

JULY 2021

# The Visitor



Finally,  
Summer!  
Register for VBS  
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Recycling  
Event a Success!  
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# This Month at Our Redeemer's

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## OUR REDEEMER'S STAFF

- Katherine Hawks, Pastor  
kathy@ourredeemers.net
- Gretchen Mertes, Pastor  
pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net
- Elizabeth Dickinson, Social Justice  
Coordinator  
outreach@ourredeemers.net
- Karen Lee, Traditional Worship &  
Music Director  
karen@ourredeemers.net
- Karie Stearns, Parish Administrator  
administrator@ourredeemers.net
- Debbie Lematta, Communications  
Coordinator  
communications@ourredeemers.net
- Katlin Dickinson-Laurence, Office  
Coordinator/Welcome Minister  
office@ourredeemers.net

Temporary Mailing Address:  
5306 Ballard Ave NW, Ste 226  
Seattle, WA 98107  
Call to leave a message for any staff  
member: 206-783-7900

General email: [office@ourredeemers.net](mailto:office@ourredeemers.net)  
Website: [www.ourredeemers.net](http://www.ourredeemers.net)  
[Facebook.com/OurRedeemers](https://www.facebook.com/OurRedeemers)  
Instagram: [ourredeemersballard](https://www.instagram.com/ourredeemersballard)



July 1, Thursday	7 PM - <b>Compline Service</b>   2639 NW 95th Street
July 4, Sunday	11 AM - <b>Sunday Worship</b>   <a href="#">Zoom/Facebook</a>
July 5, Monday	July 4th Holiday Observed - Office Closed
July 6, Tuesday	11 AM - Road to Housing Meeting 7 PM - Executive Team Meeting
July 7, Wednesday	Office Closed for Staff Development 10:30 AM - Wednesday Bible Study   <a href="#">Zoom</a>
July 8, Thursday	1 PM - Staff Meeting 7 PM - <b>Compline Service</b>   2639 NW 95th Street
July 11, Sunday	11 AM - <b>Sunday Worship</b>   <a href="#">Zoom/Facebook</a>
July 14, Wednesday	10:30 AM - Wednesday Bible Study   <a href="#">Zoom</a> 1 PM - Staff Meeting
July 15, Thursday	7 PM - <b>Compline Service</b>   2639 NW 95th Street
July 18, Sunday	11 AM - <b>Sunday Worship</b>   <a href="#">Zoom/Facebook</a> 2 - 6 PM - Ballard Sunday Dinner   Ballard First Lutheran 4 PM - Madonna's Book Group
July 20, Tuesday	7 PM - Council Meeting
July 21, Wednesday	10:30 AM - Wednesday Bible Study   <a href="#">Zoom</a> 1 PM - Staff Meeting
July 22, Thursday	7 PM - <b>Compline Service</b>   2639 NW 95th Street
July 25, Sunday	11 AM - <b>Sunday Worship</b>   <a href="#">Zoom/Facebook</a>
July 16, Monday thru July 29 Thursday	9:30 - 11 AM - Vacation Bible School Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church   <a href="#">REGISTER</a>
July 27, Tuesday	7 PM - Theology on Tap
July 28, Wednesday	10:30 AM - Wednesday Bible Study   <a href="#">Zoom</a> 1 PM - Staff Meeting
July 29, Thursday	2:15 PM - Community Engagement Task Force 7 PM - <b>Compline Service</b>   2639 NW 95th Street

*You may notice that the format of the July newsletter has changed. This has been done to reduce the number of pages in the monthly document with the intent to keep printing and postage costs within budget. Thanks to those who completed our newsletter survey last month. We have taken your responses and applied many of your ideas herein. Your opinion matters. Let us know what you think of our new format by emailing Debbie at [communications@ourredeemers.net](mailto:communications@ourredeemers.net) with any feedback.*

## From the Pastor...

Grateful. I am full of gratitude for each of you and for our faith community as I look back on our 2020-2021 "program" year, and even further back, to the confusion and anxiety we felt as the pandemic was taking hold in March 2020.

Paul's thank yous to his churches come to my mind. These days, I'm connecting with Paul in a new way. I can hear now that Paul wasn't just politely complimenting. He was expressing how deeply he felt the power of faith shaping the lives and sacrifices of these new Christians as they went through tough times with love and hope. As you, Our Redeemer's, also have done.

So, here are some of Paul's words, and some of my own, expressing my gratitude for your faith and love and steadfast hope over these long, unprecedented months.

*I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.*  
Philippians 1:3

Although we couldn't worship together, you have stayed engaged. You have learned to Zoom. You have worshiped at a different time, if you couldn't on Sunday mornings. You have sung hymns, prayed and received communion - alone in your house, but together in the Spirit!

*For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.... I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which God has called you... and God's incomparably great power for us who believe.*  
Ephesians 1

You have been as faithful and committed to give as ever, some of you learning to give virtually, too.

*There is no need for me to write to you about this service to the Lord's people. For I know your eagerness to help, and I have been boasting about it ... that since last year you ...*

*were ready to give; and your enthusiasm has stirred most of them to action.*

II Corinthians 9:1

You have consoled, supported, and blessed the most vulnerable, including our Road2Housing guests. You have found ways to stay in touch and care for one another, even in our semi-isolation.

*We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.*  
I Thessalonians 1

*This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.*

II Corinthians 9:12

There is so much more I would like to say, but I trust the time and opportunity for that will come. In the meantime, "I am longing to see you so that...we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine." (Romans 1:11-12)

And I remain: *confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 1:6



Thanks be to our faithful, steadfastly loving God!

Pastor Kathy

## CELEBRATING JULY BIRTHDAYS

1 Asher Nyhus	13 Anika Michaelsen	20 *Richard LaBrash	27 Rainer Germann
2 Bob Carlson	15 Elizabeth Rallo	21 Sally Parker-	27 Leslie Wander
2 Sharon Longaker	15 Laura Stenbridge	Henderson	27 Margaret Wetter
3 Jerri Harden	17 Harold Laurence	22 Sandy Box	27 Janet Woodfield
9 Steve Cromwell	18 Riley Hammett	22 America Mejia	28 Mateo Frantz
9 Joanna Elizondo	18 Sandy Haug	25 Amy Borgmeyer	28 Kay Sterner
10 Mike Hlastala	18 Betsy McGregor	25 Frank Peters	29 Emily Forssen
10 Ainsley Tung	19 David McBride	25 Charlotte Wallstrom	30 Craig Myers

**\*BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO RICHARD LABRASH WHO IS CELEBRATING A 90+ BIRTHDAY IN JULY!**



# Worship and Music

Stephanie Running shared the reflection below at a Thursday evening compline and we wanted to share it here. We hope you enjoy her updated version of Psalm 36:5-9 (Good News Bible and New International Version, selected).

## A Psalm of God's Great Love

“-Lord, your constant love reaches the heavens, your faithfulness extends to the skies.

-Your righteousness is towering like the mighty mountains, your justice like the depths of the sea. People and animals are in your care.

-How priceless is your unfailing love! We find protection under the shadow of your wings.

-We feast on the abundant food you provide; you let us drink from the river of your goodness.

-You are the source of all life, and because of your light we see the light.”



*Psalm 36 makes me think. I think about the time it was written, compared to the time I live in now. What do we know now that was not known 3000 years ago, when the Psalms were written? I have tried to write an updated version of these verses to include what science has discovered and history has revealed.*

Lord, your constant love is expanding as the universe expands. Your faithfulness extends father than the Hubble Space Telescope can see—at least 13 billion light years away.

Your righteousness is towering like mountains. Higher than Mount Rainier at 14, 411 feet.  
Even higher than Mount Everest standing more than 29,000 feet tall.

Your justice is deeper than the Mediterranean Sea. Even beyond the depths of the Mariana Trench in the Pacific Ocean that is over 36, 000 feet deep.

People and animals are in your care. God loves all people of every ethnic background, and fashion preference. God lovingly created dinosaurs, plankton, kangaroos, Douglas squirrels, polar bears, and sockeye salmon.

How priceless is your unfailing love! Even all the wealth of Wall Street is tiny compared to God's generous love.

We find protection under the shadow of God's titanium fortified wings.

We feast on the abundant food you provide. There are bountiful resources, plants, fruits, vegetables, grains, and minerals. There is so much more than we need. And it is gourmet quality! We have recipes from Julia Child and Rachael Ray! There is plenty for every body.

You let us drink from the river of your goodness. Water is purified by God's WATER CYCLE.

You are the source of all life. Bacteria, rhododendrons, and every ecosystem.

You, O God, are the source of all light. All energy. We can make light with electricity. Each December we can see the multi-colored LED lights displayed at Olympic Manor.

And because of your light, dear God, we see light all around us. And just like it was 3,000 years ago, we can look into the eyes of someone you love.

There it is! See a spark of God's light reflected there.

Amen!

*Stephanie Running, May 2021*

**Compline services are held at 7 PM each Thursday through September at 2639 NW 95th Street.**



# Build the Vision...

## Vision Aligned Building (VAB) Update



*Chancel & Sanctuary*

The flooring in the Sanctuary and Chapel were completed last week. Most of the space is red oak, with slate inlays at the entry to the Sanctuary and north into the meeting room. The Chapel slate is also complete.

Casework has been installed through the building and in Administration includes the new reception desk and bookcase, kitchenette, storage cabinets and work-surface. In the Sacristy, the cabinets and kitchenette are complete and waiting for the sink. Last week also saw the installation of the operable partition system in the Fellowship Hall that allows the space to be divided into two usable areas.

The reclaimed pews have been sanded and installation started June 2nd on the first wall of paneling and the bench under the long window wall. The week of 6/14, the contractor began the exterior site work including concrete and stair removal, grading, and the forming/pouring of the new entry and plaza and walkways. Paint in the Sanctuary began the week of 6/14 with acoustical panels to follow.



*Administration Reception*



*Fellowship Hall Operable Partition*

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.



*Sacristy*

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.



# ...Share the Vision



Exterior brick and parge coating.



Chapel West Wall (opaque glass is still to be installed)



Grove at West End of the Sanctuary



## GOD'S CALL | OUR VISION

SEE DETAILS OF WHAT'S

HAPPENING FOR YOURSELF...

Visit our [website renovation page](#) for the most current construction videos, pictures, and more!

### PROJECT STATUS

Schedule: No Change - Church access late summer 2021

Date	Construction Contingency	Project Contingency
7/12/20	\$217,854	\$67,153
9/1/20	\$217,854	\$57,415
9/30/20	\$217,854	\$57,415
10/15/20	\$199,609	\$57,415
11/14/20	\$170,121	\$61,719
12/1/20	\$167,164	\$61,719
12/15/20	\$160,570	\$61,179
1/15/21	\$142,045	\$61,179
1/31/21	\$142,045	\$61,179
2/15/21	\$142,045	\$61,179
3/4/21	\$145,724	\$54,518
3/17/21	\$143,940	\$54,518
4/2/21	\$129,579	\$54,443
4/17/21	\$115,552	\$53,730
4/30/21	\$114,089	\$43,730
5/17/21	\$105,635	\$43,730
6/1/21	\$ 92,013	\$43,730
6/16/21	\$ 77,145	\$38,730

#### Changes affecting the Project Cost Contingency:

- Credit card charges for piano storage and moving expenses.
- Land sale attorney invoice (from September '20 – missed during move).
- Adjusted cost for groundbreaking event.
- Adjusted costs for moving.
- Created line item for Utilities. Our Redeemer's pays utilities during construction (to avoid contractor markup). Our Redeemer's operational budget has been paying costs and this line item will reimburse operational budget since bills have been higher than anticipated by that budget.
- Created line item for locksmith to re-key all existing doors to new keying system.

#### NEW Charges reported in June 2021 against the Construction Contingency:

- Paint Fellowship Hall exterior wood and repair/seal exterior beam ends.
- Structural reinforcement of Narthex window wall.
- Paint lower-level corridor doors and frames.
- Recess structural bolts in Sanctuary floor.
- Add light cove at RC pew paneling.
- Allowance reconciliation at bench for radiant heat grills (credit).
- Addition of exterior grove and bell.
- Added lighting for the Chapel grove (similar to the west end of Sanctuary – up lights).
- Rework Administration area kitchenette counter to allow for only available ADA dishwasher install.



# Faith Formation

## HOP SKIP JUMP! VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**JULY 26-29**

PHINNEY RIDGE LUTHERAN CHURCH

HOP, SKIP, & JUMP INTO GOD'S LOVE

Monday, July 26-Thursday, July 29

9:30-11am

age 5 through 6th grade

Cost: \$20

*Younger children welcome with an adult companion!  
Outside on the front lawn at PRLC, we'll explore Bible stories from the book of John about water, women, and Jesus through yoga storytelling, song, animal buddies, science, games, and service.  
You may pay online or check by mail.  
Scholarships are always available.*

REGISTER NOW @ [WWW.PRLC.ORG](http://WWW.PRLC.ORG)

## God's Story is The Story of Love. You Are Invited!

**Calling Our Redeemer's Folks of ALL AGES!** We need you to help with faith formation this fall! Trainings will be in late August, and classes begin Sept 19th between services. We will have three teams of two people for each grade that rotate so that no one gets overloaded, and the students have a variety of people they get to know!

### Roles:

- Teacher: imparting the selected curriculum for the day, with a lot of fun tools to help you do it.
- Host: greet each child and assist as needed in the classroom.

Contact Betsy McGregor at [bemac7309@gmail.com](mailto:bemac7309@gmail.com) to volunteer and get the scoop on training and all the details.



# Community



## Please serve!

Contact these people if you are interested:

### Sunday Roles - Welcome & Worship Assistants

Katlin Dickinson-Laurence  
[office@ourredeemers.net](mailto:office@ourredeemers.net)

### Sunday Roles - Sound & A/V

Pastor Gretchen  
[pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net](mailto:pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net)

### Faith Formation | Kids

Betsy McGregor  
[bemac7309@gmail.com](mailto:bemac7309@gmail.com)

### Faith Formation | Adults

Pastor Kathy  
[kathyh@ourredeemers.net](mailto:kathyh@ourredeemers.net)

### Music

Pastor Gretchen  
[pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net](mailto:pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net)

Karen Lee  
[karen@ourredeemers.net](mailto:karen@ourredeemers.net)

### Preparation for Move-In

Pastor Gretchen  
[pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net](mailto:pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net)

### Front Desk Volunteers

Katlin Dickinson-Laurence  
[office@ourredeemers.net](mailto:office@ourredeemers.net)

## Are You Being Called to Serve in a New Way?

As we run toward re-opening our building, the need for everyone to step up and serve is becoming clear! How is God calling you to be involved at church this fall? We invite you to prayerfully contemplate being on one of the following teams. It's going to take ALL of us to get Our Redeemer's back in full swing!

### 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 11:00 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 – Contact Betsy McGregor for all the details.

- Teachers
- Class Hosts
- Nursery Care
- Playground Helpers

#### Faith Formation | Adults – Contact Pastor Kathy for all the details.

- Teachers

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

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

### Preparation for Move-In (in August, times TBD):

- 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 Volunteers** 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.





# Social Justice

## Social Justice Coordinator's Report



In June we celebrated our first **recycling event** in 18 months! I imagine there is more space in quite a few homes, as we filled more than one large truck of retired electronics, about an ambulance worth of Styrofoam, and two minivans of men's and women's clothing. The Bridge Care Center was delighted with the new infusion of clothing and shoes, since they were running very low. Professional clothing is going to Mary's Place, Jubilee Women's Center and Congregations for the Homeless. We and our land and oceans are so grateful to Malaika, Liam and Phillipa Dugaw, Colin Neu, Sienna Seyler, Sarah Uhlemann and Pastor Gretchen who made signs, sorted Styrofoam, carried boxes, directed traffic, and generally made this event possible!



Hunger knows no season. Let's keep feeding homeless folks this summer! **The Ballard Sunday Dinner** needs YOU to volunteer on July 18 or August 15. On July 18, we need one or two leads, who will have a full complement of fun Our Redeemer's members to work with. On August 15, we still need about six more volunteers. Find a friend whom you haven't seen for a while, and visit while you volunteer! You can [sign up here](#) or contact Elizabeth, [outreach@ourredeemers.net](mailto:outreach@ourredeemers.net). THANK YOU!



Looking for something to **read this summer** to better understand racism? While not exactly beach reading (though I did read one of these on the beach last summer!), here is some accessible and eye-opening nonfiction about racism centered along black and white identities and experiences that I have appreciated (more on other identities later):

- *So You Want to Talk About Race* by Ijeoma Oluo (Seattle author)
- *I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness* by Austin Channing Brown (Evangelical Christian background)
- *Uprooting Racism* by Paul Kivel
- *Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race* by Debby Irving
- *The Black Church: This is our story. This is our song.* Hosted by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. <https://www.pbs.org/weta/black-church/>
- And denser, about how our lives are intertwined: *The Sum of Us* by Heather McGhee.



I'd be happy to meet and talk about any of these with you. Email me, Elizabeth: [outreach@ourredeemers.net](mailto:outreach@ourredeemers.net). And keep your eyes open for a late summer opportunity offered by the Racial Justice Advocates group to read/watch and discuss a book/movie on racial equity.

Above and on the cover: at the recycling event in our church parking lot.



# Living Generously

Please plan to join us in worship on Sunday, October 3 as we kick off this incredibly important season in life of Our Redeemer's.

And please plan to be present each Sunday in October, from October 3 through Reformation Day, October 31.

You really won't want to miss any of our worship services or special events. You'll be hearing more about these plans in coming weeks.

## Opening Doors: A Season of Generosity!

An exciting and meaningful season of generosity to extend the reach of God's grace and justice.

*By Margaret Berg and Mike Hlastala, Co-Chairs and Kathy Hawks, Lead Pastor*

You are an important part of God's community of Our Redeemer's. God calls us to come together to enter an intentional time of worship, teaching, prayer, planning, and generosity, in order to grow in our understanding of Biblical generosity and also, so our renovated facility is fully dedicated to God's work, without debt.

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 says; "We give thanks to God always for you all... remembering...your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." Let's ALL move into this season of giving with prayer, deep love and steadfast hope!

**Through God's leading, we can retire our debt, more fully serve our neighbors and provide resources for all the ministries God leads us into!**

**THANK YOU FOR GENEROUSLY SHARING FROM WHAT GOD HAS PLACED IN YOUR HANDS!**

## Giving Options

### CHECK

Mail to the church's temporary address:  
5306 Ballard Ave NW, Ste 226, Seattle, 98107

### TEXT

Enter: 206-717-8465 and the amount you wish to donate and press send.

**[OURREDEEMERS.NET/DONATE](https://ourredeemers.net/donate)**

Through SIMPLY GIVING or the Mobile App



# Living Generously

## Art Project for “Opening Doors”

### WINDOWS ALLOW GOD TO SHOW...

Look at the picture below. Decorate or enhance the picture of the windows however you like. Choose crayons, colored pencils, markers, glitter, or paint. If you have another idea, use it! Take as much time as you want. Relax. Enjoy.

*Let God create something through you.*





5306 Ballard Ave NW  
Ste 226  
Seattle, WA 98107  
[www.ourredeemers.net](http://www.ourredeemers.net)  
206-783-7900

\*temporary mailing address

**return service requested**

Join Us 11:00 AM Sundays  
for Worship

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

- By Zoom. <https://zoom.us/j/822691346>
- By Phone. Call 1 206 337 9723;  
+822 691 346 when prompted
- Access videos of past services, sermons  
and music on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com)

## Save the Date: Sunday, September 12 Re-Opening & Festival Dedication of Our Renovated Building!

All things point to a wonderful culmination of our renovation, our ability to worship safely in person, and to celebrate God's extraordinary grace and goodness!

**WHAT:** FESTIVAL WORSHIP and DEDICATION OF OUR FACILITY TO GOD'S WORK

**WHEN:** Sunday, September 12 at 9AM (informal) and 11AM (traditional)  
Dedication at 10:15 between services

**WHO:** YOU, of course!; Shelley Bryan Wee, Bishop of the NW Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Your neighbors – invited by you!;  
ALL are welcome!

**HOW:** With joy! With gratitude at being together again as a community! With hope in all God will do to bless through this congregation in the future. Wearing masks and safely distanced, as our governor guides.

**IN THE AFTERNOON:** THE WELCOME "ALL Y'ALL COMMUNITY BBQ & FACILITY TOUR" (TIME TBD)

**Mark your calendars now and be ready to offer God's welcoming presence to all who attend!**



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.