

# The Good Newsletter

*A Publication of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church*

January 2013



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
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St. Paul, MN 55109  
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#### Church Staff

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651-247-2742  
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**Blystone, Bonnie**, Choir Director  
651-483-3788

**Parenteau, Dave**, Custodian

#### Sunday Schedule

Traditional Worship: 8:45am  
Creation Stations: 10:00am  
Contemporary Worship: 11:00am  
5th Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Our Mission is "To be a life-changing Christian community where people meet, love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ."



January is usually the time you start a new fitness plan, drop the smoking habit, see your family more, consume less soda or TV, sign up for a community education class, or take a vacation (especially when you crave the warmth of the sun on cold snowy days in Minne-snow-da). And these are all great options for your 2013 New Year.

This new time after we celebrate Christmas should be a crossroads for us, a place of discernment and looking for street signs of God's Royal Highway making its way through our opened hearts, into our cozy living rooms, through darkened alleys of domestic violence-drugs-addiction-home foreclosures-poverty-peer pressures-- toward a better place for Christmas People to flourish. Jesus encounters humankind as the ultimate crossroads where God flings the gates of love wide open and sets up shop in our neighborhoods. What will God build and encourage, nudge, and call the Christmas People of Our Redeemer to in 2013?

For one thing, we build on what has already been built at Our Redeemer this last year and the 60 years that we rang in with such joy:

1. Vibrant and dynamic worship with the promise of Christ's Body and Blood given for all.
2. Healthy and sustainable stewardship through a variety of gifts, tithes, and services for God's mission and ministry, with the hope of continued growth.
3. Eyes for what God is doing in our community and for our community-- whom we are called to serve, console, and learn from--bearing the living and loving name of Christ.
4. Nurturing, growing, and shaping disciples who live out their faith with boldness in fellowship with God and others.

As 2013 the Year of The Lord commences and we make changes in our diets and habits, we give thanks, praise, and glory to God for so much at Our Redeemer. In that gratitude and vision we gather as Christmas People for our Annual Meeting [on January 27th.](#)

We will reflect on what God has already done for us, as well as look for opportunities to join in the unfolding building operations to come and carry the work of the saints forward. Our Redeemer Lives!



## ***La Natividad: The Gift to All Nations***

On Dec. 14th, Ashley (my partner) and I took her family (parents and siblings) to one of our favorite Christmas time activities: *La Natividad*.

*La Natividad* is a street-theater performance of the Christmas story told through the eyes of Latino immigrants. With bright singing stars and smiling angels, a “three-person” donkey, and a twenty-foot tall Joseph, the costumes and puppet attire alone make it a living spectacle. As the story develops, based on a harmonization of Matthew and Luke, it is clear that the ruling authority wants nothing to do with a new king in town. Herod strategically attempts to slaughter all the first-born babies and implements immigration policies

(the counting) to derail the new king from being born, even manipulating the Magi to get them to work for him so that he can “go and worship him also.” Yeah Right! The towering Joseph knocks on doors to find shelter along Lake Street in South Minneapolis, but there is no room for the pregnant couple to find rest or sanctuary, much less a place to call home. Traveling immigrants have no rights and no power.

Eventually, after wandering the streets, the foreign family finds comfort in an old church building, where the Great Star projects its light, paper mache animals of all kinds gather with the most unforgettable wise men you will see, and surround the Holy Child at the altar. The image is breathtakingly familiar and politically charged. Unexpected and provocative. Simple and profoundly relevant. The Nativity scene brings hope, comfort, and new life to newcomers and strangers who may feel rejected and unwelcome in occupied lands. The Blessed Family gives this incredible gift of welcome and worship to all nations.

After Christmas, we celebrate Epiphany and the Magi coming from different cultures and communities to worship the Messiah, Jesus, Christ. Jesus’ birth is a revelation to all nations, all tribes, and all traditions—it is the quintessential Transcultural Event. May we be a place of welcome this New year and make resolutions that bring cultures together, valuing what we all have to offer, around the Life-Light-Love of our God and Savior.

In Christ’s Gift to All Nations,

Peter



## **Organ Concert and Hymn Sing Sunday, January 27 at 4pm**

Come and celebrate the restoration of our Pipe Organ by listening to a concert that will feature solo organ pieces and duets with other musicians. The congregation will join in with the singing of our beloved Lutheran Hymns. This will be a time to thank those who contributed their time and resources to make the restoration possible. Invite your friends and family to join us in this musical celebration.



**Don't Miss These Two Important Meetings In January!**

**Sunday, January 20th at 10am—**

Informational finance meeting regarding the budget for 2013. Come learn about the finances and receive a preliminary budget to be voted on at the January 27th Annual Meeting.

**Sunday, January 27 at 10am—**

Annual Meeting. Please plan on attending our annual meeting where we will recap the 2012 year, learn of plans for 2013, vote for new board members and vote on the 2013 financial budget proposal.

Have some shoveling or winter yard work to do and think you might need some help? Please consider hiring a missionary! The youth who are going on the mission trip would be glad to come and help out with your work in exchange for your sponsorship of their trip this Summer! Please contact Aimee Pakan either with a phone call at church (772-2445 x 106) or through email ([aimee@orlcmn.org](mailto:aimee@orlcmn.org)) if you have some work to be done, and she will connect you with some energetic youth who'd love to help out!



Sr. high youth will be getting together every Thursday from 8:00 - 9:30 PM at the Caribou at: 3100 White Bear Avenue North, Maplewood, MN 55109. We'll hang out, drink some beverages and have some conversation. All Sr. High students

are welcome! Because of the Holidays, we will not be meeting at Caribou on December 27th, but will resume our regular meeting time on January 3rd.

**Children's Ministry Update, January 2012**

Thank you to everyone involved in the annual cookie shop fundraiser held December 8. Thank you to the generous bakers and all of the volunteers for your time during the busy Christmas season. We raised almost \$2000 to support Children's ministries.

**January Children's Ministry Committee meeting: Jan 3, at 6 pm**

**Creation Stations Schedule remaining 2013**

Jan 6, 13, 20	Ten Lepers	March 17	Seder Meal or other special event
Jan 6	Large Group-(Garden) All	March 23	Saturday (Egg Hunt)
Jan 13	Small Groups	March 24	Palm Sunday (Easter movie)
Jan 20	Small Groups	March 31	Easter
Jan 27, Feb 3, 10	Lazarus	April 7,14,21	Care for Creation (We Heal the Earth)
Jan 27	Large Group-(Garden) All	April 7	Large Group-(Garden) All
Feb 3	Small Groups	April 14	Small Groups
Feb 10	Small Groups	April 21	Small Groups
Feb 17	PJ party service project	April 28, May 5, 12	Forgiveness (We Heal Each Other)
Feb 24, Mar 3, 10	Lent—	April 28	Large Group-(Garden) All
Feb 24	Large Group-(Garden) All	May 5	Small Groups
Mar 3	Small Groups	May 12	Small Groups
Mar 10	Small Groups	May 19	Year-end celebration

## Spiritual Growth Ministries

### A Good Work began in All .....

As the 40 Days of Community/Better Together study came to a close, the participating groups were just beginning in their faith call to love and serve others, and with God's grace, this continues on. Part of the program was to help us recognize and express our deep caring for others. This was deeply rooted as part of the study, as groups were encouraged to serve others within the church as well as outside the church. Some of the group service projects completed or being worked on are:

- Clean the sanctuary prior to Christmas decorating
- Christmas decorating of the Church
- Helping to clean carpets and kitchen area
- Sponsoring a family for Christmas
- Packaging food at Feed My Starving Children
- Raking yards for congregation members
- Preparing and delivery of meals to congregation members

So, as Philippians 1:6 says: "being confident of this, that he who began a **good work** in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus".

### NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION REGARDING SPIRITUAL GROWTH GROUPS:

**\*\*Change in Meeting Day\*\*:** The group that had been meeting on Sunday evenings in members' homes, will now meet on Thursday evenings beginning in January. They will be starting a new study, Listening to God, and will meet at 6:30 p.m. twice per month. Contact Carol Watnemo at 651-776-2592 if interested in joining this study or if you have any questions.

**New Study:** The Lives Worth Living group will start a new study in January, called 'The Bible'. This will be a walk through the Bible by the Smart-Guide to the Bible series. The book says, Everything you need to Know about the Bible, from the Beginning to Eternity. Contact Doug Watnemo at 651-776-2592 if interested in joining this study or if you have any questions.

**New Christian-Based Book Discussion:** The Wednesday evening group is beginning a new book study on January 9<sup>th</sup>, called 'A Year of Biblical Womanhood: How a Liberated Woman Found Herself Sitting on Her Roof, Covering Her Head, and Calling Her Husband "Master"', by Rachel Held Evans. Contact Amy Krohn at 651-779-7945 if interested in joining this study or if you have any questions.

**Lenten Study Series:** Look for information forthcoming on a 6-week Lenten study.



Dear Friends and Family,

Greetings in the name of our New Born King! Have you developed your New Year's resolutions yet? Whether we write them out, or just think about them, most of us can't help but consider the fresh beginning a new year brings.

Making resolutions brings with it thoughts of past failures and guarded hopes for the future. This month, I would like to share a poem with you (written by Jan Burg) and some suggestions for ways to make resolutions 'fail-proof'.

#### My Resolution

I won't look back; God knows the fruitless efforts, the wasted hours, the sinning, the regrets; I'll leave them all with Him who blots the record, and mercifully forgives, and then forgets.  
I won't look forward. God sees all the future, the road that, short or long, will lead me home. And He will face with me its every trial, and bear with me the burdens that may come.  
But I'll look up – into the face of Jesus, for there my heart can rest, my fears are stilled; and there is joy and love, and light for darkness, and perfect peace, and every hope fulfilled.

#### How to make Resolutions 'fail-proof'

1. Keep goals realistic – You may need to cut your goals in half from previous years. Set goals you are confident you can reach. Don't set yourself up for failure.
2. Be specific about your goals – Instead of saying, "I'll lose weight", try, "I will lose 2 pounds per week until I reach my goal of 125 pounds.
3. Develop a plan for how you will reach your goals – Think carefully about your resources, limits, and reasons for past failures. After you have thought about it, write it down. Include all your strategies to help you reach your goals. Try to include resources such as prayer, Bible study, and working with others.
4. Find a partner – Moral support can be a big help in reaching your goals! Share goals with a partner, and provide encouragement to him/her also. Don't forget that Jesus makes an excellent support person!
5. Keep track of your progress – This will help you see your progress one day at a time. It will also help you identify barriers in reaching your goals.
6. Think of each day as a new beginning – You don't need to keep your resolutions for 365 consecutive days, but just one day at a time. Appreciate the newness that each day brings!
7. Do your best; the rest leave to God – The Lord is your partner and He will bless your efforts at growth ... He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:6.). Enjoy the knowledge that all things are in the hands of our loving Lord.

May you and your loved ones experience wholeness and joy in this New Year.

Carol Watnemo, RN

Parish Nurse, 651-776-2592



#### CARE FOR CREATION:

Inside Our Redeemer Lutheran Church's building we strive to be good stewards of earth's resources by recycling the following:

**PAPER:** All **clean** office paper, packaging paper, newspaper, pop cartons, and flattened cardboard can be placed in the open red box in the office. Please, **no** paper which contains **food** residue, like pizza boxes or paper plates.

**ALUMINUM CANS:** All **empty** aluminum beverage cans should be placed in the container next to the kitchen door marked "Aluminum Cans Only". Selling these aluminum cans produces a small, steady income stream of about \$40 per month which is used for energy-saving upgrades within our building.

**PLASTIC BOTTLES, GLASS BOTTLES, STEEL FOOD CANS, PLASTIC MILK JUGS, REFRIGERATED JUICE BOXES:** All these **clean, empty** containers, without metal lids, should be placed together in the container marked "Glass, Cans and Bottles", which is next to the kitchen door, outside wall.

## All Thrivent Policy Holders

Please check to see whether you have Choice Dollars available, which may be designated to Our Redeemer. If you have already made a direction of your Choice Dollars to ORLC in the past, **you will need to renew your designation for 2013.** If you have questions please contact Lana & Don Larsen 651-777-3874

By phone: 1. Call 1-800-847-4836 during business hours and say "Thrivent Choice." 2. Say "Choice Dollars." 3. Say or enter the last 4 digits of your Social Security number. 4. Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars. 5. A representative will then work with you to direct Choice Dollars to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, St. Paul, MN 55109.

Online: 1. [www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice). 2. Log in. 3. Look for your designated Choice Dollars amount on the right side of the screen. 4. Click on "Direct Choice Dollars. 5. Search catalog of organizations to find Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, St. Paul, MN 55109. 6. Click on "Direct Choice Dollars Now."

Thank you for attending to this important source of income for Our Redeemer!

	January 6	January 13	January 20	January 27
<b>Worship Host</b>	Amy Krohn	Barb Maynard	Dick & Sharon Peterson	Bruce Ring & Rita During
<b>8:45 Ushers</b>	Dennis Paulson Rob Klemm Kent Weispfenning Dennis Peterson	Roger Ollila Doug Watnemo Baryagar Johnson Roger Svendsen	Dan Fitzgerald Bill Maynard Bill Fredine Dave Mennen	Larry & Sandy Pruden Gary Moe Mike Welte
<b>8:45 Greeters</b>	Judy Triplett Barbara Howard-Glaeve	Dan & Laurie, Danny Fitzgerald	Oliviene Hefta Anna Miller	Judy Moe Joyce Abrahamson
<b>8:45 Lector</b>	Darleen Klemm	Chris Reeves	Lana Larsen	Carol Watnemo
<b>8:45 Communion Assistant</b>	TBD		Kevin Rodriguez	
<b>11:00 Ushers</b>	Claire Sexton Tom Wallace Reed Schrankler Cheri Edwall	Rick Brovitch Ben Schrankler Clint Crooks Aaron Mennen	Randy & Jane Koza Dick & Sharon Peterson	Bruce Ring Mark, Doreen, Courtney Winter
<b>11:00 Greeters</b>	Jessica Kremer Helen Wallace	Shirley Torgerson Cindy Crooks	Nora Smeed Jessica Ryden	Claire Sexton Sharon Peterson
<b>11:00 Lectors</b>	Kathi Kirchoff	Jane Koza	TBD	Hilary Hinrichs
<b>11:00 Communion Assistant</b>	TBD		TBD	
<b>Bucks for our Building Worker</b>	Chris Reeves		Barb Maynard	
<b>Counter</b>	Barb Maynard Helen Wallace	Dennis Peterson Shirley Torgerson	Allen Heimerdinger Clint & Cindy Crooks	Don & Lana Larsen Roger Truen

The following income is year to date through November, 2012 and is based on member giving which is General, Festival, Initial Offering & Plate Cash.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness to the mission of ORLC!

<b>Budgeted Income:</b>	<b>\$256,919</b>
<b>Actual Income:</b>	<b>\$267,436</b>
<b>Difference:</b>	<b>\$10,517</b>

**Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat**



<p>6 Can Day, First Sun Food Shelf, Blood Pressure Check, BFOB 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church</p>	<p>1 New Year's Day—Office Closed</p>	<p>2 9:30am Bible Study</p>	<p>3 6:45am Men's Study 1:00pm Staff Mtg 6:00pm Children's Committee Mtg 6:30pm Phalen Stewards Mtg 8:00pm SR High at Caribou</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service</p>
<p>7 6 Can Day, First Sun Food Shelf, Blood Pressure Check, BFOB 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church</p>	<p>8 1:00pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Men's Bible Study, SEL, Hope Circle</p>	<p>9 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell Choir 6:30pm Wed Eve Study 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>10 6:45am Men's Study 6:30pm Thursday Eve Bible Study 8:00pm SR High at Caribou</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service</p>
<p>13 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Sunday School, Visitation of Homebound Members 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church 3:00pm SEL Fellowship in FH</p>	<p>15 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Men's Bible Study, Church Board, SEL</p>	<p>16 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell Choir 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>17 6:45am Men's Study 5-7pm Intern Committee Mtg—Fireside 6:30pm Knitting &amp; Crocheting Group at Hometown Creamery 8:00pm SR High at Caribou</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 9am-3pm Scrapbooking 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service</p>
<p>20 Bucks for our Building 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Sunday School, Finance Mtg 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church</p>	<p>22 1:00pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Men's Bible Study, SEL</p>	<p>23 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell Choir 6:30pm Wed Eve Study 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>24 6:45am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Thursday Eve Bible Study 8:00pm SR High at Caribou</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service</p>
<p>27 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Sunday School, Annual Mtg 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church 3:00pm SEL Fellowship in FH 4:00pm Organ Concert</p>	<p>29 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Men's Bible Study, SEL</p>	<p>30 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell Choir 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>31 8:00pm SR High at Caribou</p>		

**DATED MATERIAL  
DO NOT DELAY**

Address Service Requested

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Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
1390 East Larpeteur Avenue  
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