

MAY 2019

our redeemer's  
LUTHERAN • BALLARD

# TheVisitor

middle. end. **BEGINNING.**



A COMMUNITY IN THE MODEL OF CHRIST

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*COVER: Participants in the Journey professing their faith at the Easter sunrise service.*

*INSIDE COVER: Elena Thompson being baptised at the Easter sunrise service.*



**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...



Nineteen years. Nineteen years Our Redeemer's has been living into the vision God gave us to be: a community in the model of Christ and for the life of the world--Inclusive, caring, devoted, spiritual, and willing to accept challenges, take risks and grow.

Nineteen years with plenty of trial and error, children growing into adulthood, beloved elders passing away, and pivotal decisions - such as breaking past patterns and calling a younger (those were the days!) female, visioning pastor to move into the future; right away taking on a capital campaign most said was beyond us so we could support staff and repair our building; becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation; adding a new and different worship service; hosting Tent City and developing the Road to Housing program, despite neighborhood pushback and concern; inviting Calvary to merge into us; investing in a strategic plan, and stretching to actually carry it out!

At each step, there were concerns. Differences of opinion. With each step, some or many of us have felt grief - for how things are no longer what they were. We rejoice at the new faces and relationships, but grieve not being the cohesive whole where we all knew each other's names. We are grateful for all the ways Our Redeemer's serves the community, and that our neighbors increasingly look to us as truly and compassionately seeking to serve, but we may grieve for a simpler world and church, where looking out for one another was just a given. Some who have been instrumental in leading this church over the years may be delighted to see younger leaders stepping forward, and yet "we never did it that way" is such a natural reaction when surprised by something unexpected. And, honestly, there's a part of me that grieves a simpler time of ministry and life, too!

But thanks be to God FOR our vision statement, given to this congregation between Pastor Arik's tenure and mine. That vision is every bit as powerful and relevant now, as it ever was. For it acknowledges change is a perpetual reality, and instead of directing us back to certain tried and true activities, it focuses us on Christ himself and calls us to live together in his model and for the world he lived and died to redeem. To live in Christ's model requires us to keep following him -- which demands we do exactly what we state: to accept challenges, take risks, and grow.

Right now, Our Redeemer's is facing an important decision. The Council is recommending we sell the property the P-Patch is on. As has always been true, the caring, wise, and faithful members of Our Redeemer's are not unanimous about what matters in this decision, or even what the right decision is. And that's not only okay; that's GOOD. That is how we better discern God's intention for us, and sit with the question: Will this sale be the best way to keep furthering God's vision through Our Redeemer's?

In response to small group congregational conversations, our Church Council and Vision-Aligned Building Team are gathering more requested information, preparing to better share with the congregation all the arduous and lengthy research and considering of options that we have done over the last year. There's no question that this decision isn't a choice between one "bad" choice and one "good" choice. There are "competing goods" -- caring for God's creation through rare greenspace, possibilities not on the table right now (e.g. low- or affordable housing), our moral obligation to have a building that will not destroy life if it suffers earthquake or fire, God's call to extend what blesses us with others who need it every bit as much as we do: community, radical welcome, hope, and the power of God's presence in our lives.

Several adjustments in the process have been made to allow us to honor the congregation's desire to take this discernment seriously: A piece will be mailed out soon attempting to distill the VAB/Council's decision-making process, and the information behind it, ALONG with the most up to date info from our architects, the contractor and City of Seattle. Another congregational conversation, with that information in hand, is currently planned for Sunday, May 19 at 4:30PM. We're planning a potluck, followed by a movie for the kids and extended discussion for adults. And, then, finally, the date for our congregational meeting to prayerfully vote has been postponed to June 2, to permit this really solid consideration.

I pray for God's Spirit to guide us in this process. I hope you will, too. And I totally trust the Spirit is leading us now into new life, as it has in the past -- through the faithful, wise hearts and minds of the people who call ourselves Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church.



He is Risen! Alleluia!  
Thanks be to God!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine H. Hawk".

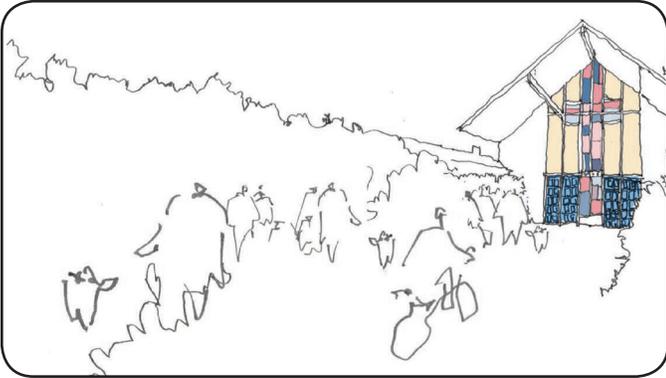
Pastor Kathy

## **Informational meeting: Potluck and Family Movie Night**

*Sunday, May 19 ~ 4:30*

Do you have more questions about how the funding of our safety upgrades and potential building project might work? Join us for a potluck and presentation by our church council and Vision-Aligned Building Team who will have information which will help with your decision making. Bring a dish to share and join us in the Fellowship Hall at 4:30. We'll all eat together, and then the children will watch a movie while the adults meet to get as much information as possible about this important decision.

# BUILD THE VISION... SHARE THE VISION!



## Vision-Aligned Building (VAB) Update

Since the Congregation voted overwhelmingly to hire SHKS Architects (see March edition for more information about SHKS and the members of their team) to provide architecture and design services for the full scope of the remaining Vision-Aligned Building (VAB) project, the new architects have been very busy working on pre-design services.

Specifically, they have been:

- Reviewing all existing building plans and drawings, initial building survey, and related work-product documents produced over the past three years by the previous architect.
- Researching existing building code requirements to determine what would trigger a substantial alteration determination, and what life and safety requirements would be required as a result.
- Meeting with Our Redeemer's VAB Team on a regular basis (about twice a month) to determine and prioritize project objectives, confirm current and potential future building usage patterns, and refine project scope and timelines.

- Meeting with structural engineer on site and remotely to determine what structural improvements will be required.
- Meeting with general contractor, LzL construction, on site and remotely, to scope out construction costs.

In the coming weeks, SHKS will be:

- Meeting with City of Seattle Department of Construction and inspections to confirm code interpretations.
- Developing diagrams of improvements including areas of improvements and code plan and interpretations.
- Delivering: design narrative, drawings, digital model and representations of consensus vision; and in partnership with LzL Construction, a budget plan.

After working with SHKS for the past few months, the VAB Team is very excited about this new partnership and is moving forward with great confidence that, once an adequate funding source is determined by congregational vote, the next phase of our project should move much more quickly than the previous three years of work.

The VAB Team continues to meet on a weekly basis. If you have any questions about the Vision-Aligned Building project, please feel free to talk to any of the team members. They are: Mike Hlastala, Pastor Kathy Hawks, Kirsten Malone, Jim Arnold, Guy Michaelsen, and Don Boelter, Parish Administrator (206.783.7900x107, administrator@ourredeemers.net).



## WORSHIP AND MUSIC

### Summer Worship Schedule Preview

*Summer Sundays at the Park ~ 7pm*

Join us in person or on Facebook Live for worship this summer. We will have music, prayer, communion, and a brief message each Sunday from a different park in North Seattle. It's a great way to stay connected over the summer when so many of us are out and about on adventures. If you choose to join in online, know that you will be able to make prayer requests and they will be included.

**Traditional worship will be at 10am in the Sanctuary** on Sunday mornings from July 7 through September 1. The informal service will meet Sunday evenings, offsite, from July 7 through September 1.

**July 7** – Golden Gardens

**July 14** – Sunset Hill Park

**July 21** – Carkeek

**July 28** – Green Lake

**Aug 4** – Golden Gardens

**Aug 11** – Sunset Hill Park

**Aug 18** – Carkeek

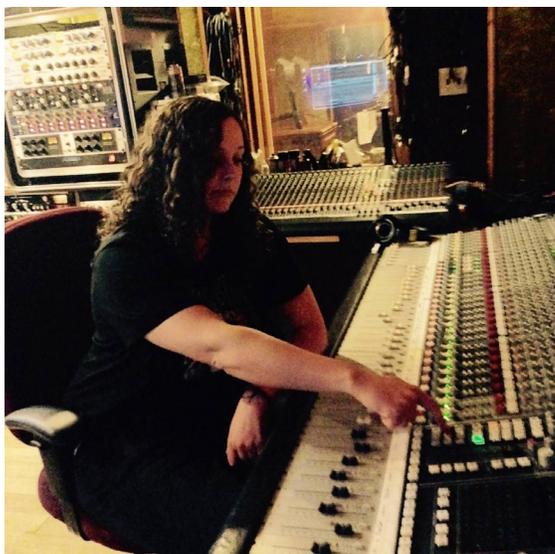
**Aug 25** – Green Lake

### CENTERING PRAYER

*Thursdays, 6-6:35PM.*

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

- 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.



## **Fund-A-Need Project: Band Recording a Record**

Thanks to the generosity of the people of Our Redeemer's at the "Meet Me by the Bayou" auction, we have funding to make a professional-grade studio recording of the original music written and sung at the informal service! This is an exciting time to be a musician at Our Redeemer's. This music will be available to everyone to listen to themselves, share with their friends, and to inspire the larger church in their new and creative worship practices as well! We will be able to make a mini-documentary of the recording process that will be sharable on our website and via social media. Hopefully, it will be a great way of bringing our music, our message of radical

love and grace and acceptance, and the great sounds we make outside of our Fellowship Hall and out into north Seattle. I mean, who knew that some of the best music we've ever sung was happening in that little brick church on the corner on Sunday mornings at 9am? You did. And thank you for that!

We are so excited to be working with Lacey Brown, an amazing producer and prolific recording artist. She is the worship curator at Church of the Apostles in Fremont, as well as a percussion profession and member of the Lutheran supergroup, Sparklemotion.

In fun news, your informal ensemble is looking for a name (besides the informal ensemble) to put on this recording, and we would love to hear your suggestions! Email them to Pastor Gretchen.

## **Synod Assembly Preview**

*May 17-19*

On May 17-19, representatives from every congregation in the Northwest Washington Synod (ELCA) will be gathering at the Lynnwood Convention Center for the biennial Synod Assembly. A major focus of this year's assembly will be the election of a new Bishop, as Kirby Unti has decided not to seek re-election after the expiration of his current six-year term.

The theme of the 2019 Assembly is Grace and Gratitude, and in addition to electing a new bishop, there will be a time of gratitude and celebration of service for outgoing Bishop Kirby. Other usual synod business, such as electing new Synod Council members and other leadership positions, will also be conducted.

Representing Our Redeemer's at this year's assembly will be: Pastor Gretchen Mertes, Pastor Kathy Hawks, Shannon Beck, Dave Eicke, David McBride and Steven Rystrom. Don Boelter, Parish Administrator, will be attending as a representative of Phinney Ridge Lutheran.

To learn more about what's happening at this year's event, to read bios of the Bishop nominees, or to live stream the event, go to [www.lutheransnw.org/2019-Synod-Assembly](http://www.lutheransnw.org/2019-Synod-Assembly).

# THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO MADE THIS A SUCCESSFUL HOLY WEEK/EASTER!







## LIVING GENEROUSLY

### Our Redeemer's Endowment Fund

Did you know that Our Redeemer's has an endowment fund? This is a special account to receive and manage donations, bequests, and charitable gifts beyond the congregation's yearly operating budget. The fund is intended to encourage, educate, motivate and assist individuals in making such donations separate from annual giving. The purpose of the fund is emphasize the support of mission programs and projects of Our Redeemer's and the greater church, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.

Through this fund, we were able to bring Fred Niedner of Valparaiso University to Our Redeemer's for the three day Teacher in Residence event, Manna & Mercy in the Wilderness, at the end of April. Dr. Niedner, professor of biblical theology for 40 years, brought us teaching and preaching on the great biblical story of how the people of Israel wandered for a generation in the wilderness, from bondage to freedom, experiencing both the presence and absence of God. His incredible gift of explaining the culture and context of their trials and tribulations during their journey offered guidance, resources and promises for our own personal and community wilderness trek during our unsettling and confusing times.

In addition to local events like the Niedner residency, the Endowment Fund was also used to serve the greater church on a national level last month. Through scholarship assistance, three members of Our Redeemer's were able to attend Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD) in Washington D.C., April 5-8. EAD is a movement of the ecumenical Christian community, and its recognized partners and allies, grounded

in biblical witness and our shared traditions of justice, peace and the integrity of creation. Their goal, through worship, theological reflection and opportunities for learning and witness, is to strengthen our Christian voice and to mobilize for advocacy on a wide variety of U.S. domestic and international policy.

Representing Our Redeemer's at this year's event, Troubling the Waters for the Healing of the World, were Shannon Parks-Beck, Interim Social Justice Coordinator, Katlin Dickinson-Laurence, and Sydney Spray. Through worship, educational and training workshops, and advocacy, they along with hundreds of other faith leaders from around the United States, beckoned the Spirit to "Trouble the Waters" as depicted in John 5:1-9, calling on God to bring healing to our nation and world. As part of their work, the group is providing updates in Our Redeemer's communication streams and will be presenting an upcoming adult forum describing their experiences at the event and what we can do to participate in the struggle.

We'd like to become even more ambitious in our use of the Endowment Fund so we can bring you more events like the Niedner lectures and mission opportunities like EAD. In order to do that, we need your support. Please consult your attorney, financial advisor, or accountant for specific legal, investment, or tax advice about plans best suited for you. For a donation of stock, or any other questions about planned giving, please contact—or have your financial advisor contact—Don Boelter, Parish Administrator ([administrator@ourredeemers.net](mailto:administrator@ourredeemers.net), 206-783-7900 x107).

We're also looking for members to serve on the Endowment Committee to help further promote and grow the fund. Please contact Don at above if you are interested in serving in this capacity.



## FAITH FORMATION



### Young Families Group

*June 1 ~ 2-4pm ~ Golden Gardens*

Calling all families with kids three and under: You are invited to a playdate at Golden Gardens park. Meet other families in the same life stage, and let the kids get out their wiggles! Come and go as you need to, and bring a kid-friendly snack to share. If it rains, we will meet in the fellowship hall. Siblings and friends are welcomed and invited!

### Confirmation Camp

*August 11-15 ~ Lutherhaven*

We have 8 kids signed up for confirmation camp at Lutherhaven in Idaho, and some of their younger siblings coming along as well for regular camp. Please pray for us as we prepare, travel and experience camp in all of its wonder! Also, there is still time to register if you are going to be in 7-9th grade this fall. Thank you for supporting our youth, and special thanks to those who have helped to provide scholarships so that every child can attend!



### Vacation Bible School

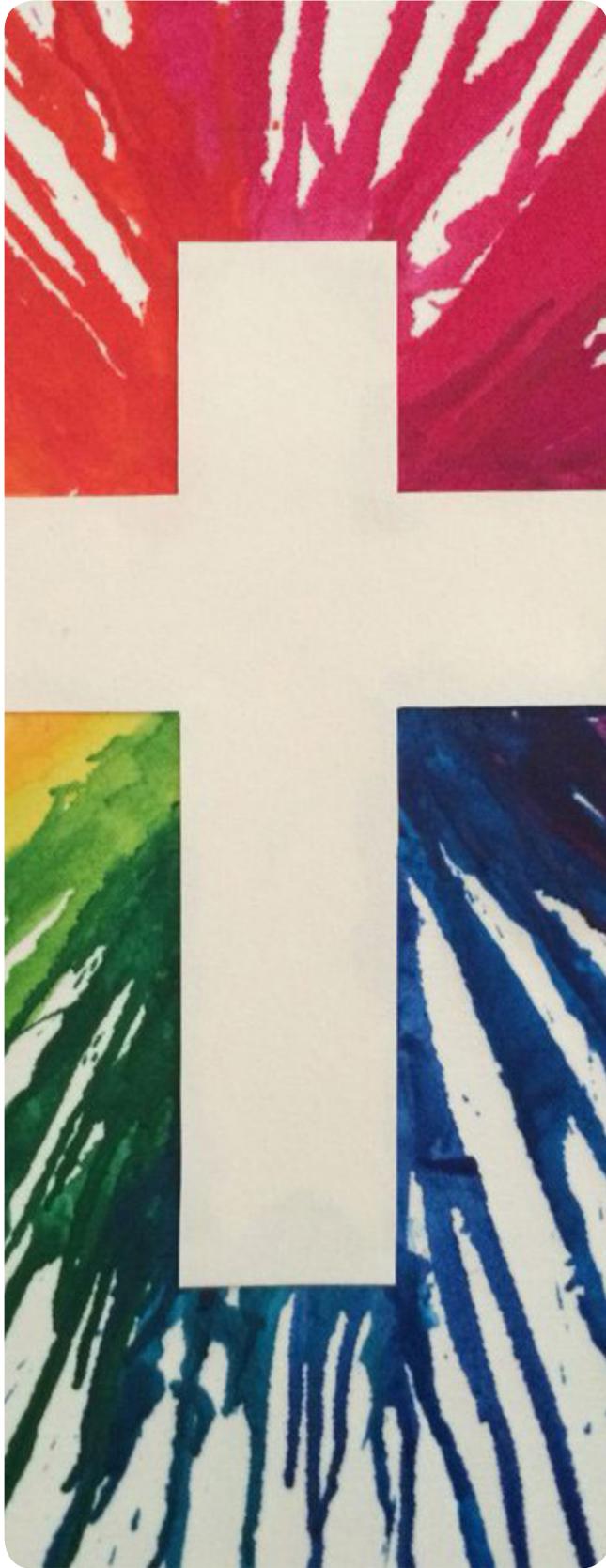
*July 29 – August 2  
VBS Sunday on August 4*

Calling all kids! You are invited to VBS at Our Redeemer's this summer. We have groups for kids ages 4-4th grade. Students 5th-12th grade are invited to volunteer as helpers and junior counselors. There's room for everyone!

ReNew is an environmentally-focused VBS program that inspires kids and adults to grow in faith, have fun, and change the world as they practice stewardship of creation!

You can still expect many of the things you love about VBS—kids learning about Jesus, exploring

God's Word, singing and celebrating, and engaging different intelligences—but we have modified and simplified the program to make it green, centered on stewardship of creation, and action-oriented for a big impact on the participants, your community, and the world.



## Kids and their Families: Exploring Faith through Arts and Creativity

At 10am, between services we have been exploring faith and justice with all ages since September. It has been a fun, informational, and invigorating study! Now we are shifting gears to a more kid-oriented arts & crafts time, based on the Easter stories we will hear in church each Sunday.

Kids of all ages and their families (and really, anyone who wants to come) are invited to sign up to participate in a meaningful artistic session from 10:05-10:55 in room 10 upstairs, or other spaces as assigned. There is no cost for these amazing classes.

**May 5 – Jesus Makes Breakfast:** Let's Make Breakfast! Katie Eggs & Cinnamon Toast – with Chef Bob Carlson

**May 12 – My Sheep Hear My Voice:** Let's Write a Song – with Pastor Gretchen! Lyrics, melody, and fun dance moves you can take home with you.

**May 19 – Love One Another As I Love You:** Painting hearts and love. Watercolors are amazing.

**May 26 – The Holy Spirit, The Advocate:** Art using feathers exploring the symbols of the spirit.

**June 2 – May We Be One:** Friendship bracelets that are braided with beads.

**June 9 – Pentecost: The Birthday of the Church!** Make fun fleece Holy Spirit pillows.

## **SPIRITUALITY & RECOVERY**

*How Christian Spiritual Practices  
and 12-Step Recovery Deepen One Another*

**Sundays, May 19 - June 30  
10:05 - 10:50AM**

This adult forum is for any and all who want to live fully. We will look at faith practices from the perspective of 12-step work, which will enrich our faith, whether we are in recovery or not.

All of us have friends who've told us they gain more community and connection to their higher power in their 12-step group than at church. And the church over centuries has developed rich spiritual practices that aren't always known or practiced even within the church.

As we discuss brief videos, share our experiences, and try out the practices, we will learn from one another. And explore new dimensions of God's promise of new life... for all. Join us in the library!



### **Bible Study on Wednesday Mornings at 10:30am**

Elijah and Elisha are described as the Conscience of the Kingdom (Israel). These two prophets stood fearlessly against the pagan priests and kings who opposed the God of Israel. With fiery words and powerful miracles, the prophets were the voice of God. This is our next topic of study at the Wednesday morning Bible Class. We will be viewing a DVD from the series, The Footprints of God, put out by the Ignatius press. Questions? Contact Carolyn Swanson (cdkswan@comcast.net) for more info.



### **Gather at Camp Indianola for the Women's Retreat**

*May 3-5, 2019*

Watch for details about program, car-pooling, snacks in the very near future!



## **Life Masters: Mark Your Calendars Now!**

### **MONTHLY MOVIE MAKES ITS DEBUT**

*Saturday, May 11, 3PM ~ Gran Torino*

We'll make the popcorn, if you come with something to drink, and a desire to discuss this film recommended by Chuck McKenzie. Clint Eastwood is a disgruntled Korean vet, who sets out to reform the young Hmong neighbor who tries to steal his car. He finds himself changed at least as much as his neighbor.

### **LIFE MASTERS' MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY OF LUKE CONTINUES**

*Sunday, June 23, 12:30PM  
In the library, after late service.*

Bring your lunch, and your appetite for God's living Word! We are currently doing a "fly-over" look at the Gospel of Luke, which is also currently the focus of Gospel readings in our worship services.

All are welcome -- whether or not you have attended earlier sessions. We will be considering chapter 4 of Immersion Bible Study of Luke. You don't have that book? Details for readings, etc. will be sent out a week ahead; or contact Pastor Kathy.

### **SAVE THE DATE!! THE PROGRESSIVE DINNER'S COMING!**

*Saturday, June 29 ~ 6PM*

Details and sign up coming soon! Do you have ample seating and are willing to host one course? Please let Lynne McNeill or Pastor Kathy know.



## SOCIAL JUSTICE / EARTH CARE

### May is Earth Care Month at Our Redeemers

Please join in the festivities! Do you have anything special you are doing? Have you quit watering your lawn? Do you look for low plastic packaging foods when you shop? Have you reduced your garbage in the last year? Little things make a difference. Let Shannon Beck (outreach@ourredeemers.net) know so we can share with the congregation!

### Bike to School (but stop by Our Redeemer's on the way)

*Wednesday, May 8, 7-9am and 2-4pm*

Stop by the church on your way to school and back! Do your part and we will celebrate with you! Expect a treat and some bling!

### Bike to Work and be blessed (also known as Bike to Everything Day!)

*Monday, May 17, 7-9am and 2-4pm*

Think biking doesn't really help? According to a 2018 study, the comparison of CO<sub>2</sub> released during production and per km is 313 g of CO<sub>2</sub> for a car and 16 g of CO<sub>2</sub> for a bike. This presents a clear picture: commuting with a bike reduces an individual's carbon footprint significantly. We will be out with some take-aways and to bless your bike!

### Save the Date – End of Year Faith Formation Summer Bike Blessing Party!

*Sunday June 23rd ~ 12:15 ~ Parking Lot!*

Games, prizes, food, fun, and friends!



### Vicar Elizabeth will share a sermon with us on Earth Care Sunday, May 12! Don't miss her!

Vicar Elizabeth Peter is from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. She graduated with a B.A in Telecommunications from Penn State University. She worked as a Production Assistant/News Director at CBS 21 News before answering her call to pursue an M.Div from the United Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg. Elizabeth is a Fund for Leader Scholar; she spoke at the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering; and is a member of her Alumni Gospel Choir from PSU. Elizabeth is in her third year at ULS and is passionate about preaching, studying the psalms, and being with people. She enjoys cycling, cooking, watching Netflix, singing and sailing.



## Can the Earth Survive?

In honor of Earth Care month, the Earth Care Team invited University Congregational United Church of Christ's Sacred Earth Matters Committee to share their educational and visual earth project with Our Redeemers. Hear Bill Viertel's explanation of its history and meaning.

"In mid-2018, the longstanding and highly-active Sacred Earth Matters Committee of University Congregational United Church of Christ approved a project proposed by new committee member Bill Viertel to create a display to dramatically illustrate the importance of adverse climate change to the human habitability of the planet. By including three sections in the display, that which we want to save, that which we are doing wrong, and what we can do about it, the intent was to educate the unaware, encourage the aware but discouraged, and motivate personal action."

"The display received enthusiastic acclaim and also interest from outside the church, which caused the committee to consider how to turn it into a modular, portable display. Bill proposed building a sturdy but portable display with the photos and graphs affixed that could be relatively easily transported, assembled, and disassembled by a small team of four. The display as it stands today is 64 feet long and 6 feet high."

Take time this month to walk through this display and consider what you might do to deepen your commitment to our earth home. The display will be up May 6-30.



## Recycling Success!

A huge thanks to everyone who helped out with our recycling event! To those who served, organized, flagged, smiled at, and supported our neighbors – as well as everyone who brought their recyclables. Another step toward a more sustainable planet! Full results in June!



## Pride March: Save the Date!

*June 30*

June 30 following the 9am service! Be on the lookout for a sign up online to carpool and to be in the information loop to join in the parade!



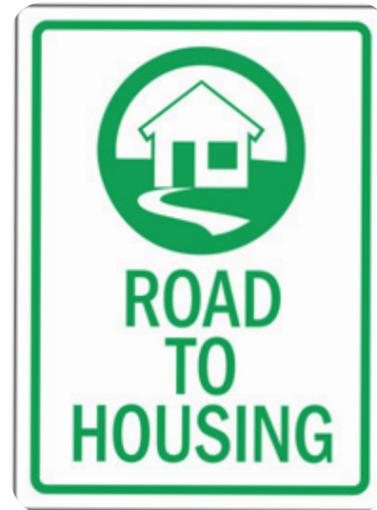
## Help Ballard Sunday Dinner Make a Difference!

*Sunday, May 19 ~ Ballard First Lutheran*

Opportunity! Our homeless neighbors need you! And what is better than cooking with friends? Not much! Perhaps God is calling you to do just a little more to love our neighbors. Please prayerfully consider becoming 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.)

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](mailto:outreach@ourredeemers.net).



## Road to Housing

Don't be surprised if you see a few more folks in our Road to Housing program in the next months. We are excited to share that Don Boeltner and Shannon Beck recently met with the City of Seattle at their initiation and learned that the mayor has set aside some moneys for programs such as ours. They came to Our Redeemer's first because they know of our work over the years. While we are waiting for the green light, our Urban League partners are confident they will be able to hire additional staff to support our residents and move them into homes as quickly as they have been. We are still ironing out the details with the city, but this quite an affirmation of it's import.

We have averaged 1-3 vehicles over the past months and with the support of the City of Seattle, our goal is to fill our parking lot to its capacity (7 vehicles) with the extra availability and excellent service of the Urban League! Already there have been up to 5.

Additionally, Shannon was invited to Tacoma to speak at the Associated Ministries quarterly meeting where she presented on Safe Parking and its benefits. Several congregations are considering initiating this program in the south sound and up to Everett. If you hear of people interested in considering this model, please get in touch with Shannon Beck ([outreach@ourredeemers.net](mailto:outreach@ourredeemers.net)).



## Ecumenical Advocacy Days

We are so grateful that Shannon Beck, Katlin Dickinson-Laurence, and Sydney Spray represented Our Redeemers at Ecumenical Advocacy Days in Washington DC in April. Here are top highlights:

### SHANNON

1. Sharing in gospel worship with American Baptists and Catholics at the helm and singing "Wade in the Water" through the "halls of power".
2. A workshop on the Global Fragility Act which could help shift international work to focus on prevention of violence, not reacting to it. For every \$1.00 spent in prevention, there are \$6-\$13 dolls spent in responding to crises.
3. Advocating with our government officials to show support of HR 4 which would protect the voice of every voter and eliminate barriers to voting (intentional and not)

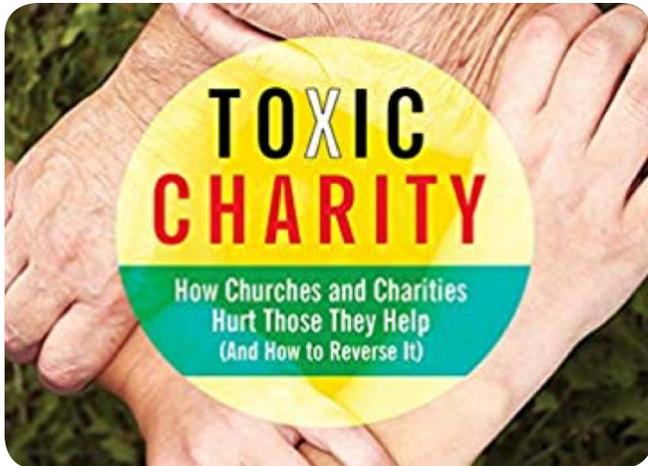
### KATLIN

1. Learning from a workshop facilitator who framed advocacy as the work of the Holy Spirit to which we are witnesses.
2. Meeting with our Congress members and participating in the Public Witness with fellow EAD-ers.
3. Connecting with the EAD Director over the Captain Marvel and Wonder Woman movies, and the images of courage and strength within them.

### SYDNEY

1. Realizing just how many people from different flavors of Christianity share common values about social justice.
2. Getting to walk around the capital and take in all of the history. Being able to be in that space and reflect on how much God has done in this place and will continue to do is so powerful.
3. Meeting other young adults who are passionate about advocacy and the incredible potential that the church has to do good.

Come and hear a full report from the team! It will take place between services, May 12, at 10:15am in the library. Prepare to be inspired!



## Social Justice Team Goes Monthly-- Join us!

*Sunday, May 5 ~ 12:30pm ~Library*

Our Redeemers is doing so much great work in social justice that we are going to meet monthly! Part of our hope is that this will help us to stay up to speed on budget and provide opportunity to take a few minutes looking more closely at the best ways to create more faithful & effective social justice mission. We will start this focus on May 5, 12:30pm after worship. Shannon will share some thoughts from the book, Toxic Charity by Robert Lupton. It is available on Amazon and I hope everyone will grab one and read it to join the discussion. It is transformational.

If you have a ministry that falls under social justice you would like to be considered for any remaining funds as we near the end of the year, please do the following two things:

- Pickup a Community giving Recipient submission form from Shannon Beck or email her at [outreach@ourredeemers.net](mailto:outreach@ourredeemers.net). The deadline is Sunday, June 2.
- Plan on participating in the Social Justice Team on June 2 as we make these decisions. Who knows, you may want to stay!



## Let there be cookies! And volunteers! And donations for shipping!

*May 3-4*

Lutheran World Relief trucks are coming May 3 & 4! Can you bring cookies or come by for a couple of hours to help the amazing Sharon Longacre who is pulling all of our hospitality together? We also need donations to help with shipping. This is a fairly large cost, so please help out! Rumor has it that you can come by any time and hang out with other thoughtful Lutherans. Contact Sharon Longacre ([slongacre@msn.com](mailto:slongacre@msn.com)).



# COMMUNITY



## Men's Breakfast

Wednesday, May 1 ~ 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

June 15 ~ 12am ~ Judy Chamber's Home

Caring Community Team will have their next meeting on 06/15/2019 at 12:00 Noon (another 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, May 28 ~ 7pm ~ The Thirsty Fish

Theology on Tap is a wonderful opportunity to meet fellow members of Our Redeemer's and bringing friends along is encouraged! This month we are talking about miracles and we will meet at The Thirsty Fish in Ballard. Please join us at 7:00pm on May 28th for a great theological conversation. The Thirsty Fish is at 9041 Holman Rd. NW. They have a full menu and bar. Email or call/text Emilie Purvine with any questions! Emiliepurvine@gmail.com, 608-347-9591



## Madonnas Book Group: The Nightingale

Our May book is The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah. Be on the lookout for more info. Contact Margaret Wetter (margaretwetter@comcast.net) for more info.



## Meet the Member: Sonja Braasch

*by Nancy OldenKamp*

### 1) What drew you to attend Our Redeemer's?

Location and that's it's Reconciling in Christ. As well as 2 awesome female pastors!

### 2) Where did you live as a child? How many brothers and sisters do you have?

Orange Park, Florida. 1 brother (Jon). 1 sister - twin (Sandra) who is a Lutheran pastor in Dakota City, NE at Salem Lutheran Church.

### 3) What do you do for work?

Occupational Therapist at Swedish Medical Center. I specialize in treating chronic pain patients in a unique program called The Structured Functional Restoration Program (SFRP). I'm part of a team consisting of a nurse, pain psychologist, doctors, relaxation therapist, and physical therapists.

### 4) What are your interests/passions/hobbies?

I like any activity that has me outdoors in nature. I love working out at the YMCA with my personal trainer and taking group exercise class. I practice Tai Chi/Qi Gong daily.

### 5) Something you look forward to this year?

Moving into my new condo.

### 6) Favorite thing about attending Our Redeemer's?

My favorite things about attending Our Redeemer's in the warm, welcoming and inviting people and the committment of community outreach.

### 7) Anything else you'd like us to know?

I am a Florida Gator fan! I love dogs, especially Dachshunds.

## MILESTONES

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### MAY BIRTHDAYS

1	Robert Wishon	12	AJ Schoolcraft	23	Kathy Hendricks
2	Jennifer Kremer	12	Ed Woodfield	23	Eric Running
4	Victoria Hunter	13	Shelbe Kukowski	23	Lynn Smith
4	Lena Rindler	15	Jean Hall	25	Emilie Purvine
5	Angela Beranek	15	Ashley Olson	28	Rylie Chabot
5	Alyson Sundal	16	Jodi Somm	28	Matteo Lowe
6	Megan Gleeson	17	Henrik Meyer	28	Colin Neu
8	Carolyn Davis	18	Steve Kaimmer	29	Christine Anderson
9	Kim Smith	19	Linda Carbone	29	Mary Mangold
10	Margaret Berg	20	Dianna Simmonds	29	Megan Richmond
10	Joe Giesa	21	Brian Butler	30	David Neu
11	Anita Lewis	21	Elaine Stevens	31	Shirley Holt
12	Logan McCarthy-Fredericks	22	Gabby Chabot	31	Olivia Rallo
		22	Steven Jones	31	PJ Wallstrom

### THANKS BE TO GOD FOR...

*Those turning 90+:*

June Pfeiffer who was born on May 11, 1926 and is turning 93!

Ernie Templin who was born on May 13, 1929 and is turning 90!

### 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.

**SUNDAYS:**

9am - Informal Worship  
11am - Traditional Worship

# MAY 2019

ourredeemers.net/calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>5</b> 10am Spirituality & Recovery 10am Explore Faith & Art 1230pm Social Justice Team Women's Retreat	<b>6</b> 9am Quilters	<b>7</b> 	<b>1</b> <i>Office Closed*</i> 7am Men's Breakfast 1030am Bible Study	<b>2</b> 345pm Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer & Meal	<b>3</b> 8am Lutheran World Relief In-Gathering 130pm Folders Women's Retreat	<b>4</b> 8am Lutheran World Relief In-Gathering Women's Retreat
<b>12</b> <b>EARTH-CARE SUNDAY</b> 10am Adult Forum: Ecumenical Advocacy Days 10am Explore Faith & Art	<b>13</b> 9am Quilters	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b> 9am Road2Housing 1030am Bible Study 6pm Youth Choir 630pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult Choir	<b>9</b> 10am Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer	<b>10</b> 130pm Folders	<b>11</b> 9am Traditional Worship Team 9am Finance Team 3pm LifeMasters' Movie
<b>19</b> 10am Spirituality & Recovery 10am Explore Faith & Art 5pm Ballard Sunday Dinner	<b>20</b> 9am Quilters	<b>21</b> 630pm Church Council	<b>15</b> 1030am Bible Study 6pm Youth Choir 630pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult Choir	<b>16</b> 10am Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer	<b>17</b> 130pm Folders	<b>18</b>
<b>26</b> 10am Spirituality & Recovery 10am Explore Faith & Art	<b>27</b> <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>Office Closed</i> 9am Quilters	<b>28</b> 7pm Theology on Tap	<b>22</b> 1030am Bible Study 6pm Youth Choir 630pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult Choir	<b>23</b> 10am Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer	<b>24</b> 130pm Folders	<b>25</b> 
<b>26</b> 10am Spirituality & Recovery 10am Explore Faith & Art	<b>27</b> <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>Office Closed</i> 9am Quilters	<b>28</b> 7pm Theology on Tap	<b>29</b> 1030am Bible Study 6pm Youth Choir 630pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult Choir	<b>30</b> 10am Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer	<b>31</b> 130pm Folders	<b>31</b> 130pm Folders

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



2400 NW 85th Street  
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206-783-7900

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**WEEKLY WORSHIP**

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

## **SPIRITUALITY & RECOVERY**

*How Christian Spiritual Practices  
and 12-Step Recovery Deepen One Another*

**Sundays, May 19 - June 30  
10:05 - 10:50AM**

This adult forum is for any and all who want to live fully. We will look at faith practices from the perspective of 12-step work, which will enrich our faith, whether we are in recovery or not.

All of us have friends who've told us they gain more community and connection to their higher power in their 12-step group than at church. And the church over centuries has developed rich spiritual practices that aren't always known or practiced even within the church.

As we discuss brief videos, share our experiences, and try out the practices, we will learn from one another. And explore new dimensions of God's promise of new life... for all. Join us in the library!