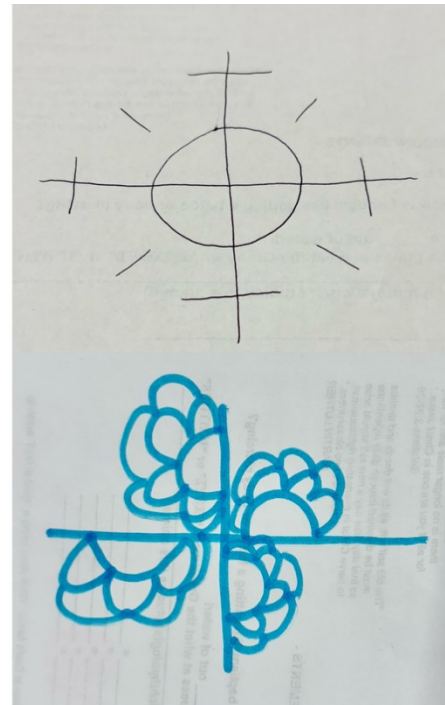
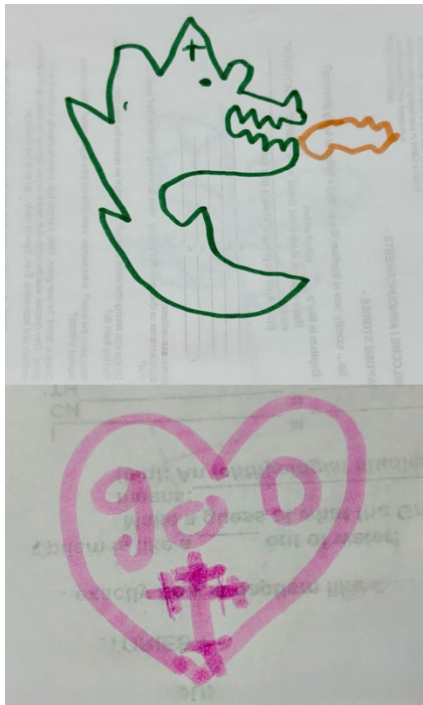


Pastor's Corner

You have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

These are the words spoken over everyone who is baptized at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. Through the mystery of water and the Word of God, we are named and claimed forever as heirs to the kingdom of heaven. It's as if God had 'branded' you with a mark that lasts forever. Like a cattle rancher who knows which live-stock are theirs, so we too have been claimed in baptism: "For I have called you by name, you are mine." (Isaiah 43:1) In confirmation class last month we talked about baptism and I suggested the youth come up with their own 'brand' to represent their faith as baptized believers in Jesus. Here are a few they came up with. *(the center image is a stock photo from the internet)*



So, what about you? What image comes to mind as you consider the mark you carry as a son or daughter of God? Is the cross you bear blossoming with flowers? Deep in the heart of God? Centered in God, but moving outward in all directions? Or is your "dragon pride" sporting the cross of Christ? Isn't it liberating to know that no other labels the world might throw at you matter in the final analysis, if you are – first and foremost – a child of God? Beloved of God, this Lenten season allow these images to lead you to ponder your own identity as a child of God, named and claimed in holy baptism.

Pastor Jim



MY FAVORITE VERSE:

"Our faith can move mountains."
Matthew 17:20



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
825 Golf Ave SW, Pine City, MN 55063
(320) 629-2985
Website: www.orldcpc.com
Facebook: Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Pine City

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

Pastor John Stiles — Press 2
pastorjohn.orldc@gmail.com

Mandie Mishler (7-12th grade) & Grace Jahnz (K-6th grade)
Children, Youth, & Families Director — Press 3
youthorlc@gmail.com

Casey Tyberg, Children of Joy Preschool — Press 4
orldckidz@gmail.com



March

Usher:

Ken H, Dale J, Eric O

Readers:

- 1: Jaci M
- 8: Kathy L
- 15: Brooke B
- 22: Brooke B
- 29: Elaine G

Communion Asst.:

- 1: Sue & Dave B, Don L
- 15: Andrew & Ashley E, Becky B, Joyce B

Altar Guild: Lynda W

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 after 10:00 AM or Monday after 8:00 AM.

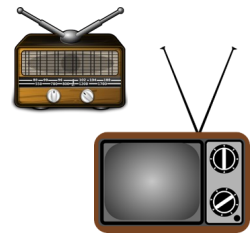
March dates available: 1, 8, 29

ORLC BROADCAST SPONSOR

Monetary donations are needed to continue our Sunday Service broadcasting:
WCMP Radio 106.5 FM or 1350 AM.

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

March dates available: 22, 29



OUR REDEEMER FAMILY AND FRIENDS



TO PRAY FOR: Lorraine C, Fritz H, Maria S (granddaughter of Jerry O), Margaret M (family of Bonnie M), Mark O, Jerry O, Dave K, Ray W, Lois B, Dick N (step brother of Mary Jo M), Eric J (son of Sherwood & Marietta J), 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

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Thursday, February 12, 2026

Present: Eric Olson, Kris Gross, Warren Leisinger, Bette Christensen, Kathy Lentz, Pastor Stiles, Lynette Kuzel, Rod Williamson, Eric Wicktor, Taylor Tollefson, Brooke Boland, and John Schille

Absent/Excused: Elaine Garaghty

Other Attendees: Steve Schmidt and Lorraine Cummings

Meeting was called to order by Eric Olson at 7:00 pm

Devotions and prayer led by Rod Williamson

Consent Agenda:

Financial Report: Steve Schmidt reported on the key January 2026 financials. The full reports can be found in the church office official file and a summary in the monthly newsletter. Motion was made by Pastor John and seconded by Kathy Lentz to accept the financial reports. Motion carried.

Council minutes email approval: Email approval on January 7, 2026 for the January Council minutes.

Old Business:

Statistical Report: No changes in membership and non-membership events/changes during January.

Status of Children, Youth and Family Director Position: Eric Olson updated council on status of CYFM Director position. An offer has been extended to Mandie Mischler and is awaiting her signature of acceptance.

Featured Ministry of the Month: The Quilters are the ministry of the month for January. About 90 quilts have been made since June 2025. About 8 quilters are involved in projects of quilting and bandage rolling. They are looking for someone willing to cut squares. Prior to covid, they used to go into the jail. Rod stated they are still welcome if interested. Locally quilts are given to the ORLC graduates, The Pregnancy Center, A Place for You, and individuals with chronic disease such as cancer. More quilters are welcome to join them.

Emergency Guidelines Review: Rod Williamson presented and council reviewed an update on the Emergency guidelines for ORLC. Council will vote on approval of the changes at the March meeting.

Children Of Joy: Last month Children of Joy presented a letter to Council that due to a drop in enrollment, they are navigating a difficult financial time. Since our last meeting the Endowment Committee has approved a grant for \$3,000. They have made no further inquires to council at this time.

New Mission Opportunities:

Parochial Reports to the Bishop: The annual parochial report is due in March. Becca has completed most of this and is awaiting some financial statistics prior to sending it to the Synod. Kris Gross will follow up with Becca as to status of the report. No action is required by council but a request for council review for information only will be made for our March meeting.

Spring Semi-Annual Congregational meeting date: The date proposed for the Congregational Spring meeting is April 19 after the worship service. Motion was made by Pastor John and seconded by Bette to approve this date. Motion carried.

Debra Lundquist Donation: A letter of intent was received from Debra Lundquist of her intent to donate \$7,500 upon her death or at age 59½ in memory of her son, Riley Knapp, as a thank you to ORLC for providing his funeral service. This is certainly a generous gift. Pastor John will follow up with a thank you.

Pastor Stiles Report: Pastor John's full report is available in the church office in the official record of the Council minutes. A few things reported: Pastor John circulated a thank you from Teen Challenge for our hospitality in hosting them on January 18.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED

Thanks to the Personnel Committee for conducting interviews for the CYF Director position. Meet the candidates for bishop is available in person and live stream. Kettle River Conference assembly is February 15. Voting for Bishop will take place as well as a few open seats on Synod Council. Also, resolutions from Eco-Faith and Would Hunger relief are before them for consideration. Intern Update – Intern Wendy’s last day with us is May 10. Pastor John and Wendy will be attending an intern retreat March 8-10. Lenten services will begin with Ash Wednesday, February 18, with the theme “All In” with our walk with Christ. Children of Joy and the youth will be serving Soup and Sandwich suppers throughout this season of Lent. Services are at 4:00 and 6:30.

Committee Reports:

Worship: Although interest was expressed to start weekly communion, that will not be going forward at this time. Lenten services as noted in Pastor John’s report.

Healing Prayer Team: Business cards with Bible verses on them will be shared during Lent for congregants to give out to encourage others. It is also a practice for the giver to listen to the Lord’s direction as to who might need encouragement. A healing anointing will be available on Palm Sunday. A one-day conference with the theme Blessings Generation to Generation, which will focus on storytelling, is being tentatively planned for April 25. Colleen Monfre has agreed to be the presenter.

Property: The church bell is in need of repair with expectation for condition to be assessed in the spring. The parking lot bill has been paid.

Back Pack Program: The move has been made to a Sunday School room downstairs and more volunteers have come forward.

Heritage Committee: The committee only has four members and is always looking for additional members to join them. Meetings will now be quarterly with the next being March 31.

Faith Formation: The youth are active in reading through the Bible and activities. Good things are being reported about the youth activities and more young people are joining them.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.
Council Member for March is Bette Christensen.
Meeting Date: Thursday, March 12, 7:00 in the ORLC Youth Room and via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristen Gross, Secretary

COUNCIL MEMBER OF THE MONTH

When I was approached to be on the church council I wasn’t sure if it was for me. What do I have to do and what does it consist of?!

Members of the church can bring concerns they have to a council member and we bring it to the council meeting to talk and react to it. Some things get to the congregational meeting for a vote. We go over concerns and finances. I never really knew all the things that keep a church together.

It is our church. Everyone has a chance to have their say. I urge every member to be on the council at least once. Its interesting and very good fellowship.

Father, renew our joy in serving You and your people. Help us lead with cheerful hearts and faithful commitment.

Bette Christensen



FINANCIAL UPDATE

1/31/2026

MONTH #4 of FISCAL YEAR 2025

The month of January general offering was \$37,125. This was down a little from December, but still a generous level of giving that will bring us a little closer to our goals. In addition, this level of giving provides an opportunity for increasing support for missions and our community.

May this season of Lent bring you spiritual growth and appreciation for the blessings of Jesus's sacrifice. Please give prayerful consideration in your efforts to help meet our church's needs.

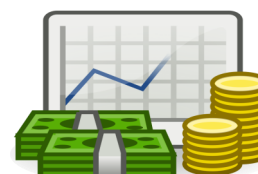
INCOME for the month of January:

- > General Offering Income: \$37,125
- > Other General Operating Income: \$2,248
- TOTAL Available to Cover Expenses: \$39,373

In response to your trust, it is important for us to stay mindful of how your gifts are being used to ensure that we follow sound financial practice and that the church continues to operate effectively. We closely track these expenses in our budget to ensure we know what is needed and are prepared.

EXPENSES for the month of January:

- > Staff Compensation: \$19,535
- > Mission Support: \$5,404
- > Other Expenses: \$2,399
- TOTAL Expenses Supported by Your General Giving: \$27,338



ACCOUNT BALANCES at the end of January:

- > General Operating Fund: \$49,206
- > Restricted Funds: \$20,381 (This is money given to the church for specific purposes and set aside until those purposes need the funds.)
- > Endowment Fund: \$135,963 (This money is invested so that the earned income can fund community needs inside and outside the church.)
- > Property Improvement Fund: \$1,676
- TOTAL Cash and Savings: \$207,226

Thank you for your support.

May God continue to bless us in good times and keep us safe in hard times.

*Sincerely,
Warren Leisinger - Treasurer*



Rainy Day Update

Community aid through the Church; gas, food, clothing vouchers and bills.

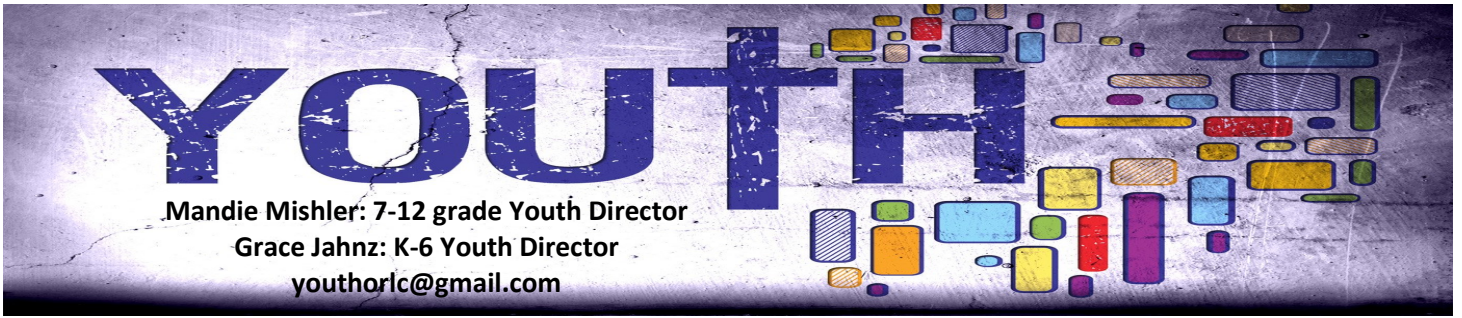
February Stats by 2/24

Assisted 13 people

If it so moves you to donate to this fund please label your donation:

Rainy Day Fund

Mary Jo M, Penny H, and Pastor John



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Every Sunday at 9:15am. Children in grades K-6 are welcome to join Kathy and Lori in the youth room after the Children's Message during service for stories, crafts, songs and a snack. 6th grade students are welcome to be helpers!

KIDS OF THE KINGDOM UPDATE

Learning Update: We are moving on from the 10 commandments and focusing on our next unit; Jesus' love for us. We are learning about this by reading some of the popular but foundational stories such as; Noah's Ark, David & Goliath, Jesus feeding the 5,000 and Jesus and the lost sheep.

VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!

If you are interested in getting involved with youth programming, please reach out to Mandie and Grace at youthorlc@gmail.com, we would love to have congregation members help on Wednesdays!

JR HIGH & SR. HIGH NEWS

Lent: As we start this lent season, Jr and Sr High will be talking about all things Lent. We will be focusing on going all in with our faith. Thank you to our leaders and Pastor John for all their knowledge and insight as we move into this season!

Senior High: The kids are starting a new Bible Study focusing on the Faith Foundations.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Mission Trip Fundraiser: We have mission trip families preparing and serving soup and sandwiches during lent. We will be collecting free will donations to help support their trip to South Carolina in July. Dinner will be served from 4:30-6:15 between Lent Services.

Dates are March 4th, March 18th, March 25th.

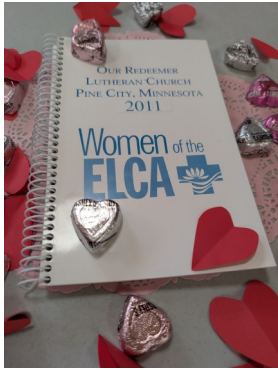
LOOKING FOR HELP:

We are looking for a male leader to come along on our mission trip in July. The cost is \$1200 and we are gone July 19th-25th to South Carolina. If you are interested in attending, please reach out to Mandie.

CALENDAR

Check out the calendar in the Fellowship Hall for a list of upcoming youth events.





Women of the ELCA

**Welca Meeting
February Meeting was Cancelled**
Next meeting: March 10th

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for the Cookbook Cookout event. Lots a delicious food and fun fellowship was had by all.



Worship Committee Tuesday February 10, 2026

Present: Kris Gross, Kristy Koch, Diane Lombard, Lynda Woulfe, Pastor John Stiles, Lynne Zack

Pastor John led with prayer.

Jen Hansmann and Lynn Drewa agreed to assist Worship during the 4 p.m. Wednesday Lenten services, Holden Evening Prayer.

February 15. Now The Feast, Glenna Reiersen and Jen Krinke

February 22. Prayer Works.

Reception after service to celebrate Leone Meyers 90th Birthday Day hosted by her children.

Hymn picker for March Pastor John

March 1 Spirit Alive

March 8 Radical Men

March 15. Now The Feast

March 29 Palm Sunday/Anointing by Healing Prayer Team

March 19 at 5:00 p.m. First Communion class for 5th grade and up. The class is planning to bake bread to be shared on Maundy Thursday.

March is Food Share Month

Intern Wendy's last day is Mother's Day, May 10th. Celebrating Communion every Sunday has been put on hold.

Next Worship Committee Meeting March 10th 6:00 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Lynne Zack*

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church: 50th Anniversary Cookbook 1946-1196



HOBO Hot Dish

Bonnie Menigo

Ingredients:

- 2lbs ground beef or venison
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp pepper
- 1/2 C chopped onion
- 1 C chopped celery
- 3 C sliced carrots
- 3 C sliced raw potatoes
- 2 cans cream of chicken soup
- 1 can water

Directions:

Grease the bottom of a casserole dish. Crumble the ground beef on the bottom of the dish. Add the salt and pepper. Layer the vegetables in the dish. Combine the soup and water in a small bowl and mix well.



Pour over casserole. Bake, covered, at 350 for 1-2 hours.

Chewy Chocolate Cookies

Gerry Schunicht

Ingredients:

- 3 egg whites
- 1 C powdered sugar
- 1/2 C cracker crumbs
- 1 (6 oz) pkg semi-sweet choc. Chips
- 1/2 C walnuts, chopped
- 1/2 tsp vanilla

Beat the egg whites until stiff. Add the remaining ingredients. Drop by spoonfuls onto baking sheet. Bake at 325-350 for about 12 mins.



Enrollment is still open for the 2025/26 school year! Scholarship opportunities are available for those who need a little extra help. Connect with Casey or Rosie for more information.

Preschool News: Our latest lessons and topics have been learning all about Kindness. We have been reading many books and talking about what we can do to be kind and learning that sharing is caring!

With the Olympics in full swing we have also taken some time to watch, talk, and read about all the different kinds of sports we see at the winter Olympics. We have also spent our fair share of time outside and playing in and on the snow hills.

February was I Love to Read month and we had many visitors; orlc staff, parents, grandparents etc. join us weekly to share stories with us. We thank you so much if you were able to lend us your reading voice on one of the days. The kids love visitors!

Fundraisers: Thank you to all the families who participated in this years Move-a-thon. Our theme this year was the Olympics. The kids had to skate, ski, slide and roll their way through an obstacle course. They also earned gold medals for their amazing feats of athletic ability .

Ash Wednesday meal was a great success. Thank you to all who came and shared the meal and a donation to the program. Your support means the world to us. Visit with us again for our next Wednesday night meal on March 11.

Board News: Cancelled March meeting. Next meeting will be April 6th

Becca Groe (COJ Board Member)

Website: www.childrenofjoypreschool.com **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/creatingjoyinlearning/

Email: orlckidz@gmail.com **Phone:** 320-629-2985 Ext. 4



OUR REDEEMER READERS



If anyone is interested in joining our group you are more than welcome! We encourage members to read the books but it is not necessary, it can be a great social experience for book lovers!

We meet the 4th Tuesday at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Available this year is a brochure of books we will be reading and discussing. There are copies available in the church office or from Christy Koch.

MARCH 24

FRENCH BRAID by Ann Tyler

We head to Baltimore for another great generational story from an author called by reviewers as the "Quirky Queen".

This story follows the Garrett family over the course of several decades. Starting with a 1959 vacation to

present day it explores the complex relationships, secrets and the subtle ways they influence each other's lives.

A HINT TO THE READER: Write down the character's names and to who they belong.

ECRL has 4 books, a large print at PC, an ebook and an e-audio.

APRIL 28

THE COINCIDENCE OF THE COCONUT CAKE

by Amy Reichert is a charming love story of misunderstandings, mistaken identity, and the power of food to bring two people together. Set in lovely Milwaukee, Wis, you will feel like you are in the middle of a Hallmark movie!

ECRL has 1 large Print copy

NO MEETING IN MAY



Pine City BackPack Food Program

Feed a child, grow a community

320-629-4122 djackson@isd578.org

March Food Item:

**Popcorn (no mini bags)
or
Oatmeal**



LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Wednesdays @ 4:30-6:15pm

February 25

Host: ORLC Youth

March 4

Host: ORLC Youth

March 11

Host: COJ Preschool

March 18

Host: ORLC Youth

March 25

Host: ORLC Youth

All are welcome to join us for a meal during this Lenten season.

DIAPER SEWING

Global Health Ministries

Wednesdays

9am-Noon

ORLC Fellowship Hall

Sewing at home is an option if you are unable to meet on Wednesdays. Once you have finished a diaper(s) return to Sandy Plaster or Becca in the church office.

To participate in sewing diapers at home, or if you have any questions, please contact Sandy Plaster at 651-354-5629.

Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29 - 9AM

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 2 - 6:30PM

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3 - 6:30PM

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5 - 9AM

EASTER BREAKFAST SERVED 8-9 AND
AFTER WORSHIP UNTIL 10:30

ALL SERVICES WILL BE IN PERSON AND LIVE STREAMED



EAST CENTRAL
MINNESOTA
CHORALE
& UNUM VOX

WINTER CONCERT

March 7, 2026

2 pm Our Redeemer
Lutheran Church, Pine City
7 pm Common Ground:
UMC, Cambridge



FREE WILL DONATION

March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8a Prayer 9a Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10a Coffee & Fellowship 10a Adult Bible Study 5p FCA Meeting	2 9a Quilting 730p A.A. Meeting	3 	4630a Men's Bible Stud 9a Sewing 3pKids of the Kingdom 4p Lenten Worship 4:30-6:15 Soup Supper 6:30p Lenten Worship 6:30p Confirmation 7:30p Sr. H Youth Group	5 8a SonRisers 1p Grief Group 1pm Caregivers Support	6	7 2p ECMN Choral Concert @ ORLC
8 8a Prayer 9a Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10a Coffee & fellowship 10a Adult Bible Study	9 9a Quilting 5:30p APFY Board 730p A.A. Meeting	10 1p Befrienders 4:30p Welca 4:45p Finance 5:30p Executive 6p Worship 6:30p Healing Prayer Team	11 630a Men's Bible Study 9a Sewing 3p Kids of the Kingdom 4p Lenten Worship 4:30-6:15 Soup Supper 6:30p Lenten Worship 6:30p Confirmation 7:30p Sr. H Youth Group	12 8a SonRisers 1p Grief Group	13	14
15 8a Prayer 9a Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10a Coffee & Fellowship 10a Adult Bible Study	16 9a Quilting Newsletter Articles Due	17 9:30a Joy Circle	18 630a Men's Bible Study 9a Sewing 3p Kids of the Kingdom 4p Lenten Worship 4:30-6:15p Soup Supper 6:30p Lenten Worship 6:30p Confirmation 7:30p Sr. H Youth Group	19 8a SonRisers 1p Grief Group 1:30p Hope Circle 5p First Communion Class	20	21
22 8a Prayer 9a Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10a Coffee & Fellowship 10a Adult Bible Study	23 9a Quilting 730p A.A. Meeting	24 6:30p OR Readers	25 630a Men's Bible Study 9a Sewing NO Youth Programming 4p Lenten Worship 4:30p Lenten Meal 6:30p Lenten Worship	26 8a SonRisers 1p Grief Group	27	28
29 Palm Sunday 8a Prayer 9a Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10a Coffee & Fellowship 10a Adult Bible Study	30 Annual Reports Due 9a Quilting 730p A.A. Meeting	31 10a Heritage Committee				
730p A.A. Meeting	730p A.A. Meeting					

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
825 Golf Ave SW
Pine City, MN 55063

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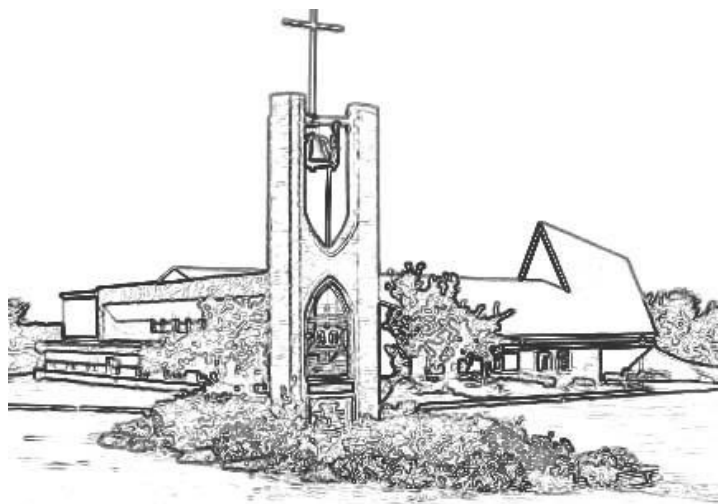
SUNDAY WORSHIP:

Sundays at 9:00a.m.

IN-PERSON: 825 Golf Ave SW Pine City

ONLINE: orlpc.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.**