



November

The Messenger



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Newsletter

November 2025

Mark Your Calendars!

November 2nd – 10:00-10:45 Adult Bible study, confirmation, and 4th-6th grade class Sunday Worship at 11:00 am w/o communion

November 9th -10:00-10:45 Adult Bible study, confirmation, and 4th-6th grade class Sunday Worship at 11:00 am with communion

November 16th – 10:00-10:45 Adult Bible study, confirmation, and 4th-6th grade class Sunday Worship at 11:00 am w/o communion

November 23rd-10:00-10:45 Adult Bible study, confirmation, and 4th-6th grade class Sunday Worship at 11:00 am with communion

November 30th-10:00-10:45 Adult Bible study, confirmation, and 4th-6th grade class Sunday Worship at 11:00 am w/o communion

Bible Studies at Church

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

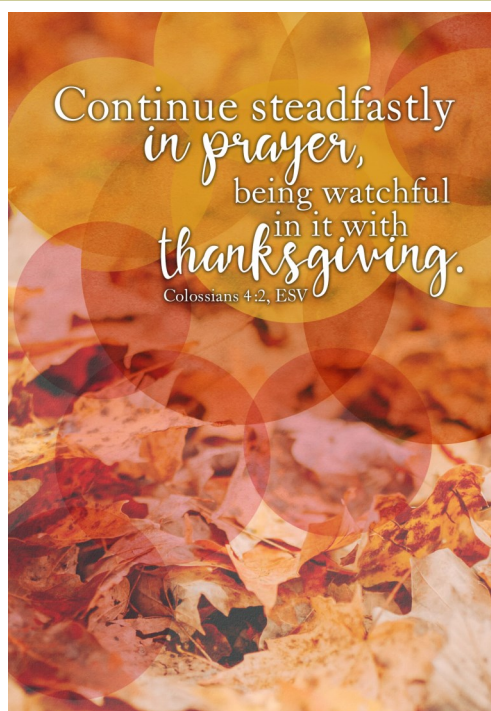
TAWG: (time away with God): evening Bible study Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. Studying women of the Bible

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

Adult Bible Study: Sunday Mornings at 10:00 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! As November arrives and the air grows cooler, we are reminded of the spirit of gratitude that fills this season. The beauty of autumn surrounds us, and our hearts turn toward thankfulness—for God's abundant blessings, for one another, and for the many ways His love sustains us.

This month, we invite you to join us in worship, fellowship, and service as we give thanks together and prepare our hearts for the seasons ahead. Look forward to inspiring messages, meaningful Bible studies, and opportunities to share God's love through acts of kindness and compassion.

No matter where you are on your faith journey, know that you belong here. Whether you're seeking peace, renewal, or deeper connection, our church family welcomes you with open arms.

Let us move through this season with grateful hearts, joyful spirits, and steadfast faith—because you are a cherished part of what makes our church community complete.

Welcome home!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We are filled with joy and gratitude as we share some exciting updates with you. The parsonage renovation is nearing completion, and what a transformation it has been! Bill and Jerri Cole have poured countless hours, care, and love into restoring the house and property—it is nearly unrecognizable from where it began. We thank them deeply for their faithful service and dedication to creating a welcoming home for our future pastor.

Speaking of which, our Call Committee continues to work diligently and prayerfully to discern the man God has chosen to shepherd our congregation. They are in the process of narrowing the list of candidates to a short list that will soon be presented to the congregation for a vote. While we all long for the day when we have a new pastor among us, we trust in God's perfect timing and continue to pray that His will be done.

As we approach **Thanksgiving**, we are reminded of the many blessings God has graciously provided—our families, our church, and the fellowship we share as the body of Christ. We wish each of you a joyful and peaceful Thanksgiving, filled with gratitude for the Lord's abundant goodness and steadfast love.

As we look ahead to the Advent season, we are reminded of the hope and anticipation that this special time of year brings. Although Our Redeemer will not be hosting our own Advent services this year, we encourage everyone to join our friends at **St. Peter Lutheran Church in North Judson** for their Advent gatherings. We will, however, joyfully host a **Christmas Eve service here at Our Redeemer**, beginning at **5:00 p.m.** this year. We look forward to celebrating the birth of our Savior together in worship and fellowship.

Please know that your church leadership is here for you—whatever your needs may be. In times of joy and in times of trial, may we all continue to lean on the Lord's grace, trusting that He provides strength and peace in every circumstance.

May God continue to bless and keep each of you in His care.

In Christ's love,
The Church Leadership of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

A Day to Honor Our Veterans



On November 11, 1918, the Germans and the Allied Nations, which included the United States, signed a document to initiate an armistice (cessation of hostilities), thus ending World War I. A year later, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation designating November 11 as Armistice Day. It was to be a day of reflection — a day to remember those who died in the country's service and to offer Americans the opportunity "to show sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nation."

Wanting to recognize more specifically America's veterans, Congress passed a bill changing the name of the day from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. The change was made in May 1954.

On this national holiday, churches around the nation hold services of prayers and praise. Followers of the Prince of Peace pray for peace among the nations of Earth and for the day when "they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more" (Isaiah 2:4, NRSV).



Introducing the Our Redeemer Moms Group!

We're so excited to share that the **Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Moms Group** has officially begun! Whether you're a biological mom, stepmom, foster mom, or simply a mom at heart — this group is for **you**.

We're a community of women from all walks of life, coming together to support one another through the joys and challenges of motherhood. This is a space for encouragement, laughter, friendship, and faith — where no mom walks alone.

Right now, this group is focused on moms with children ranging from **newborns through college freshmen**, as we grow together through these busy and ever-changing seasons of parenting. That said, we want all of our moms to know how **valued and loved** they are — and we look forward to creating opportunities for our seasoned moms to connect and share their wisdom in the future!

Stay connected by following the **Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Moms Group** on Facebook to keep up with upcoming gatherings, events, and ways to get involved. You're welcome to share ideas, ask for support, or just join the conversation — because you belong here!

If you have any questions or would like to learn more, reach out to **Jana Hazleton** or **Danielle Franks** — they'd love to hear from you.

Let's grow together, lift one another up, and celebrate the amazing gift of motherhood as we walk in God's love!

"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue."
— Proverbs 31:25–26



Secondhand Christmas Sale

Secondhand Christmas Sale

'Tis the season for bargains and blessings! Join us for our **Annual Secondhand Christmas Sale** on **Friday, November 7th from 8 AM to 3 PM** and **Saturday, November 8th from 8 AM to 12 PM**.

We've got a *sleigh-full* of treasures — from twinkling lights and jolly décor to that missing partridge for your pear tree! Whether you're decking the halls, trimming the tree, or just looking for a little holiday cheer on a budget, you'll find something to make your season bright.

Come shop, laugh, and maybe even find that one ornament you didn't know you needed (but now can't live without).

Ho-ho-hope to see you there!



THANKSGIVING DAY COMMUNITY DINNER

November 27th...



As we approach undertaking our 17th Annual Thanksgiving Day Community Dinner here at Our Redeemer, we begin our planning with much excitement and anticipation for another opportunity to work together in serving our community!

**It is such a blessing for us to be able to once again gather in fellowship
and service as we host this meal!**

The sign-up sheets to donate uncooked turkeys and other food items are posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Desserts can be pans of brownies, cakes, pies, etc. Please consider helping by donating something.

We are in need of volunteers to help on Wednesday, Nov. 26th as we pick the meat off of the turkey bones after they are cooked. We will also be peeling potatoes, cutting celery, and doing whatever else we can get done in advance. Work on Wednesday will start around 8:30 a.m.

If you can help on Thanksgiving Day, please sign up in advance so we know how much help we have coming. We are asking volunteers to be here on Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 27) about 9 a.m. to help get the final details set before dinner is served at 11 a.m. Please see Diane Cruz (219-363-4750) with questions.

A big thank you goes out to all who have committed to help in some way with this dinner. We could not reach out to our community in this way without the help of so many wonderful volunteers!

Please encourage those you know and meet in the community to join us for this occasion. We invite and encourage everyone to come to this wonderful meal as we gather and give thanks for the blessings of God.

Y.A.C. & L.Y.O. Youth Events...

October YAC/LYO Events for 5th – 12th Graders:

- Sunday, November 2: Youth event from Noon – 2 p.m. (The Chosen)**
- Sunday, November 9: Youth event from Noon – 2 p.m. (The Chosen)**
- Sunday, November 16: Youth event from Noon – 2 p.m. (The Chosen)**
- Sunday, November 23: Youth event from Noon – 2 p.m. (The Chosen)**
- Sunday, November 30: Youth event from Noon—2 p.m. (The Chosen)**

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS...

Please look over this schedule as you will see the **dates for the Sunday School program have changed**. This is due to a scheduling conflict with Pastor Speckhard, and while we wished we could have him with us every Sunday we understand that things happen and are more than obliged to accommodate for him.

Please mark your calendars with the following information as it will help everyone know the Sunday School schedule from now through the end of December.

Sunday, November 30 – Sunday, December 7: Practice for Christmas Program during
Sunday School

Saturday, December 13: Saturday Program Practice from 9 a.m. to Noon! Practice
will be from 9 – 11 with a pizza party following the last run through at 11 a.m.

Sunday, December 14: Sunday School Christmas Program at 11 a.m. with
children here by 10:30 a.m. followed by “Happy Birthday
Jesus” coffee hour with cake.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES ON DECEMBER 14 or 28!!!

We look forward to serving you and your children!

SS Superintendent: Jessica Wakefield

Teachers: Preschool - 3rd: Elaine Browne, Joyce Anderson, Diane Cruz

4th – 6th: Ava Brammer, Harper Hazelton, Casey Vargo

7th – 8th Confirmation: Diane Cruz

Adult Class: Christy Enger

We encourage everyone to get connected in one of our Bible studies here at Our Redeemer! It is a wonderful way to grow in our Lord's love as His Holy Spirit nourishes our souls through His Word! We are looking forward to seeing you in class on Sunday mornings!

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

The Food Pantry @ Our Redeemer is going strong! As the community's

"Food Insecurity" has increased so has the need to shop. As you are all well aware our grocery prices are also increasing. We (Food Pantry Volunteers) are trying to remain frugal when we shop to keep our shelves full.

We are reaching out to you, our congregation to supplement our shopping by occasionally donating food to the pantry. When you do your own grocery shopping pick up an extra item or two and when you come to church on Sunday, leave it in the designated box in the Fellowship Hall. By doing so you are helping a struggling Senior Citizen, a single Mom, an out of work individual, someone that has fallen on bad times, a grandparent raising their grandchildren, and the list goes on! Any little bit helps and is appreciated!

There are lists posted with suggested items to donate. We will except anything as long as it has a good shelf life.

Please keep saving those brown grocery bags for us, they are so appreciated!

We have a wonderful group of volunteers, and would like to add to them.

If you have an hour or two once a week, please consider volunteering and reach out to either Marcia Olson @ 574-249-2756, or myself, Erika Large @ 269-449-4506.

A very special Thank You goes out to our "Soup Elf" !

You know who you are and we appreciate you!!



November Worship Service Volunteer Schedules

PowerPoint

Nov. 2nd Jana Hazelton

Nov. 9th Harper Hazelton

Nov. 16th Diane Cruz

Nov. 23rd Gracie Krueger

Nov. 30th Sharon Krick

Usher Schedule

Nov. 2nd Meda Sullivan, Mel Lenig, Brad Hazelton, and Harper Hazleton

Nov. 9th Meda Sullivan, Miles Fraser, Larry Mick, Jim Mick, and Vicki Mick

Nov. 16th Meda Sullivan, Bob Duffee, Dave Geisler, **NEED VOULNTEER**

Nov. 23rd Meda Sullivan, Kathy Dedloff, Bed Bell, Diane Cruz, and Becky Wirebaugh

Nov. 30th Meda Sullivan, Renate Banta, Jim Watkins, and Linda Watkins

Communion Assistant

Nov. 9th Brad Hazelton

Nov. 23rd Brad Hazelton

Acolyte

Nov. 2nd Neva Balaszek

Nov. 9th Hudson Hazelton

Nov. 16th Layla Brammer

Nov. 23rd Christian Norem

Nov. 30th Luci Hamand

Lector Schedule

Nov. 2nd Jana Hazelton

Nov. 9th Diane Cruz

Nov. 16th Meda Sullivan

Nov. 23rd Kathy Dedloff

Nov. 30th Mike Lord

Children's Message

Nov. 2nd Megan Hamand

Nov. 9th Billie Krueger

Nov. 16th Billie Krueger

Nov. 23rd Diane Curz

Nov. 30th Megan Haman

We are deeply grateful for each of our faithful volunteers who serve with such dedication and joy every Sunday. Your willingness to give your time and talents is a true blessing to our church family. Because of you, our worship services run smoothly and our ministry continues to thrive.

As our church grows, so does our need for helping hands! We invite others to join this amazing team of servants. Whether you can greet, set up, sing, teach, or simply lend a hand where needed, your participation will make a difference. Thank you for serving so faithfully — we thank God for each of you!



NOVEMBER

birthdays & anniversaries

Terre Mick	November 6th	Paul and Cassie Meyers	November 7th
Jessica Wakefield	November 9th	Mel and Kris Lenig	November 9th
James Brown	November 16th	Timothy and Sharon Benson	November 13th
Kim Redlin	November 16th	Ryan and Shandee Michel	November 18th
Andrew Godines	November 18th		
Judy Dietrich	November 19th		
Layla Brammer	November 22nd		



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

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www.orlcknoxin.com