

Redeemer Lutheran Church

# Voice of Redeemer

Volume 55—Number 10

October 2026

## *WORD ALONE — FAITH ALONE — GRACE ALONE*

These words are on the front banners on Reformation Sunday. They are words that Martin Luther maintained as essential to why the world needed a REFORMATION.

The five *solas* are five Latin phrases popularized during the Protestant Reformation that emphasized the distinctions between the early Reformers and the Roman Catholic Church. The word *sola* is the Latin word for "only" and was used in relation to five key teachings that defined the biblical pleas of Protestants. They are:

1. *Sola scriptura*: "Scripture alone"-emphasizes the Bible alone as the source of authority for Christians. By saying, "Scripture alone," the Reformers rejected both the divine authority of the Roman Catholic Pope and confidence in sacred tradition. Only the Bible was "inspired by God" (**2 Peter 1:20-21**) and "God-breathed" (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Anything taught by the Pope or in tradition that contradicted the Bible was to be rejected. *Sola scriptura* also fueled the translation of the Bible into German, French, English, and other languages, and prompted Bible teaching in the common languages of the day, rather than in Latin.

2. *Sola fide*: "faith alone" emphasizes salvation as a free gift. The Roman Catholic Church of the time emphasized the use of indulgences (donating money) to buy status with God. Good works, including baptism, were seen as required for salvation. *Sola fide* stated that salvation is a free gift to all who accept it by faith (John 3:16). Salvation is not based on human effort or good deeds (Ephesians 2:9).

3. *Sola gratia*: "grace alone"- emphasizes grace as the reason for our salvation. In other words, salvation comes from what God has done rather than what we do. Ephesians 2:8-9 teaches, "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

4. *Solo Christo*: "Christ alone "sometimes listed as *Solus Christus*, "through Christ alone") emphasizes the role of Jesus in salvation. The Roman Catholic tradition had placed church leaders such as priests in the role of intercessor between the laity and God. Reformers emphasized Jesus' role as our "high priest" who intercedes on our behalf before the Father. Hebrews 4:15 teaches, "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin." Jesus is the One who offers access to God, not a human spiritual leader.

5. *Soli Deo gloria*: "to the glory of God alone" emphasizes the glory of God as the goal of life. Rather than striving to please church leaders, keep a list of rules, or guard our own interests, our goal is to glorify the Lord. The idea of *soli Deo gloria* is found in 1 Corinthians 10:31: "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

Each of these *solas* can be seen both as a corrective to the excesses of the Roman Catholic Church at the start of the Reformation and as a positive biblical declaration.

*Sola scriptura Sola fide Sola gratia Solo Christo* (*Soli Deo gloria* The five *solas* of the Protestant Reformation offered a strong corrective to the faulty practices and beliefs of the time, and they remain relevant today. We are called to focus on Scripture, accept salvation by grace through faith, magnify Christ, and live for God's glory.

-source: the internet

# MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS



Pastor Bryan is not a new member, but we certainly appreciate his willingness to serve Redeemer.

Next to Pastor are Benny and Gisella Thomas who come to us from Murrieta, CA, where they lived for thirty years. Housing cost is the ultimate reason for moving to Bakersfield. Before retirement, Benny was employed at Camp Pendleton.

Gisella, a native of Germany, enjoyed her work as a respiratory therapist.

In retirement , they enjoy traveling and have made several trips to Germany and other European countries.

They raised two boys and two daughters and now enjoy two grandchildren. We welcome them to Redeemer and are so happy to have them join our church family!

River Navarro joined Redeemer, baby Maverick , held by her daddy, Jason, is a newly baptized member. River is a "born and raised" Bakersfield lady. She holds a BA and MS degree from, CSUB, working as a LMFT, (Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist) for several years. She was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 37, underwent a mastectomy, chemo and radiation, and is now a cancer survivor since 2021.

River is a fighter and a survivor. She has ben sober since October 4, 2020 and dedicated her life to Christ in 2024.

Presently, she is a working mom and devoted wife. She opened her home bakery business, *"Brown Sugar & Sea Salt"* in 2026. Her baked goods are delicious! Look her up on Facebook.

Welcome River and Family!

## SMILES

Life would be infinitely happier if we if we could be born at the age of 80 and gradually approach 18.

The school of hard knocks is one of those elite schools where each student gets individual instruction.



# OCTOBER ACTIVITIES



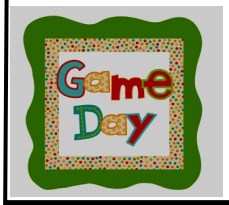




**LUNCH BUNCH:** Wednesday 10/7/26 - 11am, at Huevo House Cafe, 3939 Ming Avenue. Please make reservations with Judy .

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY & QUILTING** is Wednesday 10/14/26 from 9am-3pm in the Fellowship Hall. Anne-Marie Truax will provide a snack & please bring your own sack lunch.

Afternoon Circle is Wednesday 10/21/26 at 1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will discuss *I Am Worthy: I Am Because You Are* from I Corinthians 12 & *Gather* magazine. Carlotta Quashnick will provide refreshments. All ladies are invited!




**SENIOR GAME DAY** is Wednesday 10/28/26 in the Fellowship Hall - noon for bring your own lunch & 12:30pm for games.



**WINE & DINE** is Thursday 10/22/26 6pm. Please watch the church bulletin for place & host.




BRING YOUR PETS TO CHURCH
OCTOBER 11th
BLESSINGS OF THE ANIMALS
FOLLOWING WORSHIP.




Volunteers are always needed. Please check the sign-up sheets in the Narthex and sign up where you can help.







For by grace you have been saved through faith.
And this is not your own doing;
it is the gift of God.
Ephesians 2:8




Sat. October 10
9 am




Thursday, October 08
@ 10 am
Everyone is Welcome




October 18 11am




| | |
|---|---|
| **Pastor Jon** | **02** |
| **Maximus Wikoff** | **02** |
| **Rhett Spillers** | **06** |
| **Annalisa Lipes** | **06** |
| **Margaret Niebel** | **08** |
| **Tammy Smith** | **08** |
| **Darynne Musgrove-Coomer** | **14** |
| **Sarah Elrod** | **17** |
| **Colby Christenson** | **23** |
| **Silesia Johnson** | **23** |
| **Debby Liebzeit** | **23** |
| **Sherry Clayton** | **27** |
| **Audrey Albitre** | **29** |
| **Kathy Griffith** | **31** |




**Jerry & Kathy McKnight** **14**







FYI
NOVEMBER
1, 2026

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

2025 Financial Report

| | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Receipts | 11,945.00 | 19,753.00 | 17,244.00 | 18,093.37 | 18,486.40 | 15,984.03 | 25,910.00 | 18,484.29 | | | | | 145,900.09 |
| Budget | 16,146.00 | 16,146.00 | 16,146.00 | 16,146.00 | 16,146.00 | 16,146.00 | 16,146.00 | 16,146.00 | | | | | 129,168.00 |
| Difference | (4,201.00) | 3,607.00 | 1,098.00 | 1,947.37 | 2,340.40 | (161.97) | 9,764.00 | 2,338.29 | 0.00 | ## | ### | ### | 16,732.09 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Expenses | 8,509.31 | 12,044.73 | 6,930.35 | 9,888.87 | 12,491.64 | 9,618.86 | 11,805.71 | 9,846.60 | | | | | 81,136.07 |
| Budget | 16,146.00 | 16,146.00 | 16,146.00 | 16,146.00 | 16,146.00 | 16,146.00 | 16,146.00 | 16,146.00 | | | | | 129,168.00 |
| Difference | 7,636.69 | 4,101.27 | 9,215.65 | 6,257.13 | 3,654.36 | 6,527.14 | 4,340.29 | 6,299.40 | 0.00 | ## | ### | ### | 48,031.93 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | 3,435.69 | 7,708.27 | 10,313.65 | 8,204.50 | 5,994.76 | 6,365.17 | 14,104.29 | 8,637.69 | 0.00 | ## | ### | ### | 64,764.02 |

Compared to Budget

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Loan Receipts | 1,480.00 | 1,530.00 | 1,720.00 | 1,400.00 | 1,450.00 | 1,300.00 | 1,400.00 | 1,705.00 | | | | | 11,985.00 |
| Loan Payments | 1,085.00 | 6,420.00 | 1,085.00 | 1,085.00 | 1,085.00 | 1,085.00 | 1,085.00 | 1,085.00 | | | | | 14,015.00 |
| Difference | 395.00 | (4,890.00) | 635.00 | 315.00 | 365.00 | 215.00 | 315.00 | 620.00 | 0.00 | ## | ### | ### | (2,030.00) |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total All | 3,830.69 | 2,818.27 | 10,948.65 | 8,519.50 | 6,359.76 | 6,580.17 | 14,419.29 | 9,257.69 | 0.00 | ## | ### | ### | 62,734.02 |

Loan **$20,614.97**




## VOICES OF THE REFORMATION

"There is not — nor can there be! — any reason for tearing oneself away from the church in schism. Rather, the worse things become, the more one should help her and stand by her, for by schism and contempt nothing can be mended."

—Martin Luther, German pastor whose "95 Theses" sparked the Protestant Reformation

# ASKING FOR YOUR THOUGHTS & OPINIONS

At the last meeting of your council a couple of items were discussed and we decided that we need your input before a decision is made.

1. What with the economy that we are facing, we discussed the possibility of re-starting our food pantry. Not to do any distribution from Redeemer, but to collect non-perishable foods that we could donate directly to Evergreen school—either once a month as individual packages that could be given as a unit to families, or if the school has storage space, give it to them to distribute to families as needed.

2. It was brought up that Communion at the Altar poses some safety issues and it was suggested that we do "floor communion" every Sunday. Knowing that several members prefer the serenity of kneeling at the Altar, we really need your opinions.

Please let us hear from you, email, phone or speak to council members or call the office and let Dakota hear you thoughts.

Council member are: Jan Lemley, Julie Griffith, Sue Anderson, Linda Cohen, Mary Ellen Saldana, Bruce Wearda, Randy Fok, and Shawn Hunter.

Thanks for sharing your thoughts and opinions.

#'s: Dakota-office: 832-7881; text: 864-6019; Jan: 706-4834; Julie: 203-4348; Sue: 246-9381; Linda: 599-0799; MaryEllen: 201-8708; Bruce: 776-5229; Randy: rysf@aol.com; Shawn: 912-8462

Jan Lemley, President

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## *Annual Fall Faire Luncheon and Craft Faire*



Hosted by the Grace Lutheran Ladies Guild

2530 Drake St., Bakersfield

Saturday, November 7, 2026 - Lunch served from 11:00—2:00

Donation: Adults $15.00—Children under 12, $10.00

Crafts and baked goods sold from 10 am to 3 pm.

Homemade Item foe Sale:

Baked Goods * Craft Items * Fall * Christmas * Raffle Baskets

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CELEBRATE

OCTOBER 12, 2026



# IN HIS SERVICE

| Area of Service | October 4 | October 11 | October 18 | October 20 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Altar Guild | Tammy → | | | → |
| Acolyte | Emily | Darynne | Leo | Lieth |
| Assistant to Pastor | Louise → | | | → |
| Flowers | | Lemley family | Dakota | Haywood family |
| Reader | Louise | Nate | Rodney | Judy |
| Greeter | Karen → | | | → |
| Coffee Hour | River & Jason | Linda | | |
| Counters | | | | |

NOTE: THIS SCHEDULE DOES NOT REFLECT CHANGES MADE AFTER SEPT. 26

## IN OUR PRAYERS



Aug.25, 2026 Sept. 26, 2026

Following is a list of our friends who have been lifted up in prayer by our faithful Prayer Warriors.

Jerry McKnight, Melissa, Anthony's grand daughter, Rosie, Christa, Caroline

Please know that your prayers are so very much appreciated. Thanks and Blessings to all!

→ We enjoyed a big treat from the S.S. class singing : *"I Have the Joy, Joy, Joy , Joy, Down In My Heart".*



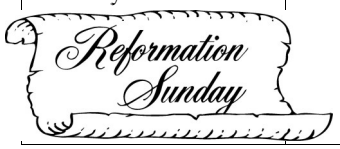
## CHARITY FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

Your council has determined that our charity for October is The Red Cross. Sue Morton, who is a volunteer for the Bakersfield Chapter of the Red Cross will give a brief summary on Sunday, October 18h, to inform us about the work of the American Red Cross, local and world wide. i.e. What type of donations are needed, and why volunteers play a big part in this organization.

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**
**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**
**2525 BELLE TERRACE, P O BOX 13132-93389, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304**

**Phone…….. 832-7881 ……. Secretary: Dakota Warren**

# October 2026

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THRUSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  | | | 1<br>Karate | 2 | 3 |
| 4<br>Blessing of the Animals 10:30<br>Worship 9:30<br>Coffee Hour 10:30<br>Sunday School 10:30 | 5 | 6<br>Riverstone Terrace 3 pm<br>Al-Anon 6:30 | 7 Lunch Bunch 11 am<br>Riverstone Terrace 10-11 | 8<br>Worship & Music 10 am<br>Karate | 9 | 10<br>workday.<br>9 am—? |
| 11<br>Worship 9:30<br>Coffee Hour 10:30<br>Sunday School 10:30 | 12<br><br> | 13<br>Riverstone Terrace 3 pm<br>Al-Anon 6:30 | 14<br>Prayer Shawl & Quilting 9-3 | 15<br>Karate | 16 | 17<br>Garden Club 9– 12:30 |
| 18<br>Worship 9:30<br>Coffee Hour 10:30<br>Sunday School 10:30<br>Council 11 am | 19 | 20<br>Riverstone Terrace 3 pm<br>Al-Anon 6:30 | 21<br>Riverstone Terrace 10-11<br>Afternoon Circle 1:30 | 22<br>Wine & Dine 6 pm<br>Karate | 23 | 24<br>Glass Club 10:30 - 1 pm |
| 25<br>Worship 9:30<br>Coffee Hour 10:30<br>Sunday School 10:30<br> | 26 | 27<br>Riverstone Terrace 3 pm<br>Al-Anon 6:30 | 28<br>Senior Game Day 12:30 | 29<br>Karate | 30<br>Reformation Day<br> | 31<br><br>HAPPY HALLOWEEN |