

NOVEMBER 2017

our redeemer's
LUTHERAN • BALLARD

*The*Visitor

living generously



A COMMUNITY IN THE MODEL OF CHRIST

Contents

FROM THE PASTOR 3

LIVING GENEROUSLY 4-7

VISION ALIGNED BUILDING 8-9

WORSHIP AND MUSIC 10-13

FAITH FORMATION 13-16

SOCIAL JUSTICE 17-21

COMMUNITY 22-26

INTERN HIGHLIGHT 25

CALENDAR 27

*COVER: Adult Confirmands being blessed by the laying on of hands after professing their faith.
INSIDE COVER: Waiting excitedly for people to drop off items during the E-cycling event.*



Our community, our calling.



- Katherine Hawks, Pastor
- Gretchen Mertes, Pastor
- Karen Lee, Traditional Worship & Music Director
- Don Boelter, Parish Administrator
- Nancy Oldenkamp, Welcome Minister
- Cara Kiggins, Social Justice Coordinator
- Jonath Ochs, Communications Coordinator
- Hannah Wetter, Nursery Care Provider

FROM THE PASTOR...

What does it mean to be generous?
Is it just giving?
Or is it a way of giving?
Or is it a way of living?
To be generous is to give
“more than necessary or expected.”

Who is the most generous person you know?

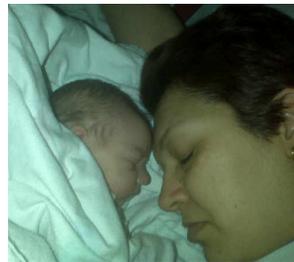


When I asked this question to myself, the first people I thought of were my parents. When I was an undergraduate, my parents took out a second mortgage on

our home to pay my college tuition so I wouldn't have loans. And they didn't tell me about it. Until I was 40. I was flabbergasted by their generosity, and their willingness to shoulder a financial burden so I wouldn't have to, even though I was able.

But there is someone else in my life more generous than they are. The truest form of generosity that I have ever witnessed is in the person of Addi's birthmother, Sarah*. She is easily the strongest person I have ever met. For most people who've parented children, the idea of giving up a child for adoption is unthinkable. It's impossible to understand. But this hope of creating a better future, of righting a wrong, of putting a good back out there into the world in the face of heartbreak and pain, that hope is enough to make it worthwhile. It's interesting to ponder in adoption which would be harder – giving up a child as a teen birthmother, and always wondering what you've sacrificed, or giving up a child when you've already born and raised children, so you know exactly what you're giving up. It's hard to say, right?

But let me go on. It's not just that Sarah gave us her child to raise as our own, which really is profound enough. It's that she also let us in to the whole of her life. We were able to be at doctor's appointments and ultra-sounds. We met her mother, and her other children. We were able to be in the room for Addi's birth – Ryan actually cut the cord. She told the doctors at every appointment that I was the mom and that she was just a surrogate. All while smiling and chatting and giving me parenting tips and staying irrepressibly upbeat. Later, looking at some of the photos that she took of Addi and herself, privately together in the hospital room, I realized a fraction of what she was going through. It wasn't until the very last goodbye at the hospital, when she let us see her cry only for one moment. What's really profound is that at the time, I



thought I knew what her generous gift was. Now, in retrospect, I find the depth of what she really was giving us to be way beyond what I had assumed at the beginning.

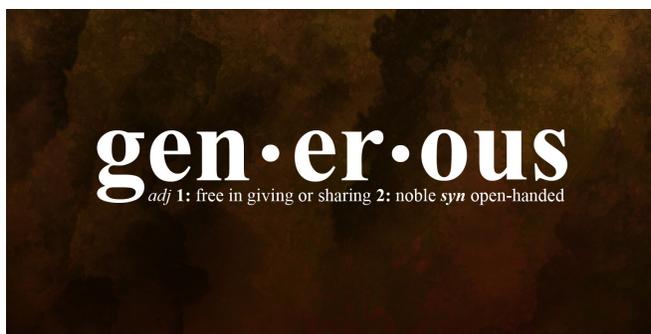
Now – I'm not asking you to give your first-born child to the church. Some of you, we wouldn't take your kids on a dare anyway. 😊 But I am asking you to think about living generously. Living where you give more than is necessary or expected. Living generously involves moving beyond what's comfortable or reasonable. We have an open offer to grow in Spirit through trusting God and giving more than we think we should. By caring for our neighbors, our environment, and our church, by helping people when it's inconvenient, by learning to say things in love when they're hard to say — we become more like Christ, who truly is the template for living generosity.



Pastor Gretchen Mertes

**Not her real name.*

STEWARDSHIP



Generosity Sunday: Please Bring Your Pledge Card to Worship

November 12 ~ 9am/11am

On November 12, 2017 each of us is invited to offer God the “first fruits” of what God, our scandalously generous God, has given us, by pledging our financial gifts to God’s work through Our Redeemer’s in the coming year.

If you grew up on a farm, you know that “first fruits” is from agricultural Bible times, and means giving your first produce, even before you know how much more will follow.

Offering our pledges to God is the same act of faith and trust in God’s abundance, God’s faithful care for us, and God’s continuing presence in and through this community of faith. We are responding to God’s call to be part of the joy there is in both receiving God’s abundant gifts and sharing them with others.

Please pray as you decide what God calls you to pledge, and please pause in gratitude and trust, as you place your pledge in the offering plate on November 12. Our pledging together is a powerful act of worship and community.



ELECTRONIC GIVING

Try Our New Electronic Giving Options

ONLINE GIVING

- Go to ourredeemers.net and click on the “Donate” button on the upper right hand of home page to see online giving options, OR
- Contact Parish Administrator Don Boelter (administrator@ourredeemers.net or 206-783-7900 x107 and he can get you set-up or make changes to existing accounts.

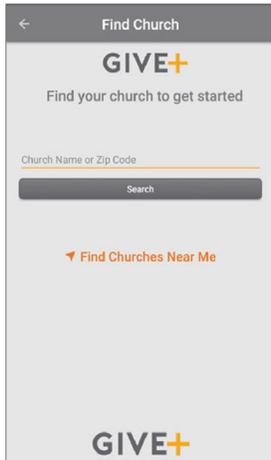
MOBILE GIVING APP (*NEW*)

- Go to the App Store or Google Play and search for “GivePlus Church” to download for FREE.
- See facing page for quick guide.

GIVE BY TEXT (*NEW*)

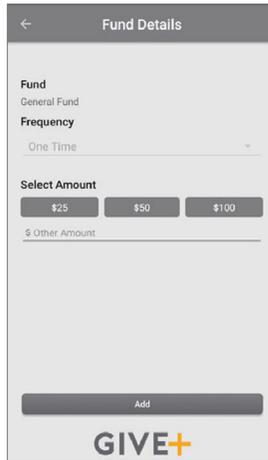
- From your smart phone, enter the 10-digit number: 206-717-8465 and the amount you wish to donate, then press send.
- See facing page for quick guide.

1) Search



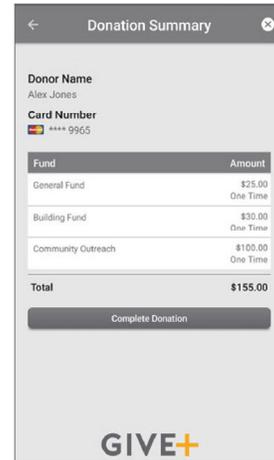
- Enter church name or tap *Find Churches Near Me* to start your search
- Select your church
- Your selected church will be displayed as your default church
- Tap *Donate Now*

2) Select



- Choose a fund and a preset amount or enter another amount
- Select *Add* to add another fund or move forward to the payment information
- Scan or enter your card or banking account information

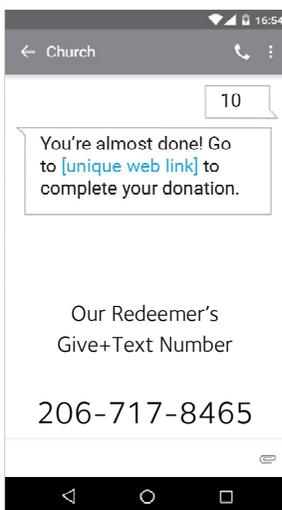
3) Submit



- Review your donation summary then select *Complete Donation*

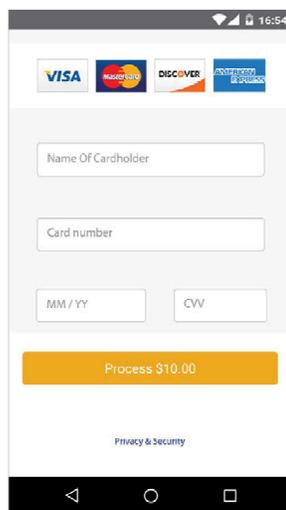
Tip! Create an account to manage your giving: set up recurring gifts, update payment methods, view giving history and more.

1) Get Started



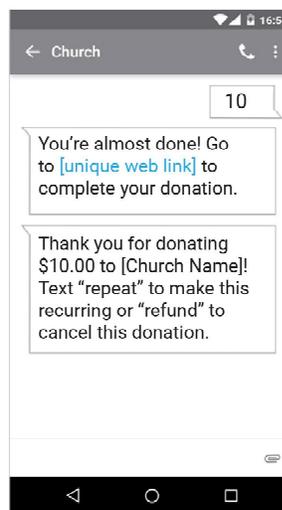
Enter your 10-digit Give+ Text number and the amount you wish donate, then press send.

2) Register



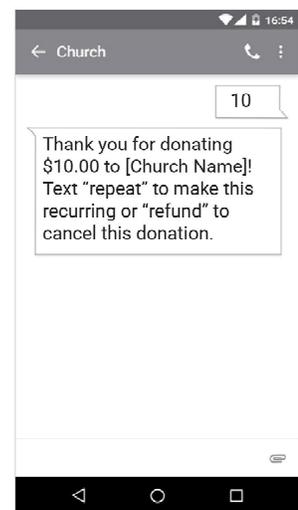
You will receive a registration link. Click the link and enter your contact and payment information. Tap "Process."

3) Give



After registration is complete, you will receive a verification text as well as a receipt via email.

4) Repeat

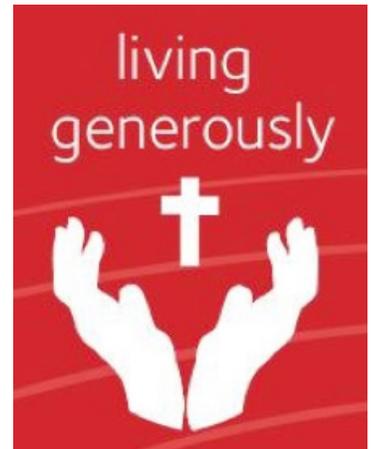


For future giving, simply send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically.

Living Generously ~ ...Continued.

From October 15 – November 12 (4 weeks total) Our Redeemer's will be focusing on intentional spiritual practices to cultivate living generously and help us understand how we can be even more fearless, courageous, and loving. During this time, you will find a bookmark in the bulletin with suggested practices to explore. Each week has a different theme to inform the exploration of these practices (Celebration, Trust, Abundance, Courage). We hope you find these helpful in discovering a new daily spiritual practice. Use the calendar that lays out all the recommended practices over the 4 weeks, Biblical passages to reflect on, and a Commitment Letter for the Spiritual Life Hack for yourself. Find all this info below!

Let's get started!



READY:

- Complete the commitment letter. Why do you want this focus in your life? (Only you will see this.)

SET:

- Each week, use the bookmark in the Sunday worship bulletin to set your week's intention, perhaps using the theme of the week -- Abundance Living (Oct. 29–Nov. 4) or Courage (Nov. 5 – Nov. 12)

Go:

- Worship the 4 Sundays of this Living Generously emphasis. (Yep. A high bar. How else will you develop new habits and experience their benefits?)
- Begin or end each day with the Living Generously suggestions for a reflection focus, and an action or prayer.
- Go to www.facebook.com/groups/spirituallifehack/. Share your favorites, your suggestions, your frustrations and your discoveries. Lean on and learn from others.
- Take it one week at a time! It can be overwhelming to think about the long term. This isn't a race or a competition.
- Give yourself grace, but don't give up!

Why Whine? Do Wine and Chocolate

Friday, November 10 ~ 7pm



Yes, Kim Smith and Pastor Kathy KNOW it's been two years since the last wine and chocolate tasting event, and that many of you have signed up for AND paid for wine and chocolate you have never tasted.

So, first -- WE APOLOGIZE! Events, largely beyond our control, intervened and we are VERY sorry!

And, second -- WE WANT TO MAKE IT UP TO YOU!

SOOOO....This year's Wine & Chocolate Tasting fundraiser will be the best ever! Not only a reprise of the favorite chocolate delicacies Kim (former pastry chef at Fran's Chocolates and currently a teacher of culinary arts at South Seattle Community College) has EVER made, but also extraordinarily, superlative wines paired to each one.

Delicious non-alcoholic beverages will also be available.

AAAAND...to accommodate the expected overflow attendance, it will take place in our beautiful new fellowship hall -- with lots of room to invite friends and neighbors.

We do have the list of those of you who have signed and paid in the past. If that's you, you will be hearing from us and all you need to do is show up.

All others are warmly invited! Please write your check for \$50/person to Our Redeemer's, with a "Wine & Chocolate" note at the bottom, or sign up electronically at ourredeemers.net OR sign up by text at 206-717-8465, type in "\$50 Wineand" BY NOVEMBER 5.

Don't pass up this DECADENT DELICIOUSNESS for a good cause! (Our Redeemer's!)



Live music will be provided by
Brittany Rogers, a local songstress..

BUILD THE VISION... SHARE THE VISION!



Vision Aligned Building Contractor Selection

On Sunday morning, October 22, the congregation gathered to consider and vote on hiring LZL Construction for contractor services for the anticipated next phase of the VAB Project by authorizing the waiver of current capital project internal policy requirements. The motion passed by a 66-0 vote and we look forward to working again with LZL Construction.

BACKGROUND

- Current church policies require a minimum of three bids on capital campaign projects.
- In June, five requests for proposals were sent out to prospective contractors recommended by VAB team members, including LZL Construction, who completed work on Fellowship Hall phase. Only LZL completed an RFP, the rest declined stating they were too busy at this time.
- In July and August, VAB Team member Mike Hlastala reached out to professional contractor contacts, and Don Boelter reached out to church administrator colleagues, and over a dozen additional firms were considered and/or contacted. Again, we received either no response or replies that they were too busy to take on our project, except for one firm which submitted an incomplete RFP (did not include a project cost estimate).
- In September, the VAB team, rather than delaying the process further by attempting to solicit additional bids, decided to move forward and review the two proposals received in order to make a recommendation to the Church Council. After looking at both proposals and much discussion, the team unanimously decided to recommend LZL Construction as the contractors for the next phase of the project.
- At its September meeting, Church Council consensus was that VAB Team's recommendation was the best path to follow at this time, and voted unanimously to take the question to the congregation.

RATIONALE

- Given the current construction climate, finding interested firms and waiting for them to come to calculate bids could significantly delay the next phase of the project.
- Consensus amongst members of the VAB Team based on experience with the fellowship hall project is that LZL Construction was a great partner for the following reasons:
- LZL takes a conservative approach to estimating costs and works hard to find cost savings where possible in order to come in under budget (>\$20,000 under original contract amount and >\$28,000 under congregation approved amount).
- They were willing to structure the contract with us in such a way to enable us to put those savings back into project and lower our costs as well.
- The VAB Team was also very satisfied with their quality of work, the ease they were to work with and the personal involvement of the owner of the company in our project.
- Based on the above experiences we had working with them on the fellowship hall phase, The VAB Team believes that if we hire LZL we can achieve further savings by not having to hire an Owner's Rep for this phase of the project as had been considered previously.

WHAT'S NEXT

- The VAB Team has met three times since the first September meeting, including with LZL and our architect Susan Jones to discuss respective roles of the architect, contractor, and VAB Team in moving forward with the project.
- Church Council has approved pre-construction contractor funds to be spent if congregation votes to move forward with LZL (approximately \$3,000).

- Church Council named further congregational engagement in the project as a top priority, and as a result created a Discernment Team at its August retreat that has been actively working on providing the congregation with future opportunities to learn more about the next phase of the project.
- The congregation will also have the chance to vote again to approve moving forward with the project and taking out a potential building loan.
- The earliest construction will start is at the end of the current program year, but could take significantly longer depending on permitting process.



"Thank you Gretchen Weller Mertes and the Our Redeemer Lutheran church community. Supplies and sets for a full bed have already been distributed and the first charger is going to pastor Alicia Centeno so that she can stay available to the community especially since she is constantly on the road checking on people. As a pastor's kid I know how important that is. So an extra special thank you for that."

-Kristina Diaz

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

All Saints Day

Sunday, November 5 ~ 9am/11am

DEATHS OF OUR MEMBERS Nov. 2016-OCT. 2017

John Randa (Aug. 22, 2016)
Elsie Wishon (October 24, 2016)
Rebecca Nye (December 3, 2016)
Liv Benny (January 18, 2017)
Will Vannoy (February 11, 2017)
George Hartung (March 6, 2017)

Alice Sagstad (April 2, 2017)
Douglas Moore (July 20, 2017)
Curtis Kannenberg (July 15, 2017)
Bill Mattson (October 4, 2017)

BAPTISMS – 2016-2017

Ingrid Elin Brissette (1/08/2017)
Harper Krystyna Hammett (11/5/2017)

All Saints Sunday: Courageously Generous Saints

November 5 ~ 9am/11am

Who has changed or blessed your life with their generosity -- either to you or to someone else?

The first Sunday of November, we will once again give thanks for all God's baptized family ("All Saints") with special focus on those who have been baptized at Our Redeemer's this year, and those we love who have died and been raised in Christ to new and eternal life.

This year, as we seek the freedom and joy of living generously, we look to the people in our lives whose courageous or astonishing generosity has especially touched or blessed us. They are the ones who can teach us and encourage us to be more generous ourselves.

To participate, please:

*Let Pastor Kathy or Pastor Gretchen know who in your life has been courageously generous. If you are open, we would like to either transcribe your story of their impact, or invite you to share it with the congregation on All Saints Day.

*Bring a photograph of that person, and/or others you love who have passed away to place on the altar (at 9AM) or on the window stills (at 11AM).

*A flower for each of the newly baptized will grace our altar and during the prayers, a bell will be rung for each member of our community who has died since All Saints Sunday last year.

*As you come forward for communion, light a candle in memory of your loved ones and place it in the bowl of water, symbolizing the waters of death and resurrection which unit us all beyond time, space and even death.

This is always a meaningful service. Special thanks to those of you who are willing to share your stories.



CHRISTMAS DATES TO REMEMBER



Sun, Nov. 26	CAROLING 12:30pm
Sun, Dec. 3	FAMILY CAROLING 10:30am
Sun, Dec. 10	LUCIAFEST 5pm
Tues, Dec. 12	BEER & CAROLS 7pm
Sun, Dec. 19	CHRISTMAS PAGEANT 11am
Thurs, Dec. 21	BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE 7pm
Sun, Dec. 24	LESSONS AND CAROLS 10am - ONE SERVICE CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 5pm CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 10pm
Dec. 25-27	MERRY CHRISTMAS! Office Closed
Sun, Dec. 31	NEW YEARS EVE 10am - ONE SERVICE
Mon, Jan. 1	Office Closed



Family Christmas Eve Service!

Tuesday, December 24 ~ 5pm

Kids of all ages are invited to bring their families to our candlelight service at 5:00pm on Christmas Eve. There will be joy, reverence, and audience participation, as we sing all of our favorite carols together and remember the story of the birth of Jesus. If your child (of any age) would like to help tell the story, please contact Pastor Gretchen.

BLUE CHRISTMAS

a service of comfort and hope



DEC. 21
7PM



Christmas Eve Hand Bells and Orchestra!

Bring your instrument or learn to play hand bells to festive Christmas carols for Our Redeemer's 10 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight service. Rehearsals are as follows:

Saturday, December 9 – 3 to 4:30pm
– Hand Bells only

Saturday, December 16 – 3 to 4:30pm
– Hand Bells and Orchestra

Saturday, December 23 – 3 to 4:30pm
– Hand Bells and Orchestra

All are welcome to participate – just let me know ahead of time, and we'll have a part ready for you!

Karen Lee,
Traditional Worship and Music Director
karen@ourredeemers.net



Annual Christmas Pageant

Calling all angels, shepherds, donkeys, and wise guys! The Christmas Pageant is coming!

We will be learning songs with Miss Karen, and learning our stories and lines together! Children are invited to participate at whatever level they are comfortable – singing, reading, hamming it up, or quietly standing.

Rehearsal: Saturday, December 16th, 9am!

Pageant: Sunday, December 17th, 11am.

If your child would like a speaking part, or a solo, please contact Pastor Gretchen ASAP.



Family Caroling

Sunday, Dec. 3 ~ 10:30am

Join us for caroling on Sunday Dec. 3th at 10:30am. Pastor Gretchen will lead us on a caroling adventure. RSVP to pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net so we make sure we have enough rides!



Lucia Fest

Sunday, Dec. 10 ~ 5pm

Bringing the story of Sancta Lucia to life is a beloved tradition in Sweden and Our Redeemer's is delighted to bring Lucia's message of light and charity to the community with a traditional tåg (procession), music, food, dancing and costumes. You are invited to join in the fun!

Lucia Fest is open to ORLC youth ages 5 and up to take the parts of star children, Lucia and her attendants, Staffan the Stable Boy as well as lighting, mic control, wardrobe and prop management. If you would like to participate, or learn more, contact Marie Nordquist at lutequist@yahoo.com.



Beer -n- Carols

Tuesday, December 12

On Tuesday, December 12th, we will host our third annual beer and carols. The location is TBA, but mark your calendars now! This event is a blast, and you don't want to miss it! This event is ALL AGES.

FAITH FORMATION



Adult Confirmation Classes Rescheduled

Sunday, November 5 & 12 ~ 10am

Due to the congregational meeting, some Adult Confirmation classes were rescheduled. Join us in discovering Lutheran history and faith practices.

Nov. 5: From the 16th Century to Today ~ *Luther's impact on history and the church.*

Nov. 12: By Heart ~ *Daily prayer and faith practices at home were key to Luther.*

FAITH FORMATION



National Youth Gathering

by Pastor Gretchen

I am so excited that we have 7 youth and 2 adults signed up to attend the ELCA National Youth Gathering next summer in Houston! I am so glad that we are going to be in a city that could actually use help from 30,000 high schoolers. Crazy! Here's the rub: It costs about \$1500/person to attend the gathering, and while families are responsible for \$500/person, that leaves us about \$10,000 to raise. Whoa!! But – we are up to the task! Please be advised that there will be fundraising coming your way!

Here's a list of the upcoming events:

- E-Cycling – We raised \$800! Thank you!
- Thanksgiving Pies (for others or yourself!)
- Bake Sale!
- Easter Breakfast
- "Stock" Sales – Invest in our youth!
- Flamingo Flocking

Your support of these students is key not only to their attending the event, but to their understanding that they represent not only themselves, but our congregation at this event. This is a life-changing experience, and I feel so blessed to be taking this great group of kids.



Pies! Thanksgiving Pie Sale!

Sunday, Nov. 19

In addition to baking the pies for our Thanksgiving Community Dinner, the youth group will be baking pies for your Thanksgiving dinner as well! Pies can be purchased in advance on Sundays from your friendly youth group members. They will be available for pickup on Sunday November 19th. All proceeds support the youth group and their trip to Houston next summer! If you would like to call in your order, feel free to call the church office by Nov. 5.



Confirmation Service Project: Can You Spare a Pair?

Our confirmands are collecting socks for those without homes until November 5. They will be distributed to those with the greatest need. Socks must be new in their packaging – all sizes and genders!



Theology on Tap

Tuesday, Nov. 28 ~ 7pm ~ Betsy's house

Theology on Tap meets on the 4th Tuesday of every month at a local restaurant or home. Theology on Tap is a great opportunity to meet and get know fellow Our Redeemer's members, raise a glass and discuss the big questions around faith. All are welcome at Theology on Tap and it is a great way to introduce potential members to the Our Redeemer's faith community. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday November 28 at Betsy McGregor's House at 7:00 PM. Please join us! Contact Betsy (bemac7309@gmail.com) or Emilie Purvine (emiliepurvine@gmail.com) for more information.

A New Idea for You to Consider: Bible Study

Wednesdays ~ 10:30am-12pm

Perhaps some of you think of the Wednesday morning Bible Study as a commitment for a whole year, and, in a sense, it is. The Jesus and the Gospels course will last until spring. BUT, what if the commitment was for only four (4) Wednesdays. You could pick your favorite Gospel or Gospels, see the dates and topics under each book, and join us for those weeks. Is that a good idea? That way you would get to read and study the Gospel you pick in a new and thorough way. As you know, the word **Gospel means Good News. Aren't you ready for some?**

November 1-22

Gospel of Mark

- Apocalyptic and Irony
- Good news in Mystery
- Teacher and Disciples
- Passion and Death

November 29-December 20

Gospel of Matthew

- Synagogue Down the Street
- The Messiah of Israel
- Jesus and Torah
- Teacher and Lord

January 3-24

Gospel of Luke-Acts

- The Prophetic Gospel
- God's Prophet
- The Prophet and the People
- Acts - The Prophet's Movement

January 31-February 21

Gospel of John

- Context or Conflict
- Jesus as the Man from Heaven
- Jesus as Obedient Son
- Witness to the Truth



A Mysterious Place: But Only For Me

A Journey with Young Adults in Global Mission

by: Steven Rystrom

Oltalom Szeretetszolgálat – “Salvation Charity”. The Soup Kitchen! Where as far as I can tell anyone can come for a hot tasty lunch (ebéd)! I just call it the Oltalom. I go here on Wednesday (szerda) through Friday (péntek). I ride my bike and cut through a dirt trail next to a farm where they have horseback riding. You know, with the pants. This is the one place I work in Hungary where almost no one speaks English which makes things tricky. That’s the mystery. I have no idea what’s going on most of the time.



This is Sandor, but everyone calls him Sanyi. He’s really helped me learn the ropes here. The soup isn’t cooked here, it comes in a van. Fun fact – the guy who plays the organ at church drives the van. I’m starting to see a lot of familiar faces at the various Lutheran establishments here. I don’t know exactly where the funding comes from, but I’m pretty sure the Lutheran church (here it’s called evangélikus) is involved. Magdi helps me with the Hungarian words – Fun fact: the word for lid (on a pot) is fed , the same as the word for hat! Marion seems to find my lack of Hungarian to be a little frustrating. Yeah well, for me as well.

Lunch starts at 11:30, when we turn on the lights and start to serve the people through the window. It’s been the same menu two weeks now, on this day there was a fried rice dish, otherwise its soup (leves). I usually hand out the kifli. Kifli is like a mini baguette bread. I say “Kiflit kér?” and hand them two. On this day we handed out halves of cucumber (uborka!) pictured below.



We serve maybe 50 or 60 people in a day, not including the staff. Lots of people bring their own tupperware containers, the ubiquitous cylindrical étterem.

The second floor has some rooms, beds, nursing facilities. I take the leftover soup pots up there. There are elderly people with walkers and white coated staff bustling around. So this is me – 3 days a week we make lunch happen.

Read more at: steveninhungary.wordpress.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Ensure a Thanksgiving Community Meal for All

Thursday, Nov. 23 ~ 12-1pm

Each year, the good folks of Our Redeemer's host anybody and everybody for a no-cost Thanksgiving meal from 12-1pm right on Thanksgiving Day. It takes about 108 (or more!) volunteers to pull it off, and it's an amazing gift not only to those who get to taste it, but especially to those who prepare it and clean it up afterward.

We have one returning and very important volunteer position this year: Table Hosts. Each table will have one person who dines with the folks who are there, helps to make sure that everyone gets food, distributes the sleeping bag tickets, and gets to know the people with whom they are sitting. It's a special kind of a job - ensuring that grace is shown and that every person is honored at this meal of gratitude.

Please sign-up to volunteer online at <https://www.volunteersignup.org/38EJ9>.

The categories are:

- Prepare the meal
- Carve the turkeys
- Set the tables
- Cook the meal
- Table Hosts
- Dishing up the meal
- Greeting guests
- Serving and Clearing
- Distribution of sleeping bags
- Washing dishes
- Cleaning up
- Photographer

Monetary donations to offset the costs of giving away 150 new sleeping bags are greatly appreciated! Due to the popularity of this opportunity to serve our community, we are asking that all volunteers sign up in advance of this event. Once all the positions are filled, we cannot accept more help. If you have questions contact Cara Kiggins (outreach@ourredeemers.net), or Margaret Wetter (margaretwetter@comcast.net) What a great community, and a gracious gift! See you on Thanksgiving!



Help Keep Someone Warm: Sleeping Bag Donations

Each year, Our Redeemer's collects donations to purchase sleeping bags for the unfortunately ever-growing unhoused in Seattle.

Consider making a donation of \$20 to help keep someone just a bit warmer this winter. Bags will be distributed at our Thanksgiving Community Meal. Envelopes are on the "Count Me In" clipboards or text 206-717-8465 and type "\$20 bags".

Do You Like to Bake Cookies and Other Goods?

Friday & Saturday, November 3-4

On Friday and Saturday, Nov. 3-4, Churches from across Northwestern Washington will be traveling to Our Redeemer's to deliver School Kits, Infant Care Kits, Personal Care Kits, and Quilts. These items will be loaded into tractor trailers and sent to Lutheran World Relief for distribution throughout the United States and the World. We could use some help with hospitality! Do you like to bake cookies and other goodies? If you have time to bake something to serve folks from the many churches who've traveled our way, we would appreciate it. Please drop off your goodies by Thursday, Nov. 2nd and label them "LWR". Please contact Cara Kiggins (outreach@ourredeemers.net) if you can help with hospitality.



The Giving Tree is Coming!

Every Christmas season, Our Redeemer's hosts a "Giving Tree" in our narthex. The tree is adorned with gift requests from children and mothers from Mary's Place (a nonprofit homeless shelter and day-center for women, children and families) as well as our own Road2Housing guests. It's an excellent thing, to share generosity during the holidays. If you have questions or concerns, contact Paula Hlastala (paulala343@hotmail.com). Happy shopping!



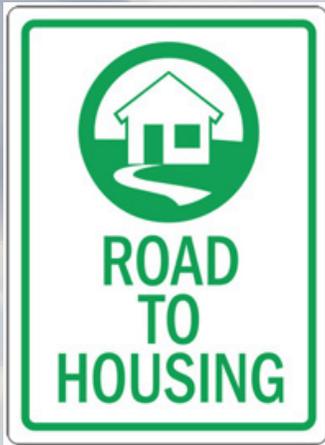
COMPASS
HOUSING
ALLIANCE

You're invited to Learn More About Compass Housing Alliance!

Sunday, November 19 ~ 10am

Compass Housing Alliance, a Lutheran social ministry organization, is a recognized leader in providing essential services and affordable housing for homeless and low-income people in the greater Seattle area. Its ministries include day services, emergency shelters, transitional housing, veterans' programs, family programs, and permanent affordable housing, all of which seek to integrate housing and support services.

One of its guiding principles is to reach out to congregations and their members to more effectively address the homelessness and affordable housing crises in our community. And, Compass Housing Alliance is coming to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church! On Sunday, November 19th, Compass staff will join us for worship and provide information and answer questions about its ministry at the adult education forum between worship services. You're invited to join the conversation and learn more about its important work, including the more than 20 facilities currently operated by Compass Housing Alliance and the recently opened 24/7 enhanced shelter at Seattle First Presbyterian Church. You can learn more about Compass Housing Alliance by visiting its website (www.compasshousingalliance.org). Join us on November 19th to learn more about this important partner of ours!



Road2Housing

Erin Rants, Road2Housing Case Manager, recently shared this inspiring story of a former guest family's resiliency and courage in the face of hardship, and the positive ways Our Redeemer's Road2Housing impacted the family:

The Road to Housing program recently helped a family move to a better place! This family of five was headed by two young parents, in their twenties. The couple has three children, all under the age of ten. The family was living in their van in Magnolia, and had to go to a nearby gas station to use the restroom. They had no income, and had had to send the two older children to stay with a relative, as it was too difficult for the family to stay together in the van. A REACH staff member met them at the Ballard Food Bank, and called Road to Housing to see if there was a parking spot available. There was! Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church had recently completed a shower/laundry addition to the Safe Parking program there, and were able to take another vehicle resident (or in this case, a family). The parents and the four-year-old, with a gas voucher from Road to Housing, moved to the church parking lot.

The parents immediately started calling all the shelters and encampments, and continued doing so every morning. Both parents were diligently searching for jobs, and the mother became employed as a teacher's aide at an elementary school. The four-year-old turned five during this period, and started kindergarten a few blocks from the church. Our Redeemer's staff commented that this family was "delightful" even while suffering all the setbacks they had encountered. Church staff and Road to Housing staff supported them in making sure they were comfortable and had what they needed.

After almost two months, a spot opened up at a YWCA program that provides motel vouchers, and the family moved to that program, with a planned trajectory of reuniting the two older children with the family and increasing their income in order to move to family housing.



Bring Sandwich Fixings and Make Some Sandwiches for Hungry Folks!

Sunday, November 26 ~ between services

Please bring gargantuan amounts of sandwich bread, sliced meats, cheese, peanut butter, and jelly. We pretty much wiped everything out last Sandwich Sunday - we need everything. We could use at least 20 loaves of bread and enough fixings to make at least 300 sandwiches. We could also use a delivery person on Monday morning. The sandwiches are delivered on Monday morning to Peter's Place Day Center for homeless men and women which is near Rainer Ave and I-90. Contact Cara (outreach@ourredeemers.net) with questions, amounts you're purchasing and if you'd like to help with delivery!

Social Justice Book Discussion Group

Sunday, November 9 ~ 7pm ~ Library

We're still discussing *Radical Lutherans/Lutheran Radicals* edited by Jason Mahn, and hope to specifically focus on the chapter regarding Dietrich Bonhoeffer and his resistance against Nazism. Contact Cara Kiggins (outreach@ourredeemers.net) for more info.

All are welcome!



Ballard Sunday Dinner Continues to Need You!

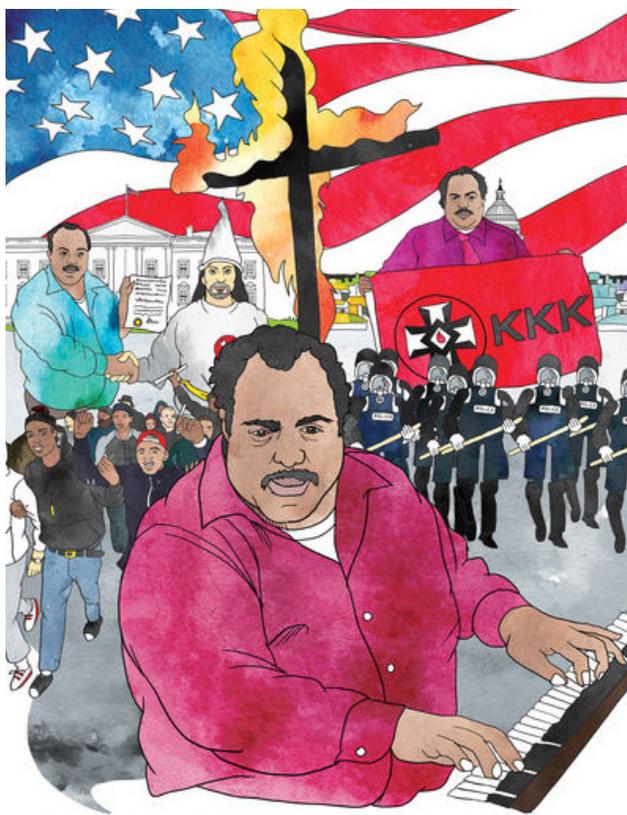
Sunday, November 19

Every month we serve a warm meal to our hungry and unhoused neighbors. This month we're serving the Sunday before Thanksgiving. This gift of hospitality has meaning not only in the literal sense of providing nourishment for bodies that are often hungry, but it is also a way to say to our neighbors who live on the margins that we see them and that we care.

Shifts Available Include:

- **2-6pm Food Prep:** Chop, cook, and prepare food under the direction of the Leads.
- **4-6pm Set Up & Serve:** Set up tables and chairs and serve guests as they arrive.
- **4-6:30pm Greeter:** Greet guests as they arrive and direct them towards the meal.
- **5:30-7:30pm Serve & Close:** Finish serving guests then help clean up and close.

Sign up online at tinyurl.com/jzpyoxs to take a turn with a shift!



“Accidental Courtesy” Film Screening

Sunday, November 5 ~ 4:30pm

About the film: Daryl likes to meet and befriend members of the Ku Klux Klan– something few black men can say. In *Accidental Courtesy*, Daryl’s journey takes him across the country, from DC to California, Arkansas, Tennessee, Missouri and Alabama, from old friends who have left the klan, to friends still active in the organization, including a current Imperial Wizard of the KKK. In an age of digital disconnection, Daryl’s method is rooted in personal interaction and we as viewers reap the rewards.

The screening will be followed by discussion. Light refreshments will be served. This event is FREE. Invite your friends and neighbors! Please note: some scenes are not appropriate for young children.

Social Justice Quarterly Meeting & Brunch Potluck

Sunday, November 12 ~ 12:30pm-2:30pm ~ Library

Do you pray for a more just, equitable, and compassionate world? Come lend your voice and help us discern the directions to take our Social Justice ministries. We’ll discuss activities currently in place, potential new or changed activities, and we’ll vote on where to direct our Benevolence funds. Our Redeemer’s tithes 3% of all funds received back into the community and the Social Justice Committee determines where to direct these funds. Bring juice, fruit, Danishes, or an egg casserole to share for the Brunch Potluck. *All are welcome.*



Electronics & Styrofoam Recycling Event

Thank you to all who volunteered! Holding signs, directing cars as they arrive with donations, helping unload electronics (sometimes REALLY heavy old TVs!), stuffing donated clothes for the Bridge Care Center into bags to maximize space. The youth especially did an excellent job collecting donations towards National Youth Gathering – they raised \$760! We filled a 26 foot truck full of electronics, and filled another truck with gigantic bags of Styrofoam! *Thank you!*

COMMUNITY



Family Movie Night

Saturday, Nov. 11 ~ 6pm

“LEGO Batman” will be showing in the Fellowship Hall. Note that this is a time change since movie nights last year. The pizza dinner will start at 6:00pm with the movie starting around 6:15pm.

Pizza, popcorn, fruit, juice, salad, and dessert will be provided. A freewill offering will be collected for the meal. Adults are welcome to bring beer and/or wine. Gluten free pizza is available upon request.

What a great way to spend an evening with the family and others in our community. Bring friends, neighbors, and extended family! Kids are welcome to be comfy in their PJs and bring sleeping bags to snuggle in during the flick.

Please rsvp by Friday, November 10th if you plan to attend on Saturday the 11th so we know how much pizza to get: contact Holly at 206 909-7204 or hgundack@live.com

If you can help plan/organize/set-up, let Holly know at the above contact info. Especially appreciated would be help with clean-up after the movie.

See you there!!!

New Group for People 55+ is off to a Great Start - More Plans in the Works

Friday, Nov. 10~ 12pm

That’s when a new group that promises to be a lot more fun than joining AARP will meet again.

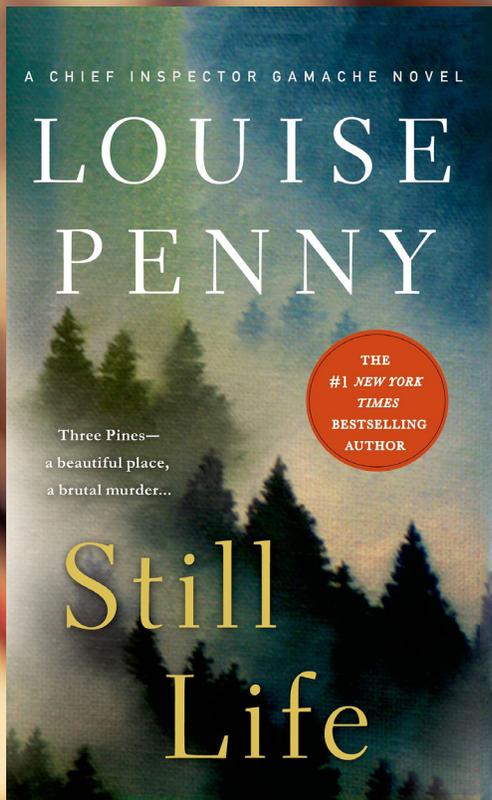
There are a lot of us in this age bracket — and we’re interesting, engaged, caring and don’t have a heck of a lot of opportunities to get to know one another. Worship is great — but not necessarily a way to get acquainted with folks.

Seventeen were in attendance on October 13 to share copious amounts of potluck food, a little bit about ourselves (discovering connections within the group), watch the Rick Steves video about Luther and the Reformation, and talk about starting this new group.

Nearly everyone was interested in an ongoing, monthly get-together. Aware that the people unable to come on Fridays weren’t there to weigh in, we did decide that the second Friday of the month at noon would be our basic meeting time, but with flexibility as other events and opportunities arise.

Lots of good ideas for things to do were suggested. **If there is something you would like to suggest, please email it to our Intern, Katlin Dickinson-Laurence (kdickinsonlaurence@gmail.com).** She’ll keep track of all ideas. Then she, Anita Lewis, Jim Arnold, Vicky Hobbs and Pastor Kathy will meet to think through a way for all of us to make shared decisions about future plans at our November 10 gathering.

Many thanks to Jim Arnold and Anita Lewis for launching this delightful new venture! Come, try it out and help give it shape!



Madonnas Book Club

Sunday, November 26 ~ 4pm

Come discuss "Still Life" by Louise Perry with the Madonnas Book Club. The Location is still to be determined. Ask Margaret Wetter if you're interested (margaretwetter@comcast.net).

All women welcome!



MMMMMMMMMM!

MMMMMeal MMMMaking!

Sunday, Nov. 12 ~ 1:30pm ~ Church Kitchen

This will be our third culinary collaboration! And the meals have been MMM MMM good!

Please bring:

- Ingredients for an entree for at least 8 that can be completed in 2 hours
- Any special pans or utensils you need
- Containers to carry home the good food others have made and shared with you

AND, this month,

Please also bring your thoughts about whether to continue this group, and if so, what the best way to do that is. Should we meet each month? Are there things we can do to improve either the cooking or the camaraderie?

We'll talk it over this month, along with making great food together. *Hope to see you there!*

COMMEMORATING 500 YEARS OF REFORMATION!



"Today I was confirmed, again! My fantastic church decided to hold an accelerated "adult confirmation" this year (complete with sermon notes!) since there were no kids being confirmed. So nine of us decided to take it on. Some for the first time, others like me, who wanted another shot to really learn something this time around. I'm so glad I did it! Thanks to pastors Kathy and Gretchen, and to my sponsors Cara and Ronda."

*-Emilie Purvine
Adult Confirmand*





Intern Highlight: KATLIN DICKINSON- LAURENCE

1. What made you and Harold decide to visit Our Redeemer's?

About eight months into our first year of marriage, Harold and I came to the conclusion that we needed to find a denomination and a local church that we could both call home. So, we did what any highly analytical seminary student would do: we made a spreadsheet of churches in the Seattle area, with the assistance of Google, and began our pilgrimage. We chose to visit Our Redeemer's for a number of reasons. For me, the most memorable moment when we were looking at the website prior to coming was seeing the photos of children serving communion and the language about children's role in the church community. It filled me with hope to see children recognized as members of the community while they are children.

2. Where are you from?

Most recently, I am from Denver, Colorado. However, I grew up in Roseburg, Oregon.

3. What are your interests/passions?

This is always the most challenging question for me. Let's see, I am an avid reader, although lately most of my reading consists of seminary textbooks. I love good coffee, although I am willing to drink mediocre coffee if I must. I am a huge fan of satire, parodies, British TV shows, and Wonder Woman. Also, I am passionate about a bunch of nerdy topics like social and developmental psychology, theology of Christian worship, feminist theology, racial justice and reconciliation, and smashing the patriarchy.

4. Something you look forward to this coming year?

Luciafest! One of my favorite book series as a child was the American Girl books about Kirstin. (Kirstin is Swedish and one of the books narrates Saint Lucia Day.)

5. Favorite thing about coming to Our Redeemer's so far?

The amazing welcome that I have received from everyone.

6. How do you plan to become involved in our community?

For me, I think that the best way to get involved in any community is to get to know people. So, right now, I plan to attend as many events as I can in. The goal for my internship is to practice the skills that I'm learning in my seminary courses.

7. Anything else you would like us to know about you?

My birthday is in October and Harold's gift to me was a surprise addition of an Orca to our family! (The Whale Museum on San Juan Island offers Orca adoptions.) I LOVE Orcas and dream of adopting all of the Southern Resident Orcas someday.



MILESTONES

November Birthdays

1	Michelle Richmond	15	Larry Ward	21	Leo Parks
1	Jennifer Seyler	16	Ken Longaker	24	Dan Malone
2	Rebecca Miles	16	Max Myers	25	Kelly Germann
2	James Miller	16	Amy Ojendyk	26	Lora Campbell
4	Jason Smith	17	Jerry Andrews	28	Dara Schoolcraft
7	Lisa Watkins	18	Andria Ellis	29	Cindy Knight
7	Aivree Watkins	20	Elijah Abdullah	29	Tim Lenihan
8	Margaret Giesa	21	Carol Alley	29	Lily Rallo
10	Carol Overhus	21	Nancy Kristjanson	29	Lorna Joy Williams
11	Amy Dovich	21	Sharon LeVan	30	Mary Anderson
12	Robert McIntyre	21	Gry Loklingholm		
15	Mary Gross	21	Kelly Lubkowski		

Thanks be to God for: 90+ YEARS OLD!

Jim Freyberg ~ November 14, 1927 ~ 90 years old!

Penny Fox ~ November 21, 1924 ~ 93 years old!

Graveside Service for Bill Mattson

Saturday, Nov. 11 ~ 2pm

Bill Mattson, a long-time member, passed away on October 4, 2017. A graveside service for him will be held at 2PM, Saturday, November 11 at Evergreen-Washelli, in the Pacific Lutheran section. Bill's family welcomes any who would like to participate.

Follow Us on Instagram!



We are on Instagram!
Follow us and see what exciting things
are happening around the church.
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An easy way to invite and engage your
friends.

NOVEMBER 2017

ourredeemers.net/calendar

SUNDAYS:

9am - Informal Worship
11am - Traditional Worship

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>5</p> <p>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY Daylight Savings Ends! 4:30pm "Accidental Courtesy" Film Screening</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>9am Quilters 6pm EarthCare Team</p>	<p>7</p> 	<p>1</p> <p><i>Office Closed*</i> 7:30am Men's Breakfast 10:30am Bible Study 5pm VAB Team 6pm Youth Choir 6pm National Youth Gathering Planning 6:30pm Junior Choir 7pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>3:45pm Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer 6:30pm Centering Prayer Meal 7pm Informal Music Ensemble Rehearsal</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8am LWR Ingathering 1:30pm Folders</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8am LWR Ingathering 9am Traditional Worship Team</p>
<p>12</p> <p>GENEROSITY SUNDAY 12:30pm Social Justice Team 1:30pm Meal Group</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9am Quilters</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10am Staff Meeting 10:30am Bible Study 6pm Youth Choir 6:30pm Junior Choir 7pm Confirmation Service Event 7pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5pm Finance Team 6pm Centering Prayer 7pm Informal Music Ensemble Rehearsal 7pm Social Justice Reading Group</p>	<p>10</p> <p>12pm Senior Potluck 1:30pm Folders 7pm Wine and Chocolate</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9am Luciafest Rehearsal 4:30pm Family Movie Night</p>
<p>19</p> <p>10:10am Adult Forum: Compass Housing Alliance 5pm Ballard Sunday Dinner</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9am Quilters</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30pm Church Council Bible Study and Meeting</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9am Executive Committee 10am Staff Meeting 10:30am Bible Study 6pm Youth Choir 6:30pm Junior Choir 7pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9am Road2Housing 6pm Centering Prayer 7pm Informal Music Ensemble Rehearsal</p>	<p>17</p> <p>1:30pm Folders</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9am Luciafest Rehearsal Youth Pie Baking</p>
<p>26</p> <p>CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY 10am Sandwich Sunday 11:30am Family Caroling</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9am Quilters</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7pm Theology on Tap</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10am Staff Meeting 10:30am Bible Study 6pm Youth Choir 6:30pm Junior Choir 7pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>23</p> <p><i>Office Closed</i> 12pm Community Thanksgiving Dinner</p>	<p>24</p> <p><i>Office Closed</i> 1:30pm Folders</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10am Christmas Tree Set-up</p>
<p>26</p> <p>CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY 10am Sandwich Sunday 11:30am Family Caroling</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9am Quilters</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7pm Theology on Tap</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6pm Centering Prayer 7pm Informal Music Ensemble Rehearsal</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6pm Centering Prayer 7pm Informal Music Ensemble Rehearsal</p>		<p>*Note: Staff will devote the first Wednesday of each month to professional development and planning. The office will be closed on those days.</p>



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**Daylight Savings Time begins
November 5. Fall Back!**

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Sunday - 9 a.m. (Informal) 11 a.m. (Traditional)
Thursday - 6 p.m. (Centering Prayer)



GENEROSITY SUNDAY

Sunday, November 12

Please bring your pledge card to offer!