



## Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

*Transforming Lives  
and Building Community  
by Loving God  
and Serving Others*

## The Monthly Newsletter of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

**February 2016**

### See inside for

- **Lent News**
- **Pajama Fundraiser**
- **OWLS Event**
- **Spiritual Day Retreat**



### What's your story?

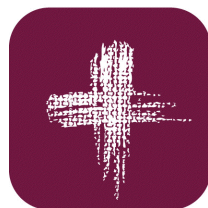
I visited a local church as the 'test' pastor to help them get prepared for their real interviews with candidates they hope will be their new pastor. I gave them feedback about the flow they put together the questions that were asked and the things they could be looking for. I found it interesting that one of the questions they want to ask when they interview candidates was, "tell us about your faith story". This is a good question because it helps others to know some of the faith history of a person. And every time we hear about another's faith it allows us to reflect on our own faith journey. I enjoyed answering that question briefly with them telling how I grew up in the church, named some significant people who have been important, and shared how I still find God working on my life and faith.

This Lent (which begins with Ash Wednesday on February 10) we will find ourselves wrapped up on Sundays telling the stories from Mark's gospel about Jesus as he taught and walked with followers and crowds. But on Wednesday nights we will carve out time to focus on our stories of faith. We each have different backgrounds, different experiences, different challenges, and different reasons for holding the faith which is uniquely ours. We will hear one person each week share more about their faith story. One of the gifts of hearing the faith stories of others is being reflect on our own faith story as well.

**Join us on Wednesday nights** from February 10-March 16 for a simple soup and sandwich meal (look to sign up for helping to bring food or clean up) that begins at 5:30. At 6:30 we will have a 30 minute worship on the theme *'The stories of Jesus and the faith of followers'*. Following worship there will be Mentoring time for our confirmation students, choir practice for all interested singers, and a small group setting to hear more from our nightly speakers about their faith walk and allow their story to stir and draw out reflections on our own faith.

We all have our own story of faith and Lent is a time to focus both on the story of Jesus and his walk of faith that brought him to the cross, and our faith story that has roots and continues to take shape. Hope to see you on Sunday mornings and/or Wednesday nights this holy time of year.

Pastor Karsten





Wherever people love each other, and are true to each other, and take risks for each other; God is with them and for them, and they are doing God's will - Frederick Buechner

It with great love that I greet you in this month of February! February

marks not only Valentine's Day, but this year in particular it leads us into Lent with Ash Wednesday on February 10. As followers of Christ we are commanded to love one another in good times and in bad. Love isn't always as colorful or sweet as the cards expressing sentiment, flowers and chocolates that are often exchanged. Love is hard. Love isn't easy. Love comes at a great cost. We search for love in numerous ways and we long to be loved authentically.

So what does it mean for us to know that God first loved us? (1 John 4:19) That Jesus himself says to us, "love one another as I have loved you?" (John 13:34). I encourage you this Lent to join me mediating on these verses and asking yourself the deeper truth of what it means to **'live loved.'** I also invite you to treat yourself with some time away on a Spiritual Day Retreat **Saturday, March 19 from 8 am - 4 pm at Dunrovin Retreat Center.** It will be a good time of spiritual practice, learning, as well as, time to be renewed and cared for. Transportation will be provided for those needing assistance. If you feel nudged by the Spirit to join me - please sign-up at the Welcome Desk. More information will be sent to those interested.

May you be blessed through your journey this Lent and may God be near you in love.

Peace,  
Intern Pastor Anne Jackson

## Sharing Your Faith Matters

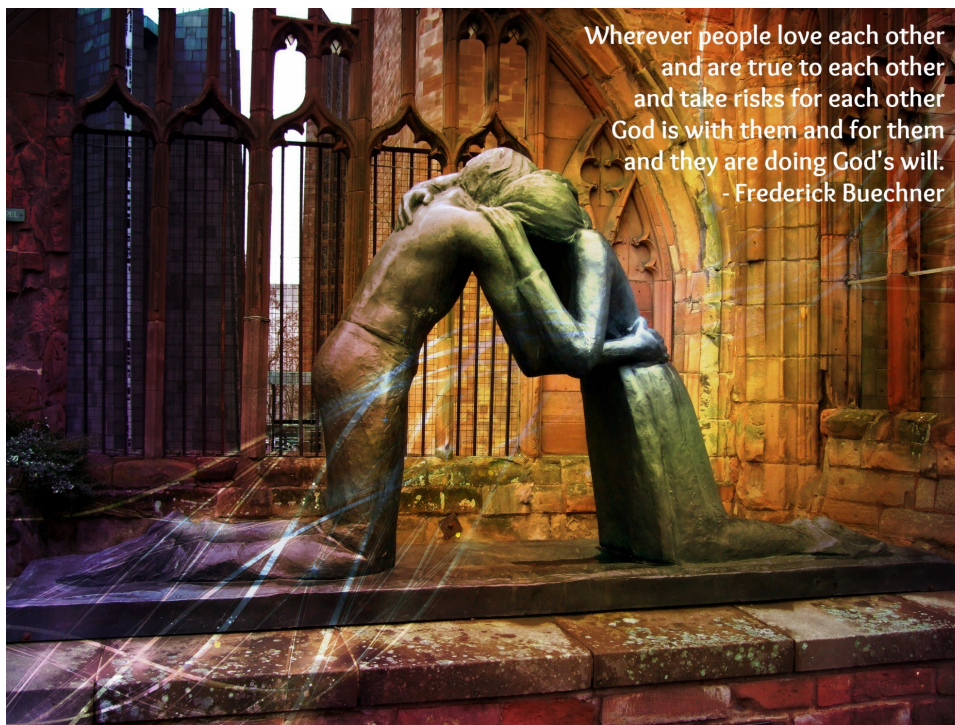
Join us on Sunday, February 14 for our monthly 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday adult forum series on 'What Matters?'. We will have some fun with role plays, visit about how we can or have tried to share our faith, and learn from each other more about why and how sowing seeds of faith is good. This will take place in the fellowship hall at 10:00am



Ash Wednesday service on February 10th at 6:30pm with a supper prior at 5:30pm.

Lent Services continue each Wednesday with a light supper at 5:30pm and services at 6:30pm.

Please join us!



Wherever people love each other and are true to each other and take risks for each other God is with them and for them and they are doing God's will.  
- Frederick Buechner





Hello all,

The month of February will be a slow one, but as always, a productive one. The confirmation students will begin mentoring, in which they will have the chance to connect with a confirmed, older member of the congregation and

talk about faith, lent, and what it means to be an adult in God's family.

We also will begin heavy planning into the upcoming fundraisers, which includes our Annual Palm Sunday Breakfast as well as a new event this year, the Our Redeemer's first Dinner Theater. We will planning a play and dinner for April in which the youth will practice, and eventually perform for the congregation and the community. We would also very much like other members of the congregation to be involved, so if interested please feel free to speak with myself or Carmen Snaza to see how you can be involved.

We also will soon be choosing a week in which we will be going on our summer trip, which will be to the boundary waters hosted by Camp Wapo's Wilderness Canoe base. More details will come soon but we are very excited about this trip for the summer and hope it will be a good trip to get the youth excited again about service and summer fun outside of the twin cities!

Blessings and stay warm!!

Eric Klein  
Director of Youth Ministries



Pastor Karsten and Pastor Ben Mandrick at his ordination in January.

## Mark your calendars for our 4th annual Pajama Party!

Sunday, February 21st, all are invited to wear their pajamas for our annual service project. We will again be collecting new pajamas and books that we will be donating to The Pajama Program. Last year we donated 50+ pairs of pajamas and 50+ books that are donated to children in need. Creation Stations children can bring a donation on the 21st. There will also be a basket in the Narthex where the congregation can drop off donations, we will be collecting donations throughout the month of February

*About the Pajama Program from [pajamaprogram.org](http://pajamaprogram.org):*  
Pajama Program provides new pajamas and new books to children in need nationwide, many of whom are waiting to be adopted.

Every Child has a right to a good night. Thousands of children across the United States go to sleep at night afraid and lonely, in ill-fitting and soiled clothing and alone with their dreaded thoughts. A Pajama Program child may live in a group home, a shelter or temporary housing facilities. The children Pajama Program serves are shuffled often from one place to another. Many of them have been abandoned, abused or neglected. Most of these children have never enjoyed the simple comfort of having a parent tuck them in at bedtime with warm, clean pajamas and a bedtime story. Some of the children are living with their families below the poverty level, in desperate need of food, clothing and shelter.

Every child has the right to a good night. The two simple gifts of pajamas and books let these children know that someone cares - sometimes these are the only new things they have ever received. Through this simple act of love, we can fulfill every child's right to a good night.



Save the Date for the Easter Egg Hunt - March 19th!



## O.W.L.S (Older Wiser Lutheran Saints)

### OWLS Upcoming event

Join us for a visit to the Museum of Russian Art in Minneapolis on Thursday, February 11, with lunch afterwards. Explore new perspectives on the history, heritage, and art of Russia and surrounding cultures. This museum is the only North American museum of its kind. Current exhibition is "The Faces of War: Russia in WWI" (1914-1918). Cost is \$7 for seniors, \$9 for adults. Carpool from church @ 9 am, return around 2:30 pm. Restaurant for lunch has not yet been determined.

## Understanding Islam

During the first weeks of January we have had a group of about 20 people from Our Redeemer, Presentation Catholic and the community coming together for a four week study called 'My Neighbor Is Muslim'.

We have had the pleasure to have the local Iman, Samir Saikali (Spiritual Leader at the local mosque which is just 1 mile north of Our Redeemer – located in the old library) with us for these nights to further explore Islam, understand its foundations, and develop a better relationship with that community.

All those involved have said how meaningful this study has been and how rich the time of unlimited questions has been. This is one more way Our Redeemer is reaching out to know this community and be a good neighbor.



Crafting STAY retreat is happening again. A two-day event is planned for Friday, February 5 and Saturday February 6. Bring your own craft projects to work on. This can be anything from sewing, knitting, to scrapbooking. All are welcome. To sign up please see or contact Amy Krohn (779-7945 or [ajkrohn@hotmail.com](mailto:ajkrohn@hotmail.com))

Fellowship Hall Our Redeemer Luther Church  
(1390 East Larpentuer Ave)  
Friday, February 5: 5pm - midnight  
Saturday, February 6: 9am - midnight

Meals/Beverages on your own

Suggested: \$5-10 free will offering to the church

Bring a snack to share if you want

1/2 of a round table space

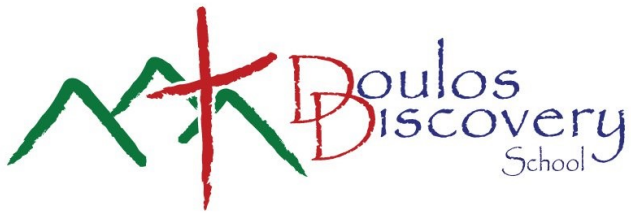
Let me know if you need electricity

Please feel free to bring a friend, just make sure you let me know their name so that we can save a spot.  
(If you can only make it to the Friday night or can only come on Saturday, please let me know that also.)



Thank you to our crew in January at Second Harvest!

## Make a difference in the life of a student



Doulos Discovery School in the Dominican Republic has begun another semester of classes and is making a great difference in the lives of their students and that community. As 50% of the students come from very low economic means (some about \$3000 for a year) there is a large need to have sponsorships for the students. If you are interested in sponsoring a student or being a partner as a classroom sponsor please check out [doulosdiscovery.org](http://doulosdiscovery.org) for more information. You can choose a student to sponsor and you get written communication a couple of times each year as well as their regular newsletter. Right now there are four members at Our Redeemer who are involved in student sponsorship here. This is rewarding, meaningful, and vital – and through it all this becomes a great way to link you to deep care in our world.

We have received a wonderful letter from Frayluis, the student ORLC supports at Doulos Discovery School in the Dominican Republic. He is currently in the 6th grade and our congregation has been supporting his schooling since he was in preschool. Please stop by the bulletin board in the hallway leading to the Sunday School rooms to read his letter.

## Missions Update

A recent deposit of the Hunger boxes and jars was made in the amount of \$148.00.

Thank you to all who continue to support this wonderful way to help stop world hunger. Look for empty boxes or jars to fill with change in the large basket in the Narthex. When full, return to church and it will be added to our next hunger deposit.



## All Thrivent Members:

Please remember to check your Thrivent accounts to learn whether Thrivent Choice Dollars have accumulated at the end of 2015, and direct them NOW to the charity of your choosing.

We hope you pick Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, #7608. Last year ORLC received \$4906, because of this beneficial Thrivent program and you individuals! Thank you!



## Intergenerational Mission Trip

This summer we take our second intergenerational mission trip in partnership with Youthworks organization. We will be headed to Superior WI from July 14-17. We currently have space for 12 people but there is room for 13 more (but this is on a first come, first serve basis across the US).

These 4 days will entail time for playing and praying, worship and eating, serving and sleeping. Last year we had a fabulous time and met some other great people. There will be 35-50 at this site. Last year we had 4 different families represented and ages from 1 year to 70. Cost for this year will be \$105. If you are interested in reserving space to be with us contact Pastor Karsten. For more information check out [www.youthworks.com/trips/duluthsuperior](http://www.youthworks.com/trips/duluthsuperior).

## Financial Information as of December 31 and online giving opportunities

Thank you for your support of Our Redeemer. We appreciate all of the contributions you donate to help our ministry here at ORLC.

Contributions can now be debited automatically from your checking or savings account or processed using your credit or debit card. Our new electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much-needed donation consistency for our congregation. We appreciate your gifts!

## Finances through December 31, 2015

<b>2015 Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$40,736.56</b>
<b>Member Giving</b>	<b>\$306,735.23</b>
<b><u>Supplemental Income</u></b>	<b><u>\$46,387.08</u></b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$393,858.87</b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>	<b><u>\$365,562.69</u></b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$28,296.18</b>

Mobile Users Scan Here



## Worship Assistants

Date	February 7	February 14	February 21	February 28
<b>Worship Host</b>	Allen Heimerdinger	Dennis Peterson	Amy Krohn	Bruce Ring Rita During
<b>Gift Cards</b>	Jill Rodriguez		Vicki Anderson	
<b>Kitchen Help</b>	Darlene Harwood Florence Senske	Mark & Doreen Winter, Jessica Morgan	Dick & Sharon Peterson	Dennis & Jan Peterson
<b>8:45 Greeters</b>	Judy Triplett Barb Birchem	Dan & Laurie, Danny Fitzgerald Deb Camasta	Virginia Kettleson Florence Senske	Joyce Abrahamson Judy Moe
<b>8:45 Lector</b>	Dave Bradee	Deb Camasta	TBD	TBD
<b>8:45 Ushers</b>	Dennis Paulson Rob Klemm Kent Weispfenning Roger Sparks	Roger Ollila Baryogar Johnson Roger Svendsen Dennis Peterson	Dan Fitzgerald Bill Maynard Bill Fredine Johan/Katie Madrigal	Larry & Sandy Pruden Mike Welte Mike Kahrau
<b>11:00 Greeters</b>	Helen Wallace Judy Koza	TBD	Nora Smeed Jessica Ryden	Claire Sexton Sharon Peterson
<b>11:00 Lector</b>	Frank Carlson	Alissa Krohn	Hilary Hinrichs	Jim Krohn
<b>11:00 Ushers</b>	Claire Sexton Cheri Edwall Caitlyn Edwall Matt Kilbride	Agnes Baysahwala Jennifer Houge Randy & Jane Koza	Jessica Morgan Kari Keating Dick & Sharon Peterson	Bruce Ring Mark & Doreen Winter Courtney Magnuson



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 6:30pm Islam Study 6:45pm Lives Worth Living	2 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm <b>SEL (S)</b>	3 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell choir 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir Practice, Congregational Growth Team	4 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 6:45am Men's Study 5:00pm Worship & Music 6:00pm <b>Savior (F)</b> , Children's Ministry Team Mtg, Girl Scouts	5 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 6-8pm <b>Savior (S)</b>	6 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 8:30am-2pm Toolkit 10am-12pm <b>Savior (S)</b> 5-9pm <b>SEL (S)</b>
						Crafting Retreat
7 <i>First Sunday Food Shelf, Blood Pressure Check, Bucks for our Building</i> 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Creation Stations, Middle School SS 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm <b>Spring of Eternal Life Church</b> 1:30pm Shores Worship 3:00pm <b>Savior-Fireside, Classrooms</b> 4:00pm <b>SEL (FH)</b> 4:30pm <b>Savior Church</b>	8 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 6:00pm JOY Circle-offsite	9 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 9:30am Property Group 1:00pm Staff Meeting 3:45pm Spiritual Growth Team 6:00pm Girl Scouts (FH), Intern Committee Mtg 7:00pm <b>SEL (S)</b> , Hope Circle,	10 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 9:30am Bible Study 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell choir 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir Practice	11 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 6:45am Men's Study 10:00am Kitchen Table Mystics (F) 12:00pm OWLS to First Lutheran Lunch 6:00pm <b>Savior (F)</b>	12 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 6-8pm <b>Savior (S)</b>	13 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 10am-12pm <b>Savior (S)</b> 5-9pm <b>SEL (S)</b>
14 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Creation Stations, Middle School SS, Sharing Your Faith Matters 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm <b>Spring of Eternal Life Church</b> 3:00pm <b>SEL Fellowship Hall, Savior-Fireside, Classrooms</b> 4:30pm <b>Savior Church</b>	15 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 6:30pm Caffeinated for Christ 6:45pm Lives Worth Living	16 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm <b>SEL (S)</b> , Church Board (F)	17 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 9:30am Bible Study 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell choir 6:30pm Worship 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir Practice, Mentoring, Small Groups	18 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 6:45am Men's Study 6:00pm <b>Savior (F)</b> , Girl Scouts 6:30pm Knitting & Crochet Group offsite	19 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 6-8pm <b>Savior (S)</b>	20 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 9am-3pm Scrapbooking 10am-12pm <b>Savior (S)</b> 5-9pm <b>SEL (S)</b>
21 <i>Bucks for our Building</i> 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Creation Stations, Middle School SS 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm <b>Spring of Eternal Life Church</b> 3:00pm <b>Savior-Fireside, Classrooms</b> 4:30pm <b>Savior Church</b>	22 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b>	23 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 1:00pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm Youth Ministry Team 7:00pm <b>SEL (S)</b>	24 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 9:30am Bible Study 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Confirmation, Bell choir 6:30pm Worship 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir Practice, Mentoring, Small Groups	25 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 6:45am Men's Study 6:00pm <b>Savior (F)</b>	26 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 6-8pm <b>Savior (S)</b> , Girl Scouts (FH)	27 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b> 8:30-12 Conference Assembly 10am-12pm <b>Savior (S)</b> 5-9pm <b>SEL (S)</b>
28 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Creation Stations, Middle School SS 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm <b>Spring of Eternal Life Church</b> 3:00pm <b>Savior-Fireside, Classrooms</b> 4:30pm <b>Savior Church</b>	29 8:00am <b>Savior (F)</b>					
<div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div> <div> <div>Our Redeemer</div> <div>Spring of Eternal Life</div> <div>Savior Alliance</div> </div> <div>S=Sanctuary, F=Fireside, FH=Fellowship Hall</div>						

# February 2016

### Our Redeemer Staff

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**Ellie Peterson**, Contemporary  
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**Madeline Veenker**, Choir & Bell Director  
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Email: mveenker@gmail.com

**Dave Parenteau**, Custodian

### Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

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Web: [www.orlcmn.org](http://www.orlcmn.org)  
Email: [office@orlcmn.org](mailto:office@orlcmn.org)

#### 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

