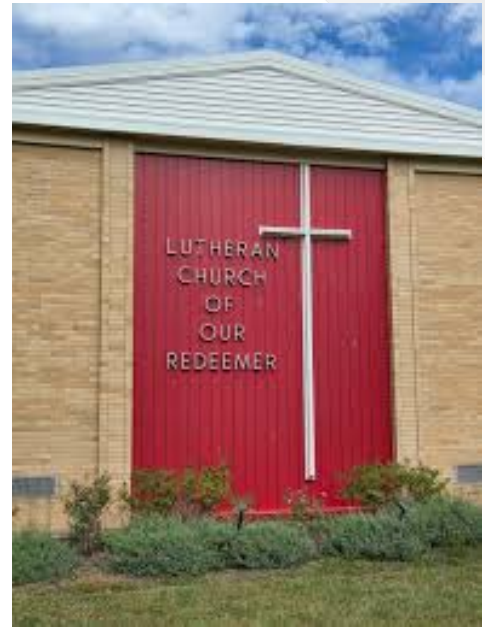


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Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer Ministry Plan 2026



We serve because Jesus loves YOU!

The Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer (LCOR) is the people of God who gather around His Word and Sacraments for worship, fellowship and service. We reach out in mission to all people in our community with the saving message about Jesus Christ in order to bring people into a living relationship with Jesus and His Church.

Our History

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer was organized in 1958 as a mission congregation of the Atlantic District of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod. The congregation worshiped at Hazardville Memorial School until its present facility was completed in 1963.

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer is a member congregation of The New England District of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod with 162 baptized members.

The New England District was formed in 1972 out of the Atlantic District. District offices are located in Springfield, Massachusetts. Delegates from each congregation meet in convention every three years to elect the district president, vice presidents, circuit visitors, a board of directors, and other officers.

The New England District is one of the 35 districts of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS), and encompasses all six New England states: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. In addition, two congregations in southwest Connecticut are in the non-geographic SELC District. The New England District includes approximately 70 congregations and missions.

The Rev. Michael J. Coons has served the congregation as its pastor since 2001. Pastor Coons is a graduate of Concordia College, Bronxville, NY (B.A., 1997) and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (M.Div., 2001).



From our Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends in Christ,

It is with joy that we publish our first Ministry Plan for Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer. This document will be updated regularly so that we are always looking forward in the mission God has given us to make disciples for our Lord Jesus and to serve our community in Jesus' Name.

These are our plans for as we move forward. Following the encouragement of Proverbs 16:3, "Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established." We pray that the Lord will bless according to His will the plans we have made, that they will bring Him glory and enable us to share Christ and His life, death, and resurrection with many.

We are also told in Proverbs 19:21, "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand." While we pray and work to see that

our goals are met as we share them here, we trust in faith that the Lord's purpose for us as His people will be accomplished. We are open to revising our goals and plans as we are led by the Holy Spirit in accordance with His holy Word.

So let us rejoice together in what the Lord has given us as a congregation, in what He enables us to do in service to Him and to our neighbors and community. "Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow!"

Serving Christ with You,
Pastor Coons

Worship at LCOR

The Divine Service where God's people gather around His Word and Sacraments each week is the heartbeat of a Christian congregation. Here the Lord comes to meet with His people in the Means of Grace, His Gospel and Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. Here, our God nourishes His people with faith, forgiveness, eternal life, and strength for daily life until we are at home with Him in a new creation.

Weekly Worship Services

Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Both services follow one of the Divine Services from the hymnal Lutheran Service Book. Our worship is liturgical, which means it follows a predictable order of service. The pattern of worship is from God to us, and then from us back to Him. God speaks through His Word and we listen. His Word gives what it promises—faith, forgiveness, and eternal life. As His people, we respond by saying back to God what He has said to us with thanksgiving and praise in hymns and prayers, enlarging and elevating the adoration of our gracious giver God.

Worship folders are printed with the full service so that members and guests can most easily participate in the service and hearing assistance through assistive listening devices are available for those in need.

We are blessed to be able to share the Word within our community both in person and online. Visit our Youtube for present and past worship services.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCas4GVSULsMNF0Bz1IQqElw>

Special Worship Services

Thanksgiving Eve Nov. 25 1 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Advent Midweek Dec. 2, 9, 16 1 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Christmas Eve Dec. 24 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Dec. 25 10:30 a.m.

Ash Wednesday Feb. 10 1 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Lent Midweek Feb. 17, 24 March 3, 10, 17 1 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Holy Thursday March 25 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday March 26 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.



Preparing our Altar

LCOR's Altar Guild is a volunteer group of the church, open to any member who is interested in caring for the sanctuary, whose ministry is to care for the altar, vestments, vessels, and altar linens of the church.

Altar Guild members prepare the sanctuary weekly for services by preparing the vessel for use in distribution of the Lord's Supper, changing the altar paraments and laundering the linens when needed.

Serving during our Services

Within our worship services there are two ways in which members of the church can serve.

Readings: Each week there are two readings that are read by church members, these are our Old Testament readings and our Epistle readings. These reading are available for individuals to prepare ahead of time and are assigned on a voluntary basis.

Ushers: Every month two individuals volunteer in either the first or second services to provide Usher support during the services. These tasks include passing out bulletins to members of the congregation, collecting offerings, and serving with the Pastor at the altar for communion.

Message from Our Congregational President

Dear Friends in Christ,

It is a joy and privilege to welcome you to the Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer. Our ministry exists to help the church remain centered on the clear and life-giving truth of God's Word, faithfully proclaiming Jesus Christ and His saving work for all people.

In a time when the church faces many questions and competing voices, clarity matters. We believe that Christian ministry is not ultimately about trends, personalities, or programs. It is about Christ crucified and risen, the promises of the Gospel, and the faithful stewardship of the ministry God has entrusted to His Church.

As president, I am grateful for everyone who supports this work through prayer, encouragement, service, and generosity. Together, we can help strengthen the church's witness and equip one another to speak the truth in love.

May our work always point beyond ourselves to Jesus Christ, who is our Lord, our Savior, and our sure hope.

In Christ,

Patrick Droney

Properties

There are several ways to serve within Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, either through volunteering your time and skills, through donations of needed items or funds, and as always, through your prayers.

Throughout the year, LCOR schedules Inside/Outside Clean-Up Days for both the church and the parsonage. These gatherings are typically held in the spring, summer, and fall, with dates planned around the ever-changing New England weather. Prior to each clean-up day, a list of needed projects and tasks is posted on the church hallway bulletin board for volunteers to review and sign up to help.

For 2026, our property improvement efforts will focus on projects across the church campus, including:

- Refurbishing the oil tank shed
- Weeding and mulching the garden beds surrounding the church
- Future goal: parking lot repairs, including crack filling and seal coating

These projects provide opportunities for members to work together in caring for and improving the spaces where we gather for worship and fellowship.

Our Fellowship

Without our members, we would not be gathered together in worship. At LCOR, we celebrate and care for one another, recognizing important occasions such as birthdays with cards thoughtfully sent through the mail.

As a congregation, we cherish time spent in fellowship. Each week, between our 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services, members voluntarily provide refreshments, creating a welcoming space for everyone to connect and enjoy time together—whether they worship early or late.

On the third Saturday of each month, LCOR hosts a Women's Craft Day beginning at noon and continuing until the crafting is done. Women from our congregation, along with invited members of the community, gather in fellowship to work on their crafts alongside

fellow crafters. As they create together, participants share skills, ideas, and encouragement in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. The day often includes ordering out and sharing meals together, adding to the sense of community and connection.

Each September, following the second service, LCOR gathers for a Church Picnic filled with food, fellowship, and fun. Members bring a favorite dish to share for the potluck, while the Fellowship Committee provides hamburgers and hot dogs for everyone to enjoy. The afternoon offers an opportunity for members to spend time together in fellowship and enjoy games and activities on the church lawn.

Before the Christmas season begins, LCOR gathers after the second service for our annual Christmas Prep Party to decorate the sanctuary in celebration of the season. Members come together to set up Christmas trees, hang decorations, and prepare the church for Advent and Christmas worship. The day is filled with fellowship, laughter, pizza, and shared cookies as we celebrate the joy of serving together.

During the season of Lent, LCOR gathers each Wednesday evening for Midweek Worship. Recognizing the busy time between the end of the workday and the 7:00 p.m. service, LCOR hosts weekly Lenten Soup Suppers as an opportunity for fellowship and refreshment before worship. Members generously donate their time and talents by preparing homemade soups, desserts, and drinks to share, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for all who attend.

LCOR Community Events

Trunk or Treat (October 24, 2026)

Car Show (June 27, 2026)

LCOR and the ENFIELD FOOD SHELF

“...Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” Matthew 25:40

Before COVID put a pause in our donations, LCOR had chosen the Enfield Food Shelf as one of our missions and had been making monthly donations for a few years. We are glad to be able to resume those donations once again. Personal care items are

collected by the congregation on a continually basis and donated to the Food Shelf on a regular basis.

The Enfield Food Shelf is about people helping people within the community. It is simple. It does not take a lot of time, money, or effort for LCOR to reach out and help. It is what we do.

“But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.”

1 John 3:17-18

In His Word

Christians desire to be people who spend time with the Word of God in the Bible. The Bible IS God's Word to us, His gift to all people so that we might receive Christ's forgiveness and eternal life through the Gospel. To spend time in His Word is to spend time learning at the feet of the Lord. LCOR does this in a variety of ways.

Sunday School (Resumed September 6, 2026)

Bible Study (Sundays, 9:20 a.m.; Wednesdays 9:30 a.m.)

Men’s Bible Brunch (Third Sat. of the Month, September -June)

Confirmation (Jr. Confirmation Classes, 2 yr.; Adult Confirmation Classes)

Membership

Encouraging and fostering connections within our congregational family, celebrating our achievements and spreading the Gospel through social media. The membership also celebrates birthdays with the sending of birthday cards yearly as well as Christmas cards inviting our congregation to attend celebrations of Advent and the Christmas holidays.

Financial

Monthly Income and Expense Breakdown

Live totals calculated from every income and expense line in Budget Detail

Month	Income	Expenses	Net
January	\$4,443.20	\$18,540.67	(\$14,097.47)
February	\$15,081.83	\$18,369.70	(\$3,287.87)
March	\$17,058.00	\$20,326.11	(\$3,268.11)
April	\$11,059.44	\$14,376.20	(\$3,316.76)
May	\$17,291.00	\$16,806.87	\$484.13
June	\$14,940.00	\$14,699.28	\$240.72
July	\$16,129.00	\$13,086.81	\$3,042.19
August	\$16,553.73	\$14,047.71	\$2,506.02
September	-	-	-
October	-	-	-
November	-	-	-
December	-	-	-
YTD TOTAL	\$112,556.20	\$130,253.35	(\$17,697.15)