

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP YEHIEL CURRY

Dear friends in Christ,

As Lutherans, we are set free to love our neighbors and seek justice. In Colossians 2, we read: “As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving” (6-7).

I am abounding in thankfulness for you, church. You are an integral part of this mission as we envision a world experiencing the difference God’s grace and love in Christ make for all people and creation. The ministries of congregations including yours, our synods and the ELCA churchwide organization are all working together today and every day so more people may know the way of Jesus and discover community, justice and love. From providing food to people experiencing hunger, to helping train the next generation of leaders that will lead this church, your support is at work here at home and around the world.

Your generosity to each of the three expressions of the church — your congregation, your synod and the churchwide organization — has made it possible for us to do this work

together. Your financial resources, your time volunteering and accompanying others, and your voices are so valued.

As we look ahead to the coming year, I encourage you to continue to walk in Christ, remembering you are rooted and established in faith, and free to love and serve your neighbors. Thank you, church, for the ways you connect with and support our siblings across the ELCA and in our communities.

In Christ,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yehiel Curry'.

The Rev. Yehiel Curry
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.”

—Colossians 2:6-7

THROUGH YOUR GENEROSITY, GOD IS AT WORK ACROSS THE ELCA.

MISSION SUPPORT

A portion of your offering, called Mission Support, advances the ministry of our church, helping the ELCA nurture Christian community, raise up leaders, serve our neighbors and strive for justice.

ELCA WORLD HUNGER

Part of our church's long tradition of meeting human needs, ELCA World Hunger testifies to our hope for and commitment to God's promise of a time when we will hunger and thirst no more. ELCA World Hunger walks alongside communities in more than 60 countries — including the United States — to create unique solutions to hunger and poverty.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Lutheran Disaster Response shares God's hope, healing and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

WHERE NEEDED MOST

Where Needed Most supports the powerful ways we work together around the world — supporting leaders, inspiring young people, fueling ministries and championing global mission. Gifts to Where Needed Most support and sustain the people, congregations, synods and ministries working around the world to realize the hope-filled future God promises.



Evangelical
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in America

Sign up to hear more stories of impact from the ELCA churchwide organization at [ELCA.org/subscribe](https://elca.org/subscribe).

Read about Mission Support and learn more at LivingLutheran.org/SOFIA.

Redeemer Lutheran Church

January 2026

Annual Report to the Congregation

For the year 2025

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Redeemer Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 25th, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.
Meeting Agenda

Opening Prayer	
Call the meeting to order	
Secretary's Report	page 8
Treasurer's Report	page 21
Pastor's Report	page 7
Organization & Committee Written & Financial Report	pages 9-19
Audit Committee Report	page 21
Old Business	
New Business	
*Consideration of bids for some window replacement at the parsonage	
*Adoption of 2026 Budget	pages 22-24
*Election of Church Council Members (A final ballot on nominees will be distributed at meeting)	
Acknowledgment and appreciation of members leaving council:	
Grant Petersen	
New Council Nominees (2 people needed for a 3 yr. terms):	
Stephanie Soost (completed a 1 yr. appointed term, eligible for a 3 yr. 1 st term)	
Tana Christensen	
Council Members eligible to serve for a 2 nd 3 yr. term:	
Brady Gooden (finishing his 1 st term and eligible for a 2 nd term)	
Tonya Hansen (finishing her 1 st term and eligible for a 2 nd term)	
*Election of Synod Assembly Voting Members for May 2 in Mankato, MN	
Nominees: (2 Voting Members are needed—serve for one year)	
Mike Bute	
Beth Wilder	
*Election of Nominations Committee: (up to 4 people are needed— serve for one year)	
Nominees:	
Grant Petersen	_____
Radley Miller	_____
*Election of Endowment Committee: (1 person is needed)	
Nominees:	
Ross Skov (finishing his 1 st term and eligible for a 2 nd term)	
Other New Business:	
Closing Prayer	

Southeastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA 2025 Ministry Report



We gathered at **Council as Leaders** to think collaboratively and further equip ourselves for ministry as lay and rostered leaders.



Nuer Community Lutheran Church, a new worshipping community, was established! Rev. Yang Tut was ordained.



We had four new entrants to the **Candidacy** process! 13 were in process as '25 concluded. 19 attended the annual **Candidacy Retreat** at Good Earth Village.



A variety of **Power and Boundaries educational workshops** were offered to equip church council members, faith formation professionals, and rostered ministers for leadership.

"See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, **and that is what we are.**"
—1 John 3:1 (emphasis added)

Through Christ, we have been made children of God! What good news! It is out of this identity, the truest proclamation of who we are, that we live as followers of Jesus in this world.

As members of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA, we strive to *walk together proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ*. We live in this community of faith, across sixteen counties with 100,000 baptized members as the children of God. Because this is who we are, we celebrate all the ways God is at work in us and through us – not only in our own communities but throughout the synod and church - for the sake of the world.

Join me in celebrating all the ways God has been at work in our midst over the past year, and let's look ahead, together, with joyful anticipation for what God will yet do, in us and through us, for the sake of the good news of Jesus Christ.

In Christ,

Rev. Regina Hassanally
Bishop Regina Hassanally



Rev. Sarah Krolak was called to serve as pastor of **Connections Ministry/Shelter Church**, which is a Synod Authorized Outreach Ministry based in Mankato.



Synod members participated in the **Lutheran Church of Colombia's National Assembly** where Rev. John Rojas was elected as bishop.

We gathered under the theme "*Remember what God has done. Prepare for what God will do.*" at the **Synod Assembly**. Three resolutions were passed regarding *Support for the Least of These and the Ministries that Serve Them* and *Expanded Preaching and Teaching on the Stories of Women in the Bible and Use of Female Imagery of God and of God's Work in the World*. On the first ballot, Bishop Hassanally was elected to a second six-year term.



About 140 ministry leaders attended the **Fall Theological Retreat**, which includes fellowship, education, and retreat. Rev. Leila Ortiz led the presentations and discussion on pneumatological estuaries, with the theme of Baptism in Muddy Waters.



17 Rostered Ministers joined our synod!

Pastor's Report 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

My deepest appreciation for each of you as you shared your support and care for me and for Bill during this last year, especially the past 6 months. At the time of his death, your compassion and consideration helped to sustain me through those times. I am very thankful for our partnership together for the ministry needs of God's people here in our communities of faith.

The Annual Report for each of our congregations reflects the incredible generosity of the people of our congregations, in the sharing of their time, their talents and their offerings. Thank you for sustaining the ministries of Concordia Lutheran and Redeemer Lutheran. Your generosity enables the mission and ministry of our two congregations to continue. Your offerings especially make certain that we keep the heat on in the winter, the AC cooling in the summer, the lights on for all of our services, Bible studies, Confirmation classes, Sunday School happenings, Youth Group events, and more. You provide for me as a pastor, our administrative assistants, our custodians, and our organists. Your dedication makes sure that all are welcome in our churches. Thank you!

When you give of your time and share your talents and gifts, you further God's work in the world through engagement at every worship service; in the ministry of sharing quilts to people near and far; teaching children at Sunday School, VBS, and Confirmation; lifting up fellowship and gathering around the table; serving your neighbors; leading on councils and committees; and being the hands and feet of God here in our communities. Ponder what ministry would look like *without* the faithfulness of all those who give of themselves and their treasures to our congregations. We would not and cannot be the body of Christ in this place and in this time without *you!*

I encourage you to take a moment to prayerfully give thanks for all your fellow members who faithfully volunteer each week and positively impact the ministry of our congregations. I give thanks to God repeatedly for your caring assistance and willingness to serve. Hear the words of the Apostle Paul giving thanks to God's people as he writes to the people of Corinth: *"⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord."* (1 Corinthians 1:4-9)

May we hold fast to the faithfulness of God, and to the strength given through Jesus Christ, so that whatever we face, whatever challenges come our way, whatever joy we can celebrate we will do it together as people of God, knowing that the Holy Spirit is at work in, through and with us. We are never alone.

God has provided for us, is providing for us and will provide for us. Our call is to open our hearts and minds and spirits to the work of the Lord. Trust in God's providing, in God's steadfast love, grace and mercy. May we continue to be Jesus' disciples who proclaim and demonstrate that same love, grace and mercy to all others of God's world.

In His Grace and Peace,

Rev. Kristi Mitchell

Redeemer Lutheran Church
Unapproved Annual Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2025

President Josh Sorensen called the meeting to order and confirmed we had a quorum of at least 15% of our active eligible voting members.

Secretary's Report - Reviewed meeting minutes from annual meeting on January 28, 2024. Motion to accept, seconded, and motion passed.

Treasurer's Report - Reviewed Treasurer's report. Motion to accept, seconded, and motion passed.

Pastor's Report – Reviewed Pastor's report. Thank you, especially to Beth Wilder, Tara Roberts, and Brittany Carlson on preparation of the annual report. Excited to welcome Brittany Carlson as administrative assistant and Dave Rasmussen as our custodian. Thank you to Mike Bute and Janelle Jacobs for serving on council. Also, thank you to the council and the entire congregation.

Organization & Committee Written & Financial Reports – Reviewed reports. No questions.

Audit Committee Report – Reviewed report. No questions.

Old Business – None

New Business –

Adoption of 2025 Budget - Motion to adopt 2025 budget, seconded, and motion passed.

Motion to cast unanimous ballot for those nominees listed below, seconded, and motion passed.

Acknowledgement and appreciation of members leaving council: Mike Bute & Janelle Jacobs

Thanks to Rosie Rasmussen & Tammy Williams for all their years on the Endowment Committee.

***Election of Church Council Members**

- Nikki Weber-Knutson (3 year second term)
- No nominations from the floor for additional council members

***Election of Synod Assembly Voting Members for May 30 & 31 in Mankato, MN**

- Rosie Rasmussen
- Mike Bute

***Election of Nominations Committee (ok to operate with 3 members instead of 4)**

- Mike Bute
- Janelle Jacobs
- Dan Reindal

***Election of Endowment Committee**

- Max Borge
- Jenni Mattson

Other New Business – None

Motion made to adjourn, seconded, and motion passed. Shared in closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted by

Nikki Weber-Knutson, Secretary

Faith in Action Funds Report

Submitted by Brittany Carlson, Administrative Assistant

Balance on hand December 31, 2024	\$23,909.34
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2025 Income

Income	\$1,763.60
Interest	\$ 95.55

Total Income	\$1,859.15
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Total Available Funds	\$25,768.49
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2025 Expenses

Bank transfer for expenses Redeemer	\$4,000.00
VBS T shirts	\$ 287.50
Re-Issue Cub Scout Check	\$ 659.10
New Church 360 Membership	\$1,000.00
Tree Removal	\$ 850.00
Morin Lake Days Rad Zoo	\$ 315.00
Christian Ed – Bibles	\$ 427.80

Total Expenses	\$7,539.40
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Balance on hand December 31, 2025	\$18,229.09
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Men of Redeemer (MOR) Fund Report

Submitted by Bob Newman

Balance For Use 12/31/2024	\$931.84
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Income

Interest	\$1.84
Total Income Working Funds	\$931.84

Expenses

	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$0.00

Balance as of 12/31/25	\$933.68
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Altar Guild Report

Submitted by Paulette Rasmussen

The Altar Guild is a group of 24 members to date. Right now, we have a group of 20 members. We are always looking for new members to help with monthly duties. If anyone would be interested in joining, please let one of our officers know or the church office. We would love to have some more members.

Our duties include setting up the Altar every Sunday for worship. This includes the following: setting up for communion, special holidays, baptism, weddings, funerals, etc. For Easter Sunday, we have Easter Lilies donated in honor or memory of someone, which we place around the altar. We also make confirmation stoles for the confirmands for confirmation Sunday. Thank you.

President: Paulette Rasmussen
Vice President: Shannan Nelson
Secretary: Missy Rasmussen
Treasurer: Sue Reindal

Altar Guild Fund Report

Submitted by Sue Reindal

Balance For Use 12/31/2024		\$2,084.28
<u>Income</u>		
Memorials	\$100.00	
Easter Lilies	\$542.00	
Interest for the Year	\$4.00	
Total Income Working Funds	<u>\$646.00</u>	<u>646.00</u>
		\$2,730.28
<u>Expenses</u>		
Altar Supplies	\$51.59	
Wine	\$50.97	
Easter Lilies	\$683.70	
Misc.	\$77.02	
Total Expenses	<u>\$863.28</u>	<u>863.28</u>
Balance as of 12/31/25		\$1,867.00

Memorials & Gifts

Submitted by Karen Erickson

Balance on hand December 31, 2024		\$16,441.19
2025 Income		
Memorials & Gifts	<u>75.00</u>	
Total Income		<u>75.00</u>
Total Available Funds		16,516.19
2025 Expenses		
	<u>0.00</u>	
Total Expenses		<u>0.00</u>
Balance on hand December 31, 2024		\$16,516.19
2025 Designated Available Funds		
Undesignated	1,728.09	
Organ Fund	94.10	
Luther Hall	20.00	
Kitchen	630.00	
Youth Activities	2,530.00	
Flooring for Luther Hall	11,279.00	
Altar Guild	0.00	
Busy Fingers	0.00	
Elevator Fund	25.00	
Sunday School	95.00	
Property	<u>115.00</u>	
2025 Total Available Funds		\$16,516.19

Dedicated Accounts 2025

Submitted by Brittany Carlson, Administrative Assistant

	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Year End Balance
Sunday Coffee	\$-83.26	3,702.19	2,715.08	\$903.85
Church Usage Deposits	\$180.00	270.00	205.00	\$245.00
VBS	\$85.54	278.16	231.85	\$131.85
Faith & Care	\$6480.95	0.00	1887.11	\$4,593.84
Heritage Wall	\$350.00	0.00	0.00	\$350.00
Landscaping	\$400.00	0.00	0.00	\$400.00
Camperships	\$0.00	500.00	150.00	\$350.00

Thrivent Choice Giving for 2025

January 9 th	\$48.00
February 8 th	\$153.00
March 8 th	\$572.00
April 9 th	\$728.00
May 8 th	\$12.00
June	\$0.00
July 10 th	\$18.00
August 8 th	\$191.00
September 9 th	\$22.00
October 9 th	\$75.00
November 8 th	\$24.00
December 10 th	\$42.00
Total for 2025	\$1,885.00

Cemetery Board

Submitted by Steve Schmidt

Balances on Hand January 1, 2025

Checking Acct # 473	\$1,428.27	
CD # 49236	\$26,156.09	
CD # 49500	\$16,525.91	
CD # 51033	\$8,462.38	
Total		\$52,572.65

2025 Receipts

Interest Earned	\$3,517.52	
Donation:		
Carlson Foundation	\$2,000.00	
Mitchell Family	\$150.00	
Memorials (Irene Mitchell & Josh Petersen)	\$105.00	
		\$5,772.52

2025 Disbursements

Grounds Upkeep: Josh Yokiel	\$3,230.00	
Total Expenses		\$3,230.00

Balance on Hand December 31, 2025

Checking Acct # 473	3,456.53	
CD # 55431	28,015.08	
CD # 55479	8,937.45	
CD #55491	14,706.11	
Balance as of 12/31/25		\$55,115.17

Worship and Music Report

Submitted by Pastor Kristi Mitchell

In March and April this year our congregations shared in joint Lenten and Holy Week services. Redeemer and Concordia both celebrated First Communion for our 5th graders during the Maundy Thursday Service. Both congregations celebrated Easter, Confirmation Sunday and Blessing of the Seed, Soil and Water Sunday in April. Redeemer Sunday School students and our youth led a Mother's Day service in May. We also honored our high school graduates during worship at Concordia and Redeemer. June, July and August we shared in joint summer worship services alternating locations each week. Alden Morin Lake Days service with our Alden Methodist Church was held outdoors by the lakeshore with the VBS students sharing their music. In July we held a Sunday worship service at the Flying Goose Campground during our new Camping Weekend. We enjoyed a wonderful meal following the service.

Rally Sunday in September was filled with celebrating the Blessing of the Backpacks and 3rd Grade Bible Presentations for both congregations, and Cradle Roll Graduation at Redeemer. Reformation Sunday in October is always celebrated with the wearing of red and sharing in Holy Communion. The All Saints Sunday Service is such a lovely time of remembrance for those who have passed during the previous year and honoring those who have been baptized. Our joint Thanksgiving Eve worship was held at Redeemer this year and followed by a time of fellowship. The weather changed our plans for the Hanging of the Greens Service on the 1st Sunday of Advent as we canceled services, but we celebrated the Hanging of the Greens Service on the 2nd Sunday of Advent, and it was just as meaningful. December 14th was our Christmas Program service led by the Sunday School and Confirmation students. Christmas Eve service at both congregations was a wonderfully full evening of people, music and worship in the sanctuaries. Our joint Service of Lessons and Carols was canceled because of bad weather, so we celebrated that service on the 2nd Sunday of Christmas on January 4th.

Thank you to our congregational organists: Ann Purdy, Shirley Newman and Helen Steene at Redeemer and Kathy Toenges at Concordia. They faithfully lead the music for all our worship services. Thank you to the Altar Guild volunteers for preparing each sanctuary and the altar table for worship every Sunday. Thank you to the Concordia Choir for adding wonderful special music for services in both congregations this year. Thank you to the many volunteers who assist in our worship services as readers, ushers, deacons, communion assistants, and acolytes. Thank you to the Sunday School students for sharing their music during services.

Our worship services could not happen without all of you. Thank you also to the many folks who order the rolls, pick up and deliver the rolls, and serve the coffee and refreshments whenever we gather for fellowship time after worship services. You all are very much appreciated!

Endowment Fund Report

In 2025 the Higher Education \$500.00 Scholarship was awarded to Landon Mattson. There were no applicants for the Pearl E. Schmidt Memorial Nursing Scholarship.

Because at least 50% of the Endowment Fund's income is specified to be used for God's inclusive community outreach, we gave the following monetary donations: Tee It Up for Campers \$300.00, ELCA World Hunger \$450.00, Alden Conger School – Crows Nest \$300.00, the MN Twins game event transportation \$300.00 and Spirit of Christmas \$400.00. The income of the fund shall also be used for capital improvements to promote the vision of Redeemer Lutheran Church and so monies were given for Redeemer Capital Improvement Tree Removal \$850.00. The fund income can also be used to enhance the mission and ministry of Redeemer beyond the normal budget and so monies were given to the Redeemer Coffee Fund \$100.00.

Endowment Fund Financial Report 1/1/25 - 12/31/25

Submitted by Ross Skov

	Invested Assets	Checking	Scholarships Redeemer Improvements 2025 - 50%	Community Outreach 2025 - 50%
Balance For Use 1/1/2025		\$3,123.64		
<u>Income</u>				
MIF #38083		\$1,472.35		
MIF #38091		\$607.76		
MIF #4793		\$37.24		
MIF #6987		\$353.89		
Thrivent Fund		\$1,182.46		
Bank Interest		\$10.84		
Total Income Working Funds		\$3,664.54	\$1,832.27	\$1,832.27
<u>Expenses</u>				
Tee it up for Campers		\$300.00		\$300.00
ELCA World Hunger		\$450.00		\$450.00
Alden Conger School - Crows Nest		\$300.00		\$300.00
Redeemer Twins Bus		\$300.00		\$300.00
Redeemer Camperships		\$500.00	\$500.00	
Redeemer Capital Improvement Tree Removal		\$850.00	\$850.00	
Redeemer Coffee Fund - Endowment		\$100.00		\$100.00
Spirit of Christmas		\$400.00		\$400.00
Landon Mattson - Higher Education 2025			\$500.00	
Madison Mattson - Higher Education 2024		\$500.00		
Kayla Thunstedt - Nursing Scholarship 2024		\$750.00		
Total Expenses		\$4,450.00	\$1,850.00	\$1,850.00
<u>Permanent Funds</u>				
MIF #38083 - 3yr,4.861%,11/7/2026	\$30,202.27			
MIF #38091 - 5yr,3.941%,11/6/2030	\$20,149.72			
MIF #4793 - 5yr,3.941%,12/30/30	\$1,125.29			
MIF #6987 - 3yr,4.135%,2/4/28	\$10,000.00			
Thrivent Fund (Rate of return 4.3%)	\$18,939.11			
Balance For Use 12/31/25	\$80,416.39	\$2,338.18		
	Invested Assets	\$80,416.39		
	Total Assets	\$82,754.57		

Christian Education Report

Submitted by Anna Sorensen

The last year for Redeemer Sunday School has been a year filled with after school programs, late night events, VBS, service, fellowship and engagement with our families from newborn to confirmation. We are in our ninth year using the *Spark* curriculum, (publisher Augsburg Fortress) for PreK-6th grade students. We continue to follow the lectionary activities and share the corresponding Spark “Family Page” in Pastor’s weekly e-news. Our goal is to “spark” our PreK-6 Sunday School students with the joy, love, and peace of Jesus and His stories! Our *Spark* curriculum is age-appropriate Bible learning. The students relate with Bible characters as they navigate through the Bible, and they apply faith-based actions into their own lives. We continue to provide the Frolic First Bible as our Cradle Roll gift to babies baptized at Redeemer and the Spark Story Bible to our Cradle Roll Graduates as students enter Sunday School. The Spark Story Bible is a great resource for our classroom and for families to share the stories together at home. Our 3rd Grade students receive the NRSV Spark Bible.

In February, we hosted our first of three “Faithful Fridays” for the year, including both after school and overnight activities for our school-age children where we learned about *Creation*. Additional themes included *Fruit of the Spirit* and *Adam & Eve – You’re Created, Being You!* This program continues with overwhelming success. We also hosted three Frolic Family events with our Birth to Three families to end the school year. We continue to look for ways to engage our young families, and newly baptized members.

Our summer 2025 Vacation Bible School (VBS) Theme was *Serengeti Trek*, “Where Kids Are Wild About God”. This year, we joined the Morin Lake Days schedule, and 18 students attended our energy filled 2-day VBS at RLC. We hosted magician, Greg the Great, Friday evening during the MLD celebration and hosted VBS activities during the day. Each morning began with “Sing & Play Roar,” opening skit and music. Children then traveled to three stations (Wild Games, Bible Expedition, and Critter Crafts) where they learned all about the greatness of our Lord. The morning ended with a special finale, “The Mane Event”, with music, the Bible Points for the week – Talk to God and Work for God, and lunch. The VBS fun ended on Sunday morning, with community worship, where the kids shared all they had learned. A special thank you to all of our volunteers for the planning and organization to make it a great week for kids and families! We also appreciate the support from our congregation and the generous support of a Thrivent Action Team Grant. We are looking forward to this year’s Vacation Bible School, *Galaxy VBS – Launching Kids on a Mission of God’s Love*. Look for more details to come!

We kicked off our new Sunday school year on September 14, with a special Serengeti Trek Rally Sunday. We celebrated our Cradle Roll Graduates and had a number of third grade students who received their Bibles. We continue to invite Concordia students to join our Sunday School each week. We have enjoyed sharing our music with both Redeemer and Concordia congregations during worship. Our classrooms are divided into three different age-level classrooms, led by a classroom teacher; PreK-1, 2-3, 4-6. The teachers make up our Christian Ed committee and are listed below.

We ended 2025 with our Christmas Program – *Christmas Isn’t Christmas*. All the classroom leaders and additional volunteers helped out with the organization, costumes, and rehearsals. Despite the snowy and cold weather resulting in limited rehearsal, the students did a fantastic job! We have such a wonderful group of talented students. Several of our confirmation students assisted with the Christmas Program service and helped to distribute gift bags to all of the children. Thank you to

all involved with props & costumes, the set-up, the program itself, and the tear down/clean-up of the program. Special thanks to Colleen Jahnke for help with this year's costumes, Tammy Newman for organizing our Christmas craft, and Lori Miller for coordinating Jesus' Birthday celebration and baked potato meal.

As we close and evaluate 2025, we look forward to the coming year. We continue to navigate our changing world, utilizing creativity and the strengths of our team to meet our families where they are, by adapting to busy schedules and recognizing the importance of trusting in God as we develop new programs to engage with our young families. We are always looking for new ideas and people to come in and share their talents with our kids. If you have ideas, please share them with one of our classroom teachers, Pastor Kristi, Tonya Hansen or Anna Sorensen.

*We are currently looking for more volunteers to join our team to assist with Sunday School, Faithful Friday Events, Frolic Family Activities, and Vacation Bible School. *

Purchases that we will be making this upcoming year are:

1. Supplies for the Sunday School lessons & special programs, including lectionary curriculum resources and Faithful Friday materials
2. Supplies for Vacation Bible School

2025-2026-Christian Ed Committee:

Sunday School Coordinator/Music (PreK-6): Anna Sorensen, Preschool-1: Courtney Janzig & Anna Sorensen, Grades 2-3: Amelia Wittmer, Grades 4-6: Tana Christensen & Michelle Petersen
Additional Support: Tammy Newman, Emily Stadheim, and Amber VanRyswyk

Youth Ministry Report

Submitted by Pastor Kristi Mitchell

2025 has been another year of gathering students from Concordia and Redeemer Lutheran Churches to get to know one another, have some fun, celebrate one another, and share in service for the church and community. At the beginning of 2025, we gathered for a fun afternoon of bowling, laser tag and pizza at the WOW Zone in Mankato in January. Our ice-skating event in February was challenged by the weather, but we made the effort!

One of the ways the youth helped this year was during the March Faithful Friday Late Night event. Students helped make smoothies and crafts with the younger students. During March and April the students also served as worship leaders for our Lenten services. They do an excellent job of assisting with worship. Thank you to our young people!!

We had to reschedule our Random Acts of Kindness event to May. This is a time of great service and enjoyment for the students. They shared gift cards for food, gas and groceries to many random people throughout the afternoon and offered handmade quilts from Concordia Lutheran Church quilters to a variety of people. It was a time of mission with a whole bunch of joy and excitement.

A faith milestone was celebrated for our 9th grade students on Confirmation Sunday in April as they affirmed their baptism and their faith at both Redeemer and Concordia. The high school senior graduates were honored during worship in May and we gave thanks for their accomplishments.

During the June Morin Lake Days for Alden, the youth offered a concession stand as a fundraiser. The big pickles and root beer floats were a hit. In September we resumed our joint confirmation classes and began gathering for youth group with a trip to Lake Mills for a very hot day

of mini golf, followed by slushies to cool off. October found us heading to Center Creek Orchard near Fairmont for a great afternoon of fall fun.

The students created new birthday bags for the Alden Food Shelf at our November gathering, and they also created Thanksgiving cards that were sent out to the elders of Concordia and Redeemer. We ended the year in December by baking and decorating Christmas cookies.

Thank you to Kayla Seedorf for her leadership and assistance with our youth group throughout the year. Thank you also to the parents and adults who volunteer to provide food, assist with events, drive, and chaperone for our gatherings and confirmation classes. Your help is greatly appreciated!!

Youth Fund Report

Submitted by Beth Wilder

Balance on hand Dec. 31, 2024		\$9,414.16
Income		
	Interest	\$37.77
	Events (shared cost with Concordia)	\$442.48
	MLD Fundraiser	\$292.50
	Total Income	\$772.75
	YTD Total Funds	\$10,186.91
Expenses		
	Event costs	\$411.69
	Outreach/Charity - Food shelf	\$415.04
	Total Expenses	\$826.73
Balance on hand December 31, 2025		\$9,360.18

Property & Grounds Report

Submitted by Glen Mathiason

The Property Committee tended to many property needs for the church, the parsonage, and the grounds this past year. Larger projects included helping with flooding at the parsonage and installing a 2nd sump pump; cleaning up after the major wind storms, replacing some shingles and the ridging on church education/office area of the roof ; coordinating tree removal, clean up and seeding the grass; replacing the flashing on the south side of the church and cleaning the gutters on the east side; new blinds for some of the windows at the parsonage.

Thank you to the committee members, volunteers, and staff who helped to complete many tasks, including:

- Spring clean-up of church and church grounds
- Snow removal and lawn mowing
- Better lighting in the sanctuary with all new light bulbs
- New paving stones and river rock around parsonage deck

Goals for 2026 include the repair of the east wall of the Luther Hall basement. Replacement of some windows at the parsonage. Work on parsonage basement floor drains.

Busy Fingers Report

Submitted by Helen Steene

The Redeemer Busy Fingers meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday from January through April. If there are 5 Tuesdays in the month, we negotiate whether to meet the 5th Tuesday or not. The 1st Sunday in May we display our quilts that will be given away and offer them to the congregation for sale. During the week following, we pack the remaining quilts for LWR and take them to 1st Lutheran in Albert Lea. This is usually mid-May. Then we take the summer off, resuming our work in September through November. We take off December to celebrate Christmas.

Monday of that week, 3 of us assemble the quilts for tying, which occurs on Tuesday from 9am to 12.

During 2025 we made 95 quilts. Out of this total, 7 were sold, 1 quilt was given to the Steve Poeschel family because of Janet's illness, and 2 were given to Kathy, a needy neighbor across the street from the church. One was given to Pastor in appreciation for her work! One was donated to the Alden Area Community Foundation for their 4th annual on-line silent auction in September. We also provided 10 quilts to the A-C High School for their "Spirit of Christmas" project. We donated 73 quilts to Lutheran World Relief in May.

Our group is small. Ann Purdy donates her time making quilt tops for us. We thank her for this. She does a beautiful job. We have 8 women or less who meet Tuesday and tie the quilts. These women also take the tied one's home and sew around them, completing each one.

Our funds come mainly from Thrivent. We apply for and received \$500 per year from Thrivent. We also get funds from memorials and those who wish to donate to our cause. We welcome parishioners to donate their old mattress pads, blankets, sheets, pillow cases, towels, etc. We recycle these items into the quilts.

We thank those who have helped us in any way, either with donations of goods or money. God blesses a cheerful giver!

Busy Fingers Fund Report

Submitted by Brittany Carlson, Administrative Assistant

Balance on hand December 31, 2024				\$1,242.85
	2025 Income			
	Quilt Sales/Donations	\$500.00		
	Total Income		\$500.00	
	Total Available Funds		\$1,742.85	
	2025 Expenses			
	Quilting Supplies	\$12.46		
	Lutheran World Relief Shipping	\$100.00		
	Total Expenses		\$112.46	
	Balance on hand December 31, 2025			\$1,630.39

Missions Report

Submitted by Pastor Kristi Mitchell

During 2025 the following mission projects were supported:

- ❖ March Food Share with funds raised and food gathered going to our local Alden Food Shelf
- ❖ Spirit of Christmas with a special offering opportunity in November.
- ❖ Salvation Army Giving Tree during December
- ❖ Southeastern Minnesota Synod Mission Support and World Hunger

Thank you for your continued support for church, community and global mission needs!

Missions Fund Report

Submitted by Brittany Carlson, Administrative Assistant

Balance on hand Dec 31, 2024 (corrected balance from last annual report)		\$233.00
2025 Income		
Redeemer Mission Support	120.00	
Alden Area Food Shelf	872.00	
Spirit of Christmas	215.00	
SE MN Synod Mission Support/World Hunger	2048.00	
Total Income		\$3,255.00
Total Available Funds		\$3,488.00
2025 Expenses		
Redeemer Mission Support	353.00	
Alden Area Food Shelf	872.00	
Spirit of Christmas	215.00	
SE MN Synod Mission Support/World Hunger	2048.00	
Total Expenses		\$3,488.00
Balance on hand Dec. 31, 2025		\$ 0.00

2025 Church Member Statistics

2024 Baptized Members – 561

Average Worship Attendance 2024: 70

2025 Baptized Members - 562

Average Worship Attendance 2025: 75

Baptisms:

Cael Boldt – April 23, 2025

Myles Prchal – August 31, 2025

Cooper Johnson – October 18, 2025

Raelyn Jacobs – December 7, 2025

Reagan Jacobs – December 7, 2025

Confirmations: 4

Cael Boldt – April 30, 2025

Addison Mattson – April 30, 2025

Aspen Soost – April 30, 2025

Rylin Troska – April 30, 2025

Deaths: 2 (*Funeral Date*)

Richard “Dick” Borge – October 28, 2025

William “Bill” Mitchell – December 23, 2025

Wedding: 1

Cheryl Schillerburg and John Szymanowski (non-members) – October 25, 2025

Transfer of Membership to another congregation: 3

Jerry and Mary Reyerson – October 22, 2025

Sindi Fulton – October 22, 2025

Removed at Member Request: 1

Katie Schulteis – December 11, 2025

New Members: 3

Cael Boldt – April 23, 2025

Jolene Jahnke – April 23, 2025

Amber VanRyswyk – August 20, 2025

Auditors' Statement

All Redeemer Lutheran Church financial records have been audited and found acceptable by the Audit Committee. January 15, 2026

Ebenezer Howe, Beth Wilder and Candice Johnson

Treasurer's Report 2025 Year End

Book 01: General Fund	Actual Dec. 2025	Actual as of 12/31/2025	Budget as of 12/31/2025	Percent of Budget
Income				
01 - Faith in Action	689.40	2,267.70	0.00	0.00 %
01 - Reg. Offering	20,436.50	121,936.11	0.00	0.00 %
01 - Samaritan Care Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00 %
02 - Loose Offering	787.00	2,363.50	0.00	0.00 %
02 - Misc Faith Income	7.28	95.55	0.00	0.00 %
02 - Misc. Samaritan Care	2.24	27.08	0.00	0.00 %
03 - Commodity Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00 %
04 - Mission Support/WH Income	457.50	2,048.00	0.00	0.00 %
05 - Church Usage Income	230.00	422.58	0.00	0.00 %
06 - Misc. Income	5,275.54	9,846.94	0.00	0.00 %
07 - Concordia Lutheran	5,709.03	53,545.58	0.00	0.00 %
Income:	33,594.49	192,553.04	0.00	0.00 %
Expense (Non- budgeted expenses*)				
00 - Donations Mission Support/WH*	1,048.00	2,048.00	0.00	0.00 %
01 - Budgeted Donations	1,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	100.00 %
01 - Christian Ed	0.00	2,397.96	2,100.00	114.20 %
01 - Church Utilities	659.86	9,505.67	10,600.00	89.68 %
01 - Faith in Action*	190.90	5,066.74	0.00	0.00 %
01 - Pastor (Salary/Benefits)	8,007.27	96,572.17	96,885.76	99.68 %
01 - Property Expenses	5,040.00	8,875.23	7,700.00	115.26 %
02 - Mileage Reimbursement	1,964.90	1,964.90	2,000.00	98.24 %
02 - Parsonage Utilities	1,522.97	4,447.30	4,750.00	93.63 %
03 - Admin Asst (Salary/Benef)	2,582.98	15,997.34	19,690.00	81.25 %
03 - Worship & Music	527.30	1,362.23	1,450.00	100.91 %
04 - Custodian	1,879.98	8,257.90	11,544.00	71.53 %
04 - Taxes & Insurance	3,594.25	15,242.40	16,000.00	95.27 %
05 - Financial Secretary	166.67	2,000.09	2,000.00	100.00 %
05 - Stewardship	792.90	1,532.73	1,650.00	87.59 %
06 - Organists	274.05	2,630.88	3,000.00	87.70 %
07 - Payroll Taxes (Employer)	375.13	2,279.73	2,900.00	78.61 %
08 - Supply Pastor	295.00	1,116.00	1,500.00	74.40 %
09 - Supply Secretary*	0.00	1,276.50	0.00	0.00 %
10 - Boiler Operator	0.00	200.00	600.00	33.33 %
12 - Office Expenses	372.49	7,166.32	8,150.00	87.93 %
13 - Other Operating Expenses	0.00	1,220.29	925.00	131.91 %
Expense:	30,294.65	193,160.38	195,444.76	100.88 %
Summary, Book 01: General Fund				
	Actual Dec. 2025	Actual as of 12/31/2025	Budget as of 12/31/2025	Percent of Budget
Income:	33,594.49	192,553.04		0.00 %
- Expense:	30,294.65	193,160.38		100.88 %
Net Income:	3,299.84	-607.34		

Beth Wilder 1/15/24
 Candice Johnson 1/15/26
 Ebenezer Howe 1/15/26

2026 Proposed Budget – page 1

Redeemer Lutheran Church 2026 Proposed Budget

Account	Actual 2025 as of 12/31/25	Budget 2025 This Year	Budget 2026 Next Year
General Fund			
Expense Accounts			
Major 01, Program			
Minor 01, Christian Ed			
(00) Christian Education	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00
(01) Sunday School Materials	\$1,729.66	\$1,500.00	1,500.00
(02) VBS	\$500.00	\$400.00	500.00
(03) Confirmation	\$117.33	\$100.00	100.00
(04) Adult C.E. ***	\$50.97	\$100.00	100.00
Minor, Christian Ed:	\$2,397.96	\$2,100.00	2,200.00
Minor 03, Worship & Music			
(00) Worship & Music	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00
(01) Music & Books	\$0.00	\$350.00	300.00
(02) Bulletin Inserts	\$275.27	\$300.00	250.00
(03) Misc worship Supplies	\$1,086.96	\$700.00	600.00
(05) Special Event Music	\$0.00	\$0.00	50.00
Minor, Worship & Music:	\$1,362.23	\$1,350.00	1,200.00
Minor 05, Stewardship			
(01) Offering Envelopes	\$726.65	\$850.00	800.00
(02) Stewards Postage/Supplies	\$0.00	\$100.00	100.00
(03) Simply Giving Fees	\$806.08	\$800.00	800.00
Minor, Stewardship:	\$1,532.73	\$1,750.00	1,700.00
Total for Major 01, Program:	\$5,292.92	\$5,200.00	\$5,100.00
Major 02, General			
Minor 01, Pastor (Salary/Benefits)			
(01) Pastor's Salary **	\$54,625.58	\$54,766.00	57,887.00
(02) Pension, Ins & Disability **	\$32,062.30	\$31,686.12	27,790.00
(03) Housing Equity **	\$2,472.00	\$2,360.64	2,620.00
(04) Continuing Ed/Prof Exp **	\$650.00	\$1,300.00	1,000.00
(05) Pastor Social Security **	\$4,362.29	\$4,373.00	5,996.00
(06) Parsonage Furnishing Allowance **	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	2,400.00
Minor, Pastor (Salary/Benefits):	\$96,572.17	\$96,885.76	97,693.00
Minor 02, Mileage Reimbursement			
(01) Mileage Reimbursement **	\$1,964.90	\$2,000.00	2,000.00
Minor, Mileage Reimbursement:	\$1,964.90	\$2,000.00	2,000.00
Minor 03, Admin Asst (Salary/Benef)			
(01) Administrative Assistant	\$15,997.34	\$19,590.00	19,000.00
(03) Workshops & Training	\$0.00	\$100.00	100.00
Minor, Admin Asst (Salary/Benef):	\$15,997.34	\$19,690.00	19,100.00
Minor 04, Custodian			
(01) Custodian	\$8,257.90	\$11,544.00	8,000.00
Minor, Custodian:	\$8,257.90	\$11,544.00	8,000.00
Minor 05, Financial Secretary			
(00) Financial Secretary	\$2,000.09	\$2,000.00	2,000.00
Minor, Financial Secretary:	\$2,000.09	\$2,000.00	2,000.00
Minor 06, Organists			
(00) Organists	\$2,630.88	\$3,000.00	2,500.00

2026 Proposed Budget – page 2

Minor, Organists:	\$2,630.88	\$3,000.00	2,500.00
Minor 07, Payroll Taxes (Employer)			
(00) Payroll Taxes-Employer	\$2,279.73	\$2,900.00	2,200.00
(01) Paid Leave	\$0.00	\$0.00	300.00
Minor, Payroll Taxes (Employer):	\$2,279.73	\$2,900.00	2,500.00
Minor 08, Supply Pastor			
(00) Supply Pastor **	\$1,116.00	\$1,500.00	1,250.00
Minor, Supply Pastor:	\$1,116.00	\$1,500.00	1,250.00
Minor 10, Boiler Operator			
(01) Boiler Operator	\$200.00	\$600.00	600.00
Minor, Boiler Operator:	\$200.00	\$600.00	600.00
Minor 12, Office Expenses			
(00) Office Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00
(01) Phone/Internet/Web Site	\$2,090.61	\$2,500.00	2,200.00
(02) Copier & Riso Contracts	\$1,985.20	\$2,000.00	2,000.00
(03) Postage	\$863.63	\$1,400.00	900.00
(04) Paper Supplies/Bulletins	\$482.43	\$700.00	600.00
(05) Other Office Supplies/Exp	\$391.24	\$500.00	300.00
(07) Computer Expense	\$1,352.18	\$800.00	2,300.00
(08) Bank Charges	\$25.00	\$50.00	50.00
(10) Misc. Church Expenses	\$-23.97	\$200.00	200.00
Minor, Office Expenses:	\$7,166.32	\$8,150.00	8,550.00
Minor 13, Other Operating Expenses			
(02) Mandatory Synod Conferences ***	\$1,106.54	\$800.00	800.00
(03) Conference Dues	\$113.75	\$125.00	125.00
Minor, Other Operating Expenses:	\$1,220.29	\$925.00	925.00
Total for Major 02, General:	\$139,405.62	\$149,194.76	145,118.00
Maior 03. General Property			
Minor 01, Church Utilities			
(01) Electric	\$5,245.46	\$5,000.00	5,000.00
(02) Gas	\$3,445.52	\$5,000.00	5,000.00
(03) Water/Sewer	\$814.69	\$600.00	900.00
Minor, Church Utilities:	\$9,505.67	\$10,600.00	10,900.00
Minor 02, Parsonage Utilities			
(01) Electric-Parsonage	\$1,284.00	\$1,300.00	1,300.00
(02) Gas-Parsonage	\$961.55	\$1,100.00	1,100.00
(03) Water/Sewer/Garbage-Par.	\$817.35	\$1,000.00	1,000.00
(05) Pastor's Cell Phone **	\$484.40	\$450.00	450.00
(06) Parsonage Internet **	\$900.00	\$900.00	900.00
Minor, Parsonage Utilities:	\$4,447.30	\$4,750.00	4,750.00
Minor 04, Taxes & Insurance			
(01) Property Taxes	\$745.80	\$1,000.00	1,000.00
(02) Insurance-Liability & WC	\$14,496.60	\$15,000.00	15,000.00
Minor, Taxes & Insurance:	\$15,242.40	\$16,000.00	16,000.00
Total for Major 03, General Property:	\$29,195.37	\$31,450.00	31,750.00
Maior 04. Property			
Minor 01, Property Expenses			
(01) Church Maint/Mech/Misc	\$5,864.51	\$5,000.00	5,000.00
(02) Parsonage Maint/Appliance	\$1,936.43	\$1,000.00	1,000.00

2026 Proposed Budget – page 3

(03) Custodial Supplies/Equip	\$474.29	\$750.00	<u>500.00</u>
(04) Elevator Phone	\$600.00	\$650.00	<u>650.00</u>
(05) Office Equipment	\$0.00	\$300.00	<u>200.00</u>
Minor, Property Expenses:	<u>\$8,875.23</u>	<u>\$7,700.00</u>	<u>7,350.00</u>
Total for Major 04, Property:	\$8,875.23	\$7,700.00	\$7,350.00

Major 05. Budgeted Donations

Minor 01, Budgeted Donations

(01) MissionSupport	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	<u>2,000.00</u>
Minor, Budgeted Donations:	<u>\$2,000.00</u>	<u>\$2,000.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total for Major 05, Budgeted Donations:	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	2,000.00
Total Expense:	\$184,769.14	\$195,444.76	\$191,318.00

**** Shared budgeted amount \$103,193.00**
 Concordia's 1/2 is \$51,596.50

Redeemer budgeted amount needed \$139,721.50