

AUGUST 2021



The Visitor

Threshold Prayer

Holy God, be with me as I step away from what was known to me, and into what is new to me.

God of vision, help me accept the invitation to a new awareness of what I will see.

Eternal God, allow me the time I need to cross from what was here before, to what is now inside this place of worship.

God of peace, grant me the tranquility to observe and take a holy pause to discover your presence here.

Courageous God, help me cherish what is past, while being open to what will be next.

God of all people, may we worship you and show kindness to all who pass over this threshold.

Loving God, show me how to be attentive to your will, and engage in your plans.

In the name of Our Redeemer, Jesus Christ, I enter. Amen.



On The Threshold

A Community in the Model of Christ

This Month at Our Redeemer's

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6 COMMUNITY

8 COMING BACK TOGETHER

9 SOCIAL JUSTICE

11 LIVING GENEROUSLY

OUR REDEEMER'S STAFF

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August 1, Sunday	11 AM - Sunday Worship Pastor Gretchen's House, 13244 6th Ave NW Facebook Live & YouTube Live
August 2, Monday	7 PM - Faith Formation Team
August 3, Tuesday	7 PM - Executive Team Meeting
August 4, Wednesday	<i>Office Closed for Staff Development</i> 10:30 AM - Wednesday Bible Study Zoom 6:30 PM - Adult and Youth Choir
August 5, Thursday	1 PM - Staff Meeting 7 PM - Compline Service 2639 NW 95th Street
August 7, Saturday	10 AM - 5 PM - ART IN THE GARDEN Ballard P-Patch (Don't miss the <i>Informal Ensemble</i> performing at 11 AM!)
August 8, Sunday	11 AM - Sunday Worship Pastor Gretchen's House, 13244 6th Ave NW Facebook Live & YouTube Live
August 10, Tuesday	7 PM - Council Meeting
August 11, Wednesday	1 PM - Staff Meeting 6:30 PM - Adult and Youth Choir
August 12, Thursday	2:15 PM - Community Engagement Task Force 7 PM - Compline Service 2639 NW 95th Street
August 15, Sunday	11 AM - Sunday Worship Pastor Gretchen's House, 13244 6th Ave NW Facebook Live & YouTube Live 2 - 6 PM - Ballard Sunday Dinner Ballard First Lutheran
August 18, Wednesday	1 PM - Staff Meeting 6:30 PM - Adult and Youth Choir
August 19, Thursday	7 PM - Compline Service 2639 NW 95th Street 7 PM - Social Justice Team Meeting
August 22, Sunday	11 AM - Sunday Worship Pastor Gretchen's House, 13244 6th Ave NW Facebook Live & YouTube Live
August 24, Tuesday	7 PM - Theology on Tap
August 25, Wednesday	1 PM - Staff Meeting 6:30 PM - Adult and Youth Choir
August 26, Thursday	2:15 PM - Community Engagement Task Force 7 PM - Compline Service 2639 NW 95th Street
August 28, Saturday	Church Council Retreat
August 29, Sunday	11 AM - Sunday Worship Pastor Gretchen's House, 13244 6th Ave NW Facebook Live & YouTube Live
August 30, Monday	6:30 PM - Faith Formation Training
August 31, Tuesday	6:00 - 7:30 PM - Quiet Time in the Sanctuary

ON THE COVER:

"Thresholds are the space between, when we move from one time to another...one space to another...one awareness to another, as in times when our old structures start to fall away and we begin to build something new."

(The Soul's Slow Ripening, by Christine Valter Paintner, p. 1)

From the Pastor...

A new season, a new beginning, a spirit of hope!

2 Timothy 1:6

6For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; 7for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Happy August, Our Redeemer's! I hope that you have found respite in the summer warmth, and that plans have been able to be kept, hugs have been had, and travels have begun. Our little family had quite the adventure in July, taking our camper all the way to Indiana and back, seeing sights and visiting family that we have missed so very much.

As a congregation, we have begun the process of re-acclimating ourselves to the new building – moving in, prepping offices and classrooms, learning the new sanctuary systems, and getting ready for our long-awaited reunion in person. As I was reflecting on this time of “exile” from our church, both the people and the building, I found such deep gratitude in my heart that we had the capacity and the courage to undertake this long-planned renovation in this year.

Can you imagine if we had waited – being forced apart for 18 months, and then to take another year of space for construction? It is hard to fathom.

As we plan for fall, and start to gear up for in-person worship and hospitality and ministry and all the care that is put into it, I've been mindful of the following thoughts, and how they contradict and complement each other:

- A genuine desire to glean the learnings of being home for the pandemic – to slow our pace as a culture, spend quality time with family.
- The importance of being physically together and seeing each other's faces and body posture – how much human interaction we miss online.

- A new, almost subconscious hesitation to leave the house, forgetting to plan in travel time, and speaking of last year like it was 2019.
- The collective trauma that we have all experienced, and our tendency to downplay it – especially for teachers, and parents of school-aged children.

As a congregation, we have a lot to do together in the next few months. As you know, we have a GREAT staff, and wonderful leadership. But as we turn this corner from virtual church to new community sanctuary and neighborhood hub, we are going to need everyone to be brave and step up when asked. We need lots of hands to get ourselves back on track, and it might seem like you don't have the energy or the means.

Please friends, dig deep, and try something new.

You can help with hospitality, or faith formation. You can help with the altar care or sound tech teams. You could volunteer once a week in the office, or join the racial advocates team.

God is calling us now to help be a beacon of hope in our community, inviting our world safely back to life, and into relationship with each other. As we recover from this remarkable era of time, bringing the wisdom we have gained with us, I pray that our congregation is a source of power, and love, and hope for our neighborhood, and for each other.



Peace,

Pastor Gretchen Mertes

CELEBRATING AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2 Betty Goble	10 *Jean Kippen	20 Julie Josund	28 Alicia Jancola
3 Theresa Forssen	10 Ann McIntyre	20 John Somm	29 Cindy Ege
4 Meagan Minus	14 Niels Running	21 Holly Gundacker	29 Stephanie Running
4 Shirley Smith	15 Isla Parrott	22 Leif Loklingholm	30 Harley Oswald
5 Damon Knight	16 Norman Hill	23 Audrey Gundacker	30 John Wilson
6 Sue Schoolcraft	18 Lee Cayton	24 Rebecca Butler	31 Anna Deturk
7 Jennifer Gleeson	18 Carl Christenson	26 Chris Glover	
8 Matt Neill	18 Doug Dixon	26 Sue Johnson	
9 Judah Kukowski	20 Amy Hammett	28 Nico Fidis	

***BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO JEAN KIPPEN WHO IS CELEBRATING HER 90+ BIRTHDAY IN AUGUST!**



Worship and Music



Pastor Gretchen's home will be the location of our in-person outdoor worship in August! ([13244 6th Ave NW, Seattle](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0448AEA62FABFB6-august))

Sign up online if you will be attending one or more Sundays. [LINK](#)

Sunday Outdoor Services in August

August 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 - 11 AM

Join us IN-PERSON at Pastor Gretchen's home for worship in August! ([13244 6th Ave NW, Seattle, WA 98177](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0448AEA62FABFB6-august)). For all five Sundays in August, we will be hosting worship together outdoors at the Mertes front yard. For safety reasons, and to ensure that we have enough room, you must sign up online to participate at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0448AEA62FABFB6-august>. To worship in Pastor Gretchen's front yard you will need to bring: Your personal device or a paper copy of the bulletin; a mask; chair or lawn blanket; communion elements...if you prefer your own (pre-packaged will be provided).

We will sing and pray, hear God's word and be glad! There are no stairs and the yard is level, but there are also no public restrooms. There is street parking nearby, first come, first served. Please carpool if at all possible. **These services will be streamed on Facebook and YouTube Live, but NOT on Zoom.** Learn how to connect online: <https://ourredeemers.net/virtual-worship>.



Singing, and especially singing together, is a powerful and meaningful experience. It's also a lot of fun! We look forward to welcoming interested singers (and gladly invite newcomers) to be part of the Choir experience at Our Redeemer's! Contact Karen Lee, if you want to join the Choir or know an interested child contact Karen: karen@ourredeemers.net.

Choir! by Karen Lee, Traditional Worship and Music Director

For the last year and a half, we have longed for the opportunity to sing together again! That opportunity awaits us in the fall, and we are so excited! Our Choir has met on Zoom each Wednesday evening throughout much of the pandemic and took a one-month hiatus in July. **Beginning again in August, the Choir will resume Zoom meetings/rehearsals each Wednesday at 7 PM.** We'll start looking at songs for our long-awaited return to singing together in person!

We hope to schedule a choir visit to the new sanctuary in late August/early September, but the first official *in-person* Choir rehearsal will be at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, September 8, with plans to sing for the 11:00 AM service on Sunday, September 12, the first Sunday back in the newly remodeled space!

The Children's Choir (Jr. Choir) will also return at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, September 8. Masks and physical distancing will be required at least until COVID vaccines are available for children under the age of 12. Co-Director, Marie Nordquist-Lessard and I are so looking forward to reuniting with our Jr. Choir kids and happily invite any elementary-age kids to join us! And kids in middle school and high school are welcome to give the Adult/Youth Choir a try!

Guest Preachers in August

We welcome retired pastor, **John-Otto Liljenstolpe**, a member of Our Redeemer's, to bring the sermon on Sunday, August 15. Joshua is well-known to us for his in-depth theology, passion for ecumenism, life-long justice work, and inability to resist a sly joke or two. On August 29, we welcome **Pastor Chris Boerger**. Chris was our Northwest Washington Synod Bishop for 12 years, and then became an officer of our national church, serving as Secretary of our national church for six years. Chris is an engaging preacher. Don't miss these two preachers!



Build the Vision...

Vision Aligned Building (VAB) Update



New sidewalks leading from the entry to the Fellowship Hall.

JULY 2, 2021: This is the fun part of the project; finishes are being installed and the character and beauty of the space is becoming very visible.

Outside the building, the brick work is nearly complete, and painting will begin soon. LZL Construction is currently working on site grading, planter beds, irrigation, and preparation for the new concrete plaza and sidewalks is underway. Inside, painting is nearly complete, all restroom fixtures and accessories are installed, lights are being installed.

Over the next two weeks, we will see the Sanctuary wood floor sanded and sealed, the glass wall and opaque film for the Chapel installed; acoustical panels and lighting work in the Sanctuary along with lighting and ceiling tiles in the Administration area.

The exterior brick and parge coating wrapped up mid-June. Site work started with the removal of the stairs to the west of the Fellowship Hall and the existing entry concrete. That area began to take shape and the new entry concrete and paths were formed and poured.



Acoustical tile install in Sanctuary.

Inside the Church, final carpentry details wrapped up mid-June. The reclaimed pew material has been used throughout the building and is beautiful. Fixtures (sinks, toilets, water fountains, accessories) have been installed on both levels of the building and the painters began work in the Narthex and Sanctuary. Their work includes wall and ceiling paint along with the clear sealer that is being applied to the trusses, groves, window and system.

JULY 20, 2021: The work continues to progress well towards completion. On the exterior, sidewalks and the entry concrete are underway. Planting beds have been defined and irrigation work is nearly complete. Exterior painting of the entry, overhang, and Fellowship south façade are also underway. Inside the building, the acoustic panels in the Sanctuary are complete as is the lay-in ceiling in the Administration. New roller shades have been installed on the south windows of the Sanctuary, the carpet install is underway, the wood floor is sanded and has 2 or 3 seal coats applied, lighting work is ongoing and the audio visual systems have begun. We are closing in on the finish! August will see final inspections, installation of phones and internet, and staff move into the new space. Marceau Pipe Organs of Ballard is scheduled to begin the installation of the organ and chimes. We will also see sod laid and plant installation in the beds along south side of the Church.



Upper Chancel steps looking towards the Chapel.

GET DETAILS OF WHAT'S HAPPENING AS OUR RENOVATION NEARS COMPLETION. Visit our [website renovation page](#) for the most current construction videos, pictures, and more!



Community



Contact these people if you can help out. Thanks!

Welcome & Worship Assistants
Front Desk Volunteers
Katlin Dickinson-Laurence
office@ourredeemers.net

Sound & A/V
Informal Music
Pastor Gretchen
pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net

Traditional Music
Karen Lee
karen@ourredeemers.net

Faith Formation | Kids
Betsy McGregor
bemac7309@gmail.com

Faith Formation | Adults
Pastor Kathy
kathyh@ourredeemers.net

Preparation for Opening
Karie Stearns
administrator@ourredeemers.net

NOTE: Your quarterly giving statements will be sent out soon. Please look over your statements, especially if you give by check, as we have had occasional issues with mail forwarding to our temporary office space. Thank you for your continued generosity!

You Are Needed!

Consider how God is calling you to be involved in our building's renovation – perhaps God is renovating YOU too, and inviting you to participate in the life of the congregation in new ways! Everyone has something to offer. Please help out!

Sunday Roles:

Welcome

- Coffee Hosts: prepping for coffee hour
- Sanctuary Hosts: straightening and organizing the sanctuary before each service.
- Opening the Building: arriving early and opening doors and turning on lights
- Closing the Building: staying after the 11 AM service to secure the building.

Worship Assistants

- Ushers – both services
- Altar Team – Setting the table for communion, and preparations for special events like baptism, all saints, and confirmation. Both services.
- Readers and Communion Helpers – both services.

Sound & A/V

- 9:00 service audio – running sound for the ensemble so everything works!
- 9:00 service video – streaming our service online.
- 11:00 service audio – running sound for the choir so everything works!
- 11:00 service video – streaming our service online.
- Faith Formation A/V – making sure our educators have whatever AV they need.

Faith Formation | Kids - We need folks of all ages to help with faith formation this fall! Trainings will be in late August, and classes begin September 19th between services. We will have three teams of two people for each grade that rotate, and the students have a variety of people they get to know! Contact Betsy McGregor at bemac7309@gmail.com to volunteer and get the scoop on training. Roles:

- Teachers
- Class Hosts
- Nursery Care
- Prayground Helpers

Music – Contact Pastor Gretchen or Karen Lee for more details.

- 11:00 AM service Choir
- Children's Choir
- Handbells
- Informal Ensemble

Preparation for Opening (in August, times TBD) - Contact Karie Stearns

- Cleaning: As we move all the things that were stored into their new homes, we will need to clean drywall dust off of everything. This is a big job!
- Moving: Hauling all the things to their new places, mostly from the basement upstairs.
- Basement Classrooms: Painting, moving furniture, organizing Sunday Faith Formation supplies.

Front Desk Ambassadors are needed throughout the year to greet visitors and do a variety of general administrative tasks like answering the phone, sorting mail, etc. Contact Katlin Dickinson-Laurence for details.



Community



Our Redeemer’s Informal Ensemble Playing at Art In the Garden August 7th!

The P-Patch is hosting Art in the Garden this year on Saturday August 7th, from 10 AM-5 PM. There will be art booths, live music, garden tours, and lots of great community fun. It is a wonderful event for kids and families too!

We are honored that the P-Patch has invited **Our Redeemer’s Informal Ensemble to play on the main stage at 11 AM!** It will be the first time our band has played together since February of 2020. (Suffice it to say, the band is chomping at the bit!)

We are so grateful to continue to have the P-Patch as our neighbor and community partner, and to support their presence and good work in Ballard. See you at the P-Patch!

For more Art in the Garden information, visit <http://www.ballardppatch.org>.



Caring Community Team Welcomes Wisdom by Julie Vannoy

We have been in a dark time. We wanted to look toward light and honor our 80+ year members by looking at their own lights in our world. Eight members of your Caring Community Team made 48 visits and delivered 54 luminary bags to our people. You can look forward to getting reacquainted with these valued members who are "older and wiser" when we return to worshiping together through new photos, biographies, and a video. Stay tuned! *(The photo at left is Carol Alley with her luminary bag. Carol is one of the warmest, loving people you will ever meet!)*

Madonna’s Book Group News by Lynne McNeill

Thank you to everyone who participated in Madonna’s Book Group on Zoom during the weird year of COVID. The past 2 months we have met in person. What a treat! It was good to see some of our group face to face. We have read interesting books and discussed topics that arose from our discussions. With the small group (4, 5, or 6), I feel we were more comfortable bringing up personal issues as they came up.

Good news! We will continue to meet monthly again in September, hopefully in person, if not, definitely online. We hope you can join us. Contact me (buckomcneill@yahoo.com) if you want to join in!

The Madonna’s next meeting will be Sunday, September 19 at 4 PM. The book we will read is *The Royal Nanny*, by Karen Harper.

Blessings and joy to:
Earl Ecklund III and Carleigh Bedell on their July 24th wedding!
and
Griffin Kukowski who was born July 18th to proud parents, Shelbe and Chauntae.





Coming Back Together



SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR GATHERING IN-PERSON

As we look forward with joy and anticipation to our rededication of our worship space and getting back into a normal pattern of worship and fellowship together, our Pandemic Transition Team has made the following recommendations regarding in-person, in-building safety:

When indoors, all people should be masked, regardless of age or vaccination status. Those leading worship from more than 15 feet away may unmask to speak and pray.

When attending an in-person event, you will be asked to sign a logbook for COVID tracing purposes. In the event of a positive test following an event, we need to be able to contact everyone who was present.

Communion will be served in prepackaged containers. It's not the tastiest, but it's the safest.

If you are feeling ill, please stay home. It almost goes without saying.

These recommendations are made from an abundance of concern for our community. Obviously, with changing times, **these recommendations are subject to change.** We are community known for welcoming and caring for all people, and we hope to maintain that reputation.

GRACE REQUIRED!

As with all things new, we will be experiencing a lot of changes together in the next few months. Let's give an extra measure of kindness and grace to ourselves, one another, and our neighbors who join us! After all, that's most certainly what God is doing...every single day!

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

We will continue to offer smaller, in-person worship opportunities! For more details go to <https://ourredeemers.net/virtual-worship>.

- Sundays at 11 AM Outside in Pastor Gretchen's front yard in August!* (Note: September 5 worship is online only)
- Thursdays at 7 PM Evening Prayer at Sally Parker-Henderson & Doug Starup's home on the ravine through September 2.

Sunday, September 12

We are excited to return to worship in-person in our renovated and newly accessible sanctuary at regular, two service times.

Save the date for our DEDICATION CELEBRATION, BBQ & OPEN HOUSE!

- 9:00 AM Informal Worship in the Sanctuary
- 10:15 AM Dedication of Our Facility to God's Mission (between services)
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
- 4 PM "All Y'all" Community Barbecue & Open House

ON-LINE WORSHIP CONTINUES

Even as we plan ways to safely return to worship together, we will continue to broadcast on-line services. We've had wonderful support for this flexible worship option and are pleased to offer online options, even after we return to the church.

*During August Sundays at Pastor Gretchen's, Facebook and Our Redeemer's YouTube channel will stream worship, but Zoom isn't possible. If you have called in to Zoom by phone in the past, and attending in-person worship isn't feasible, please call the church office to let us know, and we'll do our best to assist.

ON THE THRESHOLD...

Our beautiful sanctuary renovation is now almost complete! And although we've planned and anticipated for so long, the prospect of entering this space may create a little uncertainty or worry about what it will be like, and whether we will be able to love it and sense God's presence in it, as we did before. As with any relationship, it may take a while to feel at home.

To begin getting acquainted with the space, we are invited to spend time in it before our first worship service. The sanctuary will be open Tuesday evening, August 31 from 6 to 7:30pm, and Wednesday, Thursday Friday, August 1-3, 10AM to 3PM, and Saturday, September 11, 11:30am to noon, after the tour (10AM) and commemoration of the 20th anniversary of September 11 (11:15AM). Come when you wish, and stay as long as you wish!

FRONT OFFICE

We will open our front office on September 1. It will be open Monday - Friday, 9 AM to 3 PM. As with any move into a new place, please be patient as a new phone system, keyless entry, and many other things as they are set up and implemented.

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

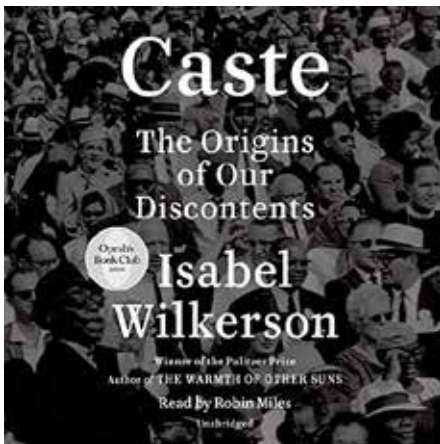
As of September 1, our ministry teams, committees, and long-time renters will be allowed to use our building. To make arrangements, please contact Parish Administrator by email, Karie Stearns (administrator@ourredeemers.net).



Social Justice



Elizabeth Dickenson, Sue Schoolcraft, and Dara Schoolcraft prepared meals at Ballard Sunday Dinner in July. Lisa Thompson took the photos and was also the meal lead that day.



The Social Justice Team will meet on Thursday, August 19, 7:00-9:00 PM by Zoom. We'll be discussing our mission, our plans for the year and how to facilitate congregational conversations about one of the two Church-Council-adopted open questions. That question is:

"What does the Lord require of us but to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God?" (Micah 6:8)

In this moment, how do we understand our calling as Lutherans/Christians to advocate for justice and to serve the world through expressions of God's love? In what specific ways do we as a congregation want to respond to this call and re-envision our social justice ministries for the next 3-5 years?"

Opportunities for Your Service and Advocacy

And speaking of serving the world through expressions of God's love for all creation, we are blessed with some wonderful opportunities for doing this in the next few months. Here are some in which we invite your participation:

- Ballard Sunday Dinners, 3rd Sundays
- School kit packing, Sunday September 19 between services (all ages welcome!)
- Read *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson. Choose either August 29 or October 10 to join in a discussion with other Our Redeemer's members.
- Lutheran World Relief In-Gathering of quilts and kits, November 5-6, Our Redeemer's parking lot
- Join the planning team for Thanksgiving Dinner
- Revive the Earth Care team.
- Talk with a few members of the wider community about ways we can partner together for a stronger, more vibrant Ballard/Crown Hill. This effort will take place through the Community Engagement Team.

Please contact Elizabeth (outreach@ourredeemers.net) if you are interested in any of these opportunities. We hope everyone will find a way to share care

All-Church Read

Racial Justice Advocates invites you to read or listen to the "brilliant" book *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson. At the end of the summer, we will offer times for discussion. You can get discounted books at the Secret Garden bookstore (let them know you are from Our Redeemer's) or Estelita's Library in the Central District.

According to Dwight Garner's review in the New York Times, Wilkerson makes "unsettling comparisons between India's treatment of its untouchables, or Dalits, Nazi Germany's treatment of Jews and America's treatment of African-Americans. Each country 'relied on stigmatizing those deemed inferior to justify the dehumanization necessary to keep the lowest-ranked people at the bottom and to rationalize the protocols of enforcement.'" Garner calls it, "one of the most powerful nonfiction books I'd ever encountered."



Social Justice



Here are the supplies that go in each kit:

- Four 70 sheet one-subject notebooks
- One box of Twenty-four crayons
- One pair blunt children's scissors
- One 30-centimeter ruler
- One pencil sharpener
- Five UNSHARPENED #2 pencils with erasers
- Five black OR blue ballpoint pens-not gel
- One 2 1/2" eraser

Stock Up on School Kits for LWR Enable a Child (or 2 or 3) to Attend School

Children around the world will be going back to school this fall, and many will need school supplies. A good education translates into health, jobs and well-being. One additional year of school can increase a woman's earnings by up to 20% (Global Partnership for Education). But according to UNICEF, the poorest children are still five times less likely to attend school than the richest.

Let's pack at least 100 school kits for Lutheran World Relief on September 19! What if each of us committed to supplying one school kit? Or get together with other families and buy in bulk from Costco. Sharon Longaker has gotten us started by purchasing supplies for 10 school kits!

All items should be removed from their packaging (if possible) and dropped off in the narthex September 1-19. We will pack together on the 19th between services! The list at left is what is needed. Questions? Please contact Sharon Longaker (slongaker@msn.com). Thank you for what you can do!



Pamela Altman and Marie Brissette attended the Voting Rights Vigil in July.

Read the full excerpt of Eric and Deitra's journey (at right) through our Road to Housing program to home ownership at

<https://ourredeemers.net/a-road-to-housing-guests-story/>

GOOD NEWS FROM ROAD TO HOUSING PROGRAM

Hello Our Redeemer's,

I wanted to share my and my wife's story with you as you might not hear all the success stories from your Road to Housing program. Here is our story: Deitra and I had both been employed but struggled with addiction. We had been living in our trailer on Aurora and the constant presence and easy access to drugs didn't help. As our addictions grew work became more difficult to manage to the point where we both ended up losing our jobs.

The road to housing program at Our Redeemer's was a true gift. It was a refuge from where we had been and gave us time to regroup and bounce back. It became the steppingstone we needed in our lives. It is hard to appreciate the simple things like a hot shower, ability to cook food and clean laundry. That is, until you no longer have these things...

Our Redeemer's opening the doors and welcoming us in brings tears to my eyes still. I can't say enough good things about the congregation I am so thankful...

We lived in our truck for 7-8 years and saved money. Even when we were using we made sure to save 25-30% of our income. As we kicked the drugs, we were able to save even more. We saved enough that we could buy in Thurston County in the Nisqually Valley.

We wanted to say thank you to Our Redeemer's and let you know what your program meant to us. Without the steppingstone of your program and the grace, time and services you provided, we don't know where we'd be...

Thank you and God bless,
Eric and Deitra Meine



Living Generously

Art Project for “Opening Doors”

STEPPING UP TO FIND YOUR DESIRE

Look at the picture of the stairs. You can choose to color or draw. Or you may like to cut out pictures from magazines to glue. Either way, create a picture of what you want to see at the top of these steps. Imagine that you are stepping up to a joyful and beautiful place. Relax. Breathe slowly. *Let God create something through you.*



At Vacation Bible School!

[\(link to more photos\)](#)





2400 NW 85th Street*
Seattle, WA 98117
www.ourredeemers.net
206-783-7900

***Please use this mailing address
starting August 1, 2021**

return service requested

Join Us 11:00 AM Sundays
for Worship

On Facebook:

[facebook.com ourredeemers](https://www.facebook.com/ourredeemers) and

On YouTube:

[Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church - Seattle](https://www.youtube.com/OurRedeemersLutheranChurch-Seattle)

Access videos of past services, sermons and
music on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/OurRedeemersLutheranChurch-Seattle).

Coming Back Together!

You are invited to come CELEBRATE the completion of our renovation, worshipping TOGETHER safely, and God's EXTRAORDINARY GRACE and goodness!

Saturday, September 11

10 AM - Guided Tour of the Renovation

11:15-11:30 AM - September 11 Commemoration

11:30 AM-noon - Quiet Time in the Sanctuary

Sunday, September 12th

Come! Reunite, dedicate and celebrate!

9 AM - Informal Festival In-Person Worship

10:15 AM - Dedication of Our Facility to God's Mission

11 AM - Traditional Festival In-Person Worship

4 PM - "All Y'all" Barbecue (in parking lot) and Church Open House



Follow Us on Instagram!

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



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