

THE REDEEMER RECORD



FROM THE PASTOR

“What if today we just appreciated everything we already have?” – Charlie Brown

It's hard to believe that the month of Thanksgiving is already upon us again! I guess the saying is true that time flies when you're having fun – and that is certainly the case for me. Serving with you is one of the greatest pleasures of my life, and it is one of the things that I give thanks for every single day. As I tell everybody, I seriously thought that v va call like this one was simply a pastor's dream – and then I came here and fell in love with all of you and your loving, generous, ministering hearts.

(continued on page 2)

All Saints Sunday

Each November begins with the celebration of All Saints Day, when we remember our loved ones who have died. This is a day of tremendously mixed emotions, as we celebrate the fact that death is not the end for our loved ones or for us, while we are also reminded of the loss of have experienced in not having these beloved people physically with us anymore. Benjamin M. Stewart, writing for Living Lutheran, explains that “it is an especially Lutheran accent for the feast to honor not only those who lived exemplary lives, but all who have been baptized into Christ's death. For Lutherans, All Saints resonates with the conviction that in Christ every saint is a sinner and every sinner a saint, simul justus et peccator. Lutherans especially remember on this feast that it is God's grace, apart from our works, that makes us saints. We find lasting rest only in the mercy of God.”



This year, we will have several candles on the altar and bells rung for those in our congregation who have died in the past year. Then, we will again give you the opportunity to light candles for those you are remembering.

If you have names of loved ones that you would like to have read during the service, please write them on the list on the Call-To-Action table, or fill out the online form that you received in the weekly eNews by October 30 so we can get the list together. This will allow us to celebrate those saints who have helped to make us who we are.

COMMUNITY

Thanksgiving Service

**November 23 at 6:30 pm
at St Francis of the Islands
Episcopal Church**

Come give thanks as a community where Redeemer will participate in the worship service.

Enhancing Redeemer's Curb Appeal

Have you noticed the change in landscaping as you walk up to the main entrance of the church? It looks a bit bare after the removal of the diseased Indian Hawthorne bushes. Have no fear; it will be replanted. Vicar Audra's husband, Jay (a landscape architect), developed a draft plan that included recommended plants and pricing. His recommendations will be reviewed with the property committee, the Council, and other interested planters in the church. We anticipate buying and planting in the spring. If you are interested in being part of the process contact Heidi Wagstaff.

FROM THE PASTOR (cont. from page 1)

And I am not the only one who has noticed how wonderful Redeemer is, as we have visitors regularly, and our congregation is growing, which are even more reasons to be thankful. Of course, this growth brings more opportunities for sharing our faith, as we have now added a youth Sunday school and a confirmation class to our educational offerings. And we are blessed to have members who have stepped up to teach these new classes, while the ALOFT group has become self-directed. In addition, our two Bible studies each week continue to be well attended and willing to engage in deep conversations about what we are reading. If you have not yet taken part in any of these groups, it is not too late to join in the learning and the fellowship that takes place in each one of them. After all, participating in a small group is one of the best ways for our faith and our relationships to grow. I am grateful for these small groups and the insights, fun, and laughter that they offer.

I hope that each one of you has something that you give thanks for every day too. Yes, the world seems crazier than usual this year, but we still have so many blessings in our lives. And it is true that the more thankful we are, the more reasons we find to be thankful. But feeling thankful and expressing our thanks are two different things. So, it is a good

practice to stop and say a simple prayer of thanks whenever you are moved by something that warms your heart or stirs your soul. For, as Meister Eckhart once said, "If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough."

And we will once again have an extra opportunity to give thanks together at the community Thanksgiving service. This year it will be at St. Francis Episcopal on Sunday, November 23, at 6:30 p.m. These chances to come together with our ecumenical partners strengthen our relationships and speak volumes to our neighbors about what real Christianity looks like – not drawing distinctions but welcoming one another in Christian love. So, I hope you will all plan to come and be a part of this beautiful extended family event before we celebrate with our own families and loved ones on Thanksgiving Day.

However you plan to celebrate this Thanksgiving, I hope and pray that it will be a joy-filled time of acknowledging the blessings you already have in your lives, while creating beautiful memories that will become blessings for the future.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Lynne

Redeemer Welcomes New Members



Back Row: Anthony, Jr., Ahmad, Crystal and Anthony Sr.
Front Row: Arianna, A'mari, Aiden, and A'miya

We welcome the Jones family who were baptized on October 12. Crystal and A'mari affirmed their baptism earlier this year.

Helping for the Holidays

The Social Ministry Commission has been busy planning ways to help the less fortunate during the upcoming holidays.

Backpack Buddy Meals



We will be providing 55 Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to the families at Coastal and Hubert Middle Schools who receive our weekly backpacks. This year we are asking for monetary donations so that every family receives the same dinners. Special envelopes will be provided at the Call-to-Action table. Thanksgiving meals will be delivered November 20th and Christmas meals will be delivered December 18th. Please contact Sylvia Wallis if you are available to help deliver meals to the schools.

The Salvation Army has been contacted to begin our Angel Tree Project. Ten children will receive the Christmas love from the Redeemer congregation. The angel tree will be set up soon in the narthex where you can pull a tag of a child to shop for, or feel free to give a monetary donation instead for someone else to shop.

Thank you for making this a joyful holiday for these children and their families.



Keeping Redeemer Safe



Security measures for our building are in progress with the intent to make sure everyone feels safe at Redeemer.

There will be three outdoor security cameras plus one in the narthex. Door bell cameras will also be installed, one at the main door and one at the side door with the accessible walkway.



Our Director of Music, Mary Woodard-Thompson (right), received the Gerken and Goodling Education Scholarships to put towards her tuition for her Doctorate of Music Education degree.

Pastor Lynne will be out of the office from November 10-12 for minor eye surgery to restore her field of vision.



Church Council Report

October 2025

- Church Council met on October 28th and approved the monthly financial statement and the Commission reports.
- Old Business: Pastor is continuing with her ECN learning series. Get to Know Your Neighbors has been postponed. The Annual Audit team has begun the internal audit process. Church Policies review continues. 2026 Nominating Committee will start working on nominations for Church Council. 2026 Budget Preparation begins this month.

New Business:

- Thrivent funds were moved to the operating budget.
- It was proposed to sponsor a meal for the Ascension Lutheran Church Grace Ministry Program one Tuesday each month to learn about the program and bring it to the island next year.
- Phone line reviews were tabled.
- Council liaisons have been assigned to contact congregation members in the event of an evacuation/emergency.

(Church council minutes available upon request)



A'mari Jones	November 1
Don Murphy	November 14
Sandi Postle	November 20
Shawn Kaltenberg	November 24
Dottie Murphy	November 30

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

Lutheran Disaster Response Community of Practice



Pastor Lynne took part in the Lutheran Disaster Response Community of Practice that met recently in Washington, D.C. under the theme of "Sharing God's Hope, Healing, and Renewal with People Whose Lives have been Disrupted by Disasters." This event focused heavily on training and advocacy, especially with regard to the proposed reforms to FEMA and what it means to stand up for people who are dealing with disaster-related needs. The highlight of their time was having the opportunity to go to Capitol Hill and meet with staff members in the offices of their senators and representatives. These meetings were intimidating for most of the participants – at least at first – as they were being sent out of their comfort zones to do something they had never done before – asking their elected officials to step up and help get legislation passed that would aid the victims of disasters. But seeing the access everyday people have to our federal government and the power we each have to literally speak truth to power made a huge impact on the participants – so much so that many teared up the next morning when they sang the third verse of the Canticle of the Turning: "From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r, not a stone will be left on stone. Let the king beware for your justice tears ev'ry tyrant from his throne. The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn; there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn." Pastor Lynne's hope is that each of you will find the courage to step out of your comfort zones and experience the joy of overcoming your fears and speaking your truths.

Stewardship of Gratitude and Missions

Here at Redeemer, we have a lot to be thankful for! We have a congregation that is dedicated to serving in a wide variety of ways, including taking an active role in our worship services, supporting our social ministry outreach programs, and keeping our building and grounds in good working order. In addition, we have people who reach out to members with phone calls, cards, and visits, as well as other small groups that come together for Christian education, fellowship, and support of ministries and missions, both in our community and around the world.

We are grateful for our Redeemer family, who knows that stewardship is not only about financial support – although that is crucial to keep our missions going – but it is also about the continued gifts of your time and talents. Thank you for the many resources that you provide to keep our missions going!

Life Line Screening is back at Redeemer

Put your name in the box in the narthex to win a free screening!

Special screening package for \$129 for our members includes:

- Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

Call to schedule an appointment near you! **800-324-9458**
and use code: **HABC001**

LIFE LINE SCREENING
The Power of Prevention



Monthly Financial Summary for September 2025				
	Aug Actual	Aug Budget	Jan-Dec Actual	Jan-Dec Budget
Total Income	10,937	18,208	139,050	163,881
Total Expense	15,955	18,208	167,202	163,881
NET	\$ (5,018)	0	\$ (28,152)	0

(Full financial report available upon request)





BLESSING OF THE PETS



A Christian Steward Shares

By Robert Fennell, Endowment Fund Treasurer

Acts 4:32-35 presents a wonderful example of those who have much sharing with those who have little. The apostles were testifying with great power to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with grace upon them all. Since all the believers were one in heart and mind, no one claimed that any of their possessions were their own, but they shared everything they had. Those believers sold all of their possessions, and brought the sale proceeds to the apostles who used them to ensure that everyone's needs were met. This is stewardship, and the message for us today and for all eternity.

"All men are created equal" is a phrase written by Thomas Jefferson in 1776 when he wrote the opening of the United States Declaration of Independence. Although it is written that all people are created equal, it is obvious that all people do not achieve equal benefits from life. No two people have the same fingerprints, the same knowledge, the same personality, the same means of support, and same other factors. We live in a world of diversity: from poor to wealthy, from homeless to those living in mansions, from selfish people to generous people, from people who expect to be served to those who serve.

Think how much better God's creation would be if everyone acted as stewards and were willing to share all that God has entrusted to them. Besides material possessions, sharing includes time, talents, and love. According to Acts 20:35, "The Lord himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" A Christian steward shares.

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

November 2025

The grass withers; the flower fades,

but the word of our God will stand forever.

Isaiah 40:8

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2  9:30 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 Sunday School and Confirmation	3 6:30 Savannah Moravian Fellowship	4 12:00 Marketing 5:15 Care Team 6:30 Worship & Music	5 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir	6 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings	7 6:00 First Friday Fun Night	8
9 9:30 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 2 nd Sunday Brunch	10 6:30 Men's Group (at Cancun)	11 12:00 Marketing 5:30 Visioning Team 6:30 Finance Committee 7:00 Executive Committee	12 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 6:00 EMCC Board Meeting 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir	13 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings	14	15
16 9:30 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 Sunday School and Confirmation	17 6:30 Savannah Moravian Fellowship	18 5:30 Mutual Ministry 6:30 Church Council	19 9:00 Life Line Screening 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir	20 5:00 Dinner at Papa's 6:30 Bible Study-Sunday's Readings	21	22
23 9:30 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 Sunday School and Confirmation 6:30 Community Thanksgiving Service at St. Francis	24	25 5:30 Disaster Committee 6:30 Property Committee 6:30 Growing God's Gifts	26 1:00 Bible Study-Matthew 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir	27 	28	29
30 9:30 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 Sunday School and Confirmation						



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