



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Transforming Lives and Building Community by Loving God and Serving Others

September 2017

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What's Up?

As the summer days begin their fast fade into fall it is apparent from school sales, weather changes, garden productions, and looking at the upcoming calendar months that end in 'ber' that there will be

changes ahead. So in the midst of that let's share a little bit of what's up at Our Redeemer as we move into September.

With **worship** we move back to our two worship times of 8:45 and 11:00 on the 10th and on that Rally Day we will have a number of tables ready with information and invitation about fall life at Our Redeemer. One special event on the 17th will be our God's Work Our Hand's event that this year will take place at First Lutheran (463 Maria Ave - across from Metro State University) - 12:00-1:00 Fire oven pizza, 1:00-2:30 Packing hygiene kits for local ministries (please bring your donations in these upcoming weeks) and 3:00 fun outings. This is a combined event with the East Side 8 congregations and we will have carpooling from Our Redeemer.

Reformation participation - There will be lots of activity this fall in the Twin Cities as we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and the beginning of the Lutheran Church. It provides a great chance to look at the history, the impact and the foundations that have grounded and guided our church. See below for word about a September movie showing on the 27th.

Staffing Changes - We have just said our thanks to Intern Pastor Carol and our interim Children Youth and Family Minister Kirsten Fisher. They were both good leaders for us and now we are working closely with the St. Paul area synod to help call a new part time associate minister to come work at Our Redeemer. Through months of planning and prayer and conversation we believe the best scenario for building more strength and numbers here is to hire an individual with gifts and strengths in evangelism and ministry leadership with Children Youth and Families. Toward this end you can expect to keep hearing about the process we are in and what this will require from the congregation.

Right now the Staffing Team is completing the Job Description and Ministry Site Profile that the Synod uses to search for fitting candidates. A Call Committee has been formed for the purpose of preparing for future interviews later this fall. And a Funding Team is putting together materials and preparing for their visits with the congregation for a special funding appeal to support this staffing move and enhancing our ministry.

So what's up? As usual a number of new things and many of the same things (Dorothy Day serving, Loaves and Fishes meals, Bible studies, children and youth ministry, hosting community events...) that seek to make us a faithful and vital congregation for both our members and the community.

Blessings!

Pastor Karsten

REFORMATION



500

Reformation 500

This October we will see and hear a lot about the special 500 anniversary of the founding of the Lutheran church and the impact of Martin Luther and the reformation for reshaping the church and making a significant impact on the world.

With various local events, concerts, speakers, and more we will add a special touch with a chance to take in a variety of 'Luther at the Movies' showings both at Our Redeemer and visiting a big screen.

The first one is Wednesday, September 27th at 9:30am and 6:30 pm in the sanctuary as we take a look at the world of Luther through the great work of Rick Steves. Come join us for the hour movie and a little conversation. Look for future news about October opportunities.



Dear ORLC Family,

Thank you so much for the wonderful day on Sunday, August 20th. The sending celebration you gave me was amazing. The quilt is much appreciated, the food was delicious, the church photo is treasured, and the kind words that were shared I will cherish forever.

Special thanks go to Pastor Karsten, Lisa Diez, and the Internship Committee for the guidance and support you have given me this past year. Thank you for putting up with my endless questions and my yearning to grow. You have given so much of your time and I can't thank you enough.

Each of you, in your way, has helped to shape me to become a pastor and for that I am forever grateful. You have been my home for a year, and I will never forget you or this blessed place. Thank you again. Peace be with you all.

In Christ's name,

Carol Strand

Former Intern Pastor



**God's work.
Our hands.**

God's Work Our Hands Pizza, Pack, and Play

God's Work Our Hands Sunday will be a special day this year. On Sunday, September 17, we will be meeting at First Lutheran Church, 463 Maria Avenue, St. Paul for the "Pizza and Pack" part of the day. At 1:00, groups from the Eastside 8 churches will gather and eat wood-fired pizza. Then at 2:00, we will pack toiletries and personal care items* that have been collected for those experiencing poverty. And finally at 3:00, the "Play" time of the day will happen at the Flat Earth Brewery, 688 Minnehaha Avenue East, St. Paul.

This will be a good day: with good food, good fellowship, good work, and good fun. See you there!!!

***Personal Care Items to be Collected** **(Please place items in the box in narthex)**

- *All toiletry items must be new and unused.
- *Non-sample size toiletries are needed.
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Body and Face Soap
- Face Wash
- Tampons/Pads
- Toothbrushes/Toothpaste,
- Teeth Whitening Products
- Body and Face Lotion, Cocoa Butter
- Deodorant, Tweezers, Nail Clippers
- African American Hair Care Products, Hairspray,
- Hair Grease/Gel
- Hairbrushes, Boar-bristle Hairbrushes, Combs, Hair Binders, Clips, Hair Dryer, Flat Iron, Curling Iron
- Razors, Shaving Cream
- First Aid Kits, Band-Aids, Anti-biotic Ointment
- Acne Medications
- Contact Lens Solution and Cases



From the Music Director

Summer was great. Summer was fun. Summer was casual and worshipful. Now we are starting a new season of worship, where we have two services and more specialized music.

Starting September 10th, our choir will start singing in most of the early services. In preparation for that we are practicing every Wednesday at 7pm. There is no time like the present for you to jump in and sing. And if you have piano skills, we can definitely use you there, too. Come for the Wednesday night church activities and stay for choir practice! We have a great variety of choral music coming this year – traditional choral anthems, sacred classical, and gospel. Some will be new arrangements, and some will be old. Some will be fast and bouncy, and some will be slow and reflective. There is something for everyone.

Our contemporary band is starting a mid-week practice on Wednesdays at 8pm. Bring an instrument or your voice and drop in anytime.

Handbells will be starting up in October.

If you are interested in helping with audio, video, or drama, send me an email at curt@orlcmn.org.

Food and Our Redeemer – we grow it, share it, cook it and serve it

We are in the midst of days when Our Redeemer is all about food – and the focus is those in need. We have been in full swing with community lunches being served every M/W/F and a free supper every Wednesday night. The scenes of new people each week coming for food, some conversation with others and sometimes the opportunity to be with others makes this a wonderful site and great ministry of Our Redeemer.

We also are seeing our vegetable gardens (on the south side of the church) producing a bounty of produce. Six of the sixteen plots are tended to by our members with what is harvested being delivered to Merrick Food Shelf every Monday for their distribution. The other ten plots are being used by Bhutanese immigrants and members of one of our rental congregations as a means to learn gardening and raise food for their families.



Thank you to all who made National Night Out such a great success. We had over 250 come out and fellowship with us. It would not be possible without the volunteers at Our Redeemer! Thank you for making this a fun faith filled night.

Bessmans

In August, we had Donald & Josephine Bessman here to celebrate all they are doing in Sierra Leone. If you did not get a chance to contribute to the Bessman's you still can. Write your check to ORLC and put "Bessmans" in the memo line. Thank you!



Stewardship corner

Ephesians 2:10 says, “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” So as followers of Jesus, doing good works is what we do. It is in our “DNA” to be this way. We don’t ask for applause or a reward. It’s just what we do. I thank God for you as I think of the many ways you are walking on the path that Jesus has set before you, and how my life has been transformed over the years as our paths have intersected in so many ways.

Yes, I know that our fall financial giving drive and the ministry fund appeal are both just around the corner. Yet the path that we choose to walk comes first and then everything else falls into place.

Your servant in Christ,
Dean Ersfeld
Treasurer for ORLC



Upcoming OWLS (Older Wiser LutheranS) Events:

Saturday, September 30th – Fall Leaf Cruise on the St. Croix River/ Taylors Falls

Join us for an 80 minute guided tour on the beautiful St. Croix River leaving Taylors Falls @ 11 a.m. We will stop for lunch afterwards at The Old Log Cabin Restaurant in Forest Lake. Carpool from church leaving at 9:30 a.m. Cost is \$17.00 for Adult, \$15.50 for Senior (62+), and \$8.75 for Child (3-12). Sign up and payment deadline is Sunday, September 10th. Cash or checks payable to ORLC can be given to Carole Erickson, Barb Maynard, or leave in the church office. We will only purchase tickets for those who have paid by September 10th. If needed, golf carts are available to take us down the hill leading to the boarding area.

Everyone is welcome!

Thursday, November 30th

We will visit The Norway House in Minneapolis to see the Gingerbread Wonderland 2017 display of gingerbread houses created by local participants with a stop afterwards at Ingebretsens, a specialty store featuring Scandinavian foods, crafts, and gifts. More details to come.



Crafting Garage Sale

ORLC crafty people are invited to come to a garage sale highlighting craft items, such as scrapbooking, rubberstamps, papers, punches, yarns, paints, etc. The sale will be on Saturday, September 16th, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon here at Our Redeemer in the Fellowship Hall. This sale is being held in conjunction with the 3M Scrap and Stamp Club. Please bring your own tote bag for purchased items, cash only payable with small bills. If you have any questions, contact Vicki Anderson at 651-770-6097.

Attention Scrapbookers!

Crafting STAY retreat is happening again. Plan ahead, mark your calendar now. Come have a LOT of fun and make progress on your craft. A two-day event is planned for Friday September 22nd and Saturday September 23rd. Bring your own craft projects to work on. This can be anything from sewing, knitting, to scrapbooking. All are welcome. To sign up contact Amy Krohn (779-7945 or ajkrohn@hotmail.com) to sign up now.

Fellowship Hall Our Redeemer Luther Church (1390 East Larpentuer Ave)

- Friday September 22: 5pm - midnight
- Saturday September 23: 9am - midnight

Meals/Beverages on your own

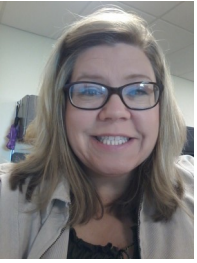
Suggested: \$5-10 free will offering to the church

Bring a snack to share if you want

1/2 of a round table space

Let Amy know if you need electricity

Please feel free to bring a friend, just make sure you let Amy 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 share that also.) Space will be limited so please sign up.



A WORD OF THANKS

I am still singing Vacation Bible School songs, this one with a Reggae beat, based on Romans 8:31. "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

When I looked at the children singing with vivacious energy, making the hand actions, then shaking their heads and saying "I am not alone, God is on my side."

That's it!! Sing it!! You are NOT alone!! God walks by your side! Can I add anymore exclamation marks? Yes I can!!!

Isn't that what we want for our children, to understand? The God of the universe, whose love is infinite (we learned the symbol for infinity in VBS too) is with them each day, each encounter, each life event, and our lives are a response to that gift of Jesus and God's redeeming love?

Each person of Our Redeemer is part of that, from your willingness to share from the overflow of your heart, the gifts that God has given you, "yourselves, your time, your possessions" as we say in the Lutheran liturgy. From the 2 teens and 3 elementary school kids who went to Lake Wapogasset Bible Camp- Chapel was the resounding "favorite part of camp". And from the 4 teens and 2 adults who went on the Montana Christikon Bible Work Camp, I heard about the intensity of God's creation from driving boulder fields to snow in July.

If you bought a pie you were a part of that, if you bought a cookie from the cookie shop you were a part of that or any of the numerous fundraisers we had over the year, or even through your offerings in church into the budget, you were part of that. You are making a difference.

There are more gifts, it takes a supportive community, the ones that helped with the fundraisers in the kitchen, that volunteered to be a part of the trip or be a teacher, or used your vehicle to haul stuff!! or you who used any of the other "strength finder gifts" of encouragement, positivity, developer, teachers, organizer (to name a few.)

You said Yes God, use me, and God is.

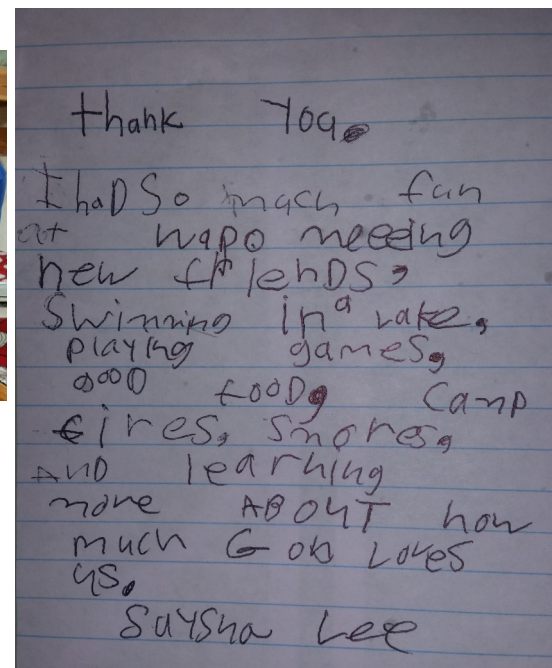
There is something different about a Christian who has said "Yes" to God. I've been told by people of other faiths and no faith - there is something different.... something "nice". I would say, saying "Yes" to God, helps you live into your authentic self, live as God knows you to be. Wouldn't you say that would be what we all want from each other?

Keep an open heart to God. Look for ways God wants to share with you an authentic, real life, worth every minute. Then from "the abundance of the heart" (Luke 6:45) you will know and share the joy that Christ brings. You are not alone, God is on your side.

It has been a gift to walk alongside the youth, families, Pastors and people connected to ORLC these last 10 months. Thank you for everything- :) As I draw to an end of my interim service here at Our Redeemer, I await God's call to support another congregation in child, youth and family ministry.

"The Lord watch between you and me, when we are apart, one from another" Genesis 31:49

Kirsten Fisher



Read the note here that Saysha Lee wrote regarding her experience at camp this year. We are so thankful for our kids at ORLC!



VBS – Maker Fun Factory

What a grand time again with VBS this year. The theme of this grand God who created/made us and who is with us and for us provided the foundation for meaningful teaching, fun science and craft projects, and beautiful singing. The kids had a great time, the parents (both from Our Redeemer and the community) were so pleased, and the helpers stepped up in very good ways.

Children's Ministry:

Rally Sunday on Sept. 10! Join us to register for Sunday School and do a Grandparent's Day craft. Then kids age preschool through 5th grade can join us every Sunday at 10am to learn about God and the Bible through games, skits, crafts and stories.

Volunteer teachers are always needed! Teach a bible story to the kids--just a one week commitment! Curriculum, helpers and supplies will be ready for you! See Cherie Kilbride, Kari Keating or Holly Forsberg for more info.

Tai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance

We are excited to offer a new class at ORLC on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting September 19 and ending December 12 from 11am-12pm in our Fellowship Hall.

This class is for those interested in improving balance, flexibility and strength. This program is very good for seniors. Canes and walkers are welcome. The cost is \$30 for 24 sessions. There are registration forms available at the Info Desk in the Narthex or contact Lisa to register. Registration deadline is September 11.

Communicating with the congregation

We are seeking ways to be better about communicating events and news with the congregation. When there are deaths we want people to know about those and hear details about the events that surround visitation and services. When we have special events or groups we want to make sure people are aware of what is going on. When there are special needs (i.e. response to Sierra Leone mudslide) we want to give opportunities for care.

To do this we are seeking to develop both a wide base of emails for communication and also collecting cell phone numbers for text contact. If you are open to receiving communication through these avenues please let us know by calling Lisa in the office to add you to our lists.



Red Cross Blood Drive

We are excited to host another blood drive here at Our Redeemer in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, September 28 from 1pm-6pm.

You can sign up for a spot in a few different ways.

1. In early September, a sign up will be in the Narthex. You can sign up there.
2. Call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
3. Visit redcrossblood.org and enter: Our Redeemer Lutheran.

Each presenting donor will receive a coupon for a free haircut at Sports Clips.

Worship Assistants

| Date | September 3 One Service 9:30am | September 10 | September 17 | September 24 |
|-----------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Worship Host | Judy Moe/ Claire Sexton | Dennis Peterson | Bruce Ring Rita During | Dean Ersfeld |
| Gift Cards | TBD | | Barb Maynard | |
| Kitchen Help | Darlene Harwood | Dennis & Jan Peterson Judy Moe | Dick & Sharon Peterson | Mark & Doreen Winter, Jessica Morgan |
| 8:45am Greeters | Barb Birchem Judy Triplett | Dan & Laurie, Danny Fitzgerald | Oliviene Hefta Florence Senske | Joyce Abrahamson Judy Moe |
| 11:00am Greeters | Shirley Keating | Sherry Pasket | Nora Smeed Jessica Ryden | Claire Sexton Sharon Peterson |
| 8:45 Lector | David Bradee | Deb Camasta | Dianne Derks | TBD |
| 11:00am Lector | | Cherie Kilbride | Kathi Kirchoff | Caileigh Kilbride |
| 8:45am Ushers | Dennis Paulson Rob Klemm Kent Weispfenning Roger Sparks | Roger Ollila Baryogar Johnson Roger Svendsen Dennis Peterson | Dan Fitzgerald Bill Maynard Bill Fredine | Larry & Sandy Pruden Mike Welte Mike Kahrau |
| 11:00am Ushers | Claire Sexton Caitlyn Edwall Matt Kilbride Scott Torvi | Vicki Anderson Brett Rediske Randy & Jane Koza Jennifer Houge | Jessica Morgan Kari Keating Dick & Sharon Peterson | Mark & Doreen Winter Troy & Courtney Magnuson |

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 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!

Mobile Users Scan Here



Finances through the month of July

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 2017 Beginning Balance | \$30,539 |
| Member Giving | \$186,111 |
| Supplemental Income | \$28,323 |
| Total | \$244,973 |
| Expenses | \$217,730 |
| Difference | \$27,243 |

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



S=Sanctuary, F=Firestone, FH=Fellowship Hall, SS=Sunday School Room

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| <p>3 Bucks for our Building 6am-2pm ROH Prayer (SS) 9:30am Worship 10:30am Faith Sharing Prayer Group 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church 5:00pm Rock of Horeb Church</p> | <p>4 LABOR DAY Office Closed 6-8:00pm TOPS 6:45pm Lives Worth Living Group</p> | <p>5 11:30am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Decaffeinated for Christ Group 7:00pm SEL (S) Funding Team</p> | <p>6 9:30am Bible Study, Property Group 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm Band Practice</p> | <p>7 6:45am Men's Study 5:30pm Worship & Music Mtg 6:00pm Children's Ministry Mtg</p> | <p>8 6-8pm SEL (S)</p> | <p>9 2-4:00pm SEL (S) 5:30-9pm ROH (S) 8pm-10pm ROH (FH)</p> |
| <p>10 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church 3:00pm SEL Fellowship 5:00pm Rock of Horeb Church</p> | <p>11 9:00am Quilting Group 6:00pm Joy Circle 6-8:00pm TOPS</p> | <p>12 11:30am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Missions 7:00pm Hope Circle, (F), SEL (S) Funding Team</p> | <p>13 9:30am Bible Study 5:30pm Loaves & Fishes 6:30pm Confirmation Orientation 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm Band Practice</p> | <p>14 6:45am Men's Study 10:00am Kitchen Table Mystics</p> | <p>15 6-8pm SEL (S)</p> | <p>16 6am-2pm ROH (SS) 9am-3pm Scrapbooking 10am-12pm Scrapbook Garage Sale 2-4:00pm SEL (S) 5:30-9pm ROH (S) 8pm-10pm ROH (FH)</p> |
| <p>17 Bucks for our Building 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm God's Work Our Hands, Spring of Eternal Life Church 5:00pm Rock of Horeb Church</p> | <p>18 6:45pm Lives Worth Living Group 6-8:00pm TOPS</p> | <p>19 11am-12pm Tai Ji Quan (FH) 11:30am Staff Meeting 3:45pm Spiritual Growth 6:30pm Decaffeinated for Christ Group 6-7:00pm Garden Canning (FH, K) 7:00pm Church Board (F), SEL (S)</p> | <p>20 9:30am Bible Study 5:30pm Loaves & Fishes 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm Band Practice</p> | <p>21 6:45am Men's Study 11am-12pm Tai Ji Quan (FH) 6:30pm Knitting & Crochet Group Caribou</p> | <p>22 5pm-12am Craft Stay Retreat 6-8pm SEL (S)</p> | <p>23 9am-12am Craft Stay Retreat 2-4:00pm SEL (S) 5:30-9pm ROH (S) 8pm-10pm ROH (FH)</p> |
| <p>24 8:45am Traditional Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:45am Hearts for the Homebound 11:00am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Spring of Eternal Life Church 3:00pm SEL Fellowship</p> | <p>25 9:00am Quilting Group 6-8:00pm TOPS</p> | <p>26 11am-12pm Tai Ji Quan (FH) 11:30am Staff Meeting 7:00pm SEL (S)</p> | <p>27 9:30am Bible Study 5:30pm Loaves & Fishes 6:30pm Confirmation, Luther Movie (S) 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm Band Practice</p> | <p>28 6:45am Men's Study 11am-12pm Tai Ji Quan (FH) 1-6:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive (FH)</p> | <p>29 6-8pm SEL (S)</p> | <p>30 9am-11:30am Merrick Mobile Food Distribution 11am OWLS Outing 2-4:00pm SEL (S) 5:30-9pm ROH (S) 8pm-10pm ROH (FH)</p> |

Our Redeemer Staff

Rev. Karsten Nelson, Pastor
651-772-2445 x102
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Morales, Curt, Music Director
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Lisa Diez, Office Administrator
651-772-2445 x101
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Dave Parenteau, Custodian

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

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Phone: 651-772-2445 Fax: 651-771-4548

Web: www.orlcmn.org
Email: office@orlcmn.org

Worship Schedule
8:45am Traditional
11:00am Contemporary



<https://www.facebook.com/orlcmn>



<https://twitter.com/orlcmn>

Address Service Requested

DATED MATERIAL
DO NOT DELAY

