

JUNE 2020

our redeemer's
LUTHERAN • BALLARD

*The*Visitor

THE SPIRIT OF SUMMER EDITION

featuring
Holden @home
pg.6



A Community in the Model of Christ

All Our Redeemer's building facilities are closed to non-essential activities until further notice. Staff members are working remotely and can be contacted by email or by calling 206 783 7900.

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On the Cover: Dreaming of summer outings (stock photo). Below: Lifemasters (upper left), Caring Community (lower left), and choir groups using Zoom technology to meet online. If your group would like a Zoom meeting scheduled, please contact Katlin at office@ourredeemers.net.



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From the Pastor...



Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should
change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
Selah

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of
God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.
The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
Selah

Come, behold the works of the Lord;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.
'Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.'
The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
Selah

I've been praying this Psalm during this time of
staying home and staying safe. If you sing the word
"Selah" as a refrain, it can feel very empowering and
comforting at the same time. If you'd like to hear
a version of this Psalm that I arranged, click here:
<https://soundcloud.com/gretchen-weller-mertes/selah>

It seems like every day is both the same – "What day
is it today? Mowefriaday." And yet things are not the
same. Time seems to be dragging on and on, and yet,
just yesterday I was pretty sure it was still March.

It's June, my friends. Plans continue to fall into the
dust – trips, graduations, parties, funerals, holidays.
Many folks are coming to breaking points financially,
emotionally, and relationally. Anxiety about illness
and disease can be very overwhelming. Clearly, this
is a hard time for just about everyone in one way or
another.

It can be difficult in this time and space to figure
out where God is in this pandemic. The Psalmist
writes, "Be still and know that I am God." However,
she doesn't say whether the stillness is forced or
voluntary. In our forced stillness, creation is taking
advantage and renewing itself. It appears that the
sea creatures are singing new and different songs
in a lack of boat traffic [<https://www.kuow.org/stories/pandemic-gives-pacific-northwest-whales-a-respite-from-din-of-underwater-noise>] and it
feels like nature is breathing and recovering in our
lack of productivity. [<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/coronavirus-photos-decline-air-pollution-lockdown/>]. I've been saying a prayer of thanks that
all this is happening in Spring, because the earth
seems to be rejoicing in a riot of color (and pollen)
and there is something eminently hopefully in the
blossoming of a tree, even if it makes me sneeze
like crazy. Martin Luther, our church's founder, is
attributed as saying, "If the world would go to pieces
tomorrow, I would still plant my apple tree."

I pray that in these strange times, as we keep carrying
on as best and as safely as we can. Maybe we too can
take advantage of our forced stillness to feel God's
strength and comfort, plant our tree, and sing a little
"Selah" as we do.



Peace to you!

Pastor Gretchen

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

How to Worship on Sundays Online

We gather *each Sunday online at 11:00am. There are three ways to do this.*

By Facebook Live. Simply go to www.facebook.com/ourredeemers. You don't have to have a Facebook account – it's a public channel.

By Phone. call 1 669 900 9128 , and then enter this number when prompted: 822 691 346. This method only lets you listen, but it works well, and is less technologically fraught.

By Zoom. Click this link: <https://zoom.us/j/822691346>. The link works from 10:45am – 12:15pm every Sunday.

[Katlin](#), our Welcome Minister, will be monitoring the chat and make sure that our worship leaders know what questions you have. The bulletin each Sunday will be available on our website for download at www.ourredeemers.net/virtual-worship/.

If you have questions about live-streaming, please email [Pastor Gretchen](#) or [Katlin](#).



Don't miss our worship service on June 7th when **The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton**, ELCA's presiding bishop joins us. Eaton's four emphases for the ELCA are: We are church; We are Lutheran; We are church together; We are church for the sake of the world. These four emphases are fundamental to identifying who the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Have you heard our worship band, The Informal Ensemble's, new album?
If not, [LISTEN NOW!](#)



Helping with Worship by Pastor Gretchen

We would love to have your talents and abilities through our online services! If you would like to read scripture, pray the prayers, or sing a song of special music, you can totally do that! And it would be a gift to our community. Simply contact Pastor Gretchen (pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net) or Karen Lee (karen@ourredeemers.net) with your ideas or desires to help, and we'll plug you in, gratefully! Kids and youth are encouraged to participate, as well as folks of all ages. You don't have to be a professional, or even polished. God loves gifts that are offered with heart. Thank you for thinking of ways to participate!

The JUNE 2020 Edition of Northwest Washington Synod / ELCA's The Spirit Newsletter is Available

The Spirit is a monthly publication of the NW Washington Synod.
It features articles written by Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee and
Synod Vice President, Kay Edgerton.

Access: [PDF of the full edition](#)

Find previous editions: www.lutheransnw.org/publications



FAITH FORMATION

OUR REDEEMER'S GOES TO HOLDEN!

Monday, July 6 through Sunday, July 12

Have you always wanted to go to Holden Village? The hikes? The Sauna? The excessively healthy meals? The stimulating classes? The wonderful worship? The chance to just hang out on the porch with others from Our Redeemer's? The crafts? The soda fountain with \$1 scoops of ice cream? Homemade bread any time of day or night? The wacky variety show?

But, sadly, you've never been able to go? Or maybe you registered for this summer, and now it's canceled?

Well, now's your chance.

Our Redeemer's IS going to Holden Village. From home.

Yep. That's right. The pandemic has closed Holden to visitors this summer, but we've got plans for an alternate reality. Details are still being worked out, but we're dreaming of things like:



- Holden Evening Prayer at 6:30 every night. (Just like at Holden.) WITH our very own Pastor Gretchen Mertes, who was scheduled to be Holden Village Musician for a week this year. We're sorry others will miss out, but we don't have to!
- Archived classes...Holden has decades of them. Who is your favorite Holden teacher? Fred Niedner, who taught us Bible a year ago? Walter Brueggeman? Senator Paul Simon? Alan Storey, key to the victory over apartheid in South Africa? What are your favorite topics? Politics? Science and religion? SO many choices! We'll probably have to have a vote!
- A variety show (NOT talent show) for individuals and families to cook up a short skit, song, dance, joke or story to tell...whatever.
- A craft time...Probably one or two planned crafts, but then a virtual time together, either outside at extended distance or virtually, with your knitting, sketching, embroidery, etc., and conversation with others.
- A virtual or safe distance ice cream social?
- If Governor Inslee permits, a real afternoon hike...complete with safe distance, masks, and all the rest.
- Recipes from Holden – including the famous Holden Bread recipes.
- Use your favorite slide from Holden as the backdrop for your virtual participation!
- Maybe a Holden Slide show?

OR in the spirit of Holden, maybe YOU have a great idea for how we can do Holden @Home this year?

PLEASE save this week in your schedule...STAY TUNED for more information ... and if you want to help with one (or all) of the ideas above...Please tell [Pastor Kathy](#) or [Pastor Gretchen](#) right away!

OH, and one more thing! Had you planned to go to Holden this summer, paid your \$50 registration, and received it back? How about donating it...or more, to keep Holden going during this summer without the usual income?

See you there!



FAITH FORMATION

Vacation Bible School - Update

by Pastor Gretchen

VBS?

Hello friends!

Unsurprisingly, Vacation Bible School (VBS) is up in the air for this summer. Just like everything else, right? If your family is like my family, we're all wondering what the world we are going to do with our children this summer. Travel is questionable, camps are closed, and school will be over. It's pretty overwhelming! We'd love to have some kind of Faith Formation fun event this summer for sure. If you were hoping/planning to attend or volunteer for VBS, I have a few questions I'd love you to answer so we can better plan for our opportunities:

1. Would you/your student be interested in an "online" VBS this summer? It would be cool, but probably very different from what we've been doing. There are lots of options. (For an example, check out [this link](#))
2. If an online VBS sounds fun, would you prefer it once a week for 5 weeks, or all at once?
3. If we make VBS kits for families who want to participate, can you help assemble and deliver them?

Thank you for thinking about it, and letting me know (pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net). We're in this together, the hard parts and the good parts! We can do this as long as we're together.



"Sprouts" and all other Faith Formation classes will be conducted online each Sunday thru June 14th, take a break for the summer, and start up again in the Fall.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Dear Friends,

Yesterday, one of our families came by my house as I was weeding. They stood at the end of my driveway, mom, dad, a kindergartner and preschooler, playing toy guitars and holding up a big sign that said, "WE MISS YOU!" It was the highlight of my day!!! YES! Staying home and physical distancing are lousy! But, as the Hammetts reminded me, there ARE wonderful ways around it.

Similarly, the uncertainty we face is unsettling. How can we plan when we don't know what the future holds?

And yet...we must plan, because if ever there was a time for ministry, this is it! We and our neighbors need God's inspiration, hope, community and often, material help.



Our Redeemer's' leadership and staff have been bringing the same "can do" spirit to their planning that brought the Hammett family to my driveway. They are working hard, making faithful plans and choices for the future, based on our mission, and our best information.

A basic touch point for our planning has been this video of Dr. Michael Osterholm. <http://mpls-synod.org>. He is the Director of the University of Minnesota Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy and has served under five presidents. This is the clearest presentation I have seen on pandemics, COVID, churches and what we can expect. He's also a Lutheran!

WHEN WILL WE BE ABLE TO WORSHIP TOGETHER AGAIN?

The bottom line is: we do not want to gather until we know it is safe. Governor Inslee's Phased Reopening puts gatherings of more than 50 people in the last phase. That, combined with our renovation timeline, makes it unlikely we will be able to gather until some time next Spring. The possible exception to that might be worshiping outside for a period.

As a result, staff is learning new tools to combine voices and instruments, and to involve more members in music and worship leadership. We want our worship to be as moving and inspiring as possible!

We'd like nothing better than to be wrong about needing to put off re-gathering until next spring. Staff is working to prepare a phased reopening plan for our worship and other ministries, based on Synod guidelines, which Council will review. We will be watching carefully and ready to go, as soon as it is possible to do so safely!

continued next page

COVID-19 UPDATE

HOW IS THE FINANCE TEAM AND COUNCIL WORKING TO INSURE OUR REDEEMER'S IS FINANCIALLY STABLE, ESPECIALLY AS WE CREATE THE 2020-2021 BUDGET?

God has blessed us with leaders who bring just the skills we need for this time. As a result, we have been able to:

- Do a deep dive and analysis of past giving pattern data.
- Do risk and giving projections into the future.
- Make use of the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, which has a long history of research-based insights about giving, particularly to churches.
- Apply for and receive a federal payroll protection program grant, which will pay for staffing costs for two months. We have set up a separate bank account for that money, to clearly meet all requirements for its use and avoid any interest penalties.
- Staff is thoroughly reviewing how working and worshipping from home will affect our expenses in the coming year – from utilities to communion bread! Karie Stearns, our administrator, is also looking at how rental income will be affected.

HOW CAN WE HOLD CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS WHEN WE CAN'T MEET IN PERSON? IS THERE A WAY TO ENSURE VOTING WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL?

Our annual congregational meeting will be a Zoom meeting on Sunday July 12 at 12:15pm. Our constitution prohibits voting in absentia or by proxy, but as long as members can see and hear one another, our synod has said a Zoom meeting and vote is authorized by State law.

Assuming we know in time that GROW/Ballard P-Patch is able to buy our property, we expect to vote on the budget for our Vision-Aligned Building Renovation on same Sunday. Additional Zoom meetings will be held before the congregational meeting so we all have plenty of time to discuss this important undertaking. We may use "breakout" rooms (like we used on Healing Service Sunday) for smaller groups, who then bring thoughts to the larger group at the meetings.

Confidential voting will be possible by Zoom. Details are NOT worked out yet, but it will likely involve check-in to be sure each participant is a full voting member, assigning each person a unique number, and then using that number on a "survey" tool to vote. We are also still working out how to handle those without computers.

DO YOU HAVE MORE QUESTIONS? Please contact a Council member, [Parish Administrator Karie Stearns](#), or one of the pastors. And thanks for your patience, care for one another, and prayers for the well-being of our congregation and our mission.



Pastor Kathy Hawks



LIVING GENEROUSLY

The End of Our Redeemer's Fiscal Year Cometh...

Please bring your offering current by June 30th to sustain our ministries.

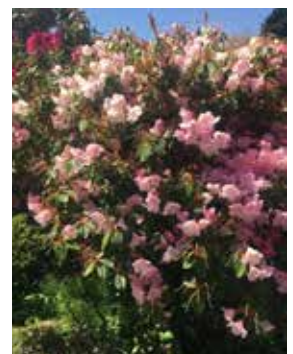
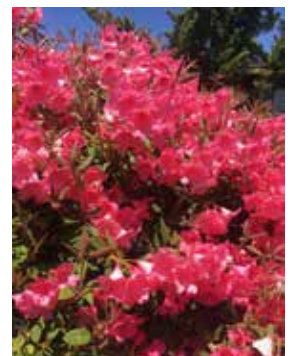
Gifts to God through Our Redeemer's aren't a bill...they are an expression of thanks to God for all that blesses us, and a way to keep Our Redeemer's community and mission strong for each other and for our neighbors.

Financial realities have definitely changed for many, and so, as always, if that is you, please feel no guilt about reconsidering your pledge or offering.

However, if you are able to keep your pledge or offering current, please do so before June 30 to help us finish our fiscal year with all expenses covered.

And if you are able to give more than you usually do at this time when others simply cannot, then please prayerfully considering a special gift. That is one of the powerful ways we are community of faith for and with one another – each one sharing as we can, with grateful, hopeful hearts! *Thank you!*

**The rhodies in
bloom at
Our Redeemer's
last month**



BUILD THE VISION... SHARE THE VISION

VAB Monthly Update

All the pieces are coming together. Funding for the project will come from three sources. A portion will come from the previous fundraising efforts and the sale of the Calgary property – this is cash-in-hand. A second portion will come from the sale of the P-Patch property and their efforts to raise the funds are progressing as anticipated. They and the Church should know the preliminary grant status on their largest component, the King County Futures Grant, and bridge loan funding options by the end of May. The final portion of funding will come through a loan to the Church. Pastor Kathy and Church Council are working through the options and will be making a recommendation in June.



The design, permitting, and cost estimating work is also moving along per schedule. Permits are expected to be issued and quality control reviews and updates are being made to the construction documents (plans and specifications) to ensure the pricing from LZL is as accurate as possible. Final pricing is expected in late May and based on preliminary information, we are very close to the established budget.

The rendering above shows the sanctuary, the cross, and the new layout of the organ. The team is very pleased to have Marceau Pipe Organ Builders of Ballard as a partner in refurbishing and reinstalling the instrument.

Budget

The council approved the budget for the overall project in February 2020 and there have been no significant changes, only minor adjustments to date.

Schedule

Current Phase 1 COVID-19 restrictions do not allow new construction projects to get underway. Moving to Phase 2 of the Governor's plan will allow it to start and we expect this will be resolved and that the project will be able to proceed as planned. The team still anticipates work to begin on the project in July/August of 2020 and finish early to mid-summer 2021.





COMMUNITY

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 Amy Dahlgren	12 Marete Meyer	21 Richard Holt
1 Ken Lubkowski	12 Susan Pelto	23 Matt Grover
3 Paul Berg	13 Jana Davis	24 Andrew Brissette
3 Glory Frodesen	13 Erik Giesa	26 Olaf Brissette
3 Harper Hammett	14 Deanna Carter	27 Irene Day *
8 Steve Erickson	18 Danielle Modeen	28 Gabriel Jones
9 Nelson Miller	20 Ed Chabot	28 Terrence Rindler
9 Christine Skow	20 Charles McKenzie	29 Marli Iverson
10 Dennis Palmason	20 June Moore *	30 Craig Gibson
12 Levi Jancola	20 Nancy Parks	

* Celebrating those who are 90+

Life Masters Continues! Wednesday, June 17, 12pm

Zoom Meeting #965 7272 6373 Password: 564308 Phone in: (253)215-8782

In times like these, people with more life experience bring wisdom, perspective, and insights about what's truly important and Who anchors and guides us. So there's no better time for those of us who are 50+, to check in and share our thoughts – for ourselves, and perhaps for others.

If you Zoom in for worship, this will happen the same way. Either phone (253)215-8782 and listen in, or go to [this link](#) at noon on June 17th. You can eat while we talk, or not. You can click on the video feed to let others see you...or not. Our connections with one another are never more treasured than now, so join in!

If you have questions about "Zooming", please contact Katlin at office@ourredeemers.net. For more info about our get-together, contact Lynne McNeill buckomcneill@yahoo.com or Ellen Arrington ellenarrington@gmail.com.

Circles of Connection

Be sure to reply to your invitation to be part of a Circle of Connection! If you haven't received an invitation, please contact [Pastor Gretchen](#) to remedy the situation. Groups will Zoom for an hour (or less) at whatever time and day works for the people in the group. It could be a happy hour, lunch, or any kind of gathering. The makeup of Circles of Connection groups will be loosely based on life stage or circumstances, and copious amounts of zoom technical help will be available every step of the way. Keep an eye out for your invitation to connect and be a part of a Circle!

Phishing/Scam Alert: There are phishing schemes out there and Pastor Kathy's email is being used to ask for money. Please know that Pastor Kathy will never send an email to you asking for money or gift cards!



COMMUNITY



Grad Sunday – June 7

Calling all graduates! On Sunday June 7th, during worship, we will have a blessing for our graduates of high school and college. If you would like your student's name included, please let Pastor Gretchen know by Saturday June 6th. Please include your student's name, and what school they are graduating from. We are proud of our students! This has been a very tough year for those graduating, missing so many milestone events. It is my hope that we can give them at least some small acknowledgment of their successes, and ask God's blessing as they head out into this new and different world.



Friendship Calls

Our Caring Community Team is creating a list of some of the more vulnerable members of our community (folks over 60 and those who are immune compromised), and coordinating Friendship Calls to check in and remain connected to folks who are truly isolated during this time. If you would like to participate in our Friendship Calls, please contact Linda Carbone at lindac19@comcast.net.



Intergenerational Pen Pals

Pastor Gretchen and Mandy Neill have started working together to pair some of our younger folks with people who might like to receive some creative mail and maybe form a pen-pal relationship. If your young person would like to give it a try, or if you're someone who would love to receive some mail from a kid, please contact Mandy or Pastor Gretchen and we'll get you some details. neillmandy@gmail.com or pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net.

Save the P-Patch.



Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church urges you to support Ballard P-Patch in their efforts to save this vital community garden.

Donate today:

saveballardppatch.org

MUSINGS FROM EXILE* by Sally Parker-Henderson

How can we sing a song of the Lord in a strange land?
- Psalm 137:4



Pastor Kathy called me today to ask if I'd be interested in a project which involved getting people together into small groups using Zoom as the medium. I stopped her to say, "I love small groups but I'm not a Zoom fan and I'm too darn right brained to be good at it anyway. It's not that I don't use some technology (I mean really), I bank online, I can do grocery self-checkout, I use Facebook and email and write - and that's enough for me. Call me vintage, or if you prefer, OLD, but I'm not going there. I told her I had loved hearing via email from several people from church and that cheered me. Then I said, "I'd be better writing something". Well, that's my mistake because of course she said, "Then do that".

So, here are my musings having been exiled for a very long time, just like you. I looked the word exile up in the dictionary because it seems to me the perfect word to explain our unusual situation right now. Webster's says: Exile: voluntary exile from one's community, a person driven from their native place.

Well, there you have it. We have been driven from our beloved native place, our worshipping community, and it doesn't feel exactly right. I miss worship in the sanctuary; I miss Prayers of the People because we are our authentic selves when we pray from our hearts; I miss singing together; I miss communion and the bringing our whole selves to the communion rail; I miss hugs from others, sermons and stories people tell. It makes me a bit sad just speaking about it. But... as someone said recently, "We isolate now so when we gather again, no one will be missing." That's exactly it, isn't it?

In exile, I busy myself with painting. The teacher needs to practice too, so now there is plenty of time for practicing my own skills. I clean out my many files of resources that I give painters to paint. I read a lot and, of course, watch news. Unfortunately, I'm a news junkie so feel a need to keep up carefully on how we're going to see the end of the tunnel one of these days. I'm proud of our citizens who have taken this exile to heart and collectively have made a big difference in the curve and the lives saved. When Doug and I are tired of our own company, we take a drive. We decided to visit the neighborhoods in and around Seattle that we don't know well. We were both born and raised in the North end of Seattle, so neighborhoods or areas like Federal Way, DeMoines, Issaquah, Snohomish, Queen Anne, Auburn, Redmond, all places we know as we travel the roads, but we've been spending time in neighborhoods and small villages here and there and this has been fun.

Though our national path ahead seems very steep indeed, I think we can do it. Many of us have taken time now for meditation, quiet, walking, playing games with family, rested, stirred up new recipes, listened to more music, and given time to thinking deeply. The earth feels healthier without us and all our cars, and maybe, just maybe we can dream new dreams without us and all our cars, and take time to heal, maybe the world can be healed in new ways as well. Peace and blessings to you until we can once again be together.

**Sally's thoughts are the first in what we hope will be a monthly feature in The Visitor during the pandemic. Do you have reflections or a story about your experience and faith during this time, that you're willing to share? If so, please [contact Pastor Kathy](#).*



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Social Justice From Home!

Join our partner, Earth Ministry, in asking Congress to enact our values and pass COVID relief and stimulus packages that will:

- Prioritize relief for workers, the unemployed, and underemployed
- End financial bailouts for the fossil fuel industry
- Implement a nationwide moratorium on utility shut-offs
- Care for vulnerable and disproportionately impacted communities
- Invest in clean energy, jobs, and a just transition
- Protect our democratic process [LINK](#)

Can King County Solve Chronic Homelessness In 5 Years?



There is hopeful news and a call to action from the Third Door Coalition, an exciting collaboration of political, business, nonprofit, healthcare, and academic volunteers who say King County can solve chronic homelessness in five years.

“Permanent supportive housing is the best solution for people experiencing chronic homelessness,” says Paul Lambros of Plymouth Housing. The business community has been asking for a solution, and this is it.”

“Our two years of work underscores that chronic unsheltered homelessness is the epicenter of our homelessness crisis, but it can be solved,” says Seattle University Professor Sara Rankin, who also founded the Homeless Rights Advocacy Project (HRAP).

In brief, the proposal proposes to build or lease 6,500 units over five years, funding the \$1.6 billion capital costs through public-private partnership of city, state, and local businesses. Large corporations will pull their weight in this endeavor, including a commitment from large corporations to provide \$275 per head for 5 years.

Dr. Rankin says further, “Permanent supportive housing is consistently proven to be the most humane and cost-effective solution to chronic homelessness. If we can make a difference with chronic homelessness, we can generate momentum to solve homelessness overall.”

Check out the video <https://www.thirddoorcoalition.org/>; read the press release, and sign the proposal!



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Social Justice Update

Because of Our Redeemers generosity, we were grateful to provide an extra gift of \$1,000 to the Ballard Food Bank in May. We postponed the E-cycle+ event and Lutheran World Relief donation of quilts and kits was canceled this year. Ecumenical Advocacy Days in Washington DC was also canceled. It has been a tough year.

However, Road to Housing is going strongly with 5 folks present. There are challenges weekly and Tom Bernard, Karie Stearns, and Shannon Beck continue to interface with The Urban League in this challenging time.

Ballard Sunday Dinner

Sunday, June 21st, Ballard First Lutheran Church

As we know, there is considerably less food accessible to people living meal to meal. We are grateful that the third Sunday Ballard dinner is going strong! We plan, prep, and serve to go meals for between 40 and 60 hungry neighbors. Because of COVID-19 guidelines, we have shifted our approach a bit. We regularly have 1-2 people who do part of the prep during the week, such as making cookies. Nancy Wessman has quite the knack for contributing her delicious gifts the last few months. Additionally, this team purchases food on Friday and Saturday and delivers it to Ballard First Lutheran. If you have flexibility on Fridays and Saturdays, be in touch with Shannon: outreach@ourredeemers.net.



Additionally, we have scaled down the shifts to accommodate changes in prep and clean up. Shifts are 3-6:30pm; and 5-7:30pm. [SIGN UP HERE \(https://rb.gy/5km343\)](https://rb.gy/5km343)



Themed happy hours via Zoom, such as "Crazy Hats," is one way Our Redeemer's staff is keeping their spirits up during these strange times.

Thank Yous

This is my nephew Emerson wearing his prayer blanket. My sister specifically sent this picture to be sent out to the church and/or prayer team. He wasn't even sitting on his own 4 weeks (before this photo was taken), so this picture warms my heart. Thank you for your prayers!

Sincerely,
Valerie Tung



"I want to thank you for all you are doing to bring
Sunday services into our homes. It is wonderful.
You are doing a fantastic job. We feel connected.
We appreciate it very much."
- Denise & Earl Ecklund

Dear Fabulous staff
Thank you for all of your hard work
to keep us focusing on our priorities
Honor God - worship online
Honor each other - Zoom
Be at Peace
Dana and Judy Wright

Worship Chatter

4/19/2020 – Hymn Sing Sunday (Zoom Chat)

From jenniferseyler : Love the music, love seeing all of your faces, and love Kathy's Easter pastor attire!

From John & MJ : It all sounded wonderful!

From Katherine Voss : Beautiful service! Thank you musicians

From Don Simpson : Both Don and Mary Simpson are here today. Thanks for all the music. We don't have a camera on this computer, but we can see you.

From Jenny Fredericks : Thank you. Beautiful music!

From Carleigh : Thank you all the music folk! Lovely!!!

From Jennifer Lamson : Thank you for the beautiful start to the week!

From Sonja Braasch : thanks for all the beautiful songs. :)

From jenniferseyler : Arayah and Jennifer loved the service!

From Katherine Voss : Wonderful playing Karen!!!!!!

From Linda Carbone : Thank you for the wonderful service.

From Katherine Voss : Thank you soloists – singers and instrumentalists! Lovely service!

(Facebook Comments) “This is so lovely – thanks” “Weller has a nice voice. Nice to sing with mom.” “We loved it! Thanks so much!”

4/26/2020 – 3rd Sunday of Easter (Zoom Chat)

From John-Otto Liljenstolpe : thank you, Tamara, for your heart-felt praying.

From Katlin Dickinson-Laurence : Thank you to Ingrid Brisette for helping Pastor Gretchen with the kid's message!

From Shannon Beck : Great music, Karen

From Carleigh Bedell : Thank you Katlin

From Niedner Family : Karen, My 4-year old daughter Iliana said she wants to be a piano player like her some day!

(Facebook Comments) “What a blessing – thank you!” “Beautiful music. Thank you.” “Loved your playing and singing today! Thank you!” “Great sermon of hope and love. Thank you.” “Thank you Pastor Gretchen for the inspiring message of hope and love.” “Thank you Mary Peterson.”

5/3/2020 – 4th Sunday of Easter (Zoom Chat)

From Stephanie : This is Teacher Appreciation Week. Thank you teachers and educators for carrying on when your jobs are so much more challenging than usual. You are still so important!

From Stephanie Fowler : Ryan on bass. This is a great sight to see.

From Billy, Valerie, Ainsley, (Cyanne) : Your daughter is so brave and did such a great job, Amy! love it!

From Julie Vannoy : Awesome job Riley!

From Sonja Braasch : Amy that was priceless! Go Riley!

From Dave : Good Job Riley!

From jenniferseyler : Go Weller!

From Jennifer : Have a good week. Lovely to see your shining faces. Peace and love Jones Family

(Facebook Comments) “Good job Riley! My day is made. AMEN!!!!” “Thanks, Pastor Kathy, for that beautiful sermon. It hit me where I am.” “Oooh. That song with Gretchen on piano was pretty good!” Thank you for a great service!” “WHAT A GREAT Opening Hymn For this Service. Y'all take care. LOVE AND Peace” “Thanks again for streaming this service” “As part of God's nature around us, I enjoyed hearing the birds as Pastor Kathy was giving her sermon.”

From Facebook Direct Messages (5/17) “Great service filled with hope and joy. We are here every Sunday, thanks for being there for us.”

Note: The events on this calendar are not in-person meetings; all gatherings may choose to meet online. Check with your group leader for details or email office@ourredeemers.net.

JUNE 2020

ourredeemers.net/calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 1 7pm Social Justice Meeting 7pm Faith Formation Team	2 7pm Social Justice Meeting 7pm Faith Formation Team	3 Office Closed# 7pm Adult & Youth Choir (Online)	4 1pm Staff Meeting	5	6	
7 Grad Sunday Faith Formation for Families (Online) 11am Online Worship Service Guest: Bishop Eaton	8	9 7pm Executive Team Meeting	10 7pm Adult & Youth Choir (Online)	11 1pm Staff Meeting	12	13
14 Faith Formation Appreciation Faith Formation for Families (Online) 11am Online Worship Service	15 July Newsletter Content Deadline	16 6:30 Church Council Meeting	17 12pm R2H Meeting 12pm Life Masters Lunch 1pm Staff Meeting 7pm Adult & Youth Choir (Online)	18	19	20
21 Father's Day 11am Online Worship Service 2-7pm Ballard Sunday Dinner	22 7pm Social Justice Meeting	23 7pm 	24 1pm Staff Meeting 7pm Adult & Youth Choir (Online)	25	26	27
28 11am Online Worship Service	29	30				

#Staff devotes the first Wednesday of each month to professional development and planning.



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return service requested

Our Redeemer's is striving to reduce the printing and production costs of "The Visitor" our monthly newsletter. If you want to go paperless and receive an emailed pdf only email office@ourredeemers.net to let us know!

Congregational Annual Meeting

July 12 | 12:15pm, via ZOOM

Our annual congregational meeting will be a Zoom meeting on
Sunday - July 12 at 12:15pm.

We will celebrate and review the ministries and fiscal year
coming to a close and vote on the Fiscal Year 2020-21 budget.

Assuming we know in time that GROW/Ballard P-Patch is able to buy our
property, we expect to vote on the budget for our
Vision-Aligned Building Renovation as well.

Watch for details:

- Dates of pre-meeting zoom discussions
- Logistics for voting



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