

THE REDEEMER RECORD



FROM THE PASTOR

“Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” ~ Isaiah 43:19

Dear Beloveds in Christ,

Change is one of those things that can make people uneasy, especially in the church, where traditions carry deep meaning and memories. But throughout scripture, we see God continually leading His people into new places and new ways of living out His mission. In fact, we were taught in seminary that there are two versions of the Seven Last Words of a Dying Church – “We’ve never done it that way before” or “We’ve always done it that way before.” Both can leave little room for listening to where God may be leading us next.

(continued on page 2)

Special Congregational Meeting June 14

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer will hold a **Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 14**, immediately following our worship service. All members are encouraged to attend as we gather to discuss important updates and future plans for our congregation and ministry.

During the meeting, church leadership will present a resolution to borrow up to the sum of \$225,000 from the Mission Investment Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The proceeds are to be used for the purpose of completing repairs and renovations and paying off our existing mortgage. The loan is to be secured by a first mortgage or first lien deed of trust or other security instrument, on the real property, specifically the church buildings and grounds. The loan will be for a term of 25 years at an interest rate to be adjusted every 5 years.

Your presence and participation are greatly valued as we continue working together to **“Redeem: Restoring Environments, Deepening Engagement, and Expanding Mission.”** Let us come together in prayerful conversation and faithful discernment for the future of our church community.



Sunday, June 7 & 14 at 9:30 am

Come either day for a Q&A and discuss the future of Redeemer before the congregational vote on the 14th.

Boston Butt Sale



The Men's Group at Redeemer Lutheran Church will be holding a Boston Butt Fundraiser from **May 31 through June 29**. Smoked Boston butts are available for purchase at \$30 for a whole butt or \$20 for a half butt. **Orders may be picked up at Redeemer on July 3 between 10:00 a.m. and noon.**

Proceeds from the fundraiser will help support the construction of an ADA-compliant sidewalk in front of the church, improving access to the Columbarium for members and visitors. Thank you for supporting this important accessibility project and the ministry efforts of Redeemer's Men's Group!

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

Thankfully, fear and resistance to change are not what we typically find here at Redeemer. In fact, you have shown yourselves to be very open to new ideas and ways of doing things – or at least willing to try them for a while. Some of this plays out in worship – like trying the modern-day language for the Lord's Prayer (not a popular change!) or moving to the Narrative Lectionary so that we could hear different stories from across scripture. That change received mixed reviews too, especially about only having two readings each Sunday, so we added the Psalms back in – because every change needs some flexibility around it.

Vine Deloria, Jr. once described the difference between visions and ideas this way: "An old Crow chief, asked about the difference between the Indian way of life and that of the whites, responded that for the Indian there were visions, for the whites there were only ideas. Visions, in the Indian context, require action and this action manifests itself in the community, enabling the people to go forward in confidence and obedience. The vision is complete, it is comprehensive, it includes and covers everything, and there is no mistaking its applicability. Ideas, on the other hand, have only a limited relevance."

Of course, the kind of "obedience" Deloria describes belongs to God alone. What we are hoping for is a shared sense of trust in where we believe God is leading Redeemer, and a willingness to move forward together. Because ultimately, this is about making sure Redeemer remains strong enough to

continue the ministries God is placing before us and to grow into new opportunities for serving our community.

But this requires us to invest in this work, which is why we have proposed taking out a construction loan and launching a capital campaign in the coming months. The big new vision for the future of Redeemer was unveiled at our spaghetti dinner and will be talked about in our announcements and in small groups so that everyone will come to know and understand the goals we have set and the reasons behind them. Then, on June 14, we will have a congregational meeting to vote on the plan and the financing options proposed. Please make every effort to be there, because every person's voice and every vote is important, especially on such a big undertaking, so that we truly do move forward together.

A lot of thought and behind-the-scenes work have gone into making this vision something that we could bring before you. If you have any questions or concerns about our vision and/or our financing plans, please bring them to any member of Council. We are truly excited about where the Spirit is leading us, and we look forward to moving into this next chapter together as faithfully and openly as possible.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Lynne

Hurricane PREPAREDNESS

As we enter the 2026 hurricane season, which runs from June through November, Redeemer Lutheran Church encourages all members to complete our Hurricane Preparedness Form. This information helps church leadership and our Disaster Preparedness Team communicate more effectively before and after severe weather events and allows us to better care for one another during emergencies.

The form helps us update contact information, identify special needs, and connect members who may need assistance with those willing to help. Preparing ahead of time strengthens our congregation's ability to respond safely, compassionately, and faithfully during hurricane season. Hurricane Preparedness Forms can be obtained at the Call-to-Action Table. Fill it out and drop it in the offering plate or in the church office.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Jim Drinnon.



August 29

“Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful.”

William Morris

...so then, give it to us for the Thrift Sale! Redeemer is now collecting small items in one of our Sunday School rooms. If you must get rid of your larger items, see Jodi, Heidi or Jim. Please make sure all items are in working order and clean. *No clothes, please.* We will be taking all items about a month before the sale.



July 6 -10

Volunteer Opportunities

A sign-up sheet is on the Call-to-Action table. Find your passion to help make this year's VBS a success.

Sponsor a VBS Child

On the bulletin board in the narthex you have the opportunity to contribute to share the Gospel with 35 children at no cost to the children attending. The cost per child is approximately \$85. We are covering this cost but would appreciate any help.

Decorating Dates

June 6 & June 20, 9am – 12pm

Always a fun time to create the scene for VBS. All skill levels available. Instructions provided.

Collecting Items for VBS

We are collecting toilet paper rolls, paper towel rolls, brown packing paper and large plastic coffee containers in the collection bins in the narthex. We also would like to *borrow* artificial trees (no Christmas trees, please) for our background scenes. See Heidi.

Register for VBS at RedeemerSav.org



Ascension Day
Worship and
Gathering with
St. Francis Episcopal
Church

Gathering for the Future of Redeemer

On May 20th, Redeemer Lutheran Church welcomed approximately 40 members and guests for a wonderful evening of fellowship, food, and visioning for our future. The evening began with a delicious spaghetti dinner enjoyed by all in attendance, followed by a special presentation highlighting Redeemer's long-range vision and ministry priorities. During the presentation, church leaders shared updates and goals focused on renewing our facilities, strengthening congregational engagement, expanding outreach ministries, and continuing our commitment to environmental stewardship and disaster preparedness. Attendees also received a preview of the upcoming REDEEM Capital Campaign, which will support projects centered on Restoring Environments, Deepening Engagement, and Expanding Mission throughout the life of the congregation and community.



The presentation also served as a preview of what could be accomplished through securing a loan from the ELCA Mission Investment Fund to help move the long-range vision forward.

Members were encouraged to attend the special Congregational Meeting on June 14th following worship, where the congregation will consider and vote on the resolution related to the proposed loan and future ministry projects. Your support, prayers, and involvement continue to help shape the ministry and mission of our church for years to come.



Redeemer at Work **We may be small, but we are MIGHTY!**

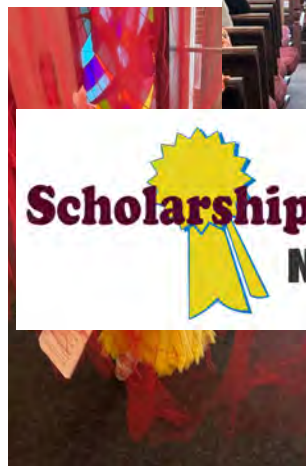
127 bath towels were collected within 36 hours and delivered to a church in Nahunta, GA for the displaced people and relief workers of the Georgia wildfires.



Coffee, sugar, pillows, pillow cases, wash cloths, towels, and toilet paper were delivered by Pastor and the Mason's at the SE Synod Assembly for Safehouse Ministries.



The Spirit at work during Pentecost



**Scholarships Applications
Now Available**



Megan Maner	June 6
Ben Baur	June 7
Lindy Aiken	June 8
Kim Donaldson	June 12
Eileen Lewis	June 13
Kathryn Williams	June 15
Warren Mathieu	June 18
Doug Brassard	June 20
Joey Alberino	June 22

**Scholarship Applications
Now Available**

**GOODLING/GERKEN SCHOLARSHIPS
Due by June 30**

Applications are being accepted for the Gerken and Goodling Educational Funds. This is open to all high school graduates and post-high school members of Redeemer who are pursuing post high-school education. Scholarship applications are available in the church office or by calling the office. The applications are due June 30, and the scholarships will be awarded on Rally Day.

Church Council Report

May 2026

- **Explorer's Montessori Update** - A new Board was elected. The school will sell thirty Boston Butt tickets with proceeds to go towards the purchase of new playground equipment.
- **External Audit Update** - The Synod continues to work with our External Audit information.

Old Business

- **The Growing God's Gifts campaign** has received 18-20 Mission Interest forms and hope to receive additional ones at the Spaghetti Dinner to be held May 20.
- **Line of Credit, Loan Application & Private Financing** - Redeemer has been approved for a \$225,000 loan. The Congregational Meeting will be held June 14 to vote on the congregation's approval of the loan.
- Our **Grace Ministry Committee** - Over 85 bags were served in April and we will continue through July.
- **MOMCO** curriculum has arrived. Volunteers are needed to teach the program
- The **Digital sign** is scheduled to be installed in May.
- **The Green Team** - A Recycling Event is scheduled on June 13. The Hard to Recycle organization and Savannah Bee Company will be present and will provide information on how to make a difference in our environment, Also, a Boy Scout Troop will be present to receive flags to be retired.
- **The Church Council Calling List** was distributed to Council members and they contacted the members on their list.
- **Turner's Cove Yard Sale** was cancelled due to weather. A new date is unknown.
- **VBS** - is still looking for Crew Leaders. YouthWorks will assist with the AfterCare.
- **Rally Day** is scheduled for August 2. Backpacks will be blessed and Scholarships will be awarded. The Men's group will host the cookout after the church service.

- **The New Member Welcome Packet** has been completed.
- **The Thrift Sale** is scheduled for August 29.
- Our **Marketing/Social Media Outreach** has improved from 353 followers to 357 in the last month.

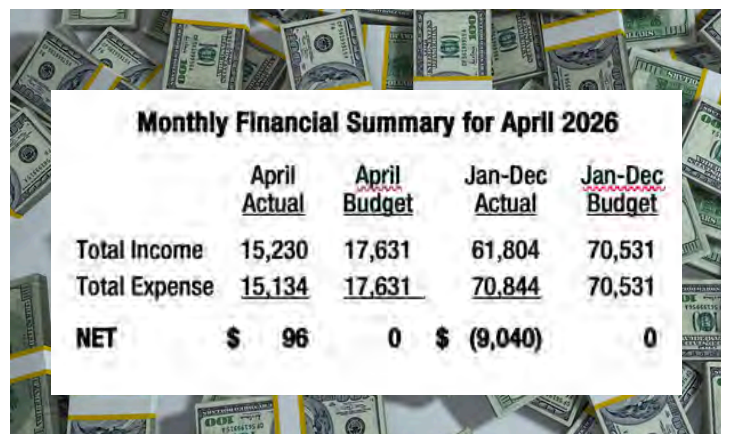
New Business

- **Plans for the May 20 Dinner and Special Called Congregational Meeting** (to be held June 14) were discussed. Parts of the presentation were reviewed and assigned.
- **The Funeral and Wedding Policy Brochures** were distributed and are to be reviewed to be discussed at the next meeting.
- **An Environmental Stewardship letter** to the organizations that use our facilities was approved and will be given out to all of them.
- **The Council reviewed and approved a letter** that will be sent to members who have been absent for a period of time.

Additional Items

- Pastor Lynne presented a letter she received from the **Reconciling In Christ** organization. Council members discussed our Mission statement and Pastor is to contact them concerning it.

(Church council minutes available upon request)



	April Actual	April Budget	Jan-Dec Actual	Jan-Dec Budget
Total Income	15,230	17,631	61,804	70,531
Total Expense	15,134	17,631	70,844	70,531
NET	\$ 96	0	\$ (9,040)	0

(Full financial report available upon request)

June 2026

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 12:00 Marketing Team 6:30 Worship & Music	3 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew	4 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings	5 6:00 First Friday Fun Night	6
7 10:00 Worship 6:30 Savannah Moravian Fellowship	8 6:30 Men's Group (at Cancun)	9 5:30 Visioning Team 6:30 Finance Committee 7:00 Executive Committee	10 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 5:30 EMCC Board	11 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings	12	13 9:00 Recycle Event
14  10:00 Worship 11:15 Special Congregational Meeting 11:30 2 nd Sunday Brunch	15	16 5:30 Mutual Ministry 6:30 Church Council	17 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew	18 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings	19 2:00 Grace Ministry-Packing	20 7:00 Grace Ministry - Distribution
21 10:00 Worship 6:30 Savannah Moravian Fellowship	22 6:30 WELCA (at Church)	23 5:30 Disaster Preparedness Team 6:30 Property Committee 6:30 Growing God's Gifts	24 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 5:15 Social Ministry	25 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings	26	27
28 10:00 Worship	29	30 6:30 Endowment Committee				



Lutheran Church
of the Redeemer

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

CARE FOR OUR COMMUNITY.
CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION.

RECYCLE Event



JUNE 13TH



9:00 AM – NOON

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH PARKING LOT

51 WILMINGTON ISLAND ROAD,
SAVANNAH, GA 31410



SAVANNAH BEE
LEARN ABOUT POLLINATORS
AND BEES!

Savannah Bee will be joining us to share information about the important role of pollinators and bees in our ecosystem and how we can help protect them.



SAVANNAH BEE
COMPANY



16 HARD TO
RECYCLE ITEMS

In Partnership with



SCAN TO VIEW
16 HARD TO
RECYCLE ITEMS

Keep these items out of landfills and waterways. See reverse side for the list of accepted items.



OLD FLAGS
TO RETIRE HONORABLY



Boy Scout Troop 876 will be collecting worn, tattered, or damaged flags and retiring them with the respect they deserve.



**BOY SCOUT
TROOP 876**



**EVERY ITEM RECYCLED
MAKES A DIFFERENCE!**





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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Savannah, GA 31410-3704

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED