



Herald

August 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 * redeemehartford@gmail.com

Dear fellow redeemed,

As I write this, it is raining! Before this rain it was looking like one of the driest months in many years. But now, it looks like the green grass will return (though wind and hail is still predicted, so maybe we should wait to see...). So for now, I am thankful for the blessings of good weather. God blesses us with rain and sunshine, all the seasons, food and shelter, and all our needs.

But then, you may be reading this as you struggle with health concerns, finances, conflicts with family or friends, losses, or needs. So then what do you say about "God's blessings"? Does God only bless those who receive rain when needed? And are only those who are healthy blessed by God? What about those without food and shelter, or where is God's blessings when it hails or a tornado strikes your house or your basement is flooded?

I remember once early in my pastoral ministry, I thanked God for the rain in a Sunday morning worship service. After the service, an old member who was a farmer cautioned me, saying that in this region, when it starts to rain, it often doesn't quit until we have too much rain. So maybe my prayer could be considered part of the fault of a flooded region. Since then, I've tried to pray only for "good weather", leaving it up to God to decide whether to have it rain, or to give sunshine.

So what do we do with the Scriptures that tell us God heals, provides, protects, when we may be ill, lacking, or in danger? What if we pray for help, but don't see anyone or anything helping us in times of need? What if we ask God to heal, but instead the person for whom we prayed dies?

One way to answer these questions is to recognize God's sovereign and mysterious ways. I like to compare God's ways with us as a parent with a small child. The child will not be able to understand all the ways of their parents. Even more so, we will never understand all the ways of Almighty and Eternal God.

Another response to these questions is to recognize that God's ways and timing is often different than ours. Similar to a child's complaint about not having supper when and how they want, so God may provide healing, protection, etc. according to His plan, not ours.

Here's what we know no matter what: God loves each and every one of us. He promises to be with us. Even to suffer with us, grieve with us, and to walk with us every step of the way through life (and if you doubt this, read again the words of Psalm 23!) We are not called to understand everything. Or to be able to answer all our questions. God does promise us to work faith and life in Christ in each and every one of us.

May you have a good day, whether it is raining or full of sunshine, whether you are sick or well, rich or poor, happy or sad. Be assured that God is here with you now, and forever!

With you in Christ,

Pastor Steve



PASTOR

Pastor Steve's Office Hours:

For July 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, August 6th

Thursday, August 13th

Thursday, August 20th

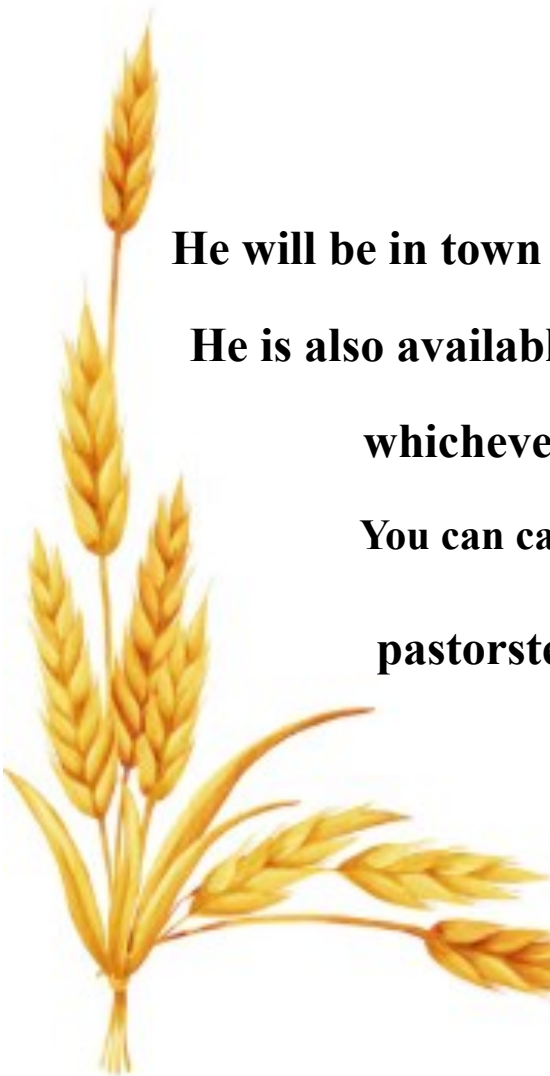
Thursday, August 27th

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.**

You can call or text him at: 715-271-3028.

pastorsteve25redeemer@gmail.com.





Presidents Message

Greetings,

We recently celebrated two important events in the life of Redeemer.

The first is the 40 th Anniversary of the Redeemer Lutheran Foundation. Incorporated in January of 1986, the foundation was the vision of former Pastor Frank Bauman and several lay leaders who wanted to ensure that funding for new ministry programs was available as opportunities presented themselves over the coming years. Redeemer's desire to do outreach ministry has been greatly aided by the Foundation. We are thankful for those with the original vision, all who have donated over the years and for the leaders who guided the growth and wise use of funds.

Secondly, Lori Pawlak celebrated 20 years with Redeemer. As our accompanist/music director she has served 8 pastors (full time and interim) with varying musical preferences and was particularly impactful during Covid when she provided music for all our worship services while the congregation participated remotely. Music plays such an important role in providing a satisfying and fulfilling worship experience and we thank Lori for providing it.

Forward in Faith,

Tom Hostad

Church Council President



Special Giving Highlight for August



OUTREACH for HOPE

Who or what is Outreach for Hope?

Outreach for Hope supports life-giving ministries that serve with the people of low income communities in the Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA. These ministries not only provide help with daily necessities, but most importantly, they are centers in the heart of their communities for providing transformation and hope. Outreach for Hope seeks donations primarily from generous individuals. It also receives gifts from organizations and from special offerings of congregations.

History of Outreach for Hope

From its beginning in 1988, the Greater Milwaukee Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has been committed to “walking with the poor.” In response to that growing commitment, the Greater Milwaukee Synod established the Outreach Fund at its 1995 Synod Assembly as an integral part of its strategy in meeting the financial needs of Word and Sacrament ministries serving the poor within the synod. A part-time director of resource development was hired in 1997.

From 1998-2004 administrative expenses, including staff salary, were funded by the Siebert Lutheran Foundation as well as congregational endowment grants. Thrivent Financial for

Special Giving Highlight for August



Lutherans also made a grant that enabled the Greater Milwaukee Synod in 2005 to hire a full-time Director of Development for Outreach Ministry. The generosity of the Siebert Foundation, Thrivent Financial for Lutheran and the congregational endowments allowed donor gifts to be used directly in ministry support. Today, thanks to a generous five-year grant toward building an endowment fund and covering administrative costs, the funds donated to Outreach for Hope continue to be directed towards the ministries of Outreach for Hope.

In 2005 the Outreach Ministry Fund became “Outreach for Hope, Inc.” and a separate 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

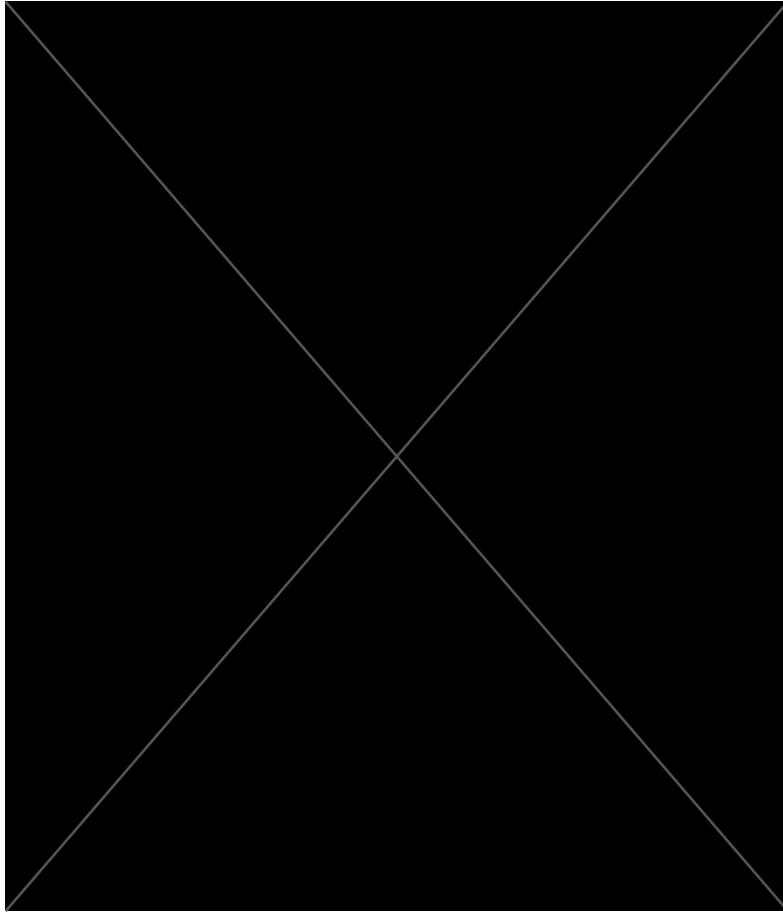
Outreach for Hope is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors who are drawn throughout the region of the Greater Milwaukee Synod. A member of the Greater Milwaukee Synod Council serves as an ex-officio member of the Outreach for Hope Board of Directors with voice and vote.

Much more info can be found on their website <https://www.outreachforhope.org/> .

Thankful and blessed

Gabriele Priesgen

Redeemer Lutheran Church * ELCA



Wendy Hintz	August 3
Shirley Gintner	August 5
Charles Zurn	August 23
Matt Nettesheim	August 30

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



Help Keep Electronics Out of our Landfills

Washington County residents, here's your opportunity to clean out those unwanted or outdated electronics items! Scan the QR Code for details.

TV/E-Goods & Appliance Collection

August 13th 2pm - 6pm
Washington County Fair Park Grounds

Free of Charge



Scan for complete list of items



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

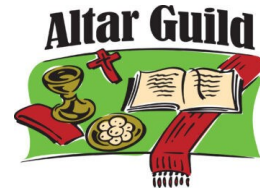
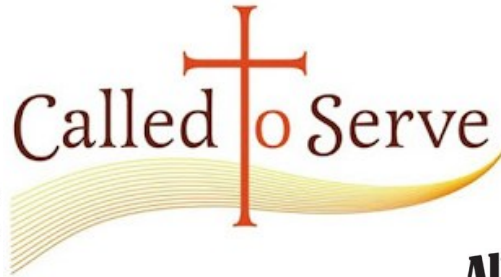
Bring a sack lunch.

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





August 2nd **9:30 am**
Ushers: Dom Horen
Lector: Scott Lopas

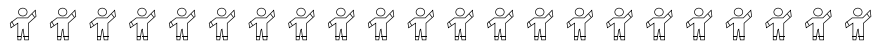
August 9th **9:30 am**
Ushers: Bruce and Laurie Horst
Lector: Kurt Hintz

August 16th **9:30 am**
Usher: Donna Lee
Lector: Kurt & Wendy Hintz

August 23rd **9:30 am**
Ushers: Kurt & Wendy Hintz
Lector: Tom Hostad

August 31st **9:30 am**
Ushers: Don Horen
Lector: Michelle Burton

August 2	Laurie Horst
August 9	Laurie Horst
August 16	Laurie Horst
August 23	Laurie Horst
August 31	Laurie Horst


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



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

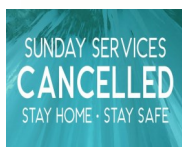
Redeemer's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/redeemerhartford/>



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



In addition, you can now watch our live streamed worship on our YouTube



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

The next Conversations with God we will be following the “The Dwelling in The Word” format, as we read a passage of scripture and then ask ourselves three questions: What do you notice in this passage? What questions does this passage create for you? What might the Spirit be nudging us to consider through this passage

When: Thursday, August 27th
Time: 10am
Where: Gathering Room



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 Friday Fish Fry will be on August 7th. We will be going to The Sandpiper Inn, W2992 Elmore Dr., Campbellsport (It's only 21 miles from Hartford). Please meet there at 4:15. Also, let me know by August 3rd if you'll be joining us. If you need a ride, it can be arranged. Thanks!

Anne

262-227-6921

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.





August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:30am– Worship 10:30am– Fellowship	3 6pm– Casa Guadalupe	4 10am-2pm– Office	5 10am-2pm Office 6pm Casa Guadalupe	6 9am– Pastor in office 10am-2pm Office 7pm– Al-Anon	7 Monthly Fish Fry Group	8
9 9:30am– Worship 10:30am– Fellowship 10:45am– Fraud Prevention	10 12pm-2pm Women's Ministry 4pm-Church Council Mtg 6pm– Casa Guadalupe	11 10am-2pm– Office	12 10am-2pm Office 6pm Casa Guadalupe	13 9am– Pastor in office 10am-2pm Office 5pm– Girl Scouts 7pm– Al-Anon	14	15
16 9:30am– Worship 10:30am– Fellowship	17 6pm– Casa Guadalupe	18 10am-2pm– Office	19 10am-2pm Office 6pm Casa Guadalupe	20 9am– Pastor in office 10am-2pm Office 7pm– Al-Anon	21	22
23 9:30am– Worship 10:30am– Fellowship 10:45am– AED TRAINING	24 6pm– Casa Guadalupe	25 10am-2pm– Office	26 10am-2pm Office 6pm– Casa Guadalupe	27 9am– Pastor in office 10am– Conversations with God 10am-2pm Office 7pm– Al-Anon	28	29 11:30 Community Lunch
30	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
Financial Secretaries.....Jeanine Gable and Jeanette Weber

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