

Redeemer News

November 2026



Redeemer Lutheran Church
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"Sharing God's Love through Jesus Christ"

This November newsletter will become available on the first of November when we will be celebrating "All Saints" Day after having celebrated the Reformation last week. I often wonder when we confirm our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed what is going through the minds of parishioners when we confess those words. "I believe in...the holy Christian Church; the Communion of saints." I especially wonder this when we have visitors for a funeral etc.

If someone asked, "what do you believe with the phrase, "Communion of Saints" what would you say?? If you were not sure of the response to be given, where would you look for an answer to their question? If you used Google AI, this is the answer you would receive.

The phrase "**communion of saints**" in the Apostles' Creed refers to the spiritual union and fellowship shared by all believers in Jesus Christ, both living and dead, and their sharing in holy things (such as the sacraments and God's grace). [Resource: The Holy See]

Key Meanings

- **Universal Fellowship (Koinonia):** Derived from the Greek word *koinonia* (meaning sharing, fellowship, or participation), it signifies that all baptized Christians are bound together as one mystical body of Christ, transcending local congregations, geography, and time.
- **Spiritual Union Across Time:** It connects Christians currently living on Earth with the "faithful departed" who have died in the faith and are with Christ.

The Definition of "Saints": In the biblical and creedal sense, a "saint" (*hagios*) is not just a specially canonized historical figure, but **every person set apart and made holy through faith in Jesus Christ** and baptism (such as the early Christians addressed by the Apostle Paul).

Well, if the above is AI generated is it accurate, reliable, trustworthy or helpful? Does it match with Scripture? Does it match the Lutheran Confessions including the Small Catechism? I've just started to use Google AI and it can really filter through a lot of material in a short period of time, but I would certainly caution anyone to use it as a definitive ultimate answer.

The beauty of our Lutheran Confessions, including the small catechism, is that it pulls together scriptural teachings into one group so that we don't have to read the whole Bible every time we are searching for information. Our catechism reads, "Note: the Creed in its original words speaks of the Church as 'catholic (universal)- that is, existing throughout all time and throughout the world, including people who confess and believe in Jesus Christ from every background (Rev. 5:9). Another way to say this is to speak of the 'Christian Church.' (page 207). All things considered I would say the AI answer is very close to our Catechism and Scripture with it's answer to me typing in the search box, "What is meant with the phrase "communion of saints" in the Apostles' creed?" AI can be very helpful but AI is not the final determination of truth!

Lutherans do not adhere to the Roman Catholic procedure of saint canonization. Lutherans confess as the Apostles' Creed confesses the beautiful "communion" of all believers in Jesus Christ on earth now, in heaven now, believers from Genesis until Christ returns in His second Advent. The wonder of it all is that even now before Christ returns in full glory, the "communion of saints" worships the Holy Trinity praising Father, Son and Holy Spirit for the grace, mercy, peace, and salvation given to us.

As Paul reminded the Christians in Ephesus, so we are reminded, **"So then you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God...Jesus Himself being the cornerestone..."** (Eph. 2: 19-20).

Now and always, we give thanks to Him who has made us His own.

-Pastor Ed





Worship Helpers

November 2026

Ean Norenberg	1
Jackson Jones	3
Tyler Kuhl	3
Kelly Jones	5
Mike Elmer	8
Erik Loverude	10
Todd Schulte	10
Phyllis Powers	10
Anna Beste	11
Brock Lewandowski	11
Eva Vasiljevic	12
Caleb Clemens	15
Dale Koehler	20
Dubravka Vasiljevic	22
Tristen Madison	27
Jim Armagost	27
Cory Haugen	28



Terry and Richelle Holman 20

ACOLYTES

November	1	Miles Lauterbach
November	8	Hazel Kuhl
November	15	Colton Buss
November	22	Leo Overby
November	29	Reid Lauterbach

LAY MINISTER:

November	1	Jerry Langland
November	8	Jim Danielson
November	15	Dale Koehler
November	22	Dan Meyer
November	29	John Kuhl

USHERS: Tom Cuper & Jerry Langland

GREETER: Joanne Gorres

READERS:

November	1	Shirley Klopotek
November	8	Kate Koehler
November	15	Larry Loverude
November	22	
November	29	

VIDEO:

November	1	Dale Koehler
November	8	Randy Richter
November	15	Larry Loverude
November	22	Chris Norenberg
November	29	Jim Danielson

POWERPOINT

November	1	Kate Koehler
November	8	Mike Sandell
November	15	Cathy Loverude
November	22	Daryl Roberts
November	29	Tom Cuper

COUNTERS:

Kate Koehler & Larry Richter

COMMUNION SETUP: Pam Humpal

INSIDE CLEANERS:

Nick & Katie Lauterbach

Redeemer Lutheran Church

You're invited! ♥

Swiss Steak Dinner

Friday, November 6th
4:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Swiss steak
Real mashed potatoes and gravy
Green beans • Roll • Fruit salad • Dessert

Dine In or Take Out

Free Will Donation

Everyone is welcome – bring a friend!

600 Keller Ave. S. • Amery

Partial Funding from Thrivent Financial



And my God will supply every need of
yours according to his riches
in glory in Christ Jesus
Philippians 4:19

Remember what a great gift
"Gift cards" are! And they are
especially helpful for the needs
of our Church.
See Pam Humpal for details.

Amery Food Pantry

This month we ask that you provide
food items to help furnish a
Thanksgiving meal.

Your choice!

Christmas Flower Sign-up

Please sign up if you would like to
beautify our church altar
for the holiday season.

Red, Pink or White Poinsettias

Sign up sheet with
all the details is on
the bulletin board.

Order Deadline is
November 8th

A farmer named Thomas woke up on Thanksgiving morning to find his barn roof had collapsed under the weight of a heavy ice storm, ruining stored feed and damaging his tractor. Frustrated and overwhelmed, he sat on his porch staring at the ruined structure, wondering how he would ever dig out and pay for the repairs.

A few hours later, a knock came at the door. Neighbors from down the road stood in the cold, holding thermoses of hot coffee, shovels, chainsaws, and toolboxes. Before Thomas could say a word, one neighbor smiled and said, "We saw the damage. God gave us working hands and a truck full of tools, so we came to be your answer today." and said, "We saw the damage. God gave us working hands and a truck full of tools, so we came to be your answer today."

That afternoon, instead of sitting at an empty, quiet table with a heavy heart, Thomas sat down to a shared turkey dinner surrounded by muddy, laughing friends who had spent all day rebuilding his barn. Bowing his head to pray, Thomas realized that God hadn't stopped the storm from breaking his roof—He had simply hidden His provisions in the hearts of his neighbors all along.

Thanksgiving was established to remind Christians that **we should thank God for his many blessings.**



Another Successful
Rummage Sale!

October 22-24

Thank you to all who
volunteered. You are very
much appreciated.

The money raised will go
towards local charities and
our Church needs..



REDEEMER LADIES AID MINUTES

October 7, 2026

Members Present: 13 + Pastor Ed

The meeting was called to order by President Debbie. Pastor Ed led a short devotion on the Reformation. Several members shared readings.

The minutes of the September meeting were read. A motion was made by Cathy Loverude and seconded by Marcia Meyer to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Pat gave the treasurer's report. Month-end balance for September is \$3,276.92. A motion was made by Jeanne Wilman and seconded by Joanne Stumo to approve the report as presented. Motion carried. Patty thanked the group for their donation to the Trick or Trot fundraiser.

Old Business

- Mite boxes were collected. Reminder that the LWML fall rally will be on Saturday, October 17 at St. Luke's in New Richmond, beginning at 9 am.

Rummage Sale – Set up for the rummage sale will begin on Sunday, October 18, followed by a potluck lunch. Jim and Marcia will order and pick up chicken for the lunch. The rummage sale will run on October 22-24. Joanne Stumo has gotten a Thrivent card. We have the hamburger and will be buying 22 8-packs of buns. Signup sheets for workers and cookies/bars were passed around and are posted on the bulletin board in the hall. The prices for the food will be the same as last year. Connie will print flyers for those who volunteered to put them up. Pat will get the permit from the city. We will have jams and jellies from Joanne Stumo's son in Alaska. BBQ will be made on Wednesday, October 21. Larry and Patty Kuhl's trailer will be used to take anything not sold to St. Vincent DePaul, and Dale and Kate Koehler will take it there the Monday after the sale.

New Business

- Fall Voters' Meeting – Sunday, October 25. Nancy Henck will pick up 6 dozen doughnuts for the meeting.
- Fall Steak Dinner - Friday, November 6. Signup sheets will be posted soon.

December Lunch – Wednesday, December 2, at noon, at the Village Pizzeria. No meeting in December.

Our next meeting will be November 4. Nancy Henck will serve. A motion was made by Joanne Stumo and seconded by Jeanne Wilman to adjourn. Motion carried. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Kuhl, Secretary

Redeemer Voters Meeting
October 25, 2026
(35 members in attendance)

President Mike Sandell called the meeting to order. Pastor Ed Clemens opened with a scripture reading and prayer.

A motion was made by Patty Kuhl and seconded by Jodi Cress to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Ten new members, Caleb Clemens, Mike Klopotek, Nicole & Hayden Klopotek, Jeff & Debbie Manlove, Beth & Doug Pratt, and Paul & Amy Spinner, were welcomed as members of Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the April 19, 2026 Voter's Meeting were read. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Dennis Nelson and seconded by Jim Danielson. Motion carried.

Board Reports:

Evangelism:

Our Evangelism Committee is in need of a Committee Chair and Committee members. Let Pastor Ed or Mike know if you would be interested in being part of this committee.

Education/Youth

We had a number of activities since the last voter's meeting including bowling in April, swimming in June and completing a service activity in October. Our fall education enrollments are 12 Sunday School students and four students in Wednesday Confirmation class. Looking forward to students singing in November and the Christmas Program scheduled for December 20th.

Fellowship:

The Fellowship committee organized various activities from May to October. On Friday, June 26, 45 members enjoyed Ribfest at Koehlers. Sunday, June 28, was our Community Outdoor Service. We had special music provided by Mary Hall during the service and after the church service we had a Picnic Lunch. On July 2 Redeemer provided Spaghetti Supper for Community VBS at Our Saviors Church to approximately 37 kids and adults. We planned and organized the pies for the Fall Festival booth. We took in \$1,446.00 in donations. \$720.00 was given to the Amery Food Pantry and the remaining \$726.00 went to our church Sidewalk/Parking lot fund.

A special thank you to the Sandells for planning, setting up and running the Children's area with games and activities. We are working to Prepare for the Swiss Steak Fall Supper on Friday, November 7.

Lay Ministry:

Changes in membership included the addition of ten new members and the release of one member. A successful Community Service was enjoyed in June with music by Mary Hall. We conducted video training in August and would like to thank our new volunteers, Chris Norenberg, Caleb Clemens & Darryl Roberts. Connie will be retiring at the end of the year; we are looking for a new church secretary. Lay Ministers would like to thank Mike Sandell and Larry Loverude for leading lay services; as well as Pastor Wilman who is now leading services when Pastor Clemens is gone. The Social Ministry budget was presented and \$3,550.00 has been donated to date in 2026.

Properties:

The Properties committee report started with a thank you to all who helped with the all that has been completed since April as we continue to invest in our church campus.

“Big” Projects finished include:

- Tuckpointing of front church facade and repair and tuckpointing of bell tower.
- Concrete repair work to the front church sign
- Installation of new AC unit for the church
- Painted the Steel siding of the fellowship hall addition
- Painting of the new steel door
- Installation of windows in the fellowship hall doors.
- Repaired 2nd level Bell Tower Windows and redid insulation on floor of that level
- Removed and repaved West Parking Lot
- New electrical Service in Aspen Rental completed.

A list of remaining projects for 2026 as well as long term projects were presented and reviewed.

Stewardship:

The basis of Stewardship is managing our use of the time, talents and treasures God has blessed us with. Thank you to all members for sharing your blessings at Redeemer. Time and talent surveys received have been tallied and lists are available for board and committee leaders. Offering envelope boxes are available when needed. The new system for envelopes is working well and there's no need to order more for 2027. We are working to organize an estate planning informational presentation, please sign up if interested.

Ladies Aid:

Continues to support the church in many large and small ways. Examples include making and distributing prayer shawls, offering cards for sale, sponsoring Christmas in July, donations to local charities, and supplying all the miscellaneous cleaning supplies and paper goods for church. Ladies Aid coordinated fellowship hour and provided a cake for Tyler Cress on Graduation Sunday. Rummage sales were held in April and October. Proceeds of \$4000 from April were donated to the church parking lot. October proceeds will be divided between church maintenance and local charities.

Public Relations:

Ads were placed for special services and events at Redeemer in the Amery Press. The gift card program continues. Through the program, \$2,500 was donated to the parking lot project. Contact Pam Humpal if interested in purchasing gift cards, or with questions about the program.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor reported that he felt Redeemer was in a good position compared to other churches in the Amery area. He encouraging us as members of Redeemer Lutheran to seriously consider Scripture's guidance- "But **grow in the grace** and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." (1Pe 3:18) "So then just as you have received Christ Jesus as Lord, **continue to walk in Him, being rooted and built up in Him.**" (Col. 2:6-7) Attendance in Sunday worship since our last voter's meeting has stayed stable 64 compared to 2025=65, '24=60, '23=63 for the average Sunday attendance. Stewardship and Evangelism are key areas for the health and wellbeing of a congregation.

Old Business:

None

New Business

We have 3 Open Positions at church that will need to be filled. Congregation Treasurer - part of Parish Planning Committee; works with bookkeeper presenting finances at monthly meetings. Church Secretary - paid position working approximately 8 hours per week. Financial Secretary - volunteer position, approximately 1-2 hours per week, additional time printing and folding reports in June and December. Contact Pastor Clemens, Mike Sandell or Dale Koehler if interested in any of these positions.

Volunteer coordinators for Fall Festival and Swiss Steak Supper Congregations activities. Contact Pastor Clemens, Mike Sandell or Dale Koehler if interested.

Presentation of work program for 2027. The 2027 work program was examined and discussed. The final 2027 work program presented was \$205,085; an increase of \$9,930 from our 2026 program. A motion was made to approve the 2026 work program by Dale Koehler and seconded by Larry Loverude. Motion carried.

Redeemer is planning on changing banks, switching from Old National Bank to Westconsin Credit Union.

A motion was made by Patty Kuhl, seconded by Pat Meyer to adjourn the meeting, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 am and we closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted, Kate Koehler, Acting Congregational Secretary

PARISH PLANNING COUNCIL

October 13, 2026

Present: Mike Sandell, Jeri Cook, Pam Humpal, Dale Koehler, Pastor Ed Clemens, Pam Clemens.

Mike Sandell called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM. Pastor Ed had an opening devotion and prayer.

The minutes of the September Parish Planning meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Pam Humpal and seconded by Jeri Cook. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Mike handed out the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Budget Performance Report for September 2026:

A motion to approve the treasurer's reports was made by Jeri Cook and seconded by Pam Humpal. Motion carried.

Pastors Report

Pastor Ed Clemens reported that in September there were four Sunday services totaling 241 in attendance with an average attendance of 60.25 per Sunday. WPCA radio devotions were given by Pastor Ed September 7-11. Sunday School started September 13. Confirmation began September 16 with four confirmands. Redeemer hosted the Amery Ministerial Association on September 17. September 19th, in the morning, Hayden Klopotek was baptized. September 19th, in the afternoon, Bridgett Madison and Taran Leight were united in marriage. The Gospel of St. Matthew continues as the Sunday morning study. Calls were made on members.

Upcoming Events in October

- Jeff Manlove funeral on Saturday October 3
- Amery Ministerial Association on October 15
- Youth Servant Event planned for October 24
- Redeemer Rummage Sale during the week of October 19-24
- Voter's Meeting & Reformation Sunday on October 25.

November 25th, 6:30 pm Amery area Thanksgiving Eve service at First Lutheran.

Board Reports:

Education/Youth: A Christmas program has been chosen and will be presented during the church service on December 20th. A youth servant event is planned for October 24th, 2-4 pm. The youth will sing Sunday November 15th in church.

Evangelism: Vacant. No report.

Fellowship: No Report.

Lay Ministry: The lay minister's had a meeting on Sunday, October 11, 2026. Pastor Ed is taking vacation, Sunday, November 8, 2026 and will have it be lay minister lead service. November 29th is a 5th Sunday and Pastor Ed will be off, the plan is to have Pastor Willman to fill in. Lay Ministry donated to the Salvation Army of Polk County \$300 and the American Red Cross of NW Wisconsin \$250. Connie, the church secretary, is retiring at the end of the year. Her job description and responsibilities will need to be reviewed.

Properties: Thanks to Debbie Raether and Randy Richter for keeping the church clean this past month. The Parking lot project has been completed with parking stalls painted late 10/12/26. The lot can be used as of Thursday this week. The quote for rain gutters on the west entryway is \$610 from RC Seamless. This falls in the category of church maintenance and Mike will look into this getting completed yet this year. We will need to get an electrical inspection on all three buildings: church, parsonage, and rental house by June, 2027. Mike Sandell reached out to JETA electric to see if this is something they could do. The cost for this will be between \$700 and \$800 for the three inspections. The church kitchen water heater insulation blanket had water in it from the expansion tank and this was repaired by Jeff Young. As always, please let us know if you notice something that needs repair.

Stewardship: Thank you to Nancy Danielson and Russ Boucher for being offering counters in October. More offering envelopes are being ordered soon.

Ladies Aid: Plans are finalized for the October rummage sale. Set up for the garage sale is after church on October 18th.

Public Relations: Getting the Ad in for the church Rummage Sale and the Swiss Steak Dinner. \$2,500 check was given to Peggy Kuhl for the parking lot for payment.

Old Business

Finalize the Work program for 2027. Projections for income coming in and expenses for 2027 were reviewed and discussed.

New Business

Pastor Ed brought up discussion about where the donations from the Swiss Steak dinner would be going. Suggestions for "continued church improvements."

A motion was made by Dale Koehler to approve the donations for the Steak Dinner to go to continued church improvements and was seconded by Jeri Cook. Motion carried.

Round table discussion

Mike stated that Julie Powers has resigned from church treasurer effective immediately. Patty Kuhl will no longer be the church financial secretary as of the end of the year and she is making a list of her responsibilities and duties for this role. Some discussion was had about potentially having the church financial secretary responsibilities and duties become part of the new secretary's position, depending on if the new secretary would be from Redeemer.

A motion was made by Dale Koehler seconded by Pam Humpal to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM. Finished with the Lord's prayer.

The next parish planning meeting will be November 10, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Clemens