



REFLECTIONS

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church
PO Box 440

Vol. 49 No. 6

June 2026

We have now reached our fifth month together during this time of transition. We have shared positive experiences in congregational life, and I have also deeply appreciated the fellowship and worship I have shared with our brothers and sisters in Christ at Zion. I would like to share a few reflections with you. First, I am grateful for your support of my ministry here, as well as for the time I have been able to spend with my wife, daughter, son-in-law, and grandchildren in Mandan. I have enjoyed collaborating with the Council, Julie Opdahl, and Kitty Monke to prepare our Sunday and feast day worship services.

I also want to thank Laurie Monke for the many tasks she faithfully manages, including preparing the bulletins and slides, managing various office responsibilities, and serving as treasurer. Shannay Witte does an excellent job preparing both liturgy and music for the people of Zion. With Nancy Belland's help, I have been able to visit our homebound members and those in care facilities on a regular basis. Chelsea for her leadership with the Confirmation class.

The school release time program is a wonderful ministry here and truly reflects the original spirit of the Sunday School movement: reaching both churched and unchurched children with the teaching of the Christian faith. We also had an excellent confirmation class, and it was a privilege to officiate at the confirmation service for those who completed their instruction. I would also add that the Sunday Bible Text Study group, which meets on Wednesday mornings, is a meaningful time of fellowship and study.

A real source of pride for Our Redeemer's is the quilting group. I was really impressed with their output when all the quilts they made covered both the pews and altar area of the church. I also enjoyed collaborating with our high school seniors who led the worship and gave the sermon of Senior Sunday on May 17th. It was also a first for me to witness the community generosity of our church when all of the New England High School Class of 2026 received one of beautiful quilts of their choice the following Monday.

As the Summer months approach, I know that our regular patterns of work, worship, and relaxation change for vacations, special family gatherings, or just to enjoy the outdoors after the challenges of our long winter season. I know I will be looking forward to our outdoor "worship in the park" on June 14th. I hope amid the different "vibe" of the summer months you who are reading this will join me in worship this summer as you are able. I also extend an invitation to those who have not been with us for a while to come to worship and introduce yourself to me. I like to think a church is a place for all to worship God as they are able, as especially so here where we are so much an important part of the community of New England. I also would like to extend an invitation to all to visit with our brothers and sisters at Zion. The church is a little gem amid farm country, and bears witness to the importance of Christian faith and worship hard working German immigrant farm families had when they came here early in the 20th century.

I look forward to continuing our journey in ministry together during this transitional time. Please be in prayer for both churches, their leaders, and for the Call Committee with the committee's task of guiding the process of selecting a new pastor. A former bishop of one of the ELCA synods I served in had the motto, "Pray First." God has a good plan for both Our Redeemer's and Zion for now and in the future. Prayer can be the "GPS" in the journey and destination.

Finally, the 21st is Father's Day. May we give thanks to God for all who took on the important calling of being a "father" in our lives, whether our birth father, or another family, friend, or neighbor who helped fulfill that role in our lives.

I look forward to continuing to serve with you as our journey together continues.

Your brother in Christ,

John

BADLANDS MINISTRIES



NEW ENGLAND DAY CAMP

July 27 - 30, 2026

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Monday - Wednesday | 9am-2pm

Thursday | 2pm - Closing Worship/Potluck 5pm

CAMP BASICS

Based on the theme verse, "Colossians 3:12-14," Badlands Ministries' 2026 summer theme is "Wear Love" and throughout the week, we will use those words from Paul to learn about compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, and above all, the Love that binds those things together. Day Camp is a special place where campers are placed in small groups with a counselor who guides them through exciting activities each day full of songs, crafts, bible studies, games and so much more. We hope this summer is a time for your whole family to grow in faith through this experience! Join us for our closing worship at 5:00pm on Thursday!

ALL ARE WELCOME

Kindergarten-6th graders and their friends are welcome to attend the day camp program. 7th-12th grade students are encouraged to assist as Staff in Training (SITs) All who participate will receive a Day Camp T-shirt!

Contact

Nancy Belland - bellandnancy@gmail.com
701-290-3578

Notes

- Age level is determined by most recent grade completed in spring of 2026.
- Please promptly pick up your children at the end of each camp session at the church.
- Please indicate any food allergies on the registration form.
- A snack will be provided daily
- Service Project - bring items to be donated to local food pantries.

Special Days

- Splash Day - Tuesday *pack swim suit, towel, and sunscreen
- Potluck/Closing Worship - Thursday 5:00pm

Register Today

Complete the registration form and return Our Redeemers Lutheran Church with \$25 per camper by July 19th.
1046 McKenzie Street
PO Box 440
New England, ND 58647



*Our Sympathy to the families and friends of **Ralph Flyberg.** May Jesus' triumph over death and the grave help sustain these families in their time of sorrow.*

Special Dates this Month

Flag Day, June 14, 2026

Juneteenth, June 19, 2026

Father's Day, June 21, 2026

First Day of Summer, June 21, 2026



Congratulations to our Confirmands! May God continue to guide and bless each of you as you grow in faith, love, and service.



Congratulations to the Graduating class of 2026.





June 6th	Archie Kirschman Judy & Lee Johnson (A) Hannah Frank
June 8th	Jon Stang
June 9th	David Bautz
June 12th	Brynn Belland
June 13 th	Kinzey Smithers Jay & Elsie Sheldon (A)
June 14th	Alex Nielsen Ryan & Laverne Erickson (A) Westin Gillman
June 15 th	Michele & Jason Schmidt (A)
June 16 th	Josh & Melanie Epperly(A)
June 17th	Bruce Bender LaDonna Kuske John R. & Linda Plaggemeyer (A)
June 18th	Joe Bohlman
June 19th	Nathan Johnson
June 20th	Keri Przymus Wade & Jill Bock (A)
June 21st	Robert Murphy Sid Erickson Marty Opdahl Muggsy Schatz
June 23rd	Dwight & Nancy Belland (A) Thomas Dale Tieszen
June 25th	Troy & Shari Wolf (A)
June 26th	Perry Rettinger
June 28th	Chad & Jody Buckingham (A) Leon & Kitty Monke (A) Bailey Nile Connor Wolf
June 29th	Clyde Bender Levi & Dani Krebs (A)
June 30th	Jerald Rafferty

WORSHIP HELPERS

USHERS:

June	7th	Mark
June	14th	
June	21st	
June	28th	

Altar Guild: Arlys

READERS:

June	7th	Sandy S
June	14th	Bonnie
June	21st	
June	28th	

COMMUNION:

June	7th
June	14th
June	21st
June	28th



Join us for our Outdoor service at Lions Park starting at 10am!! We are doing this once a month starting in June with a Free will meal to follow each service. All are Welcome!! Dates are as follows:
 June 14th
 July 26th (will be Christmas in the Park)
 August 16th



May 20th, 2026

Mark called the meeting to order

Pastor lead with Devotions

Secretary's Report: Teresa m/m and Doug 2nd

Treasure's Report: Sandy m/m and Doug 2nd

Pastor's Report: Pastor is going to Germany Oct 25 – Nov 1st for Cont. Ed this trip is through the New York Synod and when he gets back, he would like to hold a presentation on his trip. Pastor thought the Townhall was received well. Visits with the shut-ins and Nursing Homes are going well.

Committee Reports:

Mission & Ministry and Outreach (Mark, Kristen)

Dates for church in the park have been set for the next 3 months the first one will be held June 14th, July 26th, August 16th. Council will help with setting up and working with Nancy and Mark will take care of putting the sign in the street.

Property (Tony, Judy Vic)

Laurie will try to contact Christ Reindel again, McKoy will do the mowing at the Parsonage. Nancy is taking care of the flower beds in the front of parsonage and doing something with the garden space. Nancy will also plant grass in the spots where the trees were removed. Mark contacted Martin's Heating and Air to fix our leaking pipe, but we need to figure out the access point.

Worship & Music (Doug & Sandy)

Julie & Kitty and Pastor met and planned worship service out through the end of July. July 26th we will be doing Christmas in the Park.

Education (Chelsea)

April 29th was the last day of church school with Brent and Kris from Badlands Ministries leading. May 3rd was Confirmation Sunday God Bless our young people; Shyann, Bristol and Rylynn. Nancy was approached again to sell concessions at the All School Reunion during the Car Show July 11th, and all proceeds will go towards Our Redeemer's Noisy Change money for church school snacks and supplies, the Little Free Pantry, and Hedy's outreach Meals, and extra expenses with Day Camp. If you would like to help Nancy work the booth it would be greatly Appreciated. Please call Nancy. Badlands Ministries Day Camp is set for July 26th -30th from 9-2. Church School will resume Sept. 23rd.

Trust Fund (Teresa) Nothing to Report

Old Business: Nothing

New Business: The Pipe Organ up in the balcony is making a humming noise Mark called Eckroth and they gave him a number of someone to contact, and Mark is waiting to hear back from him.

Meeting was Adjourned with Lord's Prayer

Next meeting will June 17th @ 7pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie Monke

WELCA News June 2026

Blessing of the quilts was held on May 10 during our Senior Sunday worship service. A Senior Reception was held after the worship service for our six NEHS graduates, Grace Bieber, Tucker Bock, Jordan Jung, Emma Olsonowski, Aiden Rafferty and McKoy Stecher. Cupcakes and treats were served. The Graduates were able to pick out their quilts, and the entire graduating class picked up their quilts on Monday, May 18. Thank you so much to the quilting ladies for providing these quilts for the graduates. Congratulations to all the Graduates!



Also thank you to all the ladies who set up, served and clean up after the Senior Reception.

The Prayer Chain continues to be used, it is working quite well. If anyone would like to be added to the Prayer Chain list please let Bonnie know.

Summer offers a perfect opportunity to slow down and spend focused time with God. Find a peaceful spot, take a few deep breaths, and meditate... soaking up the sunlight and soaking up God's presence!"



JUNE 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR.	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Coffee 9am Worship 10am	8	9	10 Bible Study 10am	11	12	13
14 Coffee 9am Church in the Park 10am 	15	16	17 Bible Study 10am Council Meeting 7pm	18	19	20
21 Coffee 9am Worship 10am 	22	23	24 Bible Study 10am	25 Newsletter Deadline For July/ August (no newsletter in August)	26	27
28 Coffee 9am Worship 10am	29	30				

OUR REDEEMER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
PO Box 440
New England, ND 58647

CHURCH STAFF

Interm Pastor: John VanHaneghan
Secretary: Laurie Monke
Music: Julie Opdahl
Janitor: Laurie Monke
Treasurer: Laurie Monke

name

