

---

*“All good gifts around us are sent from heav’n above. We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.”*

ELW 681 *We Plow the Fields and Scatter*

November is the time of year when we seem to be especially focused on gratitude. Gratitude has two parts – recognizing and giving thanks for goodness in our lives and in the world, and acknowledging that the source of those things is something outside ourselves. As Christians, we make it a regular practice in our worship to give thanks to God for the things we have. One of the traditional offertory prayers says it like this – “Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love...”

What joy! God loves us and, as a sign of this love, gives us life, relationships, forgiveness, the beauty and wonder of creation, and all that we need to live. God does this not because we deserve or have earned it, but simply because God is good and desires to give us good things. God is love, and generosity naturally flows forth from love.

We know, however, that there are lots of people close to home and around the world who *don't* have what they need to live. This is not because God doesn't love them. This is not because they are being punished. No, the inequality and disparity present in the world comes about as a result of human sinfulness and selfishness. What then should we do?

Part of being members of the Body of Christ means that sometimes *we* are the way that God's love and generosity are shown to others. We respond to God's generosity with gratitude, and we express this gratitude through our own acts of generosity toward others, giving of our money, our time, and our expertise.

Throughout the month of November, I invite you to make a daily practice of noticing and giving thanks for goodness in your life. You can [download](#) or pick up a copy of the “Gratitude Every Day” calendar, which has daily prompts for reflection and conversation. There are also materials to make a “Gratitude Tree” – write each day's gratitude on a paper leaf, and hang it on a branch or garland to reflect on all month.

Gratitude and generosity are both spiritual practices. As we give thanks for the good things in our lives this month and beyond, let us celebrate the love and generosity God freely pours out.

Blessings,

Pastor Kerri



# WORSHIP



On October 29 and 30 we celebrated Reformation. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. His intention was to begin a scholarly debate about areas in need of reform within the Roman Catholic Church. Instead, his words sparked a reforming movement that led to the formation of the Lutheran Church. Reformation is both a celebration of our history and a reminder that the church is always in need of reform and renewal.

## First Communion

Congratulations to the following children who took part in First Communion classes this past month and came to the Lord's Table for the first time October 29 and 30. The bread used for communion was baked by the First Communion class. Those included in the class include: Kyler Barbati, Jaclyn Capezzuto, Julia Culp, Bridget Dennick, Leisel Forrest, Jules Greco, Reece Greco, Isaac Hilderhoff, Owen Hilderhoff, Adelina Koon, Quinn Polasky, Norah Prex, Beretta Reber, Paige Silowash, Eli Snyder and Auron Tooker.

## All Saints Day - November 5-6

On November 5 and 6 we will celebrate All Saints weekend. Dating back to the 9th century, All Saints has been a time to remember the faithful departed and Christ's triumph over death.

## Christ the King - November 19-20

Join us in worship on November 19 and 20 as we celebrate Christ the King with a special service that moves through the seasons of the church year.

## Advent - November 26-27

The season of Advent begins in worship on November 26 and 27. As the candles are lit each week on the Advent wreath, we pray for peace - peace between nations, the peaceable Kingdom of God, peace that comes from trust in God, and the peace that Emmanuel, "God with us," brings into our lives.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Worship</i>	2
<i>First Communion</i>	2
<i>All Saints Day</i>	2
<i>Christ the King</i>	2
<i>Advent</i>	2
<i>First Communion</i>	
<i>Bread Making</i>	3
<i>LutherFest</i>	4
<i>Children and Youth</i>	5
<i>Christian Education</i>	5
<i>Donations for Christmas Decorations</i>	5
<i>Fellowship</i>	6
<i>Helping Hands Holiday Gifts</i>	7
<i>Member News</i>	8
<i>Noah's Ark</i>	9
<i>Service and Social Ministry</i>	9
<i>In Our Prayers</i>	10
<i>Stewardship</i>	10
<i>Ministry Schedule</i>	11

# FIRST COMMUNION

The bread we communed with on Reformation Sunday was baked by this year's First Communion class.



# Luther Fest 2022



## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**Game Night** – K-6th graders and their families are invited to bring your dinner and join us for Game Night on Friday, November 4 at 5:30pm. We'll play some fun active games and board games, too! Sign up on the bulletin board or online.

**Service Project** – 7th-12th graders are invited to join Pastor Kerri for a pizza lunch and service project on Sunday, November 20 from 12:15 to 1:45pm. We'll be putting together worship bags for the kids at City Mission. Sign up on the bulletin board or online.

**Gratitude Calendar and Tree** – Pick up a copy of the “Gratitude Every Day” calendar from Pastor Kerri or from the bulletin board. It has daily prompts for reflection and conversation. There are also materials to make a “Gratitude Tree” – write each day’s gratitude on a paper leaf, and hang it on a branch or garland to reflect on all month. Send in a picture of your tree or garland as it fills up with leaves! (*Packets are available on the bulletin board and can be downloaded [here](#).*)

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**Crossroads—November 6 at 6:30 PM**

**Advent Adventure—Sunday November 27, 10:00 AM**

The Advent Adventure is an intergenerational event and will feature Advent activities. Watch for more information as it becomes available.



**Breakfast at the Manger —Sunday, December 18**

The Christian Education Committee is pleased to announce that Breakfast at the Manger will return this year after a hiatus of two years due to the pandemic! For those of you who are not familiar with our long-standing event for all ages, Breakfast at the Manger is the celebration of Christmas that includes singing, eating and enjoying the telling of a Christmas story around the manger in the social hall.

This year the story is “The Spider's Gift” that will be told by Lori Greene, so plan now to have your family join us at 10am. Breakfast will be eaten simultaneously with the presentation of the program. By November 13 a sign-up poster will be available so you can indicate who is attending as well as those who may wish to bring a breakfast bread to share. Special breads, muffins, bagels or coffee cakes for 8-10 are needed. Other items that will be served for breakfast include cereal, fruit and beverages. Just a reminder that Our Redeemer is a peanut-free church, so we are committed to avoid serving peanuts and peanut products. We look forward to welcoming you back to this celebration that has a thirty-three year history at Our Redeemer!

## Donations for Christmas Decorations

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
As you wish your name to appear in the bulletin

I wish to donate # \_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettia(s)      **Donation: \$9.00 each**

I wish to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to use where needed to decorate

Given in memory of/honor of/ celebration of (please circle one)



Print clearly

Please drop this form, along with your donation, in an envelope and mail it to the church office or drop it in the collection plate. If you have any questions, call the church office at 724-941-7467. **Deadline Dec 11.**

## FELLOWSHIP

### **Advent Soup Supper will be held Sunday, November 27**



Our Advent Soup Supper is back and planned for Sunday, November 27 in the social hall! If you enjoy making a “family favorite” soup or trying out an interesting recipe, this is your chance to make a pot of soup to share. If eating bowls of hot, tasty soup is what you enjoy, this is your chance to relax and fill up. Those making soup are asked to bring it to the church social hall in a crockpot (or something similar) by 5:15. All will vote on their favorite soup and the winning recipe will be published in a future newsletter. The more soup the better!

Sign up on the bulletin board or on the online sign-up sheet found on our website to bring soup, bread, or dessert, or to just come and eat. (Don't tell us what soup you are bringing, though. Cooks aren't identified until after the vote on the winning soup.)

### **Dining Divas**

On Wednesday, November 2, 12:30 PM we will meet at *El Campesino* (McMurray) for lunch. Sign up on the bulletin board by the office or our website.

### **Faithful Filmgoers**

Are you interested in joining others to see a movie and grab a bite to eat as we discuss the movie afterwards? Are you comfortable going to a movie theater yet? We need your input as we make future plans.

### **Wine Tasting Adult Fellowship Event Saturday, November 12 at 6:30 Cost \$20/person**

We will be having a wine-tasting! Thank you to everyone who indicated an interest. Now is the time to sign up. We will sample five wines from the Finger Lakes region of New York. A charcuterie plate will be served and you can choose to taste drier or sweeter wines. (If you can't make up your mind, team up with someone and split the tastes of both.)

Sign up at church by Nov. 6 and use the payment envelopes to indicate your preference for drier or sweeter wine. Friends are welcome!





**Gifts needed for children and teens, ages birth to 18 years old.**  
New rolls of wrapping paper and large gift bags are also needed.

**Shop online:**

Scan to connect to an Amazon Holiday Wish List to purchase items for a child and ship items directly to the Agency.



**Shop in store and drop off new, unwrapped gifts at:**

**Our Redeemer  
Lutheran Church**

**by Sunday, Dec. 4**

or you can drop off gifts and wrappings at

**Crossroads Building —  
95 W. Beau St.**

Collection boxes on the 1st floor  
November 1<sup>st</sup> — December 9<sup>th</sup>

**Washington County  
Fairgrounds, Building #4**

December 5<sup>th</sup> 8:30am — 6:30pm

## MEMBER NEWS

### New Members

Our Redeemer welcomed into membership in October:

Anthony and Jen Barbati and their children,  
Kyler (3rd grade) and Maevin (1st grade)  
2543 Forest Brook Drive  
Pittsburgh 15241-2586

Tom Barczak  
203 Doubletree Drive  
Venetia 15267-1439

Jim Beaumont  
1131 Cardinal Drive  
Pittsburgh 15243-1223

Lynn Broman  
1400 Main Street, Apt. 328  
Canonsburg 15317-6811

Brian and Jenn Capezzuto and their daughter,  
Jaclyn (3rd grade)  
636 Scenic Ridge Drive  
Venetia 15367-2386

Alex Dagnal  
1058 Bayberry Drive  
Canonsburg 15317-4972

Ken and Jennifer Fornof and their children, Thomas  
(12th grade), McKayla and McKenna (9th grade)  
1315 Morgan Circle  
Canonsburg 15317-9546

Lorenzo and Nina Sciulli and their children, Carmen  
and Giovanni (kindergarten) and Maddalena (age 2)  
112 Canterbury Lane  
Canonsburg 15317-2702

*Welcome to Our Redeemer!*

### Recently Baptized

Jaclyn Gianna Capezzuto, daughter of Brian and Jennifer was received through the Sacrament of Baptism on October 8. *Welcome child of God!*

### United in Marriage

Kyle Andrew Smith and Kristen Renee Ausefski were married at Valley Brook Country Club on October 8.

Jamie Carulli and Cliff Whyte were married at Our Redeemer on October 16.

*Congratulations and best wishes!*

### New Arrival

Vinod Rajakumar and Sacha Klink welcomed their fifth child on September 20. Asher Zeb Klink Rajakumar weighed eight pounds and eight ounces upon his arrival. Proud grandparents are Charles and Lalitha Rajakumar. *Congratulations to all!*

### Thank You

Dear Pastors Ann and Kerri, and my ORLC Family:

Thank you for your ministry, prayers, cards and kind words of support and encouragement during my mother's decline and her passing. I am at a loss to adequately express how much being a part of this church community means to me. My mother felt the same, and told me many times how fortunate she felt to have found this church family and our Pastors so late in her life. God bless you all for coming along side us at a very difficult time.

Jennifer Hewitt



**Daylight Saving Time** ends on Sunday, November 6. Set your clocks **BACK** one hour before you head to bed on Saturday night.

**Thanksgiving Day** is November 24. The church office will be closed November 24-25. Noah's Ark Preschool will not have class November 23-29.

---

## NOAH'S ARK PRESCHOOL

We are so excited for Fall here in the preschool! The magical time of year where the changing leaves teach us that change can be beautiful, even when it's messy. It's also the time when we start to notice our preschoolers changing right along with the leaves. They go from the quiet, timid little people that started with us a few short weeks ago to confident, loud and brave! They have settled into our routines and are able to worry less, enjoy more, and confidently use their voices to share and ask questions. They are becoming more confident about taking risks on the playground too! One little guy, in his 2nd year with us, just discovered he is brave enough to climb the log to the treehouse AND climb the tree by our gate! He can't wait to show each teacher and to tell us all how brave he is. He asks someone to take his picture in the tree every day. He is a little reminder to all of us that change means growth, even when it's a little outside our comfort zone and we think we just can't!

The changing fall weather is exciting too. The early darkness and chill in the air make us naturally slow our pace a little, teaching us that sometimes it's good to slow down, gaze at the richness around us and spend time with someone we love. Speaking of slowing down with someone we love, we recently had our annual field trip to Simmons farm where we played in the pumpkin patches! Such a beautiful day at a beautiful place, watching little ones discover pumpkins and corn mazes and just running free! Such a great way to enjoy time together in nature and to strengthen the new friendships we are cultivating here at school. I hope that the changes of fall are bringing you as much joy as we see on the faces of the children at Noah's Ark!



Miss Heidi

## SERVICE & SOCIAL MINISTRY

### City Mission "BOXES OF LOVE" Donate a Thanksgiving Dinner

#### The City Mission Annual "Boxes of Love" collection has its own Amazon Wish list!

Every fall at City Mission, they collect hundreds of frozen turkeys, Thanksgiving sides (canned veggies, instant potatoes, non-perishables), desserts, and board games for hurting families and neighbors throughout our region. Your gift of items in need to pack the Boxes of Love will provide a meal and memories at their Thanksgiving tables!

Drop off food and board games (new) in the church lobby or make your purchases through Amazon Wish List: <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1F9CRISXI8KPX>.

This donation drive runs from Oct 1st to Nov 14th.

### City Mission Food Pantry

As you are shopping for upcoming holiday meals, would you please consider picking up an extra non-perishable item for the City Mission Food Pantry? We will collect items throughout November and December, and deliver to City Mission.

### City Mission Upcoming Events

*City Mission Warehouse Sale, November 4, 5*

*Small Business Holiday Gift Shop, Sunday, November 6*

*Celebrate Success, Thursday, November 10*

## IN OUR PRAYERS

**We lift up the following members of our congregation so that they may be strengthened by our prayers of intercession:**

George Andrewson, Carol Ausefski, Edith Bencic, Cindy Cox, Dorothy Dillemoth, Kerri Evans, Martha Fecher, Richard and Lori Gajdowski, Ray Hrabar, Mandy Jarosh, Gary McGaffic, Casey Moran on his deployment, Tim Roberts, Kathy Russman, and Jim Tomamichel.

**We remember those friends and family members who have asked for our prayers:**

Chris, Doug, Kate, Sam, George Andrewson Sr., Marjorie Appleton, Larry Arch, Sandi Babbie, Bob Bell, Tam Brister Todd Brosky, Wendy Brosky, Doug Bush, Tom Caley, Carolyn Dagg, Ellen Deutsch, D. T. Emery, Catie Geory, Ian Gonzalez, Marion Greenland, Lisa Grimes, Mickey Gubitti, Christine Guerrieri, Bob Hohowski, Joyce Hough, Ray Keisling, June Lance, Gordon and Diane Ley, Jess Ley, Mildred Maize, Megan Meseck, Jolie Mihalik, Chuck Miller, Owen Miller, Adam Miskow, Dolores Munsick, Beth Napolitano, Marjorie Norton, Kathy Oberle, Brad Olson, Pam Pedersen, Tracey Perles, Patty Preisinger, Dave Provenzano, Cyndi Quinn, Phyllis Rhone, Missy Ribblett, Betty and Frank Rively, Jeanie Rose, Joe Sarubbi, Dave Schrader, Meryl Severson, Bob Shader, Holly Shader, Karol Smith, Bernie Solo, Donna Stafford, Dan Stimmel, Gary Stinson, Andrew Straka, Terri Strawn, Tina Thielet, Deb Thompson, Barb Van Lehn, Art W., Rhianna Wilk, and Frank Yocca.

**We remember those who grieve:**

Laura and Matt Fastuca and family on the death of Laura's father, Dennis Fonzi; Becky and Dan Hilderhoff and family on the death of Becky's grandmother, Lavinia Lehman; Kim and Joe Maize and family on the death of Kim's father, George Hildebrand.

*If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please submit your request in writing and place in the offering plate, drop off in the church office, or submit by e-mail to [orlc@comcast.net](mailto:orlc@comcast.net). Please help to keep this list current by contacting the church office when someone can be removed from the list.*

## STEWARDSHIP ~ HOW ARE WE DOING?

### Year to Date as of October 2022

	This Year			Last Year		
	Current	Building	Total	Current	Building	Total
Income	\$346,847	\$43,295	\$390,142	\$336,500	\$38,328	\$374,828
Expenses	\$344,531		\$344,531	\$312,213		\$312,213
Surplus (deficit)	\$2,316	\$43,295	\$45,611	\$24,287	\$38,328	\$62,615
Surplus (deficit)			<b>\$45,611</b>			<b>\$62,615</b>

Other Outreach Offerings	Year to Date
Abiding Missions	\$1,060
City Mission Food Pantry	\$828
City Mission	\$25
ELCA World Hunger	\$3,725
ELCA Disaster Relief	\$2,170
God's Work Our Hands	\$30
India Mission	\$294
Lutheran World Relief	\$330
	<b>\$8,462</b>

***Our stewardship theme this year is "To labor, love, and give."***

As stewards of all that God has given us, we offer back a portion of our labor through our skills and talents; our love through compassion and service to neighbor; and our gifts through giving of our time, money. Watch for a stewardship mailing in your mailbox this week.

# MINISTRY SCHEDULE/NOVEMBER 2022

		November 6, 2022		November 13, 2022		November 20, 2022		November 27, 2022	
<b>WORSHIP LEADER</b>		9:00 AM	11:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
<b>Acolyte</b>		Chase or Travis Secrist	VOLUNTEER	Sam Scher	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
<b>Lay Assistant</b>		Beth Pansino	Sally Ruppel	Mohylyn Yocca	Martha Clementson	Laura Culp	Kim Maize	Kim Chupinka	Max Rush
<b>Lector</b>		Sara Secrist	Heather Morelli	Trudy Wagner	Karen Smith	Ruth Ann Lowery	Becky Long	Linda Nickles	Debbie Stonemark
<b>Communion Assistant</b>		Missy Bookhammer	Kim Maize	Kim Chupinka	Eliana Beck	Cheryl Debowski	Lori Greene	Missy Bookhammer	Barb Hrabar
<b>Communion Assistant</b>		Tina Borra	Carl Ruppel	Debbie Healey Langley	Jackie Beck	Karen Glass	Rochelle Koerbel	Cheryl Debowski	Carl Ruppel
<b>Communion Assistant</b>		Susan Loeser	Nancy Till	Gary Milavec	Becky Long	Keith Lowery	Becky Long	Susan Loeser	Sally Ruppel
<b>Communion Assistant</b>		Linda Nickles	Jamie Whyte	Trudy Wagner	Susan O'Brien	Ruth Ann Lowery	Gerda Moul	Linda Nickles	Nancy Till
<b>Greeter</b>		Tina Borra	Mizia Family	Scher Family	Beck Family	Karla Lance	Tony, Ryan & Luke Moody	Martha Rhone	Paula Reese
<b>Usher</b>		Joel Beltz	Joe Maize	Clint Langley	Jim Doughty	Mike Debowski	Mike Koerbel	Dave Borra	Charles Rajakumar
<b>Usher</b>		Dave Borra	Charles Rajakumar	John Yocca	Max Rush	Drew Lance	Joe Maize	Mike Debowski	Eric Reese
<b>Gift Bearer</b>		Missy Bookhammer	Lalitha Rajakumar	Scher Family	Phyllis Permar	Karla Lance	Dani Mizia	Missy Bookhammer	Paula Reese
<b>Altar Guild</b>		Tina Borra	Heather Morelli	Kim Chupinka	Barb Hrabar	Laura Culp	Lori Greene	Kim Chupinka	Barb Hrabar
<b>Altar Guild</b>		Susan Loeser	Sally Ruppel	Joyce Kilgore	Becky Long	Sally Ruppel	Becky Long	Susan Loeser	Joyce Kilgore
<b>PowerPoint</b>		Dan and Sam Scher	Rolf Otterness	Ryan Hettinger	Jennifer Hewitt	Rolf Otterness	Gary Milavec	Karen Glass	Jacob Casper
<b>Camera</b>		X	Sam Mizia	X	Sam Mizia	X	Sam Mizia	X	Sam Mizia
<b>Head Teller (Monday)</b>		Judy Pilof		Judy Pilof		Carol Locher		Gary Milavec	
<b>Council Teller (Monday)</b>		Suzanne Kennedy		Jennifer Hewitt		Charles Rajakumar		Jennifer Hewitt	

*If you find that you cannot serve when scheduled, please contact the church office.*

## **OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**

105 Gateshead Drive  
McMurray, PA 15317-3101

## **OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**

105 Gateshead Drive McMurray, PA 15317-3101  
724-941-7467

### **WORSHIP SERVICES**

SATURDAY 5:30 PM and SUNDAY 9:00 and 11:00 AM (live-streamed)  
Online services are available through [facebook.com/ORLutheran](https://www.facebook.com/ORLutheran), YouTube  
and the church's website.

GROWING IN GOD (Sept. - May), 10:00 AM, Age 3-Adults

THE REV. DR. ANN SCHMID, PASTOR - 724-554-6016, [pastorschmid@comcast.net](mailto:pastorschmid@comcast.net)

THE REV. KERRI CLARK, PASTOR - 724-603-5589, [rev.kerri.clark@gmail.com](mailto:rev.kerri.clark@gmail.com)

HEIDI GARNER, DIRECTOR, NOAH'S ARK PRESCHOOL - 724-942-6699  
[noahspreschool@comcast.net](mailto:noahspreschool@comcast.net)

MARY HELEN BARR, MUSIC DIRECTOR - 412-780-3357 (cell)

ELAINE DOLCICH, OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

THE REV. JOHN F. YEDLICKA, PASTOR EMERITUS

Office 724-941-7467 Fax 724-941-3262

E-mail: [orlc@comcast.net](mailto:orlc@comcast.net)

Website: <https://www.OurRedeemer-peters.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ORLutheran>

YouTube: <https://tinivurl.com/ORLCyoutube>

### **OUR VISION**

The vision of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church is to be a welcoming church where people of all ages and backgrounds will encounter God in worship, experience Christian community, discover their God-given gifts, grow in faith, and be equipped for service and witness as we are sent out into God's world.