



October 2025

Redeemer Lutheran Church

360.384.5923



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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
Wednesday, October 29, 2025

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OCTOBER

From the Pastor's Pen



In light of the events throughout our nation, not only over the past few weeks and months, but even longer (I think of those legislators who were ambushed at the front doors of their homes, the senseless violence committed at schools and other places of public gathering), I pass on the following. It comes from a newsletter I subscribe to: Lutherans for Life.org

A Few Thoughts on the Recent Violence by Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske

There has been much written over the past several weeks in the wake of the recent violent acts that have taken place across our country: another school shooting, an innocent woman stabbed on a subway, the assassination of a popular speaker. I have no desire to rehash those events, nor do I intend this to be a response to any event or any article in particular. I simply want to share a few reminders from God's Word that can help us process these things in a proper and godly manner. First, we must remember that every human being has been created by God and is therefore precious to Him. That is true regardless of their political associations or even whether or not they have faith in Him. God's final words to Jonah illustrate this beautifully. The people of Nineveh were enemies of Israel, and yet the book of Jonah closes with God asking, **"And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?"** (Jonah 4:11).

Instead of wishing for the destruction of His enemies, God pitied them and hoped for their repentance.

He says exactly the same thing to the prophet Ezekiel. **"As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live"** (Ezekiel 33:11).

God takes no delight in the death of any man, even the wicked and those who've turned away from Him. Instead, He longs for their repentance to the point that He takes on our sinful human flesh and bears the sins of the world so that all can **"be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth"** (1 Timothy 2:4).

Since we have been redeemed by His blood and brought to faith in Christ, we have the Spirit of Christ dwelling in us (Romans 8:9) and are to **"have the mind of Christ"** (1 Corinthians 2:16). That is to say, we have been redeemed from sin that we might begin to think about our neighbors the way that Christ thinks about them.

That means, for starters, that we mourn every act of violence and every death. Jesus does not revel in the death of any person, even His enemies, and neither should we. This is especially true if they

are outside the Body of Christ. Knowing that those who die outside of Christ must face eternal condemnation, we should weep over every life that ends without repentance and faith.

We must also remember that violence and murder are tools of the devil (John 8:44) and are wicked intrusions into God's creation. Death is the result of—not the solution to—sin. We cannot use death to solve the problems and divisions that exist between us sinners. Instead, death should always be viewed as the result of sin (Romans 6:23) and therefore as our enemy (1 Corinthians 15:26). Hoping for or demanding the death of any person because of their nationality, religion, sexual orientation, or political views has no place among the Body of Christ.

Instead, our Lord Jesus teaches us that we are to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us (Matthew 5:44). We pray for their repentance, even as we acknowledge our own sinfulness and pray for our own repentance so that we might act and speak with humility and work toward building unity and peace among all people (Ephesians 4:2-3).

In like manner, we should pray for the perpetrators of such violent and sinful acts. Any person who would commit such evil has clearly been enslaved by sin and has a mind that is corrupted and defiled by the devil, and therefore is in need of repentance and salvation. Pray that the Holy Spirit works the miracle of conversion in them before it is too late, even as we pray that justice be done for the preservation of civil order (1 Timothy 2:1-2; 1 Peter 2:14).

Additionally, since St. Paul encourages us to **“weep with those who weep”** (Romans 12:15), we should weep with the families of those affected by these acts of violence and pray for them. Pray that God takes care of their bodily needs and that He would bring them the comfort and peace that can only come from the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and that through these tragedies, they and all others would be drawn closer to God in faith.

Finally, we remember that in the face of such darkness, Christ shines as the Light of the world (John 9:5). Amazingly, He shines His light through us as we preach the Gospel and imitate His love before the world (Matthew 5:14-16). So, we will follow the example of those who went before us and preach the Gospel to a world broken by sin, knowing that the Gospel alone has the power to change hearts. And all the while, we pray that God brings an end to violence and bloodshed and ushers in the day when sin is completely removed from us and all tears will be wiped from our eyes.

<https://lutheransforlife.org/article/a-few-thoughts-on-the-recent-violence/>

Used by permission of Lutherans for Life, 25.08.22





October Birthdays

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

November Birthdays

11/02 Karl Noste
11/06 Spiro Pappacostas
11/07 Kari Mattila
11/11 Annie Thorsen
11/12 Jason Gansler
11/16 Micah Potvin
11/18 Dave McKay
11/21 Draven Cobb
11/25 Randy Bowen
11/25 Connor Noste



Elder Care List

A - Hah: Doug Bender (Head Elder)
Hal - McK: Kari Marttila
McL - Z: Colin Grabish



October Anniversaries

10/17 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.

Fellowship Host/Hostess Volunteer Schedule

Oct. 05 - Janet Baeder & Dee Watt
Oct. 12 - Wendy McLeod & Leslie Rogers
Oct. 19 - Tami Marcos & Mary Ann Olsen
Oct. 26 - Reformation Day Potluck

ASSISTING US IN WORSHIP – OCTOBER

Altar Care

Arenda Hovde

Worship Volunteer Schedule

	Elder/Assistant	Usher	Lay Reader	Soundboard	Counters
Oct. 05	Doug/Colin	Ian McLeod	Ross Abbe	Ian McLeod	Anthony/Travis
Oct. 12	Doug/Colin	Connor Dupuis	Joe Dupuis	Kari Marttila	Wendy/Corinne
Oct. 19	Doug/Colin	Anthony McLeod	Corinne Thorsen	Ian McLeod	Jon/Ron
Oct. 26	Doug/Colin	Rowan Hogle	Connor Dupuis	Kari Marttila	Anthony/Travis



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

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. Starting on Sunday, October 05 and running through Sunday, November 02, a study on “Lutheran Distinctives”, led by Pastor Watt.

MEN’S SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY & BREAKFAST: A Study of Proverbs led by Anthony McLeod. 8:00 am the first Saturday of each month here at the church. **The next meeting will be Saturday, October 4th.**

LWML BIBLE STUDY AND MEETING: The third Friday of each month at 11:00 am. A study of Luther’s Small Catechism, followed by a LWML meeting. **October’s meeting will be on the fourth Friday, October 24th.**

WEDNESDAY MORNING LADIES BIBLE STUDY: Wednesday mornings at 9:00 am.
“Enough for Now: Unpacking God’s Sufficiency”, led by Lynnata Marttila.

INTERFAITH COALITION COAT DRIVE: It’s already that time of year again!! We will again be collecting coats and cold weather accessories for men, women and children. The collection box is located beneath the military boxes. Please see Wendy McLeod with any questions. **Please have all donations in by Sunday, October 19th. Thank you!**

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME WILL BE ENDING ON THE FIRST SUNDAY IN NOVEMBER! We will “FALL BACK” on Sunday, November 2nd.



Our annual Advent Fellowship Brunch,
“The Advent of Our King”
will be held on the first Sunday in Advent,
November 30th, following morning worship.



If you would be interested in helping to plan/organize this special event, please contact Cristi Lysne or Dee Watt.



A Bird Came Down the Walk

A bird came down the walk:
He did not know I saw;
He bit an angle-worm in halves
And ate the fellow, raw.

And then, he drank a dew
From a convenient grass,
And then hopped sidewise to the wall
To let a beetle pass.

He glanced with rapid eyes
That hurried all abroad,—
They looked like frightened beads,
I thought;
He stirred his velvet head

Like one in danger; cautious,
I offered him a crumb,
And he unrolled his feathers
And rowed him softer home

Than oars divide the ocean,
Too silver for a seam,
Or butterflies, off banks of noon,
Leap, plashless, as they swim.

Emily Dickinson



Blessing on a Garden

Come, all good birds!
Toben and wren and thrush,
For every one a bush—
Come with glad words.

And all bright flowers;
Phlox and delphinium,
Rose and tall lily, come—
Make fair the hours.

Come, bees, because here
Sweets without measure
Wait for your pleasure.
Butterflies, pause here.

Toads, find you room.
In the sweet thickets,
Humble brown crickets,
Make you a home.

Be kind here, weather!
Rain, wet the tender roots;
Sun, warm the golden fruits;
Dews, softly gather.

Love, be the warden;
Peace, all the borders fold.
God Himself once of old
Walked in a garden.

Nancy Byrd Turner



WHAT WILL I PACK?



Gift-filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are delivered together with **the Good News of Jesus Christ** as expressions of God's immense love for a child. *So, be sure to make them ...*

FUN: Include a quality "wow" item to delight the child, such as ...

- Soccer ball with pump
- Doll
- Stuffed animal

FULL: To fill empty spaces, add school supplies and personal care items, such as ...

- Pens, pencils, crayons, and notebooks
- Sunglasses
- Flashlights

PERSONALIZED: Make sure every shoebox is unique and covered in prayer.

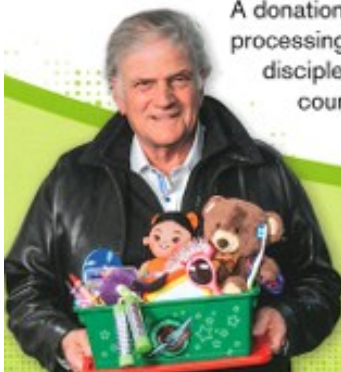
Include a note of encouragement and photo of you, your family, church, or group to further personalize the gift. These personal letters often are children's favorite shoebox items!

Wondering if certain items are OK to pack? **See our gift suggestions and search tool:**



WHERE WILL IT GO?

A donation of \$10 per shoebox is critical to help cover collecting, processing, and shipping gifts to equip local churches for evangelism and discipleship. Give online through Follow Your Box and discover the country destination of your gift through our Look-up Tool.



"Shoebox gifts are like snowflakes—no two are alike!"

—Franklin Graham, President, Samaritan's Purse



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

“COMING YOUR WAY SOON”

Shoeboxes will be available
beginning
Sunday, October 12th.

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*](http://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 12. Filled shoeboxes will need to be returned by November 17.

Should you have any questions, please contact Dee Watt or Marianne Guisti.

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



REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 26th

Fall Harvest Potluck

You are invited to bring a
Family Favorite “fall harvest”
dish/salad/dessert to share

Festive Fellowship and Music

Please join us!!!

~ Faith Alone ~ Grace Alone ~

~ Scripture Alone ~ Christ Alone ~



THANK YOU **Dennis Urbanec**, for always generously sharing your crop of fruits and vegetables.



THANK YOU to **Kari Marttila, Travis and Tilly Kimes** for installing Redeemer's new sound board...a blessing for our Sunday morning readers and our church services.

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU, **Doug Bender**, for new preschool playground equipment padding and for helping protect our preschoolers from injury!



THANK YOU to **Ron Willand** for the beautiful new wooden stand that holds our Processional Cross in the narthex.



Redeemer Lutheran Preschool



October

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



We are off to a great beginning of a new year at preschool! We have 10 Pre-K students and 4 preschool students. I am looking forward to the many fun activities, stories, and lessons we have planned for them this month! Love and Blessings, Heidi

Bible Stories:

- The B-I-B-L-E
- Creation
- Adam and Eve
- Noah's Ark
- Moses

Letters:

- Bb, Cc, Dd, Ee, Ff

Numbers:

- 0, 1, 2



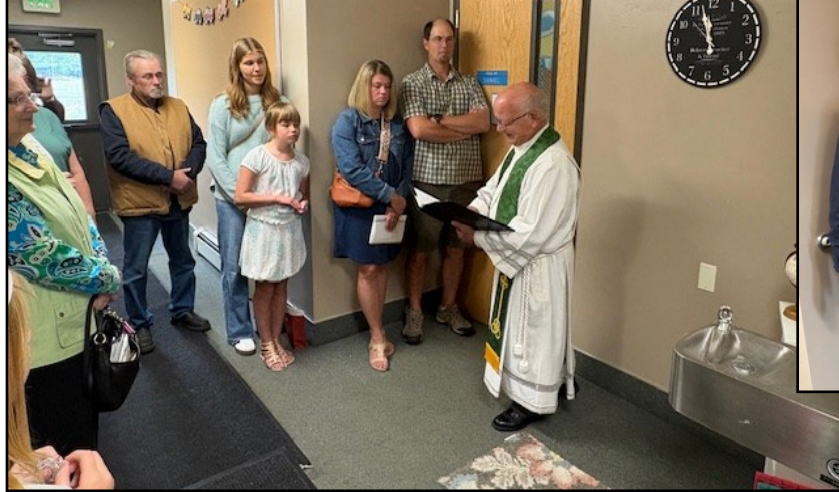
Important Dates:

We will be visiting a new pumpkin patch called Home Farm in Ferndale. We are excited to support another local business and learn new things about pumpkins, animals, and God's beautiful creations. We will also have a family pumpkin carving night with a harvest festival and pizza included! A day to dress up and reading the pumpkin patch parable book



Clock Dedication September 07, 2025

A new Preschool clock was dedicated In loving memory of **Sue Urbanec**, who was involved and taught at Redeemer Preschool for 20 years.



Sue Urbanec's Family



Leadership Workshop

Redeemer's council and elders gathered on September 13th for a leadership workshop to discuss church direction and focus for the coming year.





Harmonious Stewardship

“For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another” (Romans 12:4-5).

One of the most forgotten concepts in stewardship is the interdependent nature that makes up the Body of Christ and the way that body supports the shared work of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This is experienced in the local congregation, as well as in broader mission and ministry efforts at the district and Synod levels. Yet in these words, St. Paul reminds the Romans and us that we are indeed members of one another. This is true in our worship. It is also true in our stewardship of the Gospel. Stewards of all shapes and sizes, ages and abilities, affluence and influence are all assembled around Word and Sacrament in the local congregation with no one being more important than the other.

Part of this forgetting lies in what the eyes see and how our human mind operates. Our eyes and our minds are quick to come to the erroneous conclusion that the person who writes the biggest check is the more important steward. Human logic, flawed by sin as it is, could make a claim that the youngest child or the most infirm, aged member of the congregation would certainly be considered something less than important when it comes to the stewardship of the Gospel.

Paul makes it clear in these words that this is not how stewardship of the Gospel is measured in the Body of Christ. Rather, it would be better to view local stewardship like the lost art of harmony in congregational singing. This has been lost not only due to the performative nature of the lead singers of the local praise team, but also because modern hymnals are written to almost force the novice hymn-singer into unison voice. Creative harmonization by talented organists is beautiful to listen to, but does not always support the people in the pews in singing in parts. This is a loss in demonstrating a very practical aspect of whole-body stewardship.

The sound that builds when choral and congregational singers settle into their voice parts is nothing short of heavenly! Yet when altos, tenors and bass sing their individual parts without any concept of how they fit together, the music doesn't sound as powerful. The narrow range of the typical alto line almost sounds monotonous. The tenor line can get painfully high, and the base

line can get uncomfortably low. But, when interdependently entwined, along with the melody that is so often carried by the sopranos, the music becomes a tremendously powerful tool in communicating the Gospel.

The same is true of individual stewards. Certainly, stewards with more financial means are in a unique place to “carry the tune” for ministry in a local congregation. But that doesn’t rule out the faithful stewardship of the saint-like 94-year-old Hulda, who prayed for her young pastor in German every night while the aches and pains of arthritis and the grief of losing a daughter to cancer kept her awake. This does not rule out Jimmy, the profoundly developmentally disabled confirmand whose basic but dramatically eloquent confession of the faith left an impression on a congregation long after he went to be with Jesus. It doesn’t rule out the single parent, the recovering addict, the family coming out of bankruptcy, the elderly widow and everyone in between.

The Lord has entrusted all the baptized with stewardship of the one thing needful: the Gospel of Jesus Christ. No one member of any congregation is more important than another when it comes to this stewardship. The biggest check isn’t always the best way to communicate the Gospel. In fact, it is almost always better communicated with the widow’s mite, the tenacious stewardship of the talents and so much more.

In the local congregation and beyond, our corporate stewardship of the Gospel needs each other to fill out our great confession. It is not about equal amount. It is about interdependence that only the Holy Spirit can work! Each of us has a role to play, a harmony to sing. The standard for that role is faithfulness. We do not have the same function, but we have the same Jesus! As we sing the parts entrusted to us by the Holy Spirit, the sweet music of the Gospel goes out!

LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship
Newsletter Article – October 2025



Military Family Thank You



Thank you, Redeemer Family,
for your thoughtful military boxes. Your cards, notes
and treats are always appreciated and enjoyed.

Dylan loves his USMC apron.

God's blessings to you all!

Dylan, Trinity & Merle Mae





Lutheran's For Life Quotes: October 26

"Defending the lives that God created, redeemed, and called by the Gospel is a good thing! But we must be careful not to become like the Pharisee in Jesus' parable, who became so proud of his good works that he mistreated those who didn't think like him (Luke 18:11-12). Affirming the sanctity of every life also means caring about those who disagree with us, treating them with compassion and sharing the forgiveness of Christ with them, that they, too, might receive the "crown of righteousness" on the Last Day (2 Timothy 4:8).

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)

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)



Free Cards



SHARE GOD'S WORD BY USING FREE GIDEON CARDS

How would you like to extend the missionary outreach of our church to some 200 countries around the world? You are encouraged to use Gideon cards to send the Word and Change a Life!

Every time you send a Gideon card, your donation for Bibles will send God's Word to someone who desperately needs it—perhaps in your own neighborhood or somewhere else around the world.

Gideon cards can be given in the memory of someone special (sympathy cards) or for any special occasion, and that's a life-changing difference!

Check out the display of free Gideon cards in our church. Where are they? They are on the wooden shelf at the back wall in the fellowship room. Help yourself. Then, let these cards acknowledge your gift in memory or in honor of someone, and provide Bibles, helping fulfill the Great Commission. Thank you for sharing God's Word around the world.