

# Shining God's Light

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

May 2024

## Pastor's Corner

As I'm writing this article, I realize it's Earth Day! This reminded me of an issue of *National Geographic* I once read that was entirely dedicated to water as one of our basic natural resources. They raise some compelling questions: "The amount of water on Earth has not changed. The water the dinosaurs drank millions of year ago is the same water that falls as rain today. But will there be enough for a more crowded world?"



I'm willing to bet that most all of us have asked ourselves that question in the past, having come through the worst pandemic in a generation and other family struggles known only to you. Will there be enough? Enough water for all? Enough food for all? Enough money to retire on?

I once attended a stewardship conference in Eagan, and the presenter had been watching golf on a Sunday afternoon. He noticed during that time that there were a lot of ads for financial services – dozens of them! And the one word they all shared in common was 'security.' Who doesn't long for a secure future with enough for all?

Truth be told, we simply can't function without money. We depend on money for retirement, college, medications, or just to make ends meet. As followers of Jesus, though, we know our security comes from the Lord, maker of this big, beautiful heaven and earth! What if we began to live our lives remembering that God never "gives" us anything – but only "entrusts" them to us for this short time we have on earth? How might that change the way we live? How might it change how we treat the earth and its creatures and resources?

There is an old hymn written by William How, that reminds me of this:

*We give thee but Thine own,  
Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.*

This time of year we also thank our volunteers for giving of their time and talents in the many ministries of this congregation. As we move into our season of summer vacation, take time to thank those who devote themselves to our vital ministries during the school year at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.

You might say, it's no different than with water – *it's the same Spirit that animated the people of God in biblical times* – and the best part: there's more than enough to go around!

This Earth Day let me say "Thank You" for who you are and for all you do. God is pouring out, through YOU, an abundance we cannot begin to imagine. Let's be good stewards of this earth and all God has entrusted us with. God bless you in the name of our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

*Pastor [Signature]*



**MY FAVORITE VERSE:**

*Deuteronomy 31:8 NIV*

*The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."*



**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**

825 Golf Ave SW, Pine City, MN 55063  
(320) 629-2985

Website: [www.orldpc.com](http://www.orldpc.com)

Facebook: Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Becca Groe, Office Administrator — Press 1  
orlcoffice@gmail.com

Pastor John Stiles — Press 2  
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youthorlc@gmail.com

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orlckidz@gmail.com



**May**

**Usher:**

Jerry & Jane O

**Readers:**

- 5: Bonnie M
- 12: Elaine G
- 19: Gary D
- 26: Lynda W

**Communion Asst.:**

- 5: Bonnie M, Marietta J, Lynda W
- 19: Sue & Dave B, Jeneice C, Volunteer

**Altar Guild:**

Joyce B/Jane C

**ALTAR FLOWERS**



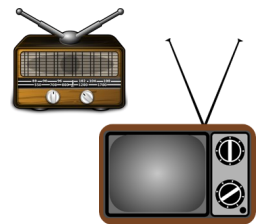
If you would like to sponsor flowers please call or email the office. Sign-up is also available on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. **Cost is \$35.** You can pick them up following the service on the Sunday sponsored after 10:00 AM or Monday after 8:00 AM.

May dates available: 5

**ORLC BROADCAST SPONSOR**

Monetary donations are needed to continue our Sunday Service broadcasting options: Online @ [www.orldpc.com](http://www.orldpc.com) or WCMP Radio 106.5 FM or 1350 AM.

Sign-up available in the Fellowship Hall or call the church office. **Costs \$75.**  
May dates available: 26



**OUR REDEEMER FAMILY AND FRIENDS**



**TO PRAY FOR:**

Kathryn J, Kirk O, Kathy J, Gail M, Jon R, Bill & Shirl W, Jeneice C, John A, Kiley (son-in-law of Pat H), Bill M (son of Ron & Donna P)

*Prayer is powerful & a way to support those seeking comfort and guidance.*

*This list are those who need your prayers. Individuals will remain on the list for one month unless asked to be removed sooner. If you wish to remain on the list after a month or be added to the list please connect with Pastor John or the Church office. Blessings!*

*Always keep in your prays our military, first responders, front line workers, for all who work for peace and justice on behalf of 'the least of these' and for all those we hold in prayer in the quiet of our hearts*

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

### ORLC Church Council Meeting April 11, 2024 7:00 pm

Present: Erin Anderson, Jeff Tuckner, Lynne Zack, Diane Lombard, Ashley Espeseth, Wayne Hansmann, Doug Berglund, Eric Olson, Arissa Rydberg, and Rich Elliot  
Absent/Excused: Eric Wicktor and Pastor Stiles  
Other Attendees: Steve Schmidt and Leigha Lange  
Meeting called to order by Lynne Zack at 7:00pm  
Devotion and Prayer led by Lynne Zack

#### **Financial Report**

Steve Schmidt reported on the March 2024 financials. The full reports can be found in the church office official file and a summary in the monthly newsletter. Motion was made to accept the financial report by Eric Olson and seconded by Rich Elliot. Motion carried.

#### **Old Business**

Statistical Report: Ashley reported on the March 2024 membership and non-membership events/changes: 1 baptism  
Young Family call list update: Limited data at this point as Eric O. is still waiting to get information back from the calls that have been made. Eric's goal is to present some data at the semi-annual meeting.  
Youth Room Flooring: Brent Jahnz is going to steam clean the carpet with help from Wayne and Dale on 4/13.

#### **New Business/Opportunities**

Motion was made for a corporate resolution which would allow for Chairman Eric Wicktor to be authorized to enter into a legal binding contract with Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America concerning the estate of Carole D Pederson by Ashley Espeseth and seconded by Eric Olson. Discussion was held. Motion carried.

-Semi-Annual Meeting is April 28, 2024 and the agenda was reviewed by council.

#### **Committee Reports/Assignments**

**Worship & Music:** Set up calendars, discussed live streaming and to keep live stream going during communion so viewers can watch that.

**Faith Formation & Education:** Ashley is working on April's Kids of the Kingdom family meal. Date is April 24. Children of Joy is working on some outside projects (fencing, pavers...). Children of Joy's graduation will be May 30 and the last day of school for the preschool is May 31.

**Congregational Care:** Keep Gail Mattison in your prayers as she is recovering from a broken back.

**Congregational Life:** Nothing to report

**Mission & Outreach:** Went over a few questions from the Faith Formation Co-op application.

**Property:** Problems with the flat roof and leaking with snow and rain. Wayne and Dale are reaching out to roofing companies to move ahead with fixing those problems. The graffiti from over a year ago is going to be addressed.

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED**

**Staff Reports:**

Pastor Stiles: No report as he is out of office.

Leigha: Full report can be found in the church office official file.

Becca: No report.

Motion made by Rich Elliot seconded by Wayne Hansmann to adjourn meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm with the Lord’s Prayer.

*Ashley Espeseth, Secretary*

Next meeting: Thursday, May, 9, 2024 / 7:00 pm

Council member of the month: Eric Wicktor

**Church Council Members**

President: Eric Wicktor / Vice President: Lynne Zack

Treasurer: Diane Lombard / Secretary: Ashley Espeseth

Worship & Music: Diane Lombard, Doug Berglund, Sheila Soma

Administration & Facility: Wayne Hansmann, Eric Wicktor, Jeff Tuckner

Faith Formation & Education: Rich Elliot, Ashley Espeseth, Arissa Rydberg

Congregational Care: Eric Olson

Congregational Life: Lynne Zack

Mission & Outreach: Erin Anderson

**COUNCIL MEMBER OF THE MONTH**

Happy Spring everyone!

It's always an exciting time as the winter ends, spring is here, and we are all anticipating summer. Some of you might like a lot of snow and cold but I personally feel God blessed us with a very mild winter. Currently, I am the council president and I wanted to let you know that there are a lot of exciting things happening in our faith community in the coming months. Council has seen the church's finances remain strong. There are some building needs that we are addressing in the coming future. The semi annual meeting was April 28th.

I always tend to discuss what's happening with our youth because of the work I do as a teacher of nearly 30 years. As the school year ends so are confirmation classes and Kids of the Kingdom. We had around 15 young people there every Wednesday. Confirmation and the high school youth group had a youth service once a month which I've been lucky enough to give

the sermon at. Leigha has had a great turnout of elementary kids for Kids of the Kingdom. A youth meal once a month has been started recently, which is exciting. Youth group continues until the end of the school year. I'm excited for our high school seniors that will be honored at the May 19th church service. It's extra special to me on a personal basis because I've been lucky enough to have all of them in my classroom, and one of them is my son Spencer. This summer we will send a number of teenagers to New Orleans for the nation youth summit and as usual there will be vacation bible school.

If you have other questions or are interested in what else is going on with Our Redeemer Lutheran Church please talk to me or find another member of the church council. We look forward to chatting with you. Thanks.

*Eric Wicktor*



March is known as Food Share month, a check for \$6795 was given to the Pine City Food Shelf. The amount is a combination of \$3727 from the Thanksgiving/Community Dinner along with \$3168 from tithing and congregational giving.

On behalf of the finance committee ~ thank you for your continued generosity, love and trust with your financial giving. The council, committees and staff that use the funds given to Our Church try their very best to honor your monetary gifts in a mindful and financially sound way that is pleasing to God and that helps us to: SERVE GOD TOGETHER!

March Income:	\$24,461 - General Offering Income
	8,299 - Other General Operating Income
	\$ 32,760 - TOTAL Available for Expense Payment
	 \$ 29,818 – Expenses Supported by General Giving



General giving for the month of March was in excess of the everyday operating expenses of our church by \$2,942. When contributions are short we take what is needed from the cash reserves to pay for operating expenses. When contributions are over as they were this month we get to see our reserves grow. The current balance of the cash reserves is 37,569. On behalf of council and the finance team Thank You!!

March Account Balances	\$ 12,499 - Property Improvement Fund
	37,569 - General Operating Fund
	32,575 - Restricted Funds
	111,424 - Endowment Fund
	\$ 194,067 - TOTAL CASH & SAVINGS
	 \$33,845 - Building Loan Balance/Parking Lot

During the month of March the offering received for the parking lot was \$910, which will reduce the loan by an equal amount when applied. Donations specifically for the parking lot can be made with your regular giving and also online with Vanco - look for the option to designate your giving for the parking lot. Starting January 2024 all donations made for the parking lot will go directly to the principal balance of the building loan.

*Respectfully Submitted  
Diane Lombard, Treasurer*

**Pentecost Sunday: May 19th**

***Wear your RED!***



Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God’s mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ’s love with the world.



## Worship & Music

The worship and music committee met on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Present were Lynne Zack, Diane L., Kris G., Glenna, Lynda Woulfe, and Lois Bengtson.

Easter was very meaningful this year. Many have commented and given feedback to the committee about how they and their families were blessed. The music, liturgy, Word, and the beautiful sanctuary all added to the celebration. Thank you again to all who helped during Holy Week and on to Resurrection Day!

For new business we made a decision to keep the livestream going during the time that we, as a congregation go forward for the bread and wine on communion Sundays. Those who take part at home miss the feeling of togetherness when we have just been projecting a screen logo during that time. This is good feedback, thank you to those who spoke up

so that we can bless both in-church and home-church better!

We discussed the upcoming calendar.

April 21st-First communion and Scholarship breakfast by the youth.

April 28th-semi-annual meeting, and new member Sunday.

May 5-church council installation.

May 12- last Sunday of Sunday school.

May 19-Senior recognition Sunday, Youth Director Appreciation, and Norm Opheim Scholarship Award.

Spirit Alive and Radical Men will be switching Sundays, also, in May.

Hymn picker for May: Lois. Next meeting: (note the change), First Tuesday in May 7th, 6:00 p.m.

*Co-chairs, Lois and Doug B.*



## ALTAR GUILD

***Altar Guild is in need of new members!***

Group Meeting May 19th after worship  
There is one month to be filled: August.  
*If interested or have any questions to contact  
Becky Berglund or Rhonda Williamson.*



## Pine City Backpack Food Program

*Feed a child; grow a community*

320-629-4122 [djackson@isd578.org](mailto:djackson@isd578.org)

Keep up to date on all the happenings of the Pine City Backpack Program!

Like and follow them on their FB page: Pine City Back Pack Program.

Have questions about the program email: [pinecitybackpackprogram@gmail.com](mailto:pinecitybackpackprogram@gmail.com)

**May Food Item:**

**MARUCHAN INSTANT CHICKEN LUNCH**





Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministries, Leigha Lange can be reached at 320-629-2985 Line 3 or via email at [youthorlc@gmail.com](mailto:youthorlc@gmail.com)

## JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

Jr. High Youth Group continues through May for all 7-9th graders who wish to join in on the fellowship and grow in their faith. Youth group will be from 6 to 7:15 with dinner provided

## NO YOUTH GROUP

No Senior High or Junior High Youth Groups on May 15 and 22

## CLUB 456

Club 456 is a new once a month program for our 4th, 5th, and 6th graders who are looking for ways to grow deeper in their faith while having fun! Mark your calendars on May 5, and June 2 from 5 to 6:15. A lot of FUN was had in April...join us and friends are welcome!

## PIZZA FUNDRAISER

Our Youth will be selling Kettle River Pizzas to help raise money for programming and the summer trip. Order forms will be available April 28-May 15. Pizzas will be delivered on June 5.

## YOUTH GARAGE SALE

The Youth Garage Sale will be May 11 from 8-3! Come and find your treasures! Donations will be accepted May 7-9 from 10 to 6 and May 10 from 10 to 3. It's a great time to start your spring cleaning and decluttering!

## ENVELOPE FUNDRAISER

Envelope Fundraiser is back with a new twist! Check out Leigha's door and grab an envelope to help cover costs for various parts of the 2024 Summer Trip to Memphis and New Orleans! Envelopes can be returned to Leigha or the church office.

## SENIOR SUNDAY

Let's celebrate our upcoming High School Seniors on Sunday May 19 during worship. This year's graduates are; Andee Winter, Kylie Nascence, Arissa Rydberg, Breanna Youngbauer, Abby Aagard, Matthew Blake, Hunter Haug, Spencer Wicktor, and Caden Schlichthing!

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Last Day of Sunday School will be May 12

## KIDS OF THE KINGDOM

Last Day of Kids of the Kingdom will be May 8

## LUTHER POINT BIBLE CAMP

We're heading to Luther Point Bible Camp for their Day Camp program – Parents of K-6th graders be watching your email for all the details!

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Mark your calendars for a wonderful week of learning and joy while having fun! Vacation Bible School will be July 29-August 1( Monday - Thursday) from 9 to 11:30!

## WOMAN OF ORLC

All women are welcome to the meetings!  
Meeting Minutes  
April 9, 2024, ~ 4:15pm

Women present: Ella Caroon, Becca Groe, Carolyn Tuckner, Kris Gross, Penny Hudlow

### Old Business:

Kettle River Spring Gathering, 8:30 AM Saturday, April 13th at Emmanuel Lutheran Dell Grove

+Becca will send e-mail reminders, carpool leaving church parking lot at 8 AM per Carolyn

+Carolyn will provide items from past boutiques for the “Buy It Now”

+For our contribution toward In-kind Gifts which are the Health Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief – the committee approved \$60, Carolyn offered to purchase items, each health care kit contains: large bath towel, nail clippers, comb and toothbrush. Currently, 7 kits are prepared, and a supply of bath towels are available for the gathering. The kits will be assembled at the gathering, packaged, ready to be delivered to Lutheran World Relief

**Summer Gathering**, Monday/Tuesday, June 10th & 11th in Grand Rapids

+Forms are available on the WELCA bulletin board in the fellowship hall for all women interested in attending. Completed forms may be given to Mary Lange – PLEASE NOTE WELCA has voted to pay registration and food expenses for all women attending.

+Becca will provide announcements in the bulletin, Facebook, e-mail and in a PowerPoint

### Funeral Lunches

There is still a need to for someone to assist Carolyn with funeral lunches, this is a very important role of our church providing food and nurturing families in their time of need. The current way of conducting the business of funeral lunches has worked very well, all members (men and women) are willing to assist throughout the process. Please think about it.

### New Business:

+A Place for You Progressive Dinner: Matt Viney, Director of A Place for You has inquired about a “Progressive Dinner”, the new marketing director of APFY will contact Carolyn. Carolyn will need to meet with women from other participating churches, this is at discussion only at this time.

+Youth Fundraising Dinner for the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer. Mary Lange requested WELCA consider hosting a dinner to support ORLC youth attending. WELCA would like to support such an event as a “partner” with youth leaders, board members and parents.

+Fall Rummage Sale - Ella has talked with Kathy Johnson, Kathy has graciously agreed to chair the sale. Kathy will be setting up a planning meeting in the future.

+Leadership - Penny announced she is stepping down from her position as WELCA co-chair. Thank you Penny for all your time and input! If this is something you’re interested in or would like more information contact Carolyn Tuckner or Penny Hudlow.

### Brainstorming Session:

What can we do to let the congregation know about our monthly meetings and that ALL women of the church are welcome to attend monthly meetings?

**Next meeting is WEDNESDAY, MAY 8TH AT 4:00 PM in the church fellowship hall.**

Your support is needed, your insight and ideas are critical to the continued growth of WELCA. Hope to see you there!

*Submitted by Becca Groe*

## Save the date!

Summer Gathering  
June 10 and 11 in Grand Rapids

Registration forms are on the WELCA bulletin board.

WELCA will pay the registration fee and meals for anyone wishing to attend.

Please fill out the form and put in WELCA slot by the office. We will get it sent in for you!!

*All are welcome!!*





My my how time flies by!! May is our final full month of school with graduation happening May 30th and our final day in school with kids will be May 31st. We thank the kids for all the fun learning and play time experiences along with the parents for their support as we provided an enriching learning experience.

Enrollment for the 2024/25 school year is happening now. Spaces available along with scholarship opportunities for those who need a little extra help. Connect with Casey or Rosie for more information.

### **Classroom:**

We have been studying outer space with our dramatic play area being turned into a space station. Lots of 'out of this world' play time, experiments, books and other activities happening.

Our next unit of study is Earth day with topics of recycling, how we can protect and care for our planet. As the weather warms we continue to spend as much time as we can outside!

### **Preschool News:**

April Open House went well with families signing kids up for the up-coming school year.

Graduation date: May 30th from 6-7pm. Family and friends of our 11 graduating students welcome to come and celebrate all their hard work and learning.

Last day of school: May 31. Fun things planned for this last day as we say goodbye for the summer.

Summer camp information will be out soon for June, July and August. This is a great way to introduce your young one to the structure of preschool, meet the teachers and see the classroom for a shortened but super fun experience!

### **Heard from the kids!**

*What is your favorite thing about spring?*

Trees with leaves. –Penny

Easter. –Noah

Easter. –Henrick

Worms! -Ollie

Trees with leaves. –Nolan

### **Board News:**

Flower Power Fundraiser items are here! Thanks again for supporting the preschool through this fundraiser. Becca has contacted all Church members on where to pick up their orders.

Our fence has become a reality as of mid April. Thank you Deutschlander Fencing for all the hard work and planning.

Our outdoor table is here and waiting assembly, our mud kitchen is on its way and we plan to assemble our 2nd planter box and start to fill it up for spring planting with the kids. God is good as we continue to move forward with our outdoor plans!

Next meeting to be held May 6th

Becca Groe

(COJ Board Member)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/creatingjoyinlearning/](http://www.facebook.com/creatingjoyinlearning/)

**Email:** [orlckidz@gmail.com](mailto:orlckidz@gmail.com) ~ **Phone:** 320-629-2985 Ext. 4

## **Community & Member Share**

### **AA Meetings**

**7:30 p.m. ~ Mondays ~ In the Youth Room at ORLC**

Entrance is the back door by the Prayer Garden. Call Cindy S. at 320/279-1428 with questions. *AA meets during holidays.*

**From the Heritage Committee  
Mother-Daughter Banquets and Teas  
1955-1999**

Banquets sponsored by WELCA and honoring Mothers, Daughters and Graduating Seniors began in 1955, changed to Teas in 1973 and returned to Banquets in 1983 until they were discontinued after 1999. Attendance was as high as 193 in 1982 and 180 in 1989. If a mother had more than one daughter, the extra daughter might fill in as someone else's daughter for the day.

Food was prepared by the ladies. The 1955 menu included meatballs, scalloped potatoes, string beans, jello salad, rolls, butter, celery and radishes and a strawberry dessert. A salad buffet was served at the 1999 banquet along with a strawberry shortcake dessert. The song, *Waiters, Waiters* (sung to the tune of *Ruben, Ruben*), was sung by all as a thank you to the men who helped with serving and cleanup.

*Waiters, waiters we've been thinking  
How efficient you have been;  
Thank you for serving at our banquet  
Maybe next year you'll do it again!*

After 44 years there are many people who helped with the Banquet Programs. Below are a few of those people (names appear as they did in written programs):

- 1969:** Mrs Russell Martinson led group singing.
- 1970:** The Jr, High Chorus, directed by Becky Doran, Sang.
- 1973:** Ardelle Oare led devotions; Jo Henrickson sang, *Beautiful Garden Prayer*.

- 1976:** *The Happy Side of Life* was sung by Joyce Christensen, JoAnn Linscheid and Glenna Reiersen
- 1977:** Tillie Becker read an original poem; the Girls Trio of Lori Doran, Rhonda Yost and Brenda Reiersen sang.
- 1979:** Verna Manfolk led devotion
- 1980:** 18 wedding gowns from 1909-1978 were modeled by daughters.
- 1981:** Solo by Lori Ryberg, *Bless this House*.
- 1989:** Lynn Walz sang *I was Here to Hear Your Boring Cry*.
- 1991:** The little girls sang *Jesus Loves Me*; Kandi and Niki Koppen did the Mother-Daughter Tribute.
- 1992:** Ann & Jennifer Hagestuen did the Mother-Daughter Tribute.
- 1994:** *Friends* was sung by Carrie Eberhart and Chelsey Koppen.
- 1995:** Sue and Amy Osterdyke did the Mother-Daughter Tribute.
- 1997:** Marion Lones led the closing prayer.
- 1999:** The theme for the last Mother-Daughter Banquet was *I Love to Tell the Story*.

If you have other memories to share, please share them with the Heritage Committee.

The following poem Mother by Mabel Jones Gabbott is from the 1988 Banquet:

*I've searched the Dictionary through,  
I've looked from cover to cover,  
To find a word that means the same,  
But I can find no other;  
For God put everything that's dear,  
Into the one word...MOTHER*

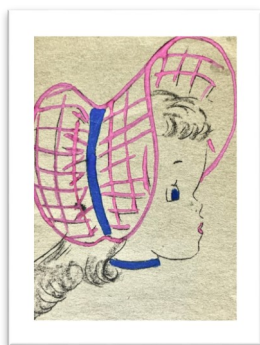


**1955 Mother-Daughter Banquet**

Great aunts Minnie & Selma Martinson

Mother Marie Peterson

Daughters Diane, Ilene and Lucille

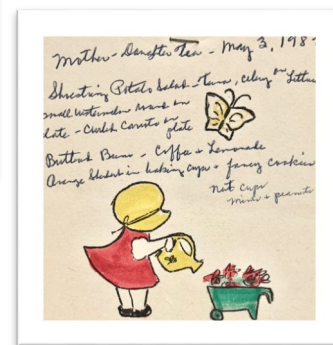


**1998 Mother-Daughter Banquet**

Grandmother Ella Caroon

Daughter Peggy

Granddaughters Jen and Jeanine





# OUR REDEEMER READERS

All are welcome to the ORLC READERS Book Group. The Book Group meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm.

Please note If we encounter weather or other date conflicts I will contact you via Email or text. Any questions please feel free to contact Christy Koch. Suggestions are very welcomed and appreciated!

**JUNE 25, 2024**

## **THE SEVEN HUSBANDS OF EVELYN HUGO**

**BY TAYLOR JENKINS REID**

A sweeping tale about an aging Hollywood starlet and the rookie magazine reporter she hires to pen her life story. An intriguing and unique take on what it takes to make a family. A good summer read!

**ECRL HAS THESE FORMATS: BOOK, EBOOK, AUDIO BOOK**

**JULY 23, 2024**

## **THE PERSONAL LIBRARIAN**

**BY MARIE BENEDICT**

This biographical fiction is the story of illustrious American financier, J. P. Morgan's renowned personal librarian, Belle de Costa Greene, an extraordinary woman of her time, famous for her intelligence and knowledge of the art and book world, building up New York's Pierpont Morgan Library, all the while hiding her true ethnicity as a Black woman.

**AUGUST 27, 2024**

## **THE THURSDAY MURDER CLUB**

**BY RICHARD OSMAN**

In a peaceful retirement village, four unlikely friends meet up once a week to investigate unsolved murders. But when a brutal killing takes place on their very doorstep, the Thursday Murder Club find themselves in the middle of their first live case. Elizabeth, Joyce, Ibrahim and Ron might be pushing eighty but they still have a few tricks up their sleeves. Can our unorthodox but brilliant gang catch the killer before it's too late?

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2024**

## **MAD HONEY**

**BY JODI PICOULT AND JENNIFER BOYLAN**

Olivia McAfee knows what it feels like to start over. Her picture-perfect life—married to a cardiothoracic surgeon, raising a son, Asher—was upended when her husband revealed a darker side. She never imagined she would end up back in her hometown, living in the house she grew up in, and taking over her father's beekeeping business.

Lily is familiar with do-overs, too. When she and her mom relocate to New Hampshire, for her final year of high school, they both hope it will be a fresh start. Asher and Lily's paths

cross when Asher falls for the new girl in school, and Lily can't help but fall for him..

Then one day, Olivia receives a phone call: Lily is dead, and Asher is being questioned by the police. Olivia is adamant that her son is innocent.

*Mad Honey* is a riveting novel of suspense, an unforgettable love story, and a moving and powerful exploration of the secrets we keep and the risks we take in order to become ourselves.

**OCTOBER 22, 2024**

## **THE MOTHER-IN-LAW**

**BY SALLY HEPWORTH**

A twisty, compelling novel about one woman's complicated relationship with her mother-in-law that ends in murder... From the moment Lucy met her husband's mother, Diana, she was kept at arm's length. Diana was exquisitely polite, and properly friendly, but Lucy knew that she was not what Diana envisioned. But who could fault Diana? She was a pillar of the community, an advocate for social justice who helped female refugees assimilate to their new country. Diana was happily married to Tom, and lived in wedded bliss for decades. Lucy wanted so much to please her new mother-in-law. That was five years ago.

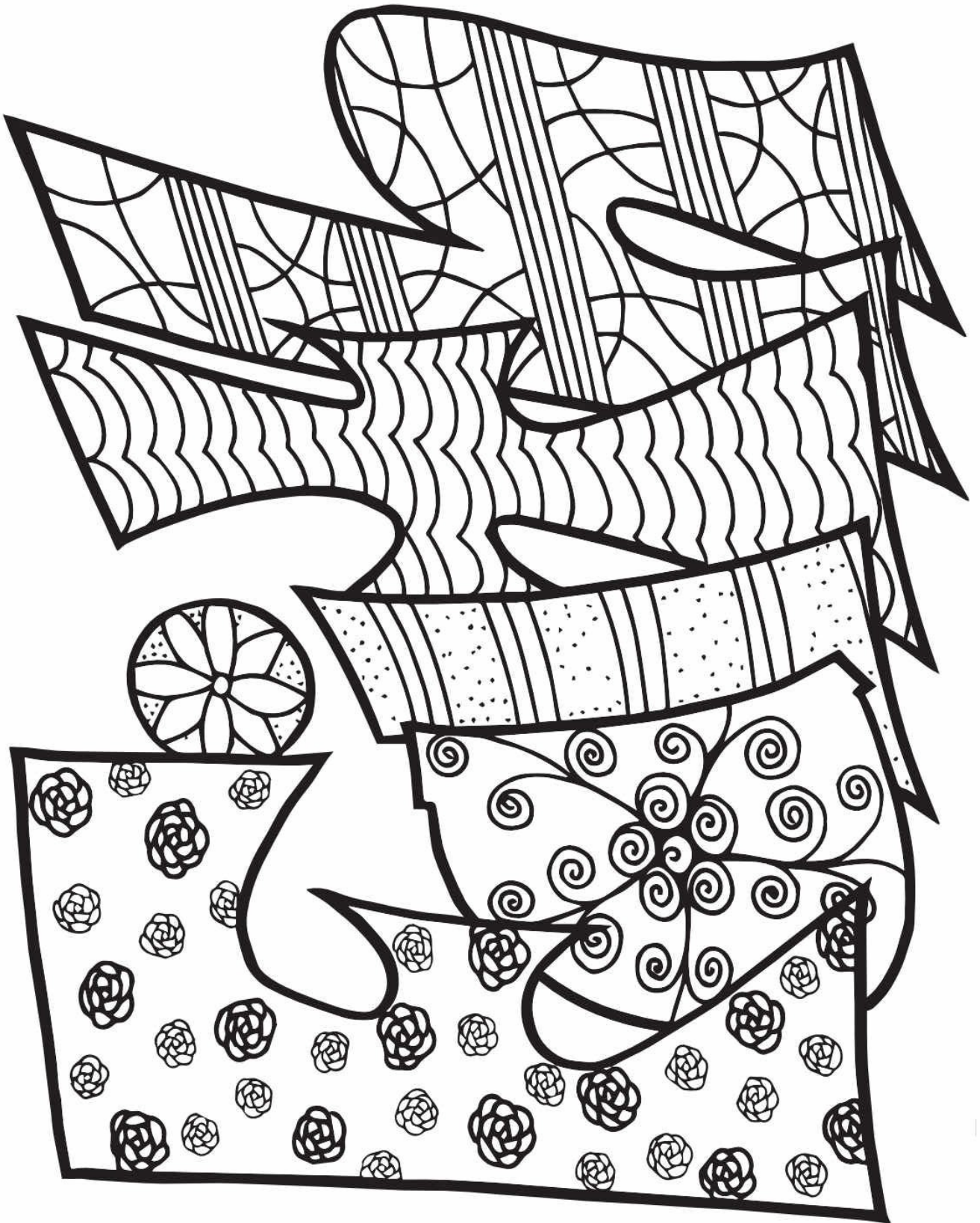
Now, Diana has been found dead, a suicide note near her body. Diana claims that she no longer wanted to live because of a battle with cancer. But the autopsy finds no cancer. The autopsy does find traces of poison and suffocation. Who could possibly want Diana dead? Why was her will changed at the eleventh hour to disinherit both of her adult children and their spouses? With Lucy's secrets getting deeper and her relationship with her mother-in-law growing more complex as the pages turn.

**NOVEMBER 26, 2024**

## **40 RULES OF LOVE BY ELIF SHAFAK**

Ella Rubenstein is forty years old and unhappily married when she takes a job as a reader for a literary agent. Her first assignment is to read and report on *Sweet Blasphemy*, a novel written by a man named Aziz Zahara. Ella is mesmerized by his tale of Shams's search for Rumi and the dervish's role in transforming the successful but unhappy cleric into a committed mystic, passionate poet, and advocate of love. She is also taken with Shams's lessons, or rules, that offer insight into an ancient philosophy based on the unity of all people and religions, and the presence of love in each and every one of us. As she reads on, she realizes that Rumi's story mirrors her own and that Zahara—like Shams—has come to set her free.

Color Me!



# May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>5 Council Installation</b> 8a Intentional Prayer 9a Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10a Adult Bible Study 5p Club 456	<b>6</b> 9a Quilting  5:30p COJ Board 7:30p A.A. Meeting	<b>7</b> 10-6 Garage Sale Drop Off 2p L&P Tax Help 6p Worship	<b>8</b> 6:30a Men's Bible Study 10-6 Garage Sale Drop Off 3p Kids of the Kingdom: Last Day!! 4p Women of ORLC 6:00p JH Youth Group 7:30p SH Youth Group	<b>9</b> 8a SonRisers 10-6 Garage Sale Drop Off 1p Grief Support Group 7p Council	<b>10</b> 10-3 Garage Sale Drop Off	<b>11</b> 8-3pm <b>Youth Garage Sale</b>
<b>12</b> 8a Intentional Prayer 9a Worship 9:15a Sunday School: Last Session till Fall! 10a Adult Bible Study	<b>13</b> 9a Quilting  5:30p APFY 7:30p A.A. Meeting	<b>14</b> 1p Befrienders 630p Healing Prayer	<b>15</b> 630a Men's Bible Study  NO Youth Programming	<b>16</b> 8a SonRisers 1p Grief Support Group 130p Hope Circle	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 4-8 Pine City Makers
<b>19 Pentecost</b> <b>Senior Sunday</b> <b>Youth Director Appreciation</b> <b>Norm Ophelm Scholarship</b> 8a Intentional Prayer 9a Worship 10a Altar Guild	<b>20</b> 9a Quilting  <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b> 7:30p A.A. Meeting	<b>21</b> 9:30a Joy Circle	<b>22</b> 6:30a Men's Bible Study  NO Youth Programming	<b>23</b> 8a SonRisers 1p Grief Support Group	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 8a Intentional Prayer 9a Worship 10a Adult Bible Study	<b>27</b> <b>Church Offices Closed</b> 7:30p A.A. Meeting	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6:30a Men's Bible Study 6:00p JH Youth Group 7:30p SH Youth Group	<b>30</b> 8a SonRisers 1p Grief Support Group 6p COJ Graduation	<b>31</b> <b>COJ Last day of school!</b>	

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
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Pine City, MN 55063

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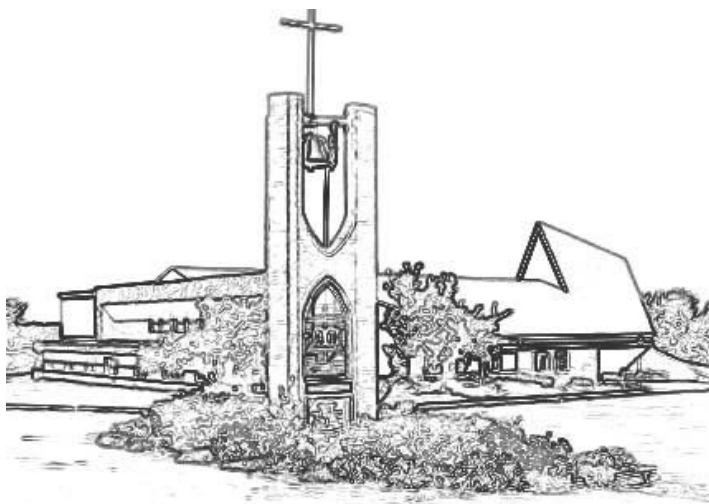
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**JOIN US FOR  
SUNDAY WORSHIP:  
*Sundays at 9:00a.m.***

**IN-PERSON:** 825 Golf Ave SW  
Pine City

**ONLINE:** [orlcpc.com](http://orlcpc.com) for the easy link  
or search YouTube for Our Redeemer  
Lutheran Church, Pine City

**RADIO:** Tune to WCMP 1350AM or  
106.5FM



**Our Vision:**

**Shining God's light into the darkness,  
bringing hope where there is despair,  
healing where there is hurt.**