



Redeemer Lutheran Church

# Crossroads

March 2024

## Holy Week and Easter Schedule

### March 24 Palm Sunday

10:00am Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion with Procession of Palms

### March 28 Maundy Thursday

12:15pm Mid Day Quiet Communion

7:00pm Upper Room Communion with Stripping of the Altar

### March 29 Good Friday

7:00pm Tenebrae Worship

### March 31 Easter Day

8:30-9:30 Easter Breakfast

10:00am Worship with Holy Communion

All morning — Flowering the Cross



## Easter Breakfast and Flowering of the Cross

The Redeemer Church Family will host an Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 9th in the fellowship hall 8:30-9:30am. Join us before worship and enjoy a breakfast with all the fixin's! We are looking for folks that would be willing to help set up, decorate, serve, and clean up. If you are willing please contact Pastor Amanda, [aburke@relu.church](mailto:aburke@relu.church).

As you come to breakfast at the church on Easter morning, bring flowers or greenery to decorate the cross outside. This is a beautiful witness to our community of our Easter joy!



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It was early in Lent, and Kathy Chartier was offering the children’s sermon about crosses. In the gospel that day, Jesus said, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” As Kathy explored what that meant with the children ( and with all of us), she commented on the cross that she wears which was over 60 years old and was given to her by her aunt. Every time Kathy sees the cross, she remembers her aunt’s love for her, and then Kathy pointed out that when we see a cross, we can remember Christ’s love for us.

Kathy offered us a really important message there. While she continued her message, I thought about it some more, and I suddenly found myself fingering the pectoral cross I wear every Sunday. I didn’t do it intentionally, but my hands and eyes found it on their own.

Maybe it was what she said about her aunt and her aunt’s love that started my thoughts and feelings to race. You see, I have worn this cross for every worship service I have been part of for my entire ministry as an ordained pastor. That means I have worn this cross for almost 37 years now. I found myself thinking about all the ministry that cross has been through with me. If it had ears, I wonder how many sermons it would have heard? How many hymns sung, sins confessed, praises lifted?

Then, as Kathy talked about the love of her aunt, my thoughts went in a new direction. You see, this cross was Nan’s gift to me when I got ordained. It was her gift of love, and I don’t know if she thinks of it this way — but I often do — that cross somehow continually says she is with me in ministry too. I feel her presence and support as I wear it. It was a gift of love.

And yet, there is still more to the story. You see, this



wasn’t some in stock cross that she found in a catalog or in a store somewhere. No, she had this cross made. We discussed the design together, drew it out, and then had it made at a jeweler. And that’s where it gets really meaningful.

You see, the seminary is in Columbia, so we were in Columbia when she had it made. We consulted my mother about where to get such a thing made and she sent us to David’s Fine Jewelry where Marie Baughman’s son was the jeweler who made the cross I wear every Sunday.

When he made that cross so long ago, we had no idea that we would end up here at Redeemer. We never dreamed of that kind of connection, and isn’t it amazing how God sets things up like that. Through this cross, Redeemer has been with us all along the way.

Still, as Kathy wrapped up her children’s sermon, I looked at that cross and noticed that in spite of all the use I have given it, its surface is clear and clean and shiny and bright. I didn’t notice any nicks or dings. This cross has lasted unblemished throughout all the years, and, unchanging, continues to proclaim the love of God in Christ Jesus that it has all along.

And that’s when I thought about Easter. Easter stands unblemished in our lives just like that. From that first Easter Sunday so many years ago until the end of this month and on into the future, Easter stands boldly proclaiming the powerful message of God’s love and victory. Our Easter joy is bright and never tarnishes. When we think about Easter, we remember God’s love, and we cling to God’s love.

Maybe it’s important that a cross has a vertical beam and a horizontal beam. As God’s love comes down to us, then we can give it out to others.

Kathy, I apologize for being lost in these thoughts and not giving my full attention to the end of your children’s sermon. Thank you for the reminder of love we share with each other, and even more of the love God sends to us in Jesus. It’s the heart of Easter.





Joseph May 3/1  
 Michelle Busch 3/3  
 Kaitlin Harring 3/4  
 Jody Byrd 3/6  
 Buddy Champion 3/6  
 Travis Cowan 3/6  
 Layne Smith 3/6  
 Paul Fazio 3/7  
 Bradyn Davis 3/9  
 Graham Mitchell 3/9  
 Connie Davis 3/10



Stephanie Cowen 3/11  
 Sarah Drake 3/11  
 Allison Burgess 3/12  
 Sue Harmon 3/12  
 Jason Roddey 3/13  
 McKenzie Bachman 3/17  
 Matthew Epting 3/18

Ryan Willingham 3/18  
 Jill Griffin 3/19  
 Cameron Himel 3/19  
 Brenda Boyd 3/21  
 Bill Murphy 3/22  
 Carroll Lorick 3/23  
 Mitch Plemmons 3/26  
 Martha Summer 3/26  
 Gregory Harmon 3/27  
 Dwight Bachman 3/29  
 Kirby Byrd 3/29  
 Ernest Nix 3/29  
 Keagan Carlsen 3/30  
 Hugh Davis Jr. 3/30  
 Brandi Martin 3/30  
 Adelaide Frey 3/31

### Lenten Series Focus on Questions



Join us each Wednesday evening in Lent onsite or online at 7:00pm for our Lenten worship. Pastor Gary is preaching a series called Queries that focus on questions people asked Jesus and questions Jesus asked people. What would you ask Jesus? What if he asked you?

### Home Communion Team: This Is Your Month

Home Communion Team! March is your month to take communion to the Redeemer Family's homebound members. Please refill your communion kits if needed. On the first or second Sunday this month place your kits on the altar to be blessed. Please check in with Pastor Amanda to make sure that all our information is accurate. Thank you for your ministry!



### In Appreciation

Each month the Church Council recognizes and thanks those among us who have offered themselves to the work of the church in special ways. This month the council appreciated:

**Preston Smith** who has changed the message on our sign every week for 8 years, rain or shine,

**Sam and Lisa Mathias** for preparing and serving our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper,

Bill Newmeyer and the youth for leading our entertainment that evening, and

**All those who planned and put on** the amazing Choral Scholars Gala



## Community Easter Egg Hunt Scheduled

It's time to get ready for Redeemer's Community Easter Egg Hunt! Saturday, March 23, starting at 10 am in the fellowship hall we will have activities for all ages alongside hunting for eggs. The Family Ministry team is looking for donations of egg fillers... small toys, stickers, individually wrapped candy (no nuts), etc.



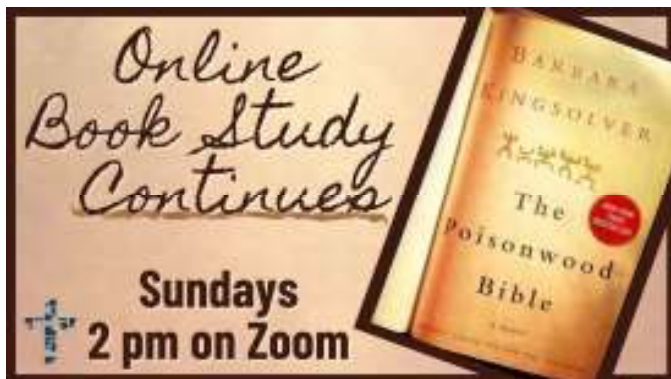
We're also looking for volunteers to help set up, hide eggs, help with activities, and clean up. For more info contact Pastor Amanda 803.465.3773 or [aburke@relu.church](mailto:aburke@relu.church)

## The Real Winner of the Souper Bowl

Thanks to all who donated money as a part of Redeemer's Souper Bowl for Caring! While the 49ers didn't win the Super Bowl, they did win the Soup-er Bowl. However, the real winner is our community around Redeemer who will receive some much-needed assistance.



We raised over \$300! This money will be used to stock the blessing box and food boxes for families in need at Seven Oaks Elementary School.



## Daylight Savings Time Begins March 10

Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday night.



## Lenten Offering: Fit to a 'T'

Our Lenten offering this year is called Fit to a Tee and will help the homeless in Columbia. We have been advised that one of the things they most need is T-shirts. This does not mean under-shirts, but rather regular wear T-shirts. All Adult sizes are welcome (standard fit). There are many ways to give: bring some of your old T-shirts you no longer wear, purchase T-shirts yourself, or give money that will be pooled together and used to purchase T-shirts when Lent is over. If you have T-shirts to contribute, please place them in the box we normally use for the Share the Warmth coat drive.



## Leisure Timers Get Gardening Tips

Mark your calendars for our March luncheon. It will be on Thursday, March 21st at 12:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Our luncheon is "Pot-Luck" which means everyone brings a dish of their choice to share. Store bought or homemade is great!

Many of us love fresh flowers and gardens, but find them more difficult to maintain now. So I have invited Heather and Kelsey from the Seven Oaks Plant Shop on St. Andrews Road to present our program. They will share some tips and tricks for "Container Gardening" for porches, patios and smaller areas. Remember that friends are always welcome! I hope to see you there!



Questions? Contact Connis Davis, call or text (803)317-7631 or email [conniedavis@sc.rr.com](mailto:conniedavis@sc.rr.com).



The Twelfth Annual Choral Scholars Gala was a huge success, thanks to.....

**YOU!**

Yes, you made it happen! We have now funded another year of choral scholars. We deeply appreciate all those who contributed to the Choral Scholars Fund.

**GRAND STAFF SPONSORS**

Lyle and Mary Lou Campbell  
Jean and Charlie Cook  
Jim Epting  
Bob and Jane Long  
Jim and Donna Nunamaker  
Mike and Laurah Shealy  
Fred and Carolyn Splittgerber  
Earl and Linda Wells

**WHOLE NOTE SPONSORS**

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Donna Gilbert  
Mike and Catherine Gleaton  
Dotti Harbaugh  
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Trish Matthey  
Judy Waldrop

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Jane Eleazer  
Judy and Bill Lowe  
Nancy McKinney  
Lyn Metzler  
Sandra Moore  
Preston Smith  
Shannon Smith

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Judith Bunge  
Carolyn Champion  
Kathy Chartier  
Kathie Leitner

**CONDUCTOR'S CIRCLE SPONSORS**

Bob and Nancy Beaver  
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Kathy Harrell and Marie Baughman  
Pastor Gary and Nan Loadholdt  
Fauni and Dan Lowe  
Bill and Martie Newmyer  
Mike and Barbara Parker  
Wally and Alma Schultz  
Preston Smith  
Joanne Shrigley  
Steve and Martha Summer  
Philip and Judy Urso

**EIGHTH NOTE SPONSORS**

Connie Davis  
Katie Leitner  
Elaine Lifland  
Sherry Lindler  
Joye Mann  
Cathy Stutts



## Food Bags for Seven Oaks Elementary Students over Spring Break

First a thank you, due to the overwhelming love and support from Thanksgiving and Christmas boxes we were able to provide the makings for a spaghetti dinner for 16 families for Valentines Day, those meals were delivered on Monday, February 12 to Seven Oaks Elem. Our next endeavor will be putting together Spring Break breakfast/lunches and delivering them on Monday, March 25. The bags will include items like milk, cereal, bread, peanut butter, jelly, easy mac & cheese, pop top raviolis, fruit cups, etc.



**Food Collection**

these are items students will be able to fix for themselves while home on Spring Break

and without access to the free lunch they normally would receive while at school. All contributions are welcome, please make checks out to Redeemer and mark them Seven Oaks Spring Break meals, thank you for your continued support of this program. Questions ask Michelle Knight 803-238-0253 or Pastor Amanda.

## Pastor Gary Live! Reaches 1000 Episodes

Every day, Monday through Friday since soon after the pandemic began in 2020, Pastor Gary has been presenting a morning reflection/devotional at 8:15 on our Facebook page and on our YouTube channel. On February 23, Pastor Gary Live!



reached 1000 episodes. On most days, there are between 50-75 people who watch it live or later in the day. Each one lasts about five minutes, and the topics range from interesting people in the Bible that you've never heard of and their stories, to studies on grace or even recently was a week on Bible stories involving forgiveness or times when people in the Bible got new beginnings. If you haven't tuned in, give it a try.

## My Hymnal Doesn't Have that Number

The last hymn in our cranberry hymnal is "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" and it is number 886. However, from time to time, you might notice a hymn number quite a bit higher than that along with the letters ACS. What gives?

Many of us may remember that when we were using the green Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW), they came out with a blue hymnal supplement called With One Voice (WOV). Well, we've been using the red (or cranberry as it is officially known) Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) hymnal for almost 20 years now, and fairly recently, they have come out with a new hymnal supplement called All Creation Sings (ACS). To help keep things straight, they started numbering the hymns in the ACS

with numbers higher than the hymn numbers in the ELW.

There is also another Lutheran Hymn supplement out there called This Far by Faith (TFF), and it features mostly hymns that come from the African-American tradition.

For our Sunday worship, we have access to all of these hymnals and supplements to choose among for our hymns. So sometimes you'll see a hymn listed like ACS 1046, and that means it's hymn 1046 and is found in the supplement All Creation Sings. Or, you might see LBW 518, (green book) and so on.

Now, if you see those letters, you'll know what they mean.



Liminal space. The edge between the already, but not yet. A threshold. The inbetween.

Liminal space can be a place of confusion, confrontation, and complexity. However, it can also be a space filled with possibility, promise, and potential.

We have a multitude of liminal spaces throughout our lives. Think back to that summer break after high school graduation, but before you started college or went to work. It might have

felt like you had one step in the future, yet one step in the past, and the trick was to balance in between. This could also be the space between jobs or houses. It might be space you exist in while you wait for news, whether good or bad.

Each year, I feel like the time between Ash Wednesday and Resurrection Sunday is a liminal space. On that Wednesday night we are reminded that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Then after a forty-day journey, we celebrate the risen Christ and our new life through him. However, that in-between time can be a challenge.

We are challenged to grow spiritually. We are challenged to contemplate our place in God's Kingdom. We are challenged to meet Jesus in the deserts of our lives. When we finally arrive at Easter we begin the whole year again. We'll make this journey again and again and again. We'll enter that liminal space again and again.

We are called to use that space, that time, to meet Christ along our journey. Some years it may be simple and others more involved. But each time the season of Lent comes around we have the same opportunity. Christ's meets us where we are and invites to follow him... to the water... to the table... to the cross... and into new life.

**Memorials Received  
December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 thru  
February 17<sup>th</sup> 2024  
In Memory of:**

**Brian Davis**

Lyle & Mary Lou Campbell  
Robert & Jane Long  
Michael & Marie Baughman  
Nancy McKinney  
Pawnee Schumpert  
Hugh & Connie Davis  
Mary Way  
Evelyn Abel  
Bonnie Berley  
Linda Wells  
Mike Parker

**Walker Schumpert**  
Pawnee Schumpert

**Carson Lowe**

*(Dan Lowe's father)*  
Robert & Jane Long  
Michael & Marie Baughman  
Hugh & Connie Davis  
Cornelia Collins  
Jean Cook  
Kathy Harrell  
Joann Shrigley

**Bernhard (Bill) Krieger**

*(Carol Valovcin's father)*  
Robert & Jane Long  
Michael & Marie Baughman  
Kathy Harrell  
Cornelia Collins

**Karen E Newmyer**

Robert & Jane Long

**Marcia Ballentine**

Gary & Nan Loadholdt

**Earl & Jane Keller**

Keller Children

**Jim Kiser**

Dallas & Bobby Shealey

**Honorarium**

**Preston Smith**

Shannon Smith





## Council Plans to Organize and Encourage Ministry Teams

One of the many exciting things to arise from the February meeting of the Church Council was the desire and commitment to organize and encourage Ministry Teams to function here at Redeemer. Over the years, and especially due to the pandemic, Ministry Teams focused on many areas of our ministry together faded and then disappeared altogether. In the next few months, Council is seeking to recreate these Teams and seek volunteers to be on them.

Council also noted that the new church sign had been installed, and also noted there were some finishing touches that still needed to happen. Council decided not to pay the final invoice until these matters were concluded.

The Council went outside to look at the large Cryptomeria tree in front of the sanctuary. There was a proposal to have the tree trimmed up so that the limbs didn't impinge on the roof, but there was also the question of whether or not to take it out entirely. Council decided to trim it for now, and then decide at a later time if it needs to come down.

Council also cleared the Property Assessment Team to spend money from the Property Reserve while also limiting it so that we still have reserves for unexpected major expenses.

After months of discussion, the Council agreed to a financial review called an Agreed Upon Procedures. The outside firm will look at our systems and review our procedures and make recommendations for improvement.

Pastor Gary reported that we were eligible at this point

to begin our last phase of replacing our fluorescent lights with LED fluorescents through the program offered by Dominion Energy. Dominion pays 95 % of the cost, and we recoup the rest through energy savings.

The Council is reviewing our lawn care maintenance contract and will then begin discussions with Mattox Davis.

Council also began to consider offering our Parish Secretary and our Financial Administrator a small amount of paid time off. Council is looking at our personnel policies and procedures as they move ahead.

Council also began an initiative to renew our bereavement teams. All members of the congregation are on these teams that respond in love after the death of a member.

The meeting closed with prayer and sharing the peace.



- Ministry Teams to be organized
- Tree trimmed for now
- Property Action Team cleared to spend money
- Financial Review approved
- Next phase of Dominion lighting to happen
- Lawn care contract being reviewed
- Possible paid time off for secretary and financial administrator
- Bereavement teams to be renewed

## By the Numbers

	January YTD 2024	January YTD 2023	January YTD 2022
Total income	\$ 26,848	\$ 33,698	\$ 25,773
Total expenses	<u>\$ 46,167</u>	<u>\$ 53,541</u>	<u>\$ 46,680</u>
Income less expense	<u>\$ (19,319)</u>	<u>\$ (19,843)</u>	<u>\$ (20,907)</u>
Unrestricted cash balance	\$ 271,737	\$165,375	\$ 179,173
Attendance	183	179	180



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult 9:30am - Choir practice 10am - Worship 12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian 2pm - Book Study @ Zoom</p>	<p>10:30am - Staff Meeting @ front</p>		<p>6pm - Choir Practice 7pm - Lenten Worship 7:30pm - Handbell Choir @</p>	<p>10am - Thursday Bible Study @ 6pm - HS Youth Group @ 7pm - Thursday Bible Study @</p>	<p>6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>10am - Agape Myanmar Christian 10am - Agape Myanmar Christian 10am - Agape Myanmar Christian 6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>
<p>8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult 9:30am - Choir practice 10am - Worship 12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian 2pm - Book Study @ Zoom 4pm - Agape Myanmar Youth</p>	<p>10:30am - Staff Meeting @ front</p>		<p>6pm - Choir Practice 6pm - MSNS Youth Group and 7pm - Lenten Worship 7:30pm - Handbell Choir @</p>	<p>10am - Thursday Bible Study @ 6pm - NAMI support group @ 7pm - Thursday Bible Study @</p>	<p>6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>10am - Agape Myanmar Christian 6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>
<p>8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult 9:30am - Choir practice 10am - Worship 12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian 2pm - Book Study @ Zoom</p>	<p>10:30am - Staff Meeting @ front</p>	<p>2pm - SOFA @ Fellowship Center</p>	<p>6pm - Choir Practice 6pm - HS Youth Group @ 7pm - Lenten Worship 7:30pm - Handbell Choir @</p>	<p>10am - Thursday Bible Study @ 12pm - Leisure Times @ 6pm - NAMI support group @ 7pm - Thursday Bible Study @</p>	<p>6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian 7pm - Good Friday Worship @ On-</p>	<p>10am - Agape Myanmar Christian 10am - Community Easter Egg 6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>
<p><b>Camp RUGG Reunion @</b> 8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult 9:30am - Choir practice 10am - ELCA Youth Gathering 10am - Worship 12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>10:30am - Staff Meeting @ front</p>		<p>6:30pm - Choir Practice 7:30pm - Handbell Choir @</p>	<p>6pm - NAMI support group @ 7pm - Maunty Thursday Worship</p>	<p>6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>10am - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>
<p>8:30am - Easter Breakfast 8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult 9:30am - Choir practice 10am - Worship 12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian 4pm - Agape Myanmar Youth</p>	<p>10:30am - Staff Meeting @ front</p>		<p>6:30pm - Choir Practice 7:30pm - Handbell Choir @</p>	<p>10am - Thursday Bible Study @ 6pm - MS Youth Group (5th-8th) 6pm - NAMI support group @ 7pm - Thursday Bible Study @</p>	<p>6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>10am - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>
					<p><b>Dadson testering @ Radesmar</b> 9am - Parade Event @ Fellowship 6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>10am - Agape Myanmar Christian 10am - SASS Self Defense Course 6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>
					<p><b>Egg Hunt Setup and Cleanup @ Fellowship Center</b> <b>Sign - Camp RUGG Reunion @ Fellowship Center</b></p>	



# RELU YOUTH



## Calendar

Always subject to change!

Sun, March 3 and April 7, 2024  
OK Youth Group, Littles-K (and parents)  
11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Sun, March 3, April 7, and May 5 2024  
Elementary Youth Group, 1st-6th  
11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Wed, March 6 and April 17, 2024  
MS/HS Youth Group & Dinner, 6th-12th  
6:00-8:00 pm

Sun, March 10 and 24, 2024  
ELCA Youth Gathering Prep  
10:00 am-1:00 pm

Wed, March 13, and Thurs, April 4, 2024  
MS Youth Group, 5th-8th  
6:00-8:00 pm

Wed, March 20 and April 11, 2024  
HS Youth Group, 9th-12th  
6:00-8:00 pm

Sat, March 23, 2024  
Community Easter Egg Hunt  
Everyone's invited, 10:00 - 11:30 am

Sun, April 21 and May 5, 2024  
ELCA Youth Gathering Prep  
10:00 am-1:00 pm

May 10-12, 2024  
SCLCY Spring Into Action Service  
Retreat for 6th-12th grades

Sun, May 19, 2024  
Rite of Confirmation during Worship  
10:00 am

July 15-21, 2024  
ELCA Youth Gathering  
Current 8th-12th Grades  
New Orleans, LA

July 29-Aug 2, 2024  
Redeemer's Community Music Camp  
4 year olds through rising 6th graders  
MS, HS, and adults staff



**Redeemer Lutheran Church**

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Address Service Requested

Rev. Gary Loadholdt, Senior Pastor  
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pastorgary@relu.church  
Rev. Amanda Burke, Associate Pastor  
aburke@relu.church  
Yvonne Krouse, Parish Financial  
Administrator  
ykrouse@relu.church  
Jim Boatwright, Director of Music  
jboat@relu.church  
Betty Pearce parish Secretary  
bpearce@relu.church

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**Sunday Services**

8:45 a.m. Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

**2023 Congregation  
Council Members**

Term Expires End of 2023  
Carroll Lorick  
Steve Summer  
Julie Crooks

**Executive Committee**

President	Bill Newmyer
Vice President	Steve Summer
Treasurer	Todd Anderson
Secretary	Kai Jørgensen

Term Expires End of 2024  
Bill Newmyer  
Carol Valovcin  
Linda Wells

Term Expires End of 2025  
Kai Jørgensen  
Fauni Lowe  
Mike Parker

**Online Giving**

Scan this symbol with  
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