

THE REDEEMER RECORD



FROM THE PASTOR

“Since making disciples is the main task of the church, every church ought to be able to answer two questions: What is our plan for making disciples? Is our plan working?” ~ Dallas Willard

Dear Beloveds in Christ,

As much as the school-aged me looked forward to the end of school each year because it meant an end to studying and homework and pretty much learning in general for at least a couple of months, I have come to realize how silly those thoughts were. The truth is that we are always learning, and it is through that learning that we grow and become closer and closer to who God made and intends us to be. Of course, not

(continued on page 2)

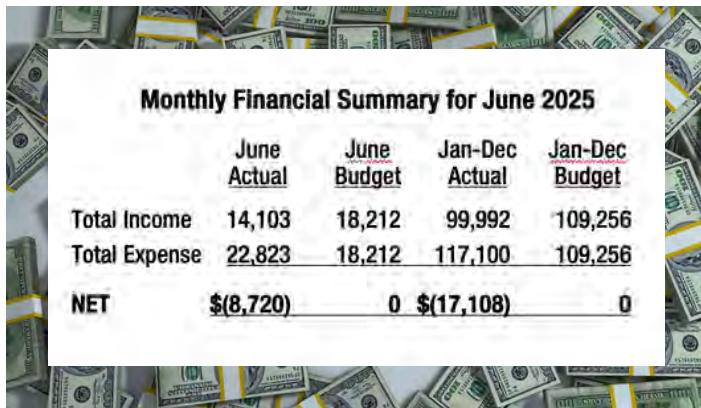
Explore Your Faith

We are excited to offer both a children's and an adult Sunday school, as well as confirmation classes this year. ***These learning opportunities will begin on August 17*** and will be held after worship on all but the second Sundays of the month. The adult class (ALOFT) will be led by Brian Woods and will be based on Dr. Michael Youssef's book, *You Want Me to Do What? Get Off Your Blessed Assurance and Do Something!* This engaging – and often entertaining – book follows the story of Joshua and is intended to help us see that we too can overcome our fear and reluctance and become the empowered outreach ministers that Jesus has called us to be.

GIFT, the children's Sunday school class, will be using the re:form curriculum, which is a video, discussion, and activity-based way of answering some of the big questions of what it means to be a Christian and how we are to bring that identity into the world around us. John Mason will be the primary teacher, and he is looking forward to the fun that he and the children will have with the games and activities found in their “Anti-Workbooks” each week.

For confirmation, I plan on using *By Heart: Conversations With Martin Luther's Small Catechism*. This resource walks the participants through the Lord's Prayer, Apostles' Creed, and the Ten Commandments in ways that make them easier to understand and to remember why they are important.

The books for each of these classes will be provided by the church, and we hope that you will come and be an active participant in whichever of these options fits you the best!



Monthly Financial Summary for June 2025				
	June Actual	June Budget	Jan-Dec Actual	Jan-Dec Budget
Total Income	14,103	18,212	99,992	109,256
Total Expense	22,823	18,212	117,100	109,256
NET	\$(8,720)	0	\$(17,108)	0

(Full financial report available upon request)



The Men's Group will be selling Boston Butts

July 27 - August 24

Whole \$30

Half \$18

**Pick up August 29
10am - Noon**

FROM THE PASTOR *(cont. from page 1)*

not all learning takes place in classrooms or formal settings with a teacher up front and students sitting at desks supposedly trying to absorb what they are hearing. Instead, some of our most powerful learning comes from people who are walking the same path as us but have had different experiences or insights than we have.

As part of our continual learning hear, our leadership teams have been focusing on learning new ways to reach our neighbors with the Good News of Jesus. We went through a course together called Church Marketing, which helped us to think about what we are doing in new ways – and it was helpful! But not wanting it to stop there, the church has generously agreed to put me through the Effective Church Network, a coaching course that is specifically designed for pastors. This course consists of self-paced modules of instruction, plus small group coaching sessions each week, and accountability through email and a Facebook group where we are challenged to say what we have done in the past week to reach our neighbors or grow our church.

The six modules of instruction are:

1. *Identify Your Calling:* Get clear about who your church can effectively reach in your community.
2. *Focus Your Content:* Create events and content that are vitally important to your target audience.
3. *Get Ready for Guests:* Ensure your hospitality is excellent.

4. *Extend Your Ministry:* Model church growth, don't just talk about it.
5. *Retain Your Guests:* Turn your first-time visitors into returning guests through effective follow-up.
6. *Increase Your Baptisms:* Implement a disciple-making strategy that transforms lives.

Each of these modules contain multiple video lessons and a workbook to help us process and plan ways to implement what we are learning. I am currently working my way through Module 2, and am already amazed by the new ways I am learning to see what we are already doing, how we could be doing it better, and other things we could be doing. If you would like to learn more about this program or join me for any of these training sessions, please let me know. I would welcome your input!

Either way, while I am primarily the one going through this learning process, the learning cannot stop with me. So, you will be hearing a lot about ways in which we can all work together to grow God's footprint in our community and welcome more of our neighbors into the Body of Christ in this place. I am already sharing what I learn with our leadership and marketing teams, and together we will be planning ways to put these ideas into practice.

Yes, this is going to take a lot of work, but nothing worthwhile is ever easy. And I know that there is nothing that we cannot do together with God's help.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Lynne

Resource Management Commission

The Resource Management Commission (RMC) is responsible for ensuring that Redeemer succeeds both spiritually and operationally in accordance with God's teachings. The RMC ensures careful stewardship of financial resources and prudent allocation of the assets God has entrusted to us.

There are many components of the RMC. The Finance Committee prepares an annual financial budget, reviews the monthly reports on income and expenditure, and submits recommendations to the Church Council. The Growing God's Gift Team (formerly Stewardship) encourages our members to use their time, talent, and financial resources to support God's work at Redeemer, in our community, and in the world. The Endowment/Scholarship Committee manages all of our endowed funds and determines what scholarships and grants will be made. And the Counting Team counts and deposits all offerings and other revenues of Redeemer. The RMC maintains transparent records and confidentiality of donor contributions to preserve trust within the congregation.

All who are interested in working with a component of the RMC should contact Robert Fennell, commission liaison, at 912-441-1848 or rhfcpa@comcast.net.



Loretta Brandon	August 11
Lois Engel	August 15
Belinda Estabrook	August 04
Jane Gobin	August 17
Karen Hall	August 15
Anthony Jones	August 23
Alden Relihan	August 15
A'miya Reynolds	August 22
Kimberly Woods	August 27
Carol Ann Wunch	August 16

If your birthday does not appear on our calendar, please contact the church office.

Building Active Christian Education

Many of us learn about Christianity in our youth, and we assume that our early Christian learning is sufficient throughout our lives. The Ten Commandments, the parables, and the scriptures give us a solid moral and ethical foundation for our behavior and decision making, but we need to build on that by always being engaged in active learning about Christ.

We need to take part in opportunities for spiritual development, such as prayer, worship, and Bible study to deepen our relationship with God. We need to see how our Christian view of the world can be used to pray for God's love and care for of all his children. As we continue our Christian education, we sense a larger mission in our lives. And, as we learn about service and leadership, we enhance our own traits of resilience and responsibility. We develop a more mature spiritual identity that is far more inspirational and useful than the one we gained years ago in Sunday School.

At Redeemer we are fortunate to have multiple opportunities for growth in this area. We pray that you'll take part in one or more of these.

Church Council Report

Church Council met on July 15 and approved the monthly financial statement and the Commission reports.

Old Business included review of this year's successful VBS, planning for the Get to Know Your Neighbors Gathering on August 23 from 9-11, and planning for Rally Day on August 3. The Columbarium proposal was approved, and the Disaster Preparedness team observed Shutter installation on July 19.

New Business included developing an audit team, review of the monthly calendar, and review of Child Care and Sexual Misconduct Policies. Other items included donation of an electronic sign, and a vote to pay Savannah Glass for repair of narthex and sanctuary windows.

(Church council minutes available upon request)



True North VBS was a great success! We had 31 children, 9 teen helpers, 24 adults, and others who donated materials and money to make the week awesome. Thanks to all of you who helped, prayed, and/or donated. It was because of you that the message of trusting Jesus was able to be spread and understood by the campers. God is good!

Heidi Wagstaff, VBS Director



A Christian Steward is Prayerful

By Robert Fennell, Endowment Fund Treasurer

In Jeremiah 29:11-12 the Lord declares, “For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.” Before a contractor builds a structure, an architect must first draw plans. These plans must be complete in every detail: proper materials, proper use of space, and proper organization to maximize the efficient use of space. As our creator, God is our architect. God has plans for each of us. Our life in this world is a continuous period of construction. During the period of construction of a structure, the contractor frequently consults with the architect. During our period of life in this world, each one should frequently consult through prayer with God, our architect.

Prayer is a powerful tool. Prayer does not require any special talent, license, or permission. Prayer does not require certain content to be included or to be excluded. Prayer is not restricted by time. Prayer can occur at any time, by anyone, and can be any length. Prayer is simply having a conversation with God.

Be a prayerful steward by acknowledging the greatness and goodness of God through prayer, fellowship, study, worship, and the utilization of gifts.

(This is the fourteenth in a series of eighteen stewardship messages. Next month's message will be "A Christian Steward Is Responsible.")

August 2025

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.
—Jeremiah 29:13

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9:30 Life Line Screening 6:00 First Friday Fun Night	2
3 9:30 Choir 10:00 Rally Day Worship 11:15 Cookout	4 6:30 Savannah Moravian Fellowship	5 12:00 Marketing	6 11:30 Book Study 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 7:00 Choir practice	7 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings 6:30 GriefShare	8	9
10 9:30 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 2 nd Sunday Brunch	11 6:30 Men's Group (at Cancun)	12 5:30 Visioning Team 6:30 Finance 7:00 pm Executive Committee	13 11:30 Book Study 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 7:00 Choir practice	14 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings 6:30 GriefShare	15	16
17 9:30 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 ALOFT & GIFT	18 6:30 Savannah Moravian Fellowship	19 5:30 Mutual Ministry 6:30 Church Council	20 11:30 Book Study 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 7:00 Choir practice	21 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 Savannah Banana Game	22	23 9:00 Get to Know Your Neighbors
24 9:30 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 ALOFT & GIFT	25 6:30 WELCA (at Marjorie Harrison's)	26 5:30 Disaster Preparedness Team 6:30 Property 6:30 Growing God's Gifts	27 11:30 Book Study 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 7:00 Choir practice	28 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings 6:30 GriefShare	29 10:00 Pick-up Boston Butts at Redeemer	30
31 9:30 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 ALOFT & GIFT						



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

51 Wilmington Island Road
Savannah, GA 31410
912-897-1133
redeemersav.org

Worship in person or stream live on Facebook.

Sundays at 10 am
Pastor Lynne O'Shea
pastorlynne@redeemersav.org

We are an inclusive congregation of
disciples who follow Jesus in hope, love, joy, and peace.



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



We are a
RECONCILING IN CHRIST
Congregation

This newsletter is published monthly by the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Deadline for articles is the 15th of month before publication. Submit to secretary@redeemersav.org.

The Redeemer Record is distributed in Redeemer's weekly e-News, or can be sent by mail upon request through the church office. If you have news, information, or questions, please contact the Church Administrator at the number or address above.



**Lutheran Church
of the Redeemer**
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED