



**Redeemer**  
L u t h e r a n C h u r c h

# NOVEMBER 2025 Newsletter



## Wednesday Schedule

**Bible Study | 9:30am**

**Worship | 7pm**

## Sunday Schedule

**Worship Service | 9am**

**Adult Bible Study | 10:30a**

**Sunday School/Confirmation |  
10:15a**

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office: 509-943-4967

office hours: Tues - Thurs 7:30 am - 4pm

Friday 7:30 am - 12:00 pm

Closed for lunch 12-1 daily

## *From the Pastor*

### GRATITUDE THAT ENDURES

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

November invites us to pause and give thanks—not just for the blessings that fill our tables, but for the grace that fills our lives. As the fields lie quiet and the air grows colder, we're reminded that every good gift comes from the Giver of Life Himself.

This year, our Thanksgiving Eve Worship will be held on Wednesday, November 26 at 7:00 p.m. It's a beautiful opportunity to gather as God's people before the rush of the holiday weekend—to sing, to pray, and to give thanks to the Lord, "for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever" (*Psalms 107:1*).

Right on the heels of Thanksgiving, we begin a new season of anticipation and hope. Advent midweek services will start the following Wednesday, Dec. 3. These midweek gatherings offer a peaceful pause in the midst of December's busy pace—a time to prepare our hearts for Christ's coming, both in Bethlehem and on the Last Day.

As we enter this season of gratitude and expectation, may our hearts overflow, not just with thanks for what we have, but with wonder for who we have: Jesus Christ, our Savior and King. In Him, we have forgiveness for the past, strength for today, and hope for tomorrow.

Grace and Peace,

*Pastor Todd*



## **STEWARDSHIP CORNER – THE JOY OF RECEIVING AND GIVING**

In the beginning God created life, and He sustains it through His power. The life we have today and each day that we will enjoy in the future are gifts from God. James 1:17 reads, *"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights..."* The air we breathe, the food we eat, and the places we live are all made possible because of God's grace. Through His Word and Sacraments, we receive His grace that gives us life eternal. We receive His love that didn't spare His only Son, and we receive His forgiveness along with His victory over sin and death. God is the giver, and we are the receivers. As God's redeemed people, we receive God's gifts with joy and thanksgiving. What a privilege it is to receive God's love, grace, and mercy daily. Through faith, we become dependent upon God's gifts, and we receive them gratefully and cheerfully.

However Jesus tells us something very interesting and paradoxical. Jesus said, *"It is more blessed to give than to receive"* (Acts 20:35). At first glance, this seems to be impossible. We know the great joy that comes from being the object of God's love and care as we receive His blessings. What Jesus is telling us is that, while there is great joy in receiving, there is even a deeper joy in giving. God turns things upside down. Whether we have little or lots to give, we can all experience joy through our giving as well as our receiving.

## **ELDER'S CORNER**

### **WORLD-CHANGING RESULTS OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION**

One of the most important events of history occurred on October 31, 1517, when a priest named Martin Luther nailed 95 theses (complaints) against the Catholic Church to a church door in Wittenberg, Germany. This was the beginning of the Protestant Reformation.

Luther's audacious act of questioning the Catholic Church opened the way for others to protest against and seek for reform of the Catholic Church, and eventually these Protest Reformers broke away to form a new type of church. Especially in countries touched by the Protestant Reformation, this religious revolution yielded the results of changing the course of history and gaining the extraordinary liberties and privileges people enjoy today, whether Christian or not.

Like the Declaration of Independence in America's history, the nailing of the 95 theses was a key event that led to independence for Christians from the oppressive rule of the Catholic Church. Furthermore, the results of the Protestant Reformation have been some of the most impactful and liberating in world history. The following are fifteen world-changing results of the Protestant Reformation.

1. The Protestant Reformation brought spiritual emancipation to all people to be able to be free from sin and guilt and know true salvation as found in Jesus Christ.
2. The Protestant Reformation lifted the burden of working for salvation – for one's self or for dead relatives. Since salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus (*Ephesians 2:8-9*), one cannot work for or earn salvation, so it not necessary or effectual to pray for the dead, to buy indulgences to pay for loved ones to suffer less in Purgatory (which is never mentioned in the Bible), or to go on pilgrimages.
3. The Protestant Reformation elevated the Bible to its proper place as the highest authority, above the authority of a church or any man, and during the Reformation, the Bible became accessible to all people (with the help of the newly invented printing press), not just church leaders.



4. The Protestant Reformation gave independence from man-made religion and especially the false teachings and abuses of the Catholic Church.
5. The Protestant Reformation provided freedom from superstitions.
6. The Protestant Reformation renewed Christians' vision and passion for evangelism and missions.
7. The Protestant Reformation gave value and extended education to all classes of people. In holding the belief that all should have access to the truths of the Bible, several Reformers wrote catechisms (like Luther's Large and Small Catechisms) in "question and answer" format to help especially children and the illiterate learn of the faith and doctrine. Also, from the idea that all people should be able to read the Bible and learn spiritual truths for themselves came the need to learn to read. Martin Luther and Philipp Melanchthon believed every child should receive an education and founded and restructured many schools.
8. The Protestant Reformation established an abundant catalog of rich theological hymns in the people's languages as well as created value for psalm singing.
9. The Protestant Reformation bridged the gap between sacred and secular and thus created a pride in doing one's work. The Reformers recognized that all that one does, including daily mundane tasks, can be and should be done for the glory of God (*1 Corinthians 10:31*). Every vocation is important, not just church jobs. The true teachings of the Bible freed people by breaking down class distinctions and by putting a final nail in the coffin of feudalism in Europe. Also, knowing that all things are for God's glory, a door opened for using one's gifts in all kinds of ways: business and vocational pursuits, economic opportunities, and inventions. In pursuing God's exaltation, people want to work hard for God's glory in whatever they do, hence the Protestant work ethic was born.
10. The Protestant Reformation broke the control the Catholic Church held over kings and rulers.
11. The Protestant Reformation ended the economic power of the Catholic Church, which paved the way for capitalism and moneylending.

12. The Protestant Reformation terminated the oppressive control of science by the Catholic Church and opened the way for real scientific investigations, which has thrived under Protestantism.
13. The Protestant Reformation gave credence to individual conscience and the permission to follow the dictates of individual conscience.
14. Products of the Protestant Reformation, the Pilgrims and Puritans (many of the founding groups of America) were Protestants, and so they established America on Judeo-Christian principles.
15. The Protestant Reformation inspired the government of the United States of America, which is patterned after the Presbyterian form of government. Presbyterianism is a representative form of government after which the Protestant church denomination is named. (Elders and deacons are elected to represent the church members, and thus, the church members do not vote on every issue).

What amazing results and a heritage to celebrate!!! The Protestant Reformation is indeed an important era of history where the world as we know it was formed.

*Jon Lindberg, Elder*



**FIRST FRIDAY LUNCH** is on Nov. 7 at noon. Everyone welcome! Bring your appetites!



**MEN'S GROUP BREAKFAST** meets on Saturday, Nov. 8 at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall. Come hungry; get fed!

### **THANKSGIVING & ADVENT SERVICES**

Thanksgiving Eve Service, Weds. Nov. 26 – 7pm  
NO Service on Thanksgiving Day

#### **Midweek Advent Services**

Weds. Dec. 3, 10, 17 – Noon & 7pm  
Soup Supper – 6pm

#### **Choral Service/Kids Christmas Program**

Sunday, Dec. 14 – 9am

Sunday Nov. 30 & Dec. 7 Kids Program Practice (during Sunday School)  
Sunday Nov. 16, 23, 30, Dec. 7 Choir Practice (immediately following service)

**Redeemer Lutheran School Committee  
Sunday Morning Coffee and School Update Meeting  
With Jim and Judy Scriven**

School Committee members Sash & Marsha Eirich, Misty Lyon, Karin Nickola, Pastor Todd Schroeder, and Rachelle Ward joined church members in the Fellowship Hall October 12 for a Sunday Morning Coffee and School Update Meeting with special guests Jim & Judy Scriven. Jim Scriven is the LCMS Northwest District Executive Director of Education Services.



In their update, school committee members said they are having a Redeemer Lutheran School web page designed that will be accessible via the Redeemer Lutheran Church website, the committee's "leave behind" brochure is nearly finished, in November 2025 the committee will begin asking for signed commitments to build the school, the school's opening date has been moved to the fall of 2027, and the school and church will be a single non-profit rather than two separate non-profits.

Most of the following discussion was about the change to a church/school single non-profit. Rachelle Ward said the committee began considering the change after learning the Richland Planning Commission's approval of the "School on a Small Site" application for a K-5 school would be tied to the church's approximate 4 acres of land. She said the committee also learned that being separate non-profits would increase overall costs and create more work for no gain (for example, it would not protect the church or school from lawsuits against the other).

Rachelle said together, the school and church will strengthen one another. She said the church will receive added "amenities" funded by the school (for example, more handicap spaces in the upper parking lot), realize lower costs by sharing expenses with the school, and remain engaged in the school so operations are consistent with LCMS beliefs and local priorities. Rachelle said as a single non-profit, the school will have immediate non-profit status and a Tax ID number.

Jim Scriven described more benefits of the church/school single non-profit. A church member finally asked if there are any cons. Jim said, "There are no cons; single non-profits are all good."



A church member asked if the Voters Assembly could/should approve the change to a single non-profit. Sash Eirich and Karin Nickola agreed they could – but Karin said Voter approval to move forward with the K-5 school was not contingent on separate church/school non-profits.

Jim and committee members provided answers to other questions – about how to manage school finances, what to do if full enrollment is not achieved, who will clean the school, what the school board's role will be and who should be on the board.

Dan Niebuhr had startup and operating cost questions. Sash said cost details will be addressed in the school's business plan. He asked Dan and others to send their cost questions to him.

Jim said the school's highest cost will be staff salaries. He advised the school to hire employees "at will," so changes can more easily be made.

Jim ended by saying, "You won't know if starting a school will work, until you try."

Jim said if in 3-4 years the school still isn't viable, the church can use the building for something else. He said some churches rent out buildings and use the income to lower church costs.

Jim closed the meeting with a prayer. He said, "Father, thank you for this gathering of your brothers and sisters in Christ. They desire to follow Your Will to spread Your Word to another generation and to the world. There is no burning bush, but we see you opening doors for them. We ask for your blessings – granting clarity when they become confused, granting wisdom when they seek knowledge and understanding. Help them to secure the funds necessary to build the school. Help them to be good stewards of the money they receive. Be with them, as they shine light and love into their community. Help them to be a blessing to their community."

## NEHLM UPDATE

Greetings as we remember the proclamation of the Gospel on Reformation Day at the end of October,

Hurricane Melissa is presenting over Cuba and moving toward Haiti. Rev. Paul reports that they have already received a lot of rain. As Melissa passes over Haiti, the southern regions are predicted to get the highest winds and rainfall. Rev. Paul's ministry in northeast (nord est) Haiti is projected to have 40-60 mph winds with 4-8 inches of rainfall. We are thankful for facilities that are constructed with hurricanes in mind. This slow-moving hurricane is projected to be impacting Haiti through the end of the month. We pray for their safety and work through this time.

Rev. Paul has made contacts with an organization that has a shipping container of food arriving in Cap Haitian within a couple months via Orphan Grain Train. Orphan Grain Train is a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) that distributes supplies and Christian study materials in the USA and around the world. Rev. Eliona Bernard in Cap Haitian and Rev. Daniel Paul will both be receiving supplies. This is a great blessing with the high cost of food.

Attached is a photo of students lined up for the beginning of school this year. There are about 450 students at the Ouanaminthe school. This is double the students that they normally have. I inquired why the increase and Rev. Paul said, "Our school has been placed among the best in Nord est Haiti." This is a blessing to serve these children and share God's Word with them. There are also some needed updates and completions of facilities to accommodate this increase. NEHLM is using gifts to help with this. Thank you!



God's peace,

Rev. Samuel Wiseman, NEHLM Pastoral Adviser [nehlm.org](http://nehlm.org)

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday school is well underway with increased enrollment over last year. The children will perform a Christmas program on December 14. Practices will be held on November 30 and December 7, so parents please make every effort to get your children to church on those dates.

### **YOUTH GROUP NEWS:**

The October youth group meeting was held at Middleton Farms in Pasco. The group rented a fire pit, roasted s'mores, and enjoyed the fellowship of the youth and their parents. If you ask the kids, I think they would all agree that exploring the corn maze in the dark was the best part, while also getting to watch fireworks. We would love to see this become an annual activity for our youth group!!



## *November Birthdays*

- 3 Gloria Bentley
- 4 Linda Briggs, Matt Schorzman, Elizabeth Ripley
- 5 Diane Zaloudek, Pam Roundy
- 7 Det Wegener
- 10 June Jaquish
- 12 Robin Buck, Mary Gruen
- 13 Casey Gant
- 16 Rich Vance
- 17 Marci Grall
- 24 John Beitz, Bret Uhrich
- 25 Kara Uhrich
- 26 Gary Fisher
- 27 Millie Dubbs
- 28 Rebecca Redeker

## *Anniversaries*

- 9 Curt & Jerrine Gjerdevig
- 10 Bob & Marj Littlejohn
- 22 Dan & Lisa Niebuhr



## *December Birthdays*

- 2 Deb Werner
- 3 Kevin Einspahr
- 7 Kathy Paul
- 10 Kaylee Sorensen (Kroll)
- 12 Ricky Nunamaker
- 13 Ken Sump, Elizabeth Urich
- 14 Duane Frank, Linka Compton
- 15 John Rohlfing
- 16 Kathy Breese, Chloe Julson, Nancy Johnson
- 17 Angela Julson, Jerry Weldon
- 18 Jeff Mauth
- 20 Katherine Gibson
- 22 LaVada Mundt
- 23 Becky Bond, Melba Niemuth
- 24 Roxy Grall
- 29 Dorothy Thieme
- 30 Tom Valenti

## *Anniversaries*

- 2 Andy & Sally Grego
- 12 Karl & LaVada Mundt
- 22 Andy & Donna Sutherland
- 28 Jeff & Dian Mauth



# In His Image

A Christian Conversation on Navigating  
Identity and Sexuality in a Confused World



**Sat. Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> from 9 am - 3 pm**

Registration Deadline October, 31<sup>st</sup> 2025



**Rev. David K. Fleming**



**Dr. Beverly Yanke**  
Clinical Psychologist

Hosted by Doxology, a Registered Service  
Organization of the LCMS

PRAYERS – Please let the office know of any changes to the prayer page by calling 943-4967 or emailing [office@richlandredeemer.org](mailto:office@richlandredeemer.org). \*Indicates friends/family.

HEALTH CONCERNS:

Chuck Fordham  
Sally Grego  
Miriam Hagedorn  
Elaine Kutrowski  
Marj Littlejohn  
Karl Mundt  
Eileen Stixrud  
Bobbie Van Buren  
Bev Wetzler  
Seth Meyer\* (grandson  
of Pastor and Ona  
Meyer)  
Jody Schug\* (wife of  
John Schug)  
Phillip Turner

HOMEBOUND:

Gloria Bentley  
Marilyn DeRoche  
Dale Groeber  
Miriam Hagedorn  
Elaine Kutrowski  
Joy Ledgerwood  
Marj Littlejohn  
Ann Robbins  
Eileen Stixrud  
Ken Sump  
Dorothy Thieme  
Phil Turner  
Lynn Weldon  
Bev Wetzler

CANCER:

Terri Lahti  
Bob Littlejohn  
John Schug  
Barbara Connell\* (sister-in-  
law of Sandy Guymon)  
Phyllis Delvin (daughter of  
Wally Ruff)  
Rev. James & Ann Gier\*  
(son & daughter-in-law of  
Marlene Paris-Ufkes)  
Kevin Raabe\* (son of Pearl  
Raabe)  
Sandi Sheeley\* (sister of  
Karin Nickola)  
Deanna Snider\*

MILITARY:

Brandin Bunch\*  
Jacob Cagle\*  
Brandon Gano\*  
Byron Gano\*  
Matthew Gano\*  
James Hare\*  
Sean Williams\*

