



Redeemer Lutheran Church

Crossroads

April 2025



Holy Week and Easter Schedule

April 13 Palm Sunday

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

April 17 Maundy Thursday

12:15pm Mid Day Quiet Communion
7:00pm Upper Room Communion with Stripping of the Altar

April 18 Good Friday

7:00pm Tenebrae Worship

April 20 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 20th 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.

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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I notice it every year. Every year when I step up into the chancel area to lead worship on Easter morning, the aroma of the Easter Lilies almost overwhelms me. Usually here at Redeemer, around fifty or so lilies have been in that sanctuary for about 24 hours, and the fragrance is everywhere. If smell had a color, this would be green. If smell had a meaning, this would be life.

On Easter morning all our senses are involved. We taste and touch the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Our eyes are filled with the beauty and joy of the white draped cross filled with flowers. We hear the resurrection story anew and the jubilant sounds of our hymns. And we smell the sweet perfume of the Easter Lilies adorning our sanctuary.

There are some interesting legends about the Easter Lily. One source I saw said that an Easter Lily bulb has to spend 3 years underground before it grows and blooms. It's hard to miss the connection of Jesus spending 3 days in the tomb before his resurrection.

The Easter Lily is shaped like a trumpet, pointing to our call to proclaim the news of Jesus' resurrection and victory to everyone everywhere, and how our joy bursts out from us like a trumpet blast.

A third legend says that lilies bloomed in the places where Jesus' tears fell in the Garden of Gethsemane. What is certainly true is that da Vinci's painting of the Annunciation, when Gabriel tells Mary she will bear a child, the angel hands her a lily.

I have also learned that about 95% of the Easter Lilies used in the United States come from just a few farms in Smith River, California and Brookings, Oregon. The aroma of those places must be amazing.

I'm going on and on about the aroma of these lilies because of something I learned recently in my Thursday Bible study. Right now we are studying 2 Corinthians, and in 37 years of leading Bible study, I had never focused on that book. It is complex, but at one point,



St. Paul speaks about the fragrance of grace. Grace, he seems to say, is like a pleasant aroma in our lives. It's a beautiful image. More, Paul says that we are called to live so that our lives spread that aroma of grace everywhere we go, and that we should go places in order to spread that aroma of grace. Maybe that's the word we should use for

Easter Lilies: If the smell of Easter Lilies could speak, it would say grace. It would say resurrection. It would say joy.

Every year, when the Easter Day worship is over, I invite and encourage you to take the lilies you provided to your homes. What a joy to remember Easter this way: to have in our homes the beauty that reminds us of the salvation Jesus gives, the reminder of our joy blasting forth like a trumpet, and that sweet, life-filled aroma of grace filling our nostrils.

Still, I don't know what you do with those lilies when you get them home, but I have this image that won't leave my mind. What if, every year when we took our lilies home, we planted them in our yards? Say you gave two lilies this year, and two the next year and so on, and you planted them in your yard, then pretty soon you'd have a whole field of lilies proclaiming to your neighborhood your Easter joy. And suppose your neighbors did it too. What a proclamation of grace among us!

Now, I know that greenhouse managers have to do special things to get Easter Lilies to bloom at Easter time, and that means that in your yard, they wouldn't bloom at Easter. It doesn't matter. How amazing it would be if we proclaimed Easter whenever they bloomed. How amazing it would be if we proclaimed Easter any time and all the time!

This year when Easter comes, be sure to notice the smell of the Easter Lilies. Fill your lungs with the fragrance of grace.





James Wise 4/2
 Jacob Sprankle 4/5
 Ernest Ashby 4/6
 Angela Braun 4/6
 Helen Epting 4/6
 Christine Nix 4/9
 Margaret Murphy 4/10
 Dylan Richards 4/10
 Bobbie Burgess 4/11
 Robert Sprankle 4/13
 Trey Turner 4/13
 Vicki Thornton 4/14
 Kurt Braun 4/15
 Jane Higgins 4/15



Gavin Richards 4/15
 Tyler Crooks 4/16
 Sydney Bachman 4/18
 Judy Everett 4/18
 Richard Kitko 4/18
 Stan Morgan 4/18
 Charles Cook 4/21
 Donald Knight 4/21
 Erica Wells 4/21

Nan Loadholdt 4/22
 John Moore 4/22
 Bonnie Berley 4/23
 Dawn Martin 4/23
 Kathleen Chartier 4/27
 Brian Metz Jr. 4/27
 Carl Mahon 4/28
 Whitney Metz 4/28
 Mark Burgess 4/29
 Patricia Crosby 4/29
 Herbert McKinney 4/29
 Paul McGuffin 4/30



Leisure Timers will not meet in April. There are so many wonderful worship and family fellowship opportunities during April! Our next meeting will be on Thursday, May 15th. Watch for details in late April. Enjoy this beautiful season of hope and new life. Happy Easter!



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:

Todd Anderson who serves as our lead tech guru when something goes wrong with our Sunday livestream and all our camera operators: **Todd Anderson, Marcella Burke, Brian Crooks, Bill Newmyer, Andrew Peek, Preston Smith, and Shannon Smith,**

Those who helped plan, provide food, and host the bereavement reception for Mabel Trexler and all our **Bereavement Teams,** and

All our many **adult and youth crucifers.**



Memorials Received
February 21st thru March 24th
2025
In Memory of:

Abigail Taylor

Marie Baughman
 Kathy Harrell

David Abel

Lynn Flood
 Julie Pell
 Jean Cook
 Margreat Larson
 David & Pat Sims
 Sharon H Graham
 Catherine Gleaton
 HR Mann
 Joyce Mann

Dot Corley

Cornelia Collins

Erna Aderholdt

Cornelia Collins
 Hugh & Connie Davis

Deborah Cousins

Marie Baughman
 Amelia Dowd

Mabel Trexler

Kathleen Chartier
 Marie & Michael Baughman
 Kathy Harrell
 Carolyn Champion
 Pat Crosby
 Bonnie Berley
 Jim & Cheryal Hinds
 Deborah Suydam
 William & Karla Trexler
 Trish Matthey
 Hugh & Connie Davis
 Amelia Dowd
 Cornelia Collins
 Evelyn Abel
 Nancy McKinney
 Robert & Jane Long



Easter Egg ‘Egg’stravaganza!

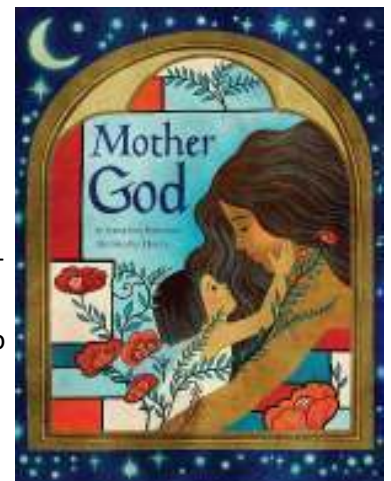
Redeemer’s Community Easter Egg Extravaganza is coming soon! Saturday, April 12, 10:00-11:30 am. All are invited (ages 0-104)! Activities and egg hunting for all ages! We do have an opportunity for folks to get involved! Teens and adults... would you be interested in

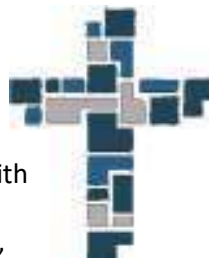


running the welcome table, preparing snacks, filling eggs, hiding eggs, providing items to put in the eggs, helping people at a craft or activity table, leading a game with older youth... or in another way? Please talk with Pastor Amanda, aburke@relu.church or 803.465.3773! This event is always a wonderful way to meet our neighbors and community!

Online Book Study Returning Soon

Redeemer’s online book study will take a break until after Easter. On April 27th we’re going to try something new! We’ll read a children’s book, *Mother God*. It is written by Teresa Kim Pecinovsky and illustrated by Khoa Le. Children and adults are invited to participate in a book discussion on Sunday, April 27 from 2:00-2:30 pm on Zoom. We’ll have the adults stay on the Zoom call until 3:15 pm for further discussion. I invite folks to purchase a new or used copy of the book and after the book study give it as a gift to a child in your life. Let me know if you need help purchasing the book. I will also made a recording of me reading it. Feel free to invite others! <https://relu.link/BookStudy>. For more information contact Pastor Amanda at aburke@relu.church.





Holy Week and Easter Music

Sunday of the Passion (Palm Sunday): We will begin the service with a festive procession into the Sanctuary with an organ piece titled "The King Rides In" and then the hymn "All Glory, Laud, and Honor".

The choir will sing Gilbert Martin's "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" for the offertory. As our usual custom there will be silence during communion and silence as we leave the Sanctuary and move into Holy Week.

Maundy Thursday: On this day we recall that Jesus gave us a new commandment that we "love one another" The choir will sing the beautiful "Thy Perfect Love" by John Rutter.

perfect Love" by John Rutter.

Good Friday: Music will feature the Redeemer Ringers playing "Ah, Holy Jesus" by Arnold Sherman. The choir will sing "For God So Loved the World" by Allen Pote and "Behold the Lamb of God" by Healey Willan. Jason Roddey will be playing an arrangement of "O Sacred Head, Sore Wounded" on the saxophone. We will end our service in the dark with "Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?"

Easter Day: Redeemer Ringers will be playing "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing" by Cathy Moglebust. We will have trumpet and trombone to accompany the organ on the hymns "Jesus Christ is Risen Today", "Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!", and "The Day of Resurrection!" The choir will sing "Now the Green Blade Riseth" by Kevin McClesney accompanied by the Redeemer Ringers. Organ postludes will return from being silent during Lent with Charles-Marie Widor's Toccata from his Fifth Organ Symphony.



The Thirteenth 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

- Bob and Janes Long
- Jean and Charles Cook
- Steve and Martha Summer
- James and Donna Nunamaker
- Nancy Beaver
- James Epting, Jr.
- Michael Shealy

WHOLE NOTE SPONSORS

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- Wally and Alma Schultz
- Gary and Nan Loadholdt
- Michelle Knight
- Judy and Philip Urso
- Bill and Marie Newymer
- Mike and Barbara Parker
- George Hallman



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 figured we could look at these words and ideas together in a monthly newsletter article.

Let's look at *Kyrie*

The word "Kyrie" comes from the Greek word *Κύριε* (Kyrie), meaning "Lord." In the context of Christian worship, *Kyrie* is often part of the phrase *Kyrie eleison*, which translates to "Lord, have mercy." This simple, yet profound prayer has been a central part of Christian liturgy for centuries, dating back to the early church. In the beginning of our worship service the *Kyrie* is sung, and it's a beautiful reminder of the connection between our voices and the larger Christian tradition.



When we say "Kyrie eleison," we are acknowledging the sovereignty of God as Lord over all, while also recognizing our own need for mercy. It's a cry for God's compassion and intervention in the brokenness of our world and in our own lives. In many ways, it's one of the most direct and heartfelt prayers we can offer, as it includes both our respect for God's authority and our deep desire for divine help.



When we sing or speak the *Kyrie* in worship, we're not just repeating a tradition; we're participating in a prayer that spans centuries and connects us to Christians all over the world. It's a powerful reminder that we are never alone in our struggles, and that God's mercy is always available to us.

So, next time we say, "Kyrie eleison," let's take a moment to reflect on what it means: to approach God with humility and to open our hearts to God's mercy and grace.

Let's continue exploring these big churchy words and ideas together!

Pastor Amanda

What We Heard on Communication Cards

We love it when you share your thoughts and experiences on the weekly Communication Cards! We really do read all of those communication cards each week! We've found that our faith family has a lot of wisdom to share. Here is just a bit...

There is still a lot of time left in 2025. We're moving into a new season of the church year, Lent. We've asked folks, what is something new that you want to try? Get back to attending church regularly, sing more old hymns, to learn to play my flute well enough to share the gift of music with others, losing weight, and riding my bike without training wheels. What about you? Is there something new you want to try this year?

Communication Card

Please complete, fold in half, and place in the offering plate or hand to a pastor

Name _____ Date _____ We change in _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Member _____ Tel. Home/Work _____ E-mail _____

Would like a pastor to call _____ Would like more info about _____

Interest that _____ in _____ in _____ in _____ in _____

in the support of _____ in _____ in _____ in _____ in _____

than I can help your faith? _____

And Now for something new: for the near future, the question on the Communication Cards will relate to the sermon for the day. We'd love to hear your thoughts!

Kevin Burke to Be Ordained as a Deacon May 4

Pastor Amanda isn't the only member of the Burke family who has been attending seminary. Kevin has also been in seminary studying to become a Deacon, and will be ordained here at Redeemer in a special worship service on May 4. Kevin will be serving as a

Deacon under call to the national Lutheran Men in Mission organization.



There are now two rosters in the ELCA. Some are ordained to Word and Sacrament ministry and we call those folks pastors. The other roster

comprises those who are called to Word and Service ministry, and we call those Deacons. Deacons can preach, teach, organize, or otherwise focus on service to God's people. Deacons may work in churches, hospitals, organizations, long term care facilities, hospices, and many more places where the resources of the Church may be helpful and felt. We used to have Associates in Ministry (AiM) and Diaconal Ministers, but these have been combined under one category now: Deacons.

The same week as his ordination, Redeemer is hosting a meeting of the Lutheran Men in Mission Board, so Kevin's ordination coincides with that meeting so board members may be present.

Congratulations, Kevin! We are excited to have you as a 'son of our congregation.'

Why Do We Drape the Cross?

If you drive through our community, you will likely notice that many mainline denomination churches have a large cross in their yard that is draped with a purple cloth. This is one way the churches mark the Lenten season. Purple is the color, and in Bible times, a cloth such as this was used to remove someone from the cross. From behind the cross, the cloth would be draped across the chest and under the arms of the crucified person and then the person could be lowered down. On Good Friday, the drape is black to indicate Jesus' death. On Holy Saturday the cross is bare as we remember Jesus in the tomb. On Easter Sunday, the drape is white to indicate Christ's victory over death and is left up throughout the Easter season!



Observing Holy Week



Palm Sunday /Sunday of the Passion —

The observance of Holy Week begins as we gather outside for the Procession of Palms in remembrance of Palm Sunday. Then, the worship changes to Sunday of the Passion as we hear the whole story of Jesus suffering and death for us.

Maundy Thursday — On the night when Jesus is betrayed and arrested, Jesus commands us to love and shared a meal of salvation with bread and wine. His love for us is so great that even Judas is included in this meal, even though Jesus knew what Judas was going to do. Here at Redeemer, the altar is stripped, leaving it stark and bare in anticipation of Good Friday, and then we celebrate this sacrament meal in an upper room experience.



Good Friday — We mark this solemn day with Tenebrae worship: a service of light and darkness. As we move through the story of Jesus' death for us, the sanctuary will slowly grow darker. The service ends in complete

darkness. In the death of Jesus, the light of the world has departed. Many say that their Easter celebration is much more meaningful if they have attended this worship.

Easter Day — We celebrate Jesus rising and appearing to his disciples and others. Our joy at his victory over death is marked with Easter Breakfast, special music, and the flowering of the cross, proclaiming our joy to the community!

Council Establishes New Memorial Use Policy

It's been an issue Council has struggled with for years, but in March, the Council approved a policy for how to use Memorial Funds. The issue is that often, funds are given in memory of someone and the fund can often sit there for years unused. Often, there are no pressing needs the church has for which to use these funds. In March, Council approved a policy that states how records of these gifts to the Church will be maintained, and further that when memorial funds have not been used within 24 months

- If individual memorial funds total less than \$1000 the Council may decide how to use them,
- And for funds totaling \$1000 or more, the Finance Committee will contact the family to inquire if they have a preference for how the funds will be used, and if not, offer them a list of uses compiled by the Council based on the church's needs, and
- If the family cannot be contacted, the Council will decide an appropriate use.

This policy allows the funds to be used for ministry and also cleans up records that have needed maintaining for years.

In other business, the Council discussed the upcoming Synod Assembly in Charleston on June 12-14. We are allowed 3 voting members, plus a voting member under 30, and one of color or whose first language was other than English. Several suggestions of individuals to be asked about attending.

There was brief discussion about the request to add a ramp to the steps going from the sacristy to the altar and that matter was referred to the Property Action Team.

Finally, Pastor Gary asked the Council about the possible disposal of the basketball goals in the Fellowship Center. They haven't been used in years, they are in need of repair, and are often in the way of other programs and events. Council was divided on the issue and is doing more investigation of the best options.

The meeting closed with prayer and the sharing of the peace.



- Memorials policy established
- Synod Assembly voting members sought
- Ramp idea to help Altar Guild sent to Property Committee
- What to do with old, in need of repair basketball goals under investigation

By the Numbers

	February YTD 2025	February YTD 2024	February YTD 2023
Total income	\$ 41,120	\$ 51,503	\$ 66,001
Total expenses	\$ 76,423	\$ 90,357	\$ 94,889
Income less expense	\$ (35,303)	\$ (38,854)	\$ (28,888)
Unrestricted cash balance	\$ 303,486	\$234,891	\$ 169,122
Attendance	onsite 89 online 91	onsite 113, online 87	onsite 101, online 119

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult</p> <p>9:30am - Choir practice @</p> <p>10am - Worship @ Sanctuary</p> <p>11:15am - Handbell practice @</p> <p>12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p> <p>2pm - Book Study @ Zoom</p>	<p>10:30am - Staff Meeting @ Front</p>	<p>11am - Private Event @ Fellowship</p>	<p>8pm - Choir Practice</p> <p>8pm - HS/MS Youth Group @</p> <p>7pm - Lenten Worship @</p>	<p>10am - Thursday Bible Study @</p> <p>6pm - NAMI support group @</p> <p>7pm - Thursday Bible Study @</p>	<p>6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>10am - Agape Myanmar Christian</p> <p>1pm - (W)HOLE in the Roof Dinner</p> <p>1pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>
<p>8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult</p> <p>9:30am - Choir practice @</p> <p>10am - Worship @ Sanctuary</p> <p>11:15am - Handbell practice @</p> <p>11:15am - Property Team @</p> <p>11:15am - Worship & Music @</p> <p>12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p> <p>1pm - Confirmation Class @</p> <p>4:30pm - Gamcock Lutheran</p>	<p>10:30am - Staff Meeting @ Front</p>	<p>11am - Private Event @ Fellowship</p>	<p>8pm - Choir Practice</p> <p>8pm - HS Youth Group @</p> <p>7pm - Lenten Worship @</p>	<p>10am - Thursday Bible Study @</p> <p>7pm - Thursday Bible Study @</p>	<p>6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>10am - Community Easter Egg</p> <p>1pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>
<p>Private Event @ Small Fellowship HQ</p> <p>8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult</p> <p>9:30am - Choir practice @</p> <p>10am - Worship @ Sanctuary</p> <p>11:15am - Handbell practice @</p> <p>12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>10:30am - Staff Meeting @ Front</p>	<p>11am - Private Event @ Fellowship</p>	<p>8pm - HS Youth Group @</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>6pm - NAMI support group @</p> <p>7pm - Maundy Thursday Worship</p>	<p>6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p> <p>7pm - Good Friday Worship @ Di-</p>	<p>10am - Agape Myanmar Christian</p> <p>1pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>
<p>8:30am - Easter Breakfast @</p> <p>8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult</p> <p>9:30am - Choir practice @</p> <p>10am - Worship @ Sanctuary</p> <p>12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>10:30am - Staff Meeting @ Front</p>	<p>11am - Private Event @ Fellowship</p>	<p>10am - Little Learners Lastlich 5</p> <p>8pm - HS Youth Group @</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>10am - Thursday Bible Study @</p> <p>6pm - NAMI support group @</p> <p>7pm - Thursday Bible Study @</p>	<p>6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>10am - Agape Myanmar Christian</p> <p>1pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>
<p>8:45am - Faith Launch/Adult</p> <p>9:30am - Choir practice @</p> <p>10am - Worship @ Sanctuary</p> <p>12pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p> <p>2pm - Book Study @ Zoom</p> <p>6pm - Church Council @ Large</p>	<p>10:30am - Staff Meeting @ Front</p>	<p>11am - Private Event @ Fellowship</p>	<p>Lutheran Men in Mission @ Fellow Center All</p> <p>8pm - HS Youth Group @</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>10am - Thursday Bible Study @</p> <p>6pm - NAMI support group @</p> <p>7pm - Thursday Bible Study @</p>	<p>6pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>	<p>10am - Agape Myanmar Christian</p> <p>11am - Redeemer Family</p> <p>1pm - Agape Myanmar Christian</p>



Calendar

Always subject to change!

Faith Launch

Littles-5th Grade

Most Sundays, 8:45-9:30 am

Wednesday Night MS/HS Youth Group

6th-8th and 9th-12th grades

Wed, Apr 2, and May 7, 2025

Redeemer Fellowship Hall, 6:00-8:00 pm

Dinner provided

Confirmation Class

7th-8th grades

Sunday, Apr 6, May 4, 2025

1:00-4:00 pm at Zion

MS/HS Gamecock Lutheran Visit

6th-8th and 9th-12th grades

Sunday, April 6, 2025

4:30 pm at USC

Meet at Redeemer at 4:00 pm to carpool

Wednesday Night HS Youth Group

9th-12th grades

Wed, Apr 9, 16, 23, 30, May 14, 21, 2025

Redeemer Fellowship Hall, 6:00-8:00 pm

Community Easter Egg Extravaganza

All Ages Community Easter Event

Saturday, April 12, 2025

Redeemer's fellowship hall, 10:00-11:30 am

Sunday MS/HS Youth Group

6th-8th and 9th-12th grades

Sunday, Apr 27, May 18, 2025

10:00-1:30 pm, Lunch provided

Redeemer, Small Fellowship Hall

SC Synod High School Retreat

9th-12th grades

Friday, May 9-Sunday, May 11, 2025

Coastal Retreat Center, Isle of Palms

Meet at Redeemer, Ride bus to IOP

Community Music Camp

4 years-5th grade

Monday, June 23-Friday, June 27, 2025

Redeemer, 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Details TBD





Redeemer Lutheran Church

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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

Jeff Clearman, Director of Music

jeff@relu.church

Lois McLeod, Music Assistant

Triple_L@sc.rr.com

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	Kai Jørgensen
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



2025 Congregation Council

Term Expires End of 2025

Kai Jørgensen
Fauni Lowe
Mike Parker

Term Expires End of 2026

Diane Hunt
Donna Nunamaker
Shannon Smith

Term Expires End of 2027

Gary Byrd
Martie Newmyer
Martha Summer