



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Transforming Lives and Building Community by Loving God and Serving Others

August 2018



Addressing Hunger – a focus for Our Redeemer through 2018

There are many issues that we hear about in the news every week and more issues and situations that we come across in our daily lives. But one of the more pervasive and on-going issues is hunger. Yes it is across the world where we see pictures of starving children, but it is also close at hand in our land, our neighborhood and right here with people in our church.

We were pleased to get a grant from the ELCA (our wider Lutheran church family) to assist us in continuing to carry out our congregational work around addressing hunger. We are spreading the \$4,000 to strengthen the various international and local ministries that meet hunger needs. So some goes to pay for the meals we serve every other month at Dorothy Day, some is helping equip our kitchen for our Wednesday free community meal through Loaves and Fishes, some will assist Merrick Services which works with people in this area, some is being used to help us reach out in places across the globe where we are invested, and some of it will go to helping cover costs for the fall meal pack that is happening – see special details about this on the next page.

We will be tracking how we spend the money that was given to us but we are also tracking the people who are involved in our hunger ministries. By the end of the year we will have a percentage of our worship attendance who are involved in hunger related work in one way or another. Please consider where and how **you** can be counted in hunger work this year and then sign up for serving, help give financially. We want to have close to 80% participation.

Get in the action. Lend some care around hunger. Help those who face a food insecurity.

In Christ,

Pastor Karsten



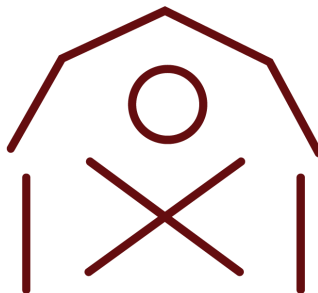
God's Work Our Hands

Another event of some great work with a bunch of Lutherans (and some others) is about to take place. This year we are once again going to be working with Meals From The Heart to pack food, which will then be distributed to food shelves and churches across MN to get into the hands of those who need help with food. The packing this year will be taking place at Gustavus Adolphus church (on the other side of Lake Phalen right at Larpenteur and #61/Arcade) on Saturday, September 15th and Sunday September 16th.

This food pack program will invite 120 people for each shift to come for two hours where people will work in groups of 10 to mix rice, dried vegetables, protein and flavoring into a packet that is then sealed and packed into a box. We hope to have many from Our Redeemer joining in this great shared project with other local churches and many others from area businesses.

As we are seeking to have as many people as possible from our worshipping community involved in a hunger related event/outreach this is a great option.

You can sign up at the church or use this link to (<http://www.stpaulsidebyside.org>) get involved.



WORSHIP ON THE FARM

The Wednesday night **Worship On The Farm** continues each week at Bruentrupp Farms (3 blocks east of Maplewood Mall and White Bear Ave on County Road D). Come out on Wednesday August 8th as a night when Pastor Karsten is preaching. But you are welcome to join the roughly 100 who come out each week for worship at 6:30, with most coming early for the 5:30 dinner. Come check it out!!



Moving forward and thinking outside the box: A word about our partnership with Augsburg's Riverside Innovation Hub

"Theology is that ongoing activity of the whole church that aims at clarifying what 'gospel' must mean here and now. . . The good news is good be-

cause it challenges and displaces bad news . . . Gospel addresses us at the place where we are overwhelmed by an awareness . . . of what is wrong with the world and with ourselves in it. It is good news because it engages, takes on and does battle with the bad news, offering another alternative, another vision of what could be, another way into the future."

These are words of Douglas John Hall, emeritus professor of theology at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec who reminds us that it is the Christian community's call is to proclaim good news that challenges bad news – how God is at work in the world and how individuals, faith communities, and institutions are called into this work.

As our team from ORLC comes together this fall, we will work with a coach using the Public Church Framework. It is an approach to Christian formation and discipleship that begins with a movement out into the public square rather than beginning in church doctrine. The framework walks faith communities through four movements designed to move the faith community into their neighborhood's story, into God's story, into their own story, and into a time of discerning how God might be calling them to be proclaimers of good news into their neighborhood and with their neighbor.

This is a short description of what the Public Church Framework looks like:

1. Accompaniment: Being in the neighborhood in order to hear the neighbors' stories. We will learn to engage and listen to the neighbor for the neighbor's sake.
2. Interpretation: God's story and ORLC's core biblical and theological commitments. We will learn how our core theological commitments shape our understanding of our neighbors' stories and we learn how our neighbors' stories shape our understanding of our core theological commitments.
3. Discernment: The movement into the space between our neighbors' stories, God's story, and our story. We will learn how to listen for who God is calling us to be and what God is calling us to do in light of the present reality and God's promises.

4. Proclamation: The movement back into the neighborhood, this time prepared to proclaim good news in word and deed with our neighbors. In this movement we learn how to boldly speak the truth of Jesus Christ in ways that challenge the way people in our neighborhoods are suffering. We believe the good news is always Jesus Christ, but we also believe this good news of Jesus Christ will look and sound differently depending upon how individuals and neighborhoods are experiencing bad news.

This is deep and rich. I pray that you will be inspired and prayerful as we move forward with the Riverside Innovation Hub partnership and welcome our coach in September.

In Christ's love
Deacon Jennifer

Installation of Jennifer Schneider

After a few months with us as hired staff Jennifer has completed her formal candidacy process through the St Paul Area Synod. At our semiannual meeting on June 24, she was formally called to serve here as our Associate Minister.

July 15th was her formal installation which took place within the worship service where Joe Lees (Assistant to the Bishop) both preached and presided over this special time of prayers and commitment.





Vacation Bible School

VBS is Monday thru Thursday, August 13-16 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m and there is no cost to attend!

Bring your kids, grandkids and friends for Shipwrecked VBS and be Rescued by Jesus! We'll spend the week on a tropical island learning how Jesus rescues us when we're lonely, when we worry, when we struggle and when we do wrong.

Join us for a free light dinner at 5:30 p.m. Register at <https://vbspro.events/p/events/db0b16>

Volunteers are needed to make VBS a super event for our community. Please contact Jennifer if you are willing to help out in one of the following roles: dishwasher, food server, photographer, float (help where needed), book fair table host.

Book Fair!

Shop faith-filled children's books at a special discount while earning money for children's ministry at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church!



Stop by the table outside the church office between August 5 - 16 to preview and order books for your children, grandchildren, godchildren. Books will be delivered to the church by August 31. Cash or checks are due at time of order.

Summer Stretch

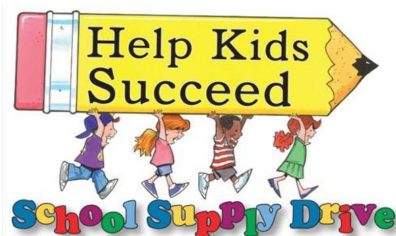
Our Summer Stretch youth continue to have some great Wednesdays. We partner with both Grace Lutheran and Gustavus to do weekly youth events for the summer that has the youth and the chaperones doing some kind of service project and then having a special social outing. This picture shows the group ready to leave First Lutheran (next to Metro State College and just 4 blocks from the Saints Baseball Stadium) and working to sort food for their weekly give away, and then learning more about Listening House which is a day program housed in the church providing daytime services to the homeless. This day the group got to take in a St. Paul Saints game. This tie of service and social makes for some great summer days.





National Night Out!

Join us on Tuesday, August 7 from 5:00-8:00pm! We are hosting National Night Out again for our neighbors and we are excited to have you join us! We will have free food, fun and games as part of this night. Plan to come out and meet our neighbors. If you are interested in helping for this event, please talk to Claire Sexton.



School Supplies and International Student Sponsorships

While we are enjoying the wonderful gift of a MN summer it won't be very long before school will start up again and as it does so we want to help kids in this basic opportunity for a good education. There are two ways you can help out kids with school.

The first is to give to our supply drive. We will be collecting donations through August 12 that will be delivered to the two elementary schools which are within 5 blocks of Our Redeemer – Frost Lake and Weaver. For a full list of supplies requested see the table in the narthex – the short list includes Kleenex, regular pencils, glue, notebooks, scissors, Clorox wipes, Markers.

You can also provide support for international students at either Doulos Discovery School in the Dominican Republic or through Kidewa church in Tanzania. The financial help in either place is used fully for school costs to help these students receive a meaningful education – your help can make a big difference in their lives. The easiest mean of doing this is to give a financial gift and indicate where you would like it to go – either DR or Tanzania. If you want more information about sponsoring a specific student at Doulos see Pastor Karsten for more details.

Staffing update

We are both sad and pleased to see Lisa Diez leave Our Redeemer after 19 years of doing front office work and caring for our financial records. We are sad because she was such a strong gift to this community both for her abilities as well as for her friendship. But we are glad for her to use her education and gifts to become a local Chaplain. She will be great and this is part of God's good leading in her life. So once again we can be a sending church and send her off to further work for God's kingdom.

In the meantime we are working to fill a short term position for someone to tend to phones, people stopping in, bulletins, newsletter and various office tasks. We are pleased that Lisa is continuing to work a few night hours during the week to keep our financial books in order. We will look to make longer range hires in both of these areas by early fall.



A great time was had by everyone who came together to worship for the picnic on July 22.

Worship Assistants

Date	August 5	August 12	August 19	August 26
Worship Host	Roger Svendsen	Claire Sexton/ Judy Moe	Dick & Sharon Peterson	Doreen Winter
Gift Cards	Sharon Peterson		Jill Rodriguez	
Kitchen Help	Darlene Harwood Larry & Sandy Pruden	Dennis & Jan Peterson Judy Moe	Dick & Sharon Peterson	Mark & Doreen Winter, Jessica Morgan
Greeters	Barb Birchem Judy Triplett	Dan & Laurie, Danny Fitzgerald	Florence Senske Oliviene Hefta	Claire Sexton Sharon Peterson Judy Moe
Lector	Lana Larsen	Scott Torvi	Kathi Kirchoff	Dianne Derks
Ushers	Mike Kahrau Dennis Paulson	Roger Svendsen Claire Sexton	Jim Riemenschneider Larry Pruden	Mark & Doreen Winter

Online Giving Opportunities

Thank you for your support of Our Redeemer.
Contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account or processed using your credit or debit card.

Our electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much needed donation consistency for our congregation. We appreciate your gifts!

Finances through the month of June

2018 Beginning Balance	\$39,345
Member Giving	\$120,879
Supplemental Income	\$36,305
Total	\$196,529
Expenses	\$189,304
Difference	\$7225

Mobile Users Scan Here



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

August 2018

5 Bucks for our Building 6am-2pm ROH Prayer (SS) 9:30am Summer Worship 5:00pm Rock of Horeb Church	6 6-8:00pm TOPS 6:30pm Facilities Team 6:45pm Lives Worth Living Group	7 1:00pm Staff Meeting 5:00-8:00pm National Night Out 7:00pm SEL (CR)	1 9:30am Bible Study 5:30pm Loaves & Fishes 6:30pm Worship on the Farm	2 6:45am Men's Study 6:00pm Children's, Youth and Family	3	4 5:30-9pm ROH (S) 8pm-10pm ROH (FH)
12 9:30am Summer Worship 5:00pm Rock of Horeb Church	13 9:30am Quilting 5:30pm VBS Dinner 6-8:00pm VBS 6-8:00pm TOPS	14 1:00pm Staff Meeting 5:30pm VBS Dinner 6-8:00pm VBS 7:00pm SEL (CR)	8 9:30am Bible Study 5:30pm Loaves & Fishes 6:30pm Worship on the Farm— Karsten Preaching	9 6:45am Men's Study 10:00am Kitchen Table Mystics	10	11 5:30-9pm ROH (S) 8pm-10pm ROH (FH)
19 Bucks for our Building 9:30am Summer Worship with Bessmans 10:30am Church on the Move 5:00pm Rock of Horeb Church	20 6-8:00pm TOPS 6:45pm Lives Worth Living Group	21 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Church Board (F) SEL (CR)	15 9:30am Bible Study 5:30pm VBS Dinner, Loaves & Fishes 6-8:00pm VBS 6:30pm Worship on the Farm	16 6:45am Men's Study 5:30pm VBS Dinner 6-8:00pm VBS 6:30pm Knitting & Crochet Group Caribou	17	18 6am-2pm ROH (SS) 10am-5pm Holzbauer FH Rental 5:30-9pm ROH (S) 8pm-10pm ROH (FH)
26 9:30am Summer Worship 11:00am Winter FH Rental 5:00pm Rock of Horeb Church	27 Dorothy Day Meal Serving 9:30am Quilting 6-8:00pm TOPS	28 1:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm SEL (CR)	22 9:30am Bible Study 5:30pm Loaves & Fishes 6:30pm Worship on the Farm	23 6:45am Men's Study	24	25 5:30-9pm ROH (S) 8pm-10pm ROH (FH)
			29 9:30am Bible Study 5:30pm Loaves & Fishes 6:30pm Worship on the Farm	30 6:45am Men's Study	31	

Our Redeemer Staff

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Curt Morales, Music Director
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Lisa Diez, Finance Administrator
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Dave Parenteau, Custodian

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

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

Sunday Worship at 9:30am
Wednesday Worship on the Farm
5:30pm dinner, 6:30pm worship



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<https://twitter.com/orlcmn>

Address Service Requested

DATED MATERIAL
DO NOT DELAY

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

