

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

The Ringer ~ January 2025



From the
Pastor

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

Jeremiah 31:31-34 NRSV

The days are surely coming, the LORD declares, when the old will be no more. The waywardness, the punishment, the exile...and with them the lament of a people who feel forgotten. The LORD’S declaration is trustworthy and sure: the old passes like a faded flower or withered grass, and will be no more. The new will come ~ and the newness is not something that can be overlooked or forgotten, because it will be embodied and contained within God’s people.

“Happy New Year” can thus be a greeting that lifts up this Prophet’s vision. Not a vision of resolutions unattainable, but a vision that is centered in God’s goodness revealed to us by God’s heart, Jesus Christ. The Law, or perhaps better translated as ‘the instruction,’ is within us...it is written on our hearts. God is our Living God – and we then are God’s living people.

So, people remembered by God, recount this to your neighbor when you greet them with “Happy New Year.” Encourage them even in their sorrow that there is a God who loves them and is resolved eternally to embrace them in mercy, forgiveness, and joyful life in Christ Jesus.

In Christ, **Happy New Year** and Happy New Covenant! and may it truly fill your heart!

Pastor David

Council News

December Council Meeting Highlights

An updated **budget** draft was drawn up to present at the congregation meeting on December 15th. Please contact any Council member or the treasurer with comments or questions before the January 19th congregation meeting.

The Property Committee reported that more flashing on the building will need to be repaired.

Important Dates

Jan 5	9:30 service only; Annual Reports due
Jan 12	Blessing Box Sunday; Sunday school 9:30-10:15
Jan 19	9:30 service only, then potluck brunch with congregational meeting to pass the budget (Council will bring main dishes for the potluck)
Jan 21	Council meeting 5:30

Congregational Meeting December 15

The 2025 proposed budget was presented — **see next page**.
The janitorial services and choir scholarships are again being covered by members of the congregation.

Elections were held, with the following results:

- Council members: Sheila Alstatt, Jody Biegert and Wayne Keeler
- Endowment Committee Members: Ray Beckman and Samuel Neff
- Synod Assembly Representatives: Kris and Samuel Neff
- Nominating Committee: Rick Henderson

Thank you for your willingness to serve! And many thanks to outgoing Council members Tom Mertz and Ted Wire.

Proposed 2025 Budget

	2024 BUDGET	12/15 YTD	2025 BUDGET
Income			
2024 Pledges	\$ 220,478.00	\$ 218,471.00	\$ 220,585.00
Unpledged	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 13,081.00	\$ 15,000.00
Loose	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,508.60	\$ 2,500.00
Mortgage Principal Income	\$ -	\$ 4,450.00	\$ -
Special Offerings	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 21,707.22	\$ 2,500.00
Special Gifts-Janitor & Choir	\$ 6,965.44	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
Misc Income	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,703.97	\$ 2,000.00
Income Total	\$ 250,443.44	\$ 261,921.79	\$ 247,585.00
Expenses			
Education	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,381.68	\$ 2,000.00
Evangelism	\$ 500.00	\$ 798.56	\$ 500.00
Outreach	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 537.02	\$ 500.00
Property Bldg Repairs	\$ -	\$ 22,547.03	\$ 10,000.00
Property Equip Repairs	\$ 12,612.98	\$ 8,436.75	\$ 5,000.00
Utilities	\$ 21,387.02	\$ 20,822.81	\$ 22,000.00
Janitorial	\$ 5,965.44	\$ 1,700.96	\$ 6,600.00
Worship & Music	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,277.46	\$ 3,000.00
Choir Scholarships	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Synod Benevolence	\$ 9,600.00	\$ 8,800.00	\$ 9,600.00
Community Benevolence	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Contract Labor	\$ 515.00	\$ 720.00	\$ 515.00
Accounting Labor	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,815.00	\$ 2,000.00
Pastor Discretionary	\$ 500.00	\$ 259.95	\$ 500.00
Building Insurance	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 22,914.40	\$ 25,000.00
Work Comp Ins	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 830.75	\$ 525.00
Misc Payroll Expenses	\$ 500.00	\$ 479.00	\$ 500.00
Recon Discrepancies	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Misc Expense	\$ 300.00	\$ 145.62	\$ 300.00
Bank Fees/Surcharges	\$ -	\$ 315.94	\$ -
Travel & Meals	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,840.58	\$ 2,500.00
Mortgage Interest	\$ 9,547.00	\$ 8,297.82	\$ 9,547.00
Mortgage Principal	\$ 14,510.24	\$ 13,754.32	\$ 14,510.24
Pastor	\$ 125,932.48	\$ 116,682.69	\$ 132,001.38
Organist	\$ 8,827.30	\$ 6,505.00	\$ 9,356.94
Music Director	\$ 10,765.00	\$ 9,616.74	\$ 11,410.00
Payroll Taxes	\$ -	\$ 1,249.77	\$ -
Supplies	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 10,033.67	\$ 7,000.00
Youth Ministry	\$ 500.00	\$ 30.90	\$ 500.00
Total Expenses	\$ 257,762.46	\$ 265,294.42	\$ 275,665.56
Net Income	\$ (7,319.02)	\$ (3,372.63)	\$ (28,080.56)

Church News

Newsletter publishing talent needed

Mary Mertz has been publishing the Ringer the past two years (with help from Kris Johanson), and now she's ready to pass the torch.



It takes about 10 hours per month, mostly at the end of each month. Let the pastor know if you are interested in helping with this — Mary is happy to provide training.

There will be a new **2025 flower chart** located in the fellowship hall for those interested in providing flowers for specific Sundays.

They will continue to be \$27 for what the florist has on hand, and extra if there are special orders for particular colors or types of flowers.



Many Thanks!

Thank you to Pastor David and our Redeemer friends for the prayers, visits, phone calls, cards, food and flowers!! As you may know, I had a very serious accident the middle of September. This resulted in many broken and shattered bones in my right arm and shoulder. I had a complete reverse shoulder replacement surgery, and some of the crushed bones were also removed at that time. My therapy will be extended indefinitely.

Tom and I sincerely appreciate the kindness and thoughtfulness shown us during this time.

*God bless you all,
Sandi Drown*

Many thanks for the generous Christmas gift!

~ Pastor David and Anita

Church Financial News



If you donated a poinsettia, please take it after Epiphany Sunday (January 12).

From the Treasurer

YTD Income as of November 30: \$253,877.29

YTD Expenses as of November 30: \$261,640.22

Mortgage Balance: \$214,621.01

Endowment Fund earmarked for capital improvements: \$37,685

Rest of Endowment Fund as of November 30: \$237,881

Thanks, Kris!

Financial Secretary Needed

With grateful hearts we thank Joe Plumer for his decades of service as financial secretary. Week in and week out, he and Mike Ramage have collected the offering, counted it, deposited it and recorded it.

Joe is retiring, Mike is continuing ~ so Redeemer needs 1-2 more people to take up this important task. Please prayerfully consider serving!

Redeemer Endowment and Memorial Committee funds are available to our members by application. For more information please contact Grant Johanson for endowment and Cheryl Itschner for memorial.



The Endowment Fund

Church Events

Rejoicing Spirits
is for individuals of all abilities.

Bring the whole family & find new friends!

Food, Fun & Fellowship

Saturday **January 11** at 11 am.

Lunch and games after worship.

*Thanks to all the great volunteers who helped make our
Christmas play a success!*



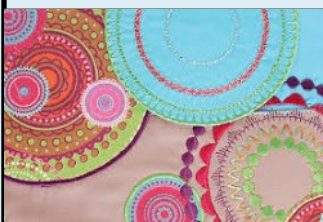
Church Events



Second Sunday Sunday School
January 12
9:30-10:15

We'll do our [Epiphany Spiral](#) for Sunday School this month.

Students are invited to bring one item to help decorate the spiral — a special rock, stuffed animal or toy, for instance (*nothing fragile, please!*).



Sewing Circle

The next sewing day is **Thursday, January 9** from 10:00-3:00 (come and go, with lunch in the middle).

Contact Carol Keeler or Debbie Beckman with questions.

Church Events

The children's Christmas program, "The Light Has Come," took place Wednesday, December 18.



(If you missed it, you can still catch it on Facebook.)

Thanks to Debbie Beckman, Ann Metcalfe, the Redeemer choir, the Godly Play teachers, Ray Beckman, Sue and Gary Mettlen, Mary Shaffer, the cookie bakers, and all who helped with the program!



*Happy
Birthday,
Jesus!*

Church Groups



Souper Sisters

Ladies' Outing ~ **Tuesday, Jan 21**
at Longhorn Steakhouse
2590 S. 9th St.
11:30 am

BRING A FRIEND ~ EVERYONE WELCOME!

RSVP to Rosemary Anderson 785-492-1859
or Susan Ramage 785-577-2473

*What good does it do me that the Christ is born in history
if the Christ is not born in my own soul?*

~ Meister Eckhart

G.U.Y.S.

Calling all men of the
church—the G.U.Y.S.
(Gearing Up Your Spirit)
group will meet

Tuesday, January 14
6:30 p.m.



Souper Bowl of Hope



Volunteers will collect cash/food donations at all three Salina Dillons locations on these dates/times:

- Saturday, Jan. 25 (10am-6pm)
- Sunday, Jan. 26 (1pm-5pm)
- Saturday, Feb 1 (10am-6pm)
- Sunday, Feb. 2 (1pm-5pm)
- Saturday, Feb. 8 (10am-6pm)

Businesses or churches should deliver their donated food items/cash donations to our warehouse at 319 S. 5th (the old Consolidated Printed building) on the following dates/times:

- Saturday, Feb. 1 (3pm-6pm)
- Sunday, Feb. 2 (2pm-5pm)
- Saturday, Feb. 8 (3pm-3pm)

Please make sure that you know how many items you have when you drop them off, and that checks are made out to Souper Bowl of Hope.

If you'd like to donate cash to the SOUPER BOWL OF HOPE, you can send a check (payable to Souper Bowl of Hope) to: Souper Bowl, PO Box 2861, Salina, KS 67402-2861. Alternatively, cash or checks can be dropped off at Central National Bank (454 S. Ohio, near Water's True Value). Please label the envelope with "Kristina Litchman, Souper Bowl," and include your name to receive credit for the deposit. You can drop it off inside or at the drive-through.

Lectionary for January

January 5 — 2nd Sunday of Christmas

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Psalm 147:12-20

Ephesians 1:3-14

John 1:1-18



January 12 — Epiphany Sunday (Baptism of Our Lord)

Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm 29

Acts 8:14-17

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 19

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 36:5-10

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

January 26

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21



his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.”

Matthew 2:9b-11

Partners in Ministry

Altar Guild for January: Cheryl Itschner and Kris Johanson

PARTNERS IN MINISTRY 8:00 SERVICE

	January 5 — 9:30 service	January 12	January 19— 9:30 service	January 26
Greeters	Kathy Heinrich & CeCelia Anderson	Jan Jackson	Gary & Sue Mettlen	Cheryl Itschner
Ushers	Joe Plumer & Janet Whitaker	Jan Jackson	Carol & Wayne Keeler	Cheryl Itschner
Lector	Tom Mertz	Mary Shaffer	Charlotte Herrman	Kathy Lowman
Communion	Rod Anderson	Mary Shaffer	Lana Jordan	Gary Mettlen
Sound	Mary Mertz	Perry Jurgensen	Kris Neff	Perry Jurgensen

Remember, if you can't be there on your assigned day, please find a substitute.

PARTNERS IN MINISTRY 10:30 SERVICE

	January 5 — 9:30 service	January 12	January 19— 9:30 service	January 26
Greeters	9:30	Dan Metcalfe & Lana Jordan	9:30	Debbie & Ray Beckman
Ushers	SERVICE	Sam Neff & Phil Sedo	SERVICE, then	Lana Jordan & Mike Ramage
Lector	ONLY	Ann Metcalfe	CONGREGATIONAL	Kris Johanson
Communion		Viv Cook	MEETING	Phil Sedo
Sound		Kyle Tonniges	Mary Mertz	Ray Beckman
Fellowship	Johanson	Keil	Potluck	R&R Anderson

The altar flowers sign-up chart is posted in the Fellowship Hall.

Please use dry erase marker ONLY.



Redeemer Celebrations for December

- 5 Becky Klaege
- 5 Taylor Koers
- 8 Troy Harding
- 8 Barbara Wire
- 13 Teresa Nelsen
- 16 Dan Metcalfe
- 18 Lee Smith
- 20 Joe Hartley
- 21 Marlie Potter
- 24 Sofia Trawkowski
- 27 Mara Pickering
- 28 Nayeli Green
- 30 William Strommen

Happy Birthday!



No anniversaries this month.

Content of the Ringer depends on you, the members of this church, for articles, photos, important dates, etc. The February newsletter deadline is January 20th. Information turned in after this date might not be included. The newsletter is available by email, mail or at the church.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 1-4 Pastor in office	3	4
5 930 Worship 1030 Fellowship Annual Reports Due	6 Epiphany	7 9-2 office open	8 530 supper 6-715 Godly Play/Connect	9 830 Breakfast Club 10-3 Sewing Circle 1-4 Pastor in office	10	11 1100 Rejoicing Spirits
12 Epiphany Sunday 800 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 1030 Worship 1130 Fellowship	13	14 9-2 office open 6:30 GUYS	15 530 supper 6-715 Godly Play/Connect	16 930 Silver Needles Sew-in 1-4 Pastor in office	17	18
19 930 Worship 1030 Potluck and congregational meeting	20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Newsletter Deadline 600 Silver Needles	21 9-2 office open 1130 Souper Sisters @ Longhorn 530 Council meeting	22 530 supper 6-715 Godly Play/Connect	23 1-4 Pastor in office	24	25
26 800 Worship 1030 Worship 1130 Fellowship	27	28 9-2 office open	29 530 supper 6-715 Godly Play/Connect	30 1-4 Pastor in office	31	

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

743 East Magnolia Road
Salina, KS 67401-6912
redeemer@redeemer-elca.org

Phone: 785-827-8195 ext. 101
Office Hours: 9:00-12:00 Tuesdays

Our mission:
To love,
welcome,
and serve
all of God's
Creation.



"Chosen by God...to love one another."



Like Us On
Facebook!

Find us on the web
www: redeemer-elca.org

Sunday Sermons can be heard on the
[Redeemer Website](#) and on [Facebook](#)
and YouTube



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's Work. Our Hands.



Pastor David Strommen

743 East Magnolia Road

Salina, KS 67401-6912

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dstrommen@redeemer-elca.org

Weekly Church Events

Sunday Worship (starting Sept 15)
8:00 and 10:30 Worship services
Fellowship after second service

Rejoicing Spirits
2nd Saturday every month
11:00 AM Worship, lunch & games
afterward

Wednesday
5:30 pm Supper
6:00 pm Godly Play & Connect

Organist: Ruth Mirtz

Choir & Bell Choir Director: Ann
Metcalf

2024 Church Council (Serving thru Jan 21)

Tom Mertz, Pres.	785-577-9456
Grant Johanson, VP	402-759-2255
Cheryl Itschner, Sec.	785-822-2693
Sheila Alstatt	785-643-0627
Lana Jordan	785-643-5253
Carol Keeler	785-825-4511
Spencer Melhus	785-392-0528
Mary Shaffer	785-826-5661
Ted Wire	309-269-5471

Treasurer: Kris Johanson

Financial Secretary: Mike Ramage