



September 2020



Worship YouTube
Click [HERE](#)

Sunday Connection
Time 11:00 AM
Click [HERE](#)

Wednesday Bible
Study 9:30 AM
Click [HERE](#)

“The Good Newsletter” of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church



A Message from Pastor Karsten: “Summer to Fall”

The end of August certainly felt like summer with full sun, hot days, plenty of storms, and many times to get outside for walks and activities and some safe-distance connections with others. And now as the calendar flips to September, here comes fall. Kids and parents are preparing for school (with major adjustments due to COVID-19), the sun is setting earlier and earlier, there is a taste of brisk mornings, and we long to squeeze out some relaxing warm days without the State Fair.

This fall at Our Redeemer will look different than any other fall, but we are still trying to carry out many things that allow us to be community for each other and the wider world around us.

- ◆ Worship will continue outside through September with the hopes of having our weather cooperate for good mornings to be out along the East parking lot, and in the courtyard area and adjacent grassy area. It is nice to be together in this way and there is both plenty of yard space to be safely distanced from others and room for cars to pull up and enjoy worship from vehicles. We hope you might find this a nice way to gather for worship. We intend to be there for worship every **Sunday** morning at **10:00 a.m.**, and if the weather doesn't cooperate, we will move inside with masks and good social distancing practices. One thing that is different is that we will continue to worship with just a single service up through at least September, and likely all fall.
- ◆ Education too will look different. The *Children, Youth and Family Team* is putting together plans for an adapted Sunday School experience that will look at home-based studies, utilizing *Zoom*, and maybe some options outdoors for when they are at church for worship. For adults, one thing we invite you to do is to engage in an experience similar to what our confirmation students are having this fall—to dig into the issue of racism, which is so prevalent these days. They are watching a specific movie each month, and then having a shared conversation. For adults, we invite you to watch the same movie (“*The Hate You Give*” for September through Netflix or Amazon subscription or movie rental) and then join together for a **third Sunday of the month** evening **Racism Movie Conversation** at **7:00 p.m.** on Zoom – Go to zoom.com and enter *Meeting ID: 963 3247 8590* and *Passcode: orlc* (Or click on the link on page 3 in the Zoom box.)
- ◆ For the time being, it is still safer for us to not be gathering for fellowship in the church so the coffee and donuts following worship are not possible, but there are many folks who choose to linger after worship to connect with others either in the courtyard or parking lot – so consider this as a way to have some more safe but personal contact with each other. The **Sunday Connection Time** will continue on Zoom from **11:00 to 11:30 a.m.** Go to www.zoom.com and enter *Meeting ID: 947 3459 2014* *Passcode: orlc* (Or click on the Sunday Connection Time box in the upper right-hand corner of this page.)

If there are ways that we at Our Redeemer can better care or serve you during this upcoming fall season, please let us know by calling the church or stopping in during the hours of 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, or 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays.



A Message from Deacon Jennifer: Loving Our Neighbor One Box at a Time

If COVID has taught us one thing, it is God is still at work in and through our hands and hearts...and take-out boxes of tasty food. Many in our community are still struggling to make ends meet, get the support their families need, and feel a human connection. And THAT is where ORLC's weekly Loaves and Fishes meal has continued to bless those outside (and inside) our doors.

"Really sweet and helpful folks. Every Wednesday. We brought home the chicken meal and goulash for another day plus fresh produce and a wide selection of baked goods. Truly a blessing!"—Chris

"I'm doing cancer treatments and my mom is disabled and you've all been a blessing in our lives this summer. Thank you and God Bless" - JS

These are a couple comments we have received on our social media sites. But in person, I have heard so many of our drive-through dinner guests extend their gratitude with not only words, but smiles and tears. It has been a mighty blessing to look into the eyes and hearts of guests and see the face of Jesus. I pray that each and every one of our volunteers has been blessed by the opportunity to care for our neighbors' most basic needs of food and clothing. I certainly have.

It has been a good place for people to connect and have personal human interaction. We see regular guests who we now know by name. Perhaps they will never walk into the sanctuary or join us for worship. But in our interactions, we give and receive fellowship in Christ through words of encouragement, hope, and kindness. One take-out box at a time!

If you want to be part of this ministry of good news and good food, volunteers are especially needed from 6:30 -7:00pm to take down tables, break down cardboard, and put away clothing. Let Deacon Jennifer know how you would like to help!

Book Study—Unapologetic History

NYT's best-selling author of *Piecing Me Together*, Renee Watson writes, "This unapologetic telling of the history of racism in our nation is refreshingly simple and deeply profound. This is the history book I needed as a teen." If you didn't get a chance to participate in the last book study, join the discussion around the condensed version of the book by author Ibram Kendi: **Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix**. We will meet on the following Sundays at 11:00am in the courtyard: **September 13 and 20, October 4 and 11**. Cost of the book is \$10.

Fall into Sunday School

As school starts this month, there will be many changes implemented to keep kids safe. The Children, Youth and Family Team has been gearing up to make Sunday School fun and safe for our young people so they can continue to grow in faith and be part of our church community. Parents and caregivers were surveyed in August to determine the best route forward. As of the newsletter deadline, plans and scheduling had not been finalized. Please look for updates in the weekly "Keeping Us Tied Together" mini-newsletter.

Generosity

Your generosity is valuable for the good life of Our Redeemer. We value the time you generously offer to help volunteer and lead in the various ways we have available through teams and ministries. We value the care you generously provide to reaching out and connecting with members and make invitations to others to come join us at Our Redeemer. We value the generous financial gifts you make that helps us maintain strong and good ministry in these difficult and changing times. Generosity is a mark of God and a mark of God's people so we want to say THANK YOU and let's keep seeking to be generous!

Have you completed your Census 2020 task?

As you may know, Our Redeemer has been a host site for the U.S. Census Bureau the past several weeks for training folks to go out to homes of individuals who have not yet completed their Census 2020 forms. We have heard from the instructors that, so far, about 73 percent of Minnesotans have completed their census form and that getting the word out about the census is still important to reach the others. Since this 'task' is required by law for all us and is helpful for future governmental funding, we thought we would shout out to our church community to ask if you've completed your task yet, which only takes about 10 minutes. If you have not, we encourage you to please go online to **www.my2020census.gov**, or call **1-844-330-2020**. If you don't, you most likely will receive a knock on your door!



Office Hours

The church office is open partial hours every week.

Here is our current schedule:

Tuesdays 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
 Wednesdays 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
 Thursdays 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.



Are you a City of St. Paul homeowner? If so, did you know... as part of St. Paul's Citywide Garbage Collection Program, each residential property is allowed to request 2—3 "bulky items" be hauled away for FREE each calendar year? It includes items too large to fit inside or is prohibited by law from being placed in your garbage and recycling carts such as: mattresses, furniture, appliances, and electronics. Depending on your cart size, it allows:

Small carts up - 2 bulky items
 Medium and large carts - 3 bulky items

Additional bulky items can be collected for a fee, ranging \$10-\$55 plus tax. See costs on stpaul.gov/bulky. Residents can also bring items to a Citywide Drop-Off site; visit stpaul.gov/drop-offs

Worship Service Totals (includes online and in person)

June	July	August
7 = 76	5 = 52	2 = 80
14 = 66	12 = 57	9 = 64
21 = 57	19 = 99	16 = 64
28 = 63	26 = 77	

Highlights for the Upcoming Weeks in September

Outside Services!	Every Sunday in September @ 10 a.m. (weather permitting otherwise in the Sanctuary) Holy Communion celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sundays
Lectors	September 6 Carol Rodriguez September 20 Scott Torvi September 13 Hilary Hinrichs September 27 TBD
Book Study <i>Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix.</i>	September 13 & 20 (as well as October 4 & 11) Sundays at 11 a.m. in the courtyard. (See article on 2nd page.)
Quilting	September 14 & 28 On the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 9 a.m.—12 noon in Fellowship Hall.
Knitting & Crocheting	September 17 On the 3rd Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in courtyard or inside if weather dictates.
Movie Conversation on Racism	September 20 On the 3rd Sundays at 7 p.m. on Zoom. (See article on 1st page.)
Young Adult Collab	September 24 On the 4th Thursdays at 6 p.m. for dinner and conversation.

GIVING OF YOUR OFFERINGS



- Mail your offering/envelope to the ORLC office: 1390 Larpenteur Ave E, St. Paul MN 55109
- Drop off your offering/envelope in the locked mailbox located near our front entrance.
- Make an online gift at the link www.orlcmn.org/donate, which is also available on our webs (www.orlcmn.org) by clicking the "Make Donation" button on the 1st page. Set up an automatic one-time or recurring withdrawal from your financial institution, or by using a credit card. (Minimal charge to use a credit card.)
- Text 844-871-2328, enter amount in message line, send, and you'll receive further instructions.

Additional ways to give to Our Redeemer:

Gift Cards—You can still purchase gift cards by preordering them. Email Sally and she will coordinate your order with Barb Maynard. You can pick them up with your payment preferably on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 5:30-6:30 p.m. if she has the cards in stock.

Order through Shutterfly—Any purchases you make through our Shutterfly Storefront provides Our Redeemer with 8 percent of the sale! Go to: ORLCMN.ShutterflyStorefront.com.

Also, through your Thrivent Dollars!—check your Thrivent accounts for Choice dollars that may have accumulated, and designate them as you choose.

Worship details on back page!



CONNECTING ON ZOOM!

(NEW ID#'s)

SUNDAYS—Our Redeemer Connection Time

11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Meeting ID: 947 3459 2014 Passcode: orlc

THIRD SUNDAYS—Movie Conversation on Racism

7:00—8:00 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/96332478590>

Meeting ID: 963 3247 8590 Passcode: orlc

WEDNESDAYS—Bible Study

9:30-10:30 a.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/93856038724>

Meeting ID: 938 5603 8724 Passcode: orlc

Or participate by phone: 312-626-6799
 (long distance charges may apply)

CONTACT US - We are here for you!

We are in the office Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays (see hours at top of page). However, please reach out to us anytime beyond these hours—we are still here for you and want to know about your prayer needs.

Pastor Karsten - karstenn@comcast.net 651-772-2445, ext. 102
 or at 651-271-5134

Deacon Jennifer - jennifer@orlcmn.org 651-772-2445, ext. 103
 or at 651-494-7943

Finance Administrator, Lisa - Lisa@orlcmn.org 651-772-2445, ext. 101

Office Administrator, Sally - office@orlcmn.org 651-772-2445, ext. 101

It's Back to School Time!!

In the past, "Back to School" has meant shopping for supplies—pencils, notebooks, folders, markers, glue and maybe even some fancy sticky notes!! This year, things look MUCH different. Many of our local school age kids will be returning to school via Distance Learning. Others will return to a hybrid, or blended model of learning. No matter how we look at it, our support for our elementary learners will be very different.

The great news is that larger corporations like 3M have taken an active role in supporting young learners - many supplies/learning kits have been supplied to students at Frost Lake Elementary School, where students will be doing Distance Learning. Our other local school, Weaver Elementary School, will be returning for a hybrid scenario - yet we will be praying for them as it seems that transitioning to Distance Learning may be inevitable. We know that students will not be sharing supplies anymore - like glue, pencils, markers, etc. We also know that Weaver Elementary does NOT need any backpacks, notebooks, or paper. We have a list of some things that might be needed more than others, such as hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, and tissues. Two things they didn't mention that our own resident teacher is suggesting: pencil boxes and personal pencil sharpeners. Other things that may be in need include folders, pencils, pens, markers, crayons, and such.

At ORLC, we would like to keep these local schools' needs in mind, however, we also want to prioritize our members' health!! That means, we do not want anyone to go out and go shopping. The Missions Team would like to do a monetary collection that will be used to make an online purchase for items needed as previously mentioned. We will arrange for a no/minimal contact exchange. If you are able, interested, and willing to support our local schools, please make your donation to ORLC with "school supply mission" written on the memo line of a check or on a note with cash. We will make a determination about what and how much we will purchase at our September meeting and share that information with you. Remember how much fun it was to get new school supplies at the beginning of the year? Let's help these kids have a great school year!

Quilters are Back!

Our Quilters group's winter hiatus (and Corvid-19 shutdown) are over. We're looking forward to another great season of quilting at ORLC! We began on June 22 with three new participants checking us out! This long established service group meets on the second and fourth Mondays of the month in the Fellowship Hall, from 9:00 a.m. to about 12 noon. We tie yarn to quilt tops where the only skills needed are to



hold a needle and tie a knot. This readies the quilt tops for hemming. The cutting of fabric squares, piecing and sewing is done by some of the members in their homes. You don't need to bring any supplies as we have enough to share. Much of the fabric and yarn is donated. Funds have been received from Thrivent Action Team and used to purchase backing sheets and batting. When we wrap up at the end of each session, we share in enjoying refreshments and good conversation. We wear our masks and practice social distancing as currently mandated. Please consider being a part of this legacy by joining us this month on **September 14 and 28 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon**. Come to any or all of the sessions. We hope to see YOU!

Dinner & Discussion with the YACollab

The YACollab will meet on Thursday, September 24 for dinner (location TBD) at 6:00pm. Young adults (ages 20's-40's) hang out to play games, socialize, talk about faith and issues near and dear to their heart. A free meal is provided. Contact Deacon Jennifer or check out the Facebook page: @youngadultcollaboration

Rummage Sale Update

Plans for our annual *Rummage Sale* (generally held in the spring) are now in the works to schedule one for this fall. We already have a room full of donations that many of you have dropped off over the past months, and we will take more but encourage everyone to hold on to those items and look for future notices about when you can bring other items. The plan is to have a one-day sale with tables and tents set up outside. If you are interested in helping with the event, please contact Claire Sexton.

Our Redeemer and the Mask Movement Update

As we partner with the *Mask Movement* to provide masks to various individuals and groups that do not have the resources to purchase them, we have been making great progress according to our leader, Wendy Stone who dropped off additional kits. She said that we should be proud that we have distributed over 300 masks! We have over a hundred more kits on hand ready for whoever is willing to sew them up. If you know of interested people, contact Sally at the office. A special thanks to those who have already helped out!!



HOME CHURCH – for Sunday, August 30, 2020

*This is a simple format that allows you—whether by yourself or with others—to take some dedicated time and enjoy the gift of worship in your home setting. If others are with you, the words in **blue** and **green** could be spoken by alternating individuals. Find a quiet place, light a candle, and lift your heart and voice to God.*

Gathering

Jesus Christ is our hope and consolation. – **Now and Always**

We gather in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen

(you can make the sign of the cross on your forehead or over your body)

Opening Prayer

God of justice, you sent your servant Micah to proclaim justice and peace to a world that lacked both. Make us instruments of justice and peace, so that your world might prosper. We pray these in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Song - You can sing or read 'We Are Called'

1. Come! live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God! (refrain)
2. Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless,
so all hatred and blindness will be no more! (refrain)
3. Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love! (refrain)

Refrain:

*We are called to act with justice.
We are called to love tenderly.
We are called to serve one another, to
walk humbly with God.*

Scripture Micah 6:1-8

God Challenges Israel

Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³“O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

What God Requires

⁶“With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” ⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Scripture Reflections and Questions

Micah speaks to the Southern Kingdom around 700 BC but the words are still appropriate for us today as guiding principles for our lives of faithfulness that always are marked by love of God and neighbor. The specific words to guide us (in verse 8) are “do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God”. Ponder how that is currently reflected in your life, and where there is room for growth.



Without question Micah comes down hard on the people to let them know that God has expectations of them. What he puts out to them with direction states, “What does the Lord **require** of you... - This is not an ask, or a hope, but what is demanded. How do you feel about God being a God who has demands? How is that good for you and others? How is that hard to hear?

Part of a life of faith is being able to remember back and have our actions based out of a long history. God makes it clear through Micah that God has been there in the past to “bring them up” “redeemed them” and out of that past can come the desire/interest/response to live faith filled lives. What about God’s past work in and over your life give you reason to continue well today?

Prayers

If you are with others, invite each person to pray (one option is to say: “Thank you Jesus for....” and “Help me Jesus with....”)

Here is a set of prayers you may use:

You have always desired mercy over sacrifice, O Lord. Tune our compassion to resonate at the level of your own, seeing others as you see them, showing grace as you have shown to us. God of peace, **Hear our prayer.**

The earth and its creatures have suffered greatly at the hands of those charged to preserve them—ourselves. May we not continue to sacrifice life and well-being for the sake of shortsightedness and selfishness. May we learn from the humble ways of your creatures. God of peace, **Hear our prayer.**

We remember and ask your blessing upon all those who have served in the military and carried out their country’s request at the risk of life and well-being. Give us an acute awareness of how we care for veterans, and wherever we are found inadequate, may we redouble our efforts in providing adequate care, counseling, and life essentials. God of peace, **Hear our prayer.**

We rejoice and give thanks that so many talented and compassionate people choose to serve others in health and wellness professions. Bless their efforts and give them peace amidst difficult jobs and challenging work hours. Today we pray for those with particular needs or concerns, (especially...). God of peace, **Hear our prayer.**

For those who now dwell in your light perpetual, we give our thanks. Unite us in the communion of all the saints and instruct us with their merciful and humble lives. God of peace, **Hear our prayer.**

What you require is simple, O Lord, and yet we often find it so difficult. Incline our ear to the real needs of the world just as you hear every cry of our souls and promise to answer our prayers. In Jesus’ name we pray. **Amen.**

Here are other petitions that may be offered for yourself, the world, and the church: teachers and school administrators, Tanzania, Doulos, Wednesday Community Meal, people learning more about injustice, Our Redeemer Mission Renewal Team, Dorothy Day.

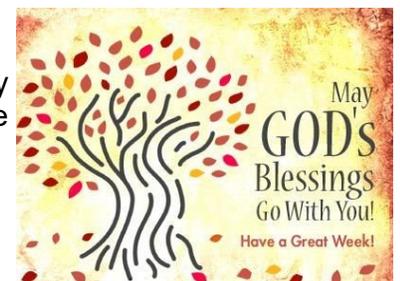
Into your capable hands we commend all of these prayers, and place our trust in your faithfulness to answer them in whatever way you choose, for the sake of your son Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Lord’s Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benediction

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Thanks be to God!**





WE ARE
Family



You are a
precious
CHILD of
GOD



You are
LOVED



Let
your
LIGHT
SHINE



Community Free Meals—Wednesdays Drive-Thru Take-Out Meals & More!

We've made a record high of serving 180 meals on a recent Wednesday in August! Remember that you too are welcome to stop in for our FREE *Loaves & Fishes* take-out meals on **Wednesdays** from **5:30 to 6:30**



p.m. After going through our “drive-thru” meal line, then park your vehicle and visit our tables of other items we may have available. **North St. Paul Food Shelf** and the **Merrick Food Shelf** provides various breads, pastries, fruits, vegetables, snacks, etc., when available. Weather permitting, we also put out tables of FREE clothes. We could use mens' and childrens' clothing—if you have any to donate, bring them to the church. Please tell your family, friends, neighbors to join us — because ALL are WELCOME—no questions asked (not based on financial status).



Volunteers! We are always looking for volunteers to help in the kitchen, set up tables, bring out the free food and clothing and also take down and clean up. We generally need 8 to 12 individuals each week (5-7p.m.) so please sign up at <https://bit.ly/loaves-fishes> or see Deacon Jennifer. (In the photo to the right is our newest volunteer helping chef's Matt Kuhn and Jeff Trent. She is Melissa Moore who we “stole” from the Census group and happens to have years of chef experience.)



SUNDAY WORSHIP OPTIONS - At Church & On YouTube & By Reading “Home Church”

- Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. **at church** outside (weather permitting) in our courtyard with drive-up access in our East parking lot area. We have chairs available or you can bring your own.
- Online <http://bit.ly/ORLCMNyoutube> or go on to our website: www.orlcmn.org and on the first page there is a link under the title, “YouTube Videos.” Or on **YouTube**, search for “Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in St. Paul, MN” (look for logo)
- Read our weekly **Home Church** if you do not have access to a computer or other electronic device.

Address Service Requested

DO NOT DELAY
DATED MATERIAL

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

