

THE REDEEMER REPORTER

REDEEMER L UTHERAN CHURCH

1054 Truman Avenue

Owatonna, MN 55060

October - 2017

A Congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

The Rev. Kirk Griebel, Pastor

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Dear Fellow Redeemed,

Is Lutheranism a separate church body? No, it does not have to be.

Luther and the other reformers constantly stressed that what they were teaching was nothing new. What they taught was the same as what was being taught in the earliest days of the church, long before there were any divisions in the church.

Thus, Reformation is still a great term to refer to what took place 500 years ago. Luther did not start over with a whole new church, he simply worked to reform the existing church. The formation of a separate Lutheran church became necessary when the existing church refused to accept the changes the Reformers wanted to make.

What Lutherans call the Invisible Church, namely, all those who believe in Jesus Christ remains forever. Jesus said not even the gates of hell can prevail against the church. But as long as sinful humans are leading and participating in the church it will always need reforming.

Martin Luther, and any true Lutheran, would be completely fine not having a church that goes by the name of Lutheran as long as whatever name the church was called taught the true Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Sincerely yours in Christ, Pastor Griebel

REFORMATION 500 EVENTS

Sunday, October 22 Redeemer will host its own Reformation 500 event with a special worship service at 9:00 a.m. followed by a program and dinner. The program will feature a presentation by Rev. Bill Natzke, retired pastor from Rochester, who will have just returned from a trip to visit the Luther sites in Germany led by Dr. Dean Nadasdy, president of our Minnesota South District.

October 26-29 Concordia University, St. Paul will host a variety of Reformation 500 events this weekend including a theater presentation on the life of Luther, an art show and top it all off with a mass Reformation 500 celebration on campus with mass choirs and Rev. Matthew Harrison, president of the LCMS as the featured speaker.

Sunday, November 12 A Reformation 500 event will be held for our region at Trinity Lutheran Church, Rochester, starting at 4:00 p.m.

FALL HIGHWAY CLEANUP The date for our fall highway cleanup is Monday, October 2. All those willing to help are ask to meet at Sette's Sports at 5:00 p.m. to get their safety vests and garbage bags.

REVITALIZATION PRAYER VERSE FOR OCTOBER:

[Jesus said] Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. Matthew 7:24

HAYRIDE/WEINER ROAST AT FRODLS The Board of Fellowship will be having a hayride and weiner roast at the home of Steve and Dee Ann Frodl on Sunday, October 15 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. All the food is provided just bring a chair. Frodl's home is located at 7873 SE 18th St. A sign-up sheet has been posted in the narthex to help us know how many to plan for. Come and enjoy the fun.

MOBILE FOOD PACK Trinity Lutheran Church, Owatonna, is hosting a mobile food pack for the Feed My Starving Children organization October 13-14. Redeemer is putting together a team to participate on Friday, October 13 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. If you are interested in being on Redeemer's team sign up on the sheet in the narthex.

WINTER COAT DRIVE for the Steele County Clothesline will run October 1 to 31st. New or slightly used **winter** coats, snow pants, scarves, hats, mittens for families in need can be deposited in the bin in the narthex. Thank you for your support! Volunteers are also needed. See the bulletin board near the work room for more info.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY You are invited to a Women's Bible Study entitled "The Many Wonders of Heaven" written by Donald Ginkel. Just the mention of the word heaven boggles our minds and moves our hearts. This study addresses the many questions about heaven and emphasizes the joy of our future home. It will meet the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., starting on Tuesday, October 17. Call the church office by October 13 to register. Or call Vickie Vannatta at 651-261-8373.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND OTHER BIBLE CLASSES

Sunday Morning Education Hour from 10:15-11:15 features classes for all ages from 3 to 103.

Wednesday Morning – from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

REDEEMER IS ON THE INTERNET Our services can be seen anytime on the internet. Simply go to <http://www.owatonnalive.com/Church-services.html> and click on the picture of Redeemer. **THE AIRWAVES** Charter Cable TV broadcasts our services on Channel 181 each Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. & Friday at 3:30 p.m.

PORTALS OF PRAYER for the months of October to December are available on the register stand in the narthex. Pick one up for yourself and one to share.

GUIDANCE FOR GIFTS Matthew Steiner, certified LCMS Gift Planning Counselor, will present a wills, trusts and estates workshop at Good Shepherd, Owatonna, on Sunday October 8. The workshop starts with a meal at 5:30 p.m. Call Redeemer's church office to register.

Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to Noon

PROVIDING THEIR TIME & TALENTS OCTOBER:

LAY MINISTER & READER: Ralph Bos

ORGANIST: Janda Pitan

ACOLTYES:

October 8 – Isabelle Schwartz-Woosley

October 22 – Claire Schwartz-Woosley

ALTAR GUILD:

October 1 – Jane Dauffenbach

October 8, 15 & 22 – Gwen Sammon

USHERS: Marvin Worrell, Steve Strusz, Ralland Lurken, Dave Fjordbak, Tanner Strusz

FINANCIAL STATISTICS

As of September 17, 2017

Actual Receipts: \$114,424.02

Budget: \$128,243.54

Over (under) amount: (\$13,819.52)

NEW ADDRESS

Richard Meixner (The Brooks) 2480 St Paul Rd. NW #121,

Iva Dell Armstrong (Koda) 255 NW 30th St. #417,

TRANSFERRED OUT:

John, Therese & Jason Sittig to Good Shepherd, Owat.

DEATH:

James Blanshan 7-16-1927 to 9/16/2017

OCTOBER BAPISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Vicki Bemmels	Izabella Pitan
Susannah Berndt	Samantha Reynolds
Florence Blanshan	Barb Schmidt
Troy Block	Cheryl Seykora
Cynthia Boerner	Jeneane Snyder
Cole Coleman	Ryan Stewart
Linda Coleman	Zachary Stewart
Mataleen Eastman	Mark Tesch
Diane Edel	Cory Urban
Elda Krause	Stephen Vannatta
Paul Kujath	Vickie Vannatta
Temperance Litke	Glodean Welch
Kylie Mouser	Wallace Wendel
Myrdene Meyer	

ONE FINAL ARTICLE ABOUT WHY I AM A LUTHERAN

Do I confess Lutheranism because I was born Lutheran? No. Because I like everything I see happening in Lutheran church bodies? No. I don't. Because Lutheranism is the rebound faith that I fled to? No rebound here. Because my pastor is a good guy? No. (he is, but that is beside the point) Because I like Lutheran music & liturgy? I hated it at first. Because I like Germany? Never been there. Because I was witnessed to by Lutherans? No, modern Lutherans are horrible at this. Because I think that Lutherans are better Christians than other Christians? They're not. Because Lutherans have all the answers? No. Lutherans thrive on paradox. Lutheranism can only tell you what it has been told by Scripture. Lutherans have the fewest answers of anyone. They resist the temptation to make stuff up when things do not make sense. I confess this confession because no one has been able to show me where it is objectively false.

I confess it because I firmly believe that it is the true explanation of God's Word.

I confess it because of the human speculation and opinion that it lacks.

I confess it because it is the clearest path to my Crucified and now Risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

Nothing will come between me and this true expression of Christianity... including Lutherans. Cordially in Christ, PTM

OUR NEXT VOTERS MEETING will be on Sunday, October 29th. Here is a summary of the July meeting.

Opening prayer by Pastor Griebel.

Minutes of the previous meeting (Apr. 30, 2017) approved.

Treasurer's Report: Maynard Maas reported all bills are paid. The June noisy offering of \$216.04 went to repair the main boiler pump. Income and expenses are normal for this time of the year. We still have \$869.53 in unspent funds from the 2016 earnings of the Endowment Fund.

Executive Director's Report: Steve Schmidt reported that Renee Moravec has joined the Board of Education. Also Jane Dauffenbach has taken over the Revitalization Committee. Thanks to everyone who helped with VBS.

Board Reports

Lay Ministry: Steve Frodl reported we are looking into making some small changes in Communion distribution and installing a suggestion box. We still have 2 slots left for the AED training. It is about a 4 hour class.

Christian Education: Steve Schmidt reported that the peaches will be here on August 4-6. As of now we have sold about 400 boxes.

Evangelism/Fellowship: Rally Lurken reported that they served snacks for VBS. Working on getting a date to do hayride again at the Frodl's farm and will be doing a Reformation dinner on October 22.

Church Properties: Roger Johnson reported that he will be looking into getting the overhangs on the outside of the church re-painted.

Staff Report: Pastor reported that we had 21 children in VBS. He thanked Steve, Kim and Kaitlyn Strusz for making the impressive VBS backdrop. We will have a VBS float in the Children's parade again this year. Pastor will be doing the Nursing Home worship services in August again. We still need 1 or 2 people to write articles of "Why I am a Lutheran"

Committee Reports

Endowment Fund: Steve Frodl reported fund balances are at a total of \$205,958.02. \$598.00 has been donated to the fund so far this year.

We have \$869.53 left from the earnings of last year. We would like to send it to the Synod but designate it to the 3 Missionaries serving in Spain. Motion approved to do so.

Scholarship Committee: Steve Schmidt reported that Tanner Strusz, Cole Bergeman, Sarah, Thomas and Katie Mensing will be receiving \$500.00 scholarships this year.

Revitalization Committee: Jane Dauffenbach reported that the Revitalization team had a successful picnic at the Courtyard Complex downtown on June 20. Luverne Wanous will be doing the Polka Service on Sept. 24th.

New Business –Motion approved to nominate Pastor Brent Klein of Trinity, Northfield as our circuit visitor. We need a lay person to join Pastor Griebel in representing Redeemer at the Circuit Forum on Oct. 1 in Northfield. Adjourned with prayer, attendance - 20

