

JULY-AUGUST 2023



The Visitor

Welcoming
Wisdom
Brunch

Page 9

Matthew 11:

²⁸“Come to me, all you that
are weary and are carrying heavy
burdens, and I will give you rest.

²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn
from me; for I am gentle and humble in
heart, and you will find rest for your
souls. ³For my yoke is easy, and
my burden is light.”

Miracles

Seattle Mariners
Faith & Family Day

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A Community in the Model of Christ

From the Pastor...

*I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert. -Isaiah 43:19*

"How are you doing Pastor Gretchen? Are you okay? Are you tired?" Yup! I am. But I am also so grateful for the work and trust that I have been given in this congregation. Every pastor longs for a place for their gifts to be fully utilized and appreciated, and this congregation is all of that for me. I am so humbled by your care and appreciation as I have learned to step up over the last year and a half of flying (mostly) solo. I have also learned that I am truly a team ministry player, and I am deeply looking forward to whatever rostered leader is called to serve alongside all of us in our work together here.

"What's a rostered leader, Pastor Gretchen?" I am SO glad you asked! In our larger church body, the ELCA (www.elca.org) we have two rosters: Word and Sacrament (pastors) and Word and Service (deacons). Both rosters require degrees from seminary, but where a pastor has a master of divinity degree, a deacon has an MA in theology. Pastors focus on sacramental ministry – the embodiment of God's grace that is found in the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Communion. Deacons focus on how God's grace happens both inside the church, and outside the church through service ministries such as social justice, education, music, nursing, and so on. Our congregation would be well served (as it has in the past) by two pastors, or by a new configuration of a pastor and a deacon. Given our history of social justice work, community involvement, and the desire to do healthy outreach, a deacon might just be exactly what God wants to send us. Our work

together as a congregation, and as the call committee has opened this path for us as a potential fit. Now it just remains to see who is listening for that call. It could be a deacon, it could be a pastor – it really depends on who is the right person for the call.

Over the past few years, the tension between serving my congregation and serving my family as mother and spouse has become more and more intense. I've been finding myself wondering which side of my life has been getting the short end of the stick, and I've come to realize it's my family. I have requested, and our Council has agreed, that I might go to $\frac{3}{4}$ time pastoring when a new rostered leader joins our congregation. I believe that being in a team ministry situation will bolster my energy, and require less of my time in the building. I would be hoping to work out a 3 weeks on – 1 week off scenario, with the three weeks being full time, and the week being family focused sabbath from congregational work. This will allow me to focus on my family's needs, rather than squishing it in between other things.

I am so deeply grateful for the work and ministry I am called to do in this place, and I only see things getting better from here on in. God is about to do a new thing at Our Redeemer's, and I am totally here for it. Thanks be to God.



Gretchen Hesteg



Leif Loklingholm and John Gibson model the quilts they received during graduate blessing June 18th.



July-August at Our Redeemer's

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

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4 LIVING GENEROUSLY

5 WORSHIP & MUSIC

6 FAITH FORMATION

8 SOCIAL JUSTICE

9 COMMUNITY

OUR REDEEMER'S STAFF

- Gretchen Mertes, Pastor
pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net
- David Hahn, Transition Facilitator
pastordavid@ourredeemers.net
(651)587-4417
- Karen Lee, Traditional Worship & Music Director
karen@ourredeemers.net
- Debbie Lematta, Communications
communications@ourredeemers.net
- Mandy Neill, Welcome Minister
welcome@ourredeemers.net
- Karie Stearns, Parish Administrator
administrator@ourredeemers.net

Phone: 206-783-7900

Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 10am-3pm

OUR VISION: In the model of Christ and for the life of the world, we are an inclusive, devoted, caring, and spiritual community that accepts challenges, takes risks, and grows.



Cover photo by Simon Wilkes on Unsplash

July 2, Sunday

10 AM - Summer Worship | Our Redeemer's

July 3 & 4

Independence Day - Church Closed

July 9, Sunday

10 AM - Summer Worship | Our Redeemer's

July 11, Tuesday

12:30 PM - Staff Meeting

July 16, Sunday

10 AM - Summer Worship | Our Redeemer's

2 PM - Ballard Sunday Dinner

July 18, Tuesday

12:30 PM - Staff Meeting

July 23, Sunday

10 AM - Summer Worship

July 25, Tuesday

12:30 PM - Staff Meeting

July 30, Sunday HEALING SERVICE

10 AM - Summer Worship | Our Redeemer's

11 AM - Congregational Meeting

August 1, Tuesday

12:30 PM - Staff Meeting

August 5, Saturday

9 AM - Liturgical Arts Team
Art in the Garden | Ballard P-Patch

August 6, Sunday

10 AM - Summer Worship | Our Redeemer's

August 7-11
VBS WEEK

9 AM - 12 PM - Vacation Bible School

August 8, Tuesday

12:30 PM - Staff Meeting
6:30 PM - Executive Team Meeting

August 13, Sunday VBS SUNDAY

10 AM - Summer Worship | Our Redeemer's

August 15, Tuesday

12:30 PM - Staff Meeting

August 20, Sunday WELCOMING WISDOM

10 AM - Summer Worship | Our Redeemer's

11 AM - Welcoming Wisdom Brunch
2 PM - Ballard Sunday Dinner

August 22, Tuesday

12:30 PM - Staff Meeting

August 26, Saturday
MARINERS GAME

1:10 PM - Seattle Mariners Faith & Family Day

August 27, Sunday

10 AM - Summer Worship | Our Redeemer's



Living Generously

Congregational Meeting July 30, 11 AM

Mark your calendars and take part in a July 30th congregational meeting to ratify the constitution, vote on needed roof repairs, and get a call committee update.
We will be meeting at 11:00 am after worship.

Our Redeemer's Mission Budget

Fiscal Year 2022-2023 -Thru 5-31-23

(91.67% thru the fiscal year)

Income	2022-2023 Approved Budget	Year to Date Income as of 5.31.23	% of Budget Year to Date	Over (Under) Budget Year to Date
Envelope & Loose Offerings	520,073	450,316	86.6%	(26,418)
Church Use	85,000	88,014	103.5%	10,097
*Special Giving	-	202,282	-	-
Fundraising (Auction)	26,000	30,467	117%	10,967
Interest	1,000	1,324	132.4%	408
Total Regular Income (without Special Giving)	\$632,073	\$569,283	90.1%	(10,117)
**TOTAL INCOME	\$632,073	\$773,513	122.4%	194,113
Expenses	2022-2023 Approved Budget	Year to Date Expenses as off 5.31.23	% of Budget Year to Date	Over (Under) Budget
Social Justice/Outreach	80,461	47,057	58.5%	(26,699)
Pastoral Staff	196,978	141,139	71.7%	(39,424)
Worship & Music	42,054	28,800	68.5%	(9,749)
Fellowship & Caring	3,450	2,872	83.3%	(290)
Faith Formation	8,087	7,321	90.5%	(92)
Stewardship	14,100	9,274	65.8%	(3,651)
Communications	50,191	38,713	77.1%	(7,295)
Facilities	112,751	109,859	97.4%	6,504
Administration	134,617	113,068	84.0%	(10,331)
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$642,688	\$498,101	77.5%	(91,029)

**Special Giving* denotes a one-time gift that was outside of regularly giving.

-Regular giving is below budget by \$26,418.

-Removing the special one-time gift, the church's expenses and income show a positive net profit of \$71,182. Expenses were \$91,029 below budget and are mostly attributed to understaffing while we work through the transition process. Note there is a gap of (\$19,847) between our net profit and our budgeted expenses.

For questions/concerns-please contact Parish Administrator, Karie Stearns at administrator@ourredeemers.net. Thank you for your support!



Worship and Music



About Our Special Healing Services

Next Healing Service is July 30, 10 AM Worship

Every time a 5th Sunday of the month appears on the calendar, Our Redeemer's holds a Healing Service. This service sets aside time for individual prayer with a pastor or assisting minister and includes being anointed with oil. **It's important to honor the need for healing in our lives - not just physical healing, but wholeness - experiencing peace in being listened to and hearing comforting words on your behalf in prayer.** The Healing Service is also enhanced through contemplative music that's played and sung during the prayers. The music is another avenue that can allow for deeper reflection.

Sunday, July 30 is our next 5th Sunday of the month. Give yourself the gift of time to just be. Our Redeemer's Healing Service provides a special opportunity to experience God's presence through prayer.

Summer Blessings,

Karen Lee, Our Redeemer's Traditional Worship and Music Director



Summer Worship Schedule

Sundays, June 25 -Sept. 3
One Service at 10 AM

During the summer months we are having one service at 10:00 am, followed by coffee and fellowship outside on the patio.

Special music will be shared from various members of our community as offering, and we will worship less formally "in the round." Nursery care is provided, but our Faith Formation classes will be on hold until September 10th, Kickoff Sunday.

In Search of Our Newest Rostered Leader

by Andrew Shimer

After many weeks of prayerful consideration and deliberation, we are pleased to announce that the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) is in front of ELCA Pastor Andy Yee and being reviewed for final submission! Since this document is the first impression that candidates have of Our Redeemer's, this is a huge step on our search for the individual that we'll be calling as our newest rostered leader. Once finalized, the Call Committee will be able to start the exciting work of interviewing candidates.

Call
Committee
Update

One of the primary conversations we've struggled through while filling out the MSP is defining the role of our new rostered leader. After discussing amongst ourselves, interviewing leaders from other local churches, and receiving guidance from the Synod, **the Call Committee is drawn toward calling a rostered leader that will be able to focus on social justice and faith formation.** Based on the conversations we've had, we believe that this may be a Deacon that has more emphasis on word and service in order to bring the church beyond our doors and into the community. To be clear, we're exploring options for either a Pastor or a Deacon; aiming to call somebody that we feel will best serve our congregation."



Faith Formation



Volunteer Lesson Leaders Needed for O-ROCK in the Next School Year

O-ROCK (*Our Redeemers Outstanding Church Kids*), our elementary-aged children's "church," is growing! We will be running two classes at 10:00 am on Sundays starting September 12th, one group for grades K-2 and one for grades 3-5. **We need lesson leaders!** You don't need to have a child in the classes; we welcome the wisdom of anyone who can give one hour a month to teach a class from 10:00–11:00 am on Sundays.

The lessons and materials are prepared in advance and emailed to you to preview. **Lessons are easy to teach, and kids find them engaging.** There will be a second adult in the room to assist.

Please consider sharing your time with our youngest members! If interested, please email Betsy McGregor at bemac7309@gmail.com.

Training for all teaching volunteers will be on August 27th (with food!). At the training, you will learn how lessons are taught, get successful management tools to use, and become acquainted with the safety protocols for working with children.



Come to the Ministry Fair!

Sunday, September 10, 10 AM

On Kickoff Sunday, September 10th, tables will be set up in the church foyer to highlight Our Redeemer's various ministries and volunteer opportunities. **This is a chance for you to get more information about the many things we do to keep our church and community vibrant.** You'll also have an opportunity to share, connect, and get answers to any questions regarding our ministries and ways to get plugged in. Visit the tables any time between 10:00 am and 12:30 pm on September 10th.





Faith Formation



What is the LiVE Project, Anyway?

LiVE (rhymes with "give") is an acronym for *Living into Vocational Engagement*. LiVE is a ministry of the Northwest Washington Synod, ELCA. **It's a lay learning community forming Christian leaders who are able to make sense of God's world and our place in it.** LiVE offers a flexible, hybrid model of learning available to everyone in our congregation. Some courses are offered on Zoom on weekday evenings. Day retreats are offered in person on Saturdays. New this year are "co-horts": groups of folks who meet to discuss the courses and retreats and how the learning relates to their personal or ministry context.

You can find a sample of the 2023-2024 LiVE Course Catalog:

CLICK HERE (<https://rb.gy/cwmo0>).

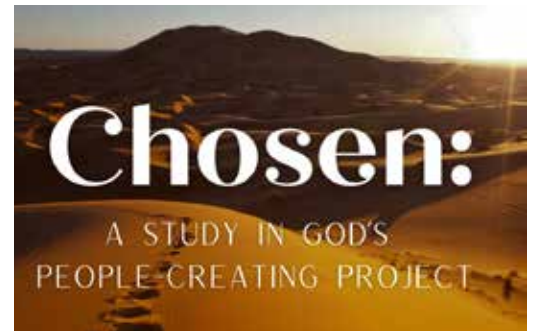
Email welcome@ourredeemers.net for more information about registering for classes.

Mark your calendar for LiVE's first offering, "Chosen," a day-long retreat (you won't want to miss it!).

Chosen: A Study in God's People-Creating Project

Saturday, September 23, 9 AM - 4 PM | location TBA

From the time of Abraham and Sarah, God has been creating and fashioning a people with an important purpose in this world. **Born out of barrenness and liberation, the people of God have been on a long journey marked by promise, peril, and tragedy.** This event invites you to consider how God's ongoing work to shape a people continues today. Whether you are new to Scripture or a seasoned Bible reader, this day will bring you new insight and inspiration for growing closer to the God who chooses people for a life of calling and connection.



VBS August 7-11: Shining a Light on Jesus' Love!

Join us August 7-11 from 9:00 am-noon on a cosmic out-of-this-world adventure! Register your kids for Stellar VBS! **Download the registration form** or fill out the one here and return to Pastor Gretchen.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023

REGISTRATION FORM

August 7-11 9 am - 12 pm

our redeemer's
LUTHERAN • BALLARD

CHILD'S INFO (Open to ages 4- 11):

Name: _____ Birthday: _____

St Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN(S):

Name: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Name: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Additional Authorized Pick Up People: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO:

Name: _____ Phone: (____) _____ Relation: _____

ALLERGIES AND/OR MEDICAL NEEDS:

HOME CHURCH: _____

NAME OF A FRIEND YOUR CHILD MIGHT LIKE TO BE WITH: _____



Social Justice



Many of these school kits go to children who are refugees or are internally displaced.

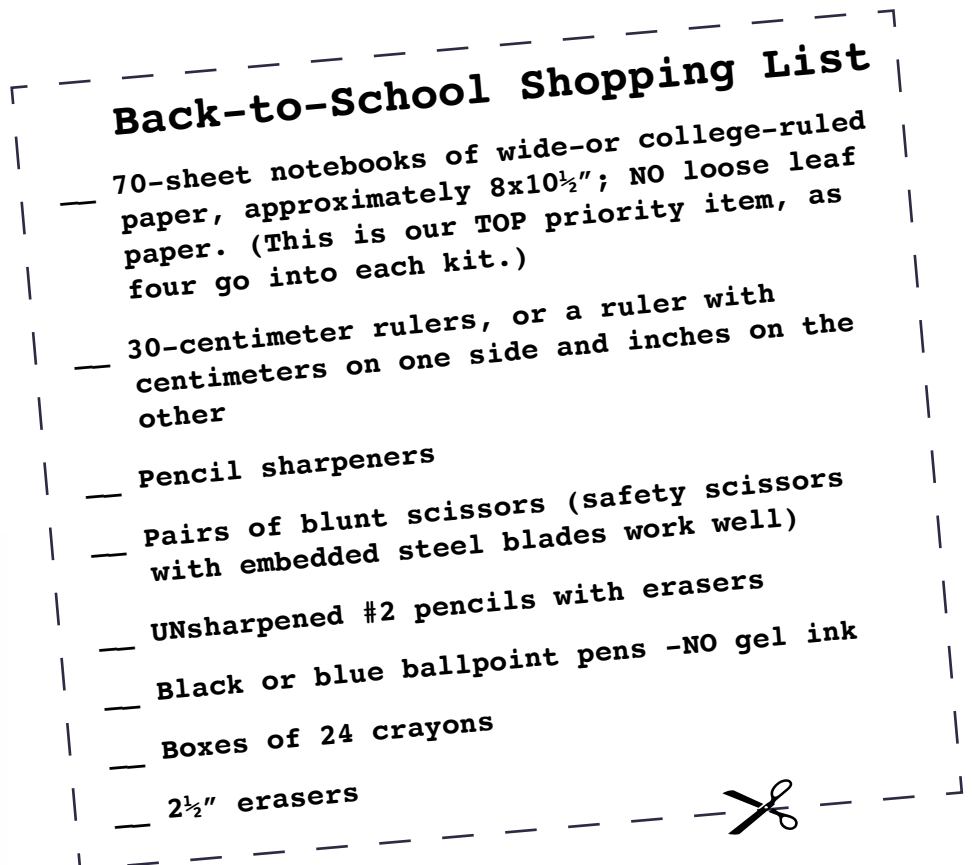
According to the United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees, **among refugees around the world, HALF are under the age of 18.**

Note: the best back to school item sales happen late July and early August. Target or Fred Meyer have the best sales!

**Save the Date:
Fall Earthcare
Recycling Roundup
November 30th**

Shop Back-to-School Sales for Neighbors Around the World!

Let's create 100 school kits for Lutheran World Relief again this summer and early fall! A basket will be available at church starting in August for you to bring in school supplies. Then in September we will assemble them to share with children around the world. (None of these should have a religious symbol, US flag or patriotic symbol.)



Ballard Sunday Dinner Needs You This Summer

This summer we want to make sure we have enough volunteers lined up to help out throughout July, August, September.

The roles are:

- **Early lead** is straight forward – planning the meal and leading the volunteers through cooking and plating.
- **Late lead** focuses on making sure everyone is served and the kitchen and hall are cleaned up afterwards.
- **All the roles have lots of availability** – we'll partner up with you until you're comfortable. Please sign up or inquire about how you can help out!

Ballard Sunday Dinner (BSD) takes place on the third Sunday of each month at Ballard First Lutheran Church.



Sign Up (<https://rb.gy/ea817>) for July 16, or August 20. Reach out to Amy Borgmeyer (amy.borgmeyer@gmail.com) if you have any questions. Thank you for all that you do!



Community



Save the Date: Kickoff Sunday!

Sunday, September 10

We are so excited for the return of Sprouts, O-Rock, Confirmation, Youth Events, Adult Forums, and two Sunday services at 9:00 and 11:00 am starting September 10th!

That Sunday we will have a **Faith Formation Open House** where teachers and their classrooms will be open and accepting registrations for the classes we offer. Parents and other caring adults are invited at 10:00 am to check out all the classrooms and curriculum. We will have two classes for O-Rock (it's

growing!) one for K-2, and the other for 3-5th grades. Our faithful youth leader, **Andrew Shimer**, will help parents and kids know what is on the docket for middle school fun nights, and our confirmation teachers will be on hand to meet all kids in 7th-9th grades who are interested in exploring confirmation.

On the same day there will also be a "Ministry Fair" where all the different groups in our church introduce themselves to all the members who might be looking for a new way to get involved. Music ministries, social justice ministries, faith formation ministries, building and facility ministries, office support ministries and more! (More info on page 6.)

Mark your calendars for September 10th, and don't miss out on this great, spirited day of new life and programmatic growth!

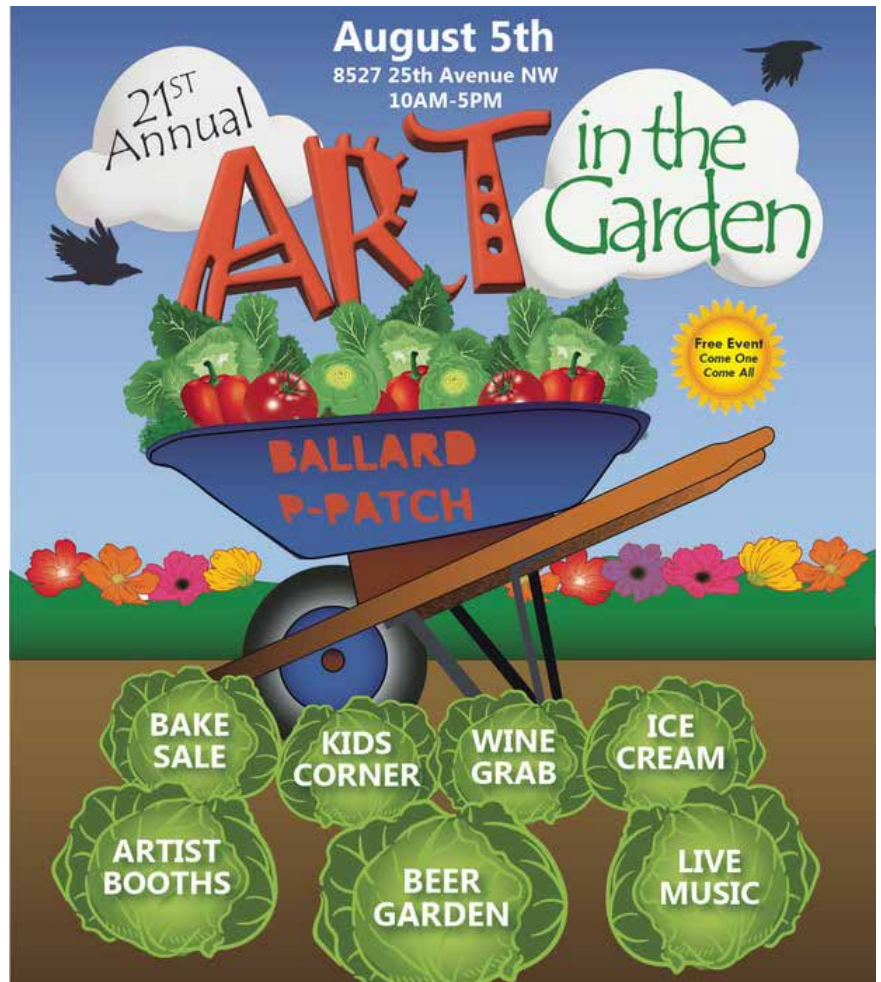


All Are Invited to Welcoming Wisdom!

Sunday, August 20

We are continuing our wonderful tradition of recognizing and honoring those in our congregation who have learned and contributed so much during their 80+ years. We are celebrating them on August 20th following the 10:00 am service. Everyone is invited!

Please join us for a time of great food, music, fun, laughter & fellowship to honor these very important people!





Community

Bringing Faith, Family & Baseball Together!

Last Day to Buy Tickets: July 16th

Join Our Redeemer's for Faith and Family Day at T-Mobile Park on August 26!

- Tickets are \$26 for 100-level seats
- Game is at 1:10 pm on August 26, vs. Kansas City Royals
- Attendees get a limited-edition Mariners-themed Faith and Family T-shirt
- Listen to a panel of M's players and staff who will talk about their faith post-game!



Secure seats before or on July 16th by using [THIS LINK](https://rb.gy/9w9zu) (<https://rb.gy/9w9zu>) and paying for tickets, or mail/bring in a check to Our Redeemer's. Questions? Contact Nancy Oldenkamp, nancy@oldenkamp.org.

Celebrating July Birthdays!

2	Bob Carlson	17	Harold Laurence	25	Charlotte Wallstrom
2	Sharon Longaker	18	Riley Hammett	27	Rainer Germann
3	Jerri Harden	18	Sandy Haug	27	Leslie Wander
6	Ryan Mertes	18	Griffin Kukowski	27	Margaret Wetter
9	Steve Cromwell	18	Betsy McGregor	27	Janet Woodfield
9	Joanna Elizondo	19	David McBride	28	Kay Sterner
10	Mike Hlastala	21	Sally Parker-Henderson	29	Emily Forssen
10	Ainsley Tung	22	Sandy Box	30	Sam Hendricks
11	Trevor Leffler	22	America Mejia	30	Craig Myers
13	Anika Michaelson	25	Amy Borgmeyer		
15	Elizabeth Rallo	25	Frank Peters		

Celebrating August Birthdays!

2	Betty Goble	10	*Jean Kippen	22	Leif Loklingholm
3	Theresa Forssen	14	Niels Running	23	Audrey Gundacker
4	Meagan Minus	18	Lee Cayton	26	Chris Glover
4	Shirley Smith	18	Carl Christenson	26	Sue Johnson
6	Nora Hendricks	18	Keith Hanson	28	Alicia Jancola
6	Sue Schoolcraft	20	Amy Hammett	29	Cindy Ege
7	Jennifer Gleeson	20	Julie Josund	29	Stephanie Running
8	Matt Neill	20	John Somm	30	John Wilson
9	Judah Kukowski	21	Holly Gundacker		

***Birthday Blessings To Jean Kippen Who Is Celebrating her 90+ Birthday in August!**

If you or someone else needs to be added to the birthday list please let us know by calling the church: 206.783.7900.



Community

Our 2023 Confirmands

Liam Dugaw, Kyra Ege, Lucy Watkins, Lake Neill, and Hazel Prentice made a public affirmation of their baptism on June 4th.



**Save the
Date:
Faith
Formation
BBQ
Blue Ridge
Park
9/23/23**

Meet Our New Council Members

[Link to their Bios](https://rb.gy/4ffxt)
([https://](https://rb.gy/4ffxt)
rb.gy/4ffxt)



Scott Chrisman



Ben Kalina



Erica Prentice



Jan Ward



2400 NW 85th Street
Seattle, WA 98117

www.ourredeemers.net
206-783-7900

return service requested

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10 AM Summer Worship

Stream Online at 10 AM

Facebook: facebook.com/OurRedeemers

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/822691346>

Church office hours:

Monday–Thursday

10 AM – 3PM

Welcoming Wisdom Brunch



August 20, 11 AM



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