



Redeemer Lutheran Church

Crossroads

July 2024

Meet Judy Chapman, Redeemer’s New Parish Secretary

There’s a new face and a new voice welcoming you to Redeemer these days. On June 17, our new Parish Secretary, Judy Chapman, began her work among us. After seven months of serious health concerns with no clear end in sight, our previous secretary, Betty Pearce, was forced to resign and our search for her replacement was begun. Express Employment forwarded Judy’s resume to us and Pastor Gary and Pastor Amanda met and interviewed Judy.

Judy spent her career working for the Department of Mental Health, and much of that as the Administrative Assistant to the Director at Tucker Center, a long term care facility. She has a Lutheran background as well with connections to St. John’s Lutheran in Pomaria.

Of course, working in the business world and working at a church are very different from one another, so Judy has a lot to learn about how we do things at church. Pastor Gary commented, “We are fortunate that Judy comes to us during the summer when things are a little bit slower and we have time to train her. She is learning quickly and is a joy to be around.”

Please introduce yourself to Judy several times as she gets to know our church family. Welcome, Judy!



Get Your New Keys at the Church Office

Church Building Has Been Re-Keyed



You had to jiggle the key and pull it out just a bit and tug on your left ear to get the door open. Well, maybe not the ear part, but the doors at Redeemer had become a problem. Over the years, the locks had worn down and the so had our keys, making it hard to access the building in most cases. So, the Property Action Team decided to have the building rekeyed. Instead of multiple keys, most will have one key that will open most things in the building. Those who need access to the office area will have one key that opens that and the rest of the building. Please sign out your new key at the church office so you have access to our building.

Inside-	
Birthdays	3
Pig Out @ Shealy’s	4
468 T-Shirts	4
Music Camp Info	5
Youth Stockholders	6
Big Churchy Words	7
RELU Youth	9



It was my first time. I'm sure many of you have had the experience I had, and I suspect it was as special for you as it was for me.

My granddaughter, Hannah, just turned one year old. Nan and I made our way to Texas, where she lives, to celebrate the occasion. While we were there, Sunday came along and we all got ready and went to the church where Michael, Kristie, and Hannah worship. I've been there before, and I love it when I get to go. The people are warm and friendly and welcoming: a lot like it is here at Redeemer. Maybe that's why it feels so much like home.

We were sitting in the pews, having heard a great sermon and sung some good hymns, and we came to the part of the service with communion. As we sat waiting the turn of the folks on our pew to go forward, Nan nudged me and pointed to Kristie. I looked, and Kristie whispered, "Would you like to carry Hannah to the altar rail?"

Now, like I said, I suspect many of you have had that experience of carrying your child or grandchild to the altar, but this was the first time for me. It was special.

Hannah and I walked forward and she sat so comfortably and serenely in my arms. It was clear she had been to the rail before, but not with me. Not in my arms.

I knelt there with Hannah in my arms as the pastor came along with a morsel of bread for me - "The body of Christ given for you" - and a blessing for Hannah. It was a special time. It was special. It was time.



You see, as I knelt there with Hannah, I found myself thinking about how I am now the oldest in my family, and Hannah is the youngest. Nevertheless, in spite of the years that separate us, God's love and grace blessed us both.

In that moment, time didn't exist. Hannah and I were both loved children of God despite the difference in our ages. It's more than that too.

One of the things we believe about Holy Communion is that the celebration of it transcends time. For those moments, time doesn't exist. As we kneel at the rail, we are celebrating the meal with those disciples at the last supper. Jesus is really present blessing the meal and saying to us "This is my body, this is my blood, given for you."



That's not all. You see as we kneel at the rail, both time and space are suspended. We are at the rail with Peter, with Paul, with Luther, with our parents who may be long gone, and with our grandparents whether they are holding you or not. In fact, we are communing with every Christian from every time and every place: all who have

ever taken Holy Communion anywhere.

It is special. It is a special time beyond time. Jesus is with us.

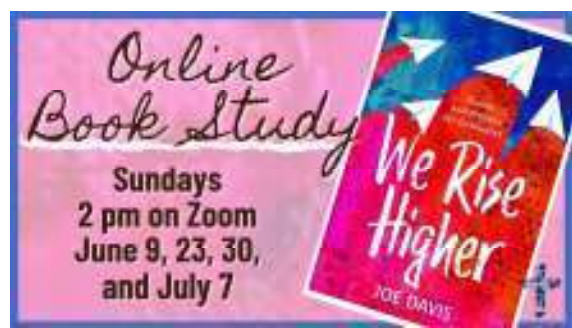
Thank you, Hannah. May we always share this meal together with Jesus.



Don Courtney 7/2
 Kelly Davis 7/3
 Annelise Schaller 7/3
 Shannon Smith 7/3
 Cheryl Ann Had 7/5
 Evelyn Ashby 7/6
 Addison Gfell 7/6
 Charlotte Brooks 7/7
 Matthew Flood 7/8
 Gil Vander Voort 7/8
 Robyn Wells 7/8
 Courtney Lindler 7/9
 Dominic Leonardi 7/10
 Andrew Peek 7/11

Alicia Plemmons 7/12
 Savanna Thomas 7/12
 Jacob Lowe 7/14
 Casey Roe 7/14
 Steven Isaacson 7/17
 Mike Parker 7/17
 Fred Splittgerber 7/17
 Melvin Amundson 7/18
 Ross Kiser 7/18
 Herb Shealy 7/18

Bill Harmon 7/19
 Lane Cross 7/19
 Camden Audette 7/20
 Wendy McCarthy 7/20
 Jim Nunamaker 7/20
 Alma Schultz 7/20
 Pawnee Schumpert 7/20
 Eric Valocvin 7/20
 Lucia Coggins 7/22
 Todd Anderson 7/23
 David Mulkey 7/24
 Don Owens 7/25
 Lynne Richards 7/25
 Allie Drake 7/27
 Karen Manni 7/27



Online Book Study Pauses July 7

Redeemer's Online Summer Book Study will have it's last gathering on July 7. *We Rise Higher* by Joe Davis is a collection of his original poetry and prayers. It has been a joy to explore his poetry. Join us online at 2 pm with this link <https://relu.link/BookStudy>. If you'd like to learn more about this poet and artist find him on social media or visit his website www.joedavispoetry.com.



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, Todd and Denise Anderson, and Shannon Smith for their help processing, getting, and delivering the T-shirts for the homeless collected during Lent this year.

Our **Offering Counters** who faithfully take a month at the time to tabulate our contributions, and

Greg Cross who drives the bus for our Leisure Timers outings.



Redeemer Provides 468 T-Shirts to the Homeless

“As you have done it to the least of these, you have done it unto me.” This past Lenten season, we invited you to provide T-shirts for those suffering homelessness in Columbia. We had heard from Larry Nichols, coordinator of Lunch on the Lawn, that as summer approached, T-shirts were much needed by those living and struggling on our streets.

Never did we imagine your response. Between the shirts that you brought and mines that were contributed, Redeemer provided 468 T-shirts to help meet this need.

Special appreciation goes to Denise Anderson who helped by applying the money we received to purchase a variety of sizes of good quality shirts, including some with long sleeves. Thanks to Preston Smith who sorted the T-shirts that were donated by size, and to Shannon Smith who was our liaison with Mr. Nichols for this project and helped deliver them.

Thank you for your incredible generosity. You have made a difference by living love for God’s often overlooked people.



“Pig Out” at Shealy’s with the Leisure Timers

Leisure Timers will be heading to Shealy's BBQ in Batesburg/Leesville for our Thursday, July 18th Luncheon. A



signup sheet will be in the Narthex. Deadline will be Sunday, July 14th. Even if you plan to meet us there, please sign up. Contact Conniedavis@sc.rr.com or call (803)356-0560, if you have questions or need help signing up!

Take, Eat, and Serve

Have you ever wanted to help serve communion? Each week there is an opportunity for 2 people to serve the wine and 2 people to pick up the cups. On occasion there is a need for someone to distribute bread. Distributing Holy Communion can be a meaningful way to connect with your own faith, but also with our faith family here at Redeemer. If you’ve never helped serve before, don’t fret! Pastor Amanda would be happy to teach you what all happens. We currently have opportunities for people to sign up for July 7, 14, 21, and 28. You can go online and sign up yourself, <https://relu.link/WorshipAssistantsNurseryCameras>. Or contact Pastor Amanda and let her know which Sundays you would like to help 803.465.3773 or aburke@relu.church.





Music Camp at Redeemer Lutheran (525 St. Andrews Road)

Preschool (4 years old)-5th Grade

July 29-August 2, 2024

Final Concert: August 2, 11:30 a.m.

Be a part of this fun-filled week of singing, games, playing instruments, and FUN!

Each day campers will—

- Sing great songs
- Play instruments
- Participate in fun music activities
- Do Arts and Crafts
- Play music games



PRESENTS

A Parade of Plays

An Evening of Short Plays and Musicals

November 9, 10

7:00 p.m.

Fellowship Center

This year the 525 Players are mixing it up. Instead of one big production we'll be presenting 6 (or so) 10-minute plays and one short musical. Included in the bunch will be Randall Cook's delightful "Box Office Blues."

Randall is a son of our congregation who is now a playwright living in New York. We are so proud of him and his accomplishments, including this award-winning play.

Here's a list of the other shows—

- The Garage Sale
- The Suitcase
- The Keys to Life
- Two Ships
- The Garage Sale of Amazing Items
- End of the Line

This promises to be a fun-filled, laugh-filled, entertaining evening. Don't miss this 525 Players production of —

A Parade of Plays



Stock in Redeemer's Youth: Growth for the Present and the Future

A big thank you to all those that have supported our Redeemer Youth through buying stock in their faith journey at the ELCA Youth Gathering. During July we will still sell stock until we reach our goal. Each share of stock is \$20 and the money will go toward the meals for the group while traveling and in New Orleans. \$40 per day per person should cover this. We have a lofty goal of raising \$280 per person. If you choose to purchase one or more shares of stock in the Redeemer youth you'll hear from our youth and adults while they are in New Orleans. You'll also be invited to a dinner hosted by the youth where they will share their experiences and how it has impacted their lives. Thank you for your continuous and generous support of the Redeemer Youth.



Home Communion Team Reminder for July

Home Communion Team! July 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! Are you someone who would like more information about receiving or taking home communion? Give Pastor Amanda a call or text 803.465.3773.



Why Is there No Council Report?

The Council took a break from meeting in June, so there is no report of decisions included in this newsletter.

By the Numbers

	May YTD 2024	May YTD 2023	May YTD 2022
Total income	\$152,754	\$188,218	\$177,303
Total expenses	\$178,994	\$214,845	\$205,553
Income less expense	(\$26,240)	(\$26,627)	(\$28,250)
Unrestricted cash balance	\$234,242	\$163,808	\$151,165
Attendance	Onsite: 121 Online: 107	On site: 102 Online: 71	On site: 94 Online 108



When I went to seminary I felt like one of my primary textbooks should be a dictionary. There were so many long words that often had a much simpler meaning. But yet, we still use those big fancy words. And here's a little secret... often I still have to look up many of these long words to make sure I know exactly what they mean. So, I figured we could look at these words together in a monthly newsletter article.

Let's look at Benediction.

Benediction - Literally describes the utterance of good wishes. Within Christianity, those good wishes often come in the form of a blessing. The most common place this word is used describes the blessing

of the congregation after Holy Communion and before the conclusion of the worship service. The word "benediction" comes from the Latin bene meaning "good" and dicere meaning "say."

The blessing that a benediction conveys is one of God's blessing upon creation. We can find a variety of these blessings in scripture. "May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations." Psalm 67:1-2. Other blessings or benedictions can be found throughout the Old and New Testament.

My favorite benediction comes from Numbers chapter 6. God spoke to Moses giving him instructions to have Aaron speak to the people of Israel. "The Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you; may



the Lord's countenance look upon you and give you peace." What a comfort to know that God gave these words to the Israelites and also to us today.

Are there specific words that you'd like for me to address in future articles? Send them to me!

Blessings,
Pastor Amanda



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>30</p> <p>8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult 9:30am - Choir practice 10am - ELCA Youth Gathering 10am - Worship 12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian 2pm - Book Study @ Zoom 4pm - Agape Myanmar Youth</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10:30am - Staff Meeting @ front</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6pm - NAMI support group @</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10am - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>
<p>7</p> <p>8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult 9:15am - Choir practice 10am - Worship 11:15am - Worship & Music @ 12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian 2pm - Book Study @ Zoom</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Agape Myanmar Christian Church VBS @ Fellowship Center 10:30am - Staff Meeting @ front</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p> <p>8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult 9:15am - Choir practice 10am - Worship 12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:30am - Staff Meeting @ front</p>	<p>16</p> <p>ELCA Youth and Young Adult Gathering @ NOLA</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10am - Agape Myanmar Christian 6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>
<p>21</p> <p>8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult 9:15am - Choir practice 10am - Worship 12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian 6pm - Church Council @ large</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:30am - Staff Meeting @ front</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Mosaic Camp Setup @ Everywhere!</p>	<p>25</p> <p>12pm - Leisure Timers @ 6pm - NAMI support group @</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10am - Agape Myanmar Christian 6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Mosaic Camp Setup @ Everywhere! 8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult 9:15am - Choir practice 10am - Worship 12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Community Music Camp @ Everywhere! 10:30am - Staff Meeting @ front</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10am - Thursday Bible Study @ 6pm - NAMI support group @ 7pm - Thursday Bible Study @</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10am - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>

RELU YOUTH

Calendar

Always subject to change!

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

There may not be much on the calendar right now. However, we are working to make plans for each of the youth groups for the coming school year. Are you interested in working with one of the groups? Contact Pastor Amanda for more information!





Redeemer Lutheran Church

525 St. Andrews Rd
Columbia, SC 29210
(803) 772-5419
www.relu.church

Address Service Requested

Rev. Gary Loadholdt, Senior Pastor

Cell Telephone: 803-528-5693

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

Sunday Services

8:45 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

2024 Congregation

Term Expires End of 2024

Bill Newmyer

Carol Valovcin

Linda Wells

Term Expires End of 2025

Kai Jørgensen

Fauni Lowe

Mike Parker

Term Expires End of 2026

Diane Hunt

Donna Nunamaker

Shannon Smith

Executive Committee

President

Bill Newmyer

Vice President

Diane Hunt

Treasurer

Todd Anderson

Secretary

Donna Nunamaker

Online Giving

Scan this symbol with your
smart phone to be con-
nected to our online giving

