

THE REDEEMER RECORD



FROM THE PASTOR

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

(1 Thessalonians 5:18)

Dear Beloveds in Christ,

I have missed being with you during my recovery from shoulder surgery. But I have found myself coming back to these words – not just as a familiar verse, but as something I have experienced in a very real way. Gratitude has taken on a deeper meaning for me, as I have seen God’s love made known through you, and through the ways you have walked alongside me. Your prayers have surrounded me – steady, faithful, and sustaining – and they have carried me through

(continued on page 2)

Ascension Day and Pentecost

Ascension Day and Pentecost are often treated as separate events, but they belong together as two parts of the same story. Ascension Day marks the moment when the risen Christ is lifted up and is no longer present with His disciples in the same physical way. It can feel like a departure, even a kind of loss. And yet, the Ascension is not about departure, but about a change in how He is present – no longer bound to one place, but made known in new ways.

And so, the days between Ascension and Pentecost are not a gap where God is missing from history. Scripture never describes them as a time of divine absence – instead, the disciples wait in trust, holding onto Jesus’ promise that what comes next is not abandonment, but gift. And Pentecost is the fulfillment of that promise, as the Holy Spirit is poured out and God’s presence is made known in and among His people. What was once experienced in the person of Jesus walking beside them is now known as His Spirit dwelling within and among them.

We will mark these important days with a celebratory Ascension Day worship service, along with a dinner and a fun family gathering with our friends from St. Francis Episcopal on **May 15 at 5:30 pm**. Then, on Pentecost, our worship space will be decorated with signs of the Spirit’s fire, red flowers, and hopefully lots of red clothing in the congregation.

Taken together, these days remind us of something essential – there is never a moment when God is not here. From Ascension to Pentecost, and in every day since, God remains present, active, and at work, drawing us into His life and sending us out in His name.

Disaster Faith Network

The Disaster Faith Network (DFN) is an interfaith group that prepares for and assists with recovery efforts when disasters strike. DFN recently held a “First on the Scene” class here, offering practical guidance on how to respond in an emergency before first responders arrive. Topics included hands-only CPR, maintaining an airway, controlling bleeding, and administering Narcan and EpiPens. We are exploring the possibility of offering this class here again for our members, along with others from local congregations. This is a meaningful way to care for one another and be prepared to help in times of need. If you would be interested in attending, please let Pastor Lynne or Jim Drinnon know.



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

more than I can fully express. Again and again, I was reminded that this is what it means to be the Church – to show up for one another in ways that are both simple and deeply meaningful.

Over the past couple of weeks, I have been reminded how much more comfortable it is to provide care than to receive it, and how humbling it can be to find ourselves in need. And yet, it is profoundly comforting to know that we do not carry our burdens alone, but are held up by the prayers of a community that cares so deeply. You have shown that care to me in so many ways – through rides to appointments, meals, phone calls, and cards – and I am deeply thankful. These were not just acts of kindness – they were expressions of love, given freely and generously – and each one has been a reminder not only of your thoughtfulness, but of the bonds we share as the Body of Christ.

Beyond that, there is the ministry you have continued to carry forward in my absence. The life of the church has not paused, because you have stepped in, stepped up, and cared not only for me, but for one another and our neighbors. And that,

too, is something for which I give thanks. It is a true gift to be part of a community where care is not only offered in times of need, but is woven into the life we share together.

In all of this, we have been reminded that ministry is something we share and live out together. You have given a beautiful witness to the strength of this congregation – not just when everything is running smoothly, but in how you care for one another when life takes unexpected turns. It has meant a great deal to me to see that.

Thank you for all of the ways you have cared for me and for one another. And thank you for being the kind of community where Christ’s love is not only spoken, but lived. The ways you have shown up for me in this time will stay with me and continue to shape how I see our life together. I am truly grateful to be your pastor, and I look forward to continuing this shared ministry as we move forward together.

In Christ’s Love,
Pastor Lynne

First Annual Earth Day at Redeemer

Redeemer Lutheran hosted its first Earth Day celebration on April 22nd. The event featured electric vehicles, hybrid vehicles, and participation from the Hard to Recycle Center of Tybee Island. As part of the festivities, Redeemer provided 16 bins for collecting hard-to-recycle items, giving community members the opportunity to bring their recyclables to the church.

Hard to Recycle Center Participation

The Hard to Recycle center contributed to the program by bringing items made from recycled plastics for sale. These items included key chains, flowerpots, hangers, and coasters. The Hard to Recycle Center also displayed posters illustrating the process used to create these products. Proceeds from these sales support environmental initiatives on Tybee Island, helping to foster an eco-friendlier community.



Ongoing Stewardship and Recycling Efforts

Special thanks go to all the Green Team members of Redeemer who helped organize and set up the Earth Day celebration. As a Redeemer member, you can continue to support our environmental stewardship by recycling cardboard and paper collected from our worship bulletins and other discarded materials. Printer cartridges, batteries, and eyeglasses can also be recycled at Redeemer, and these items will be taken to the Tybee Island Hard to Recycle Center. Please watch for additional information on ways to be better stewards of our environment and to cherish the earth that God has created for all of us to enjoy.



We are looking for able-bodied persons, age 16+ to represent Redeemer in the Islands Church Softball League. Games to start in May.

Call Shay All at 912-507-6456
or see Jim Heater for details..



Jim Drinnon	May 3
Mary Mosher	May 4
Jamie King	May 8
Betty Blanton	May 10
Mike Duncan	May 10
Mary Woodard -Thompson	May 11
Katy Baur	May 12
Jacob Heater	May 14
Parker Woods	May 16
Staci Woods	May 20
Kara Heater	May 22
Brian Woods	May 26



Each year, voting members from congregations across the Southeastern Synod gather for three days in late May in a Synod Assembly. This time includes worship – along with the opportunity to sing in a combined choir! – fellowship, workshops, and sharing in the work of the wider church.

Those gathered also hear from leaders serving at the synod and churchwide levels, as well as from ministry partners such as In Spiritus, SESLYO (Southeastern Synod Lutheran Youth Organization), Lutheran Disaster Response, World Hunger, Young Adults in Global Mission, WELCA (Women of the ELCA), AMMPARO (Accompanying Migrants with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities), and many others.

Across the Southeastern Synod and the wider ELCA, the church is always at work in both local communities and around the world, and it is encouraging to hear how those ministries are being carried out. If you would like to attend Synod Assembly next year, please let Pastor Lynne or Jim Heater know. It is a great way to connect more deeply with the shared life and mission of the Church.

FAREWELL & Godspeed



We wish Ed and Lois Engel the best as they move to North Carolina to be closer to their children and grandchildren. We enjoyed their friendship over the years and thank them for all they done for Redeemer.

We also say goodbye for a short time to our snowbirds, Ray Nicol and Don and Dottie Murphy. Until we meet again this fall!

AMERICAN RED CROSS
BLOOD DRIVE

May 22
1pm-6pm

REGISTER NOW

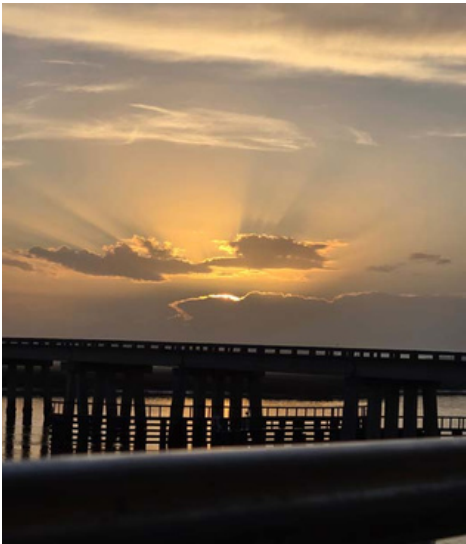
at www.redcross.org/give-blood.html

Thrift SALE

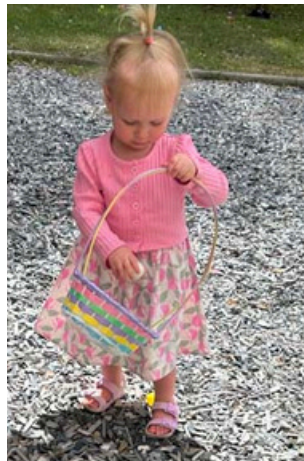
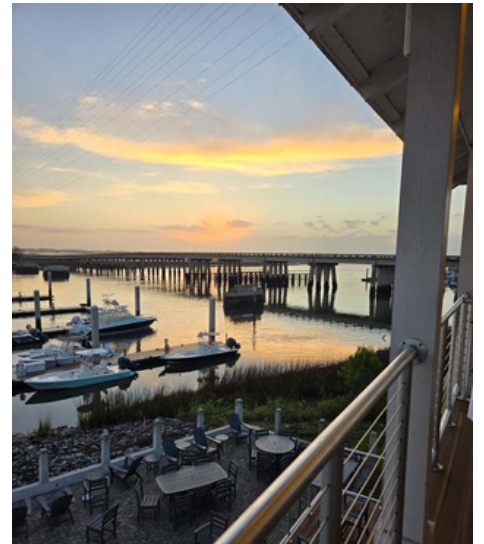
August 29

DON'T THROW THAT AWAY!

Our big fund raiser is a little more than 3 months away. Start collecting working, clean items that can be donated for the sale. *No clothes, please.* One of the Sunday School rooms is available for storage **only** if you can't store it. We will be taking all items about a month before the sale.



He Is
RISEN
INDEED!



Church Council Report

April 2026

- **Explorer's Montessori Update** - The school really appreciates the new windows and the door that have made a difference. There is a waiting list for the Infant room. Parent volunteers are being sought to sit on the Board.
- **External Audit Update** - The Synod Audit Team is working on completing their audit and they will soon be working on ours.
- **Bank Signature cards** have been updated.

Old Business

- **The Growing God's Gifts campaign** will be celebrated on Consecration Sunday, April 26.
- **Line of Credit, Loan Application & Private Financing** - Council approved to proceed looking into an ELCA loan through the Mission Investment Fund for building improvement. The Financial Committee and Church Council will make a presentation at a special dinner meeting scheduled for May 20 and at the Second Sunday Brunch on June 14.
- Our **Grace Ministry Committee** served over 85 bags this month.
- **MOMCO** continues to move forward with the curriculum arriving soon.
- **Digital sign** - scheduled to be installed in May.
- **The Green Team** - will be hosting our first ever Earth Day event. Hybrid and electric vehicles will be on display and the Hard to Recycle group will be present to collect some recyclables.
- **In Case of Emergency** - Council members divided the list of church members to contact in case of emergencies and/or to check in on them quarterly.
- **Turner's Cove residents** will use our parking lot May 9 to hold their yard sale. Our Men's group will provide doughnuts and coffee.
- **VBS** - A meeting was held April 12. 13 children have signed up so far.

New Business

- The March 2026 Commission Reports were approved.
- Rally Day is scheduled for August 2, 2026.

- **The Columbarium Team** consists of Carol and Greg Fowler, Nancy and Don Goll, and Butch Elmgren.
- **Redeemer's Thrift Sale** is scheduled for August 29, 2026.
- **Marketing/Social Outreach** - Shannon, Pastor Lynne's daughter, will be assisting with social media posts.

(Church council minutes available upon request)



Free Dinner at Redeemer
Wednesday, May 20
at 6:00 pm

Join us at Redeemer for a free dinner on the 20th.

After the meal, we will present plans for facility renovations, environmental initiatives, and social ministry programs, including funding opportunities through the ELCA Mission Investment Fund. We have received a matching grant from Georgia Interfaith Power and Light to upgrade windows and doors in our education wing which houses the Montessori school. Church council and the property committee have prioritized projects to complete once funding is secured. A congregational meeting will follow the service on June 14 to approve the loan. Redeemer remains dedicated to community support, faith, and environmental stewardship.

A table with a white background and a black border, set against a background of scattered US dollar bills. The table has five columns: 'March Actual', 'March Budget', 'Jan-Dec Actual', and 'Jan-Dec Budget'. The rows are 'Total Income', 'Total Expense', and 'NET'.

	March Actual	March Budget	Jan-Dec Actual	Jan-Dec Budget
Total Income	22,420	17,634	46,574	52,900
Total Expense	16,515	17,634	55,710	52,900
NET	\$ 5,905	0	\$ (9,136)	0

(Full financial report available upon request)

May 2026

As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you;

—Isaiah 66:13

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6:00 First Friday Fun Night	2
10:00 Worship 11:15 Learning Hour 6:00 Savannah Moravian Fellowship	4	5 CINCO DE MAYO 12:00 Marketing 5:30 Care Team 6:30 Worship & Music	6 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew	7 5:00 Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings	8	9
10 MOTHER'S DAY 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 Committee 7:00 Executive Committee	13 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 6:00 EMCC Board	14 5:30 Ascension Day	15 1:00 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings 2:00 Grace Ministry-Packing	16 7:00 Grace Ministry - Distribution
17 10:00 Worship 11:15 Learning Hour 6:00 Savannah Moravian Fellowship	18	19 5:30 Mutual Ministry 6:30 Church Council	20 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 6:00 Spaghetti Dinner 7:00 Choir	21 5:00 Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings	22 1:00 Blood Drive	23
24 10:00 Pentecost Sunday WEAR RED! 11:15 Learning Hour	25 Memorial DAY	26 5:30 Disaster Preparedness 6:30 Property 6:30 Growing God's Gifts	27 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 5:15 Social Ministry 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings	28 Southeastern Synod Assembly	29	30



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
(for Rising PreK-5th grade)
VBS: July 6-10, 9am-12pm (free)
Aftercare (optional): July 6-9, 12pm-3pm
\$40/child for the week, \$75/family
Watch for VBS Workshop dates.

REGISTER AT:

www.redeemersav.org/vbs



Grace Ministry Update

Over 90 bag lunches handed out April 18th.



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, 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

51 Wilmington Island Road
Savannah, GA 31410-3704

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED