donated mugs and helped fill them with various goodies to get them ready for distribution. Cindy McKay delivered them to the Opportunity Council's Homeless Outreach Program where they will be distributed to those in need.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

“COMING YOUR WAY SOON”

Shoeboxes will be available

beginning

Sunday, October 11th.



You may choose to fill a shoebox with gifts of toys, school supplies and personal care items. These boxes are sent throughout the world to impoverished children through Samaritan's Purse. If you wish, you may also “build a shoebox” online at samaritanspurse.org/buildonline.

A \$10 donation is requested for each shoebox you pack to cover shipping and project costs. You may make payment online or by mail, using the brochure's attached postage-paid envelope inside each shoebox or enclose your donation inside your packed shoebox.

A table with shoeboxes and information will be available in Redeemer's narthex beginning Sunday, October 11. Filled shoeboxes will need to be returned by November 15.

Should you have any questions, please contact Dee Watt.

Prayerfully consider joining us in this outreach ministry and the joy of sharing Jesus' love with those in need around the world.



Shoebox Gift Suggestions

"WOW" ITEM

- Soccer ball with pump
- Doll
- Stuffed animal
- Musical Instrument



TOYS

- Toy cars
- Jump ropes
- Yo-yos
- Toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries)



PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Toothbrushes
- Washcloths
- Combs
- Hairbrushes



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, and markers
- Notebooks and paper
- Coloring and picture books
- Solar calculators



ACCESSORIES

- Socks
- Sunglasses
- Jewelry and watches
- Flashlights (with extra batteries)



DO NOT INCLUDE

soap, candy, toothpaste, gum, used or damaged items, scary or war-related items, seeds, food, liquids or lotions, medications or vitamins, breakable items or glass containers, aerosol cans



Epiphani
and Daniel

SHINING THE LIGHT OF JESUS

Redeemer Lutheran Preschool



October Preschool News!



What we're learning:

- Letters Aa, Bb, Cc, Dd, Ee
- Shapes and Colors
- Bible stories: Creation, Adam and Eve, Noah's Ark, Moses
- Crafts: Apples, Bus, Camping, Dragonfly, Envelope

What we're doing for fun:

- Making Blueberry Muffins
- Going to Bellewood Acres for a field trip
- Harvest party
- Apple and pumpkin experiments

October's Wish List:

- Pumpkins any size (8)
- Gift card or \$ for pizza for harvest party

Please continue to pray for God to lead more children to our preschool. Melinda and I are having fun with our 4 kiddos and look forward to the Fall season and the adventures it brings!

Love and Blessings,

Heidi



~ MARK YOUR CALENDAR ~
**REDEEMER'S
ADVENT SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP
DECEMBER 6TH, 2026**

- Lunch Provided
- Dessert Buffet
- Table Hostesses/Decorated Tables
- Special Program

Joy in fellowship as we
prepare our hearts and lives
for Christmas...
the birth of our Lord and Savior

Should you have questions or
wish to volunteer, please contact
Annette Dixon or Dee Watt.

SUPPORT FOR REDEEMER'S MILITARY FAMILIES

Here are a few ways you can show your support to our military families this upcoming holiday season:

- Contribute items to the service member boxes, **the last day to contribute to the holiday boxes will be Sunday, November 29th.**
- Include them on your Christmas card list and drop a card in their boxes.
- MaryAnn Olsen will be looking for volunteers to bake and donate Christmas cookies for their care packages.
- Please continue to email Christmas pictures to rlcbhamlcms77@gmail.com.



Ryan and Julia Pitcher

Ryan serves in the U.S. Army.
Ryan and Julia welcomed a
baby boy this past June.



FALL YARD WORK PARTY

Thank you to everyone who so generously volunteered their time. Your hard work is appreciated!



Lowell Mattox & Zachary Enertson

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Lowell Mattox
&
Zachary Enertson



Pictured with Pastor Watt



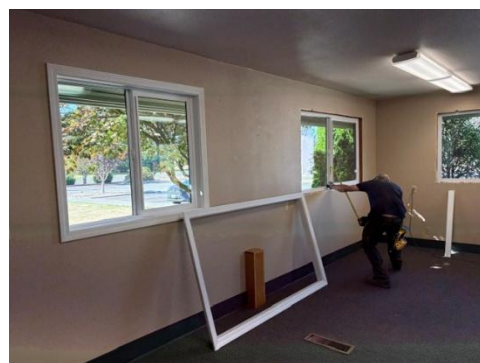
Happy Anniversary!

Congratulations to
Darryl and Marsha Edin
who celebrated their
50th wedding anniversary on
August 27th.



In September, Redeemer
was blessed with the first
performance of our newly
formed Handbell Choir!
Thank you to Shannon Kimes
and all the bell ringers!!

SPECIAL MAINTAINANCE PROJECTS HAPPENING AT REDEEMER



New windows have been installed in the fellowship area
and the storage shed has a new roof!

Look for new interior paint to be coming soon!



Lutheran's For Life Quotes: October 04



"Your life is valuable, and your life has purpose. It was not an accident; it was planned from the beginning. But that doesn't mean it will be easy. You will experience hardship and suffering. As you age, your body will wear out. Your mind will dull. Your abilities will lessen. And yet, it is in your body with all of its brokenness that the Holy Spirit resides. It is this, your body, that God the Father formed by hand, and it is this, your body, that Jesus, God's Son, redeemed. And your body, a unique and miraculous gift, will be raised from the dead and made new."

Michelle Bauman, Director of Y4Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Stay connected to the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

IF YOU WANT HELP UNDERSTANDING the world from a Lutheran perspective:

The Lutheran Witness (lcms.org/witness)

IF YOU LIKE HEARING directly from the president and other members of the president's office: Witness, Mercy, Life Together blog (wmltblog.org)

IF YOU WANT TO CONNECT with other LCMS Lutherans: LCMS Facebook (facebook.com/thelcms), Twitter (@thelcms), Instagram (thelcms) and Periscope.

IF YOU WANT TO HEAR from LCMS leadership: Leader blog ([blogs.lcms.org, category/leader-blog](http://blogs.lcms.org/category/leader-blog))

IF YOU'RE SEARCHING for stories of the Church in action:

Lutherans Engage the World (lcms.org/lutheransengage)

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR NEWS: *Reporter* (blogs.lcms.org/reporter)

IF YOU CAN'T GET ENOUGH of all things mission:

Journal of Lutheran Mission (lcms.org/journaloflutheranmission)

IF YOU WANT IT ALL: LCMS News and Publications (blogs.lcms.org)



Please find the monthly edition of **The Lutheran Witness** available on the mailbox table.