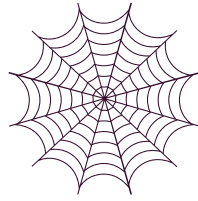




Trunk or Treat

Saturday, October 31

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM



EMBRACED BY GOD'S LOVE WE REACH OUT TO SERVE BECAUSE OUR REDEEMER LIVES

OUR REDEEMER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH THE VOICE

October 2026



October is one of the really fun months around here...

We're back to our regular schedule of **worship**,
with the first appearance by the **Choir** and the **Bells** coming up;
the **Midnight Smorgasbord Quartet** will be with us at the end of the month
to mark Reformation Sunday;
and weekly we enjoy the music provided by so many.

Sunday school has settled into a routine (so many preschoolers...!);
the **middle and high school youth** have their first overnight retreats;
there are interesting adult education offerings from the Creations Care Team
and the Hunger Team;
and we end the month with everyone's favorite evangelism event: **Trunk-or-Treat**.

In the middle of it all is a **Stewardship Work Day** on Saturday, October 10.

I'm sure that Our Redeemer's has had other events like this over the years, but this iteration came from a conversation Dennis and I had three years ago with a young couple who were new to the congregation. They were sharing the excitement of being recently married, with a new house and their first baby on the way, when they admitted that at their stage of life it was hard to financially support the ministry of the congregation significantly, but they had sweat equity to offer if welcome.

Out of that came our first Stewardship Work Day in the fall of 2024. And during these twice-a-year events we get a lot of things done around our building and grounds. Windows are washed, weeds are pulled, a new preschool playground was installed, a lot of paint is thrown around. And we have a task for all levels of skill, so please consider this October event. It's from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, with donuts mid-morning and pizza at noon, and is an event for all ages.

Pastor Trina



OUR REDEEMER'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
3580 North Benton
Helena, MT 59602
406-442-7842

U.S. Postage
PAID
Non-Profit
Organization
Permit No. 96
Helena, Montana



2026 CREATION HIKES

The 2026 summer season saw members of Our Redeemer's joining together to enjoy local hiking trails together on three separate occasions in June, August, and September. Our planned July hike had no participants willing to endure the incredible heat we had at that time (your fearless leaders were relieved).

In June, we hiked from Skidway Campground, located along US Highway 12 in the Deep Creek Canyon, up a one-mile trail to a meadow that each summer is adorned with wildflowers. We learned that both Ella Krumm and Sharon Langdorf are excellent identifiers of various species of plant, fungus, and lichen. We saw Shooting Stars, Lupine, Indian Paintbrush, and many more wildflowers whose names I will have to relearn every year on this hike. We even found a seasonal small pond full of tadpoles as we hiked back to our cars.

In August, we hiked a total of four miles up and back through Trout Creek Canyon from Vigilante Campground. This is always a rewarding hike with stunning views of the canyon face and an easy gradient. Visitor guides are offered at this trailhead that provide insight into natural features at various signed stopping points along the trail. Once again, we enjoyed help from Sharon and Ella in identifying various plants along the path. We saw Fairy Bells, Dogwood, and lots of thistle flowers being enjoyed by butterflies.

In September, we hiked a loop at the new Prickly Pear Park in East Helena, located on the newly remediated East Helena smelter site. It is inspiring to see how this reclamation effort has transformed a formerly contaminated industrial area into a recreation space for birding and fishing and a haven for many bird species. We had a record number 18 total participants for this hike!

These hikes are not only a wonderful way of connecting with God's creation and the wonderful landscapes we are blessed with here in Montana, but they are also a way of creating connection with one another. I appreciate the informal conversations that have occurred on these hikes and feel more personally connected to my church community as a result.

Your hike leaders are proposing something new for the 2027 season. Because after-church time can be very hot in July and August, we are proposing before church hikes for those two months next summer. We will keep the location of these hikes closer to home and will simply propose a trailhead meeting point. These will be "show and go" hikes with specific routes determined by the group that shows up. We will time these such that there is time to complete the hike and get to church on time. I say you can still show up at church in hiking clothes!

Gretchen Krumm



The Voice is published monthly as an update on the ministry and mission of

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church

3580 N Benton Ave

Helena, MT 59602

406.442.7842

www.ourredeemerlives.org

Ministry Team

Ministers: All the People of God

Rev. Trina Johnsten, Lead Pastor

Trina@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Melani Cobb, Office and Facilities Manager

Melani@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Sarah Magee, Director of Finance

Sarah@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Steph Richardson, Director of Youth Ministry

Steph@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Liz Swenson, Director of Children and Family Ministry

Liz@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Carson Yahvah, Interim Director of Worship and Music

Carson@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Linda Keim, Organist

David McHaley, Custodian

Carol Will, Deacon

Lori Bigwood-Pecarina, Lay Ministry Associate

Jan Martin, Lay Ministry Associate

Jeff Martin, Lay Ministry Associate

Kevin Mathews, Lay Ministry Associate

Lisa Williams-Mathews, Lay Ministry Associate

Kristen Bonnacarrere, Preschool Director/Teacher

Kristen@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Angie Adams, Preschool Teacher

Angie@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Liz Swenson, Preschool Teacher

Liz@OurRedeemerLives.Org

A congregation of the Montana Synod

of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Voice articles are due on the 15th of each month

Thursday, October 15 at 5:00 PM

Melani@OurRedeemerLives.Org

Our Redeemer's Church Council

If you have questions or concerns and would like to visit with a Council member, please feel free to contact any of us at the following email or phone:

Rev. Trina Johnsten, Lead Pastor

trina@ourredeemerlives.org

402-984-4306

Charlie Gorman, President

president@ouredeemerlives.org

406-202-9509

Trudy Burke, First Vice President

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406-431-6217

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406-303-1257

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406-603-0731

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406-458-5540

Charlotte Neill, Member at Large

cneill001@luthersem.edu

406-465-3453

Jack Palmer, Member at Large

johnpalmerpro@gmail.com

406-460-0133

October BIRTHDAYS

(Remember our friends in Christ with a Birthday prayer!)

- 2 Richard Chase

Gary Fischer

3 Roy Hemry

4 Kyler Deboer

Joy Novota

5 Bonnie Heimbach

Roxanne Hiesterman

Elias Knutson

Kale Wetherell

7 Steve Liston

JoAnn Maffit

McKenna Michalson

Brooklyn Swenson

8 Patrick Johnson

9 Gordon Blomquist

Brenda Gustafson

Carol Ferris

10 Kellen Deboer

12 Tim Williamson

13 Teri Palmer

14 Danica Boe

Bennett MacIntyre

15 Todd Will

17 Terrance Young

19 Dewey Santy

20 Whitley Begger
- 22 Brett Penner

23 Haley Jurecki

24 Tom Naegele

25 Megan Cail

Richard Livesay

26 Shawn Juers

Titus Wetzel

27 Natalie Byrne

28 Olivia Lamb

29 Helen Hammond

30 Avery Sitch

Paula Strand

31 Jane Peachey



Happy Anniversary

Celebrate with those married 40 years or more this month!

- Mike & Carol Maynard

10/1/1982

44 years
- Ron & Claudia Morley

10/1/1982

44 years
- Ken & Sharlene Kolb

10/6/1962

64 years
- Roy & Evalena Hemry

10/24/1975

51 years



90+
Years Old

Let's celebrate our friends who have turned 90 years or older this month by sending them a birthday card.

Bonnie Heimbach (age 94)
1415 Knight Street
Helena, MT 59601-2351

Gordon Blomquist (age 100)
2201 Henderson
Helena, MT 59601



LET'S CELEBRATE GORDON BLOMQUIST'S 100th BIRTHDAY

Gordon Blomquist, longtime resident of Helena, will turn 100 years old on October 9, 2026. His family and Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church will be hosting coffee and goodies in his honor from 1:00 to 3:00 PM on Friday, October 9, 2026 in the Community Room. Gordon grew up during the depression and served in the Navy during WWII. He married his beloved Phyllis, and supported his family of five children through his career with Bell Telephone. If friends cannot attend his birthday celebration, birthday greetings can be sent to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church at 3580 N Benton Ave, Helena MT 59602.

☆☆☆

City of Helena Community Development Meeting

The City of Helena is undertaking an effort to amend the 2025 Future Land Use Map. This map requires corrections to the area generally located north of West Custer Avenue, east of Green Meadow Drive, south of Grizz Avenue, and west of Cooney Drive. The area on the map currently indicates lower density development than what either exists on the ground today or may be proposed for development in the future. Without changes to the Future Land Use Map, prospective developments, like the long-standing, high-density affordable residential development desired by Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, will be unable to proceed as currently planned. City Community Development staff are excited for the opportunity to meet with residents and property owners in this corner of the community to speak to the need for proposed changes on Tuesday, October 20 at 5:30PM. All are encouraged to attend, and are also welcome to contact Community Development staff by calling (406) 447-8490, e-mailing citycommunitydevelopment@helenamt.gov, or stopping by the Planning Division Offices to learn more.

☆☆☆



Voter information is available at the kiosk in the Great Room and on the ushers desk in the entryway. Websites are available where you can trace your ballot's progress and better understand Montana's nonpartisan election process.

Children's Ministry Registration Open!

Sunday School has begun. Please follow the link **OR** use the following QR code to register for the 2026-2027 Children's Ministry Christian educational opportunities.

<https://forms.gle/Pe8WJEH7avhRA7Db7>



All families of children age 3-5th grade should have received a letter in the mail with more detailed information!

Contact Liz at liz@ourredeemerlives.org, with questions.



October 2026

- 4** Sunday School & Tween Scene
- 11** Sunday School & Tween Scene
- 18** No Sunday School or Tween Scene
- 25** Sunday & Tween Scene
- 31** Trunk or Treat @10am-Noon



October 31 @ 10:00-Noon

All Children and Families are welcome!
If you would like to host a trunk at this event, please follow the link, use the QR code below OR contact Liz or Steph!

<https://forms.gle/SvJcp4Mv8eRYWpVJ6>

Contact Liz, liz@ourredeemerlives.org OR Steph steph@ourredeemerlives.org with questions!



We are need of candy and other items for Trunk or Treat! Please keep an eye out for the donation board in the hallway—grab a tag and bring back your item(s) and put them in the bin located in the entryway. Thank you!



LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERNS

Help us update our Long Term Prayer Concerns list by calling the church office, 406-442-7842.

Our Members

Gordon Blomquist	George Hafer	Lorna Meyer	Jim Penner
Richard Carey	Noreen Johnson	Dale Mickus	Elmer Strong
Roberta Carey	Carol Kimble	Julie Mehl	
Bries Gauer	Chloe MacIntyre	Carol Olmstead	

Our Family and Friends

Emmitt Budy (Dwight Hiesterman)	Jim Norby (cousin of Brad Ulgenes)
Danny McCaughan (nephew of Lori & Dave Swenson)	
Ron Paulson (former member)	
Jacki Riley (sister of Lori Walter)	
Bryan Solomon (nephew of Darbie Hess)	
Phyllis LeDosquet (cousin of Brad Ulgenes)	

Our Family and Friends Serving in the Military

Brandon Bach	Adam Guay	Cody Johnson	Keith Nordquist
Kyle Begger	Ryan Girard	Colton Johnson	Chris Oelkers
Connor Brown	Austin Grieve	Chance McDowell	Scott Pocha
Erin DenHerder	Travis Gronley	Kent McGowan	Tanner Reddig
Kellan Elder	Charlie Heidbreder	Dean McLain	Cody Stipcich
Travis Elder	Roger Henschel	Sawyer Linke	Darrell Stipcich
Micah Emmons	Paul Horst	Erin Mills	Victoria Stipcich
Jessilyn Emmons	Anela Hemry	Brian Neal	Tait Strom
Grant Gagnon	Wade Hemry		Andrew Zimmer



OUR REDEEMER'S SUPPORT GROUPS

TOUCHMARK WORSHIP

A worship and communion service will be held at Touchmark Retirement Community on **Tuesday, October 20 at 10:00 AM** led by Pastor Trina and Pastor Keith Wetherford from St. John's. We will meet in the forum on the second floor. Join the Our Redeemer's resident members for worship. Touchmark is located at 915 Saddle Drive.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The grief group is currently on hold. Jane Peachey will remain available to group members and those who are struggling with grief. She is willing to start a new group should interest and need arise. Please feel free to call her at 234-567-1461 for support .



CREATION CARE FILM and DISCUSSION SERIES

The Creation Care Team will present and lead a 3-week series of 15-20 minute videos entitled “**Caring for the Earth: Stories from Faith Communities**” during the adult education hour beginning **Sunday, October 4 at 9:45 AM** in the Community Room. The series features faith communities from around the globe sharing why and how they are engaged in the work of creation care. The topics of the videos are as follows:

October 4 - Tend and Keep - Leaders from various faith communities speak about the central place which stewardship of creation has in their traditions and how they are responding to their call to be stewards of Creation.

October 11 - Called by Faith - This video encourages us to examine our own faith and practices as individuals and communities regarding creation care, and to ask the question “What more can we be doing?”

October 18 - Healing Creation - This video focusses on what we can learn from Creation itself about promoting the health of both the ecosystems and our own lives by adopting more nature-friendly means of producing and consuming what we need to survive and thrive on the Earth.



Sunday Gathering

Where: The Loft

When: 9:45-10:45AM

Who: 6-12 graders

Objective: We look at the text from the Sunday service and together, apply it to our lives.



Register for the Fall Retreat

Join us for our Fall Retreat in Canyon Ferry, MT.

Middle School: Oct. 14 (5:30pm drop off) & 15 (2pm pick up)

High School: Oct. 15 (5:30pm drop off) & 16 (2pm pick up)

Friends are welcome!

A 'what to bring' list will be shared as the date draws near.

Middle School Registration:



High School Registration:



Middle School Fall Retreat- Oct 14-15. Register by clicking the link.

<https://forms.gle/ZNaC2tRuz1LZf1DA6>

High School Fall Retreat- Oct 15-16. Register by clicking the link.

<https://forms.gle/tVzA4iLjMzcsHdYc9>





2027 ELCA
**YOUTH
GATHERING**

JUNE 26–JULY 2, 2027 • MINNEAPOLIS, MN
BOLD FAITH. BRIGHT FUTURE.



MINNEAPOLIS
AWAITS!

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH — YOU'RE INVITED!

Every three years, thousands of high schoolers and their adult leaders gather for an unforgettable week of worship, learning, service, and community. The National Youth Gathering is a chance to experience the church in bold ways, meet new people, hear inspiring speakers, and see how faith can make a difference in the world!



DATES

June 26 – July 2, 2027
Minneapolis, MN



WHO CAN GO?

All current 8th – 12th graders are invited!



REGISTRATION DEPOSIT

\$175 due to Steph by October 5
This secures your spot!



FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is expected to help with the overall cost. More details and opportunities will be shared soon.

LITTLE PANTRIES



Faith & Justice In Action is partnering with the Helena area non-profit group **The Waking Giant** to collect on-the-go food items and small personal care items! These will be distributed to little emergency pantries in the Helena area.

We join the excellent work of many others at Our Redeemer's—including the Hunger Team, Kid Packs, Milk Campaign, and the Our Redeemer's Community Garden—each meeting different needs and all reducing hunger.

Donations are very much appreciated! Please keep in mind that many folks will be on foot with no prep facilities.

- Single Serving
- Easy Open—No Can Opener
- Easy Prep or No Prep
- Easy to carry On-The-Go
- Shelf Stable



Commonly needed items:

Ready-made or easy-to-prepare foods: canned soups/chili, meal mixes, ramen noodle cups or packets, macaroni & cheese cups or boxes, tuna/chicken salad kits, single-serve oatmeal packs, breakfast cereal.

Snacks: Granola bars, nuts/seeds, dried fruit, trail mix, fruit snacks, pretzels, popcorn, packaged cookies or crackers, peanut butter crackers, applesauce, pudding cups, fruit cups, juice packets, juice boxes, jerky.

Pantry staples: canned or dried vegetables/beans/proteins, boxed or canned broth/stock, rice, pasta, canned sauces, shelf-stable cheese, tortillas, dessert mixes, condensed milk, powdered milk, coffee, tea, flour, peanut butter, jelly.

Personal care items: feminine hygiene products, cleaning supplies, toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, alcohol-free mouthwash, dental floss, toothpicks, hand sanitizer, bar soap, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, washcloths, chapstick, lotion, combs, brushes, nail clippers, shaving supplies, first aid supplies, cough drops, Vick's vapor rub, cotton balls, cotton swabs, aloe gel.

Baby care items: diapers, wet wipes, baby food, baby formula.

Comfort items and weather gear: hats, socks, gloves, handwarmers, rain gear, sunscreen, bug spray, sunglasses, candles, handkerchiefs, eating utensils, mini sewing kits, dish soap, laundry soap, small toys, playing cards, notepads, writing utensils, crayons/markers/colored pencils.

For more information or questions feel free to contact Janet Benson 507-360-3442 or Carol Landsverk 406-920-2185.

SOLAR PANEL UPDATE

History

Fall 2024 - In view of new renewable energy incentives passed by Congress, an ad hoc committee of representatives of various congregation committees and ministry areas is convened by Jerry Hoover to assess the feasibility of a solar electric system for Our Redeemer’s Lutheran Church. After several meetings, the committee forwards recommendation to the church council to solicit bids from several contractors. Church council approves the recommendation.

January 2025 - Solar and More Team interviews three contractors and selects Bozeman Green Build as prospective installer.

February 2025 - On the recommendation of council, Annual Meeting approves the selection of BGB and authorizes the borrowing of \$170,000 for the project. A Renewable Energy Grant for Non-profits from NorthWestern Energy for the project by NorthWestern Energy is submitted in April.

September 2025 - ORLC is awarded a \$60,000 grant by NEW.

October 2025 - ORLC signs construction contract with BGB.

March 2026 - construction begun; solar system placed into service April 16, 2026

Size

90kW DC capacity; 50kW max AC output (by statute);
estimated annual output:105 megawatt hours (mWh);
May-Aug. 2026 production: approx. 46 mWh.

CO2 emissions saved so far—Approximaetly 40 tons

Financial

Cost of system—\$165,600
--Less \$60,000 NW Energy grant
--Less anticipated rebate of approx.\$50,000 from federal renewable energy grant, Winter 2027
--Approximate net cost to ORLC-- \$55,000

Output/Cost comparison

May- Aug 2024--42 mWh billed; total electrical bill \$6138;
May-Aug. 2025—42 mWh billed, cost \$5872
May-Aug 2026—10 kWh billed, cost \$2662
Average savings May-Aug.2026--\$750/month over 2024/ 2025 average.

To access the Solar Edge portal which tracks and reports solar system production on Our Redeemer’s website, go to <https://ourredeemerlives.org/>—Menu—Happenings—Solar Edge Portal

PRESCHOOL NEWS

☀️ Preschool Openings! ☀️

Our Afternoon Bridge Class, for ages 3 & 4, has openings. Taught by Mrs. Adams, this small class runs from 12:15–2:45 PM, with the option to start the day at 11:15 AM with Lunch Bunch and Mrs. Swenson.

With small class sizes, meaningful enrichment opportunities, and a caring learning environment, our preschool experience truly stands out.

Come see for yourself!



🎃 Preschool Trick-or-Treat Helpers Needed! 🍬

We love taking our preschoolers on a little walk down to the main offices where they get to show off their costumes and trick-or-treat with our congregation. It’s always such a fun part of our Halloween celebration. 🧛

We’re looking for a few volunteers to help us on:

- October 29 at 9:30 AM
- October 30 at 9:30 AM
- October 30 at 12:30 PM

You don’t have to commit to all three—even one shift would be a huge help!

If you’d be willing to help, please reach out to Kristen at kristen@ourredeemerlives.org or Mrs. Swenson at liz@ourredeemerlives.org



FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE and PASTOR TRINA

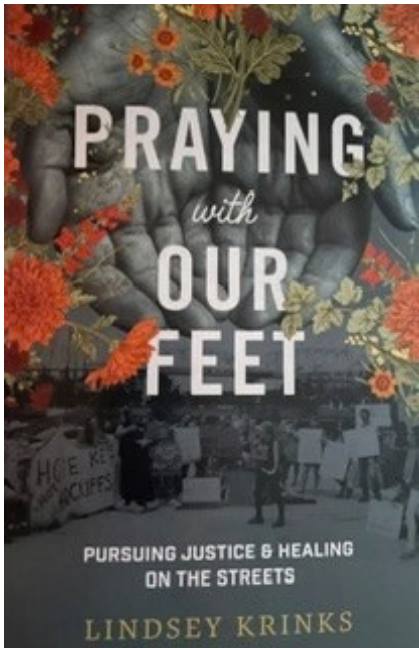
Thank you to all who have been using qualified charitable distributions (QCD) as a way to give to the ministry of Our Redeemer’s. Your generosity has really made a difference. We’ve even had one of you already give a generous “seed gift” to the upcoming second edition of our All Kids to Camp fundraising as part of a recent QCD!

If you aren’t familiar with this process, at age 70 1/2 individuals can start donating money from an IRA to charity via qualified charitable distributions (QCD). In 2026, those 70 1/2 or older can transfer up to \$111,000 from their traditional IRA's to charities. At age 73, the QCD will count toward all or a portion of IRA required minimum distributions.

Also, new tax laws allow for those who claim the standard deduction to deduct up to \$1000 in charitable contributions, or \$2000 for a married couple filing jointly.

ADULT EDUCATION FALL 2026

Book Study- Praying with Our Feet



Most of us see evidence of poverty and homelessness around us every day. And probably much of the time we feel rather helpless to do anything about it. Lindsey Krinks, the cofounder of Open Table Nashville, shares her story of the joys and frustrations of working with the homeless in this memoir. As a street chaplain, activist, and nonprofit leader, she invites us to the front lines as she encourages us to act with boldness.

The Hunger Team is happy to offer this book study to the congregation. The discussions will be led by Jeff Buscher, an ordained pastor and the Community Impact Coordinator for United Way of Lewis and Clark County.

Save the dates:

Sunday, October 11, 9:45-10:45 AM—Copies of the book will be available in the Great Room

Sunday, October 18, 9:45 AM and 12:00 PM—Additional copies of the book will be available in the Great Room

All book study sessions will take place at 9:45 AM on Sundays in the Community Room on the following dates:

Sunday, October 25, Pages 1-35 The Journey Begins

Sunday, November 1, Pages 36-81 Getting Real

Sunday, November 8, Pages 83-142 Wilderness

Sunday, November 15, Pages 143-194 The Work Goes On

Sunday, November 22 Where Do We Go from Here? (Discussion with Hunger Team and all other interested individuals)

The next meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council will be Tuesday, October 13. The focus of this meeting is to set the agenda for the monthly full Council meeting. If you have things you'd like the Council to consider or would like to be on the agenda, please let council president Charlie Gorman know by October 12. The next Council meeting has yet to be scheduled due to the City of Helena meeting.

Mary Kay Linke, Secretary



WELCA

Women of the **E**vangelical **L**utheran **C**hurch in **A**merica

FALL FESTIVAL & BAZAAR

The WELCA Fall Festival & Bazaar is Saturday, November 7, 9:00-1:00. We are always looking for more people to help with the bazaar so if you love baking, cooking, helping and serving then we would love to have you participate in the Fall Festival in anyway you can. Contact Charlene or any member of the WELCA board for how you could serve.

We want to let you know that the Treasures & Collectibles area will be expanding this year into the Community Room so that we can offer more merchandise and have more table space for the sale items. If you have gently used kitchen wares, home decorating items, chairs, small wooden items, lamps, pictures, jewelry or more, and would like to donate them to use, we would be interested in selling them. Not garage sale items per say, but nice items. Please call Linda Coty, Chairperson at 406-443-5857 or email her at cotyak@hotmail.com to see if your items would be suitable.

Friday, October 9 - Chicken Pot Pies Preparation

Friday, October 9 we will meet in the church kitchen at 9:00 AM to make the pie shells, fill the pies, and freeze them in preparation for the Bazaar day. If you can only come for part of the day, that is great also. We will be there from about 9:00-3:00. If you love to make and roll out pie dough or just want to learn how to make pie dough, you are most welcome.

October 22 and 23 - Lefse Making and Baking - Come join us in making lefse. If you share this love with your spouse, pick one or the other of the days and both show up together to roll and bake. If you've always wanted to learn to make Lefse you are also welcome to attend and learn.

Please let Charlene know what day or days you want to come play in the kitchen to help us get ready for another magnificent Bazaar happening.

QUILT RAFFLE - The 2026 Quilt for our WELCA Fall Festival & Bazaar is now on full display in the Great Room. Tickets are available for purchase \$5 a piece or 5 for \$20.



CATCHING UP WITH COUNCIL

Council Highlights September 22, 2026

August 2026 Financial Reports

General Receipts for the Ministry Fund totaled \$60,514. Building Fund donations totaled \$11,283. August was a better month for us. Thank you to those who have given to help us catch up a little bit from our usual “summer slump”. We continue to have an \$11,000 monthly mortgage until the sale of our property is finalized, which could take up to 18 months. If you have any questions about Our Redeemer’s budget, our treasurer Jan Martin is available to provide more information.

Finance and Operations Director Position

Interviews of candidates for this position are taking place this week. This is to fill the vacancy created by Sara Magee’s upcoming retirement. In addition to accounting, the duties of this position will include the oversight and coordination for facility, grounds and safety at Our Redeemer’s.

Ministry Team and Committee Reports

Pastor Trina reports that the transition back to two services has gone smoothly with attendance numbers normalizing in both services. The online attendance continues to be very strong! Confirmation is off to a great start with many kids attending from our congregation as well as other area churches and even Townsend.

Lutheran Worship at Touchmark will be at 10AM on the third Tuesday of the month. Lori Bigwood Pecarina, LMA, has been leading this worship service for ten years! Thank you, Lori, for your years of dedication to serving our off campus church members living at Touchmark. As she steps back from that Pastor Trina and Pastor Keith (from St. John’s Lutheran) will preside in October.

Jerry Hoover reported that the next Stewardship Saturday is scheduled for October 10, from 8am -12:00pm. He has quite a list of tasks. “Many hands make light work” so please come help if you are available.

The fire suppression system compressor has been replaced! Thank you again to all who provided fire watch while it was down.

The Council is moving forward with implementing some of the recommendations from the Forward in Faith Report. That report can be found on Our Redeemer’s website.

The City of Helena will be holding a meeting at Our Redeemer’s to inform our area neighbors that they are considering an amendment to the 2025 Future Land Use Map in order for DevCo to be able to build a three to four story project.

Have a question about what’s going on at Our Redeemer’s?

The Council is happy to answer questions, take creative suggestions, and be your source of accurate information about our community. All twelve members of Council are listed with contact information on the last page of each month’s Voice and pictures of them are on the bulletin board in the entryway. You have elected them to make decisions on behalf of the congregation, and they really want to hear from you. If you are pleased with something or concerned about something, reach out! One caveat, we don’t accept anonymous comments; it doesn’t build up the body of Christ.

NEWS FROM THE HUNGER TEAM

A Huge “Thank You”

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Milk Campaign for the kid packs program at Helena Food Share. As of this printing, we do not have the final figures from our church and from the partner churches. Stay tuned with notices in the e-news and the church bulletin. We hope to present all the checks to Helena Food Share by mid-October.

KID PACKS

YES...it is great to know and deeply appreciated that you are ready to walk in circles again. Several folks have asked us when Kid Pack builds begin and for that we’re grateful. This lets us know you are ready and willing to help! We assemble packs the first three Tuesdays of each month, October-April. We begin on **October 6, 4:00 p.m., Helena Food Share [1280 Boulder Ave.]**. It takes about one to one and half hours max, depending on number of pallets we’re asked to complete. More information went out the last week of September to all names on our email list. If you are interested in giving this a try, please email Judy McMaster at judy1950@bresnan.net. Thank you and see you soon!



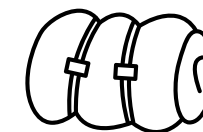
Update on the Community Garden

The community garden was quite productive this season. Thank you to everyone who planted, weeded, or harvested. In addition to congregation members, we received help from neighbors, Boy Scouts, and Master Gardeners, as well as Ella Krumm and Emma Compton, who kept the garden as free of weeds as possible this summer. And a special shoutout to Karen Nelson and Elaine Ulgenes who organized the maintenance of the garden all summer long. As of this printing, we do not yet have the final figures on how much we donated to Helena Food Share this season. We’ll keep you posted.

Project Warmth

Our Redeemer’s is partnering with Plymouth Congregational and St. Peter’s Episcopal to support Project Warmth during the month of October. This endeavor provides tents and sleeping bags for unsheltered individuals in our community. Contributions are to be sent to Plymouth, either by mail or online, clearly designating they are for Project Warmth:

<https://plymouthmontanaucc.org> or 400 S Oakes, Helena, MT 59601



Next Hunger Team Meeting

Tuesday, October 27, 6:30 PM in Conference Room, new members are always welcome. Come and join the excitement!



October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:30am - Sew in Love - CR5-6 11:00am - Pastor's Bible Study - Conf. Rm 12:00pm - Faith & Justice - CR5-6 6:00pm - Stewardship Committee Mtg Conf. Rm	2	3 9:00am - See Through the Scriptures
4 8:30am - Worship + KidTime 9:45am - Education Hr and Fellowship 11:00am - Worship + KidTime	5 7:00pm - Bells	6 9:00am - Quilting for LWR - CR5-6 10:30am - Knitters for Peace - 12:30pm - Staff Meeting	7 9:00am - Men's Group-Great Rm 9:00am - Contemplative Prayer Youth Loft 6:00pm - Confirmation Class 6:00pm - Youth Group	8 9:30am - Sew in Love - CR5-6 11:00am - Pastor's Bible Study - Conf. Rm	9 9:00am - Chicken Pot Pie Prep Kitchen 1:00pm - Gordon Blomquist 100th Birthday Gathering - Community Rm	10 8:00am - Stewardship Work Day
11 8:30am - Worship + KidTime 9:45am - Education Hr and Fellowship 11:00am - Worship + KidTime	12 6:00pm - Preschool Advisory Board Mtg - Conf. Rm 7:00pm - Bells	13 9:00am - Quilting for LWR - CR5-6 10:00am - WELCA Board - AD1 10:30am - Knitters for Peace 12:30pm - Staff Meeting 5:30pm - Executive Council Mtg Conference Room	14 9:00am - Men's Group-Great Rm 9:00am - Contemplative Prayer Youth Loft MS Youth Retreat	15 VOICE ARTICLES DUE! 9:30am - Sew in Love - CR5-6 11:00am - Pastor's Bible Study - Conf. Rm 12:00pm - Faith & Justice - CR5-6 HS Youth Retreat	16	17
18 8:30am - Worship + KidTime 9:45am - Education Hr and Fellowship 11:00am - Worship + KidTime	19 5:30pm - Council Mtg - Sewing Room 7:00pm - Bells	20 9:00am - Quilting for LWR - CR5-6 10:00am - Touchmark Service 10:30am - Knitters for Peace 12:30pm - Staff Meeting 5:30pm - City of Helena Mtg	21 9:00am - Men's Group-Great Rm 9:00am - Contemplative Prayer Youth Loft 1:00pm - WELCA Bible Study 5:30pm - Choir 6:00pm - Confirmation Class 6:00pm - Youth Group	22 9:00am - Lefse Making and Baking - Kitchen 9:30am - Sew in Love - CR5-6 11:00am - Pastor's Bible Study - Conf. Rm	23 9:00am - Lefse Making and Baking - Kitchen	24
25 Reformation Sunday 8:30am - Worship + KidTime 9:45am - Education Hr and Fellowship 11:00am - Worship + KidTime	26 7:00pm - Bells	27 9:00am - Quilting for LWR - CR5-6 10:30am - Knitters for Peace 12:30pm - Staff Meeting 6:30pm - Hunger Team Mtg	28 9:00am - Men's Group-Great Rm 9:00am - Contemplative Prayer Youth Loft 5:30pm - Choir 6:00pm - Confirmation Class 6:00pm - Youth Group	29 9:30am - Sew in Love - CR5-6 11:00am - Pastor's Bible Study - Conf. Rm 12:00pm - Faith & Justice - CR5-6	30	31 10:00am - Trunk or Treat 