

# The Herald

May 2026



*Our Core Values drive everything we do towards accomplishing our mission of serving all through spirituality and God's Love.*

Redeemer Lutheran Church \* ELCA

255 W. Lincoln Avenue \* Hartford, WI 53027 \* 262-673-2550 \* redeemerhartford@gmail.com

Dear fellow redeemed,

I need your help!

Here's what I'm referring to: God is at work among us, and in our community. And I want to join you in learning where God is at work, and joining Him as we serve our Lord, and one another. So let's get together and listen to God and one another; try things that can reach our neighborhood; reflect on how it is going; and share with one another.

And this is what I pray will happen: we will see God's work, and we will be led to follow the Holy Spirit as He leads us to be an encouragement and service to one another.

Here's a few ways that we can do this:

- 1) Join us for Sunday services, where we will hear God's Word, receive the Sacraments, and have opportunity to listen to one another.
- 2) Take other opportunities to listen to the Scriptures, in daily devotions, in the Bible studies at RLC, and in podcasts and conversations with one another.
- 3) I sincerely want to meet with each of you, one on one, and listen to how God is at work in your life; ask how I and our congregation can help you; and join you in ways that we can serve our Lord.
- 4) Pray! Ask God to bless us, to lead us to join Him in our community, and to be with us, our congregation, and community.

With you and our Lord,

Pastor Steve



## **Pastor Steve's Office Hours:**

For May Pastor Steve plans to be in the RLC office from 9am - Noon.

If possible, he asks that you please call ahead for an appointment.

**Thursday, May 7th**

**Thursday, May 14th**

**Thursday, May 21st**

**Thursday, May 28th**

He will be in town at other times for visits, meetings, etc. He is also available at other places, by phone or email, whichever is most convenient for you.

# Presidents Message

Greetings,

As we look around Redeemer on any Sunday morning, we see a strong and faithful core group who may have been attending for 20, 30, 40 or more years. We also see new faces who began attending in the last year or two. It's natural to wonder how we can attract more of those new faces to Redeemer. But maybe that's not the right question to be asking.

In the in the recent months, we've watched two videos from the series "Adventures in Renewal". The first one suggested that we can no longer yearn for the good old days of two worship services each Sunday, a strong Sunday School program and so many other memories associated with the church of 20 or more years ago. The fact that these things no longer exist is not a reason to look for someone to blame but rather a recognition that societal and cultural changes have caused many to abandon organized religious institutions. We were advised that there is no "quick fix" for what ails us until we start to think differently.

The second video suggested that the key to our church renewal process is getting outside the four walls of Redeemer and connecting with our neighbors and our community to learn more about what they're doing and learning how we might join with them or help and support them. One memorable phrase from the video: "We don't think our way into new behavior: we behave our way into new thinking". In other words, this is about action! Getting up out of our favorite pew and getting out into the world to better understand what the Holy Spirit is calling us to do.

Pastor Steve and the Council will be taking the lead on this new adventure. I hope you'll

be willing to try something new and join us!

Forward in Faith,

Tom Hostad

Council President



# THE CHURCH'S FOUNDATION

*Redeemer Lutheran Church Foundation – a helping hand for 40 years*



The grass has really greened up and grown in the past weeks! It's nice to know that each year our lawns will renew and recharge for another beautiful season for us to enjoy.

Your contributions to the Redeemer Lutheran Church Foundation also ensure that year after year, necessary funds to meet the ministry needs of your church will be there, growing and flourishing thanks to your stewardship.

Did you know that a \$100 contribution to the Foundation back in 1986 has come back to Redeemer again, and again, and again! Yes, over \$400 in earnings has been realized by that \$100 gift!! And those earnings will perpetuate on and on into the future. Your gift made today will also provide a well-spring of support to Redeemer Lutheran Church for generations to come.

Speaking of 1986, our plans to celebrate this 40th year for your RLC Foundation are beginning to take shape. Please reserve **Sunday July 26** for a mid-summer picnic celebration to honor those who paved the way for this investment vehicle... kind of a “silent member” that has made a significant impact in helping fund past ministry projects... and holds the key to a bright financial future.

For 40 years, your Redeemer Lutheran Church Foundation has helped keep Redeemer green and growing! If you'd like to participate in Foundation decisions, please consider serving on the Foundation board.

Join us in shaping the next 40 years for your RLC Foundation.

Your Redeemer Foundation board:

Scott Lopas, President; Lynn Nettesheim Secretary; Laurie Horst

Treasurer; Tom Hostad Director; Gabriele Priesgen Church

Treasurer; Kurt Hintz Council Vice-President liaison.

# *Special Giving Highlight for May*



CASA GUADALUPE  
Multicultural Center Inc.

Casa has been using the Nest here at Redeemer Lutheran since July 2024. Attendance has been growing. Casa has updated their focus:

Information found on their website:

Across our communities, many individuals face challenges that limit access to education and opportunity. Casa Guadalupe Multicultural Center is committed to changing that by celebrating cultures, uplifting voices, and creating pathways to success.

**Together**, we can build a stronger, more inclusive future.

For **Adult** Education Casa offers classes for English, Spanish and Pashto.

For the **Youth** there is the Dream to succeed program: Dream to Succeed is not just a program—it is a lifelong journey shared with the students and families we proudly serve.

Supporting students from elementary school through high school and beyond to college. Casa walks alongside students and families as they navigate complex and often overwhelming processes—financial aid applications, college admissions, scholarship searches, employment applications, and any additional support they may need.

Please visit their web site at <https://casaguadalupeonline.org/> for more information on Health Education and services, summer programs, Rent Assistance and Resource Guidance, Economic Stability Services, Legal and Immigration Support, Community Seminars.

Thankful and blessed

Gabriele Priesgen

# What's Up, Bruce?

Hi Everyone:

Bruce from the rooftop again. Thanks to everyone who helped make our buildings new roof a reality. The council chose the contractor and they were going to start May 4th, but due to the heavy rains a few weeks back, they are planning on May 11th as their start date.

With Spring here there are plenty of maintenance projects to do around the property. So we are running a special here at church if anyone is looking to get into shape for the Summer months. You can join “**GOD’S GYM**”. There are no **NO** membership fees at all! Just come to vacuum, paint, wash windows, clean and mop floors, bathrooms, weed flower beds, or mow the lawn. We have many opportunities to get your steps in and build up your core strength. If anyone is interested in joining, catch me after church or give me a call.

I think this covers the latest happenings at our church property wise,

See you soon,

Bruce



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## OUTREACH

Sheila Kraeuche-Corwin



## MINISTRY OF THE NEST

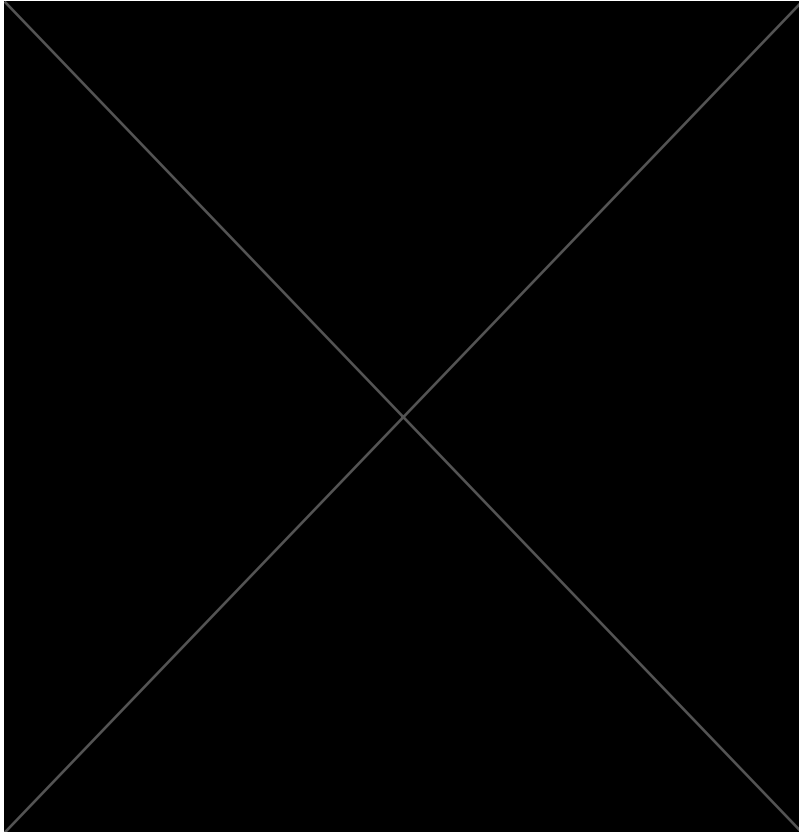
Just a reminder that we have several groups who are making use of our facility on a weekly, or monthly basis. This includes, but is not limited to:

Casa Guadalupe

Girl Scout Troup 37707

Al-Anon

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Joyce Thies	May 3
Gayla Ninmann	May 8
Erla Hoerth	May 12
Beverly Buchholtz	May 21
Randy Baumann	May 24
Laurie Host	May 25
Mary Lou Zurn	May 27
Gordon Dobbe	May 27

The Hartford Senior Center offers free blood sugar and blood pressure checks with a nurse. Please call or stop in the center to schedule an appointment, 262-673-4005



A Community Lunch is served on the last Saturday of each month. It is held at the United Methodist Church, 738 W Monroe Ave. This outreach would not be possible without the many volunteers from the four ecumenical churches: First United Methodist Church, Redeemer Lutheran Church, St. Aidan's Episcopal Church and St. Kilian's Catholic Church. Lunch service starts at 11:30am, fellowship prior. Volunteers arrive by 9:30am.



Please join Women's Ministry on the second Monday of the month for fellowship and Bible/book study in the Gathering Room.

Bring a sack lunch.

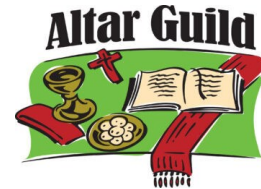
Dessert is provided.

### Save Your Cans

If you don't plan on selling your aluminum cans, please consider bringing them to church and place them under the coat rack downstairs for recycling



# Called to *Serve*



**May 3** 9:30 am  
 Ushers: Kurt & Wendy Hintz  
 Lector: Tom Hostad

**May 10** 9:30 am  
 Ushers: Don Horen  
 Lector: Kurt Hintz

**May 17** 9:30 am  
 Usher: Bruce & Laurie Horst  
 Lector: Scott Lopas

**May 24** 9:30 am  
 Ushers: Donna Lee  
 Lector: Michelle Burton

**May 31** 9:30 am  
 Ushers: Kurt & Wendy Hitz  
 Lector: Tom Hostad

<b>May 3</b>	<b>Laurie Horst</b>
<b>May 10</b>	<b>Laurie Horst</b>
<b>May 17</b>	<b>Laurie Horst</b>
<b>May 24</b>	<b>Laurie Horst</b>
<b>May 31</b>	<b>Laurie Horst</b>

**Join us in person Sunday mornings 9:30am**




Redeemer's Worship Service is live streamed through Facebook at 9:30 am.

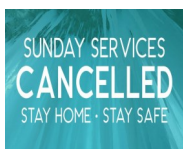
Redeemer's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/redeemehartford/>



The service is also broadcast over WTKM Radio, 104.9FM at 10:30 am Sunday mornings. The service can also be heard on the net at [www.wtkm.com](http://www.wtkm.com)



In addition, you can now watch our live streamed worship on our YouTube Page. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpIKz-cdNTRqT2LM3V7P7oA>



### Weather Cancellations

Please tune into Radio Station WTKM 104.9 FM to check for church related cancellations due to weather.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY

## CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

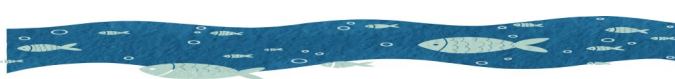
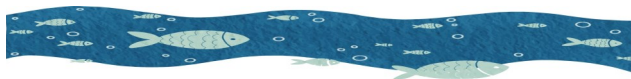
We will be continuing our Conversations with God where, we gather for prayer, Scripture, and conversation on a different topic each month. Our May gathering will be on the topic of “Acts 6:6-15. Come and join us for a cup of coffee and good conversation. The topic will be “Love”.

**When:** Thursday, May 28

**Time:** 10am

**Where:** Gathering Room

**This Month's Topic:** Acts 6:6-15



The Redeemer Monthly Fish Fry group meets the first Friday of each month. January through April we meet for lunch at noon. May through November we meet for dinner at 4:30pm. We do not meet in December. We go to a variety of restaurants and bars in the area. Call or text me by the Monday before the first Friday of the month so I can make reservations for the group. I will let you know about the location. You may drive yourself, or if you need a ride arrangements will be made to pick you up.

Everyone is welcome!

Our monthly Redeemer Fish Fry group will be meeting on: Friday, **May 1st at 4:30**

We will be going to **Stoll's Olde 109, N866 County Rd R, Watertown (old Lebanon)**

Please let me know if you're planning to join us by **Monday, April 27th** as I will be calling in the reservation that day. Also, let me know if you need a ride.

Thanks!

Anne  
262-227-6921

The Aging and Disability Resource Center of Washington County is offering a “Savvy Caregiver Training” course This course will cover:

- ◆ Understanding the career of caregiving
- ◆ Different types of dementia
- ◆ How the decline in cognition affects behavior
- ◆ Dealing with the feelings that arise while caregiving
- ◆ Fitting tasks and activities to the person's abilities
- ◆ Decision making skills.



Classes will be held on 6 Thursdays from 2:00pm 4:00pm at the Kewaskum Public Library. The dates are April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and **May 7**.

Contact Tammy Dickman to register at 262-335-4497



We are partnering with Lincoln Elementary School. They have expressed a need for several items



Snack needs include:

Goldfish, Individually wrapped food items, Animal Crackers, Granola Bars... **NO NUTS**

Food drive/pantry needs (most helpful in Feb – Spring – Summer) include:

cereal, shelf stable microwave meals, canned goods mac and cheese with cheese sauce (not add milk and butter).



Casa Guadalupe, who meet at the church through The Nest Program, continue as our partner. They too have expressed needs.

Looking for volunteers to help with concessions at Brewer Games, see the Giving Tree board for more information!

Snack needs include:

Kid snacks **NO NUTS**, fruit cups, cereal, canned goods

Other Items:

Books (gently used is ok), new toys





# MAY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Fish Fry 4:30 Roof Monies Due	2
3 9:30am WORSHIP / COMMUNION 10:30 Fellowship	4 6pm Guadalupe	5 Office Hours- 10am-2pm  5pm Girl Scouts	6 Office Hours- 10am-2pm  Casa Guadalupe 6pm	7 Pastor in office 9am- 12pm  Office Hours-10am-2pm  Al-Anon Mtg 7pm	8	9
10 9:30am WORSHIP / COMMUNION 10:30 Fellowship	11 Women's Ministry 12pm Church Council 4pm Casa Guadalupe 6pm	12 Office Hours- 10am-2pm	13 Office Hours-10am -2pm	14 Paster in Office 9am-12pm  Office Hours- 10am-2pm  Al-Anon Mtg 7pm	15	16
17 9:30am WORSHIP / COMMUNION 10:30 Fellowship	18 Casa Guadalupe 6pm	19 Office Hours- 10am-2pm	20 Office Hours- 10am-2pm  Casa Guadalupe 6pm	21 Pastor in office 9am- 12pm  Office Hours-10am-2pm  Girl Scouts 5-6:30PM  Al-Anon Mtg 7pm	22	23
24 9:30am WORSHIP / COMMUNION 10:30 Fellowship	25 Casa Guadalupe 6pm	26 Office Hours-10am- 2pm	27 Office Hours-10am -2pm  Casa Guadalupe 6pm	28 Pastor in office 9am-12pm  Conversations 10am  Office Hours-10am-2pm  Al-Anon Mtg 7pm	29	30 Community Lunch 11:30am
31						

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**WORSHIP**

**Sunday Worship 9:30 am**

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH—STAFF:**

Pastor.....Steve Rutter  
President of Congregation.....Tom Hostad  
Vice President of Congregation.....Kurt Hintz  
Council Secretary.....Laurie Horst  
Keyboards.....Lori Pawlak  
Treasurer.....Gabriele Priesgen  
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