



The Messenger

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Newsletter

May/June 2025

Mark Your Calendars!

May 4– Sunday worship w/o Communion
May 11– Sunday worship with Communion
May 12– Monday night Communion Service at 5:00
May 18– Sunday worship w/o Communion
May 25– Sunday worship with Communion
June 1– Sunday worship w/o Communion
June 8– Sunday worship w/o Communion
June 15– Sunday worship with Communion
June 16– Monday night Communion Service at 5:00
June 22– Sunday worship w/o Communion
June 29– Sunday worship with Communion

details for drive-in service included on separate page in newsletter

Bible Studies at Church

TAWG: (time away with God): evening Bible study Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Ladies' Bible Study: Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m.

Thursday Bible Study: Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Morning Bible Adult Bible Discussion: Sunday Mornings at 10:15 a.m.

Miss something from the Sermon?

All of our worship services are livestreamed and archived on our Facebook page! You can also find them on our website at:
www.orknoxin.com



Welcome! To our May and June Church Newsletter! As we embrace the warmth and fellowship of our church community. We invite you to join us in worship and celebration as we continue our journey of faith together.

In the coming weeks, you can look forward to inspiring sermons, engaging Bible studies, and opportunities for fellowship. Our doors are open to all, regardless of where you are in your spiritual journey. Whether you seek solace, guidance, or simply a place to belong, we invite you to explore the warmth and acceptance of our congregation.

Let's come together in faith, love, and service. Your presence and participation make our church family complete.

Welcome home!

Pastor Eric



from the PASTOR



May 2025

Dear Church Family,

As we step into the month of May, I'm reminded of the beauty of this season. The days are growing longer, the flowers are blooming, and everything around us seems to come alive with the promise of new beginnings. It's a visible reminder of the way God works in our lives—renewing, restoring, and inviting us to grow.

May is also a month that offers many opportunities for reflection and celebration. This month we honor our mothers—those who gave us life, nurtured our faith, and shaped our hearts. Whether through a mother's gentle words or the faithful prayers of a spiritual mentor, many of us have experienced the love of God through the women in our lives. Let us give thanks for them and ask God to continue to bless them richly.

As school years draw to a close and summer begins to peek over the horizon, it's also a time to celebrate the achievements of students, support families as they transition into a new rhythm, and encourage one another to stay rooted in God's Word through every season.

Let's take this month to recommit ourselves to spiritual growth, just as we see the natural world around us flourishing. May we be people who bear fruit in every good work and increase in the knowledge of God (Colossians 1:10).

I look forward to all God has in store for us in the coming weeks—times of worship, fellowship, and mission. May our church continue to be a place where hearts are nurtured, faith is deepened, and love abounds.

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Eric Gawura



Days of interest in May

National Day of Prayer-May 1, 2025

Mother's Day— May 11, 2025

Armed Forces Day-May 17, 2025

Victoria Day-May 19, 2025

Memorial Day-May 26, 2025

Ascension of the Lord-May 29, 2025

Day of interest in June

Day of Pentecost-June 8, 2025

Flag Day-June 14, 2025

Father's Day-June 15, 2025

Juneteenth— June 19, 2025

First Day of Summer— June 20, 2025

A prayer for Mother's Day

Dear Lord, thank you for the blessings of children and families. Help us rely on you for guidance, patience and even-temperedness throughout our days.

We pray that our children will love you, worship you and serve you with their God-given gifts. Grant us the wisdom to know how to influence them to live godly lives. Prevent us from provoking our children to anger and from manipulating or nagging them.

Fill our households with abiding love and respect. And help us all be united in purpose to do your will. In the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.



Thoughts for Father's Day

A careful man I ought to be; a little fellow follows me;
I do not dare to go astray, for fear he'll go the self-same way.

I cannot once escape his eyes; whate'er he sees me do, he tries —
Like me, he says, he's going to be, the little chap who follows me.

He thinks that I am good and fine, believes in every word of mine:
The base in me he must not see, the little chap who follows me.

I must remember as I go, through summer's sun and winter's
snow,
I'm building for the years to be, for a little fellow follows me.

—Author unknown

DRIVE IN *Service*

~ Bass Lake Worship ~

Schedule of Church Leadership Summer 2025

Schedule of when all 4 churches lead/serve:

Complete Schedule of All Churches:

May 25 ~ Our Redeemer, Knox

June 1 ~ St. Peter, North Judson

June 8 ~ St. Luke, Winamac

June 15 ~ Our Redeemer, Knox

June 22 ~ St. Paul, Denham

June 29 ~ St. Luke, Winamac

July 6 ~ Our Redeemer, Knox

July 13 ~ St. Peter, North Judson

July 20 ~ St. Paul, Denham

July 27 ~ St. Luke, Winamac

August 3 ~ Our Redeemer, Knox

August 10 ~ St. Peter, North Judson

August 17 ~ St. Paul, Denham

August 24 ~ St. Luke, Winamac

August 31 ~ St. Peter, North Judson

****Serving donuts on May 25, July 6, and Aug. 31****

All services will begin at 8:00 AM, starting with our first gathering on **Sunday, May 25th**, hosted by **Our Redeemer**. We'll be serving donuts that morning—and on the other Sundays listed above—so come early, grab a treat, and enjoy worship in a relaxed, outdoor setting.

We're excited to kick off the summer season together, and whether you can be with us in person or prefer to worship from your car, we warmly invite you to join us at the drive-in!

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Amazing Teachers

As our Preschool and Sunday School programs come to a close for the year, we want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude to the incredible teachers and volunteers who have dedicated their time, energy, and hearts throughout this school year.

Thank you for the love, patience, and guidance you've poured into each and every child. Whether teaching a Bible story, leading a craft, calming a fussy morning, or simply offering a warm smile, you have been a vital part of nurturing both the spiritual and personal growth of our students.

Your commitment to planting seeds of faith and helping our children grow in God's love has made a lasting impact—not only in their lives but in the life of our church community. We are so thankful for your service and the joy you bring to every Sunday and school day.

May you be blessed and refreshed, knowing the difference you've made this year. We appreciate you more than words can say!

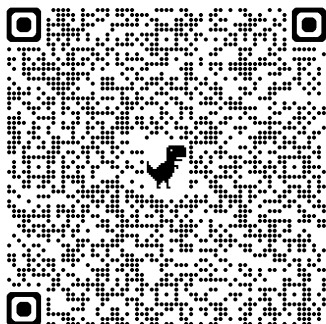


THANK YOU TEACHERS!

Vacation BIBLE SCHOOL

Save the dates for VBS!
June 9-13
from 1:00~3:45 pm ct.

Get ready for an exciting week of faith, fun, and friendship at this year's Vacation Bible School! We're now accepting pre-registrations—and it's super easy! **Scan the QR code below to register your child(ren) today!** Children who register **by May 19th** will receive a **free VBS T-shirt!** Registrations after that date may not be guaranteed a shirt. You can also pre-register online at our website, Facebook page, or by contacting Diane at 219-363-4750. We can't wait to see you there!



JESUS
is my Superhero
Luke 19:10



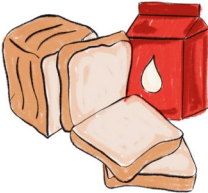
Teatime treat



Make these sweet sandwiches
for a Mother's Day tea party.

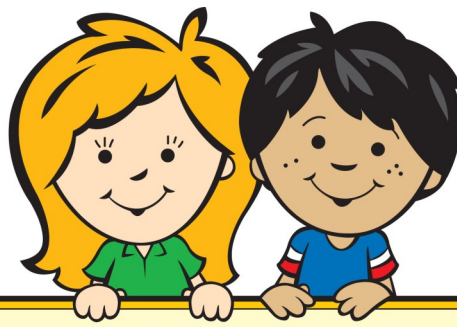
What you need:

- 4 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 3 Tablespoons powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 6-10 strawberries, washed and sliced
- 6 slices of white bread
- Cellophane
- Adult help



What you do:

1. With an electric mixer, whip the cream cheese in a bowl until fluffy.
2. Add cream, powdered sugar, and lemon juice. Continue whipping on high speed until mixture is stiff.
3. On each slice of bread, spread a layer of the mixture. Then arrange some sliced strawberries on top.
4. Place the sandwiches together, with filling on the inside.
5. Wrap tightly in cellophane. Chill for two hours so the filling sets.
6. Trim off crusts with a serrated knife. Cut sandwiches in squares or triangles. Serve and enjoy!



KIDS PAGE

Kids here are some fun Mother's Day and Father's Day activities you can do with your parents to show them you care on their special days of appreciation! As always be sure to ask a grown up for help with appliances, and knives.



Sunday, May 18th will be our final day of Sunday School for the year! We hope you've had a wonderful time growing in your faith and learning God's Word with us.

As we head into summer break, we pray it's a season filled with joy, rest, and continued time in the Word—together with your family.

We look forward to welcoming you back to Sunday School this fall. Until then, stay rooted in God's love.

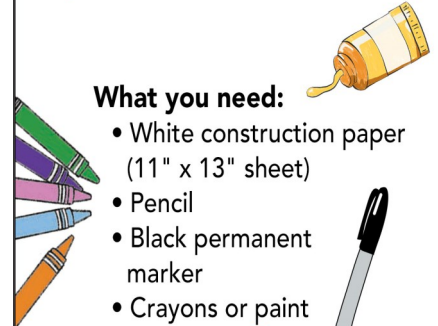
God bless you!

IN MY FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS

Make this keepsake to express
love for your dad or another
special man this Father's Day.

What you need:

- White construction paper (11" x 13" sheet)
- Pencil
- Black permanent marker
- Crayons or paint



What you do:

1. In the center of the paper, trace your foot in pencil. Darken the outline with marker.
2. Color or paint the footprint. Let it dry.
3. Trace your father's foot (same side) on top of your footprint (with yours in the middle of his).
4. Color or paint his footprint. Let it dry.
5. Sign your names and the date at the bottom.



Youth Group News

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Youth for Serving Easter Breakfast

We want to extend our deepest gratitude to the incredible group of youth who so graciously prepared and served Easter breakfast this year. Their cheerful hearts, willing hands, and servant-minded attitudes were a true blessing to our church community.

From setting up early in the morning to making sure every plate was filled and every guest welcomed, our youth displayed Christ's love in action. It was a beautiful reflection of the joy and hope of Easter, and we are so proud of the way they stepped up to serve.

Thank you to each young person who gave their time and energy so generously, and to the adults who guided and supported them along the way. Your efforts helped create a warm and memorable celebration for all.



May

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

Due to the holidays on our regular schedule youth week-ends Diane will be contacting families for May and June youth events.



May 4th	Layla Brammer
May 11th	Christian Norem
May 18th	Luci Hamand
May 25th	Miles Fraser

June

June 1st	Emma Brammer
June 8th	Neva Balaszek
June 15th	Hudson Hazelton
June 22nd	Layla Brammer
June 29th	Christian Norem

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

The **Craft and Bake Sale** has been cancelled due to a lack of interest. We hope to reschedule it for some time in the future. In the meantime we hope that you will continue to support the Food Pantry by collecting your UPC barcodes from all your favorite **Our Family brand products** and using your

Kroger Community Rewards.



ORLC Food Pantry is participating in the Our Family® Direct Your Labels program, and we hope you will help us as we collect UPC barcodes from all your favorite Our Family brand products.

Each time we collect 500 UPC barcodes, we can turn those labels into \$25 for our Food Pantry. And with more than 1,800 retail grocery stores across the country participating in the program, it's easy to turn Our Family labels into cash for our Food Pantry!

To participate in the Direct Your Labels program, simply clip and save the UPC barcode on every Our Family® brand product you purchase at . For every 500 UPC barcodes we collect, we will earn \$25 from SpartanNash, the company that makes and distributes the more than 2,000 Our Family® brand products with national brand quality at a lower price. With your support and your labels – we'll be raising money to purchase food.

There will be a drop off box in the Fellowship Hall for your labels. If you aren't able to drop your UPC barcodes off in person, you can also mail them to ORLC Food Pantry, Attn: Erika Large, 1600 S. Heaton St., Knox, IN 46534. We do need original Our Family® labels to earn the \$25, so please no photo-copies.

Thanks to the Direct Your Labels program, we can raise money for the Food Pantry as we shop for our groceries each week. Start saving those UPC barcodes! We'll continue collecting them throughout the year.

Sincerely, *The Food Pantry Committee*

Kroger Community Rewards

For any questions about the Food Pantry Please contact either:

**Erika Large, Food Pantry Administrator @ 269-449-4506, Kim
Emmons, Fund Raising Coordinator @ 574-298-6488, or Marcia
Olson, Goodwill Ambassador @ 574-249-2756.**

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Food Pantry has become a member of the "Kroger Community Rewards Program". Now, when you shop at Kroger's and use your

Kroger Plus Card, Kroger will donate cash to our account, it will cost you nothing. Instructions to

Attach ORLC to your Kroger Plus Card:

Download the app or sign into your account on Kroger.com

2. Create an account if you don't already have one

3. Go to the Account Tab

4. Scroll down to Community Rewards

5. Open Community Rewards Every

6. Choose and add Our Redeemer Lutheran Church:

Organization number: RQ856 .

Every three months Kroger will notify us of our balance and pay us when the balance reaches \$25.00. Funds will roll over to the next quarter if funds have not reached the \$25.00 amount.



Damien Kayser	May 2	John and Cory Wilson	May 1
Travis Wolf	May 2	Josh and Tina Stacy	May 11
Zayden Elston	May 3	Phil and Megan Hamand	May 12
Joel Pitts	May 7	Greg and Dee Ann Keehn	May 19
Carl Balaszek	May 9	Keith and Christina Enger	May 23
Guy Weber	May 10	Pastor Eric and Linda Gawura	May 25
Linda Watkins	May 22	Bill and Carol Miller	May 27
Gracie Krueger	May 28	Johnny and Erika Large	May 31
Keith Enger	May 29		



Ava Brammer	June 2	Ralph Jr and Judy Dietrich	June 2
Molly Meyers	June 4	Jeff and Meda Sullivan	June 6
Johnny Large	June 5	Robert and Shannon Pitts	June 9
Mason Fraser	June 7	Walter and Diana Fritz	June 19
Henry Hazelton	June 11	James and Linda Watkins	June 21
Christopher Kayse	June 13	Thomas and Elaine Browne	June 26
Linda Bachert	June 17		
Jace Pitts	June 19		
Harper Hazelton	June 21		
Gail Rosa	June 22		
Jerri Cole	June 23		
Joyce Anderson	June 27		



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

1600 S. Heaton St.

Knox, IN 46534

www.orlcknoxin.com