

The Good Newsletter

A Publication of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

September 2013



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Church Staff

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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."



We will be using the Narrative Lectionary

With the start of our fall season this year we are going to be using a different coordinated set of lessons for the year. Having tried the Narrative lectionary this spring and summer, and gotten good responses, we are going to begin using this arrangement of lessons through next Spring. In the past we have used the Revised Common Lectionary (RLC) which is a three year cycle of lessons that take us through the church seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost. The Narrative Lectionary (NL), which is gaining more interest and use by many hundreds of congregations, is a four year cycle of nine months of readings from September through May, then using various sermon series possibilities during the summer (like we did this year with Wisdom Literature and Ephesians). The texts show the breadth and variety of voices within Scripture. They invite people to hear the stories of Abraham and Sarah, Moses and the prophets, Jesus, and Paul. Listening to the many different voices within Scripture enriches preaching and the life of faith.

On the Sundays from September through May each year the texts follow the sweep of the biblical story, from Creation through the early Christian church. The texts include the major episodes in Scripture. They are arranged in a narrative sequence to help people see Scripture as a story that has coherence and a dynamic movement.:

- From September to mid-December the preaching texts begin with the early chapters of Genesis, move through the stories of Israel's early history, the exodus, the kings, prophets, exile, and return.
- From Christmas to Easter there is sustained reading of one of the four gospels
- From Easter to Pentecost the texts are chosen from Acts and Paul's letters.

Texts are selected that lead well to the proclamation of what God is doing. The stories tell of hope and disappointment, suffering and redemption. In all these varied contexts, we find God dealing with the complexities of human life. Stories from the gospels differ each year, avoiding repetition and highlighting what is distinctive about each gospel's telling of the story of Jesus.

We are looking forward to this new structure for hearing God's word, understanding key stories and themes and messages from scripture, and becoming more fluent in our Biblical knowledge. And besides this use of the NL we are also excited as we have great leadership with our sanctuary choir and contemporary band to provide quality musical leadership for our worship every week. We are looking forward to so many great Sundays of worship and look forward to having you with us. Come hear relevant preaching, participate in fine praise, and become more wiser about biblical stories and their lessons for us today. See you in worship.

Pastor Karsten



Greeting and Things

Hello, I am excited about starting our journey together at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. I can't wait for all of the experiences we will have together. I love to meet new people, so if you see me please come and talk with me. For those who are a little more reserved I will start by letting you know a little about me, and then hopefully we can get to know each other over the course of the year.

I was born in Michigan and spent my early childhood on the shores of Lake Michigan. I spent my teenage years in Florida where I participated in all kinds of outdoor activities. I love surfing, fishing, and camping. I met my wife, Andi, in high school where we were on the same tennis team. We both graduated from the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. I took a job as a Child Protective Investigator for the State of Florida, until Andi was finished with her degree. We then moved up to Minnesota, so that I could attend seminary. Andi provides for the family with her job at Land O' Lakes as an accountant while I attend classes. We have just been blessed with our first child, John Liam Mandrick who was born on July 27. He is healthy and doing well and Andi is recovering quickly.

This year promises to be a great learning experience for me and my family as we adjust to being new parents as well as I grow and learn what God's call means in the church community. We are looking forward to getting involved in the church as we have no family around the area; we hope to be able to join the family at Our Redeemer.

As the saying goes, "Bloom where you are planted." Lucky for us that we were planted in a community that is as warm and welcoming as Our Redeemer. Looking forward to see what the plans God has for all of us throughout this coming year.

God's Blessing,
Ben Mandrick, Intern Pastor

Choral Director Update

Greetings! My name is Martin Windholz. I am assuming the role of director for the Sanctuary Choir and the Handbell Choir. I come to Our Redeemer from Memorial Lutheran Church in Afton where I was the Chancel Choir Director for the past two years. I am currently beginning my 14th year teaching private voice lessons, choral music, and general music at Hill-Murray School in St. Paul. I graduated from Minnesota State University – Moorhead, where I hold two degrees in music – vocal performance and music education.

I am looking forward to becoming the director of the Sanctuary Choir and Handbell Choir at Our Redeemer. Everyone I have encountered at Our Redeemer has welcomed me and made me feel I belong here – that I am home.

I want to take this opportunity to invite anyone who would like to become a participating member of these groups to take that first step and reach out as these groups will focus on raising our voices, talents/skills in praise of our savior, Jesus Christ! You will be welcomed with open arms and enthusiasm, because I believe that this is an important aspect of our mission in the church – so, welcome, and join the fun!

Sanctuary Choir Update

Choir practice starts on Wednesday, August 28th at 7:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary. Everyone who would like to become a part of this inspirational group is invited! We are going to celebrate the beginning of our choral season with rehearsal at 7:00 followed with pie and ice cream sharing in the fellowship hall. Please consider joining us as we concentrate on sharing our talents and gifts in praise of our savior, Jesus Christ.

Tricia Mattson has accepted a call to Faith Lutheran Church in Bagley, MN. She began serving at her congregation on August 14.

Tricia will be ordained at her home church, Family of God, in Duluth on Saturday, Sept. 14. Pastor Karsten will be attending this ordination if you are interested in riding with him. He will leave at 10am.

If you wish to send Tricia a card or note, her new home address is: Tricia Mattson, 15023 366th St, Bagley, MN 56621

Big Thanks and Praise for the ORLC family

I am so thankful to you for a great internship year and a final sending celebration! It was a blessing to be adopted into your family. From the beginning, you said "Go!" and gave me the freedom and resources to serve and grow as a compassionate pastor. Thank you for all the cards and your gracious words and super generosity. You have fed me with powerful stories, living testimony, and transformative memories of the life-changing church and the ongoing movement of Christ in the world. I pray and look forward to hearing what God continues to do through you, and trust that we will forever partner in this ministry of reconciliation together. Be blessed. You/we have everything in Christ.

—Peter Weston Miller

Bessmans—On Sunday August 25 we welcomed again Josephine Bessman to share about the work she and her husband are doing in Sierra Leone West Africa as Directors of The Freetown Bible Training Center; as Founders of Altar Builders of Prayer Ministry International (ABOP) and with a Pastors Empowerment Ministry. We welcome her passion for the gospel, her contagious joyful spirit, and the sense of partnership that we have for their fine work.

They are grateful for the \$1,000 gift from the Missions Team and an additional donation that came in from the free will offering to support God’s work through them. Much of the financial support was being focused on more technology for their ministry - portable projectors (they could only cram 700 people in a building for one rally and that many more watched on screens outside), microphones, cables, and a keyboard. If you want to give any financial support for their ministry you can designate 'Bessmans' on a check made out to Our Redeemer.

SAVE THE DATE!



**Feed My Starving Children
Serving Opportunity**

On Saturday, October 12th from 11:30 to 1:30 at the Eagan Facility.
Look for Sign-Up Board on Rally Sunday.

Sponsored by Spiritual Growth/Discipleship



Come join 4:13 Personal Training at a 2 mile run/walk. All proceeds will be donated to The Dwelling Place in support of domestic abuse victims and their families.

September 21, 2013 at Noon
Beaver Lake in St. Paul, MN
\$10/ adult \$5/child

Registrations are due September 1 by contacting Joe Weverka at 651-338-9601.



Dear Friends and Family,

Greetings in the name of our loving healer, Jesus Christ. As summer comes to a close, and the new fall schedule starts, I thought this would be a good time to reflect on promoting family health. “God places the lonely in families...” (Psalm 68:6.) How empty our lives would be without the blessing of our family! I hope that during this month, you will be able to enjoy some special time with your loved ones and create a few lasting memories.

How can healthy families be described?

The following are characteristics of healthy families. Learn more about the health of your family by responding to the statement with YES (if it describes your family) or NO (if it does not describes your family life.

My family usually:

Communicate and listen to each other	Y	N	Has a strong sense of family in traditions/rituals	Y	N
Affirms and is supportive of each other	Y	N	Shares religious and spiritual values	Y	N
Shares interaction among the members	Y	N	Teaches respect for others	Y	N
Shares meal time and conversation	Y	N	Teaches the difference between right and wrong	Y	N
Encourages trust among members	Y	N	Respects individual privacy	Y	N
Has a sense of play and leisure	Y	N	Respects elders	Y	N
Shares leisure time	Y	N	Is able to let go of grown children	Y	N
Values shared responsibility	Y	N	Is financially stable	Y	N
Values service to others	Y	N	Admits to and accepts help with problems	Y	N
Values satisfaction with work	Y	N			
Accepts and fosters individual and family values	Y	N			

O.K. – What now?

How did you do? What are strengths for your family? Congratulations on all the aspects of your family life that foster growth and development of the family as a whole and as individuals. All families have aspects of their family health that they could enhance, Are there any areas you would like to change? As your Parish Nurse, I very much would like to assist you in any way I can. If there are any aspects of your family health that you would like to talk about, or any areas that you would like to change, I would be happy to work with you. May you be blessed and affirmed in your family life.

Carol Watnemo, RN
Parish Nurse 651-776-2592

Reunion Sunday - September 8th - Come and join us for the beginning of the new fall season on Sunday September 8th. We will be moving back to our normal worship times of 8:45 and 11:00. We will be starting Creation Stations Sunday School. We will be having various ministry tables with more information and invitations. We will be starting out with the Narrative Lectionary that will take us through lots of great Old Testament stories as our foundation for worship and preaching themes. And we want you to be a part of connecting with others, connecting with our Lord, and connecting with the life of this fine place.



God's Work, Our Hands

Join us on Sunday, September 8th for a time of service following worship. Groups will be leaving right from the church shortly after each worship service. On this day the ELCA celebrates our 25th Anniversary and congregations all over the country are going to be serving their communities in special ways that day. We invite you to join us for a time of walking Lake Phalen and cleaning up the trash, or hiking over to Frost Lake Park for a cleanup, or taking time to visit one of our shut ins, or offering your help to a member looking for special help. Check out the special board for signing up (we have a limited number of t-shirts to give away) and plan to join in on September 8th.



Rally Sunday is September 8. Register your children for Creation Stations Sunday School, open to preschool (potty trained) through 5th grade, meeting Sundays during the school year 10 – 10:50 a.m. Join us on the 8th for registration, fun, and games from 10 – 10:50 a.m.

We will be seeking teachers for short term commitment of 2 Sundays, teaching the same small group lesson two Sundays in a row. Contact anyone on the Children’s ministry team for more information.

Spiritual Growth & Discipleship
START ME UP!

Fall seems to be a **“Start-Up”** time for activities in the Church.

- Our children’s Creation Station ministry is “starting up” for the new year
- Our new Intern is “starting up”
- Confirmation is “starting up”
- Groups that have taken a summer break are “starting up” again ... etc., etc.....

How has your faith and growth been this summer? Need to be **“Started Up”**??

Don’t settle into routine this Fall and be spiritually complacent. There’s a story about an old farmer who often described his Christian experience by saying, “Well, I’m not making much progress, but I’m established!” God wants us to grow and make progress, not be complacent where we are at. Make this a year of growth and progress in your spiritual life! We all have room to grow, but we won’t grow without deliberate discipline and effort.

Stop at the Spiritual Growth Table on Rally Sunday to find out what’s coming up for the new Fall **“Start-Up”** year. Did you enjoy the ‘40 Days of Community, Better Together’ series? Stop by to see what church-wide series is in the making for the upcoming year. Stop by to take a survey and let us know what you would like to see here at ORLC, or just stop by for info.

Let us help you get **“Started Up”** again in your spiritual growth journey.

Current groups:

Group Name	Leader(s)	Meeting Time
Lives Worth Living	Doug Watnemo/Vicki Anderson Barb Maynard	Every other Monday Evening at 6:45 pm
Caffeinated for Christ	Kathi Kirchoff	1 st & 3 rd Monday Evenings at 6:30 pm
Wednesday Evening	Amy Krohn	Every other Wednesday Evening at 6:30 pm
Men’s Thursday	Dennis Peterson	Thursday weekly at 6:45 am
Thursday Evening	Carol Watnemo	Thursday evenings twice/month at 6:30 pm
Scrapbook Group	Barb Maynard/Michele H.	3 rd Saturday each month 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Hope, & Joy Circles	Judy Koza/Sharon Peterson	Once per month – contact leaders
Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Pastor Karsten	Every Wednesday at 9:30-10:30 am

Mission Trip to New Orleans Update

Thanks to all who supported the 15 youth and adult leaders who went to New Orleans this July on the mission trip. It was a wonderful experience where we were able to work hard, play hard, grow in our faith and better learn how to serve.

I know that the youth have already shared a bit about their experiences in the worship services, but I'd love to express how I saw God working in and through this group while on the trip. We have a remarkable group of youth here at Our Redeemer! They are hard working and they truly care for each other. They have learned together how to be a community that respects each other and shows each other love. They don't always agree with each other, but like brothers and sisters, they have learned how to love each other as Christ has loved us. Here's an example of how I saw them put that love into action: On the trip, we had a time every evening set aside for devotions. During those devotions we would share our highs and lows for the day and then read a scripture verse together and have some conversation around those readings. It was really evident that they all wanted to hear each other's stories and make sure that nobody got left out. The insights that our youth had at those devotion times were diverse and showed me just how much they are growing in their faith as they serve. After I had led a couple of these devotion times, the youth started asking if they could lead the evening devotion. A number of them took the time to find scripture verses that they wanted to share and ask questions about. It was great to see them step into this leadership.

I also saw them grow in understanding as to what it means to live out vocation. We met a couple of folks in New Orleans who shared their stories of life and faith with us. One of them, Miss Lisa, ran a youth center for kids who lived in a tough part of town. At the youth center they were running a VBS / day camp type program with the neighborhood kids. Our job was to lead / act as guides for the different age groups. We were to guide the kids and make sure that they got to the various activities and lessons for that day. At the end of the day, Miss Lisa shared her story of feeling called to serve these kids, and share the love of God day in and day out. She also helped us to understand how we were part of showing God's love to the kids by keeping them safe for a day from the gun violence and crime that regularly takes place in their neighborhood. We also worked at a horse rescue barn. Miss Laurie, the gal who owned the horse rescue, also shared her story of faith with us and how she lives out her faith each day by caring for these horses. She felt called by God to care for creation in this very specific way and sacrificed everything to live into her calling. Hearing these stories and seeing these faithful people live out their callings has already impacted our youth. I know that as our youth grow into who they are as people of faith, God will use them.

There were many more special moments on our trip including a baptism, painting a whole house, working on a school, touring New Orleans and eating more snowballs than one group of Minnesota youth probably should. It was excellent! We were blessed and pray that those we were able to serve were blessed too.

Thanks again for your prayers, hopes and financial support!

Under the Mercy,

Aimee Pakan
Director of Youth Ministry



Care Team Ministry is a hands on, congregationally based ministry where teams of volunteers assist a family or individual of any age with practical needs. . We are looking for adult volunteers who could provide rides to medical appointments, visit with someone so their family caregiver can take a

break, assist with grocery shopping, yard chores, rides, or light housekeeping.

The hands on services provided by Care Team volunteers enhance the quality of life for the church members who are served. The beauty of Care Team Ministry is that you serve with a team, and you determine your schedule, so there is much flexibility for number of hours, what day or time, and how many weeks, months or years you may serve.

Stop by the Care Team Ministry table on Rally Sunday or contact Carol Watnemo (651-776-2592), Mary Forsberg (651-319-3095) or Barb Maynard (651-779-6673).

BUCKS FOR OUR BUILDING



Shopping for school? Stop at the gift card table. Need groceries or gas? Stop at the gift card table. Meeting for lunch? Stop at the gift card table.

This is an easy way for you to earn money for Our Redeemer. We earn approximately \$1,500-\$2,000 a year from this program. The more you buy, the more we earn! Just stop at our table on the 1st and 3rd Sundays and pick up cards for all your regular household purchases. There are also hundreds of not-so-frequently used cards that can be special ordered. If there are other cards that you would buy regularly or have suggestions to improve the program, please let us know. Thank you for shopping at Our Redeemer!

Dates & Times of Worship	September 1 8:45 & 10:30	September 8 8:45 & 11:00	September 15 8:45 & 11:00	September 22 8:45 & 11:00	September 29 10:00
Worship Host	Dean Ersfeld	Dennis Peterson	Amy Krohn	Barb Maynard	Dick & Sharon Peterson
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 Darlene Harwood	Dan & Laurie, Danny Fitzgerald	Joyce Pederson Florence Senske	Judy Mae Joyce Abrahamson	
8:45 Lector	TBD	Lana Larsen	Dianne Derks	Darlene Klemm	
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	Dick & Sharon Peterson Claire Sexton
11:00 Greeters	Helen Wallace	Shirley Torgerson Cindy Crooks	Nora Smeed Jessica Ryden	Claire Sexton Sharon Peterson	Virginia Kettleston Barbara Howard-Glaeve
11:00 Lectors	Cherie Kilbride	Jim Krohn	Jane Koza	Hilary Hinrichs	Kathi Kirchoff
Bucks for our Building Worker	Mary Forsberg		Barb Maynard		
Coffee and Donut Prep/Serve	Shirley Sheehan Marie Mohrlant Darlene Harwood	Dave Mennen	Dick & Sharon Peterson	Dennis & Jan Peterson	Kathi Kirchoff
Counter	Betty Gooddale Helen Wallace	Dennis Peterson Shirley Torgerson	Allen Heimerdinger Clint Crooks	Don & Lana Larsen Roger Truen	TBD

Reminder!
Worship times
change on Sunday,
September 8 back
to 8:45 & 11am!



The Children's ministry committee would like to thank everyone who made VBS a success this year. We had a great turnout with 46 children registered (only 15 from ORLC). We had a great time serving and getting to know kids and families in our community and we hope to see some of them at Creation Stations and in worship in the future!

Financial Information as of July 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.

As you can see, we are ahead in our actual income at this time due to some larger one-time gifts. However, our expenses continue to be higher than what our member giving is. We are fortunate to have a cash carryover from 2012 that helps make that difference.

Thank you for your continued giving to the mission and ministry of ORLC.

Budgeted Income	\$143,683	Budgeted Expense	\$211,342
Actual Income	\$163,860	Actual Expense	\$207,994

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>1 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</p>	<p>2 Labor Day –Office Closed 6:30pm Caffeinated for Christ</p>	<p>3 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm SEL</p>	<p>4 9:30am Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>5 6:45am Men's Study 6:30pm Phalen Stewards Mtg, Spiritual Growth Mtg</p>	<p>6 5-9pm SEL Service</p>	<p>7 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service</p>
<p>8 Rally Day 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Rally Sunday Signups 11:00am Contemporary Worship 12:00pm God's Work at Phalen & Frost 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church 3:00pm SEL Fellowship in FH</p>	<p>9 9:00am Quilting 6:00pm Joy Circle at Peter-son's 6:45pm Lives Worth Living</p>	<p>10 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm SEL</p>	<p>11 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Confirmation Parent Mtg 6:30pm Wed Eve Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>12 6:45am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Thurs Eve Bible Study</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service</p>
<p>15 Bucks for our Building 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church 2:00pm FH Rented</p>	<p>16 6:30pm Caffeinated for Christ</p>	<p>17 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm SEL, Church Board</p>	<p>18 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Confirmation 7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>19 6:45am Men's Bible Study 5:30pm Intern Support Mtg 6:30pm Knitting & Crocheting Group at Hometown Creamery</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 9am-3pm Scrapbooking 12:00pm Run/Walk at Beaver Lake 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service</p>
<p>22 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church</p>	<p>23 9:00am Quilting 6:45pm Lives Worth Living</p>	<p>24 1:00pm Staff Meeting 6:30-8:30pm Care Team Ministry Volunteer Orientation 7:00pm SEL</p>	<p>25 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Confirmation 6:30pm Wed Eve Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>26 6:45am Men's Study 6:30pm Thurs Eve Bible Study</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service</p>



2013

29 10:00am All Congregational Worship

30

**DATED MATERIAL
DO NOT DELAY**

Address Service Requested

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
1390 East Larpeur Avenue
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