

# Annual Congregational Meeting Following Worship November 10

Redeemer's Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for November 10 following our worship service. On the agenda is



the approval of the 2025 Spending Plan and the election of new members to the Church Council. Copies of the Proposed 2025 Spending Plan and biographical Information on the Nominees for Council are available in the

The proposed Spending Plan is a deficit plan, providing a challenge to our congregation. Most of the deficit can be accorded to new initiatives directed to maintenance and improvements

to our property that have been deferred for many years. Also included is a paid position to help manage and oversee some of the property issues so that can be removed from the pastors' responsibilities. While deficit budgets can be concerning we have h ad them for the past several years and our income has always exceeded expenses. We remain in good financial position to cover any unforeseen shortfall.

# Nominees for **Church Council**

Council nominees for this year (listed in alphabetical order):

> Gary Byrd Kathy Chartier Holly May **Brian Metz** Martie Newmyer Martha Summer

Please plan to attend this important meeting in the life of our Church Family.

Narthex.

#### 'Meal of Thanks' Scheduled Following Worship on November 24

With one of the presentations by the 525 Players scheduled for the afternoon of November 10, having a meal following our

We Gather

ogethe

Annual Congregational meeting wasn't going to work, but knowing how much our church family likes to be together and to share a meal, the Church Council scheduled a special "Meal of Thanks" for November 24 following our worship. Sche

uled near Thanksgiving, this meal will give thanks to God for all of God's blessings, but especially we can give thanks for our church family and all the many ways God's work is supported and encouraged here. We give thanks in joy to God and for each other.

The meal will be catered by Mathias Sandwich Shop.

We will also have a Gluten Free variety available. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex. The menu will be: Roast Beef, Fried Chicken, Rice & Gravy, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Brownies and Chocolate Chip Cookie Dessert. All are welcome!

ed-	Holida

Holiday Food Boxes	54
Load Another Truck	x 4
525 Presentation	5
A Huge Thank You	6
It's Almost Time!	6
Ready by Five	7
RELU Youth	9

We were without power for three days during Hurricane Helene. I know, the way things went with some of you, that's not bad at all. Some of you were out for about a week, and some in the mountains of western

North Carolina still don't have power, even weeks later, and some of them still don't have water either. Normally in November, I write something about Thanksgiving and being thankful, and I guess that those of us around Columbia can be thankful for much. We can remember those who still struggle in our prayers and donations.

Nevertheless, at my house, we were without power for three days. I think Nan bore the brunt of all that because for all day Friday and some of Saturday and then on Sunday, I was able to go to the church which had power (and water, and air conditioning).

By Saturday, Nan was convinced that we needed to go get her mother and bring her to our house. Her mother lives outside of Newberry, and she didn't have power. Well, we didn't have power either, but her mother lives

alone and it seemed to us to be a good idea to bring her down to be with us until her power was restored. So, Nan and I piled in the car and headed up toward Newberry.

Nan's mother had about fifteen or twenty trees down, but a kindly neighbor had cleared a path up her driveway so



that she wasn't trapped in her house, and happily, so that we could get to her. We loaded her up and headed back to our house. We still didn't have power.

Now, you need to know that Nan's mother is a fairly avid Clemson fan. As evening approached that Saturday night, she began commenting about how she couldn't watch the Clemson game, or for that matter even listen to it on the radio. She really wanted to.

It was a little cooler on our screened in porch, so that's where we were sitting and as she talked about listening to it on the radio, I first suggested that I could play it



through my phone. She didn't want to do that because it would run my phone battery down.

That's when I had an idea. When we lived at the beach, hurricanes were serious business, and so while I was there, I got a radio that was powered by a crank on the back. Give that crank some turns, and it generated power for the radio to work. I still

had it in the trunk of my car for emergencies.

So, I got the radio, and we listened to the whole game, and when the power would fade out, we'd crank it some more and continue to listen. She was able to hear the whole game, even though we didn't have power.

It turned out that she got her power back before we did, so we took her home on Sunday afternoon, and early Sunday evening, we could see the neighborhood behind us had power, and late Sunday night we got power too.

For the next several days, I heard people talking about being without power and when they got power back, and as I reflected on that, it seemed to me that we may have been without electricity, but we were never without power. God was with us. God is always with us, especially in our storms of life. Not all of life's storms involve wind and rain, but in those that do and those that don't God is always with us with God's comfort, care, healing, restoration, and hope. We may have been without electricity and needed to crank my radio, but we were never without real power.

You know, I am struck by something else too. From Good Friday to Easter, the disciples thought they were lost in darkness, without power too, only to discover they were in the midst of the greatest act of power imaginable. Friday to Sunday: the same time period I thought I was in darkness and without power. No, I was without electricity, God's power remained, and never failed.

As we give thanks this year, may we give thanks for God's providential care for us. May we remember those who continue to struggle. May we give thanks for God's power that never fails.

No cranking required.

			1942-00		
Svend-Roald Jorgensen	11/2			Croft Griffin 11/2	21
Gary Loadholdt	11/2	NOVENI	REK	Haley Sprankle 11/2	22
Dorothy Park	11/5	🎾 — - Guindayi		Robert Paul Austin	11/23
Lois Fernberg	11/6	Amelia Honeycutt	11/15	Everly Russell	11/23
Marsha Morgan	11/6	Laurel Cowan	11/16	Ellus Burns	<b>1</b> 1/26
Margaret Davis	11/7	Jackson Hardee	11/17	Suzanne McGuffin	11/27
Paulette Bachman	11/9	Dianne Shealy	11/17	Marcella Burke	11/28
Caitlin McGuffin	11/10	Faith Thomas	11/17	Siri Burke	11/28
Phyllis Bray Huffman	11/11	Kevin Burke	11/18	Earl Wells	11/28
Carolyn Champion	11/12	Courtney White	11/18	Barbara Martens	11/30
Henry Vander Voort	11/12	Bailey Johnson	11/20		
Carli Baker	11/14	Martie Newmyer	11/20		
Michelle Knight	11/14	Marilyn Bedenbaugh	11/21		

# Leisure Timer's to See Creche Display at Mepkin Abbey

Leisure Timer's, we are off and running again! On



Thursday, November 21st, we will be traveling to Monks Corner, SC. Following lunch at a local restaurant, we will tour the Mepkin Abbey's

"Glass and Under Glass Creche Festival. These hand crafted scenes of the Nativity come from Monks around the world. There is no admission (donations are welcome), but everyone will still need to sign up. Watch for more details!

## 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:

All the volunteers who helped load the recent truck for Williamsburg County as well as all those who donated items,

Andrew Peek who provided water for those loading the truck, and to

**Tom Lass** for his work to provide furniture for Afghan and Ukrainian refugees through Lutheran Services Carolinas to help furnish their new homes.



#### **Thanksgiving/Christmas** Meals

The hunt is on for good deals on Turkeys (11-14 lbs.) and frozen pumpkin pies in the Irmo

area, if you see any that seem like a really good price please let Michelle Knight know via

email mbknight@mailbox.sc.edu, text 803-238-0253 or

when you see her at church on Sunday. Still time to sponsor a whole meal the price is \$60.00 per family. Any donations amounts are accepted, please mark them Thanksgiving/Christmas meals and put in the offering plate, mail or drop off in



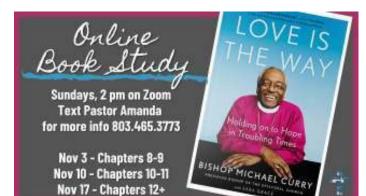
the church office. We are also collecting those recycled fabric type shopping bags to deliver the meals to Seven Oaks, please place on the counter/island in the fellowship kitchen. Michelle Knight can answer any questions. Thank you for your support.



# "Share the Warmth" Coat **Drive Heats Up**

Our "Share the Warmth" Coat Challenge has gotten off to a wonderful start! As of October 22<sup>nd</sup> we have already collected 37 coats and several warm hats,

gloves and scarves! Invite your family and friends to join our challenge. We are touching the lives of our neighbors in such a warm way. Thanks for your help!



# **Come Help Load a Truck for**

## Williamsburg County November 15

The truck full of donations we took to Williamsburg County in October held a lot, but we still have a lot of items ready to send to them, so we've scheduled our next truck loading for November 15 starting at



water and warm feelings will be provided.

We don't often get to

say this, but now is a great time to bring your donations. While we have a lot of things to take, we can probably fit more (we have excellent truck packers). Even more, this will likely be our last truck of donations before Christmas, so our donations really make a difference at this time. Many items we send will become Christmas gifts that people there will give and receive. Thank you for your support and generosity for those in need.



## Home Communions in November

Home Communion Team! November 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.







## A Parade of Plays:

## An Evening of Short Plays and Musicals

November 9, 10

7:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

#### **Fellowship Center**

This year the 525 Players are mixing it up. Instead of one big production we'll be presenting five 10-minute plays. 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 Garage Sale The Suitcase The Keys to Life Two Ships The Garage Sale of Unusual Items

#### BUT WAIT---THERE'S MORE!!

We're adding something special to that performance—A BRAND NEW SHORT PLAY!

That's right, 525 Players will premiere a newly written play....and I wrote it...all by myself. (Okay, Janet helped, of course!) The play is called **"Strangers in the Light of Day".** 

You may have heard the term 'workshop' in theatre circles. Typically, you'll hear something like, "we're workshopping this play', meaning the play is still in a formative stage, and the audience gets to give feedback to the author and performers so that improvements, revisions, and edits can be made.

We'll still be 'on-book', meaning we'll have our scripts on stage. Following the presentation of the play, we'll have an audience 'talk-back' so you can give your critique of the show. Be honest. As an author, I depend on your honest opinions about the show. Come be an integral part in the creative process, and hopefully, enjoy a show with a message and moral.

#### And as if that's not enough fun, come be a part of the Christmas fun with the Choral Scholars' Christmas Program on December 6.

Come hear and enjoy all kinds of wonderful Christmas music. It'll be a fantastic way to kick off your holiday season and put in in that Christmas spirit! This is a benefit concert. One hundred percent of all



proceeds from this event will go directly to the ELCA Good Gifts program. We are going to give all proceeds from this show to help support the ELCA's outreach to displaced youth who are unhoused. It's not a category that gets a lot of attention, but our scholars feel strongly that they want to help these young people, who for a variety of reasons are without adequate housing.

So, please, come see this show and give generously. Your financial generosity might mean a struggling teenager can have a home for Christmas. And, maybe, they'll feel that somebody cares, that they are loved and accepted.

## A Letter from Lunch on the Lawn/Resurrections

#### **Remember When We Gave Tee Shirts for Lent?**

Please communicate to your lovely congregation, on behalf of all of the folks now wearing spanking new T shirts and other articles of clothing, a hearty thank you for that magnificent

donation. We still have a few items left, which will be distributed again in October, but let me share this.

I'm not sure we've ever had a clothing distribution at Hope Plaza that profuse, tables stacked chest high with clothing. My fear (call it an anxiety), was that we'd have to take some back to the church. Not one single article of clothing remained at day's end. Not one. I point this out to reaffirm just how desperate folks on the street long for clean clothes, never, well, rarely......concerning themselves over style points. A little street diddy: Some do 'style and profile' when they can. It's rare but kinda fun to see them enjoying a bit of luxury from time to time.

We are entering the winter months in late October so let everyone know this: Don't discard tennis shoes or sweaters or hoodies....or jeans of any sort or size. Collect them up and holler when there is a pile to collect. Our M.O. here (modus operandi, (take that Mrs. Mcdearmon (my lovely former Latin Teacher)).....is to encourage all within

our network to collect what they can when they can with the knowledge that if everyone chipped in one article of clothing per month, the network is large enough to yield enough to distribute each and every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday. I'm grateful you are in that community.

Again, thank you. Larry *L S Nichols* 

## It's Almost Time...!

The Giving Tree will be up and running soon. Watch for an



announcement with more details in the Go and Serve. This year Redeemer is giving Christmas gifts to 26 children from 7 needy families that are served

by Sharing God's Love. Each family will also receive a Walmart gift card and a Bible. The Giving Tree has been a tradition at Redeemer for over 30 years thanks to the generosity of our church family.



# Daylight Savings Time Ends November 3

Set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night!



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. There are also many concepts that I had to wrap my mind around as well. So, I



that I had to wrap my mind around as well. So, I figured we could look at these words and ideas together in a monthly newsletter article.

Let's look at Diakonia

Diakonia is a Greek word found in scripture.  $\Delta \iota \alpha \kappa ov \iota \alpha$  (dee-ak -on-ee'-ah) refers to service for the sake of others. Christ modeled a life of service and we are to follow his lead. This is also where the term "deacon" comes from. Deacons are called to word and service ministry – sharing the Gospel with others and caring for the greater community.

This concept in scripture can relate to serving others through caring for their physical needs, meeting financial needs, supporting others through life's journey, and more. Today, diakonia is used in the names of organizations helping those in need, congregations, and particular ministries with a service focus.

When the Redeemer Family looks outward to support those in our community, to serve others, and care for those in need we're participating in the diakonia that was integral for the formation of the early church. One way we've experienced this comes from our relationship with Seven Oaks Elementary School. Through the holiday meal boxes, collecting school supplies, and providing books we intentionally look for ways to serve the families in our area.

These opportunities for service have increased lately. Lexington Richland School District 5 has a program that supports young children and their families – Ready By 5. One part of this program, Little Learners, is a class for parents and children to develop early learning skills they can



use at home. The social workers that provide this program were looking for space to house these opportunities. Guess what... Redeemer currently has a preschool wing that is rarely used.

It is a natural fit. For over 20 years, our building's preschool wing nurtured children in their learning and created a diverse community. While it sat vacant for a few years, it is now providing that same opportunity again. The same diakonia is there, it just looks different now. The Ready By 5 program currently uses two of the preschool classrooms once a month. On those days joyful laughter, learning, and fun pour out of those rooms once more. The Lexington Richland 5 social workers and Pastor Amanda are discussing other ways that Redeemer can support local families, schools, and create a safe and nurturing space for children to grow, learn, and feel God's great love. Look for more updates to come!

If you'd be interested in opportunities to learn more about this program or to volunteer talk with Pastor Amanda.



# Council Prepares for Annual Congregational Meeting November 10

With a very full October agenda, the Council got right to work, first hearing reports from

the Pastors and Treasurer Todd Anderson. Pastor Amanda also reported on the 'Core Values' discussions held with many groups of the congregation and the Congregation will be updated during the Annual Meeting.

Pastor Gary updated the Council regarding the search for a new Music Director and presented a proposed job description for Council's approval before the search actively begins. Specific duties will relate to the gifts and talents of whomever we find. The Search Committee has also developed an interview protocol when they get candidates.

There was discussion about a celebration of Jim's ministry among us and it was scheduled for January 11. The congregation will be asked to donate toward a gift for him.

Pastor Gary reported that the Nominating Committee had found nominees for our upcoming election at the Annual Meeting. The nominees are Gary Byrd, Kathy Chartier, Holly May, Brian Metz, Martie Newmyer, and Martha Summer.

Because of plans for a 525 Players presentation later on November 10, we can't have a dinner following the Annual Meeting, so Council is offering a special "Meal of Thanks" congregational dinner on November 24 following worship. Mathias will be catering the meal and the congregation is asked to bring desserts to share. Traditionally in the December meeting, newly elected Council members are invited, and following the meeting, the Council goes out to eat together. In the recent past, finding a place has been difficult, but if possible, Council hopes to continue that tradition this year.

Finally, the 2025 Spending Plan was presented from the Finance Committee. As in the past several years, this Spending Plan is a deficit plan, largely due to many property issues. The Property Action Team has been addressing deferred maintenance, upkeep, and repairs that have been in need of doing, and this budget even includes funds for a staff person to help oversee the ongoing needs of our facilities.

Pastors Gary and Amanda were excused so that the Council could make salary recommendations into the Spending plan.



- Music Director job description approved and search is underway
- Jim's ministry among us to be celebrated on January 11
- Nominees for Council: Gary Byrd, Kathy Chartier, Holly May, Brian Metz, Martie Newmyer, and Martha Summer
- Congregational Meal of Thanks scheduled for November 24
- 2025 Spending Plan discussed and recommended to the congregation at the Annual Meeting

## By the Numbers

	September YTD 2024	September YTD 2023	September YTD 2022
Total income	\$325,472	\$377,059	\$337,349
Total expenses	\$389,799	\$386,944	\$451,460
Income less expense	(\$64,327)	(\$9,885)	(\$114,111)
Unrestricted Cash Balance	\$183,201	\$184,273	\$89,823
Attendance	87 in person, 87 online	91 in person, 84 online	94 in person, 98 online

Set	15em - Agape Myammer Christian	12 1026 Playons 82 Foldowatup Centler 10am - Agage Myanmar Christian 10pm - Agage Myanmar Christian	18 Newbarry Youth Day @ Newberry Stem - Agape Myanmur Christian tom - Agape Myanmur Christian	flam - Agape Nyannar Christian Apan - Agape Nyannar Christian	10am - Agape Myanmar Christian Gen - Agape Myanmar Christian
FM.	épm - Agape Myanmar Christian	fpm - Agape Myanmar Christian	Apm - Losat Williamsburg Truck @ Spm - Agape Myanmar Christian	lşırı - Açaşa Myanmar Christian	Spen - Agapa Myaemar Carlollun
4	10em - Thursday Bible Study @ Tyles - Thursday Bible Study @	To Players @ Fetowahtp Cander Stem - Thursday Bible Study @ 6pm - NAM aupport group @ 7pm - Thursday Bible Study @	14 10am - Thursday Bible Study @ 7pm - Thursday Bible Study @	10am - Thursday Blele Study @ 12pm - Letsure Thmens @ 6pm - NAMI support group @ 7pm - Thursday Blele Soudy @	28 10am - Thureday Blate Study @ 6pm - NAMI auppert group @ 7pm - Thureday Blate Study @
Wed	30 Bjørn - HS Youdh Group @ 6.30pm - Chole Phedice @ Chole 7:30pm - Nandbell presides @	spin - HS Youth Group @ 6.10pm - Choir Practice @ Choir 7.30pm - Hantbell practice @	Apm - HS Youth Graup @ 6.30pm - Choir Practice @ Choir 7:30pm - Hantbell practice @	Spm - HS Youth Group @ 6:30pm - Choir Practice @ Chair 7:30pm - Hantbell practice @	Epm-H5 Youth Group @ 6.30pm - Choir Practice @ Choir 7.36pm - Handbell practice @
д	6.30pm - 625 Pohtaenal @	E25 Players @ Felloweitp Center		n	92
Man	16:30am - Staff Noeting @ Front	Start Moreting @ Front	11 13pm - Pirewie Lewitt & Fastowarap Hatt 90:30am - Staff Meeting & Front	10.30am - Staff Meeding @ Front	10:20am - Staff Meeting @ Front
Redeemer Lutheren Orunth San	27 8-46am - Fath Launch/Aduat 8-30am - Choir practice @ 10am - Worship @ Sanchiary 12pm - Agape Nyanmar Chriatian 3pm - Trunk or Treat @ parking	8:46am - Faith Launch/Aduat 8:30am - Choir practice @ 10am - Worship @ Sanchuary 11:15am - Worship & Music @ 2pm - Agape Myasmar Christian	0	1: (Sam - Faith Launch/Aduit 3: (Sam - Choir practice @ 19am - Wonship @ Sanchuary 12pm - Manee Myammur Christian 4pm - OK/Elsen Youth Group @ 6pm - Church Council @ Large	24 E-45am - Faith Lauectr/Adult 2:30am - Choir practice @ 10am - Worship @ Sanctuary 11:30am - Congregational Lanch 12pm - Agape Myammar Christian



# Grace the Chancel with a Poinsettia as we celebrate Christ's birth.

Please place your order by completing this form and returning it to the church office with payment attached via hand delivery, mail or the offering plate.

#### Deadline to order: 12:00 PM ON WEDNSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2024

#### Cost: \$15.00 per plant

Name of donor:

Number of plants: \_\_\_\_\_x \$15.00= \_\_\_\_\_Total

Make check payable to Redeemer Lutheran Church and **attach** to this form. Your plants will be ordered for you and billed to the church.

#### Citation to appear in the Christmas Eve worship folder:

All citations will begin, "To the Glory of God and ...."

Please circle either "In Memory" or "In Honor of" for each citation followed by the specific details:

1. In Loving Memory of In Honor of

2. In Loving Memory of In Honor of

3. In Loving Memory of In Honor of

Use the back to add more.

#### Important Note:

Because of ordering deadlines, orders must be received on time. Orders received after the deadline will not be filled. If orders are received after the deadline, we will make an effort to make a citation in the bulletin but there will be no Poinsettia to take home.

Thank you!











Calendar Always subject to change!

<u>Faith Launch</u> Littles-5th Grade Most Sundays, 8:45-9:30 am

<u>Confirmation Class</u> 7th-8th grades Sunday, November 3, 2024 @Zion Sunday, December 8, 2024 @Redeemer 1:00-4:00 pm

<u>Wednesday Night MS/HS Youth Group</u> 6th-8th and 9th-12th grades Wednesday, Nov 6 and Dec 4, 2024 Redeemer Fellowship Hall, 6:00-8:00 pm

Wednesday Night HS Youth Group 9th-12th grades Wednesday, November 13, 20, 27, 2024 Redeemer Fellowship Hall, 6:00-8:00 pm

Loading Williamsburg Truck Everyone! Friday, November 15, 2024 Redeemer, 4:00-6:00 pm

<u>Newberry Youth Day</u> 6th-12th Grades Saturday, November 16, 2024 Newberry College

Cookie Baking for the Fireman

Littles-5th grade and Parents Sunday, November 17, 2024 Redeemer, 8:45-9:30 am

Trip to the Firehouse Littles-5th grade and Parents Sunday, November 17, 2024 Redeemer, 4:00-6:00 pm

South Carolina Lutheran Kids Synod Event 1st-5th grades Saturday, December 7, 2024

> Making Treat Bags for the Homebound Littles-5th grade and Parents Sunday, December 8, 2024 Redeemer, 8:45-9:30 am



#### **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 Judy Chapman, Parish Secretary judy@relu.church

Sunday Services

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

# **Executive Committee**

President Vice President Treasurer Secretary

#### Bill Newmyer **Diane Hunt** Todd Anderson Donna Nunamaker

## **Online Giving**

Scan this symbol with your smart phone to be connected to our online giving



# 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

Crossroads