



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Transforming Lives and Building Community by Loving God and Serving Others

September 2018



What are the Hungry to do?

Every day there are people who live with hunger – a simple or profound need to eat but without good resources. Some of those folks are across the world in Africa or India or Europe. Some of those folks are in

Texas, or the upper Midwest, or in this Lake Phalen neighborhood. If you are hungry you seek out food in dumpsters, aid stations, at food shelves, or places where free food is served. If you are hungry you rely on the care and compassion of others to help you meet a basic requirement for life.

What are we to do?

Help the hungry!! It is our work as the people of God to provide care and compassion and help act to address hunger. And we are doing that well through various avenues at Our Redeemer. The national ELCA church was so grateful for our wider work around Hunger Ministry that they awarded us \$4,000 this year to help us continue this work. One thing we said in the grant we wrote for this money is that we would seek to engage as many of our active members in at least one means of Hunger engagement during the year. We will report back to them a number after the end of the year. Later this year we will have a bulletin insert form asking how you participated in our Hunger ministries and we expect to have over 90% participation. Please find at least one way to help with Hunger.

Here are the Hunger ministries of Our Redeemer:

Dorothy Day – we prepare and serve a meal every other month (4th Monday of even months) to about 275 people in more desperate conditions in downtown St Paul. People can help cook the food, come to serve

it, clean up or add to the Noisy Offering. Signups are always on the welcome desk.

Loaves and Fishes Wednesday meal – we serve a meal here at the church every Wednesday night from 5:30 -6:30 p.m. to 40—50 people. You can come eat and visit with the people or volunteer to help prep, serve or wash dishes. You can speak to Doreen Winter for more details – 775-3425.

God's Work Our Hands Meal Pack event – This fall on September 15 and 16 we will work together with many other faith communities and some area businesses to pack food with Meals From The Heart who then distribute these packets throughout MN, WI and SD. We aim to have 50-75 folks from Our Redeemer participate – go to stpaulsidebyside.org to sign up for a two hour shift or stop at the narthex table in the next weeks.

Second Harvest – We pack food about six times a year in the building that is located at Highway 36 and #61. Look for sign up sheets at the Welcome Desk this fall.

Merrick Food Shelf – We collect both cash donations (so they can buy food at much cheaper costs) as well as canned and boxed food items which get brought to the local food shelf located in Woodland Hills Church just behind the NW corner of White Bear and Larpenteur Avenues.

ELCA World Hunger Appeal – we collect the coin boxes but also receive other cash donations that get used for hunger relief throughout the world. The great thing about gifts given here is that 100% of the gift goes for direct aid.

Come Help with Hunger and make the world and our community a better place.



From the Associate Minister

A word on young adults

It is no secret that the gap between young adults and Christian congregations is widening. There are many factors to this dynamic reality. Certain characteristics of today's young adults and their culture make them less inclined to seek out a congregation, or any institution. Certain characteristics of today's congregations make them less appealing to young adults. We do know young adults are not rejecting faith or religion. We do know many are living out their faith in vibrant ways at innovative intersections such as: faith and political activism, faith and the arts, faith and environmental stewardship, and interfaith engagement. The Riverside Innovation Hub will help congregations become engaged with young adults at these intersections and at others we may discover along the way.

In March ORLC submitted an application and video applying to be part of a three-year initiative through the Riverside Innovation Hub. This summer, our congregation was formally accepted into the program. A few weeks ago, our team met and interviewed coaches. And now, we are excited to introduce our new coach through the Augsburg Riverside Innovation Hub program. He will be accompanying us for the next 10 months as we listen and grow into interpreting, discerning, and proclaiming our new story.

Below is an introduction to Coach Tim. But first, I have two requests of YOU: Would you or someone you know be interested in serving on this leadership team? If so, please get in touch with me at jennifer@orlcmn.org or 651-772-2445. Secondly, a young adult event is planned in collaboration with three to four other Lutheran churches in our area. Mark your calendar for a YAMU (Young Adult Meet Up) on Sunday, September 30th at 3pm. We will head over to Aamodt's Apple Orchard and Winery for an afternoon of apple picking and wine tasting.

Meet Tim...

My name is Tim and I grew up right here in the beautiful Twin Cities of Minnesota. I am a graduate of the University of Northwestern (previously known as Northwestern College) in St. Paul and I am currently attending Bethel Seminary in pursuit of a Master's in Ministry. I have been happily married to my gorgeous wife Anna for about nine months. We live just north of Minneapolis in the city of Brooklyn Park. Our home church is a multi-generational Hmong church in Coon Rapids. We both previously served in the youth ministry for almost a decade. Currently, I serve as the Worship Director for our church. We enjoy being active and playing music together. Our hobbies include volleyball, playing our guitars, and do-it-yourself, home-improvement projects.



Compassion is my big thing. I believe that every single one of us has a beautiful story to tell and we all deserve to be heard. It hurts to see that, even in our society today, people are stripped of their own voice and are told that their experiences, their opinions, and their perspectives are not valued. The Church ought to be a place where individuals find value in themselves in the context of community. Christ loves the lowly and the meek and I believe that we ought to as well. In these next 10 months, I am incredibly excited to see the work that God has begun in the churches of the Twin Cities. I believe that God is moving here in our city and I think that we are all blessed to be able to be a part of God's kingdom-building work. Apart from my home church, I have not had the privilege to work with other congregations. I am eager to see churches seeking to honor and glorify Christ in their unique context.

VBS

The theme for our Vacation Bible School this past month was Shipwrecked, Rescued by Jesus. We had 39 kids and at least 25 volunteers involved in this four day whirlwind adventure.

Overall, it was a great outreach to our neighborhood youth and a great coming together to love on and encourage kids who may not otherwise be part of a faith community or hear about God's love.

A great big thanks to all who participated, served, organized, decorated, sang, crafted, and loved. Please keep these young people in your prayers that they would continue to hear God's Word and be vehicles of God's love and service to their friends and neighbors.

**FALL BRINGS US BACK TO TWO WORSHIP SERVICES**

Join us starting on September 9th and we move back to two services. There is a nice joy about being a larger congregation gathered for worship during these months of having a single service, but we will move back to our Traditional and Worship and Praise services for the school year. The choir will be back (always ready for new voices) for the traditional service as well as the full liturgy of the service. Practice is Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. And the contemporary service will have more preaching from the front floor, current contemporary music and a continued focus on developing connections within the community. We will be worshipping at 8:45 and 10:45 a.m. Worship is the heartbeat of the Christian life and is the time to connect with your family – so for yourself and for others make worship a priority this fall.

On Rally/Reunion Sunday, September 9th there will be information tables in the narthex filled with information about ministries and invitations to be part of various music opportunities or ministry teams or other groups. Plan to take some time to see what all is happening, and where you might plug in.

DOROTHY DAY NINE YEARS LATER

In 2010 Pastoral Intern Chris Johnson encouraged ORLC to serve a meal at the St Paul Dorothy Day shelter. We were going to try for two months to see if we could get volunteers and funds to support this worthy cause. ORLC joined the Loaves and Fishes organization and began serving in June 2010. We serve on the fourth Monday on even numbered months. ORLC is now beginning its ninth year.

We have funded and purchased food that cost \$20,292.46 and served 13,250 meals. We have reached out to Thrivent Financial and received grants of \$4,250, thanks to ORLC Thrivent Members, and we have received generous support from congregants with our “Noisy Offering”.

Amazingly 141 different people have volunteered to prepare and serve the meal. We depend on, and can't thank enough, our core group of about 20 people who come often.

We know there are many stories for the people who need a free meal. We have had volunteers say “that person used to live in my apartment building”, “that person used to run around with my son in high school”. Or the person volunteering may have needed help at one time. Even when shopping for food we have had store employees say they needed Dorothy Day at one time in their life. Many guests are homeless and many are stretching low incomes by receiving a free meal. Thank you to everyone at ORLC who has volunteered, contributed, made Thrivent Grants possible and to Thrivent Financial for their generous support.

Dennis Paulson, Coordinator

A NEW SIGN FOR OUR REDEEMER

We are about to get a new LED sign for our front yard. Good, new signage was one of the initial priorities when we made physical improvements to the facility over these last years following our Capital Appeal Drive.

After much planning and decisions and process, the Facility team is glad to be on the final stretch and we should have our new sign installed in September. This will help attract attention to the church and be able to communicate more information to the tens of thousands of drivers who pass our church each year. Keep your eyes open to see this going up in the weeks to come.



Meanwhile part of what this means is that we have to take down our old individual letters sign. For many years now Mike Kahrau has been so dedicated to getting special events listed, worship times changed, and fun sayings posted. We are going to miss this means of connecting with the community, but want to offer our deep thanks for Mike's diligent work to change these signs in rain, snow and probably even sleet (just like the mailman). Here is a recent picture of his work on a nice day. Thank you, Mike for your great service for so many years!!!



WELCOME

Here is a picture of Jim Burke who wasn't available when we included pictures of our recent new members. We welcome Jim, his wife Deb, and six others from our latest new member class into fuller engagement at Our Redeemer.

WORSHIP ON THE FARM



Our summer of Wednesday Worship on the Farm at Bruentrup Farm in Maplewood is drawing to a close. This was a great way for us to collaborate with six other area Lutheran churches to put on a great opportunity for worship, music, preaching along with games and food. These nights provide a special context to be together and share in something that we could not do alone. Thanks for all those that attended and participated. We are already making plans for what next year will look like for more of these same good nights together.

A NEW STAFF MEMBER

Hello all. While I can't fill Lisa's shoes, I'm sitting at her desk.

I'm Tracey Gennrich and so happy to be here! Thank you for the warm welcome. I'm a native Minnesota, although I've lived pretty much all over the country. My education is a B.A. in theology from Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN and a B.A. in communication from Augsburg College (now Augsburg University.)

My work history includes internships in three congregations in Miami and serving at the Lutheran Council in the U.S.A. in New York City before the ELCA came into being. I've also worked at churches in Phoenix and at Gustavus Adolphus in Northeast Minneapolis. In addition, I worked as a branch mailing coordinator for Lutheran Brotherhood, now Thrivent Financial.

Besides working in church related positions I am also employed in retail sales by Minnesota Public Radio/American Public Media and Cheese Brothers at the Mall of America.



Worship Assistants

Date	September 2	September 9	September 16	September 23	September 30
Worship Host	Roger Svendsen	Dennis & Sharon Peterson	Bruce & Rita Ring	Jim & Amy Krohn	Dick & Sharon Peterson
Gift Cards	Sharon Peterson		Jill Rodriguez		
Kitchen Help	Darlene Harwood Larry & Sandy Pruden	Judy Moe	Dick & Sharon Peterson	Mark & Doreen Winter, Jessica Morgan	Claire Sexton Judy Moe
Greeters	Barb Birchem Judy Triplett	Dan, Laurie, & Danny Fitzgerald	Florence Senske Oliviene Hefta	Claire Sexton Sharon Peterson	TBD
Lector	Kathi Kirchoff	Darleen Klemm Hilary Hinrichs	Jane Koza	Jim & Amy Krohn	Cherie Kilbride
Ushers	Mike Kahrau Dennis Paulson	Roger Svendsen Claire Sexton	Larry & Sandy Pruden	Mark & Doreen Winter	TBD

Online Giving Opportunities

Thank you for your support of Our Redeemer. Contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account or processed using your credit or debit card.

Our electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much needed donation consistency for our congregation. We appreciate your gifts!

Finances through the month of July

2018 Beginning Balance \$ 39,345

Member Giving \$133,926

Supplemental Income \$ 41,920

Total \$215,191

Expenses \$216,915

Difference (1,724)

Mobile Users Scan Here





September 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1 5:30—9 p.m. ROH(S)
2 Bucks for the Building 6 a.m.—2 p.m. ROH Prayer (SS) 9:30 a.m. Summer Worship 1:00 p.m. Rock of Horeb Ch.	3 Labor Day Church Offices Closed	4 7:00 p.m. SEL (CR)	5 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 5:30 p.m. Leaves & Fishes 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	6 6:45 a.m. Men's Study 6:00 p.m. Children, Youth and Family	7	8 5:30—9 p.m. ROH(S) 8—10 p.m. ROH (FH)
9 Rally Sunday Commissioning Young Adults Coach 8:45 & 10:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Education 1:00 p.m. Rock of Horeb Ch.	10 9:30 a.m. Quilting 6:00—8:00 p.m. TOPS 6:00 p.m. Joy Circle	11 7:00 p.m. SEL (CR)	12 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 5:30 p.m. Leaves & Fishes 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	13 6:45 a.m. Men's Study 10:00 a.m. Kitchen Table Mystics	14	15 God's Work/Our Hands 5:30—9 p.m. ROH (S) 9:00 a.m. Scrapbooking 8—10 p.m. ROH (FH)
16 God's Work/Our Hands Bucks for the Building 8:45 & 10:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Education 12:00 p.m. Walk/Bike/Run 1:00 p.m. Rock of Horeb Ch.	17 6:00—8:00 p.m. TOPS 6:45 p.m. Lives Worth Living	18 7:00 p.m. SEL (CR)	19 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 5:30 p.m. Leaves & Fishes 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	20 6:45 a.m. Men's Study 6:30 p.m. Knitting & Crocheting Group Caribou	21	22 5:30—9 p.m. ROH (S) 8—10 p.m. ROH (FH)
23 8:45 & 10:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Education 1:00 p.m. Rock of Horeb Ch.	24 9:30 a.m. Quilting 6:00—8:00 p.m. TOPS	25 6:00 p.m. Cong. Growth 7:00 p.m. SEL (CR) 7:00 p.m. Church Board (F)	26 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 5:30 p.m. Leaves & Fishes 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	27 6:45 a.m. Men's Study	28	29 5:30—9 p.m. ROH (S) 8—10 p.m. ROH (FH)
30 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Education 1:00 p.m. Rock of Horeb Ch.						

Our Redeemer Staff

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Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

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**Sunday Worship: 8:45 Traditional
and 10: 45 a.m. Worship & Praise
Education Hour: 9:45 a.m.**



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Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
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St. Paul, MN 55109

