



**The Beloved Community of  
Intercession Episcopal and  
Redeemer Lutheran Churches**

**2018 Annual Report**

**Sunday, February 10, 2019**

**900 Brilowski Rd  
Stevens Point, WI 54481**

## Table of Contents

<b>Agenda .....</b>	<b>page 3</b>
<b>Minutes from Last Year's Meetings .....</b>	<b>page 4</b>
<b>Intercession.....</b>	<b>page 5</b>
<b>Redeemer .....</b>	<b>page 7</b>
<b>Pastor's Report .....</b>	<b>page 9</b>
<b>Buildings and Grounds.....</b>	<b>page 12</b>
<b>Education/Youth .....</b>	<b>page 13</b>
<b>Intercession's Wardens' Report.....</b>	<b>page 15</b>
<b>Redeemer's Board of Administration Report.....</b>	<b>page 17</b>
<b>Mission Action Team .....</b>	<b>page 18</b>
<b>Music .....</b>	<b>page 19</b>
<b>Outreach .....</b>	<b>page 20</b>
<b>Worship.....</b>	<b>page 21</b>
<b>Worship Ministers .....</b>	<b>page 22</b>
<b>Sacred Spaces .....</b>	<b>page 22</b>
<b>Intercession's Agenda and Election Information .....</b>	<b>page 23</b>
<b>Redeemer's Agenda .....</b>	<b>page 24</b>
<b>Redeemer's Leadership .....</b>	<b>page 25</b>
<b>Redeemer's 2018 Congregational Report.....</b>	<b>page 25</b>

**Annual Congregational Meeting**  
**Sunday, February 10, 2019**

**AGENDA**

- 1. Devotions- Led by Pastor Jane Johnson 11:30 a.m.**
  - 1a. Pastor's Report and Visioning**
- 2. Congregations separate for individual Annual Meetings**

# Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

Sunday, January 28, 2018

## AGENDA

### **1. Devotions- Led by Pastor Jane Johnson 11:30 a.m.**

#### **1a. Pastor's Report and Visioning**

- Dwelling in the word - Acts 16: 6-15  
Sample of thoughts of what was heard: “Paul talked to the women. He stayed at a woman’s house.”; “She was a true woman.”; “The Lord opened Lydia’s mind.”; “Perhaps there are specific geographical directions because it is not always the route we plan to take but the route the Lord expects us to take.” Pastor Jane then encouraged everyone to continue to dwell in the Word and keep the conversations & listening going.
- Things Pastor Jane is hearing and learning about from members of the congregations:
  - We are making room for differences and learning about/hearing each other.
  - We have an office staff that works together and we are blessed to have them!
  - We are building relationships. Ex was the Cabin Fever dinner last night; Wed night dinners, the Mission team, etc.
  - Sharing the responsibility for caring for the building more.
  - As we allow the Holy Spirit to lead us, even more connections, outreach and relationships (outside of our building) are growing and opportunities are being led to us.
  - There is caring for each other and growing within ourselves and we are taking this outside of our physical walls.
  - Loudly we are being called to help reimagining ‘WE’ and redefining our purpose in this world.
  - See the purple brochure Redefining WE: through Grace with Love Opportunities for Mission and Ministry at the Beloved Community: Intercession Episcopal and Redeemer Lutheran

**Congregations separate for individual Annual Meetings**

**Church of the Intercession**  
**Annual Meeting Notes**  
**January 28, 2018**

Presiding: Roseanne Bossenbroek, Junior Warden  
Present: 25

Meeting began about 11:45 a.m.

Bossenbroek began by summarizing the **Rector's Report** on 2017.

**Treasurer's Report** (Harry Rice)

Previous year, 2017, was a good year financially. Due to large individual bequest and sale of building, there is close to \$500,000 in the bank or investments. We did not withdraw DCT interest in 2017. Fundraisers made more than \$5,800. Only negative news is the decline in pledging members, due to transfers and deaths. We have a positive budget planned for 2018, with a possible surplus at the end of the year. We do budget to use DCT interest, and plan to raise at least \$4,000 through fundraising.

Notes on the partnership with Redeemer: We are splitting building and operational expenses 50/50, so \$16,170 is approximately our "rent." Intercession is budgeting all personnel and being reimbursed. Pledges are higher than anticipated, but they are still not high enough to cover Mother Jane's full salary and benefits, so the partnership has allowed for a full-time rector.

**Mission Action Team Report** (Meg Clabots)

Clabots summarized current activities and future ideas. They are looking for ways to build relationships within and between Intercession and Redeemer, as well as with the community at large. We are encouraged to find ways to intentionally interact with Redeemer members to develop deeper relationships.

**Elections**

Pat McVeigh and Roseanne Bossenbroeck have both agreed to stand for re-election. No nominations from the floor.

Motion for a unanimous ballot for Pat McVeigh for Senior Warden and Roseanne Bossenbroeck for Junior Warden. Ordens/McCabe. Carried.

For Diocesan Convention – nominations were for Harry Rice, Diane Rice, and Meg Clabots for delegates; Roseanne Bossenbroeck, Deb McCabe, and Murray Johnson for alternates.

Motion for unanimous ballot for above slate. Cusic/Frances. Carried.

Mother Jane mapped out changes in vestry going forward. It will be reduced in number by two, so the two leaving this year will not be replaced. Ron Otto and Marshall Cusic's terms will end in January 2019, so we will need to elect one for a two-year term and one for a three-year term. Deb McCabe's term ends in January 2020, so we will elect one member for a three-year term. From then on, one new member each year for a three-year term. The Treasurer and Secretary are appointed by Mother Jane and approved by vestry. Harry Rice and Kathryn Blakeman will continue in their roles for 2018.

## **Discussion**

1. Question was asked about how the Diocese sees our partnership arrangement. Mother Jane reported that the Bishop is excited. We are all working on reimagining church and the notion of the missional church. This partnership is helping people to think differently. The Synod and the Diocese are bringing Dwight Zscheile to speak and cohorts of churches are getting coaching on Reimagining Church.
2. Concern about those who have left. Mother Jane said that it's regrettable, but any change leads to shrinking at first as people move away from change. It's okay to reach out to those who have left.
3. When is agreement with Redeemer renewed? We will begin discussions on renewing the agreement next fall.
4. Mother Jane will apply for a sabbatical for summer of 2019. She is planning to propose travel to Canterbury, Israel, and Wittenburg to study roots of both faiths.

Meeting closed with prayer.

Adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Notes submitted by Kathryn Blakeman 2/26/18

**Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes  
Sunday, January 28, 2018**

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- Mari Nummelin shared about recent advocacy training that some members attended. There are several opportunities coming up in April to advocate for those in need.
- Crafticopia information: Moving Forward
  - \* How and why it started; where we are now
  - \* Annual profit is about \$3500
- Pastor Jane requested we will out the sticky notes with comments/ideas of what we see the Beloved Community engaging in in the future, etc. These were then collected.

**2. Approval of Congregational Meeting Minutes of January 29, 2017**

**Moved to approve minutes by Mary Louise Catura, 2nd by Kit Kiefer, Carried by voice vote**

**3. Passage of 2018 Governance Model- Please see separate attachment:**

2018 Redeemer Lutheran Church Governance Model

- 3.1 Question - How does this model fit with our recently submitted constitution? The Synod office is in support of what we are proposing. Both denominations recognize this is outside of the box and are supporting what we are doing.

**3.2 Diane Sands moved to accept the governance model as presented, Valerie LeGrande 2nd, Motion carried by voice vote.**

#### **4. Election of Officers, Board of Administration, Council Members (2 year terms) and Congregational Members of Joint Council/Vestry Governing Body (2 year terms-staggered)**

*President- (2-year term, expires January 2020)*

Member of the Congregation Council and the Board of Administration

Judi Cumley

*Treasurer (2-year term, expires January 2020)*

Member of the Congregation Council and the Board of Administration

Ann Kiefer

*Secretary (2-year term, expires January 2020)*

Member of the Congregation Council and the Board of Administration

Jackie Zuelke-Karch

*Congregational Member of Joint Governing Body (2-year term, expires January 2019)*

Member of the Joint Council/Vestry Governing Body

Gary Cumley

*Congregational Member of Joint Governing Body (2-year term, expires January 2019)*

Member of the Joint Council/Vestry Governing Body

Carol McCarrier

*Congregational Member of Joint Governing Body (2-year term, expires January 2020)*

Member of the Joint Council/Vestry Governing Body

Kendra Cychosz

**\*\* Motion: Move to accept slate of officers as listed above by Kit Kiefer, 2nd Mary Louise Catura/passed by voice vote.**

**\*\* Neil Laube moved to vote to accept the slate of officers as presented; 2nd by Gary Cumley, motion carried by voice vote.**

Other discussion \*\* Fellowship has been open since mid-year. We have addressed this by having it being organic and on an event by event activity. It is no longer on the council. This is true for financial secretary as well due to how it is happening through the office and treasurer. Education and Youth are no longer elected positions but are in need of leadership.

#### **5. Election of Representatives, Delegates & Committees**

2018 Assembly Delegates, May 18-19 2018. Oshkosh, WI (2)- East Central Synod of Wisconsin

Delegates: No nominations from the floor or volunteers. If you have an idea of someone, please share with the council.

2018 Conference Delegates (4)- Tomorrow River Conference, Bishop Mansholt speaker. Evening of Tuesday, February 13, 2018 (tentatively 6-8), location to be announced (Pastor Jane will drive)

Delegates: Judi Cumley, Gary Cumley, Ann Kiefer

**Motion to accept by Diane Sands, 2nd by Valerie LeGrande, passed by voice vote**

2018 Annual Meeting Delegates (2) Crossways Camping Ministries, Saturday, February 24, 2018, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Neenah, WI 9:30 am-1:00 pm

Delegates: No nominations from the floor or volunteers. If you have an idea of someone, please share with the council.

2018 Nominating Committee (3-5)

Nominating Committee members: No nominations from the floor or volunteers. If you have an idea of someone, please share with the council.

**6. Committee Reports - See written reports**

**7. Approval of 2018 Budget**

**Motion to approve the 2018 budget as presented by Kit Kiefer, 2nd by Diane Sands, Motion carried by voice vote**

**8. Closing Prayer - Lord's Prayer**

**Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Kit Kiefer, 2nd by Bruce Nummelin, carried by voice vote, 12:39 p.m.**

## Pastor's Report 2018

Submitted by Pastor Jane Johnson

Beloved: the scripture passage of Acts 16:6-15 is a passage that I read and listen to regularly. It is also a passage that I ask leadership and the Mission Action Team to “dwell in” quite often. It tells of the apostles being called and sent to do God’s work. In Acts, this work includes listening, seeing visions, going and being stopped, trying again, journeying, meeting folks in unexpected and unplanned places, going to where folks are gathered, sitting down with strangers, learning from others, and baptizing new believers.

I keep this passage in front of me--and in front of leaders--because this is what it means to be church. For a long time being church has often been limited to attending/holding worship services. And maybe learning opportunities. Now, don’t get me wrong: worship and learning (**gathering**) are central to who we are as disciples. But worship and learning are central so that we will **grow**: in faith, in trust, and in desire to **go** and be the Church. The Church is the Living Body of Christ who brings Good News of God’s Love to the world. After all, that is our vision statement here at the Beloved Community:

**We are a welcoming community of joy, worship, and compassion bringing God’s love to the world.**

This passage tells us that being church is a bit messy. It is experimenting and sometimes getting it right, but often not right (or not quite right) and needing to re-listen and reflect so that we can take the next step forward. This passage tells us that being church is not about remaining still or finding a plateau--but it is about moving, going, journeying--often into the unknown and the unplanned. Being church is about listening and having visions because this is how God leads us. It’s about learning from others (even about God) because we, as the Church, do not have all the answers.

We at the Beloved Community have said YES! to this way of being church by entering into this covenantal partnership. We said yes when both churches agreed to share one pastor. And now we are in our second year of the covenantal partnership between Intercession Episcopal and Redeemer Lutheran and sharing a pastor/priest, and it is time to listen and discern our next steps forward as the Beloved Community. But first, let’s look at some of what has happened here in 2018.

This fall our education team decided to have Holy Communion services once a month because for many of our families, Wednesday is their principal “church” day of the week. **The average attendance of the monthly Wednesday worship service is 56.** This service is geared toward the students with songs they can learn and remember, as well as teaching the liturgy: why we do what we do in Holy Communion. This is a high-energy service with kids of all ages taking part.

This year we have had some focus on growing relationships within the Beloved Community. We had a Cabin Fever Party in January as well as some “faith” dinners in spring and summer. Some of these dinners were members inviting others into their homes to get to know one another, and some of the dinners were gatherings at local restaurants for the same purpose. Growing in relationships will continue to be a focus for the Beloved Community in 2019.

I have been learning more and more about the Lutheran (ELCA) church as I have worked with the Synod in the Reimaging Church with our MAT and as I attended the Synod assembly in May and the Synod Theological Conference in October. Within the Episcopal Diocese, I serve on the Faithful Innovations Team (which is part of the CCV—Commission for Congregational Vitality) and I attended the Clergy Retreat in February, as well as the Diocesan Convention in October.

Part of the reality of this partnership is that it requires we change. We cannot learn how to be together in a new way without sacrificing part of who we have each been in the past. With change comes loss. An expected part of this reality is that both churches have also lost some members/regular attendees. Keeping in touch with folks as they meander away is part of the ministry of all of us. While they may still choose to attend elsewhere or attend

nowhere, we are called to keep communication open so we can learn from who we have been and grow into who God is calling us to be.

While finance is probably what brought both churches to this conversation of possibly partnering, we have all quickly learned God has something bigger in mind. And the reality is that this partnership has not solved all our financial struggles--at least not yet. Many families and individuals are dealing with their own financial struggles, and historically, people often pledge whatever they have pledged in the past. As we all know, expenses/costs do not do the same thing. Expenses don't plateau--they grow. Both churches have an income gap this year. Our budget is an expected "spending plan" balanced against an estimated income plan. We strive to be good stewards so that people want to invest in the Beloved Community and so people can trust that their investment is going toward God's work in the world. Every penny--whether it helps to heat the place or pay a musician or provide for the health and livelihood of a staff member or put food on someone's plate or put clean water in someone's bucket or help someone to work toward sustainable housing--every penny goes toward ministry. Sometimes people don't like to see much money in the "operational expenses" side of things, but the operational expense supports all the ministries that happen here, and because of what happens here, out in the world. We strive to hold down expenses without restricting the Holy Spirit and the ministry she is calling us to do. Beloved, your giving empowers us all to action for God's justice, love and mercy taking hold in our lives and the lives of all those our outreach hands touch. Since there is a gap, we will be taking a hard look at expenses and income again in September in order to determine if we need to make some changes.

One important thing we need to remember as we look at the budget: all the money that goes to Outreach is not found in our budgets. We have some pretty hefty figures beyond what you see in those budget lines:

In 2018, we helped others through:

The Good Samaritan fund (RLC): \$11,895\*\*

\*\*This fund has a generous benefactor

Rector's Discretionary Fund (IE): \$3088.14

Water Justice Buckets: \$1862

World Relief (ELCA and TEC): \$3315

Beloved: we are a generous people, who through worship, learning and mission, are focused on Jesus and the ongoing ministry of Jesus in the world around us. Well done!

While I have only been the pastor of Redeemer Lutheran since summer/fall of 2017, I have been the priest of Intercession Episcopal since June of 2011. It will be 8 years this June 1; a wonderful, challenging, and fruitful eight years. And, as you all know, we applied for a Lilly grant so that I could take a sabbatical. Unfortunately, we did not receive a grant. In August, once we learned that we were not going to get the grant, I asked the combined Leadership team to permit me to still take a sabbatical. Without the grant it means that the churches must come up with the funds for supply pastor/priest, and that I have to use my own funds for any travel and/or opportunities I do during Sabbatical. Leadership has voted to allow me to take a sabbatical (THANK YOU!), and Intercession will provide 70% of the related costs while Redeemer picks up the other 30%.

The plan I crafted for the grant will not be the same plan I utilize for an actual Sabbatical I will take June-August (official start and end date still to be determined). However, I will use the time (12 weeks) to further learn about Lutheranism, to study Scripture, to explore resources for joint Confirmation classes, and to pray and decompress. This will be a time of renewal and reflection for me that will enable me to return to the Beloved Community with fresh eyes, rejuvenated energy and a Spirit re-filled. I love the ministry here; I love our holy spaces; I love the community partnerships; I love our worship services with so much variety, beauty, and joy, but most of all, I love you---the people of the Beloved Community. In you, I experience Jesus and the love of God.

With a grateful heart,

Mother Jane/Pastor Jane

So here is what 2018 brought us in numbers:

**Average Attendance at Sunday Services:**

<b>Month</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>5pm</b>
January	26	73.6	4
February	20	70	6
March	24	72	13
April	29	98	7
May	31	92	6
	<b>9am-summer</b>		
June	89		
July	77		
August	83		
Sept. 2 and 9	81		
	<b>8am</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>5pm</b>
September	23	88	
October	19	78	7
November	19	84	7.5
December	24	101	5
		<b>Overall Average Sunday Attendance</b>	94.5

**Easter Services: 8:00 am-45**

**10:00 am-145**

**Christmas Eve Services: 4:30 pm-170**

**10:30 pm-48**

**Baptisms: Intercession: 2**

**Redeemer: 0 (but 4 coming up in early 2019)**

**New Members: Intercession: 6**

**Redeemer: 6**

**Marriages: 2 (1 in each church)**

**Confirmations: 5 (1 for Intercession and 4 Confirmations)**

## **Building and Grounds 2018 Summary**

Submitted by Lead- Gary Cumley January, 2018

The responsibility of Building and Grounds is to complete, supervise and/or arrange the maintenance of the inside and outside of our “Church Home.” As a congregation, we have to keep in mind that our budget needs to reflect the ongoing maintenance requirements that are needed to keep our “Church Home” in tiptop condition. One person can’t do it all! **I want to thank all of the volunteers who have stepped forward to help keep our “Church Home” looking good!** I’m always amazed of what was done last year to keep our “Church Home” in tiptop condition. I would especially like to thank Peter Gebhardt and Cory Firkus for always stepping forward when needed!

### **The following is a list of the maintenance that was completed during 2018:**

- Snow plowing contract was renewed for the year. Again, the Handicapped signage was moved to make the snow plowing easier and to prevent a mountain of snow that people might have to step over.
- Many “Snow Rangers” and “Lawn Rangers” have volunteered to help with the shoveling and lawn mowing.
- Lock boxes were placed on all of the thermostats to help keep people from adjusting the thermostats. If people need to turn up or lower the heat for meetings after church hours, a key can be found hanging on the kitchen wall by the telephone.
- We have entered into a Building Use contract with Winter Farmers’ Market Cooperative. They are responsible for setting up and taking down the tables as well as cleaning the floor. This has been a win-win situation for both organizations. The market is open every Saturday through March and it is well attended by community members.
- The following repairs were completed: the drinking fountain in the new section repaired, the front automatic doors repaired along with putting on new weather stripping, wiring in new addition which was causing plugs not to work was repaired (This was a challenging repair but it has been resolved.), a new plug was also installed for the new projector in the sanctuary, and two furnaces in the original church repaired.
- This year more people and organizations are inquiring and using our space than in previous years!
- The following yearly maintenance was completed: syphon system for the sprinkler system, fire alarm system, fire extinguishers, lawn mower, furnaces, and air conditioners.
- The sprinkler system for the lawn continues to be shut off as a cost cutting measure. We only turned on the sprinklers for the basil garden.
- Currently, fifteen windows have broken seals. All of these windows have been stained and moved into the first maintenance room. The challenge has been to find a contractor to install them. A contractor was contacted last spring but he never followed through. I have contacted another contractor and hopefully the windows will be replaced in the spring. The initial order for the replacement windows was made in April 2017, but not completed or resolved until October 2018.
- Andy Kiefer helped to hang Intercession’s wooden cross on the wall in the Narthex.
- Another sign stand was built and used by the Farmers’ Market. We used it to advertise the Beloved Communities Steak Fry this year, which was a major success for the Beloved Community.
- The base of one of the parking lot lights was repaired but continued to crack. For safety reasons, it was decided that the light pole needed to be removed. Cory Firkus and some men from Firkus Masonry removed the light pole. The base will be repaired in the spring.

## Education/Youth Committee Report

### 2018 Year End Summary of Education & Youth

#### Education and Youth Activities at a glance:

**Wednesday education 2017-2018 school year:** The Youth and Education teams were very busy this year! I'd like to thank all the teachers who have been teaching for multiple years. We'd also like to thank Danny Kiefer and Jordan Karch for joining the Education team during the 2017-2018 school year! The team of teachers for the 2017-18 school year included: 4K-1<sup>st</sup> grade – Kendra Cychosz, Kristin Cisewski, Stacy Zdroik, Jordan Karch; 2-4<sup>th</sup> – Erika Klauk, Renee Behnke, classroom assistant-Hannah Medo; 5-6<sup>th</sup> – Mari Nummelin, Bruce Nummelin, Lindsay Zimmerman, Danny Kiefer; Confirmation (grades 7-9) – Jane Johnson, Karen Rendall, Nathan Knitt, Meg and John Clabots. The weekly service and energy brought to our Wednesday evening classes is greatly appreciated!

The 2018-19 school year changed our set up slightly. All classes and teachers worked to focus on *faith formation* (versus specifically 'education'). We welcomed Lindsay Zimmerman as the education superintendent to assist director Jackie Zuelke-Karch with duties. Heidi Corcoran joined the team to assist leading the children grades 4K-3 in music twice a month. Grades were shifted slightly (4K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-8, 9). The change for grades 2 & 4 were made due to shifting numbers in class sizes and to allow for hands on learning at developmental levels. The split for grade 9 from 7 & 8 was to increase focus on understanding Christ and the role of church in life after Confirmation. We also had some mild teacher changes. Jordan Karch joined Erika Klauk for grades 2-3, Natalie Ketchum joined the 4K-1st grade team. Confirmation teachers for 7 & 8 continued to be Nathan Knitt, Meg and John Clabots. Pastor Jane and Jackie Zuelke-Karch combined the 9th graders with a group called YAYAs (Youth, Adults and Young Adults) with topics geared towards anyone in 9th grade and older. Topics included: a film study of Secondhand Lions, a two-night human trafficking discussion, baking for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Bronislava Church with discussion of the needs in our community and much more! Additionally, Pastor Jane lead all attendees in worship the first Wednesday of the month.

**May:** Confirmation: Five students were confirmed in May 2018: Intercession- Wynne Robinson; Redeemer- Emma Behnke, Natalie Ketchum, Dawson Eddy, Cameron McCarrier. During the 2017-18 school year, 4K-1<sup>st</sup> grade class averaged 3-4 students, 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> grades averaged 1-3 students, 5-6<sup>th</sup> grade averaged 6-7 students and there were approximately 15 students consistently attending confirmation classes. What a blessing to have so many families ensuring their children grow in their faith as well as Redeemer friendships!

In addition to our ongoing Wednesday evening education classes, members of the congregation organized adult Bible studies which were led by Pastor Jane.

During the year, our paid nursery supervisor was unable to continue in her role. John Rendall generously volunteered to cover most Sundays & Wednesday nights. When John was not available, other youth and families filled in.

**April 1:** Easter breakfast hosted and served by the youth and their families; free will donations accepted. Funds were used to support youth events.

**June 2:** Trigs brat fry to raise money for the ELCA Youth Gathering  
Lock-in - Movies were watched, games were played and lots of food was eaten. Jackie Karch chaperoned alone as only female students were in attendance. Pastor Jane also came to the Lock-in for a time.

**June 26-July 1:** ELCA Youth Gathering Houston TX July 2018: 7 Redeemer youth & 1 chaperone attended the gathering in conjunction with 2 youth and 2 chaperones from Faith Lutheran Church in Rosholt. In preparation for the trip, the two congregations met four separate times to learn about Houston, its poverty, the community, and more. Three of these meetings were held at the Beloved Community and one was held at Pizza Ranch. We flew to Texas from Milwaukee. Volunteer parent drivers took us and picked us up from Milwaukee. Students stayed in hotel rooms consisting of three youth per room and the chaperones each had their own room. The group saved money by purchasing breakfast and snacks at a local Walgreens rather than purchasing all food at the conference. Upon returning, the youth who attended presented pictures and shared stories at a Sunday service and Wednesday night service.

**June 30-Aug 2:** Vacation Bible School (VBS) – This 4 day (M-Th) event took place July 30-Aug 2. A big thank you to Trinity for directing it this year with a great deal of support from BC's member Kristin Cisewski! VBS is a huge outreach project as well as education for our own youth. Online registration was once again offered this year. While attendance was down somewhat compared to other years, this made each group a nice size. We were blessed with many youth leaders! The volunteer appreciation event was held in DuBay at the Ken and Rose Nelson home. Leaders were first given a pizza lunch at church then treated with swimming (including a water trampoline), fire pit supper, and ice cream at the Nelson's. Thank you to the youth who volunteered. Without them, this week could not happen! Also, a thank you to the members who gave special donations, assisted with adult leading, decorating, and shopping.

**Ongoing:** Potter, Pizza & Pondering - Meg and John Clabots organized multiple viewings of the Harry Potter movie for youth grades 6-12. These were well attended with close to 20 students in attendance on some days. Students engaged in plain fun that also tied in to how these movies are like our lives or how they can connect to our lives. Movie showings continue to be held Sundays after the late service, typically once a month. The Church provided pizza, youth and families donated snacks, dessert, and beverages.

**October:-** 1st (Annual?) Trunk or Treat Night Stevens Point scheduled trick or treating for Wednesday, October 31st. Therefore, the Beloved Community opened their trunks and filled them with treats for the neighborhood. We had about 9 vehicles, which lined up to meet and delight some of our tiniest, cutest and scariest neighbors. In addition, we had a potluck with chili and breads for those who chose to spend the evening with us. There is interest in determining how this event might be brought back in 2019.

It is the hope of the Education and Youth committees to continue to provide quality educational, enrichment and faith formation opportunities for learners of all ages as well as continue to strengthen the bonds growing between the youth. One of our goals is to look for opportunities to reach out to other youth in our community. Thank you to all the families and the members for your continued support through prayers, as well as offering of financial and physical support. Please feel free to share ideas and support for future events.

**December :**Children's presentation of the Christmas story: Lindsay Zimmerman & Heidi Corcoran organized and directed the Christmas program with significant support from Kendra Cychosz along with several other parents/members. Genna Cisewski also provided the congregation with a violin solo during centering. Thank you to all for helping the children showcase their talents and share their excitement.

Youth Christmas Bake Sale – Families and members donated various baked goods and a free will donations were accepted on the Sunday of the Children's Christmas Program. In addition, the remaining Butterbraids and pesto were sold. In addition to the sale, families provided individual serving sizes for refreshments. Thank you to Barb Bowers for taking care of the beverages on this day! These funds support youth events.

Jackie Zuelke-Karch  
Director of Education and Youth

## Intercession's Senior and Junior Wardens' Annual Report -2018

Submitted by Pat McVeigh and Roseanne Bossenbroek

Has it been one and a half years already since Intercession and Redeemer became the Beloved Community? Wow! We have learned so much, some through trial and error, other experiences were simply joy through both congregations' contributions and perseverance. Transition experts say that learning to do ministry together will take 18 – 24 months. This period of time is perfect for exploring our dreams for a viable future together. Intercession's Vestry and Redeemer's Council understand how important it is to be open to reactions to any change that might occur. This past year was a great opportunity for the Beloved Community leadership members to become better acquainted and to build trusting relationships. While many discussions take place each and every week with staff, leadership, and ministry heads, the two leadership groups meet formally once a month with Mother Jane to assess our challenges, discern our direction to living from the Christian values in the Gospel, and to count our many blessings.

**Thank you to the Beloved Community** for participating in our listening sessions, surveys, and open discussions. With your input, we are better able to jointly create a vision for our future. The vision will continue to develop in stages as the Spirit works within and around us. We will discern our new directions by testing them out, eliminating what doesn't work, and giving energy to those ideas with potential. It is exciting to see that we are evolving down of path of integration and cooperation.

Intercession's Vestry is the governing body of the Episcopal church. At its annual meeting, the congregation elects new members of what currently makes up our five-member Vestry team which includes Senior and Junior Wardens and Clerk. Responsibilities include:

- Set and refine the vision into which we are asking the congregation's investments of time, treasure and talent.
- Guidance and support to the budget, establishing an annual operating budget.
- Establish building and staffing policies and procedures.
- Guidance and planning of stewardship committees focusing on the annual stewardship campaign.
- Provide leadership for the church's long-range planning committees.
- Support the Diocesan Affairs - Regional, Diocesan, and National Church affairs.

Redeemer Lutheran's Council is made up of five leadership positions including President, Treasurer, and At-Large Council members. Since the formation of the Beloved Community in August 2017, we have combined many of our vital ministries which are led by the Pastor/Rector and combined leadership members. Paid staff report directly to the Pastor/Rector and receive support from both Vestry and Council members. **Jointly**, we have accomplished:

- Listening sessions and surveys – Results communicated – Decisions made
- Combined fundraisers with ministries benefitting from the proceeds.
- Combined laity ministers during worship services.
- Joint worship services the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month.
- Choir made up of both congregations.
- Updated sound system and Projector Equipment.
- New signage.
- While Gary Cumley is Beloved's 'buildings and maintenance' guru, we started to share in these responsibilities.
- Agreed to Mother Jane's sabbatical for the Summer of 2019.
- Updated media communication.

Mother Jane appreciates and loves the fact that each church already has a great story. She has taken time to listen to that story, learn about the community, their context, and the particular gifts of each congregation. She also realizes that sharing a pastor is an opportunity for the Beloved Community to reaffirm that our vitality is not about her: it is up to the congregations to do it themselves.

**Everyone** is invited to participate in the continued development of the Beloved Community. Do you have an idea to shape or better our future? Do you have time or talent? Just talk to anyone on the Vestry or Council about opportunities to serve.

We are proud to have served the Vestry as Senior and Junior Wardens for the past two to three years. We thank our outgoing members for their service; Ron Otto, Marshall Cusic, Roseanne Bossenbroek and Pat McVeigh. Please welcome, encourage and get to know the new members of the vestry following this year's election.

Pat McVeigh – Senior Warden

Roseanne Bossenbroek – Junior Warden

## **Redeemer Lutheran Church Board of Administration (BOA) Report**

*The mission of Redeemer Lutheran Church is to extend the Gospel through active discipleship, to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.  
Micah 6:8, Matthew 28: 18-20*

### 2018 BOA and Council Summary

Redeemer Lutheran Church congregation and leaders began to actively embrace the transition of welcoming the Episcopal Church of the Intercession into our shared building. We spent much of the year learning about each other, listening, compromising and loving one another.

The Board of Administration (BOA) found that we didn't need to meet as often as in the past. However, the RLC Council and Church of the Intercession Vestry met for monthly Joint Leadership meetings and a two-day Leadership retreat.

### 2018 Highlights

- Transferred all banking accounts so that both congregations hold funds at the same financial institution
- Authorized a program setup for a cooperative accounting system between the two congregations
- Celebrated Redeemer's 25-year Anniversary
- Developed a vision statement for the Beloved Community "*A welcoming community of joy, worship, and compassion, bringing God's love to the world*"
- Celebrated our first year together as the Beloved Community by inviting our neighbors to join us for a picnic
- Joined together in planning and successfully completing the Steak Feed; the proceeds to benefit those in need in the Stevens Point area community
- Approved a sabbatical for Pastor Jane in 2019
- Revised RLC Council position descriptions and updated building policies

This summary of BOA/Council actions during 2018 serves as a reminder to the congregation of the many changes that we made in the past year and continue to make as we grow in Christ.

Blessings to you, Redeemer Family as we follow God's path to extend the Gospel through active discipleship, to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

Judi Cumley  
Congregation President

## **Mission Action Team**

Submitted by BobbieJoy Amann

Mission Action Team (MAT) had a very active 2018, and we are preparing for lots of action in 2019.

Some of the areas of involvement were:

- Downtown Saturday morning breakfasts at Meade Park: 34 were held that served approximately 10-20 each week. They were suspended on August 25 and will resume under a new format, location and frequency once the 2019 MAT meets to discern our next steps.
- Campus LGBTQ Ministry: With the start of the academic year, we began a monthly community dinner with the Gender and Sexuality Alliance students at UWSP. Approximately 15-25 students attended each gathering for fellowship and a meal. These gatherings are scheduled out through May 2019.
- Pizza and Potter: Potter, Ponder and Pizza has watched four movies together this fall and winter. We meet from 11:30 – 3:00 pm and have 12-20 youth and adults come to the movies once a month. We watch the movie together and then talk about how it relates to our lives. So far we've discussed: Making Choices, Racism, Immigration, Understanding our Enemies, Friendship, Trust and so much more!
- Portage County Community Change Project: Members of the MAT have been participating in a monthly discussion/task force on how to alleviate the inter-related effects of drug addiction and lack of affordable housing. We also are discussing how to implement a living wage and how people can access to mental health care.
- Pastor Jane and BobbieJoy Amann have been donating time each week to the Franciscans Downtown gathering place which has become the day-time warming shelter for the homeless. We listen, pray and even administer sacraments upon request. Our service there keeps us in contact with our downtown friends to monitor their struggles as well as their progress each week. We offer help on a conditional basis where/when we feel that help is appropriate. We have helped quite a few people with housing, transportation, emergency expenses. Assistance ranged from coordinating hospice care, to bus transportation out of state, furniture and most importantly encouragement. Several cases turned out to be quite extreme examples of the range of needs we addressed.

Some of our goals for 2019:

- Encourage broader participation in, and awareness of, the work of the MAT among the members of the Beloved Community through announcements/sermons/discussion.
- Explore potential areas of joint ministry with the Wednesday Night 180 participants.
- Implementation of Laundry Love.
- Joint ministry with other community groups such as Evergreen Community Initiatives by hosting the Place of Peace meal at BC. (currently in an exploratory phase).
- Continued promotion of BC through Portage Country Business Council events and programs such as New Comers (Welcome Wagon).
- Additional venues and opportunities to practice Extending the Table Ministry.

BobbieJoy Amann  
Mission Action Team

## **2018 Annual Music Report**

Submitted by Heidi Corcoran

Music continues to be a source of joy and community collaboration at the Beloved Community. We are blessed to have so many talented musicians in our midst that help to enhance and lead worship on a regular basis. We continue to offer a number of different worship service styles to meet the needs of this diverse community.

At the 8:00 am service on the first, third, and fourth Sundays, we present a more traditional and formal service. The 10:00 am service on the first and third Sundays, by the Joyful Noise band, is a more contemporary, informal service. On the second Sunday of the month, we have one service that aims to blend the two styles and bring together all members of the community which has resulted in much connection and enjoyment. All services are grounded in the traditions of the Episcopal and ELCA churches. The Beloved Community also offers a 5:00 pm Contemplative Prayer service on Sundays evenings that uses Taizé and other meditative styles of music. Finally, Wednesdays 180° offer a worship experience on the first Wednesday of the month that is very kid-friendly in both message and music.

As mentioned above we have many talented musicians to thank for this level of musical diversity and activity. Kit Kiefer coordinates the music and musicians for Joyful Noise, the ranks of which include Amy Eddy, Dave Poffinbarger, Jb Battaglia, Danielle Coleman, Danielle Karch, Ann Kiefer, Valerie Le Grande, Mari Nummelin, John Clabots, and Chris Sands. In addition to the musicians of Joyful Noise, we also have Polly Adams, Barb Towey, Katie Wroblewski, Mari Nummelin, and Valerie Le Grande leading worship from the piano for various Sundays, Wednesdays, and other special services. On the second Sunday we are lucky to have a choir that rehearses at 9:00 am and then sings for the 10:00 am service. The choir participants have included Nan Chase, Patricia Gates, Barb Towey, Pam Corcoran, Roseanne Bossenbroek, Henry Marx, Valerie Le Grande, Mari Nummelin, Heidi Corcoran, Aaron Marx, Jenny Burton, and Kit Kiefer.

To help find music that both communities can fully embrace and participate, the Liturgy Guild meets on a regular basis to select hymns and songs for the upcoming Sundays. Members include Patricia Gates, Valerie Le Grande, Heidi Corcoran, Barb Bowers, Diane Sands, Carol McCarrier, and Kit Kiefer. At their meetings the Liturgy Guild goes through each upcoming Sunday and selects music that best fits both the sensibilities of scheduled musicians and the lectionary readings for the day.

The Beloved Community also aims to enhance the readings of the day and to help the congregation follow the order of service through the use of projected slides. This was previously part of Diane Sands' position and with her departure is now included within the duties of the Music Director, Heidi Corcoran. In order for the slides to be effectively used during the service, we are grateful to the Tech Team who volunteers to advance the slides throughout the service. Thank you to Diane Sands, Judi Cumley, Kendra Cychosz, Valerie Le Grande, Carol McCarrier, Rose Coleman, Tracy Walter, and Jordan Karch.

The merging of Redeemer and Intercession into the Beloved Community has revealed many challenges and opportunities that the congregation and worship teams continue to navigate. The resulting culture keeps its many worship contributors engaged, both creatively and interpersonally, and makes impressive use of the varied gifts and sensibilities represented within the community. Musical involvement continues to represent a true synthesis of the communities, completely reflecting the uniqueness and beauty of all their members.

Heidi Corcoran

Director of Music Ministry

# Outreach Committee Report

Submitted by Chair-Kendra Cychosz

Hello Beloved Community!

It's hard to believe we've already said goodbye to 2018 and hello to 2019. As we say goodbye to 2018 I can't help but feel grateful for this wonderful community that I belong to. The two congregations have opened their hearts, taken time, shared gifts with others in our own beloved community, in our Stevens Point Area community, and in our global community. Even when I'm not sure about how an outreach project will succeed you all are quick to lend a hand, donate your time, talents, and monies to get the job done. Thank you, thank you, thank you! As we look forward to 2019 I challenge you to keep thinking of those around you. How can we use the gifts we were given to share God's love and to walk in his way. Sometimes it's just the little things (or the things that we find little) like a hello, a smile, or a hug. I also challenge the two congregations to explore one another's outreach missions. While we both have the same ultimate goal, working together can only help us to help more people!! If your curious of how you can help or you have ideas, please let me know!! There are some pretty amazing things happening some that even go un noticed!

This year we continued to give our monthly benevolence to the ELCA as well as our conference dues to the Tomorrow Rive Conference. We also continued our collections weekly on Sunday mornings for Water Justice. This year we have raised \$1862.01.

While we did not host a Crafticopia event this year we still have monies earned to spend from various years. The Crafticopia team as met and really spent some time thinking about how we can use the money in the best way. What can we do to better our space that maybe our budget does not allow for? Be watching for some updates!

While we did not host Crafticopia, Redeemer decided to join forces with Intercession to host the annual steak feed. The event was a success and a learning experience for both parties! We are hopeful that we can take what we learned from our first joint fundraiser to make an even better event next year!! This year's earnings were split between the congregations and designated to outreach.

This year we were able to financially support: Crossways Ministries, ELCA Seminary Fund, Interfaith Food Pantry, Mobile Pantry, and Church of the Wilderness

Here are other highlights of what we have opened our hearts to donate:

- Nearly 50 Personal Care kits were collected for Lutheran World Relief.
- We Collected Diapers for United Ways No Child's Wet Behind
- ELCA World Hunger Collection during Lenten Soup Suppers
- Healthy Snacks and Soup for local food pantry
- School Supplies for Project Fresh Start
- Warm Winter Clothing for Operation Bootstrap
- Christmas Gifts for Local Families

The list doesn't stop here! So many of our members give of their time, talents, and monies to help those in need all year round within and outside of our Beloved Community Outreach opportunities! As we move into 2019 let's continue to be grateful for what we have and what we can share with others.

Happy 2019!!  
Kendra Cychosz

## Worship Committee Report

Submitted by Chair-Carol McCarrier

Greetings brothers and sisters in Christ,

The goal of the worship committee continues to be assisting the pastor in planning and providing worship services that glorify God while also making worship a significant faith-building experience. We seek to:

- Offer life application messages through word and music
- Involve lay leaders of all ages in as many aspects of worship as possible
- Regularly review the format and times by seeking congregational input

Follow up these reviews and make changes accordingly

- Be flexible to try new things and change things again if they aren't successful

To this end we made decisions through email or face-to-face meetings on the following items: Set schedules for special services; Surveyed congregation in August and November; Recognized need for staffed nursery and sent recommendations to council; Adopted recommendations for streamlining services.

We decided to continue our Sunday service times and styles as follows:

- **First, third and fourth Sundays:** 8:00 a.m. is a more formal service with hymns and piano; 10:00 a.m. is a more contemporary service led by our praise band, Joyful Noise, two Sundays a month; and a 5:00 p.m. which is a quiet, reflective service focusing on prayerful music and meditation.
- **Second Sunday:** a joint blended service at 10 a.m. with piano/choir/Second Sunday Singers

We added:

- **Fifth Sunday:** Saturday Sabbath Dinner Church ~ no Sunday worship service

Two items we hoped to accomplish in the past year will carry over to be goals for 2019:

- Record sermons and add to the website.
- Establish a unique format for the fourth Sunday of the month. One possibility suggested was more of a gospel type service; another was incorporating some of the congregation's favorite hymns into that service.

Redeemer's worship committee is made up of lay members Barb Bowers, Valerie LeGrande, Diane Sands, and Pastor Jane. We are joined by staff member Heidi Corcoran and Intercession representatives Patricia Gates and Diane Rice. I personally want to acknowledge and thank all of them, as well as all the lay volunteers from both congregations who help carry out the many tasks involved in putting together our worship services. We are always open to include more volunteers.

We welcome feedback as we continually strive to make worship a glory to God and a faith enriching experience for those in attendance.

Carol McCarrier

Redeemer Council Representative for Worship

## **Worship Ministers in 2018**

Submitted by Patricia Gates

Worship Ministers serve at our 8 am, 9 am (summer), and 10 am Sunday services. They may serve at other times, e.g. weddings, funerals, and during Holy Week.

The ministers serve the pastor and the worshipping community in many ways; without them, worship as we know it could not occur. The various duties include:

at 8 am: server, communion assistant, lector, intercessor, and usher/greeter.

at 10 am: prayer leader, lector, communion assistant, usher, greeter, and tech team.

Currently, we have 15 people who serve at the 8 am service and 33 who serve at the 10 am service. This includes the 8 people who serve on the tech team, two of whom serve together as one team on their assigned Sundays.

Each month, based upon their stated availability, the members are assigned their duties for the next month's worship services.

This ministry is always looking for people who would like to serve as a worship minister, in whatever capacities they are willing to serve. We are especially in need of ushers and tech teamers at the 10 am service. There is training available for all positions.

Patricia Gates

Administrative Assistant for Worship and Ministry

## **Sacred Spaces in 2018**

Submitted by Patricia Gates

The Worship ministry includes almost all the things necessary to prepare for worship at the Beloved Community. Part of this ministry is the Sacred Spaces Team. There are currently five people on the Team who work to decorate our Sanctuary and Prayer Room to enhance the beauty of worship. This has included making window curtains; removing and hanging the ceiling swags; decorating the spaces with furnishings, banners, pictures, flowers, and other items as the liturgical seasons change throughout the year. We would love to have more parishioners bring their creative ideas and hands-on work to our lovely sacred spaces.

Patricia Gates

Administrative Assistant for Worship and Ministry

## **Intercession Episcopal Annual Meeting Agenda Feb. 10, 2019**

- Elections of Diocesan Convention Delegates (need 3 + alternates)
- Vestry Elections ( Sr. Warden; Jr. Warden; two vestry members)
  - Senior Warden: Diane Petrovic-Rice
  - Junior Warden: Kathryn Blakeman
  - Vestry: Edgar (Gar) Francis and Sara Kawaski
- Treasurer's Report
- Election Results
- Closing Prayer and Adjournment

### **Biographies for Election**

NAME: Diane Petrovic-Rice

NUMBER OF YEARS IN PARISH: 35

POSITION NOMINATED FOR: Senior Warden

WHY DO YOU FEEL CALLED TO THIS POSITION?

I am not sure really. It may just be that God is pushing me out of my comfort zone [yet again] and asking me to trust Him.

WHAT STRENGTHS AND/OR SKILLS WILL YOU BRING TO THIS POSITION?

I guess my best strength is my belief in what we are attempting to do as a Beloved Community and that is to live into the statement that we are a “welcoming community of joy, worship and compassion bringing God’s love to the world”. I fully believe that we can be a church community who can truly make a difference in the world around us. Remember, all we need is faith the size of a mustard seed!

WHAT IS ONE OF YOUR DREAMS FOR THIS PARISH?

I would like to see each and every one of our parishioners become involved and EXCITED about doing mission work – whether it is right here in Stevens Point or in the wider world. Everyone is capable of helping in some way and I would love for each of us to find our place to use the skills and gifts we have been given by God.

**Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Annual Congregational Meeting  
Sunday, February 10, 2019**

**AGENDA**

- 1. Devotions- Led by Pastor Jane Johnson 11:30 a.m.**
  - 1a. Pastor's Report and Visioning**
- 2. Congregations separate for individual Annual Meetings**
- 3. Approval of Congregational Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2018**
- 4. Election of Officers, Board of Administration, Council Members (2 year terms) and Congregational Members of Joint Council/Vestry Governing Body (2 year terms-staggered)**
  - 4.1. *Vice-President- (2-year term, expires January 2021)*
    - 4.1.1. Member of the Joint Council/Vestry Governing Body and the Board of Administration
    - 4.1.2. Nancy Swanson
  - 4.2. *Council Secretary (2-year term, expires January 2021)*
    - 4.2.1. Member of the Congregation Council and the Board of Administration
    - 4.2.2. Erika Klauk
  - 4.3. *Congregational Member of Joint Governing Body (2-year term, expires January 2021)*
    - 4.3.1. Member of the Joint Council/Vestry Governing Body
    - 4.3.2. Gary Cumley (Supervisor of Building and Grounds)
  - 4.4. *At-Large Congregational Member of Joint Governing Body (2-year term, expires January 2021)*
    - 4.4.1. Member of the Joint Council/Vestry Governing Body
    - 4.4.2. Jason Studinski
- 5. Election of Representatives, Delegates & Committees**
  - 5.1. 2019 Synod Assembly Delegates (2), May 17 -18, 2019 Red Lion Paper Valley in Appleton, WI
    - 5.1.1. Delegates:
  - 5.2. 2019 Conference Delegates (4)- Tomorrow River Conference. Tuesday, February 12, 2019, ( 6-8 pm), Trinity Lutheran Church, Waupaca
    - 5.2.1. Delegates:
  - 5.3. 2019 Annual Meeting Delegates (2)- Crossways Camping Ministries, Saturday, March 2, 2019, (10:00 am-1:00 pm) St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Neenah, WI
    - 5.3.1. Delegates:
  - 5.4. 2019 Nominating Committee (3-5)
    - 5.4.1. Nominating Committee members:

Other officers of the church will continue their term of service until 2020 at which time their term expires.
- 6. Committee Reports - See written reports**
- 7. Approval of 2019 Budget**
- 8. Closing Prayer-**
- 9. Adjournment**

## 2018 Redeemer Leadership

### Board of Administration

Pastor	Pastor Jane Johnson
President (Chair)	Judi Cumley
Vice-President	Mary Jo Laube
Secretary	Jackie Zuelke-Karch
Treasurer	Ann Kiefer

### Church Council

Education	Lindsay Zimmerman
Fellowship	Open
Outreach	Kendra Cychosz
Property	Gary Cumley
Worship	Carol McCarrier
Youth	Jackie Zuelke-Karch

### Nominating Committee

None

### 2018 Synod Assembly Representatives

Valerie Le Grande  
Tom Buchholz

### 2018 Tomorrow River Conference Assembly Voting

#### Delegate

Gary Cumley  
Judi Cumley  
Ann Kiefer

### 2018 Crossways Camping Annual Meeting Delegates

## Redeemer Lutheran Church

### 2018 Congregational/Parochial Report

#### **New Members**

John and Carol Poffinbarger  
Nancy Swanson  
Justin Rohde  
Alyssa Borton  
Larry Kind

#### **Weddings**

#### **Baptisms**

Emma Mary Karpinski Haberman

#### **First Communion**

#### **Confirmation**

Emma Behnke  
Dawson Eddy  
Natalie Ketchum  
Cameron McCarrier

#### **Deaths**

#### **Transfers Out**

Bigback Family

**Average Sunday Attendance: 95**

**Easter Attendance: 190**

**Christmas Attendance: 218**