

The Good Newsletter

A Publication of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

July 2013



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Sunday Schedule

Traditional Worship: 8:45am
Contemporary Worship: 10:30am
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."



Conversation leads to Dreaming which leads to Discerning which leads to ???

There has been a lot of very good conversation taking place these last many months about the life and ministry of Our Redeemer. There is much to celebrate. There are areas to work on and develop. There are things that we have heard about over and over and some newer ideas that have come up.

Congregations always live with a mission mindset, but what is done, how we do it, and what we need in order to carry out ministry can change. This is a time when Our Redeemer is having important conversations that will shape changes we would make to our facility and directions for our ministry.

This summer we are going to be working with Dick Wehrs from Miller Architects to foster one large sharing (June 30th) and then a handful of small group and individual follow up conversations (in July and August) that will help lead us into making some changes, particularly in our facility. These conversations are important as they will help more of us think about the church and how our building helps or hinders the ministry we would like to do.

The main gathering for the Mission, Ministry and Facility Study will take place on Sunday June 30th after the single service worship, which will be outdoors in our front entrance area. Following worship we will gathering for ice cream, muffins and various drinks, and then after a very brief semiannual meeting Dick will lead us in some table conversations for about an hour to help us imagine our future.

One of the main places this work will lead us is to look at changes, remodeling, or additions to our facility. If there is enough congregational interest, ownership, and readiness we will look to make some of the first space changes to this building since the 'newest' addition was built back in 1971.

What would you like to see us do within these walls? How do you feel our current facility inhibits what we could do as a congregation? What kind of hopes do you have for our future, and what kind of help can you provide? These are the kinds of conversations we will have to help us dream about God's future for Our Redeemer and to discern what that would mean for us.

Please join us Sunday, June 30th for our 5th Sunday worship at 10:00am, and then be a part of this special large conversation. There will be activities for the youth and nursery care provided.

Pastor Karsten



From the Intern's Desk...

Words of Wisdom

Here is some good wisdom that will never lead you astray: “Always Blame it on the Intern!” I think I can take it, don’t worry. I’m still learning, but we’ll get to more of that in a second.

First, I want to know: what do you consider good wisdom? What makes someone wise? Who do you go to for good advice? Who do you trust with information? How do you make important decisions? What is your discernment process? Is there a difference between smart and wise choices?

During worship in the month of July we will be focusing our reading of Scripture on what is known as “Wisdom Literature.” We will look for ways that God’s Word continues to seek to guide, inform, direct, redirect, encourage, forgive, command, and proclaim what wisdom and the good life is all about.

In Scripture, wisdom “Sophia” is also often used and described synonymously with the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God blows wild like the wind in the Gospel of John, gives vocational gifts in Paul’s letters, comforts, advocates, and nudges us in the book of Acts. Wisdom works on us and through us in the Holy Spirit.

But what constitutes true Godly wisdom, reason, and insight? How do we filter out what is really good for us and for others? We are in a time saturated with quick billboard advice, endless “self-help” guides, Google, smartphones, smart cars, and when anyone with a Facebook account seems to think that they have the solution to everyone else’s problems.

Hopefully, our series in July will help to move us all to a more open place of sharing and receiving the wisdom, love, and care of our Triune God.

In that same quest for wisdom, in my own prayer and discernment, I continue to listen and wonder at how God is imbuing wisdom, molding and crafting me into a faithful and loving pastor. I know that the relationships, feedback, and Bible study that I have had here have taught me a great deal. And before I go, I want to know if there is there anything else you would like to share with me---about congregational care, faith, life, and church leadership?

I want to learn from your years of nurturing pastors and sending out spectacular interns.

So PLEASE, drop me a line, send me a card or email, set up a time when we can get together to talk. You could even write something on my Facebook wall if you wanted.

For me, much wisdom is gained from humbly asking, being vulnerable, and putting yourself out there.

At least then you can’t blame me for not asking. ☺

In God’s Abundant Wisdom,

Peter

Outdoor Worship on June 30th at 10:00am

There is something wonderful about being outside in MN during the summer. Join us for a special outdoor worship in our front entrance area (we expect it will be nice and sunny!) where you can bring your own lawn chair to sit in the grass or take one of the chairs in the drive through or front entry. After worship stay for some ice cream, muffins and drinks and then about an hour for a brief semiannual meeting and our ‘Getting Started’ conversation about mission and our facility.



Dear Friends and Family,

God's richest blessings on you this summer. I hope you are able to spend some time enjoying your loved ones, and the beauties that are summer. This month I would like to consider the role of the family in self-esteem.

The family plays a major role in the development of self-esteem. Much of our self-esteem can be traced back to how we were treated as children in our families. Children are not born with self-esteem, rather self-esteem is really a reflection of other's opinion of us. A healthy sense of self is a very important gift we can give our children. As adults, we may need to forgive our parents if there were not able to help us feel lovable, capable, and valued. Really, the only healthy source of self-esteem comes from our relationship with our Heavenly Father. He is the only person who can love us with unconditional love without fail.

How can families help children develop self-esteem? There are several things a Christian family can do to foster self-esteem.

First, we can provide our children with an abundance of unconditional love. This is the love that we learn best from God. It is the easiest for adults to share this with their children, if they enjoy God's love for themselves. Unconditional love speaks loudly to children that they are valuable because of who they are, not what they do. Each person is a precious and irreplaceable child of our loving Father; of such worth, that Jesus died to redeem him or her!

Second, we can provide the structure and guidance that children need. Love without guidance, really isn't love. Children need a sense of their role and position in order to sense that the world is logical and predictable. It helps them to feel safe, so they can focus on their real work.

Third, we can provide a positive environment that affirms one another. Children learn a great deal from watching their parents interact. "Love is patient, love is kind. . . It is not rude. . . it is not easily angered. . . it always protects, always trusts, always opens, always perseveres." (I Corinthians 13:4-7) May He who is faithful help us to experience whole news and love in our family lives.

Carol Watnemo, RN
Parish Nurse, 651-776-2592



Mission opportunity - "Christmas in July"

During the month of July we are collecting baby clothing and small toys for Solid Ground (formally known as East Metro Women's Council). This organization in White Bear Lake offers housing and support for families who have experienced homelessness in suburban Ramsey and Washington counties.

Each year Common Ground uses these donated items to have a baby shower for new moms. Specific needs include unisex toys – ages 3 months to 1 year, outfits – 0-3 months and 3-6 months, baby shampoo, baby soap, diaper cream, sippy cups, night lights, crib sheets and baby books. Diaper bags, baby bath tubs, strollers, swings and walkers can be either new or gently used. A display table will be in the Narthex starting July 7th. Be watching for some good sales. Your questions are welcomed by any member of the mission's team.

Spiritual Growth & Discipleship

WHAT IS A CIRCLE? In geometry, a circle is a round shape without a beginning or end. In Christianity, God's love is a circle – there is no beginning or end. All women 18 years or older are invited to join a circle at Our Redeemer. We currently have two circles at Our Redeemer. A circle could be defined as a small group of 8-12 women who gather monthly for 2 hours of Bible study, prayer, and Christian fellowship. Any woman over the age of 18 wanting to study God's Word and grow in His grace is invited to join.

There may be a small charge for the study book if one is used. Otherwise, just bring a Bible and a desire to learn more about God's Word and His will for our lives. If you wish, you can be in both circles. No babysitting is provided. We are also open to starting new circles and would be willing to help get another one started if there is interest and a volunteer leader.

Each circle chooses its own Bible study. In the past, the Joy Circle has studied the books, "Bad Girls of the Bible" and "Really Bad Girls of the Bible." Last year we finished a 13 session series about the parables of Jesus in the Bible. This year we have been studying about what the Bible says about ENCOURAGEMENT – and how we can encourage ourselves, our families, our friends, our enemies and how God encourages us through His Word and through what I call "earthly angels."

For more information about joining a women's circle at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, call Judy Koza at 737-3941 or e-mail her at JLKOZA3@MMM.COM. She can get you in touch with the leader for the circles. Meeting time and the location place of the circle are up to the individual circle but, for example, the Joy circle meets on the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. and does not meet for the summer months of July and August. We encourage you to consider joining a circle this year. Fall is a great time to start a new activity to learn more about God's Word and His plan for our lives.

Judy Koza
JOY circle leader

I wish to thank all my faithful friends at Our Redeemer, who spent hours helping me with my condo accumulation of 27 years! They priced my items ready for sale and after the two day sale returned with two men and a van, to pick up and deliver anything left over from my sale to O.R.L.C. What a blessing you are, at a difficult time in my life. May God smile upon you, for all you do.

With appreciation, and love,

Barbara Glaeve

Please Join us for VBS 2013: Monday -Thursday evenings, August 12 -15.



Group Publishing Kingdom Rock Theme
Free Registration
Ages: Preschool – 5th Grade

Kids, invite your friends and neighbors!

Free Dinner 5:30 – 6 pm
Program 6 – 8 pm

If you would like to help out please contact
Carmen Snaza or anyone on the Children's
Ministries team.

Hope to see you there!

July Children's Ministries Meeting: Thursday, July 11, 6 p.m.

We will have 11 youth and 4 adults leaving on July 8th for a mission trip to New Orleans. We ask that you would keep us in your prayers while we are representing Christ and Our Redeemer while serving in New Orleans. We will be taking the train to New Orleans and serving the community there until July 16th. Please pray that we are able to shine the light of Christ to those that we meet, that we will be kept healthy and safe and that we grow in our own faith as we see Christ at work there.

Ministry Mission, and Facility Needs Study

Dick Wehrs from Miller Architects is working with the Board and a Leadership Team at Our Redeemer to begin an analysis of the current facility with the equipment, and a look at possible remodeling or new building construction that could help us carry out more or better ministry. As we have invitations to be part of feedback groups or individual visits for input please know that at any time during the summer if you would like to make contact with Dick you may call him at 320-815-1048 or by email at dickw@milleraab.com

Internship News

We are beginning to think about the end of Peter being with us as he returns to Luther Seminary for one more year of school. As has been tradition we will have a special congregational pot luck and program on his last Sunday. That date will be August 11th so make plans to join us for a meal together (food details later) at 11:30am following the second service. This also means we are thinking about the beginning of time with our next intern, Ben Mandrick. Ben and his wife Andrea (and a first child due 8/7) will begin at the end of June—if you are interested in being part of the Internship Support Team (or for more details about this good work) talk to Julie Peterson or Rita During.

	July 7	July 14	July 21	July 28
Worship Host	Bruce Ring & Rita During	Dick & Sharon Peterson	Roger Svendsen	Reed Schrankler
8:45 Ushers	Dennis Paulson Rob Klemm Kent Weispfenning Dennis Peterson	Roger Ollila Baryogar Johnson Roger Svendsen	Dan Fitzgerald Bill Maynard Bill Fredine Dave Mennen	Larry & Sandy Pruden Mike Welte Mike Kahrau
8:45 Greeters	Judy Triplett Jennifer Kubitschek	Dan & Laurie, Danny Fitzgerald	Barbara Glaeve Pauline Halverson Virginia Kattleson	Judy Moe Joyce Abrahamson
8:45 Lector	Dianne Derks	Carol Watnemo	TBD	TBD
11:00 Ushers	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
11:00 Greeters	Katie Nelson Helen Wallace	Shirley Torgerson Cindy Crooks	Nora Smeed Jessica Ryden	Claire Sexton Sharon Peterson
11:00 Lectors	Kathi Kirchoff	Hilary Hinrichs	Cherie Kilbride	TBD
Bucks for our Building Worker	Chris Reeves		Barb Maynard	
Coffee and Donut Prep/Serve	Shirley Sheehan Marie Mohrlant Darlene Harwood	Dave Mennen	Dick & Sharon Peterson	Dennis & Jan Peterson
Counter	Barb Maynard Helen Wallace	Dennis Peterson Shirley Torgerson	Allen Heimerdinger Clint Crooks	Don & Lana Larsen Roger Truen


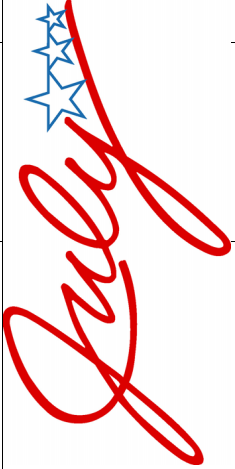


May food shelf donations 67.5 lbs. of food

Financial Information as of May 31.

Below you will find our year to date income information which consists of General, Festival & Plate Cash giving. This amount does not include extras such as rent or cell tower.

Budgeted Income	\$109,917
Actual Income	\$125,934
Difference	\$16,017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30pm Caffeinated for Christ 6:45pm Lives Worth Living	2 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm SEL	3 6:30pm Wed Eve Bible Study	4 Fourth of July—Office Closed 	5	6 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service
7 Can Day, First Sun Food Shelf, Blood Pressure Check, BFOB 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:30am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church, Lead Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen	8 Mission Trip Departs 9:00am Quilting	9 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm SEL	10 9:30am Bible Study	11 6:45am Men's Study 5:30pm Worship & Music 6pm Children's Ministry Mtg 6:30pm Phalen Stewards Mtg	12 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service	
14 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:30am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church 3:00pm SEL Fellowship in FH	15 6:30pm Caffeinated for Christ 6:45pm Lives Worth Living	16 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm SEL, Church Board	17 Mission Trip Returns 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Wed Eve Bible Study	18 6:45am Men's Bible Study	19	20 9am-3pm Scrapbooking 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service
21 Bucks for our Building 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:30am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church	22 9:00am Quilting	23 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm SEL	24 9:30am Bible Study	25 6:45am Men's Bible Study 5:30pm Intern Support Mtg 6:30pm Knitting & Crocheting Group at Hometown Creamery	26	27 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service
28 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:30am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church	29 6:45pm Lives Worth Living 7:00pm Parish Health Mtg	30 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm SEL	31 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Wed Eve Bible Study			

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**DATED MATERIAL
DO NOT DELAY**

Address Service Requested

