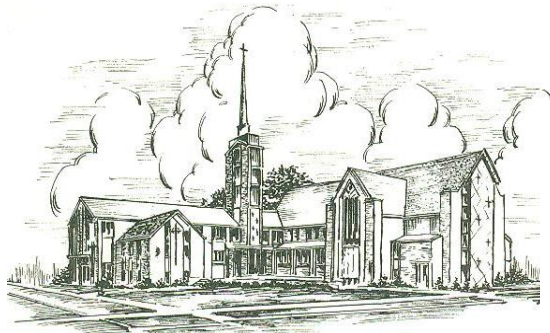


# Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church News



## February

## 2026

800 10<sup>th</sup> Street South  
Benson, MN 56215  
320-843-3151  
[orlcstaf@hotmail.com](mailto:orlcstaf@hotmail.com)

Office Hours:  
Mon. – Fri. / 9:00 – 4:30

Volume 60 – Number 2


### **Sundays at Our Redeemer's:**


9:00 a.m. – Worship  
10:00 a.m. – Sunday School

### **Worship on Wednesday:**

5:30 p.m. – Meal  
6:00 p.m. – Worship  
\* No WOW in Summer \* Different meal & worship times during Lent.

 11:00 a.m. - Listen to our week delayed Sunday worship

 [www.our-redeemers.com](http://www.our-redeemers.com)

 Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church (ELCA)

 Our Redeemers Lutheran

### **Our Redeemer's Staff:**

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*Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)*

It's February, the month of Valentines and heart-shaped boxes of candy...so what else is a pastor to write about in the newsletter but love? Thanks to our culture commercialization of Valentine's Day, love is everywhere. Love is all around us! Is it really, though? I mean, sure, our culture is highly skilled in and dedicated to promoting romance. Yet what if you are single? I read about someone who had a "Bleeding Hearts" party for singles where we drank pink cocktails and ate good food together. While others were keeping their dinner reservations, dressing up and walking hand in hand.

Another traveled downtown to buy a pair of nice yoga pants. The store was empty, except for a few salespeople who looked a little the worse for wear. The person who rang up and folded the splurge purchase with care said, "When I get off work, I'm just going home." "I don't have anybody." "You have yourself," looking him in the eye. "You're a person." They spoke those words out loud because they needed to hear them too. They needed to hear them as they went home and changed into comfy new pants and put on a movie. Maybe sometimes you forget how much you are loved by Jesus? I know I do.

But while romance is as abundant as ever, it seems that love is a different story. And at least in my opinion, it seems love is much harder to come by in the public eye these days. Violence always leads off the nightly news, and public discourse has become hostile to the extent that political differences have driven wedges between families and friends. But as people united in Christ, we are called by God to love others even if it's not the most popular thing to do. Fortunately, the Bible is a great resource to help us do this! One of the best descriptions of love in the Bible was written by the Apostle Paul in his first letter to the Corinthian church. Familiar as they are often read at weddings. Despite that common use, though, the consequences of the kind of love described in 1 Corinthians 13 are wide-ranging. Loving with this sort of patience and gentleness invites others into our lives and provides intimate ground for relationships to grow. Strangers whom we may at first stereotype into a category become individual people we truly see, know, and appreciate. Love like Paul describes can bring down the walls of fear and conflict that seem to be so effective at separating people right now.

## Pastor's Page Continued



This is the kind of love God calls us to offer to the world not only this February or this Valentine's Day, but every day. So, I invite all of us to let God's love for us in Jesus Christ be the Valentine that we offer to everyone. Join us on February 18 Ash Wednesday as we begin Lent and celebrate God's amazing love for us.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade First Communion

#### Important dates for your calendar:

<u>Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup></u>	Make Chalice during Sunday School Hour
<u>Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup></u>	6:00 p.m. – Chalice make-up date
<u>Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup></u>	4:00-7:00 p.m. – Communion Instruction (students & parents in Fellowship Hall) Meal provided
<u>Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup></u>	(Palm Sunday) Making Communion Bread during Sunday School Hour
<u>Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup></u>	5:30 p.m. – (Maundy Thursday) Family Banquet - Immediate Family, Grandparents, Godparents are invited to the banquet - 4th Grade families will set-up, serve, and clean-up or other arrangements will be made. -Need RSVP for meal by March 21 <sup>st</sup> . Email <a href="mailto:pastorzane1@gmail.com">pastorzane1@gmail.com</a>
<u>Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup></u>	7:00 p.m. – (Maundy Thursday) First Communion Service/Worship

### 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> Grade February Class Schedule

(6:45 - 7:45 p.m.)

- February 4<sup>th</sup>** – WOW Worship @ 6:00 p.m. (Class focus: Communication Skills)
- February 11<sup>th</sup>** – WOW Worship @ 6:00 p.m. (Class focus: Relaxing in God's Word)
- February 18<sup>th</sup>** – Attend Ash Wednesday Worship @ 7:00 p.m. in Sanctuary
- February 25<sup>th</sup>** – Attend Lenten Worship @ 7:00 p.m. in Sanctuary





### Birthday Celebration for Otto "Butch" Puchalski

Join us in celebrating Otto "Butch" Puchalski's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday on February 22<sup>nd</sup> during coffee hour (10:00 a.m.) following Sunday worship! The Puchalski family will be serving coffee and treats!



### Annual Reports /Annual Meeting

The Annual Reports are due to the church office by February 11<sup>th</sup> so that they may be included in the Annual Report Booklets. The Annual Meeting will be held on March 1<sup>st</sup> following worship. Please plan to attend!



### Giving Statements

2025 giving statements are available! If you would like a copy, please request your copy by emailing [orlcstaf@hotmail.com](mailto:orlcstaf@hotmail.com) or calling the church office at 320-843-3151, we can mail yours if requested!

### Women's Bible Study

You are welcome to join the Women's Bible Study on the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Please call Laree Breen (320-815-8621) or Ginny Backman (320-314-2438) for more information.



### "The Chosen" Bible Study

The next Bible Study is on February 10<sup>th</sup> (second Tuesday of the month), starting at 9 a.m. with treats. Come and join us!

### Kids of the Kingdom February Birthdays

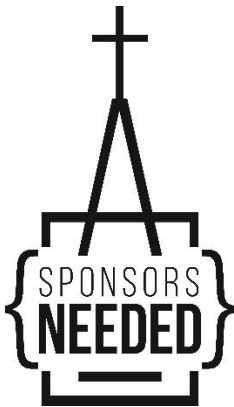
2/1	Justine Syverson	2/18	Phillip Anderson
2/2	Trenton Enstad	2/21	Reece Lundebrek
2/2	Easton Goff	2/22	Larken Tosel
2/9	Presley Miller	2/23	Rhetta Amundson
2/12	Lincoln Landmark	2/25	Kimberlynn Pownell
2/14	Addy Robison	2/25	Ryan Beyer
2/15	Jethro Claussen	2/26	Aseer Cournoyea
2/16	Audrey Hanson	2/27	Olivia Staton
2/17	Tara Beyer	2/28	Chloe Naig



## We Gratefully Acknowledge



- \$40 to the General Fund in memory of Bonnie Muller (twin sister of Betty Cronen), given by Steve & Laurie Mortenson and Chad & Cindy Connelly.
- \$1,056.61 to the General Fund in memory of Marvin Iverson and brother, Richard Toutge, given by Darlene Iverson.
- \$200 to the Boiler Project in memory of Harvey Hoffman on their 73<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary on January 4<sup>th</sup>, given by Marlys Hoffman.
- \$500 to the Cemetery Fund in memory of loved ones, given anonymously.



## Options to Support our Media Ministries:

### Video Broadcast:

If you would like to sponsor a video broadcast in honor of, in memory of, in appreciation of, or in celebration of a loved one, please call or email the church office.

### Video:

Cost: \$25

April – 19

March – 22

May – 3, 10, 24

## Video Broadcasts

**February 1:** In memory of our son-in-law, Patrick Quint, who would have turned 49 on January 18<sup>th</sup>, given by Grant & Hege Herfindahl.

**February 8:** In honor of my dad, Steven Ferry (Birthday: January 27<sup>th</sup>), given by Sonja, Micah and Sydney Schwiderski.

**February 15:** In memory of my aunt, Lorraine Frank (Birthday: February 14<sup>th</sup>), given by her niece, Donna Tatge.

**February 22:** In memory of Alvin & Myrt Christenson (Anniversary Date: March 1<sup>st</sup>), given by daughters: Janice, Dianne and Susan.



## Our Redeemer's Milestones

**Bereaved:** Rev. Lyle Rich, former pastor at Our Redeemer's, passed away on January 8<sup>th</sup> at the age of 93 in Menomonie, WI. Rev. Rich served at Our Redeemer's from 1976-1994. You will find the obituary for Rev. Rich at [Olsonfuneral.com](http://Olsonfuneral.com)

**Baptisms:** Maxine James Molden, Noelle Jean Sonnabend

**Marriages:** Jeremy Michaelson & Melissa Katzenmeyer



**For Healing and Strength**

Barb Razink (sister of Otto "Butch" Puchalski), Rick Horecka, Rick Schaaf, Rodney Kohout (son of Mary Uhden), Bobby Matthies (grandfather of Vanessa Pryne), Shirley Schueler (sister of Diane Loen & Gary Svingen), Claire Kubik (close friend of Mike & Ann Forsberg), Neil Ness (nephew of Sharon Ness), Lavon Lund, Lynette Bonnema and Linda Holland (daughters of Dorothy Williams), Pastor Dale Degner, Kae Roebing (daughter of Sharon Ness), Deb Anderson, Eryn Patton (relative of Helen & Jim Norstedt).



**Boiler Project Update**

To repair the boilers at the Church will cost around \$65,000. The Sonsteng Foundation has graciously granted us \$25,000 for the project. From now until March 31<sup>st</sup> the Our Redeemer's Trust Fund will match every donation given towards this project up to \$10,000. Please memo any gifts towards this project as "Boiler Project." Thank You!



**ORLC Elevator Project**

If you would like to make a contribution to the line of credit established with the State Bank of Danvers for this project, please make check out to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church with the memo "Elevator Project." Thank you! -ORLC Property Board



*Souper Bowl Sunday*

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8TH  
11:00 - 1:00

ENTER YOUR SOUP INTO OUR ANNUAL SOUP CONTEST!

PLEASE CONTACT AINSLEY OR MATTHEW IF INTERESTED.  
OURREDEEMERYOUTH@GMAIL.COM

DON'T HAVE A FAVORITE SOUP RECIPE? WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR DESERT DONATIONS!



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## ORLC Council Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2025

**Present:** Linda Wall, Sarah Jaeger, Mike Forsberg, Erick Hedman, Jessica Schwendemann, Dave Vollan, Sonja Schwiderski and Pastor Zane Anderson

**Devotion:** Mike

Meeting was called to order at 5:57 pm by Sarah.

**Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Jessica and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sonja to accept the consent agenda. Motion passed.

**Secretary's Report** – as noted, see attached. **Treasurer's Report** – as noted, see attached. Still noted to contribute to the General fund for offering. After the deposit this week expenses will be covered. We will be \$3000 short for next week depending on upcoming offerings. \$4500 is due on autopay for upcoming bills.

**Pastor's Report:** The Stewardship board has noted that there are approximately 15 new members that are taking part in the one-day class and then will be welcomed during the November 23<sup>rd</sup> service. The old sound system that is no longer useful to the church has been donated to the Lake Hazel church for use. They are a sister congregation and was very grateful that they could have it. Since Pastor Zane will be going on Medicare next year instead of private insurance this will save the church a large amount because of the reduced premiums.

**Board Reports:** Nothing new to report unless noted below.

**Youth-** The Fall Festival raised \$130 to use for the youth fund on their mission trip to Boulder Colorado this summer. Registrations are due November 24. There were 15 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders that attended the 2nd God Squad. They are getting a lot of help from some of the older kids which has been welcomed. The December God Squad will have a Christmas gift exchange and kids are asked to bring \$5 gifts for the exchange. They will be having their Countdown to Christmas on the Sunday before the Christmas program. This will be held before the long final program practice. Thoughts on sharing VBS with another church will be discussed in the next few months.

**Outreach-** The Coat Closet was a success. It was able to provide much needed winter clothing to the community.

**Property Board** – The elevator has been installed for one year on December 1<sup>st</sup> which means the warranty will expire. Otis is the company that installed the elevator and has a service contract that is comparable with our last contract. The quarterly cost is \$155. This has only increased by \$5 from last year with an autorenewal after five years. Linda made a motion to renew the maintenance contract with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Sonja, the motion was passed unanimously. Casey Thorson has been hired for this year's snow removal of the parking lot and Jeremy Abrego will continue to clean the sidewalks. One of the boilers have quit so discussions on how the church will move forward will be decided this week. With cold weather coming a new boiler will be needed.

**Nominating Committee** – they are busy working on finding people to fill the openings.

**Old Business:** Ideas on how to keep the congregation engaged.

**New Business:** Minnesota paid leave program will be in effect. The church has voted to pay 4.4% and the employee to also pay 4.4%. Hoping we can lock in at 7.9%. A budget committee was set up to discuss upcoming changes that will be needed to move forward for the 2026 proposed budget. Linda, Sarah and Erick volunteered to fulfill this committee.

**December Devotion:** Jessica

**Next Meeting:** Monday December 15, @ 6:00 pm

Erick made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dave 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm

Respectfully submitted by Sonja Schwiderski

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## ORLC Council Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2025

**Present:** Sarah Jaeger, Erick Hedman, Jessica Schwendemann, Dave Vollan, Sonja Schwiderski and Pastor Zane Anderson

**Absent:** Linda Wall, Mike Forsberg

**Devotion:** Sonja

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Sarah.

**Consent Agenda:** No Quorum

**Secretary's Report** – as noted, see attached.

**Treasurer's Report** – as noted, see attached. Still noted to contribute to the General fund for offering.

**Pastor's Report:** The Stewardship board has noted that they are making good effort withing the group. We received a Thank You from Lake Hazel for the sound system donation and received a Thank You from some of the families that received the Care Packages for their kids. The "Blue Christmas Service" will be held at Trinity Church on 12/21/25 at 4 pm for those that are experiencing grief during this holiday season. The photo directory is moving along and receiving the information and photos needed for the directory. Outreach board is doing great. The new paid leave act that was passed was discussed, ORLC has employees that could possibly use this. Since we are a small employer of less than ten employees, we may be able to do the 0.66 instead of 0.88. We have decided that we would pay 0.44 as an employer and the employee would pay 0.22. We are still navigating through the rules with CDS to move forward.

**Board Reports:** Nothing new to report unless noted below.

**Personnel Committee** – a 2.5% increase will be given for 2026. Some of this will be recouped with Pastor Zane and Kristi going on Medicare in 2026.

**Youth-** Summer VBS will be scheduled for 7/14-23 and Luther Crest will be used again this year. God Squad will be having gift exchange on the 15<sup>th</sup> for grades 4-6. There has not been enough interest in the Boulder, CO trip this summer so they will not be attending. There is a Band Trip this summer as well so that may be why interest is low. They are looking into taking a day trip to the cities for "Feed the Hungry" and then having a fun activity. The Christmas program went well. The Sunday School teachers put a lot of work into organizing which is appreciated. The next God Squad will be 1/7/25.

**Nominating Committee** – they are busy working on finding people to fill the openings. Natasha Mortenson has joined the Education Board, Tony Hilleren and Holly Rodahl have joined the council for the opening positions.

**Old Business:** Ideas on how to keep the congregation engaged. Filling the open spots on the different boards.

**New Business:** A proposal for the youth director position will be discussed before the January meeting. The Annual meeting will be scheduled for February 22 (*changed to March 1<sup>st</sup>*). All board reports need to be completed by then.

**January Devotion:** Jessica

**Next Meeting:** Monday January 12, @ 6:00 pm      Meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm

Respectfully submitted by Sonja Schwiderski

## **Our Redeemer's Women Purpose Statement**

*As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. We commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our calling, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in our church, the society and the world.*



## **ORW Information**

The ORW meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Café. All are welcome to attend! There are 2 board spots available this year. We are in need of someone for Mission Growth and for Mission Action Secretary. Please let us know if you are interested!

## **Our Redeemer's Women**

Well, one month down already in the New Year. Lots have already happened. We had our ORW Annual Meeting on January 11, 2026. Our new officers were installed. Our new officers include Ginny Backman as Assistant Treasurer, Val Alsaker as Secretary and Doris Loen has taken the Treasurer position.

We also discussed our Annual Budget for ORW. The budget was approved. We discussed changing our missions. We decided that 30% to world missions and 70% to local missions. All people in attendance were in favor of those missions. They will appear in our new ORW handbook. When we researched our previous missions, we discovered that the Japan Missionary was not receiving our donation. So, we changed our mission to other Global missions. It was brought up to do further research, as a member has received emails thanking us for our donation from Our Redeemer's Church.

We have many events that support our missions. These events include: our Spring Luncheon, Fall Produce, Bake & Craft Sale, the Smorgasbord, Advent Luncheon & Quilt Raffle. Other services include funeral functions and our Sunday Coffee Hour. Through our Coffee Hour donations, we have donated to the Elevator Project. This year, we will donate towards the repair of the boilers and other church projects.

We're in the process of getting tickets for the Quilt Raffle. Please feel free to volunteer to sell tickets. The Quilt will be given away at the Spring Luncheon. Contact any board member for information on the Quilt Raffle tickets.

We had an awesome year in 2025. Let's do it again in 2026. I want to thank all who volunteer in our mission to help others. We couldn't do it without you.

The ORW handbooks are included in this newsletter. Make sure you look it over, as there has been some changes. Please feel free to contact board members with any questions.

Kathy Jenner, Board President

"Love One Another"





FEBRUARY	1	8	15	22
<b>Projector Operator</b>	Sara Erdman	Donna Tatge	Sue Hess	Sue Hess
<b>Communion Servers</b>	No Communion	×	TBD TBD TBD	×
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Ginny Backman	Ben Mooberry	Ron Hanson	TBD
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Lori Hawley & Deb Selk <i>(Boiler Project)</i>	Annette Pfeifer & Wendi Razink <i>(Boiler Project)</i>	Grant & Hege Herfindahl <i>(Boiler Project)</i>	Otto "Butch" Puchalski Family
<b>Acolyte</b>	Declan DeToy	Camdon Thompson	Christian Zehringer	Kinley Jaeger

### ASH WEDNESDAY (18<sup>th</sup>) VOLUNTEERS

Projector Operator: Kim Ulland  
 Lay Reader: TBD  
 Communion Servers: TBD, TBD, TBD

### USHERS

Ron Hanson, Bruce Holgate, Mark Kettelkamp, Paul Gandrud, Robert Erdman Jr.

### ALTAR GUILD

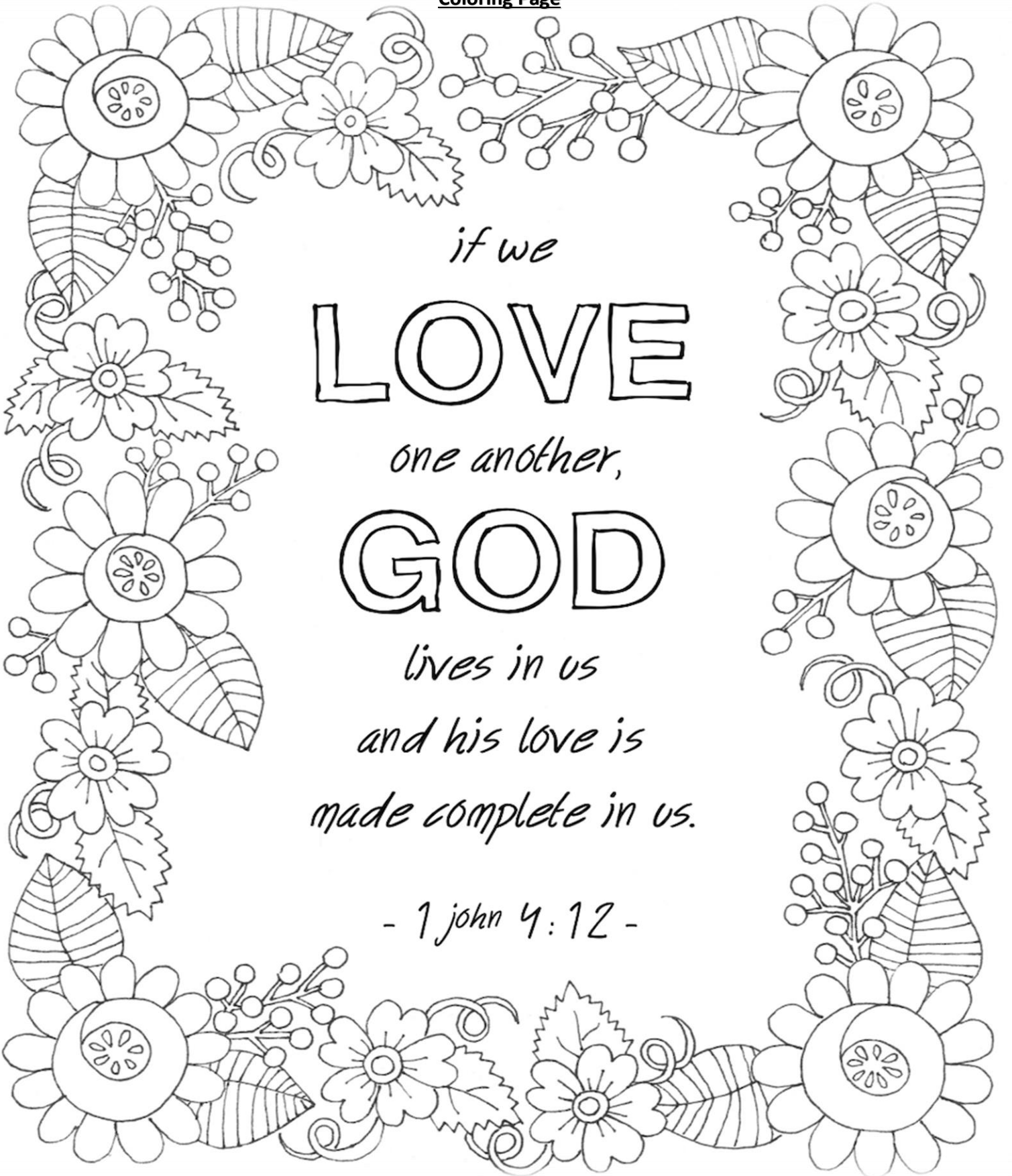
Dianne Doscher, Sandy Bernardy, Renee Jensen, Cheryl McGeary, Kim Ulland

### WOW MEAL VOLUNTEERS

12/17 – Anderson Family	1/14 – Sue Hess & Laree Breen	2/4 – Rich & Kayla Syltie
1/7 – Linda Wall & Heather Giese	1/28 – Sue Hess & Laree Breen	2/11 – Heidi Beyer & Desi Beyer



Coloring Page



*if we*

LOVE

*one another,*

GOD

*lives in us*

*and his love is*

*made complete in us.*

*- 1 john 4:12 -*

# February 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<b>1</b> 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Hour/SS	<b>2</b> 9:00 FFF 6:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>3</b> 1:00 Knitting (Library)	<b>4</b> 9:00 FFF / Staff / Quilting 3:30 Joyful Noise 4:30 God Squad 5:00 Celebration Ringers 5:30 Meal / 6:00 WOW 6:30 Choir 6:45 Confirmation	<b>5</b> 1:00 Knitting (Library)	<b>6</b> 9:00 FFF	<b>7</b> 2:00 Fellowship Café Rental <b>CHURCH RENTAL</b>	
<b>8</b> 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Hour/SS 10:45 Souper Bowl Sunday <b>BAPTISM</b>	<b>9</b> 9:00 FFF 6:00 Council Meeting	<b>10</b> 9:00 Bible Study 1:00 Knitting (Library)	<b>11</b> 9:00 FFF / Staff / Quilting 3:00 Joyful Noise 5:00 Celebration Ringers 5:30 Meal / 6:00 WOW 6:30 Choir 6:45 Confirmation <b>Confirmation WOW</b>	<b>12</b> 1:00 Knitting (Library)	<b>13</b> 9:00 FFF	<b>14</b> Brynlee Nissen & Bennett Nelson 11:00 Fellowship Hall Rental <b>BAPTISMS</b>	
<b>15</b> 9:00 Worship w/ Comm. 10:00 Coffee Hour <b>BAPTISM</b>	<b>16</b> 9:00 FFF	<b>17</b> 1:00 Knitting (Library)	<b>18</b> 9:00 FFF / Staff / Quilting 7:00 Ash Wednesday Worship <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>19</b> 10:30 Scandi Haven Communion 1:00 Knitting (Library)	<b>20</b> 9:00 FFF	<b>21</b>	
<b>22</b> 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Hour/SS <b>BAPTISM</b>	<b>23</b> 9:00 FFF	<b>24</b> 1:00 Knitting (Library)	<b>25</b> 9:00 FFF / Staff / Quilting 3:00 Joyful Noise 5:00 Celebration Ringers 5:00 ORW Meeting 6:15 Choir 7:00 Lenten Worship	<b>26</b> 1:00 Knitting (Library)	<b>27</b> 9:00 FFF	<b>28</b>	
<b>1</b> Baptism of Sutton DeHaan	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<p>This Month's Calendar is subject to change. Please watch the bulletin/news for updates or changes. Thank You!</p>					

**Our Redeemer's  
Lutheran Church**  
800 – 10<sup>th</sup> Street South  
Benson MN 56215  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**God is  
LOVE.**



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# February

## **IMPORTANT DATES:**

February 8<sup>th</sup>

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Souper Bowl Sunday

February 18<sup>th</sup>

7:00 p.m. – Ash Wednesday Worship



**Love one  
another.**

1 JOHN 4:7