

MARCH 2019



*The*Visitor



A COMMUNITY IN THE MODEL OF CHRIST

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COVER: Imposition of ashes during past Ashes2Go and Ash Wednesday services.

INSIDE COVER: Terrence Rindler anointing Emilie Purvine during the Church Council retreat.



Our community, our calling.



- Katherine Hawks, Pastor
- Gretchen Mertes, Pastor
- Karen Lee, Traditional Worship & Music Director
- Don Boelter, Parish Administrator
- Shannon Beck, Interim Social Justice Coordinator
- Jonath Ochs, Communications Coordinator
- Katlin Dickinson-Laurence, Data Base & Front Office Assistant
- Ronda Andrews, Welcome Minister
- Hannah Wetter, Nursery Care Provider

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FROM THE PASTOR...

As we enter into the season of Lent, we are focusing on a new theme as a congregation – Radical Love.

Talking about radical love is not new. In contemporary queer circles, the phrase ‘radical love’ is associated with an exceptional and unconditional welcome for people of all genders and sexual identities into the church. In the 1960’s the idea of Jesus’ grace was talked about as Radical Love, and that was considered edgy lingo. In the 1870’s Friedrich Nietzsche responded to anti-Semitism and the Christians who supported it by teaching a “radical love” of life. The affirmation he had in mind did not involve positive thinking or an optimistic attitude. It was not about seeing the bright side or finding the silver lining. To affirm life, for him, is to cultivate a visceral engagement with the creative energy of life so deep and strong that it overflows in feelings of extreme joy. For him, the stakes were political, ethical, and religious. Where Nietzsche talks about “the creative energy of life,” I substitute the creative energy of GOD. Following that thought, what if radical love is having a deep, real, tangible, visceral relationship with God that is so strong that it pours back out of you in extreme joy – in grace for others, in the willingness to risk yourself for the betterment of others? What then?

That, my friends, would be some radical stuff.

Mind you, the radical love I’m talking about is not some strange new kind of thing. Radical love is not nuclear or super-high tech.

Radical love is that we love when loving seems foolish.

Radical love is to love in the face of death, to love in the face of despair, and to love when it’s the last thing you think you should do.

Radical love looks like turning the other cheek, when the world says you should file a lawsuit.

Radical love looks like opening your home to someone in need.

Radical love looks like self-sacrifice and unconditional acceptance.

Radical love looks like carrying a baby through the desert in hope of life. Radical love looks like dancing despite our grief.

The most radical love we have seen or ever will see is how Jesus loves us.

**Before we were
worthy, with dirt
on our clothes
and in our souls,
Jesus was all in.**

In Romans 5:6–8, Paul writes:

“For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.”

I queried my Facebook page about what ‘radical love’ means, and there was a vast spread of answers. Almost all of them leaned toward “loving when loving doesn’t make sense.” As we enter our Lenten practices this month, whatever yours may be, I invite you to err on the side of “radical love.” Break open your heart. Love someone who doesn’t deserve it. Care for someone who is hard to care for. Let Jesus soften you and see what happens. I bet it will be life-changing. Transformative. Powerful.



Peace! Pastor Gretchen

Our Redeemer's Festival & Live Auction:

Meet Me by the Bayou!

*a family friendly night of
games, music, food, and fundraising*

Saturday, March 2 @ 5pm



This event is both a celebration of our congregation – the work and love and life we do together, and also an important source of income to keep the ministry of this church happening. As a congregation, we count on the live auction and its proceeds to bolster the goodwill and the budget of Our Redeemer's. It also happens to be a great way to introduce your friends to this place (who you've been meaning to invite to church anyway), and to hang out with your church family. Win-win-win-win!

Don't hesitate to contact Pastor Gretchen if you have questions, concerns, comments, or would like to volunteer with helping to set up or clean up.

Our Redeemer's Auction Is...

- **The most fun and exciting party of the year with families and friends joining us to support this great congregation.**
- **NO admission charge!**
- **KID friendly! Food and fun!**
- **LIVE music!**
- **TWO food trucks to choose from!**
- **AMAZING live auction items:**



GETAWAYS!

- Family-Friendly Lake House: 4 nights for 6, 2BR/2BA, with kayaks, bikes, and hosted BBQ
- Snoqualmie Pass Cabin for 8 for 1 week
- Leavenworth woods getaway --4 BR, 3BA for 1 week
- Roslyn romantic getaway - 2 nights

BOAT TRIPS!

- The REEL SALTY - 4 adults + 2 children
- 31' Formula all around Puget Sound or Lake Washington, with dinner and drinks
- 27' Ranger Tug -- around Puget Sound or Lake Washington, with snacks & beverages

DINNERS & FOOD!

- Sunset Gourmet Dinner for 6 at Christenson's
- 6 months of homemade soup and Bob Carlson's homemade rolls
- Fancy Wine
- Cookies
- Oktoberfest (sign up) - brats & professional brew master-led beer tasting



TICKETS!

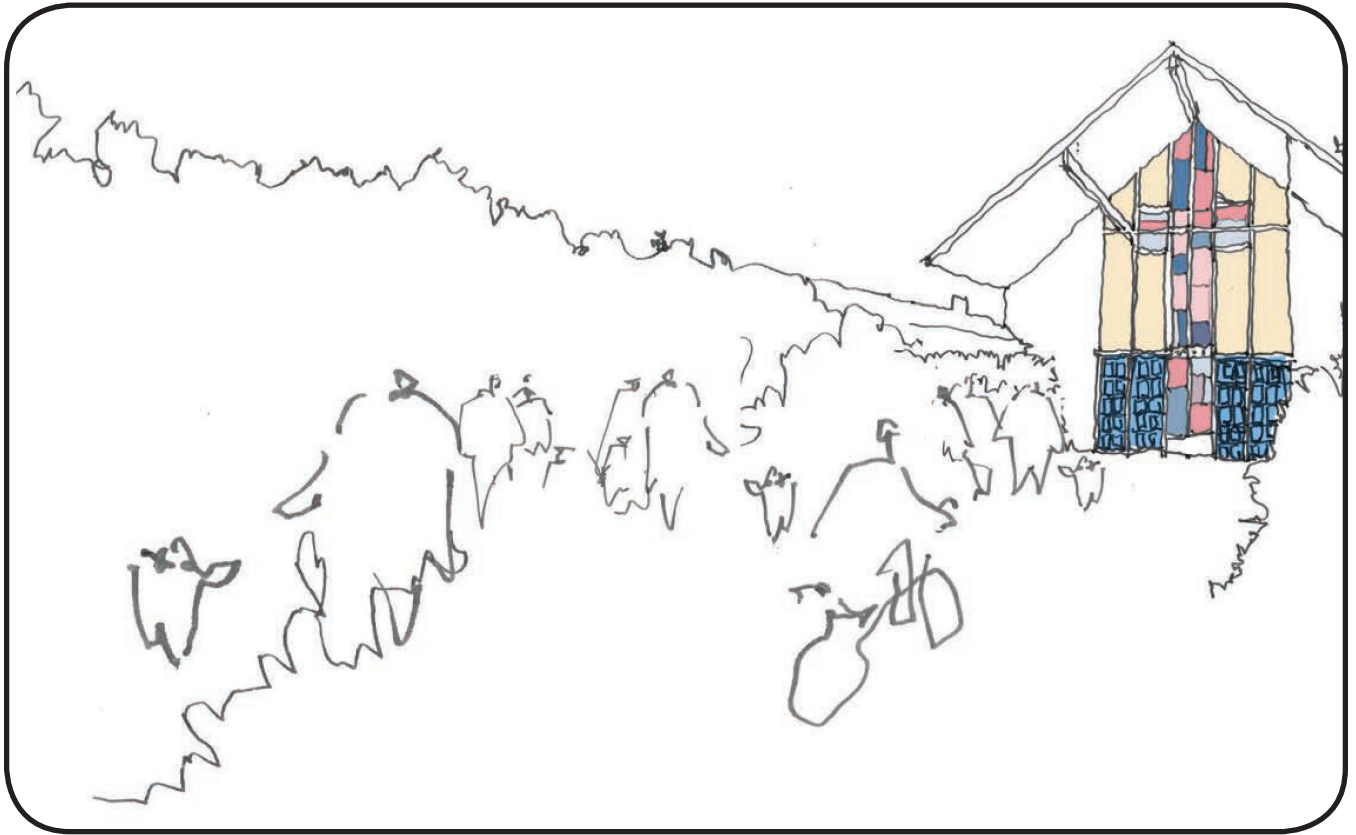
- Sounders
- Huskies
- 5th Avenue
- 4 Pacific Science Center passes + Behind the scenes tour of the zoo

ENHANCE YOUR LIFE/HOUSE!

- 3- hour consult with professional organizer
- Home Eco-Make-over, including rain barrel installation
- 6 hours Carpentry
- Original painting by Sally Parker-Henderson
- Chihuly-esque art bowl
- Gardening, 2 hours x 4 months
- Will, Durable Power of Attorney, and Health Care Power of Attorney
- Original Song by Pastor Gretchen

AND MORE!

BUILD THE VISION... SHARE THE VISION!



Vision-Aligned Building (VAB) Moves Forward

At the recommendation of the Vision-Aligned Building (VAB) Team and the Our Redeemer's Church Council, the congregation overwhelmingly voted at a church-wide meeting between services on Sunday, February 24, to expend funds to hire SHKS Architects (Seattle) to provide architecture and design services.

At that meeting, The VAB Team introduced the congregation to David Strauss, Principal-in-Charge/ Design Lead at SHKS. The Team strongly feels that David and his colleagues at SHKS are the best choice to "re-boot" the building project due to their special insight and expertise in navigating complex projects to create inspiring, consensus visions within pragmatic limits.

After multiple interviews with David and Matt Inpanbutr, Project Lead, making on-site visits to relevant past SHKS projects, and checking references of entities they've partnered with before, the VAB Team believes that SHKS will be able to provide Our Redeemer's with the understanding of our programming, stakeholders, and especially existing facilities and life safety and energy codes needed for this project.

SHKS Architects has collaborated with religious, educational and community organizations on feasibility studies, master planning studies, and capital projects. Creative, cost-effective solutions have resulted from SHKS Architects' collaborative engagement, research, and knowledge of institutional organizations. Many of their projects, including the Magnolia Library Branch and Bellingham's Federal Building, have received design awards.

Meet the Architects

For those of you not able to make the February 24 Congregational Meeting, here is more information about some of the folks who will be working on our project in the months ahead:



David Strauss, PhD., AIA, LEED AP

David has concentrated on the repair, renovation and remodeling of historic buildings. With 30 years of experience in architecture and design, he has developed exceptional skills in interdisciplinary coordination and design within historic contexts. David is past president of the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation Board of Directors and is an affiliate assistant professor at the University of Washington, where he teaches graduate design studios and architectural theory seminars.



Matt Inpanbutr, AIA, LEED AP

Matt has over 13 years' experience in architecture concentrating on the design, documentation and construction administration of commercial and public buildings. His thoroughness and communications skills have benefited a range of project types.



Mary Waelder, AIA, LEED AP BD+C

Mary earned a professional degree in architecture from Rice University. As a registered architect, she has experience with public, commercial, and residential projects.

Conversations About Funding Planned

Church Council members will be going to existing congregational groups through April 14 to discuss options for additional funding for construction costs of code upgrades for the project, including the possible sale of the P-Patch property.



LIVING GENEROUSLY

Generosity of Time and Self

by Margaret Wetter

Lent approaches ... what will you give up? Isn't that a question we often ask or hear this time of year?

Giving something up during Lent is a form of fasting, one of the things Christians over the years have done to prepare for Easter -- prayer, fasting and alms giving. Fasting is a way to practice discipline and sacrifice. Giving up sugar, or caffeine, meat, soda, or television (not a bad idea anyway?) are great ways to practice sacrifice and instill discipline.

But maybe there's a better way to practice sacrifice and instill discipline. Maybe it would be better to ADD something into your life. There are plenty of ideas for this: donating money, writing letters to friends and family, daily prayer or a devotional, reading the Bible, a daily random act of kindness (or all of the above), and what I want to talk about here: volunteering. Generosity of time and self.

Ugh, volunteering. More calls on my TIME. Precious time,

which can be hard to find outside of work, family needs and other responsibilities. But here's the thing ... volunteering -- doing something for others -- is a net ADD. It's good for you! It has been proven to reduce stress, combat depression, provide mental stimulation, and render a sense of purpose.

We are blessed at Our Redeemer's with many people who are generous with their time. I asked my daughter, Hannah, to name a handful of people who are generous with their time at Our Redeemer's, with the instructions to be quick! don't think about it! go!

- Ed Kloth, who gives of his time and self most Sunday mornings to usher at the 11am worship service
- Charlotte Wallstrom, faithfully teaching the Sprouts class each Sunday morning
- Gry Loklingholm, Elaine Stevens, Carleen See, and Jan Ward, to be seen almost every Sunday setting up communion before 9am and 11am worship

- Jerry Andrews, spotted just about everywhere helping with just about anything
- Carolyn Davis, who demonstrates hospitality on a regular basis

This, of course, is just a tiny, partial list. There isn't enough space here to list everyone who is generous with time and self at Our Redeemer's. But it would be good to see, wouldn't it? So, during Lent, the Generosity Team will have a display on the bulletin boards in the fellowship hall to show all of the ways people are generous with time and self at Our Redeemer's. You will be able to see many examples of generosity in our community, find opportunities to give of your own time and self, see names of people you can ask about any project, program, team or volunteer activity.

Then find something to add during Lent. Perhaps it will continue on into the rest of the year, perhaps not. Perhaps it will make your Easter more meaningful, perhaps not. But it will surely bring you deeper into community.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Ash Wednesday

by Pastor Gretchen

Wednesday, March 6 ~ 7pm

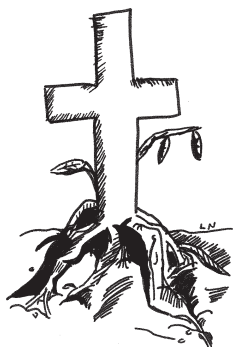
March 6th is Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of our observation of the season of Lent. The word Lent comes from the Latin root meaning "to lengthen." It reminds us that during the season of spring, the sun takes a little longer each evening to settle beyond the horizon. With this, the weather grows warmer, and life emerges once more. Lent is our connecting point to the season of life.

But this is a messy season. In Wisconsin, where I was born, the snows of winter lie on the ground for months, and all sorts of things get covered. Winter brings with it chilling winds that push things over, mess things up and even break things. As the snow melts we discover

the trash, the litter, the mud and the branches beneath the snow.

It's much like our lives. Over time, our hearts and souls, when left unattended, get messy. Lent invites us to deal with the mess. This is not about quickly cleaning things up and pretending they were never there, nor is it about ignoring the mess. Lent invites to roll up our sleeves and sort through the debris of our lives.

On Ash Wednesday, we are confronted with our mess, and so on our foreheads we rub a little dirt reminding ourselves that one day, we will be ashes as well. Lent allows us to see the parts of ourselves we'd rather leave covered up. It asks us to drag our full self into the light of day no matter how long the shadows may be. I encourage you to begin Lent with this great uncovering of Ash Wednesday. Service is at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.



Radical Love: a daily lenten devotional

*Stories, Thoughts &
Prayers from
Our Redeemer's
Community*

Last year, for the first time, the people of Our Redeemer's created a daily Lenten Devotional... and this year we've done it again! Pick up a physical copy at church, download a digital version on the website, or follow along in the daily e-mail. Thank you so much to everyone who participated this year in submitting a reflection. We couldn't have done this without you!



Ashes to Go

Wednesday, March 6

Pastor Gretchen will be out in the parking lot during rush hour times with her alb and her ashes to impose on any willing passer-by. For people who work, have small children, or just can't make it to a service, this is a great chance for them to participate in this important annual ritual.

HOLY WEEK PREVIEW

Palm/Passion Sunday ~ April 14. Procession with palms and the story of the passion.

Maundy Thursday ~ A NEW COMMANDMENT: LOVE ONE ANOTHER

6:30pm ~ Middle Eastern Meal

7:15pm ~ Simple Communion and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday ~ AT THE CROSS: RADICAL LOVE

7pm ~ Mozart's Requiem and Prayer Around the Cross

Good Friday Noon to Holy Saturday Noon ~ 24-Hour Prayer Vigil

Easter Celebrations! LOVE WINS!

6am ~ Sunrise Service

9am & 11am ~ Festival Worship, Choirs, Instruments

10:10am ~ Easter Egg Hunt



NEW! Easter Sunrise Service

Sunday, April 21 ~ 6am ~ Carkeek Park

This year during holy week, we are trying a new (but actually old) thing. As a congregation, we are hosting a sunrise Easter service at the overlook at Carkeek Park. There will be music, communion, baptisms, and hot coffee! At 6am, we will gather with blankets and chairs around the fire circle and watch as the sun welcomes Easter morning and we celebrate Jesus'

resurrection. This service will be in place of the Easter Vigil on Saturday night, which traditionally is a 3-hour service celebrating the arrival of light and the story of God's people throughout history, culminating at midnight with a resurrection celebration. Our Redeemer's vigil service has not been nearly that lengthy, but enjoys the same roots!

Fun Facts about Easter Sunrise services: Did you know... In 1773, America's first Sunrise Service — an Easter Mass held early enough for congregants to witness the dawn's first rays together — was held in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, organized by the Moravians — a church with its roots in the present-day Czech Republic. The service is held to mark the empty tomb that greeted Mary as dawn broke on Easter morning. Since then, such celebrations have been held in such diverse and scenic venues as the Hollywood Bowl (which celebrates its 88th service this year), the Lincoln Memorial and Colorado Springs' Garden of the Gods. (Source: Time Magazine)

CENTERING PRAYER

Thursdays, 6-6:35PM.

- 10 minutes of calming (recorded) chant.
- 20 minutes of silence with a word or phrase you choose to remind you you want to be in God's presence.
 - A 2-4 minute spiritual reading.
- Then, leave or take in more quiet.

Enter candlelit quiet
in our beautiful sanctuary.
You do not need to speak or sing anything.

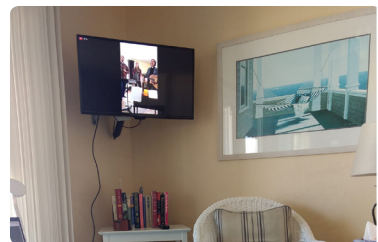
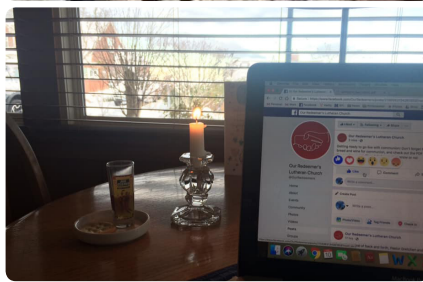
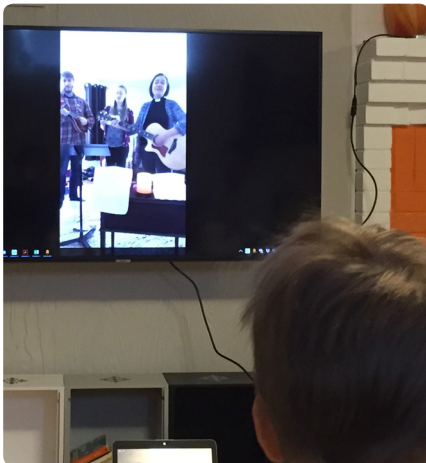


Healing Service

Sunday, March 31

The healing service is a long-beloved tradition at Our Redeemer's on the 5th Sunday of the month. We believe it is God's intention for all people to live fully, and in reconciliation with neighbors, enemies, allies and strangers.

SHARING FELLOWSHIP VIA LIVESTREAM SERVICE DUE TO SNOW



On Sunday, February 10, we made the decision to broadcast worship from Pastor Gretchen's home rather than have people risk going out in the ice and snow. Thanks be to God for technology connecting us and keeping us safe.



ELCA Youth Ministry Training Event: Disrupt... and Sparklemotion!

by Pastor Gretchen Mertes

One of my deepest joys as a pastor is being part of the leadership of our larger church. I love getting to share music that I've written with a national audience, and to engage people in new and exciting ideas for ministry. The last two years, I've been honored to be invited to be part of the stage team at the ELCA Youth Ministry Network's annual leader training, "The Extravaganza." This year, I travelled to Jacksonville, FL to be part of an all-womxn band that lead music and reflection for over 600 attendees in January. None of the womxn in the group had played together before, and so we learned all 40 of the songs for the 4-day conference on sight. We had such a blast! We decided to call ourselves "Sparklemotion" just for fun, and one of the graphic designers even made us an album cover at the end of the event.

At the Extravaganza, or "The E," all of the participants are involved in faith formation at the congregational level either as volunteer, staff, or clergy. It's a GREAT conference. Youth directors, letting their hair down! The theme this year was "Disrupt," and together we looked at how God disrupts our lives not to bring chaos and disorder (although that definitely happens), but truly to bring positive change and love and grace into our lives – abundantly. And, after we have been disrupted by God's grace, we then are called to be holy disruptors – bringing that same grace and abundance to everyone we meet. I look forward to sharing some of the new music I've learned, and the energy I gleaned with Our Redeemer's in the next few months. Thank you for making my participation in a conference like this possible!





FAITH FORMATION

COME TO THE JOURNEY!

- Explore your faith
- Restore your faith.
- Know more about Our Redeemer's
- Get acquainted with more folks here.
- Become a member

EACH OF THESE things take place during what we call "The Journey".

We'll gather Sundays in Lent (March 10 - April 14), 4-6:25pm. Expect "heavy hors d'oeuvres," honest questions, time to listen to the Bible and our own lives, more info about the Lutherans, and about ministries at Our Redeemer's. Child care? You bet, if you let us know you need it.

You'll receive a letter if we suspect you might have an interest, but **EVERYONE** is warmly welcome to participate. Please let Pastor Kathy Hawks (kathyh@ourredeemers.net) or Pastor Gretchen Mertes (pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net) know you're interested.



NEW DATES!

"Manna & Mercy in the Wilderness"

Friday, April. 26 - Sunday, April 28

TEACHER IN RESIDENCE:
Fred Niedner

FRED NIEDNER'S BIO:

Fred teaches regularly at Holden Village and was a professor of biblical theology for 40 years at Valparaiso University (Pastor Kathy and Pastor Gretchen's alma mater.) He is beloved for his incredible gift of explaining the culture and context of Bible stories, to reveal how human they are, and the depth of grace existing within them.





End of Life: Questions, Insights, and Decisions

*Sundays, March 10 ~ April 14
10am in the Library*

During Lent we face our mortality. The sign of the cross is placed on our foreheads with the words, "Ashes to ashes and dust to dust," Our faith not only gives us courage and guidance in facing our sin and limitations, but also our physical mortality, because we believe God's grace is stronger than death.

There are so many aspects to this physical, spiritual, relational, and personal journey-- for each of us and for those we love. In this series, we'll dip into some of those things.

March 10: What does death mean to me? A chance to reflect.

March 17: What's next? Heaven? Hell? What does the Bible say? Near death experiences?

March 24 and 31: Relationships. The experience of life drawing to an end. What choices and conversations do I want to have? Led by Eowyn Black, LICSW, oncology and hospice social worker.

March 31 and April 7: Medical Treatment, Care, and Choices. What hospice is and isn't. The right to die. Resource: Five Wishes. Led by Julie Vannoy, RN, BSN, and Pastor Kathy.

April 14: Legal Considerations and tools. Funeral and Memorial Service planning and options.

Join us -- For your own sake, and as a gift to your loved ones.



LifeMasters' Bible Exploration of Luke is Well-attended

*4th Sunday of Each Month ~
Sunday, March 24, 12:45pm*

The big tables were full when LifeMasters (50+ years old) gathered for our first Bible exploration in January. We are taking an overview of the Gospel of Luke, since during 2019, Luke is the gospel writer we will hear most often in Sunday worship.

Questions and conversation were brisk; and the company was friendly.

Join us -- Every 4th Sunday of the month, after late worship in the library. Bring some lunch to fuel your physical and spiritual appetite. All are welcome, regardless of how familiar you may or may not be with the Bible!



Bible Study on Wednesday Mornings at 10:30am

by: Carolyn Swanson

Wednesday's Bible Study on Martin Luther will be finished in March. Final lectures are on the following subjects:

Luther and His Enemies—Did he become bitter in his old age? His language to those who disagreed with him on Gospel truths was abrasive. Indeed, he said the devil was using them to detract from Gospel truths.

Luther and the Jews—The older Luther became so angry with the Jews because they did not see the Old Testament as the promise of Jesus as Messiah. He couldn't understand why, when to Luther, it was so clear.

Luther and Modernity—We live in post-modern times theologically. Questions we should consider are: Should religion really be about us or about God? Should Catholics and Protestants ultimately try to once again become one church?

This lecture series, Luther: Gospel, Law, and Reformation, is considered a college course, so we worked hard; it made us think in ways we hadn't done before, about facts we didn't know. However, in the end we still were grateful to that Reformer, Martin Luther, and his Gospel and Grace discoveries!

WHAT NEXT? Depending on the class, I'd like to do a DVD about Elijah and Elisha, and then near March 17, we'll have a DVD on St. Patrick—another reformer at another time. There has been a request to take a deeper look at The Lord's Prayer—a good place to end for the summer.



2019 Women's Retreat: A Sanctuary of Women

May 3-5, 2019 ~ Camp Indianola

Registration \$50;

Deadline: Sunday, March 17

Women have always gathered to listen to, pray for, share wisdom, and bless one another. Today is no different. We need times and places of comfort and challenge with other women.

This spring our women's retreat will be facilitated by Pastor Kathy, and three or four inspiring women from past generations, starting with Eve. We'll use into Jan Richardson's wonderful book, *In the Sanctuary of Women*, as our guide.

And of course, we'll do what we always do at our retreats—sleep as much as we need to, move between conversation and solitude, share as much or as little of our life's joys and pain as seems right, let music, crafts, and art move us, mix in some beach walks and yoga, and place it all within the shelter of God's unfailing grace.

Comfortable beds, good food, kayaking, and beautiful scenery await at Camp Indianola, just a ferry ride from Edmonds to Kingston. We expect the cost to be \$135-\$150 for the week-end (depending on how many attend), with scholarships available. Registration deadline is Sunday, March 17 ~ \$50 registration fee. Willing to help plan the retreat? Please let Pastor Kathy know!



Family Movie Night: Smallfoot

Saturday, March 9th ~ 6pm

The family friendly film "Smallfoot" will be showing in the Fellowship Hall. 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, March 8th if you plan to attend on Saturday the 9th 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!!!



Hail Confirmation Families!

Camp Lutherhaven

Does your family include a current 6th grader? If so, they are eligible for confirmation camp this summer! (And also confirmation classes starting in the fall!) We are going to Camp Lutherhaven (www.lutherhaven.com) **We need to register THIS MONTH to get our spot all together.**

If you are interested, please contact Pastor Gretchen ASAP! Scholarships are available.

Current Confirmands:

Here's the updated class schedule for this spring:

Sun., March 17 ~ 10:30am -12pm

Creed part 3

Wed., March 27 ~ 3-4:30pm

Class - "Doubt"

Wed., March 04 ~ 3-4:30pm

Class - Sacraments

Sun., April 21

EASTER BREAKFAST service event.

Sat., April 27

E-CYCLING service event.

Sun., April 28 ~ 10:30am-12pm

Class - The Church

Wed., May 08 3-4:30pm

Class - Paul and the Early Church

Sun., May 19 ~ 10:30am -12pm

Class - Vocation

TBD – May Fun night!

VBS PREVIEW ~ RENEW: THE GREEN VBS

MARCH, SUNDAYS, 10AM

Calling all kids, youth, and families! For March, we are going to look at Earthcare, and we're going to do it using a preview of the summer VBS curriculum! Each Sunday we will look at a theme, and ask two questions – one ecological, and one spiritual.

March 3: Planting Seeds: *Why do people plant seeds? Why does God plant seeds?*

March 10: Taking Root: *What do seeds need to take root? What are my spiritual roots?*

March 17: Growing: *What do seeds need in order to grow? What do I need in order to grow?*

March 24: Facing Challenges: *What challenges creation? What challenges my faith?*

March 31: Living Together: *What happens when creation is in harmony? What happens when my head, hands, and heart are in harmony?*

Each week we will sing songs, hear a story, and do a fun activity as part of Exploring Faith & Justice. We hope you will make sure to stay between services and join in the fun and learning.

EXPLORE IN MARCH: EARTHCARE



Vacation Bible School

July 29 – August 2
VBS Sunday on August 4

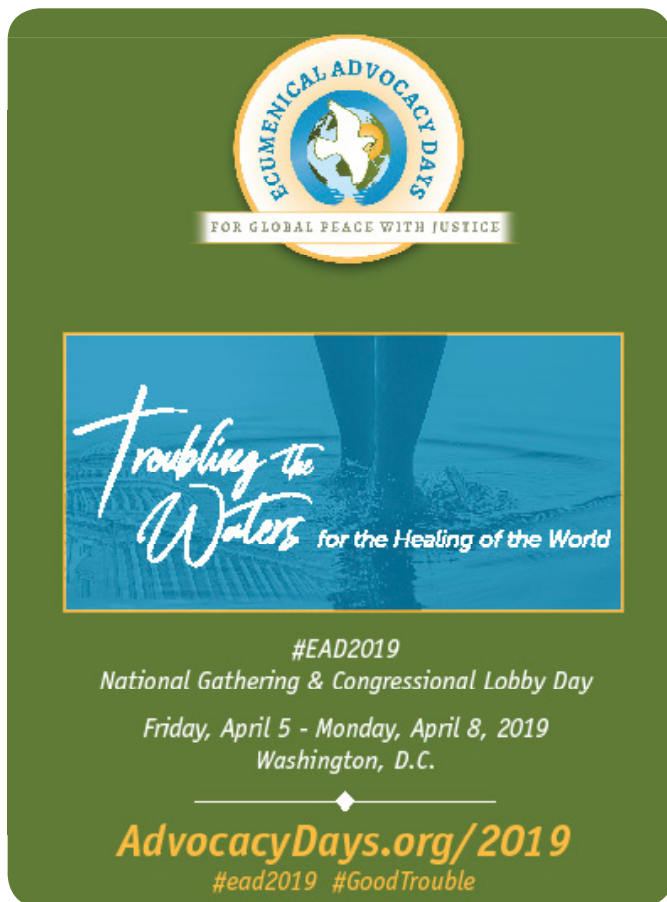
Register for VBS today!

Registration forms can be found
on the front page of the church website.



SOCIAL JUSTICE / EARTH CARE

Two \$1000 Scholarships Available for the National Ecumenical Advocacy Days!



Let's make some #GOODTROUBLE together for Global Peace with Justice Annual Conference, held April 5-8, 2019 in the nation's capital! Gathering under the theme, "Troubling the Waters for the Healing of the World: #GoodTrouble", you are invited to join us for this powerful conference which will have advocacy training, ecumenical worship, skills-building and issues workshops, and much more!

Confirmed speakers for this important gathering of Christian clergy and laypersons from across the country and around the world, include: Rev. Dr. Raphael G. Warnock, Senior Pastor, The Historic Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta; Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis, Co-chair, The Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival; Rev. Dr. Teresa Hord Owens, General Minister and President, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); David LaMotte, award-winning songwriter, activist, speaker and author; Rev. Adam Taylor, Executive Director, Sojourners; and, Rev. Jennifer Butler, Founder and CEO, Faith in Public Life, just to name a few.

DATE: April 5-8

LOCATION: DOUBLETREE BY HILTON, CRYSTAL CITY – WASHINGTON, D.C., ARMY-NAVY DR., ARLINGTON, VA

<https://advocacydays.org/2019-troubling-the-waters/>

Registration: by March 9 is \$225

Flights average \$425 currently and can go up to \$500 or more.

Housing is \$133 and up/night (3 nights minimum – is \$400). Two people per room helps with the cost if you bring a friend or partner.

We would love to have at least 3 or 4 Our Redeemer's members and friends attending, so **we are willing to offer some scholarship to help**. Call Shannon for more info 502-443-3544 or outreach@ourredeemers.net.



Help Ballard Sunday Dinner Make a Difference!

Sunday, March 17 ~ Ballard First Lutheran

Ballard Sunday Dinner continues to be a practical and meaningful ministry to our hungry Ballard community. This program works because volunteers (like you) are willing to cook, serve, and break bread with all. Thank you! We have much to celebrate – and we have opportunities that may just have your name on it!

Celebration! The new Trinity United Methodist church, which recently moved from their building, will be serving on the 5th Sundays! No more two meals per month on longer months. This is an encouraging development.

Opportunity! Is this you? You've been wanting to have time with an Our Redeemer's friend but need an extra excuse to put it down on the calendar. Or. You've been really wanting to get to know someone at the church more deeply and want to serve also. What is better than cooking together? Become a dinner lead team or join someone waiting for a partner.

- You will work with seasoned leads the first two times you serve as you learn the ropes
- You will be able to serve every few months, equivalent to three or four times per year
- You will use proven menus
- You get to choose when you do your first meal solo and you will have everything you need including an on call phone number for questions (3-4 hour commitment the day of; 2-3 hours prior with food purchase and planning.)

Celebration! Our Redeemer's meatloaf has become legendary. As someone said while picking up food in December, *"This is the best meatloaf ever!"* It is hard to make too much for our community. Way to go, Margaret Wetter and Julie Vannoy!

Opportunity! Just try it out. Doing something new keeps us growing and there are plenty of easy ways to serve for a couple of hours. Either cooking, serving, or cleaning up. Plus, you are guaranteed a hot meal with your neighbors. (2-4 hours the day of)

Any questions? Call Shannon at 502-443-3544 or email outreach@ourredeemers.net



Our Road to Housing Program Is Moving People to Permanent Housing

We are excited to share that Jesus has moved on! On February 13, he packed up his belongings and moved into a homeless partner downtown where he will have a private room and 3 meals/day. You will still see his van in the parking lot, as we have agreed to allow him to leave his van here for up to 6 months. A requirement of his new housing situation is that he does not have a car. He expressed his deep gratitude for all the wonderful people at Our Redeemers. He has felt very cared for. I expect that we will see him on Sundays periodically, as he has grown attached to many people here. We sent him with our love and prayers.

We, and our tenants, were especially grateful for our residents having a warm, safe place to be when our February snow hit Seattle so hard. Special thanks go to our residents who took such good care of our space, including shoveling snow, spreading salt, preparing for Sunday School, and moving tables for us. We have some wonderful folks with us in this season.

SAVE THE DATE! Recycling Event

Saturday, April 27 ~ 10am-2pm



Got Styrofoam
Got Electronics?
Got Clothing?
Recycle them for FREE!

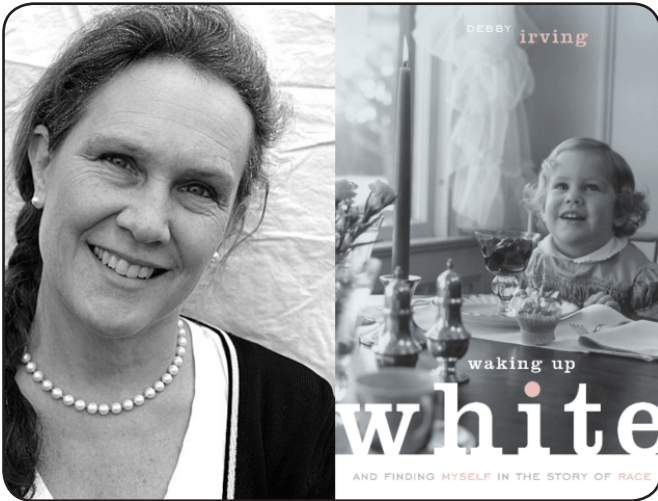
Our Redeemers will once again offer a recycling event this year! April 27. Did you know that this service to our community is one that people ask about year around? The hassle of recycling Styrofoam, plastics, and other environmental waste falls under the Earth Care and Social Justice piece of Our Redeemer's ministry. So plan to join, volunteer, and/or clean out your basement and garage and get rid of all those unwanted electronic items, styrofoam and clothing. Our Redeemer's is partnering with Living Green Technology, StyroRecycle, and more!

Please note: Living Green Technology does not accept metals or large appliances. Go here for a list of accepted electronics: <http://www.livinggreentechnology.org/free-electronics-recycling>

The EarthCare Team at Our Redeemer's will be on hand to collect clean, dry styrofoam (please remove all tape and labels; sorry we cannot accept hot tub covers, insulating foam or anything that is dirty, wet or has been left outside). PLUS gently used clothing will be collected for donation to The Bridge Care Center.

Our Redeemer's Youth will manage the E-cycling portion of the event and accept monetary donations to help them attend a Youth Mission Trip in the future.

Additionally, we have bicycle recycling!



Waking Up White

In February, our multi-age faith and justice forum concentrated on race. We talked about our multiple identities and how they have made us what and who we are now. We shared about cultivating curiosity about ourselves and others, listening to the experiences of those who offend or confuse us; and being intentional about

examining our assumptions about how the world works and in particular, may work in our favor. We discussed race as a social construct and the possibilities within the language of race, ethnicity, cultural identity,

Our exploration was brief and mostly another starting point so we would like to offer a book study for anyone interested in taking another step into understanding. It is an accessible first hand reflection called "Waking Up White" by Debbie Irving. In it, the author writes about her own exploration and awakening around race and identity. It is an honest and thoughtful conversation which should stimulate excellent conversations and deeper understanding. All are welcome. We will have a series of 3 conversations at 7pm at a to be determined place. Mondays, March 18; March 25; April 1. Please RSVP to Shannon outreach@ourredeemers.net

The book is available on Amazon and in most stores. It is also available in Audiobook.



Partner Highlight: Faith Action Network

Our Redeemer's has partnered with Faith Action Network for many years. As an interfaith advocacy and education organization, FAN is one of the only organizations leading multi-faith-based work in Seattle. Since 2011, FAN has built community, provided educational opportunities, and facilitated and encouraged public action with members and allies.

FAN has a great board and skilled advocates, but what differentiates FAN from some other organizations is the scope of their organizing, which takes place across Washington State, not only the Seattle area. They also organize in Yakima and Spokane. This is important in that advocacy takes into consideration the needs of rural Washingtonians as well as we urban dwellers.

Our Redeemer's partnership with FAN is currently through advocating for our shared their priorities and in supporting their ongoing ministry and by sharing some Social Justice funds. **This year, 7 of us planned to carpool to Olympia on February 14 to learn and meet with our representatives for Interfaith Advocacy Day. The snow postponed the trip, so we are waiting to see when it is rescheduled for. Stay tuned!**



Earth Care Hike Rescheduled

Saturday, March 9 ~ 9am

Where: Lime Kiln Trail: <https://www.wta.org/go-hiking/hikes/lime-kiln>. 7 miles round trip, elevation gain 625 feet.

Let's meet at the church parking lot at 9am to carpool and enjoy God's good earth! Contact Margaret Wetter for more info.



Lutheran World Relief Quilts & Care Kits

Drop off donations in the Narthex until Mid-April (in order of need):

- Individually wrapped tooth brushes
- 4oz. bar soap (Ivory preferred)
- Towels
- Bed sheets (dark colors preferred)
- Nail Clippers
- Bigger toothed combs



Bring Sandwich Fixings and Make Some Sandwiches for Hungry People!

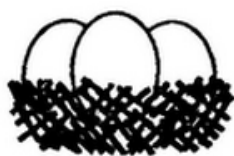
Sunday, March 24th ~ between services

Bring sandwich bread, sliced meats, & sliced cheese with you when you come to church! We could use at least 20 loaves of bread and enough fixings to make at least 300 sandwiches. The sandwiches are delivered on Monday morning to Peter's Place Day Center for homeless men and women. Contact Shannon Beck (outreach@ourredeemers.net) with any questions!



COMMUNITY

Patty's Eggnest



Men's Breakfast

Wednesday, March 6 ~ 7am

Patty's Egg Nest

9749 Holman Rd NW

Refresh your spirit in the new year with good company, coffee, and pancakes at Patty's Egg Nest.



Caring Community Team

Apr. 6 ~ 11am ~ Judy Chamber's Home

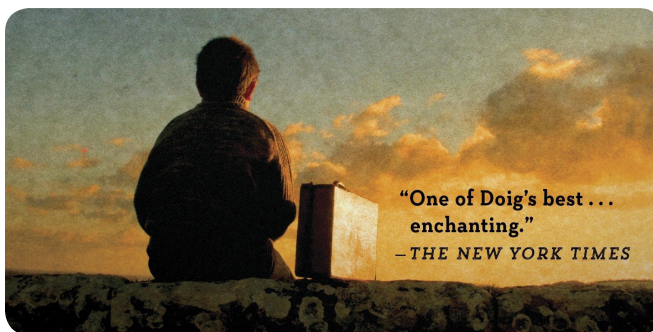
Caring Community Team will have their April meeting 04/06/19 at 11:00 am (time change). The meeting will be held at the home of Judy Chambers. Contact Linda Carbone (lindac19@comcast.net) for address information.



Theology on Tap

Tuesday, March 26 ~ 7pm ~ The Dane

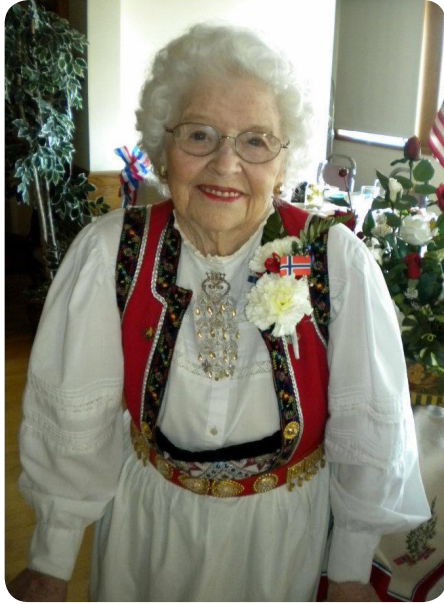
Join us this month for the usual conversation, drinks, snacks, and friends! This month we'll be talking about "Lent: Is denial really more than just a river in Egypt?". We'll be at The Dane this month. Email or call/text Emilie Purvine with any questions! Emiliepurvine@gmail.com, 608-347-9591



Madonnas Book Group: *Last Bus to Wisdom*

Sunday, March 24 ~ 2pm

Our March book is Last Bus to Wisdom by Ivan Doig. Tamara Anderson will host. Note the early start time; we are doing this to accommodate anyone who wants to participate in The Journey. Contact Margaret Wetter (margaretwetter@comcast.net) for more info.



Remembering Sissel Peterson...

by Nancy Oldenkamp

To know Sissel is to dearly love her.. Our beloved member, Sissel Peterson, passed away on January 22, 2019.



We are honoring Sissel in this newsletter -- she was an active member of Our Redeemer's for 64 years, and her bright presence will be missed.

She was born in 1922 in Hagesund Noreway and emigrated with her family when she was three. Sissel and Axel Peterson began attending Our Redeemer's in about 1955 when Rev. Lowell Bernard was the pastor (1951-1961). They wanted to have their son Norman (born in 1955) baptized at Our Redeemer's. They previously attended Ballard First Lutheran Church where they were married in 1945. They met at a USO dance. Their first child, Nancy, was born in 1952. Sissel and Axel were married 64 years – Axel passed away in December 2009. They loved going to Holden Village in the summers.



Sissel and Axel were active at The Everybody Place at Our Redeemer's. Everybody Place was a beloved tradition for many years – a simple lunch of soup, rolls, salad and dessert served on Wednesdays at noon – followed by stories or jokes,

birthday celebrations and fun! Axel peeled potatoes for the soup and Sissel arranged flowers for the tables. Sissel and Axel encouraged Ed Egerdahl to teach Norwegian language classes at Our Redeemer's. Sissel was very active in the Norwegian Ladies Chorus which has a concert the first Sunday of December every year at Our Redeemer's. She was honored to be selected the Grand Marshall of the Syttende Mai parade in 2012. She loved playing the accordion (which impressed Axel) and created the group "Tre Norske" about 20 years ago with Juanita Holmes and Megan Eymann. The group continues to play together even though they are missing Sissel also known as "the accordion queen of Ballard." She will be dearly missed by her children, Norman and Nancy, and honorary granddaughters, Kellie, Mary, and Sonja and all of us at Our Redeemer's! God's peace and comfort at this time.





**Celebrating Ruby Brantner's
102nd Birthday Last Month!**



**Daylight Savings: Set Your
Clocks Ahead 1 Hour!**

Sunday, March 10

Dear Friends at Our Redeemers,

Thank you for your gifts of \$1884 to Ballard Food Bank in 2018!

Your support shows you care about our community and want to make it a place where all our neighbors have food, hope, and the opportunity to thrive.

You are part of a movement that believes no one in our community need to go hungry. Each week, we serve 1,200 people, including senior citizens, veterans, and children from Ballard Magnolia, and Queen Anne. Your gift means they can shop with dignity in our grocery store-style food bank. It means kids get food for the weekend through their school. For our homebound neighbors, your gift means a Ballard Food Bank volunteer delivers groceries to their home, which may be their only visitor all week.

*With gratitude,
Jen Muzia*

MILESTONES

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1	Marcia Cayton	12	Sam Johnson	24	Sammy Ellis
1	Max Germann	14	Adam Frantz	24	Gillian Knight
3	Addi Mertes	14	Espen Leffler	25	Diana Myers
3	Latife Neu	17	Nancy Paulson	25	Sarah Ott
4	Kyra Ege	17	Nathan Richmond	27	Mary Peters
4	Dave Osborn	18	Ashley Dougherty	27	Dave Skar
4	Julie Vannoy	18	Colin Johnson	28	Marilyn McKenzie
5	Jolyn Mason	19	Lainie Malone	29	Ella Kleiss
5	Ada Meyer	20	Sean Hendricks	31	JD Forssen
8	Evan Deturk	21	Jim Arnold	31	Jack Kleiss
8	Joseph Gibson	22	Tom Bernard		
10	Mary Simpson	22	Chauntae Kukowski		

THANKS BE TO GOD FOR...

Those turning 90+:

Orv Anderson, who turns 93 and was born March 7, 1926!

Patsy Baker, who turns 90 and was born March 18, 1929!

The Life of:

Sissle Peterson, who passed away on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at the age of 96.

Follow Us on Instagram!



We are on Instagram! Follow us and see what exciting things are happening around the church.
@ourredeemersballard

Like Us on Facebook!



DO YOU LIKE OUR REDEEMER'S? **THEN LIKE**
OUR REDEEMER'S FACEBOOK PAGE!
An easy way to invite and engage your friends.

<div> <div> SUNDAYS: 9am - Informal Worship 11am - Traditional Worship </div> <div> MARCH 2019 </div> <div> ourredeemers.net/calendar </div> </div>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 10am Adult Faith Formation 10am VBS Preview 1230pm Social Justice Quarterly	4 9am Quilters	5	6 ASH WEDNESDAY Office Closed* 7am Ashes 2 Go! 7am Men's Breakfast 1030am Bible Study 6pm Youth Choir 630pm Children's Choir 7pm Ash Wednesday Service	7 10am Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer & Meal	1 130pm Folders 7pm Middle School GO! Night	2 9am Traditional Worship Team Meeting 5pm Annual Celebration & Auction
10 <i>Daylight Savings!</i> 10am VBS Preview 10am Adult Forum 4pm The Journey	11 9am Quilters	12	13 1030am Bible Study 530pm VAB Meeting 6pm Youth Choir 630pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult Choir	14 10am Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer	15 130pm Folders	16 9am EarthCare Hike 10am Sectional Rehearsal
17 10am Adult Forum 10am VBS Preview 4pm The Journey 5pm Ballard Sunday Dinner	18 9am Quilters	19 630pm Church Council	20 10am Staff Meeting 1030am Bible Study 6pm Youth Choir 630pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult Choir	21 6pm Centering Prayer	22 12pm LifeMaster's 130pm Folders	23 10am Sectional Rehearsal
24 Sandwich Sunday 10am VBS Preview 10am Adult Forum 1230pm LifeMaster's Bible Exploration 4pm The Journey	25 9am Quilters	26 7pm Theology on Tap	27 10am Staff Meeting 1030am Bible Study 6pm Youth Choir 630pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult Choir	28 6pm Centering Prayer	29 130pm Folders	30 10am Sectional Rehearsal
31 HEALING SUNDAY 10am VBS Preview 10am Adult Forum 3pm Easter Handbell Rehearsal 4pm The Journey						

*Staff will devote the first Wednesday of each month to professional development and planning.



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Seattle, WA 98117
www.ourredeemers.net
206-783-7900

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WEEKLY WORSHIP

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

Wednesday, March 6

Ashes 2 Go

Come on in for a blessing!

Ash Wednesday

Service & Communion - 7pm

