The Good Newsletter

The Monthly Newsletter of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
A Life Changing Place
"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" -2 Corinthians 5:17

MARCH **2014**

There is something different/special about that! - Most of us can think back on some special times or places with a delight knowing that it was different than the normal routine of life. This might be a family trip far away, a visit to a cabin, a time in the past of being with friends, a wedding or big anniversary…. Those times stand out because they were different than the regular days.

I would like to remind you that Lent as a season in the church has something different/special about it. It is of course a more intentional time of recalling and celebrating the long journey to Jerusalem where Jesus undergoes trial and crucifixion for our sake before his glorious resurrection. But beyond that Lent is a time when the people of faith are invited into a deeper walk of faith - opening ourselves to new disciplines, valuing the work of God on the cross, and gathering more frequently with other faithful people.

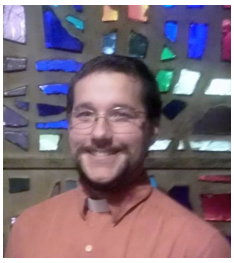
I hope that this Lent (it begins with Ash Wednesday on March 5th and will end with Easter on April 20th) will again be a time when you can step into an intentional discipline for your faith - begin daily devotions, try praying for 5 or 10 or 15 minutes a day, read some faith focused books, step out with more sacrificial giving of your time and finances…… Do something to help mark this time as different and special (and for your sake go beyond giving up chocolates).

I want to invite you to our Wednesday evenings of a meal and worship. We begin serving a soup and sandwich meal at 5:30 (inviting members to sign up for the preparations of the food and clean up). All are welcome and there is a free will offering with donations going toward various ministries. At 6:30 we will share in a time of community worship in the Fellowship Hall for about 30 minutes that will include some music, table talk, personal sharing from a member, and prayers. And with daylight savings time coming on March 9 it will be light out until early evening.

One other thing we are encouraging this Lent is for people to be part of the Transformation Study that will be taking place at various times with many small groups (Sunday morning, Monday nights, Sunday nights, Wednesday morning, Thursday morning - see a full list in the Narthex). This is a chance to let God speak directly into your life and keep working the transformation that God seeks within us. This is a video based study from pastor Rick Warren that will have about 30 minutes of teaching and another 30 minutes of group conversation and care. There is a book all participants will receive (cost will be $10 with assistance if requested) that has places for notes as well as a daily devotion to help explore transformation in our spiritual, physical, mental, emotional, relational, financial and vocational health. We are looking for many to join in this special study together.

Lent is a different/special time. Help make it that by what you do individually and with us as a community.

From the Intern...



We had a great turn out for the trivia night, I would like to thank all those who came out and made the night something fun and memorable.

Looking into March we begin our Lenten transformation heading towards Easter. At the end of March we will be having a single service as it is the fifth Sunday of the month. I would invite everyone to stay after the service for the usual fellowship time with a bit of a twist. We will be having a community building craft while we have some fellowship. This is a great time to get to know the people at the church who go to a different service than you. This time also works to get to know the youth of the church and the youth to get to know the adults. In this way we can build new relationships in the church and learn about the great work we can do together.

There are two big pieces that are required to be a Christian community. The first and most important is Christ presence, motivating us to love God and our neighbors. The second is being in community with each other. We were not created to be alone, but to be with each other. God knew this when we were made Genesis 2:18 "Then the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone". It is when we are together that we can support and care for each other drawing on each other's gifts to become the body of Christ.

In this mindset please consider staying after the single service for food, fellowship, and a relationship building craft. We are going to be making felt banners to be hung up around the church. They will be words or pictures that represent what we feel is special or great about Our Redeemer. There is a lot that is great, so we will have to work together to make banners that show that to our visitors and each other. This will be a fun time together and I hope that every fifth Sunday we can have something that we do together after service to strengthen our bonds together.

God's blessing,
Intern Pastor Ben

Transformation Study

'Transformation Matters' to God –
does it Matter to you?

Transformation CAN Happen …

Join us beginning in March for a **Lenten study** that looks at 7 areas of our lives where *transformation* can happen, with God's help. The **'Transformed'** study is a 7-week spiritual growth campaign led by the spirit-filled Pastor Rick Warren on DVD, followed by group discussion. It will be a spiritual journey where each week we will look at an area of our life, and explore what the Bible has to say about this key essential area: spiritual, physical, mental, emotional, relational, financial, and vocational. Learn how God can transform our sinful natures and change our lives.

What better time to look at the transforming power of Jesus Christ in our lives than during Lent and finishing our study right before Easter, bringing to mind Jesus' transformation! God's Word and transforming power can renew our minds and change the way we think: about God, about ourselves, about our relationships, our finances, our careers – about everything. When we learn to think differently, we will begin to live differently, and as we learn to think God's way, we will begin to live that way. God's will is the only answer that promises to *Transform* our lives from the inside out.

Please join us for this Lenten study. Available group times are:

Sunday—9:50 a.m. between services *and* 6:00 p.m. for young adults
Monday—6:30 p.m. at church
Wednesday—9:30 a.m. *and* 6:30 p.m. Women's group
Thursday—6:45 a.m. Men's group (Perkins) *and* 6:30 p.m. (members homes)
Saturday—9:30 a.m. Men's group at Church (starts March 1st)

If you haven't signed up for this study, it's not too late! Contact the church office for information or talk to any member of the Spiritual Growth Team: Amy Krohn, Vicki Anderson, Dean Ersfeld, Dennis Peterson, Joan Paulson, Carol Watnemo, Pastor Karsten or Intern Pastor Ben.

Lent Information

Join us for worship this Lent

Ash Wednesday worship
11:00am and 7:00pm

Weekly Wednesday worship
at 6:30pm following a soup supper

Maundy Thursday
at 9:00am and 7:00pm

Good Friday
at 7:00pm

Easter Sunday
at 8:45am and 11:00 am

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Good Friday presents us an opportunity to worship together in a unique way as we share and combine our talents in this year's Tenebrae 'Darkening' Service. Composer, John Purifoy, has interwoven hymn texts and Scripture with beautiful music to create an unforgettable and emotion-filled Tenebrae experience.

Shadows of Sacrifice surrounds the final events of the life of Christ. The musical settings are for the most part direct recitatives of the scripture passages which depict the words of Christ and events that led to his betrayal, suffering and crucifixion.

Please consider joining us from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings as we prepare for this special service. All are welcome!

Children's Ministries

Children's ministry monthly meeting: March 6 at ORLC, 6 – 7 pm.

Mark your calendar for the annual Easter Egg hunt, Saturday April 12 10 a.m. - noon, with Walton's Hollow petting zoo back by popular demand. As we get closer to the date we will set out baskets for candy donations: small individually wrapped candies and small toys to fit into plastic Easter eggs. If you would like to help with this event, please contact anyone on the Children's ministry team.

If you haven't signed up to teach a small group rotation yet there is still time. We have openings for Lent rotation (Resurrection Eggs or Science) and Pentecost (Art or Drama). Contact anyone on the Children's ministry team for more information.

Mar 2	Small Groups
Mar 9	Small Groups
March 16, 23, Apr 6	Lent—Easter Eggs
March 16	Large Group-(Garden) All
March 23	Small Groups
March 30	*5th Sunday, no Creation Stations*

First Communion Classes will be coming up for all current 4th graders to receive their First Communion. We will announce the dates in the upcoming weeks. First Communion will take place on Maundy Thurs-day, April 17 at 7pm.

Mission Opportunity

North Side is a pregnancy resource center in the heart of North Minneapolis. They help low-income women and women in crisis with the struggles of dealing with unplanned pregnancy. Giving free pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, counselling, financial assistance, prenatal care and material assistance to women gives them the option and freedom to choose life for their baby rather turning to the emotionally scarring act of abortion.

Ellie Peterson has worked at North Side Life Care Center for a little over seven months and she has been transformed. She says, "I have been transformed in the way I see people, life and Jesus. God is also transforming lives every day at North Side and I am blessed to be a part of it. I want to encourage you to partner with us in what we do."

During the season of lent we will be having a Baby Bottle campaign to raise money for North Side Life Care Center. We want to challenge you to take one of these baby bottles, fill it with change, checks or cash. All of the money will go to the people of North Minneapolis whom they serve.

If you have any questions regarding North Side Life Care Center and Ellie's involvement there, please feel free to ask her to share more about God's transforming work.

Facility Update

The process is still underway for trying to come up with a final proposal for construction work at Our Redeemer. It has been 40 years since this congregation attempted to do any new constriction or remodeling to help us carry our ministry better. There is good excitement about wanting to tend to some very real needs as well as considering what else would be good changes.

During February the Facilities Design Team (FDT) hosted two adult forum sessions to share the latest plans for remodel and new building options. There were about 30 people present for each Sunday and there was a lot of spoken and written feedback, which was then discussed and shared with our partner in this project – Miller Architects and Builders.

At the end of February the FDT and Miller met for conversation around the 6th set of proposed changes/ additions. It was clear that we still need more time to consider the suggestions from the congregation, and have more conversation around the financial implications of the various project areas. This group will be meeting again in early March with what we hope would be final decisions which would then be shared with the congregation. At that time more detailed drawings of the proposed changes will be shared and we will seek approval at a congregational meeting (date to be determined – likely just after Easter) to move forward with a Capital Fundraising Appeal.

Once those financial commitment numbers come in we will then consider what we would move forward with for construction, and bring that proposal to the congregation for a final vote to move forward.

This is a long and detailed process but the FDT group is working hard to tend to all the questions and ideas that are raised, and to set before the congregation a fine opportunity for us to improve our facility and build for a strong future, while being fiscally responsible. Please keep this process and the people in your prayers. More to come next month.

Worship Assistants

Date	March 2	March 9	March 16	March 23	March 30
Worship Host	Allen Heimerdinger	Bruce Ring & Rita During	Dennis Peterson	Doreen Winter	Dean Ersfeld
Counter	Allen Heimerdinger Clint Crooks	Dennis Peterson Shirley Torgerson	Betty Goodale Helen Wallace	Don & Lana Larsen Roger Truen	TBD
Gift Cards	Mary Forsberg		Barb Maynard		Barb Maynard
Kitchen Help	Shirley Sheehan Marie Mohrlant Darlene Harwood	Dave Mennen	Dick & Sharon Peterson	Dennis & Jan Peterson	Potluck!
Greeters 8:45	Judy Triplett Florence Senske	Dan & Laurie, Danny Fitzgerald	Joyce Pederson Pauline Halverson	Virginia Kettleson Joyce Abrahamson	
Greeters 11:00	Helen Wallace Kelly Fischbach	Cindy Crooks Shirley Keating	Nora Smeed Jessica Ryden	Claire Sexton Sharon Peterson	Judy Moe Bruce Ring
Lector 8:45	Kathi Kirchoff	Carol Watnemo	Lana Larsen	Dianne Derks	
Lectors 11:00	TBD	Cherie Kilbride	Amy Krohn	Jim Krohn	Jane Koza
Ushers 8:45	Dennis Paulson Rob Klemm Kent Weispfenning Roger Sparks	Roger Ollila Baryogar Johnson Roger Svendsen Dennis Peterson	Dan Fitzgerald Bill Maynard Bill Fredine Dave Mennen	Larry & Sandy Pruden Mike Welte Mike Kahrau	
Ushers 11:00	Claire Sexton Tom Wallace Reed Schrankler Cheri Edwall	Rick Brovitch Ben Schrankler Clint Crooks Aaron Mennen Jennifer Houge	Randy & Jane Koza Dick & Sharon Peterson	Bruce Ring Mark, Doreen, Courtney Winter	Dick & Sharon Peterson Claire Sexton

Financial Information as of January 31

Thank you for your continued giving to ORLC. Below you will find our January income and expense information.

When you see the higher expense amount at $28,633 than our income of $18,691, please remember that we have a cash carryover amount in our checking account of $28,000 that we are also utilizing to make up that difference.

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

Budgeted Income	**$17,209**	**Budgeted Expense**	**$31,119**
Actual Income	**$18,691**	**Actual Expense**	**$28,633**

March 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9:30am Men's Study 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service
2 Can Day, First Sun Food Shelf, Blood Pressure Check, BFOB 8:45am Traditional Worship 9:50am Transformed Study 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church 6:00pm Transformed Study	3 6:30pm Caffeinated for Christ	4 1:00pm Staff Meeting 5:15pm Yoga in FH 7:00pm SEL	5 Ash Wednesday 11:00am Ash Wednesday Worship 5:30pm Soup and Sandwich 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell Choir 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Worship 7:00pm Choir Practice	6 6:45am Men's Bible Study 6:00pm Children's Ministry Mtg 6:30pm Transformed study—offsite	7	8 9:30am Men's Study 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service
9 Daylights Savings 8:45am Traditional Worship 9:50am Transformed Study 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church 3:00pm SEL Fellowship in FH 6:00pm Transformed Study	10 9:00am Quilting 6:00pm Joy Circle 6:45pm Lives Worth Living	11 9:30am Men's Property Group 1:00pm Staff Meeting 5:00pm Mission Language Mtg 6:30pm Facilities Design Team 7:00pm SEL, Hope Circle	12 9:30am Transformed Study 5:30pm Soup and Sandwich 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell Choir 6:30pm Lent Worship, Women's Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	13 6:45am Men's Study 6:30pm Transformed study—offsite, Facilities Design Team	14	15 9am-3pm Scrapbooking 9:30am Men's Study 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service
16 Bucks for our Building 8:45am Traditional Worship 9:50am Transformed Study 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church 6:00pm Transformed Study	17 6:30pm Caffeinated for Christ	18 1:00pm Staff Meeting 5:15pm Yoga in FH 7:00pm SEL, Church Board	19 9:30am Transformed Study 5:30pm Soup and Sandwich 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell Choir 6:30pm Lent Worship, Women's Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	20 6:45am Men's Study 4:30pm Web Team 6:30pm Knitting & Crocheting Group at Hometown Creamery 6:30pm Transformed study—offsite	21	22 9:30am Men's Study 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service
23 8:45am Traditional Worship 9:50am Transformed Study 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church 6:00pm Transformed Study	24 9:00am Quilting 6:45pm Lives Worth Living	25 1:00pm Staff Meeting 5:15pm Yoga in FH 7:00pm SEL	26 9:30am Transformed Study 5:30pm Soup and Sandwich 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell Choir 6:30pm Lent Worship, Women's Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	27 6:45am Men's Study 6:30pm Transformed study—offsite	28	29 9:30am Men's Study 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service
30 10:00am All congregation worship 11:00am Potluck/Fellowship 6:00pm Transformed Study						

Allen
CHEROKEE

Trivia

Our Redeemer Staff

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

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DATED MATERIAL
DO NOT DELAY

Address Service Requested

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