

THE REDEEMER RECORD



FROM THE PASTOR

"In the house of God, every member has a purpose, and each person is valued." ~ M. Russell Ballard

Dear Beloveds in Christ,

One of the greatest joys of ministry is getting to witness, again and again, how God brings people together in love and service. As the quote makes clear, every one of you has a purpose, and each of you is valued – probably more than you now. And yet, that simple truth captures so much of what I experience every day among you.

As your pastor, I want you to know how deeply thankful I am for this congregation and for each person who calls this church home. I can't

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Epiphany, which always falls on January 6, marks the arrival of the magi to the Christ-child and brings the Christmas season to a close. At Redeemer, we observe Epiphany in a couple of joy-filled ways.

The first is our Epiphany worship service, which will be held on January 4 this year. During this service, each of us will select a star with a hidden discipleship word, revealed as the star is taken down, to guide our faith journey in the coming year. It is always a joy to hear the variety of words people receive, but even more powerful is listening to the “star stories” some of our members share about how last year’s words kept showing up and shaping their faith.

The second celebration takes place on the evening of January 6 with the Burning of the Greens. This brief service and bonfire is held in the labyrinth and concludes with cocoa and cookies. We are especially glad to welcome St. Francis Episcopal Church to join us for worship and fellowship this year. If you would like to bring greens to be burned, please cut them into pieces small enough to fit in the fire pit. Whether or not you bring greens, we hope you will come and be part of this simple way of marking the season’s turning.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Our annual congregational meeting will be held immediately after worship on January 18. At this meeting, we will approve the budget for the coming year, elect five council members to serve 2-year terms, members of the nominating committee to serve next year, and the voting members who will attend the Synod Assembly in May. As you can see, this is a very important meeting, and we hope that you will all plan to attend and be an active part of deciding how Redeemer will move forward. If you are interested in a leadership role or want more information concerning serving on Church Council, please Jim Heater or Nancy Goll.

FROM THE PASTOR (cont. from page 1)

possibly name everyone or every way you contribute in a short note like this, but I hope you know that what you offer truly matters. Some of what you do is visible, some of it happens quietly, and some is known only to a few – but all of it helps shape who we are together. Whether you are finishing a term on council or just coming on board, teaching Sunday School, offering music, serving on a committee, praying faithfully, setting up tables, or simply being present week after week, you are part of how God's love is made real here.

Over time, I've also come to see that thankfulness is more than remembering to say "thank you," although that is always important. It is also about paying attention to and being thankful for what God is already doing among us. When we care for one another, share joy, and gather for worship, we're reminded that church isn't really about a building or a schedule. It's about a community being shaped, little by little, by gratitude and love.

What makes this congregation so meaningful is that much of our life together is shaped in small, easily missed moments—conversations in the narthex, hands helping without being asked, quiet prayers, and people checking in on one another during the week. These simple acts form the character of this community and quietly shape the way we live our

Congregational Meetings

JANUARY 4

Special Congregation Meeting to vote on transferring funds to replace window in the Education wing.

JANUARY 18

Annual Congregation Meeting to vote on members for council, the nominating committee and the Synod Assembly.

Please plan to attend these important meetings so we have a quorum.

faith day to day. I'm also thankful for the ways this congregation continues to grow—not just in numbers, but in compassion, openness, and a genuine desire to serve. There's a spirit here that welcomes new people, stays connected to the world beyond our walls, and remains open to what God is doing in and around us. That spirit is something I don't take for granted, and it fills me with gratitude for each of you.

What I hope you take away from all of this is simply that you are valued, you belong, and your presence matters. Whether you feel right at home here or are still finding your place, you are an important part of this community, and it's easy to see God's work reflected in the ways you care for the people around you.

Serving and growing with you means more to me than I can easily put into words. Thank you for sharing your lives and your journeys of faith with me. It is truly an honor to serve as your pastor, and I am so grateful for you – today and always.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Lynne



KIDS' Christmas Craft WORKSHOP and BAKE SALE



Leadership RETREAT

Saturday, January 25 10:00 - 1:00

Our annual leadership retreat is an opportunity for all people serving in leadership positions – including our newly-elected council members – and those who are interested in stepping into a leadership role to come together for team-building, learning, and fellowship. Lunch will be provided, so please let Pastor Lynne know if you plan to attend.



Thanks to all who participated in this year's **Angel Tree ministry**. This response surely brightened the children's Christmas.



| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Daggy Goette | January 2 |
| Raymond Nowicki | January 4 |
| Elizabeth Drinon | January 17 |
| Debbie Reid | January 19 |
| Nancy Oliver | January 25 |
| Lisa Alberino Snyder | January 30 |

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



Grace Ministry partners: Redeemer and Lutheran Church of the Ascension



September 12,
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 later in the year. If there is something that must be gotten rid of before then, please see Jodi. We appreciate if the items are clean and in working condition. No clothes please.



We would like to thank you for all your love and the generous Christmas gifts. It is a blessing to be here with all of you.

Church Council Report December 2025

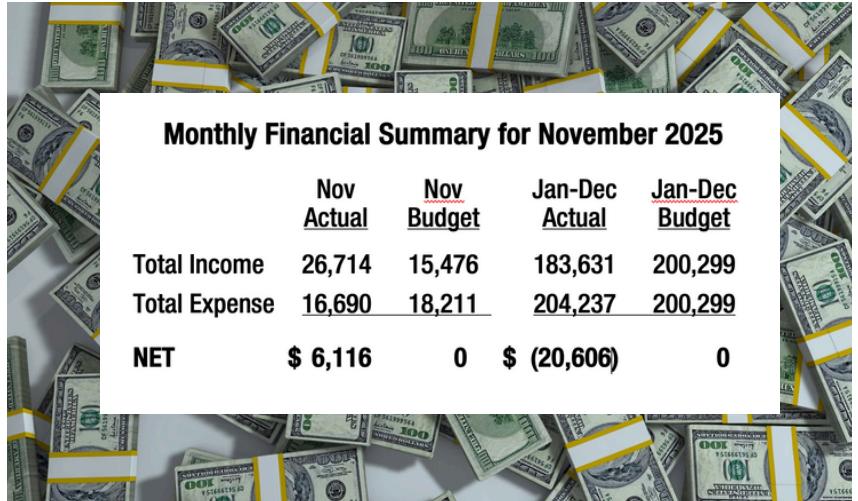
- Church Council met on December 16 and approved the monthly financial statement and the Commission reports.
- **Special Congregational Meeting** - All agreed to have a special vote on January 4 to approve the use of \$9,000 from the contingency funds to replace window and doors in the Montessori rooms.
- **Explorer's Montessori Update** - Replacing the doors and windows in their rooms were discussed, and the Building Usage Agreement will be provided to them by the end of the month

Old Business:

- **ECN** - Pastor Lynne will make a presentation at the January 2nd Sunday Brunch.
- **2026 Budget Preparation** - The budget was approved and the introduction letter will be rewritten.
- **Nominating Committee** - We will elect 4 people to serve on this committee at the Annual Congregational Meeting on January 18.

- **Comcast Business Phones Update** - Jodi is continuing to work on getting the phones set up.
- **Moravian Fellowship** - Carol and Pastor will meet with Andy Fulp to update the Sanctuary Usage agreement.
- **Annual Reports** - Due to Jodi by the end of the year.
- **Annual Congregational Meeting** is January 18, 2026.
- **Leadership Retreat** - January 24, 2026, 10 - 1pm
- **Installation of Officers/Council** - January 25, 2026.
- **Policies Review** - Church Council will meet February 7 from 8:30-11:30 to complete remaining church policies.
- **Council Approval for Youth Guidelines** - Guidelines will be reviewed at the February 7 meeting.
- **Digital Sign Update** - Robert continues to work with the County for this approval.

(Church council minutes available upon request)



(Full financial report available upon request)





AMERICAN RED CROSS

BLOOD DRIVE

January 16, 2026
1:00 - 6:00 pm

To schedule, click on the link below, go to redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-733-2767.



SCHEDULE AN
APPOINTMENT

January 2026

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
everything old has passed away; look, new things
have come into being!

2 Corinthians 5:17

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|---|---|----------------------------------|---|
| | | | | 1  | 2 6:00 First Friday Fun Night | 3 10:00 Breakfast at Papa's 11:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings |
| 4 10:00 Worship 11:15 Special Congregational Meeting 11:30 Sunday School / Confirmation | 5 6:30 Savannah Moravian Fellowship | 6 12:00 Marketing 6:30 Burning of the Greens | 7 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 6:00 Music & Worship 7:00 Choir | 8 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings | 9 | 10 |
| 11 10:00 Worship 11:15 2 nd Sunday Brunch | 12 6:30 Men's Group (at Cancun) | 13 5:30 Visioning Team 6:30 Finance Committee 7:00 Executive Committee | 14 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 7:00 Choir | 15 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings | 16 1:00 Blood Drive | 17 |
| 18 10:00 Worship 11:15 Annual Congregational Meeting 11:30 Sunday School / Confirmation | 19  | 20 5:30 Mutual Ministry 6:30 Church Council | 21 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 6:00 EMCC Board Meeting 7:00 Choir | 22 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings | 23 | 24 10:00 Leadership Retreat |
| 25 10:00 Worship 11:00 Installation Council Members / Officers 11:15 Sunday School / Confirmation | 28 6:30 WELCA (at Cancun) | 22 5:30 Disaster Preparedness Team 6:30 Property Committee 6:30 Growing God's Gifts | 28 11:30 Book Study 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 7:00 Choir | 29 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings | 30 | 31 |



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.



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED