

Redeemer REVIEW

100th Anniversary
Commemoration
Edition



REDEEMER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD CHICO, CALIFORNIA NOV/DEC 2025 VOL. 39 No. 06

from the Pastor...

Rev. Brennan DeForest

Dear Saints of Redeemer,

Throughout this year in these newsletter articles I've written about why I do what I do regarding elements and actions in our worship services, and invited you to make them part of your worship practices. As I've explained since the January/February issue, these things are considered *adiaphora*, "things indifferent," neither commanded nor rejected by God's Word. But hopefully from these articles, you've been able to see that I do certain *adiaphora* to remind you (or remind myself) of Jesus Christ crucified and to worship and give thanks to God not just with my words but my actions as well. That's why I chose to write about these things this year and invited you to consider them for your own worship life. But again, they are *adiaphora*, so how you worship and give thanks to God is up to you. And as far as reminding you of Jesus Christ crucified, I will continue doing that in my sermons regularly, and the Divine Service will continue doing that in and of itself weekly.

Now, the *adiaphora* we've looked at this year have fallen under different categories. Making the sign of the cross, kneeling, bowing, music, table manners at the Lord's Supper. Yes, we've seemingly covered the extent of the Divine Service. But what about those things that didn't neatly fit under one of the previous categories? Like, we discussed how and when to make the sign of the cross personally, but perhaps you've wondered why I hold my hand a certain way when I make the sign of the cross to the congregation, say during the Invocation, Absolution, Dismissal from Communion, or Benediction? My fingers are bent, all in different directions. And my fingers are bent in such a way so that you can perhaps make out the letters ι, ς, χ, ζ, which are the Greek letters that start and end the words "Jesus Christ." (In many icons of Jesus Christ, for example, you may find Him holding His hand just as I try to hold my hand.) Thus, when I make the sign of the cross to you, I do so also signing you with the name of Jesus



Christ, putting our Savior's name upon you.

Or, after announcing the Gospel reading, I make a small cross upon my forehead, my mouth, and my heart. This action is a way to enact our Lord's words from Deuteronomy chapter 6. **"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ You shall love the**

LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes." And thus by that small cross, I am reminded that God's Word, particularly the stories and words of Jesus Christ in the Gospels, should fill my mind and be the content of my thoughts, should be the content of my speech, and should be the guide for my heart and my whole life. You too can do the same, tracing a small cross on your forehead, mouth, and heart, every time I announce the Gospel reading.

And finally, before every sermon I preach (so long as there is the ability beforehand), I kneel at the railing and, as I'm sure you can guess, I say a prayer. But what is the content of that prayer, you may wonder? To be honest, it is the same prayer each and every time. I always thank God for the gift of His Holy Spirit who guided my preparation of the sermon during the past week. I also ask God to bless the proclamation of that sermon, that the Holy Spirit would take the words of the sermon and make them edifying and faith-strengthening in all who hear the words. I ask for future guidance of the Holy Spirit, that I would faithfully carry out my call as your pastor. And I pray the final verse of Psalm 19, David's psalm extolling the law of the Lord, changing the words slightly to fit our collective context. **"Let the words of my mouth**

Continued on page 4

DIGITAL DAILY DEVOTIONS

Lutheran Hour Ministries: <https://www.lhm.org/dailydevotions>

Higher Things: <https://higherthings.org/content/#reflections>

Portals of Prayer: <https://www.l.cph.org/portals/default.aspx>

LUTHERAN PUBLIC RADIO

Listen to good Lutheran radio programs at Lutheran Public Radio, Issues Etc., KFUO, St. Louis. 94.3 The Bridge.

PASTOR'S SERMONS

KKXX.net - Tunein.com KKXX 930 AM, 103.9 FM
Saturday & Sunday 1:00 & 5:00 PM

THE LUTHERAN HOUR
KKXX.net - Tunein.com KKXX 930 AM, 103.9 FM
Saturday & Sunday 1:30 PM

BIBLE STUDIES



Children's Sunday School is 8:45 a.m.
Adult Sunday Bible class is 8:45 a.m.
Thursday Bible Study is 9:30 a.m.

REDEEMER FINANCIAL SUMMARY

January 1 - September, 2025

CHURCH INCOME/EXPENSE – ACTUAL:

CREDIT CARD POINTS EARNED	450.00
OFFERING INCOME	123,084.46
SCHOOL LEASE (5%) GENERAL FUND	3,437.24
REDEEMER HOUSE INCOME	14,850.00
FACILITY USE INCOME	760.00
INTEREST INCOME	<u>2,799.54</u>
TOTAL INCOME	145,381.24
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>159,410.01</u>
NET INCOME	-14,028.77
RETAINED EARNINGS	<u>98,913.34</u>
CURRENT BALANCE	84,884.57

See the Office Manager for more information.



Submit prayer requests to Pastor by email, text, voice mail, or in writing, using the form in the pew rack. pastorbd4est@gmail.com

(801) 910-6937 or (530) 342-6085 Opt 1



CHURCH STAFF

REV. BRENNAN DEFOREST, PASTOR

JACKIE VIEIRA, OFFICE MANAGER

DAVID BUNTING, ORGANIST

JAY ERWIN, ORGANIST

OFFICERS

JACY KROGH, PRESIDENT

MATT MAGUIRE, VICE PRESIDENT

BRUCE HOLDERBEIN, FINANCIAL
MANAGER

AARON ASHWORTH, SECRETARY

BOARD OF DEACONS

* JAY ERWIN

ROBERT REAN

TIMOTHY WENSLAFF

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

* BRUCE HOLDERBEIN

KEITH SIEMENS

BOARD OF EVANGELISM

* TIM KRESSIN

BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP

LINDA ALLEN

SHERRI HARDY

DIANE SCOTT

CAROL VARLEY

SHIRLEY WILSON

BOARD OF YOUTH

*DIANE SCOTT

*BOARD CHAIR

HOMEBOUNDED

SERVANTS



BIRTHDAYS

Brenda Bell
678 Buttonwillow Ln #28
Chico, CA 95926

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Chico, CA 95926

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Paul DeGarmo
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Larry Pohlrad
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Chico, CA 95928

Elaine Rubke
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#213
Chico, CA 95928

ACOLYTE:
YUHUAN WENSLAFF

ALTAR GUILD:
BONNIE HUNT
LINDA REAN
HAROLD URNESS
LOUISE URNESS

COUNTER:
PAT LILLIE

DEACON OF THE MONTH
NOVEMBER
JAY ERWIN
DECEMBER
TIM WENSLAFF

USHERS:
TIM KRESSIN
JACY KROGH
TIM LANGE
TIM WENSLAFF
YUHUAN WENSLAFF

DRIVERS:
JAY ERWIN
BRUCE HOLDERBEIN
TIM KRESSIN

NOVEMBER
06 STEPHEN FRATALLONE
13 REV. ROBERT ROBERTS
13 LINDA SWEET
22 DON THURMAN
23 JOEY MAGUIRE
25 LAYLA HOFFMAN
25 LIAM HOFFMAN
27 MATT MAGUIRE

DECEMBER
09 TIM LANGE
09 DOTTIE TEFELSKI
09 CAROL VARLEY
12 FRED SHERMAN, III
14 SHERRI HARDY
17 DR. NORM MCCANN
20 JERRY BRANDT
24 AVAGAILE GRADO
25 TONI LANGE
26 ALICE DURFEE
28 BRANDON SIEMENS
28 MICHAEL THOMPSON
30 HAROLD URNESS



BAPTISMS

NOVEMBER
06 WARREN LOFINK
09 TIM KRESSIN
13 KEITH SIEMENS
17 RANDY SIEMENS
18 BRIAN MARSHALL
18 AVAGAILE GRADO
18 NATHANIAL GRADO
24 YUFEI WENSLAFF
27 CANDACE THURMAN
27 JACY KROGH
27 ALICIA SCOTT

DECEMBER
01 JOHN DURFEE
03 LOUISE URNESS
06 BRI LOFINK
08 MEGAN GODSIL
08 CYNDIE HOLDERBEIN
17 TODD THOMPSON
24 YUHUAN WENSLAFF

DEACON ASSIGNMENTS

TIM WENSLAFF: ALLEN - HOFFIE
JAY ERWIN: HOFFMAN - RUSTAN
ROBERT REAN: SAWYER - ZIEGLER

Deadline

January/February
Redeemer Review
December 20



VOTERS' ASSEMBLY - DEC. 7

A Voters' Assembly for the purpose of electing our Church Council and voting on our 2026 budget is scheduled for Sunday, December 7th following Divine Service in the Parish Hall.

FROM THE PASTOR...CONTINUED

and the meditation of [our] heart[s] be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, [our] rock and [our] redeemer.” While singing the Hymn of the Day is a helpful thing to do to prepare for the sermon, I would also encourage you to say a prayer about the sermon sometime Sunday morning, a prayer that God would help you focus during the preaching of His Word and that He would strengthen your faith by means of that sermon. There are great prayers like that to pray, to prepare you for all aspects of the Divine Service, in the front cover of the hymnal. Taking time to pray those prayers is an excellent way to pass the time between when you arrive at church and when the Opening Hymn or Invocation occurs.

So, over the course of this year, have I covered everything? Have I answered your questions, “hey pastor, why do you do this or that?” If I haven’t, or if a question arises in the future about why I do what I do, I invite you to ask me about it! I would consider a conversation like that a delight!

Thus, we’ve come to the end of another year of newsletter articles. What do you want to see here in the future? Is there anything in particular you want these articles to cover? I am always looking for ideas for these articles, especially if it is a theme I can run with for several issues. So, send me an email or talk to me in person and let me know what you want me to write about. Until the first issue of 2026, the Lord be with you! ~*Pastor DeForest*

2025 QUARTERLY MISSIONS

- 1Q Redeemer Charity Fund - \$4,445.02; Faith Lutheran Church, Ukiah, California - \$4,445.02
- 2Q Missionary Dennis Meeker, Kenya - \$3,860.42; Missionary Daniel Conrad, Latin America - \$3,860.42; Pamela Boehle-Silva, Always Mercy Kenya - \$3,860.43
- 3Q Lutheran Heritage Foundation - \$3,716.38; Luther Classical College, Casper, Wyoming - \$3,716.38; St. Mark Lutheran Church, Ferndale, CA - \$3,716.37
- 4Q Women's Resource Clinic; KKXX Sermons; The Lutheran Hour; Issues, Etc

PASTOR APPRECIATION

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“Happy Clergy Appreciation Month! I polished your halo.”

A potluck will be held on Sunday, Nov. 2 to celebrate All Saints Day and for Pastor Appreciation Day. Please bring a dish of your choice to share. You can sign up in the Parish Hall to let us know what you are bringing. If you have questions, please ask a member of the Board of Fellowship - God’s blessings, Linda Allen, Diane Scott, Carol Varley, Shirley Wilson

LUTHERAN WOMEN’S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

Lutheran Women's Missionary League is an organization of our Lutheran Synod. Every two years, grant requests are submitted for mission minded projects.

As of this date, Grant #13 has been funded. The amount was \$10,150. Grace Christian School of Visalia, California has been serving the community since 1977. The school currently teaches children kindergarten through 8th grade. They are in need of additional funding to partially pay tuition for students so that they can continue their Christian education.

Mite offerings by our congregation and others of California, Nevada, and Hawaii have made this possible.

Thank you to all who donate and remember the first Sunday of every month is MITE BOX SUNDAY. However, any time is a good time to deposit offerings in the large blue box in Narthex.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Brothers and Sisters,

What a year we have had already and it's not over yet! The 100th Anniversary celebration was awesome and so well attended! Thank you again to Tim Kressin and the entire planning committee and to all who assisted and participated. Glory be to God for our last 100 years and prayers for many more to come.

As the year comes to a close, we have important congregational business on the horizon. On December 7th we will have our Voters' Assembly for officer/board elections and review of our budget. I ask for your prayers for our Church Council as we conduct the business of the church, but also prayers for men and women to come forward to serve on our council and the various committees. If you feel so called to serve, please talk with myself, Matt Maguire or Pastor. We would love to find the right place for you to contribute your time and talents to our congregation.

As a reminder, Church Council and Voters' Assembly information is posted to the church website under "Announcements". The Voters' Assembly agenda and information will be posted there prior to the meeting.

In His Service, Jacy Krogh



Dear Pastor and Members of Redeemer Lutheran Church,

We want to take a moment to express our heartfelt thanks for your gifts for our LCMS Missionary, Vicar Paul & Courtney Mroczenski. Your prayers, encouragement, and contributions are a vital part of the work being done on the mission field. Through the work of our Missionaries, lives are being touched, hearts are being transformed, and the Gospel is reaching places throughout the world. May the work of Redeemer Church and each member be richly blessed as you continue to serve.

Edie Honaker

THANK YOU FROM CORY WILLWEBER

Dear Redeemer,

Thank you all for your continued prayers and financial support! I truly appreciate it and am grateful for faithful saints, such as you, who are committed to serving our Lord's Church and kingdom in this way.

I am now back at the seminary beginning my 4th year. It's an adjustment getting back to student life but I am thankful for the continued education and formation. May God keep you all steadfast in His word according to His love. In Christ
Cory

THANK YOU FROM THE MRO CZENSKI'S

Dear Saints at Redeemer,

Thank you for your continued generous giving in support of our mission work in Puerto Rico! Paul has preached and led Matins (morning worship service) in Spanish 10 times this summer. He is also working on outreach to local university students. Thank you for praying for us.
in Christ,

Vicar Paul, Courtney, & Jacqueline Mroczenski

THANK YOU FROM REV. DANIEL AND KATHY CONRAD, LATIN AMERICA

August 13, 2025

Dear Members of Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church,

Warm greetings in the name of the Lord. We pray that you have had a restful summer. The days of summer seem to pass by quickly. Dan and all the professors at the seminary are gearing up for the fall semester that will get underway on the fifteenth of September.

On behalf of ourselves and the Lutheran churches of Latin America, we thank you for your donation of \$3,860.42 to God's mission. Your donation provides materials, theological formation and mentoring for future pastors, deacons, and deaconesses who will serve the Lord throughout Latin America. Thus, we follow the exhortation of the Apostle Paul: "And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others." (II Timothy 2:2)

Kathy's recovery from her knee surgery is progressing little by little. Today she is undergoing her last therapy session, and we will then have a follow up appointment with her orthopedic surgeon. We thank you for your prayers.

The Latin American missionaries held their annual study conference at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis during the first week of August. Dr. Lawrence Rast of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne gave a marvelous exposition on the history of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod during the 19th century. We thank Dr. Rast for an exposition very well done!

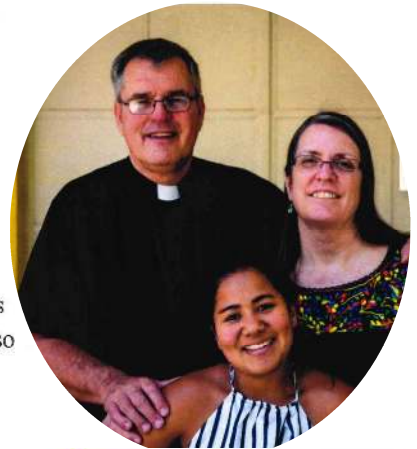
In addition, the Office of International Mission hosted an alumni night to which all former Latin American missionaries were invited. At this reception we had the privilege of reuniting with Rev. and Mrs. Henry Witte and Rev. and Mrs. Mike Tanney, with whom we served with in Venezuela during the decades of the 80's and the 90's. We shared our memories of our time together on the Venezuelan mission field and it was a great reunion after so many years!

Thank you again for your financial support and prayers. Enclosed please find our prayer card and a photo of the participants at our Latin American theological conference that took place in the Dominican Republic. Representatives from 10 different Latin American countries attended this conference. God's richest blessings!

"May the God of peace—who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant— make you perfect in every respect so that you may do his will. And may he enable us to achieve what is pleasing to him through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen." (Hebrews 13:20-22)

In Christ,

Rev. Daniel & Kathy Conrad
Rev. Daniel and Kathy Conrad



You can support our work for the LCMS in the Dominican Republic.

ELECTRONIC GIVING
To give securely online, scan the QR code or visit lcms.org/conrad

GIVE BY MAIL
Send a check to:
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861
Memo "Conrad-Dominican Republic"



SEMINARIO CONCORDIA EL REFORMADOR
CONFERENCIA FPH 2025

Rev. Daniel and Kathy Conrad

Daniel.Conrad@lcms.org
lcms.org/conrad

lcms.org/international

BIRTHDAYS:

Daniel – July 6
Kathy – July 30
Ana – Oct. 10

ANNIVERSARY:

May 13

HOME DISTRICT:

California-Nevada-Hawaii

The Rev. Daniel and Kathy Conrad serve the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in the Dominican Republic. In this role, Daniel serves as a professor at Concordia the Reformer Seminary in Palmar Arriba, Dominican Republic. The seminary provides theological education to future pastors who come from 11 countries in Latin America. By the grace of God, Daniel helps prepare pastors who will serve throughout the region.

Pray for the Conrads as they serve in the Dominican Republic. Ask God to give Daniel strength and wisdom as he teaches future pastors, as well as to raise up more pastors to serve His people throughout Latin America. Let us give thanks that the Conrads are serving God's children in this part of the world.

Keep up with the missionaries we support by reading their newsletters on our website.

https://www.redeemerchico.org/New_Website/category/missions-outreach/

On Behalf of
TOGETHER IN MISSION

THIS CERTIFICATE IS BEING PRESENTED TO
REDEEMER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

IN GRATEFULNESS FOR YOUR SPECIAL PARTNERSHIP
WITH LCMS MISSIONARIES AROUND THE WORLD SINCE

JANUARY, 2016

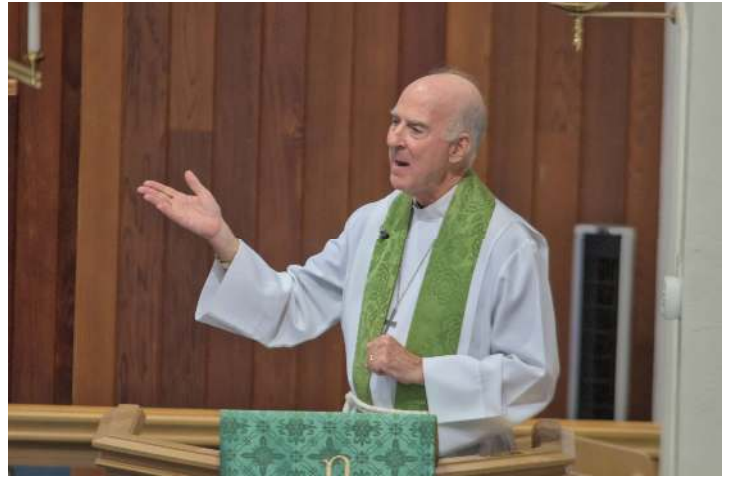
Chandra Thurman
CHANDRA THURMAN
Director
Missionary Network Care & Support

Julie Loehring
JULIE LOEHRING
Missionary Support Coordinator

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." MATTHEW 28:18-20



100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



One hundred and forty attendees of Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church's 100th Anniversary Celebration enjoyed a moving service of praise and liturgical worship along with a great sermon on the history of Redeemer from Rev. Dr. Fickenscher, Professor, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Our choir sang beautifully, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" and the Bell Choir's "How Firm a Foundation" was heavenly.

Guests joined us from far and wide, such as Bob Schwermann, son of Rev. R. W. Schwermann; Pastor Mark Wescoatt, son of Alice Wescoatt; Pastor Ron Arnold, another son of Redeemer; and many others too numerous to mention.



REDEEMER MEMBERS - 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



REDEEMER MEMBERS & GUESTS - 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DINNER



100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITIONS



Philip the Deacon, A.D. 2025
October 11, 2025

Rev. Brennan DeForest
Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church
750 Moss Avenue
Chico, California 95926

The Reverend Doctor Matthew C. Harrison
President of the Synod

Dear pastors, parishioners of Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, brothers, and sisters in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 1:3).

Thanks be to God! Thanks be to God for one year after another of Word and Sacrament salvation by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone! Today we give thanks for 100 years of Spirit-filled ministry among your family, friends, community, and on into the world. Alleluia!

Although I cannot be with you in person, it is with immense joy that I join in your spirit of celebration this anniversary and God-given milestone! May this anniversary year remind you of all that God has done, and continues to do, not only for His Bride the Church, but also for your particular, unique congregation. You are His own creation, clothed in Christ and beloved in His Sight.

The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have made many visible marks throughout history. For us, we experience them often as simply daily bread and regular worship. Thanks be to God that He provides so abundantly, sustains with such steadfastness, and preserves with His own eternal power and glory. Day after day. Year after year. Now and into eternity!

What an impact our Lord has had! God has mightily blessed and spread His Word, granting new life and renewal through God's Word and Sacraments, granting the forgiveness of sins and a place at His holy Table. Thanks be to God that He washes us clean and gives what we could never earn for the sake of His Son, even generation after generation.

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, know that your fellow members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod join you in giving thanks to the Lord of the Church for your confession of faith and community of love. We ask with you that His great blessing remain upon Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church today and in the days to come.

[M]y beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain (1 Cor. 15:58).

Under the blood of Jesus,

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



CNH DISTRICT

CALIFORNIA NEVADA HAWAII

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

In celebration for
100 Years
(1925—2025)

of service to Christ and His Church

*Redeemer Lutheran Church
Chico, California*

With a prayer of thanksgiving to God for His abundant grace and blessing.

Rev. M R Feag

CNH District President

October 11, 2025

Date

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly
than all that we ask or think, according to the
power at work within us, to him be glory in the
church and in Christ Jesus throughout all
generations, forever and ever. Amen.
Ephesians 3:20-21

S T A T E O F C A L I F O R N I A

Senate

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

***Redeemer Evangelical
Lutheran Church***

*Centennial Anniversary
October 11th, 2025*

It is with a heartfelt congratulations that we present this certificate in recognition of your congregation's centennial anniversary. May this significant milestone bring lasting success, continued growth, and meaningful contributions to the vitality of our community!

Megan Dahle

Senator, 1st District

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

Assembly

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

*Redeemer Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

In Honor of Celebrating Your

100th Anniversary

2025

Congratulations!



James Gallagher

*Assemblyman James Gallagher
3rd District*

PHONE:	530-342-6085
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Office Manager's Cell:	530-228-4240
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PASTOR'S EMAIL:	pastorbd4est@gmail.com
WEB ADDRESS:	www.redeemerchico.org
Facebook:	facebook.com/RedeemerLutheranChico

Our Mission Statement

Welcome to Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, a community of believers saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

As a people enabled by the Spirit, we are committed to regular worship and the use of the sacraments, studying and teaching the Bible, praying, using our gifts and talents in God's service, for the caring and nurturing of others and sharing the message of God's salvation so that God is glorified and all people may know Jesus as their Savior and Lord.

November/December 2025

November/December 2025



Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod
750 Moss Avenue
Chico, CA 95926