

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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Non-Profit Org.

US Postal Paid

Permit No. 370

Willmar, MN 56201

02/24

Address Service Requested

Go Disciple All Nations

Sharing Christ, Changing Lives

A red mailbox with the word "FEBRUARY" in white capital letters. Three small birds (yellow, blue, and pink) are perched on top of the mailbox. The mailbox is surrounded by numerous pink and red hearts of various sizes. The entire scene is enclosed in a black rectangular border.

The image contains two parts. On the left is the logo of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, which is a stylized cross made of black and white geometric shapes. To the right of the logo is the text "Lutheran Church Missouri Synod". On the right side of the image is a black and white photograph of a modern church building with a prominent cross on its facade.

2024

IN TOUCH WITH REDEEMER

A newsletter by and for the family of Redeemer Lutheran Church

Volume XXXIV, Issue II

You have maybe heard of SM Lockridge's famous Good Friday Sermon. He tells the Good Friday story interposed with the quote, "It's Friday, but Sunday is coming." It is a powerful short sermon that reminds us that even when life is darkest, there is hope because even though Good Friday was a terrible, dark, and fearful day, Easter Sunday is coming.



Lent is coming early this year; it begins on February 14th. As we enter this "Penitential Season," the readings in Church and the general tone become somber as we contemplate the depth of our sin. So we see the cross of Christ before us. He suffered all of our sufferings, He knows all of our hurts, He has wept with us in our sorrow of loved ones lost, and He has rejoiced with us in seeing little ones born.

As we progress into the season of Lent, we look into the darkness of our sinful hearts. If left to our own devices, we will certainly be eternally condemned. We dare not look to our hearts for hope; Jesus said, "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander." Matt 15:19

We are given to reflect on our desperate need for a Savior. Many have been driven to despair in recent years. The dark places of the soul are those places that need deliverance. At times, things do seem dire; it feels like that Friday when our Savior, Jesus Christ, was beaten and crucified for sins and crimes He never committed, your sins and mine.

Friday is here, but Sunday is coming. These are words of death and resurrection. Not just the death of our bodies but also the death of our selfish and sinful ways. The death of our feeling a need to assert our rights. The resurrection is coming; we will return to the life for which God made us, eternal life at peace and in harmony with our God, for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Good Friday is coming very soon, but without an Easter, there is nothing good about Friday. Death without resurrection is a terrible thing. We are blessed to have a risen savior who has promised that we will rise to be with him on that last day.

Easter is coming, and with it, there will be rejoicing.

May our Savior bless you and keep you safe in his arms extended on the cross for you.

Your brother in Christ, Pastor Craig Donofrio

SERVING GROUPS

We have monthly serving groups and if you're not on the list and would like to be, contact the church office.

FEBRUARY

Deb Bremseth – 320-231-2089

Sarah Fosso – 320-894-3325

Deb Bremseth

John & Sharon Cola

Ryan & Sarah Fosso

Jeremy & Nichole Gleason

Keven & Diane Hillenbrand

Jamie Jackson

Nancy Klaassen

Ben Kopacek

Brad & Claudia Lenz

Brad Marcus

Nathan & Margaret Nielsen

Wayde & Sarah Olson

Tim & Stacy Pollock

Charlotte Roduner

Joseph & Katherine Schaeffbauer

Jennifer Schoumaker

Dave & Lynn Sherod

Jeff & LeAnn Stauffenecker

Tony & Kerry Texley

MARCH

Beth Corti – 320-231-1907

Alice Beckmann

Marcia Conklin

Lee & Beth Corti

Noah & Desrae Forst

Kim & Karen Heiden

Robert Hillenbrand

Ryan & Laura Jackson-Bjonfald

Robin Jacobson

Richard & Donna Johnson

Brandon & Chelsie Kopacek

Jeremy & Andria Krakow

Philip & Michelle Marcus

Mick & Heather Moyer

Cheryl Niss

Tom & Tracy Ost

Seth & Allison Pollock

Todd & Audrey Raap

Debra Rodelius

Brad & Suzanne Skindelian

Wilfred Wenberg

Ted Wurm



NOTE: Please remember to contact your co-chair and ask them how you can be of assistance or just to let them know you are available.

REDEEMER GIFT CARDS! Order gift cards any time of the year! A percentage goes towards a Preschoolers tuition, to a Redeemer Youths account, or to our General Education. The percentage listed on the form is what the church receives back in rebates. **Fill out the form included in this newsletter or in the narthex! Deadline is Monday, February 12th.**

REDEEMER'S NEXT POTLUCK MEAL will be Sunday, February 18th at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to pass!

SHOES/BOOTS/TENNIES Don't throw those old boots or shoes away! Bring them to church, along with your other outgrown dress shoes and tennies, NO FLIP-FLOPS, and place them in the shoe box located in the narthex. They will then be taken to Lutheran Island to both benefit the camp, as well as people in other countries around the world.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!! For February we will be collecting "Hygiene Products" for our troops. Eye Drops, Lip Balm, Saline Nasal Spray, Disposable Razors, Foot Powder, Multi-Vitamins, Vitamin C, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, & Sunglasses. Please place donated items in box located in the narthex.

THE HAPPY QUILTERS meet every Monday at 12:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Come and join them! If you can tie a knot, you are a quilter! If you like to sew at home, there are squares available on the rack in the kitchen.

BUNCO!! Winter gets to be long, so come on out for a fun night of BUNCO on Friday evening, February 16. Don't know how to play?? No worries -- if you can roll 3 dice at the same time and can count to 21 (and if you can't count that high, we're sure other people at your table will be able to help you out!), you are ready to play! This is for all ages, so bring your family and friends. Supper will be served at 6:00 and the dice rolling begins at 6:30.

Are you struggling with depression, anxiety, loneliness, a broken relationship, or the loss of a loved one? Do you want to find help, but you don't know where to turn? Pastor Keith Brustuen is an LCMS pastor in Montevideo, and holds a Master's Degree in Counseling. His counseling is both psychologically and theologically sound. Find peace in the midst of life's storms. There is help for you and/or your loved one. Go to www.TheCenterforFamilyCounseling.com or call (320)253-3540. Appointments are available in person in Montevideo or via Zoom.

PRESCHOOL

Thank you for joining us in the soup and cracker challenge. The preschoolers really worked hard to bring us items to help others. It's such a tangible way to show the preschoolers how they can help others just like Jesus did. Raising 112 lbs. of food with your help was awesome! Going forward we are getting ready for Mom's Day and treating the moms to a fun morning with their preschooler.



We are putting together birthday cake packages. If you would like to donate a Thrivent card, please contact Michelle or Gretchen. Most of all, pray for us. We want to continue to grow the preschool, and we can do that with your help.

HEY YOUTH!

Here are some opportunities to hang out together!

YOUTH HANGOUT – February 4th from 7-8:30 pm. 7-12th grade.

SUPERBOWL PARTY! – February 11th from 5-10 pm.

SERVE LENTEN MEAL – Wednesday, February 28th, 7-12th grade will serve.

****Please bring a dozen cookies or bars.****

More details to follow on the Youth FB page and through Remind!

FAMILY OF THE WEEK! We are selecting two Redeemer families to pray for each Sunday in our worship services. Watch for a letter in the mail prior to the Sunday that we will pray for you and your loved ones.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES are in your mailbox and please make sure your name is on the top of the box. If you would like a box and did not receive one, contact Lori in the church office.

†† FEBRUARY 2024 ††		
WORSHIP SERVICES CAN BE HEARD IN THE PARKING LOT ON SUNDAYS BY TUNING TO FM STATION 101.9.		
	ELDERS	ACOLYTES
<u>Feb 4</u> 8:00 AM Communion 10:30 AM	Dave Danzeisen, Mark Sellmann Brandon Kopacek, Steve Lueders	Kaylee Cordes Stella Berghuis
<u>Feb 11</u> 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Stan Skaro Jeff Pitt	Ellie Runke Alex Rodriguez
<u>Feb 14</u> 6:00 PM	Dave Danzeisen	Ellie Runke
<u>Feb 18</u> 8:00 AM Communion 10:30 AM	Mark Sellmann, Lee Corti Brandon Kopacek, Leon Schultz	Kyan Schroeder Eva Berghuis
<u>Feb 21</u> 6:00 PM	Jeff Pitt	Ellie Runke
<u>Feb 25</u> 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Stan Skaro Steve Lueders	Griffyn Dahline Oscar Lopez
<u>Feb 28</u> 6:00 PM	Brandon Kopacek	Emma Fosso
<u>USHERS</u> (*Head Usher) 8:00 *Tim Pollock, Michael Gratz 10:30 *John Behl		<u>LIBRARY</u> Anita Petersen

YOUR ELDER FOR 2024

<u>ELDER</u>	<u>PHONE #</u>	<u>HOUSEHOLD NAMES</u>
Steve Lueders	894-5750	Aeikens – Corti
Brandon Kopacek	905-0734	Dahline – Hebrink
Jeff Pitt	894-3132	Heideman - Kopacek
Stan Skaro	894-9450	Krakow – Neumann
Mark Sellmann	522-0569	Nielson – Schultz
Dave Runke	894-1474	Sellmann - Zetah

<u>WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN SERVICES</u>	
Worship at 6:00 pm & Supper at 6:30 pm	
Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Service – 7:00 pm	
Easter Services – 8:00 & 10:30 am	
Please help serve a supper or two by signing up your board or group on the church office window:	
February 14	_____
February 21	_____
February 28	<u>YOUTH</u> _____
March 6	_____
March 13	<u>LWML LADIES</u> _____
March 30	_____

We would like to thank our Redeemer family for your prayers and support for our grandson, Spencer Thorsland, 13, during his three year journey with rhabdomyosarcoma cancer. Spencer is now in the arm of Jesus, fully healed of his cancer and enjoying the glory of our Lord and Savior. We will join him there when the Lord calls us home. Roger & Lois Koosmann

WATCH YOUR CHURCH MAILBOX FOR YOUR 2023 GIVING STATEMENT

Listen to Pastor Craig on For You Radio. "The Gospel for the believer and the unbeliever, alike!" There is a new program posted every Friday. You can subscribe for free on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, or wherever you find your podcasts. You can also go to www.ForYouRadio.org to listen.

SUN	ATTEND	COMM	ADULT	ELEM	H.S.	SHUTINS
Jan 7	178	150	62	11	8	
Jan 14	88		33	8	7	
Jan 21	160	155	58	12	8	
Jan 28						
TOTALS	426	305	153	31	23	
In by Baptism: Allie Cheryl Norlien In by Affirmation of Faith: Jerry & Pam Kuhlman Out by death: Lonny Wallace						

LWML NEWS

Greetings Redeemer Women and LWML Members,

Thank you once again for your generous support of our community through our monthly service projects!
Thank you also to Pastor Renstrom for a great Bible Study.

Have you noticed? Amy is coordinating the Coffee Cart prior to the second service.

We learned this month that our group will most likely be hosting the Zone Spring Rally, so be watching for more information!
We will also need to select a date to work on our banner for the District Rally in June.
Mark your calendars for serving Lenten Supper on March 13.

Our next meeting will be February 13 with a potluck supper and another great Bible Study lead by Pastor.

All are welcome!

Brooke Sellmann, Chair

LUTHERAN ISLAND CAMP NEWS:

SUMMER REGISTRATION: It's not too early to start thinking about registering for camp this summer! Registration will open up on January 2nd. The registration is completely online on the Lutheran Island Camp website. If you have questions about registering, please contact the camp office at 218-583-2905. ALL program descriptions will be on the website. The summer program brochures will be coming out sometime in January so keep an eye on your mailbox! **REMEMBER-**Redeemer has scholarships available for all our campers!

SUMMER STAFF: Would you like to work at camp this summer? The summer staff application is open! The link is on the camp facebook and Instagram pages, as well as on the website. Camp struggles each year to get the camp fully staffed, so please spread the word about working at camp. You can check out this website for more details: www.islandcamp.org/summer-employment.

THE NUMBERS ARE IN \$124,000 was raised by the end of 2023! Thank you to all the amazing donors! Because of your generosity, Lutheran Island Camp can continue to create an incredible, faith based experience for all our campers.

MEN'S WEEKEND March 8-10th. Dr. David Coe is the speaker for the 2024 Men's Weekend! He is a theology professor at Concordia University NE and the author of the book "Provoking Proverbs: Wisdom and the Ten Commandments". You won't want to miss this weekend full of theological learning, fellowship, and fun!

QUILT & CRAFTING RETREAT April 17-21th. See camp website for further details.

WOMEN'S WEEKEND April 26-28th. See camp website for further details.

LEFTOVER PANS AND BOWLS If you brought a food item to church for an event and forgot to pick it up, please do so by February 4th or it will be donated. Check the back rack in the kitchen for your item.

YOUTH IN THE NEWS

Our next State Ambassador spotlight is Adri from [Kandiyohi County 4-H](#)!! When asked what her favorite 4-H memories is Adri said, " My favorite 4-H member is getting both champion milking goat and top dairy goat exhibitor at my county fair with my goat, Black Olive."

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
EXTENSION

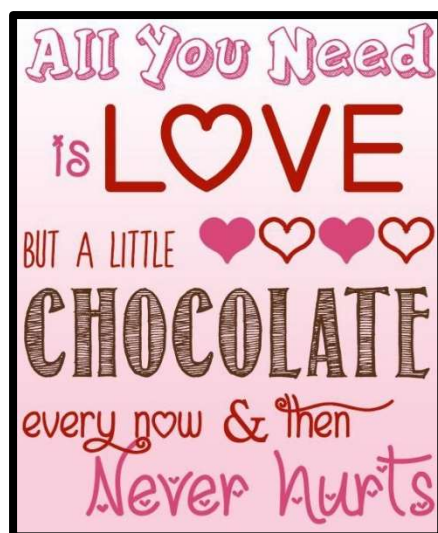
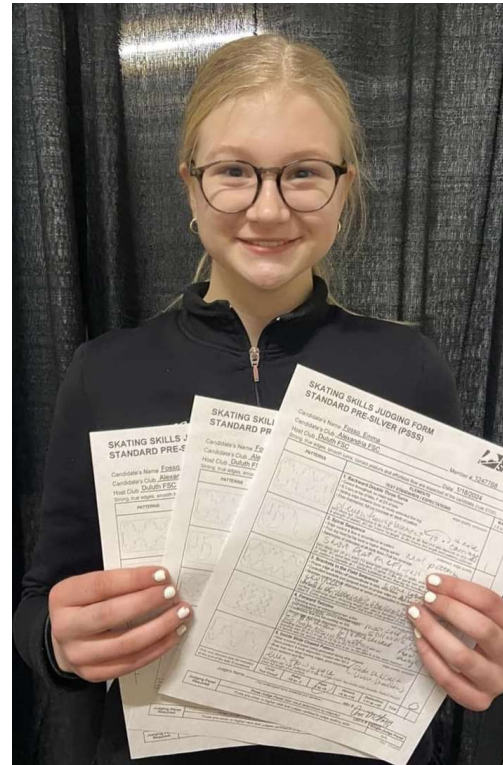


Adri B.
Kandiyohi County

Why did you want to be a State Ambassador?
I have been involved in leadership roles at both the club and county level. I wanted to challenge myself and impact more lives of Minnesota youth.

What projects are you involved in?
Dairy Goat, quilting, needle arts, food preservation, home environment, youth leadership.

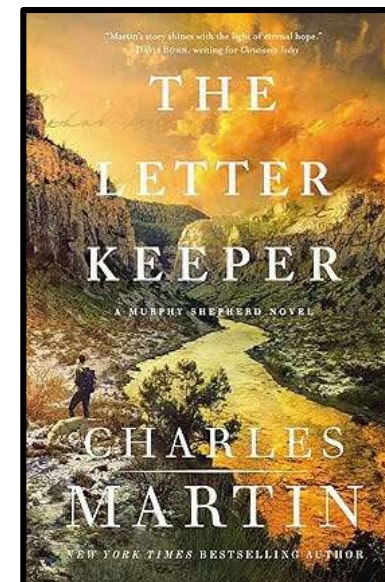
What is your favorite memory in 4-H?
My favorite 4-H memory is getting both champion milking goat and top dairy goat exhibit at my county fair with my goat, Black Olive.



 **Alexandria Figure Skating Club** • Follow
1d · 🌐

These ladies kicked off the weekend at [Northland Figure Skating Competition](#) passing their tests!

- 👤 Brooklyn Klaphake- Preliminary Singles
- ➡️ 👤 Emma Fosso- PreSilver (Intermediate) Skating Skills
- 👤 Kilee Arvidson- Preliminary Skating Skills
- 👤 Natalie Meichsner- PreSilver (Intermediate) Skating Skills



WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Our next book is "The Letter Keeper". Please sign up on the church office window. We will meet on February 22nd at 6 pm. Please bring an appetizer or snack to share!