

# 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

**October**

**2014**



## Building Our Future

There is something special moving inside of these walls and inside of the people here at Our Redeemer. God is at work to help us see better into our future, to stir us to doing all of what we can to ensure a good future for this congregation, and to act for the sake of Christ and the church.

We recently had a very good response from our congregation taking a detailed survey about our life and ministry. We heard back, in a well attended feedback session, the interpretation of these results. This CAT (Church Assessment Tool) pointed out three main goals for us: 1) work to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church, 2) focus intentionally on youth ministry with children/youth/families, and 3) improve the facilities to enhance our ministry. It also revealed a strong value of people here being engaged in ministry beyond worship, and highlighted the deep hospitality people experience here. Overall it situated us in the ‘transformation’ quadrant that is marked by high satisfaction and high energy regarding the church. The report clearly spoke about a willingness and readiness to move forward with both changes to the facility and strength for our ministries.

This desire and readiness to work toward a new future was also echoed when our own church consultant from Kairos and Associates brought feedback from his individual visits with many folks from the congregation. He wrote that “there is strong affection, loyalty and support for Our Redeemer” and that a large majority of the interviews indicated that “something needs to be done now.” He also found that before moving forward into a capital appeal phase it will be important to get more specifics ironed out about the costs of any proposal, be clear about what would get worked on at this time, and convey clearly the scope of the appeal. But clearly again there was encouragement to move forward into our future.

To help continue this momentum and live into a good future we have formed a Building Team which is looking at firmer costs for the main priority of bathroom remodeling (with kitchen, entryway and signage being lower priorities and later projects) and exploring our best options for builders and architects. There is also a Capital Appeal Leadership Team that has begun to meet to focus on the scope of a capital appeal, what kind of refinancing and borrowing is available, and then working on the materials and schedule in 2015 to bring the invitation to the congregation.

Building for our future – The bottom line is that this is the time, and God is doing something here that we believe will keep making us a vibrant congregation in this corner of the Twin Cities. In the months ahead we will keep living into our future by unveiling a new mission statement in November, inviting strong participation in our fall stewardship drive, and then preparing for a 2015 Capital Appeal to address facility changes and develop strength for more ministry. The future of Our Redeemer is being built right now and we hope you will both see God in this work and will be part of building our future.

Pastor Karsten Nelson

## Insights from the Intern...



Greetings!

Down below the image you see may remind you that fall is upon us. Crisp, cool days ahead. Leaves changing, apple picking, football... With the change of seasons and kick off to the new church

year, comes opportunities for renewal. A time to think about our lives changing. As a part of the Our Redeemer Community, what ways are you being transformed or changed? How are you guiding change for others?

As Paul writes, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind..." (Romans 12:2)

As God's children we are constantly being renewed, in the waters of baptism; at the Lord's Table as we break bread together; through the scripture heard, songs sung, prayers spoken and relationships formed. As the seasons change are we allowing our mind, body and soul to be changed by God? I see lots of change taking place at Our Redeemer. There is transformation within individuals, ministries and the community.

It has been a little over a month now that I have been with you. Filled full of amazing new faces, ministries and meetings. Although there has been a lot to take in, the overall picture of who Our Redeemer is... you are a life changing place.

Let's make the most out of our fall, let's keep changing with the seasons. Keep reading for a few opportunities you might think about...



1. **Take advantage of Spiritual Growth.** Join a Small Group, get your spiritual growth journey moving forward. Feed your soul and mind.
2. **Be the change in the world.** Service opportunities: Dorothy Day (Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>) and Second Harvest (Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>). Try serving in a NEW ministry setting like Sunday school, Confirmation (Wed. nights), Youth Group or other serving opportunities at ORLC.
3. **Fall Fitness.** we want to be wholly, the whole person. Mind, Spirit and Body. Take advantage of the weather, falls a treat for the senses. Get connected with a local group for community exercising, like Yoga at ORLC on Tuesday nights or think outside the box. Look around and see if something intrigues you.

Fall is the perfect time for us to join in with change.

Blessings in all that you do.

Your Sister in Christ,  
Jen Collins, Pastoral Intern

## Just People

Join us for one or both of the upcoming shared conversations between the folks at Our Redeemer and Presentation Catholic Church around what it means to be 'Just People' where our faith values shape how we live and influence our voting.

These Sunday morning visits will provide a chance to look more deeply at what are some current justice issues and explore how these issues can be a lens for helping our voting decisions in November. People are invited to worship with one another on those days as well. This will be a great way to build ecumenical relationships and help understand the needs and the ways we can act for justice.

On Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup> the forum will be at Our Redeemer in the Fireside room from 10:00-10:45. On Sunday October 12 the forum will be at Presentation in 'Mary's Room' (enter the south school building through the north set of doors) beginning at 9:30. For this day a carpool will leave Our Redeemer at 9:15am. We will meet in the narthex or contact Joan Paulson at 777-0490.

## Stewardship Update

Building our future. You may not know that Our Redeemer has started a Stewardship Awareness Initiative. It began in worship on September 28th, with a Stewardship Talk during worship and will continue throughout October. Here are some important items to be aware of....

- Our focus will be centered around building **STRONG PARTICIPATION** and **SPIRITUAL HEALTH**
- Our Theme is about building our future together

Think about how lives are being **TRANSFORMED**, community is being **BUILT**, how we are **LOVING** God and **SERVING** others. Stewardship is more than just the tithes and offering given, it is about living into who God has created us to be, wholly. We come before God to offer times, talents and treasures. Take part in this amazing calling of awareness.

Transform. Build. Love. Serve.

## Bucks for our Building

### Put Your Shopping Dollars to Work!

Don't forget to pick up your favorite gift cards on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays. In addition to cards that are available to buy at the gift card table, there are hundreds of retailers from which to special order. Remember that the "Bucks for Our Building" program receives a percentage of the card value for each card that you buy. The more we sell, the more we earn!

Special Promotions: Kwik Trip Gas Stations are offering a special promotion of 9% through the end of the year.



## Older Adult Ministry Opportunities



**An Apple a Day, Keeps the Doctor Away!**  
**Apple Orchard Trip**  
Tuesday, October 14,  
9 am to noon

Join us for a morning of fun on Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at Pine Tree Apple Orchard in Dellwood where you can buy your favorite apples, take a hayride through the orchard (weather permitting), or just visit the bakery to enjoy a delicious piece of apple pie. We will carpool from church @ 9:00 a.m. and return around noon. No cost, bakery snack is on your own. Reserve your spot by October 12<sup>th</sup> on the signup sheet located in the narthex area. If you have any questions, please contact Barb Maynard.

### **Don't Miss the Free Maplewood Senior Expo at Maplewood Community Center**

Thursday, October 16, 10 am – 2 pm

This day for seniors is full of information, giveaways, demonstrations, presentations, and snacks. Along with activities to keep you entertained and informed, experts will give you tips on how to live healthier and happier lives. Call 651-249-2230 for more information.

### **A Night of Entertainment**

On November 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm invite a friend along for an evening Especially for Older Adults. Enjoy dinner and entertainment for \$15. We'll have some fun with memories of music from the past. You don't have to sing just enjoy learning some interesting tidbits about the music and the artists. Contact Barb Maynard for more information.

### **Tour of Lights Trip**

Time is moving fast so don't forget the fun overnight trip to experience Bentleyville's "Tour of Lights" in Duluth on Dec 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>. A comfortable motorcoach takes us to Black Bear Casino to check in and we leave for the Carousel Restaurant at the Radisson Hotel to enjoy a luscious meal as we watch the lighting go on below in Bayfront Festival Park. The bus then leaves and drops off the adventurous to walk thru the display. Free hot drinks, popcorn, marshmallows can be enjoyed as you ooh and ahh along. Return home in afternoon on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$109 for double and \$129 for single. Kids \$50 extra. Sign up or get more info with Kathi Kirchoff 651-770-3514. Don't miss out!!!

## Children's Ministries

Children's ministry monthly meeting:  
Thursday, October 2 at ORLC, 6 – 7 pm.

Creation Stations is off to a good start. If you are interested in teaching a small group rotation, please contact Carmen Snaza or anyone on the Children's ministry team. It's only a 2-Sunday commitment.

Bible Sunday is October 5. On this day, our 3rd graders Eric Snaza, Cassidy Reeves, Louis Barrett, Carmen & Seth Florentz will receive a Bible from Our Redeemer.

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming Christmas program schedule.

Oct 26, Nov 2,9,16,23, Dec 7	Christmas Program practice during Creation Stations/education hour on Sundays (10 – 10:50 a.m.)
Nov 30	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday, walk through sanctuary after the 10 a.m. combined service
Dec 6	Cookie Shop Fundraiser Saturday morning
Dec 6	Dress rehearsal in sanctuary Saturday (1 pm-3pm)
Dec 7	Christmas program Sunday between services
Dec 14	Birthday party for Jesus
Dec 21, 28	No Creation Stations, Christmas break

## Confirmation Sunday



Congratulations to our 10th graders who will be confirmed on Sunday, October 26. Please keep Henry Meyer, Steven Keating, Jason Snaza, Jordyn Ryman and Thea Ose in your prayers!

## Second Harvest Packing Opportunity



Sign up at church at the info booth or call Amy (651-779-7945) to help the crew pack out at the grocery line on Thursday 11/6/2014 from 5:30 pm to 7:30pm. Please arrive about 10 minutes early. **We are an all ORLC crew this month so I really need the help. There are 20 slots to fill so sign up early to secure your place!**

If you haven't joined us before, it's a fun activity that really helps others. We take bulk food and each person on the conveyor line adds their food item into a box. We then label and seal the case and load it on the pallet. This is at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest Heartland location in Maplewood on Gervias Ave.

Friends are always welcome join us or work side by side with your family. Just make sure their names is on the list. Children 11 and older are welcome with a parent. It is great to see multiple generations working together.

Congratulations to the past crew in September! The crew packed 11 pallets which is 550 boxes of food. That is 17,050 pounds or 8.5 tons of food. That's a lot of good that we as a team can do! With that we helped provide food for 14,208 meals. That's about 120 meals/min we helped facilitate! Come join us in November and make a difference in Minnesota and have fun serving!

If you have any questions please contact Amy Krohn, [ajkrohn@hotmail.com](mailto:ajkrohn@hotmail.com)

Here are additional times to pencil in on your calendars.

- January 13th 5:30-7:30 (20 people)
- March 5th 5:30-7:30 (20 people)
- May 5th 5:30-7:30 (20 people)

## New Member Class

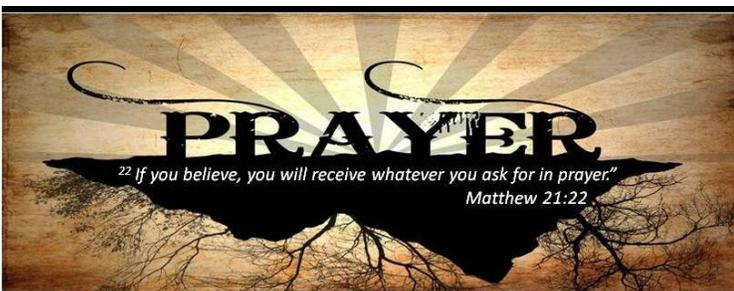


Our Redeemer will be hosting a class for people who are interested in being members of the congregation. These classes will happen on Thursday nights October 23 and 30, from 6:30-8:00. The focus of these times will be to build relationships with each other and key leaders at Our Redeemer, understand more of the faith grounds of this church, and get a bigger picture of our life and ministry. Please call the office so that we can prepare materials for you. Contact Pastor Karsten if you have questions.

## Prayers

These are some situations we have been praying for: Tom Wallace as doctors work to address new health concerns, Cindy and Clint Crooks as they both had surgery, Martha Freeman as she mourns the death of her mother in Liberia, Vicki Anderson as she walks with her dad in his final days, the births of Nathan Madigral and Colton Wevekra, Our Redeemer as we continue to lean into our future, preparations for our upcoming confirmands, the work of various new ministry teams created to help with building decisions and a capital appeal for 2015, Shirley Keating who had surgery, Heidi Sass who had surgery, Kathi Kirchoff, facing cancer, Pauline Halverson recovering well after hospitalization.

If you have a prayer request, please contact the office at 651-772-2445 or email [office@orlcmn.org](mailto:office@orlcmn.org)



## Congregations Sharing our Facility

Spring of Eternal Life is a Hispanic congregation that has been worshipping here for over two years. In that time we have enjoyed providing space for their congregation to gather for worship and study, have worked side by side with them at Dorothy Day, and enjoyed some shared meals between our congregations. We have also had regular contact when they are at the church on Tuesday nights and Saturday nights.

Here is a picture of one of the tables at our shared potluck on September 21.



Now we are preparing to welcome another congregation that also would like to share space with us. We are in planning conversations with Savior Alliance Church as they are seeking to move to our site because of better parking than where they meet now, and to help provide better space for their growing congregation. Savior is a Hmong Christian church that currently worships about 70 people. They are looking to worship and have education time on Sunday evenings and use some space Saturday afternoons and Thursday night for study and youth ministry.

If the details can get worked out, the Church Board gave approval for them to come here beginning November 1. This could be a great chance to open our doors to another congregation, help minister to the growing local Hmong community (as this community mainly stays tied to their own ethnic culture - like Swedes, Norwegians and Germans did years ago) and find ways to share ministry with others and build strong community. Keep them in your prayers and look to help welcome them if all things work out for them to gather here.

## Worship Assistants

Date	October 5	October 12	October 19	October 26
<b>Worship Host</b>	Amy Krohn	Dick & Sharon Peterson	Bruce Ring & Rita During	Doreen Winter
<b>Gift Cards</b>	Sharon Peterson		Jill Rodriguez	
<b>Kitchen Help</b>	Darlene Harwood	Dave Mennen	Dick & Sharon Peterson	Dennis & Jan Peterson
<b>Greeters 8:45</b>	Judy Triplett Joyce Pederson	Dan & Laurie, Danny Fitzgerald	Oliviene Hefta Florence Senske	Joyce Abrahamson Judy Moe
<b>Greeters 11:00</b>	Helen Wallace	Cindy Crooks Shirley Keating	Nora Smeed Jessica Ryden	Claire Sexton Sharon Peterson
<b>Lector 8:45</b>	Chris Reeves	Anna Miller	Dave Mennen	Dianne Derks
<b>Lectors 11:00</b>	Cherie Kilbride	Amy Krohn	Kathi Kirchoff	Jim Krohn
<b>Ushers 8:45</b>	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
<b>Ushers 11:00</b>	Claire Sexton Tom Wallace Roland Kringle Cheri Edwall	Rick Brovitch Clint Crooks Johan Madrigal Jennifer Houge	Randy & Jane Koza Dick & Sharon Peterson	Bruce Ring Mark & Doreen Winter Courtney Magnuson

### Financial Information as of August 30, 2014

Thank you for your continued giving to the mission and ministry of ORLC. These income numbers are for member giving including general, festival & plate cash and do not include supplemental giving. Thank you for your continued support of ORLC.

**Budgeted Income**            **\$166,388**  
**Actual Income**                **\$183,122**

**Budgeted Expense**        **\$243,442**  
**Actual Expense**             **\$229,117**



**Save the Date!**  
**Craft and Bake Sale on**  
**Saturday October 25**  
**from 9am-3pm.**

We are in need of baked good and theme baskets for the sale. Come shop, have lunch and shop some more! Proceeds go to the garden fund.



Buy a chance to win a quilt on Sundays October 5 and 12. We will draw the winner on October 19.

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**



2014

<p>5 Can Day, First Sunday Food Shelf, Blood Pressure Check, Bucks for our Building, Bible Sunday 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Creation Stations, Just People 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church</p>	<p>6 6:00pm CALT 6:30pm Caffeinated for Christ 6:45pm Lives Worth Living</p>	<p>7 1:00pm Staff Meeting 5:15pm Yoga 7:00pm SEL</p>	<p>1 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell Choir 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>2 6:45am Men's Study 6:00pm Children's Ministry Mtg</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 9am-1pm SEL-Fireside 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service</p>
<p>12 8:45am Traditional Worship 9:30am Just People—Presentation Church 10:00am Creation Stations 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church 3:00pm SEL Fellowship in FH</p>	<p>13 9:00am Quilting 6:00pm Joy Circle</p>	<p>14 9:00am Older Adult Outing to Apple Orchard 9:30am Men's Property Group 1:00pm Staff Meeting 5:15pm Yoga 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm SEL, Hope Circle-F</p>	<p>15 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell Choir 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>16 6:45am Men's Study 10am-2pm Senior Expo at Maplewood Comm center 6:30pm Knitting &amp; Crochet Group at Hometown Creamery</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 9am-1pm SEL-Fireside 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service</p>
<p>19 Bucks for our Building 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Creation Stations 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church</p>	<p>20 6:00pm CALT 6:30pm Caffeinated for Christ 6:45pm Lives Worth Living</p>	<p>21 1:00pm Staff Meeting 5:15pm Yoga 7:00pm SEL, Church Board</p>	<p>22 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell Choir 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>23 6:45am Men's Study 9:30-3:30 Intern Cluster Mtg 6:30-8pm New Member Class</p>	<p>24 Craft Sale Set up</p>	<p>25 9am-1pm SEL-Fireside 9am-3pm Craft Sale 5-7pm SEL Practice 7-9 SEL Youth Service</p>
<p>26 Confirmation Sunday 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Creation Stations 11:00am Contemporary Worship 12:00pm Fellowship Hall Rented 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church</p>	<p>27 9:00am Quilting Dorothy Day Service</p>	<p>28 1:00pm Staff Meeting 5:15pm Yoga 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm SEL</p>	<p>29 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell Choir 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>30 6:45am Men's Study 6:30-8pm New Member Class</p>	<p>31</p>	

Confirmation Retreat

**Our Redeemer Staff**

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**Dave Parenteau**, Custodian

**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**

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



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Address Service Requested

**DATED MATERIAL  
DO NOT DELAY**

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
1390 East Larpenteur Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55109

