



PARISH PARCHMENT



Holy Redeemer
Lutheran Church

www.holyredeemer.church

September 2016

Growing to and for Christ!

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My brothers and sisters in Christ,

Last month, I, along with 1,000 other ELCA leaders from across the U.S., spent a week down in New Orleans at ELCA Churchwide Assembly. The theme for the Assembly was: *Freed and Renewed in Christ*. I came back both exhausted and energized.

I was exhausted because each day was jam-packed. In the morning we'd have a 3-hour plenary session where we'd vote on certain issues or be updated on all that is happening within our Global Church. In the afternoon, we always had worship and Bible Study. I want to pause to point out that prayer, worship and Scripture were at the center point of the Churchwide Assembly all week. I think that intentionality is important and a great model for us, as Holy Redeemer, to follow as we continue to be Church in our community. After Bible Study, we would finish our days with evening plenary session.

And although every night I would hit the hotel bed exhausted, every morning I would rise with enthusiasm and excitement. Excited about our Church. Excited about what our Church is doing. Excited about what our Church can do, and most importantly, what our Church will do in the future.

I'd like to share one particular moment during the Assembly that brought me excitement, inspiration and hope.

My God-moment centered on an ecumenical document entitled "Declaration on the Way: Church, Ministry, and Eucharist." This document is actually a book that was composed by both Lutherans and Catholics. In the book, 32 statements of agreement between Lutherans and Catholic are laid out. In the back of the book, the Catholic and Lutheran theologians, pastors, and priests, laid out areas to continue to have dialogue about. Our Assembly voted to approve this document and its contents with an overwhelming 99% yes. I'm SO excited to see that after 500 years of strife between the Catholic Church and Lutheran Church, we are coming together in reconciliation.

Now, this doesn't mean we water down who we are or forget who we are. Instead, it means we are coming to a mutual table to have honest discussions around places we agree and are unified. We are starting down a new road. One we navigate forward together. One where we serve in Christ's mission together.

In a world full of division, this document gives me hope. In a world where it feels you have to choose a side and staunchly oppose the other, the coming together of the Catholic and Lutheran Church is inspiring. It inspires me and I hope it brings you the same hope and inspiration.

Leymah Gbowee said, "The state of our world is a reflection of our Church." Our world is full of fighting and feuds. But, the Church can't be silent in the midst of it. We can't be paralyzed or hopeless to the divisions and darkness in our world. We are called to be the light of the world. To speak hope. To stand with the neighbor. To love the lowly. To serve the stranger. To visit the neglected. To proclaim the Gospel.

That's who we are! That's who we can be! That's who I believe the ELCA and Holy Redeemer will continue to be 500 years from now!

All my love,

Pat Fish

Outreach

ELCA “God’s Work, Our Hands”

“God’s Work. Our Hands”

Service Day will be on Sunday, September 11. The

2016 dedicated day of service will also mark the 15-year anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States. The Outreach Committee has chosen to honor our veterans, firefighters, police and sheriff departments.

We collected items for the VA Hospital in Iowa City and those items will be delivered to them.

On September 11, all Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church are invited to bring bars and cookies to be delivered to the police, sheriff departments and three different fire stations.

You are also invited to write “Thank You” notes that will also be delivered to them that day. The sign-up sheet for baked goods and tours, along with the note cards, are on the table in the narthex.

We have arranged for tours at the Police Department and at the Central Fire Department, Wiley Blvd and Crescent Rd (please specify if you are particularly interested in one of these.) Also, please wear your gold T-Shirt that day.

If there are any questions, please ask any of the Outreach Committee Members.



Crop Walk

The fourth Sunday offering will be given for the Crop Walk. The Crop Walk will be Sunday, October 2, at Thomas Park beginning at 1:00 p.m. Our packets will be available after September 1 to collect for donations from family and friends along with a sign-up sheet to walk.



Mission of Hope Meal

The Mission of Hope Meal on Thursday, September 15, will be served by the congregation. The meal will be scalloped potatoes and ham. Please review the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board on how you can prepare, donate food, transport and serve if you are able.

If there are any questions, please contact Shari at 286-9358.

Mission Partner Sunday

On Sunday, October 9, we are inviting numerous community organizations to visit our church from 10:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Join us after worship and hear about the ministry happening around Cedar Rapids. Our hope is to build connections, awareness and relationships so that we can work together in living out God’s mission.

Adult News

WIGs (Book Discussion Group)

WIGs will meet on Thursday, September 8, at 9:30 a.m., at the home of Donna Madsen, 3426 Riverside Dr NE.

The book for September is *All the Light We Cannot See* by A. Doerr.

Come; join us!

DUO (Do Unto Others) Day

The sewing group will meet at the church on Thursday, September 27, 9:30 – 1:30 at the church.

Thanks to all who help with this project. Come, join the women for sewing day – you can cut squares or tie or iron fabric if you don’t wish to sew.

Women’s Bible Study

Bible Study will meet at the church on Thursday, September 1, 9:30 a.m.

The Bible Study is entitled *When God Forgives the Guilty – Session #1 “Jonah and the terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day.”* (Copies are

available in the WELCA notebook on the shelf under the women's bulletin board.)

All are welcome to join us!!

Adult Faith Formation

Starting this fall, we will have three opportunities to grow in your faith. We have a Tuesday night Bible Study from 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. We will also have a Wednesday evening Bible Study from 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. On the Sundays that we have Sunday School, we will offer a 10:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m. study of the Sunday School Scripture lesson.

Let's Do Lunch

The Fourth Thursday Out to Lunch Group
will meet on Thursday, September 22,
11:30 a.m.

Hacienda Las Glorias
(on First Avenue West)

Thanks for signing up on the bulletin board
for reservations if you plan to attend.
(Questions, contact Jeri Hansen, 396-2882)

Choir Call

Enjoy singing but can't commit to every Sunday? We have a wonderful, dedicated choir but are in need of a few more voices. Please consider taking a turn singing with us for at least one month this year. Even if you haven't sung in choir for awhile, or have not joined us in the past, you'll blend in and help give us a fuller sound. Our music is not complicated. Practice is after service on Sundays (10:15-11:00) except for the 4th Sunday when we have Coffee with Council. We warm up at 8:40 a.m. on the days we sing for service (2nd & 4th Sundays). Questions? See Connie Hansen or Marilyn Mark. Thank you so much!

Craft Day

The women will have a couple Craft Days in September. They will be on Wednesday, September 7 and September 21 at 12:30 p.m. The holiday bazaar is right around the corner in October. All are welcome to join!



Church Family News



If you have some news you want to share about your family, such as a wedding or a move, please contact the office with this information and ask that it be included in the next newsletter.

General and Building Fund Income Statement

July 2016 Summary

	July 2016	Year-to-Date	
		2016	2015
General Income	\$12,475	\$98,546	\$89,966
General Expenses	\$13,068	\$94,793	\$88,152
Building Income	\$4,374	\$29,965	\$26,090
Building Expenses	\$4,606	\$25,042	\$25,575
Income vs Expenses	(\$825)	\$8,677	\$2,329
Total Budget	\$17,855	\$124,985	\$126,409
Income vs. Budget	(\$1,006)	\$3,526	(\$10,353)

July General Fund and Building Fund Offerings were \$16,849.

Included in the Building Fund Offerings was \$1,200 from the Garage Sale proceeds. That money was designated for a "Principle Only" payment for the mortgage. That amount was paid in addition to the regular monthly mortgage payment.

General Fund and Building Fund Offering YTD is \$12,455 more than July 2015.

4th Sunday Offering for Community Free Health Clinic was \$292.00.

5th Sunday Offering for Free Indeed Prison Ministry was \$262.00.

Lutheran Disaster Response

Floods in the Gulf Coast area and fires in California have displaced thousands of people. Lutheran Disaster Response has set up funds to respond. If you'd like to help, donations can be made online and 100% of the donation is used toward disaster response.

Stephen Ministry

What is Stephen Ministry?

Our church is officially a Stephen Ministry congregation. Check out our enrollment certificate located in the narthex near our sanctuary doors. Stephen Ministry is a system for training laypeople to do caring ministry. Those training for Stephen Ministry will learn skills and develop their talents for bringing Christ's healing love to people who are grieving, hurting, or experiencing stress in life.

Why Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry trains people in the basic skills necessary for helping others. Through discussion and experiential learning people learn everything from how to be an effective listener to specific techniques for ministering to hurting people. Our congregation will reap many, many blessings through our involvement in this ministry of care.

Who benefits from Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry benefits both care givers (Stephen Ministers) and care receivers. The Stephen Ministers grow greatly as they learn about helping others. They learn about themselves. As hurting people in our congregation and community grow stronger through this caring ministry, the whole Church is built up and made stronger. We all can have the confident knowledge that when pains of life come our way, someone (not just the pastor) will always be there, ready to care for us, to bring God's love to us in a personal way.

If you are interested in getting involved with Stephen Ministry, talk to Pr. Fish or Marti Marz. Perhaps God is calling you to be one of these caring, committed servants who offer his/her love to those who are hurting.

Spiritual Renewal Retreat

Saturday, September 17, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., we will have a Spiritual Retreat at Holy Redeemer. A spiritual director from Prairiewoods will lead us in this retreat. A tailgate potluck will follow.

Blessing of the Animals Service

On Sunday, September 25, we will have a Blessing of the Animals service at 1:00 p.m. Bring your critters and pet companions.

Youth News

Youth & Education Retreat

The Youth & Education Committee will hold an adult leader retreat on Saturday, September 10, from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the church. Any and all adults are invited to attend.

At the retreat, we will revisit the vision, structure, talk about the calendar, plan for our program year, and clean out the classrooms.

Holy Redeemer Youth Programs 2016-2017 School Year

Wed., Aug. 31: 5:30 pm Sign-up for acolyte (3-8 grade)

6:00 pm WinGS (K-12)

6:30 pm Confirmation (7&8 grade)

Sun., Sept. 11: Sign-up for Sunday School (Infant-5th grade)

Wed., Sept. 14: WinGS* & Confirmation begin

Sun., Oct. 2: Sunday School begins**

* WinGS is on Wednesdays from 4:45-7:30 p.m.

** SCS is on the 1st & 3rd Sundays from 10:15-10:45 a.m.

Sunday School Meeting

Sunday School leaders will meet on Sunday, September 18, from 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. to discuss the upcoming Sunday School activities.

All are invited to attend.

Events

Save the Date

October 2: 1:00 p.m. CROP Walk
Stewardship starts

October 9: Mission Partner Fair

October 13: Mission of Hope Meal served by Council

October 16: Committee Sunday
October 20-22: Holiday Bazaar
October 23: Celebration Sunday
October 29: Sleep Out for the Homeless
October 30: Reformation Day
November 1: All Saints Day
November 8: Election Day at the church
November 23: Thanksgiving Eve Service @ Gloria Dei
December 4: 5:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Program
December 18: 9:00 a.m. Youth Christmas Program & Cookie Walk
December 24: 6:00 p.m. & 9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
December 25: 9:00 a.m. Christmas Day worship
December 26: Church office closed for holiday

Stewardship News

Stewardship Committee Celebrates the Fellowship Committee

The Stewardship Committee is celebrating a specific ministry or committee each month in the newsletter.

The purpose is to show that your generous gifts allow us to achieve our mission of “growing to and for Christ.” Your giving each week enables our committees, staff and pastor to participate in God’s ministry.

Fellowship Committee

by Dave Anderson

The Fellowship Committee has recently made some changes to the group. Kate Fish has stepped down as chair and handed it over to Dave Anderson. Kate will still be an active part of the Fellowship Committee.

Some of the plans for the rest of the year include the following:

- Fellowship Meals to continue on Sunday, September 25. More dates to come this year!
- Trunk or Treat will be held on Sunday, October 30. More information at a later date.
- In December, Fellowship will lead Christmas caroling.

- Before the year is over, Fellowship would like to host a Fish Fry. Bill Davidson had a good summer of fishing and will donate the fish!

Some of the activities the Fellowship held earlier in the year were the Fellowship Tea Party, Georgia’s Garden Party, and the Outdoor Worship & Potluck Dinner. We had a total of 77 people at the Outdoor Worship and Potluck Dinner!

Stewardship Program

C.S. Lewis said, “There are two kinds of people: those who say to God, ‘Thy will be done,’ and those to whom God says, ‘All right, then, have it your way.’ ” As redeemed children of God, of course, we desire to belong to that first category. We long to **live each day as stewards** who earnestly pray, “Thy will be done.” As God’s stewards, we are devoted to using all that we are and have for his purpose. We are God’s stewards each and every day.

On Sundays, October 2, October 9, October 16, and October 23, the theme of our worship services will be **living each day as a steward**. We will learn about how we can be more willing and generous stewards. Just as Jesus faithfully served his Father by serving us, we are to use our lives and gifts in faithful service to him by serving others. The theme verse for our 4-week Stewardship Program follows that thinking: *“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace”* (1 Peter 4:10).

As your pastor, I pray that each of you will join us for our Stewardship Program and hear the call to re-imagine how we are living out our call as steward.

The four weekly themes are as follows:

Sunday, October 2: “The Steward’s Identity”
Living Generously Workshop by Thrivent

Sunday, October 9: “The Steward’s Purpose”
Mission Partner Fair

Sunday, October 16: “The Steward’s Lifestyle”
Committee Sunday

Sunday, October 23: “New Beginnings: Celebration Sunday” Special Meal

Thank you for being a faithful steward of the blessings God has entrusted into your care!

Pastor Pat Fish

Senior Saints History Walking Tour



Senior Saints at Scooters Coffee Shop



Ministry of the Month

Greeter:	Sept. 4	Loretta Shannon
	Sept. 11	Lee Eggers
	Sept. 18	Lee Eggers
	Sept. 25	Lee Eggers
Ushers	Sept. 4	Tom Fruehling & Ron Hansen
	Sept. 11	Le & Dick Smith
	Sept. 18	Jim Veglahn & Ron Hansen
	Sept. 25	Dave Anderson & Ron Hansen
Com. Asst	Sept. 4	Ron Taylor
	Sept. 11	Conrad V. Z.
	Sept. 18	Jeri Hansen
	Sept. 25	Lanny Eggers
Com. Run	Sept. 4	Jeri Hansen
	Sept. 11	Shari Singelstad
	Sept. 18	Loretta Shannon
	Sept. 25	Judy Toy
Lay Reader	Sept. 4	Loretta Shannon
	Sept. 11	Jeri Hansen
	Sept. 18	Tracy Kisling
	Sept. 25	Janice Klein
Acolyte	Sept. 4	TBD
	Sept. 11	Allison Hubbell
	Sept. 18	Keri Ketchum
	Sept. 25	Allie Kasper
Counters	Sept. 4	Jan Overland & Donna Madsen
	Sept. 11	Tammy Hansen & Rollin Harder
	Sept. 18	Jim Veglahn & Jodi Dufoe
	Sept. 25	Susan Hand & Sara Merkey
Com. Prep	Sept. 4	Jean Stelling
	Sept. 11	Laura Fowler
	Sept. 18	Nicole Hubbell
	Sept. 25	LaVonne Hunter
Altar Care: Dianne Torrey & Joyce Black		
Visitor Calling Schedule: Loretta Shannon		

September 2016 at a Glance

Sept. 1 (Thu)	9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
	6:30 p.m. Executive Meeting
	7:00 p.m. Committee Meetings
Sept. 4 (Sun)	9:00 a.m. Worship
Sept. 5 (Mon)	Office closed for Labor Day
Sept. 6 (Tue)	9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
	12:30 p.m. Card Players
	7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
Sept. 7 (Wed)	12:30 p.m. Craft Day
Sept. 8 (Thu)	9:30 a.m. WIGS
	7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
Sept. 10 (Sat)	8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Youth & Ed Retreat
Sept. 11 (Sun)	9:00 a.m. Worship
	Food Bank Weekend
	Rally Day
	"God's Work, Our Hands" Service Project
Sept. 13 (Tue)	7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
Sept. 14 (Wed)	4:45 p.m. WinGS kickoff
	6:30 p.m. Confirmation kickoff
Sept. 15 (Thu)	Mission of Hope Meal served by congregation
Sept. 17 (Sat)	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Spiritual Retreat with Tailgate Potluck
Sept. 18 (Sun)	9:00 a.m. Worship
	10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Sunday School
	Planning Meeting
Sept. 20 (Tue)	12:30 p.m. Card Players
	7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
	October Newsletter Deadline
Sept. 21 (Wed)	12:30 p.m. Craft Day
	4:45 p.m. WinGS
	6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class
Sept. 22 (Thu)	11:30 a.m. Let's Do Lunch @Hacienda Las Glorias
Sept. 25 (Sun)	9:00 a.m. Worship
	4 th Weekend Offering – Crop Walk
	Coffee w/Council w/Fellowship Meal
Sept. 27 (Tue)	1:00 p.m. Blessing of the Animals
	9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. DUO Day
	7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
Sept. 28 (Wed)	4:45 p.m. WinGS
	6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class



Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church
 720 Edgewood Road NW
 Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405

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Church Office Hours
Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – Noon

Worship Services
Sunday, 9:00 a.m.



*If we live by the Spirit, let us also be
 guided by the Spirit.*
Galatians 5:25 (NRSV)



Join us as we grow to and for Christ!!!