

# THE REDEEMER RECORD



## FROM THE PASTOR

*“Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality.”*

~ Warren Bennis

Dear Beloveds in Christ,

At our annual meeting, we elected members of the congregation to serve on the Church Council, the governing board of our church. This group helps ensure that our vision and ministries remain rooted in our mission, oversees the teams that carry out that work, and makes important financial decisions – including when larger budget items are brought before the congregation for approval – so that our shared ministry can continue.

In what has become one of my favorite events of the year, those

(continued on page 2)

## JOIN US FOR THE SEASON OF LENT

We will prepare for the season of Lent with our Shrove Tuesday celebration on February 17, beginning with a pancake supper at 5:45 p.m. This gathering reflects a long-held tradition of using what is on hand before entering the forty days of Lent, and it also offers us a simple, joyful moment to be together as a community. At 6:15 p.m., we will burn the palms from last year’s Holy Week, creating the ashes that will be used in the next day’s Ash Wednesday worship.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent with a worship service that invites us to be honest about our mortality while holding fast to the promise that death is not the end of our story. We will once again be marked with the cross of Christ and hear the words, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” And yet, through Holy Communion, we will also be reminded that Jesus has conquered death and opened the way to eternal life for all of us.

On the Wednesdays that follow, we will continue our Lenten journey together, gathering each week at 5:45 p.m. for a light supper, followed by a brief worship service at 6:30 p.m. Our theme this year is “Struggling, Searching, Human – the Emotions We Face.” Each week we will reflect on an emotion many of us encounter during difficult or frightening times – Fear, Confusion, Insecurity, Regret, and Grief. This may seem depressing until we remember that God is there to help us and get through them.

Please plan to join us for these meaningful evenings of fellowship, worship, and growing together in faith.

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

serving on Council, those chairing a team, and anyone interested in learning more about leadership at Redeemer were invited to attend a Leadership Retreat. This half-day gathering includes a variety of activities and a shared lunch. I cherish this time of fellowship and learning, as we grow closer to one another and deepen our understanding of how leadership functions within our congregation.

After an opening devotion, participants were divided into small groups for a team-building activity. One person in each group was chosen as the leader, while the others were blindfolded. The leader then coached each person in building a flower from snap-together, petal-shaped discs. Those who were blindfolded had to rely entirely on spoken instructions and their sense of touch. The activity was a powerful reminder of the importance of listening carefully and depending on one another.

From there, we moved into the learning portion of the day, beginning with an overview of the commissions and teams that make the ministry of the church possible, before turning to some Council business. As you may recall, we ended our annual meeting with one unfilled Council seat. After further conversation later that week, Chris Thompson expressed a willingness to serve, and the Council's first action was to appoint him to fill that opening. We then elected officers and invited Council members to select the commissions they would serve as liaisons. It is important to note that Council members serve as partners with our teams, not as chairs, unless elected to that role by the team itself. I am deeply grateful for this group and their willingness to serve faithfully.

The quote above served as the theme for this year's retreat, guiding us into a time of shared visioning. This was put into practice as each table worked together to create a vision board using words and images from magazines. These boards captured hopes, priorities, and glimpses of where God may be leading us, and they will be shared with the congregation at a later date.



We also introduced a Leadership Covenant, something new for Redeemer and recommended by the mentors I am currently working with. This covenant outlines the shared expectations, behaviors, and responsibilities of those serving in leadership roles. We spent time reflecting on the biblical meaning of covenant and began to explore together the possibility of developing a Membership Covenant in the future. We'll be sure to keep you informed as that conversation continues.

We closed the day with lunch and prayer. It was a wonderful way to spend the morning, and I hope many more of you will consider participating in this retreat in the years ahead.

In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Lynne



## February 8

During the big game on Super Bowl Sunday, thousands of groups and food charities across the country come together to tackle hunger through the Souper Bowl of Caring. Redeemer will be collecting a “noisy offering” during the Sunday Service to raise funds for our Grace Ministry program! Please bring any change (or bills) to help in our efforts to tackle hunger in our community.

## What is a GREEN TEAM?

Green Teams are the heartbeat of Georgia Interfaith Power & Light (GIPL). A Green Team is a group of three or more passionate individuals dedicated to advancing sustainability and environmental actions in a community of faith. They meet regularly to explore their faith tradition’s commitment to care for the natural world and to cultivate individual and communal practices that embody these commitments. Green Teams seek to educate their faith community, employ practical solutions to combat climate change at the congregational and community level, and challenge unjust systems that perpetuate harm to creation and neighbor.

We would like your input on the direction you would like to see Redeemer take. Please click on the link to the survey below, or you can find a paper copy on the Call-to-Action table, to help our Green Team better understand the environmental interests and priorities of your faith community.

[Take the Survey](#)



Redeemer has partnered with the Lutheran Church of the Ascension to help with their Grace Ministry. Ascension has committed to serving the downtown community by providing bagged lunches each Saturday morning from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. Each lunch includes six to seven items, such as coffee, juice, water, a sandwich, chips, fruit, cookies, granola bars, or cheese crackers. Recipients are welcome to enjoy their meals on site or take items with them for later.

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In partnership with Grace Ministry, Redeemer’s Social Ministry Commission will prepare and donate bagged lunches during the third week of each month until July. Our first time to serve is scheduled for February 21st. Members of the Social Ministry Team will hand out the bags this time, but **volunteers are needed to assist with packing 75 bagged lunches on Friday, February 20th starting at 2:00 p.m.** Those interested in participating are encouraged to sign up at the Call to Action table.



Henry All	February 8
Sue Johnson	February 9
Pastor Lynne O'Shea	February 9
Logan Kaltenberg	February 10
Ray Nicoll	February 16
Crystal Reynolds	February 20
David King	February 24
Jamie LaMar	February 26
Bonnie Emmerling	February 28

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

## New Members

We welcome three new members in January. Please introduce yourself to them and make them feel at home.



Margaret Ohsiek  
(Nancy Goll served as her sponsor)



Edie Brown (left) and Chuck Donaldson (right)  
(Kim Donaldson and Jamie and David King served as sponsors)



**August 29, 2026**

Yep! It's right around the corner. When cleaning out those garages and closets, don't throw any items away that can be used for the sale. We will be opening up storage for items in late July. If there is something that you must get rid of before then, please see Jodi. The items must be clean and in working condition. No clothes please.

## 2026 Church Council and Officers



On January 25, Redeemer's new 2026 Church Council Members and Officers were installed. Below are the current officers and liaisons to the commissions.

President: Jim Heater

Vice-President / Worship & Music: Jim Drinnon

Secretary / Social Ministry: Sylvia Wallis

Treasurer: Steve Cannon

Endowment Treasurer / Resource Management: Robert Fennell

Administration & Leadership: Carol Fowler

Congregational Life: Chris Thompson

Learning Commission: Megan Maner

Property Commission: David King



All are welcome to the installation of

**Pastor Marie Kane**

at Zion Lutheran Church

121 Noel C. Conaway Road

Guyton, Georgia 31312

February 22 at 3:00 pm

Pastor Lynne along with other area pastors will be participating in the service. After the installation service, a reception will be held in the Zion Fellowship Hall.



## "Welcome to Worship"

The **Greeting Team** serves as the first point of welcome for all who come to worship, helping create a warm and hospitable atmosphere. Team members greet worshipers as they arrive, with particular attention to first-time visitors, helping them feel comfortable and at home in our space. This includes offering a visitor's bag and a cup of coffee, pointing out restrooms, classrooms, and inviting guests to complete a Let's Connect card so we may follow up. In addition, the Greeting Team engages in conversation with them and makes introductions within the congregation. Greeters then coordinate with ushers to ensure that visitors receive a bulletin and are offered a seat near a member who can help guide them through the service. *If you are interested in becoming a greeter, please sign up at the Welcome Table in the narthex.*

Monthly Financial Summary for December 2025				
	Nov <u>Actual</u>	Nov <u>Budget</u>	Jan-Dec <u>Actual</u>	Jan-Dec <u>Budget</u>
Total Income	22,389	18,209	206,020	218,508
Total Expense	15,979	18,209	220,215	218,508
<b>NET</b>	<b>\$ 6,410</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$ (14,195)</b>	<b>0</b>

*(Full financial report available upon request)*



### Ash Wednesday

February 18 at 6:30 pm

### Lent Meals

Wednesdays from February 25 -  
March 25 at 5:45 pm

### Lent Services

Wednesdays from February 25 -  
March 25 at 6:30 pm

### Palm Sunday

March 29 at 10:00 am

### Maundy Thursday

April 2 at 6:30 pm

### Good Friday

April 3 at 6:30 pm

### Easter Vigil

April 4 at 6:30 pm  
at Redeemer

### Easter Sunrise Service

April 5 at 7:00 am  
at The Boathouse

### Easter Sunday

April 5 at 10:00 am  
at Redeemer

### Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt

April 5 at 11:30 am



# Church Council Report

## January 2026

Church Council met on January 25 after the Leadership Retreat.

- **Appointment of Council Member, Officer Elections & Commission Selection**

- Appointment of council Member-Chris Thompson expressed his willingness to serve on Council. Sylvia motioned and Jim Drinnon seconded the motion. All Council members approved Chris' appointment.

- Officer elections by ecclesial balloting. The following members were elected as Council & Church Officers:

- President - Jim Heater

- Vice President - Jim Drinnon

- Secretary - Sylvia Wallis

- Treasurer - Steve Cannon

- Endowment Treasurer - Robert Fennell

- **Previous Council liaisons** are asked to set up transition meetings with current liaisons.
- **Explorer's Montessori Update** - Sylvia gave a quick update from Explorer's Montessori. Windows and doors are scheduled to be replaced the first week of April. The monthly building usage fee was discussed to keep the monthly fee at \$2500. Jim D. motioned and Sylvia seconded the motion. All members of the Council approved.
- **Approval to publish December 2025 Monthly Financial Summary**- Carol motioned and Sylvia seconded. All members of the Council approved.
- **Approval of December 2025 Commission Reports/Pastor's Report** - Dave motioned and Robert seconded. All members of the Council approved.
- **Special Congregational Meeting** - The additional Congregational meeting is scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup> to vote on our benevolences and elect Chris Thompson to serve on council.
- **Approval of copier lease** - The lease for the current copier ended in December 2025. A vote was taken to approve the new 5-year lease. Sylvia motioned and Carol seconded. All members of the Council approved.
- After discussion about the reasons for the covenant and the terms, all Council Members and Officers signed the Leadership Covenants.

(Church council minutes available upon request)



## BURNING OF THE GREENS



# February 2026

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this:  
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

- Romans 5:8

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 10:00 Worship 11:15 Learning Hour & Confirmation 6:00 Savannah Moravian Fellowship	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 12:00 Marketing Team  5:30 Worship & Music Committee	<b>4</b> 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew  7:00 Choir practice	<b>5</b>  5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings	<b>6</b> 6:00 First Friday Fun Night!	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 10:00 Worship 11:15 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Brunch	<b>9</b>  6:30 Men's Group (at Cancun)	<b>10</b> 5:30 - Visioning Team 6:30 Finance Committee 7:00 Executive Committee	<b>11</b> 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew  6:00 EMCC Board Meeting 7:00 Choir practice	<b>12</b>  5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 
<b>15</b> 10:00 Worship 11:15 Learning Hour & Confirmation 6:00 Savannah Moravian Fellowship	<b>16</b> 	<b>17</b> 5:45 Shrove Tuesday 6:15 Burning of the Palms 6:30 Church Council	<b>18</b>  1:00 Bible Study-Matthew  5:00 Social Ministry 6:30 Ash Wednesday Worship	<b>19</b>  5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings	<b>20</b> 2:00 Grace Ministry - Pack lunches	<b>21</b> 7:00 Grace Ministry - Distribute lunches
<b>22</b> 10:00 Worship 11:15 ALOFT Sunday School	<b>23</b>  6:30 WELCA (at church)	<b>24</b> 5:30 Disaster Preparedness Team 6:30 Property Committee 6:30 Growing God's Gifts Team	<b>25</b> 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew  5:45 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Service 7:00 Choir practice	<b>26</b>  5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>



## 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  
pastorlynn@redeemersav.org

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



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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