

Good News

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

February 2021

This is Christ's church, and there is a place for you here!

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LCOR's 2021
CHURCH COUNCIL

Pastor	Rev. Paul T. Christian
President	Dean Freeburn
Vice President	Bill Banze
Treasurer	Brian Barnes
Outreach	Marva Farrington
Property	Gregory Bergeret
	Bruce Smith
Stewardship	Christan Stager
Worship	Dee Christian

*but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow
weary; they will walk and not be faint.*

Isaiah 40:31

A Word from LCOR's Council President

The newly elected members of council were inducted in January and I presided over my first church council meeting. Several council members were not present, but we had a very fruitful meeting. Brian Barnes gave an in-depth report of our finances and the future looks bright for our congregation. We have a new provider for our web page, but some glitches need to be worked out before it will be up and running. The council will be working on the wording for some changes to the Constitution and By-Laws to combine some council committees into fewer committees. This process will require several special Membership Meetings which will probably be held after worship services. We will do our best to keep them short and to the point.

The council has started to do some strategic planning to make our time spent more effective, and to assist us in accomplishing our goals. Most of our planning will be accomplished using electronic meetings during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic. We have already had our first "Council Launch 2021" meeting with Rev. John Wertz (Assistant to the Bishop) on Monday January 11, 2021. Many ideas came out of that meeting that the council will be pursuing. I have a recording of that meeting if anyone would like for me to e-mail it to them. You can view it on your computer. It is about 90 minutes long. We will be engaged in additional planning sessions in the near future.

Our congregation will be losing two of its council members in the near future. Marva Farrington & Christan Stager will be leaving the area soon and we need members to fill their positions on the Church Council. If you are interested in a leadership role on the council, please contact one of the council members or myself soon. It would be best if we didn't have a gap without representation on some committees due to our council being shorthanded already. We need all the help we can muster. With a full council we can accomplish our mission more easily.

The archives are moving along slowly at the moment due to some health issues I have had recently, my other duties and circumstances, but work continues. Please place any items you have from our church history in my box or send them to the church. If there is anything you wish to share by e-mail, my e-mail address is deandcu4u@netzero.com.

Bruce Smith and I are moving ahead on the renovations to the chapel to make it ready to lease. The new lighting has been completed and looks great. The new furnace and air conditioning will soon be installed. That means that we will have air conditioning both in the chapel and in the Youth Room. It's a summer thing. When we have a date for the installation of the doors to separate the chapel area from the remainder of the church, the real estate agent will be contracted to begin finding a tenant. The chapel will soon be ready to provide a meeting place for some new congregation in our area to get a start, and it will provide an income to our congregation to help us spread the Love of Christ in Thought Word and Deed!

We are a great congregation and have much to offer each other and others in the community. Let them know we are here, and that they are welcome here.

Dean Freeburn
Church Council President



Serving Boldly Award: **That Others May Follow Christ's Light**

The Virginia Synod Council (ELCA) seeks to recognize and honor the lay leaders who serve as tireless volunteers across the Commonwealth of Virginia both within their local congregations and the broader community of the church without walls. Therefore, it is with great pleasure that the Virginia Synod Council (ELCA) announces the creation of the *Serving Boldly Lay Leadership Award* to recognize the outstanding contributions of lay leaders. One award may be presented within each of the five partnerships beginning with the June 2021 assembly. The partnerships are:

- Coastal Partnership: Tidewater and Peninsula (including Gloucester and Kilmarnock)
- Piedmont Partnership: Richmond and Germanna
- Valley Partnership: Northern Valley, Central Valley, and Page
- Blue Ridge Partnership: Southern Valley and Southern
- Appalachia Partnership: New River and Highlands



Within each congregation and beyond the walls of the church, lay leaders daily demonstrate the love and caring of Jesus Christ by their words and deeds in areas such as education, social justice, regionalism, the environment, health, and public safety, arts, and culture, or the economy. Whether through a soup kitchen, a homeless shelter, the altar guild, a special task force, mentoring youth, a special creative talent (visual arts, performing arts, literary arts, musical arts, etc.), a hospice, a call committee, or a local ministry outreach, Bible study, a book club, etc. these lay leaders are *Serving Boldly* in their congregation and community. Nominations may be submitted online at [Serving Boldly Award - Virginia Synod, ELCA \(vasynod.org\)](https://www.vasynod.org) and must be **received no later than March 1, 2021**. The form may be printed and mailed to: *Serving Boldly Award*, Virginia

Synod ELCA, P.O. Box 70, Salem, VA 2415. Please call (540) 320-5982 or email Pastor John Wertz (wertz@vasynod.org) with any questions. Award recipients will be announced by May 26, 2021, and awards will be presented during the Synod Assembly, June 11-12, 2021.

[Serving Boldly Award Online Nomination Form](#)

[Serving Boldly Award Mail-In Nomination Form](#)

If you would like to nominate a lay person for this award, please contact a member of the LCOR Church Council before the next council meeting on February 21, 2021 so the council can entertain your suggestion

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Spread the Word!

Did you know that our church services are streamed live on Facebook each Sunday morning? If you can't make it to church on a Sunday, be sure to join us on Facebook Live at [Lutheran Church | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/our.redeemer.49) (<https://www.facebook.com/our.redeemer.49>). Tell your friends, too. Perhaps they would like to see how a traditional Lutheran worship service is conducted.

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Adult Sunday School

How do you experience God? Do you see Him in your home, community, church? Please join us beginning Jan. 3, 2021, as we continue our in-depth study of **Experiencing God**. Written by Henry Blackaby, Richard Blackaby, and Claude King, the Experiencing God Bible Study is based on the Experiencing God book. Through examination of biblical and contemporary illustrations, participants will understand and apply seven realities of experiencing God. Churches will be helped to better function as the body of Christ, as members understand how to experience God as a church. **Adult Sunday School** meets each Sunday at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Study materials will be provided. Refreshments and coffee are also provided.

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Homeless bags

Members are encouraged to take a bag or two from the table in the Narthex to keep in your car to help out others in need. The bags are stuffed with items that can help a person down on their luck – bottle of water, food items (may need to be replaced), toiletry items, tissues, a hand-written inspirational quote, even a pair of socks, and can be easily handed out your car window! Please help spread the love of God to those in need!

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Outreach Team
(Evangelism and Social Ministry Committees)
Reaching Out to Our Neighbors

Members:

Pastor Paul & Dee Christian
Peggy & Bart Connors
Dean Freeburn
Ruth Knight
David & Jeane Pemberton

Paul & Mary Propst
Gerlinde Smith
Martina Smith
Chair, Marva Farrington

The Outreach Team met on January 19th via ZOOM. Even though our Team cannot reach out to our neighbors due to COVID restrictions as we'd like to, we forge on as we are able.

We continue to support the Downtown Churches United (DCU) in Feeding Hungry through the Hope Center in Petersburg. LCOR's next turn is on Friday, February 26th. As in the previous feedings during the pandemic, we will prepare bag lunches. Following social distancing guidelines, the bags will be prepared after church on February 21st in the Fellowship Hall. The sandwiches for the lunches will be prepared later in the week. All hands are welcome to help!

One of the projects that LCOR traditionally assists is the Walk Against Hunger. The walk is normally done in the fall, however, due to COVID restrictions the 2020 walk was virtually. The final amount raised in 2020 (drum roll please) was \$60,355.59! Congratulations and a big thank you to everyone who help.

Also, when donating food for food banks, please keep in mind the following that was shared with me:

"Sharing wisdom from a food bank volunteer:

1. Everyone donates Kraft Mac & Cheese in the box. But it needs milk & butter which is hard to get from the food banks.
2. Boxed Milk is a treasure. Kids need it for cereal, which they get a lot of
3. Everyone donates pasta sauce & spaghetti noodles
4. Canned Foods should be pop tops OR donate can openers
5. Oil is a luxury needed for Rice a Roni which they get a lot of
6. Spices, Salt & Pepper are a real gift
7. Tea bags & Coffee are caring gifts
8. Sugar & Flour are treats
9. Important are fresh produce donated by farmers and grocery stores.
10. Seeds are great in the spring & summer because growing can be easy for some.
11. Rarely is there fresh meat.
12. Tuna & Crackers make a good lunch.
13. Hamburger Helper goes nowhere without ground beef.
14. They get lots of peanut butter and jelly but NEED sandwich bread.
15. Bitter or Margarine are good.
16. Eggs are a commodity!
17. Cake mix and Frosting makes it possible to make a child's birthday cake.
18. Dishwashing Detergent is very expensive & is always appreciated.

- 19. Feminine hygiene products are a luxury & women will cry over them
 - 20. Everyone loves Stove Top Stuffing.
- Bonus: CASH makes it possible for the Food Bank to buy what's missing and buy in bulk."

Downtown Churches United, Inc. is at Hope Center in Petersburg. They also added

- 21. We need boxed cereal.

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Scriptures for February Services

February 7th

5th Sunday of Epiphany
 Isaiah 40:21-31
 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
 1 Corinthians 9:16-23
 Mark 1:29-39

February 14th

Transfiguration of Our Lord
 2 Kings 2:1-12
 Psalm 50:1-6
 2 Corinthians 4:3-6
 Mark 9:2-9

February 17th

Ash Wednesday
 Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12
 Psalm 51:1-17
 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 21st

1st Sunday of Lent
 Genesis 9:8-17
 Psalm 95: 25:1-10
 1 Peter 3:18-22
 Mark 1:9-15

February 28th

2nd Sunday of Lent
 Genesis 9:17:1-7,15-16
 Psalm 25:1-10
 Romans 4:13-25
 Mark 8:31-38

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Feeding the Hungry

Would you like to help feed the homeless but the timing doesn't fit your schedule? Then you can help on Sunday, February 21 setting up the bag lunches.

Come to the fellowship hall after the service and help fill the lunch bags. Sandwiches will be prepared later in the week but filling the bags with the rest of the meal is still needed.

Please spend a few minutes on February 21 after service to help the homeless. Thank you for your time and your help. Call Peggy if you have questions at (443)386-1034.



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Worship Notes

By Dee Christian, Worship Committee Chair

Ash Wednesday – The beginning of a journey. Marked with a cross of ashes, we begin our journey into repentance, reflection and reconciliation on Ash Wednesday. The cross, marked on our foreheads, is a symbol to remind us that we are dust and to dust we shall return. It reminds us also of our baptism as we were marked with the same sign of the cross during that celebration of our Christian life, when we were adopted into God's family.

As we cross the threshold that is Ash Wednesday to begin our Lenten Journey, may we be reminded of our need to **repent** of our sins – not just say we're sorry, but turn from our sinful ways toward God's ways; **reflect** on our loving relationship with God – spending time in His word and in prayer to foster a closer relationship with our living God; and be **reconciled** to Christ.

May we all garner wisdom and deeper understanding on our journey to emerge victorious at the foot of the cross on Easter morning!

➤ Upcoming Services and Activities

- Feb. 7 – Epiphany 5 – Service with Holy Communion at 10:15 a.m.
- Feb. 14 – Transfiguration of Our Lord – Service of the Word at 10:15 a.m.
- Feb. 17 – Ash Wednesday – Service with Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes at 7 p.m.
- Feb. 21 – Lent 1 - Service with Holy Communion at 10:15 a.m.
- Feb. 28 – Lent 2 - Service of the Word at 10:15 a.m.

Volunteers Needed

Thank you to all who serve as worship assistants! We are in need of volunteers to help with our worship experience, especially on the altar guild. If you are interested in helping out on any of the subcommittees or just want to know more about what each does, you can talk to one of the following members:

Altar Guild – Edna May

Soundboard – Melissa Watts

Usher Board – Bart Connors

Lay/Communion Assistant/Acolyte –

Music/Choir – Cindy Nicol

Dee Christian

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Lenten Soup & Service.

The worship committee is conducting a survey to determine how members feel about holding soup and service throughout the Lenten season. The soup and sides would be served to guests and we would observe social distancing and wear masks while in the Fellowship Hall. Please take a moment to complete your survey as soon as possible and return it either to a Worship Committee member or place it in the basket in the Narthex as you leave.! The survey will also ask your thoughts on the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner. Thank you in advance for your participation.

WE THANK THOSE WHO SERVE in February

February 7, 2021	Epiphany 5	10:15 A.M.
Lay Assistant: Dee Christian	Sound Board: Martina Smith	
Acolyte: Emily Christian	Organist: Cindy Nicol	
Videographer: Elizabeth Christian	Ushers: Brian Barnes	
Tellers: B Smith/D Christian	Altar Guild: B McLain/J Pemberton	
February 14, 2021	Transfiguration of Our Lord	10:15 A.M.
Lay Assistant: Christan Stager	Sound Board: Mark McLain	
Acolyte: Isaac Watts	Organist: Cindy Nicol	
Videographer: Emily Christian	Ushers: Sarah Riser	
Tellers: B Smith / K Sharpe	Altar Guild: R Knight/SB Bergeret	
February 17, 2021	Ash Wednesday	7:00 P.M.
Lay Assistant: Dee Christian	Sound Board: Martina Smith	
Acolyte: Elizabeth Christian	Organist: Cindy Nicol	
Videographer: Emily Christian	Ushers: Melissa Smith	
Tellers: B Smith / D Christian	Altar Guild: E May	
February 21, 2021	Lent 1	10:15 A.M.
Lay Assistant: Kelly Sharpe	Sound Board: Mark McLain	
Acolyte: Emily Christian	Organist: Cindy Nicol	
Videographer: Elizabeth Christian	Ushers: Scott Watts	
Tellers: P Propst / M Watts	Altar Guild: McLain / Pemberton	
February 28, 2021	Lent 2	10:15 A.M.
Lay Assistant: Martina Smith	Sound Board: Melissa Watts	
Acolyte: Elizabeth Christian	Organist: Cindy Nicol	
Videographer: Emily Christian	Ushers: Bill Banze	
Tellers: B Smith / D Christian	Altar Guild: Knight / Bergeret	

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Birthdays and Anniversaries



February 2021



Jefferson T. Gladin	12
Sarah Riser	13
Isaac Watts	13
Lee Powers	16
Cindy Nicol	17
Dean Freeburn	18

If we have missed your Birthday or Anniversary, please contact Marva and give her the missing information!




Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

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FEBRUARY 2021

Our Mission:

Reflect the Love of Jesus Christ
In Thought, Word and Deed!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>January 31</p> 	<p>February 1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p> <p>9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship with Communion 11:30 AM Worship – Education mtg</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:15 PM Neighborhood Watch</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Jefferson Gladin B'day</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Sarah Riser B'day Isaac Watts B'day</p>
<p>Valentine's Day 14</p> <p>9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship Service of the Word</p>	<p>President's Day 15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Lee Powers B'day</p>	<p>Ash Wednesday 17</p> <p>Cindy Nicol B'day</p> <p>10:30 AM NARFE Mtg 12:00 Noon DCU Mtg</p> <p>7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Worship</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Dean Freeburn B'day</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>Lent 1 21</p> <p>9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship with Communion 11:30 AM Church Council Fix lunch bags for the Hungry</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Feeding the Hungry</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>Lent 2 28</p> <p>9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship Service of the Word</p>	<p>March 1</p>	<p>March 2</p>	<p>March 3</p>	<p>March 4</p>	<p>March 5</p> 	<p>March 6</p>