

JUNE 2024



TheVisitor



Service of Installation
and Reception for
Pastor Thomas
Friday, June 7, 6 PM
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*Rest, Growth,
and Renewal:
Embracing the Sacred
Rhythm of Life*



A Community in the Model of Christ

Rest. Rest is given as part of God's creation, and everything rests. Relaxing allows our bodies and minds to recoup and recover from work and play. Sleep may be the time when our brains clean up and reorganize, as well as revamp neuronal pathways for easier retrieval. Flowers close to conserve water and heat. Woodland creatures go into sleep mode to preserve their energies for spring and better ensure the continuation of the species. Ocean life travel the length and breadth of the earth to mate, eat, and maintain a comfortable temperature – something climate change increasingly affects. Even the humble church-goer may take time to explore the world, go to brunch, garden, and occasionally sleep in on Sundays.

If you were to ask a church about rest, you can be sure a congregation is aware of the importance of rest, but whether a congregation rests, or takes it, depends on our awareness and attendance of that need and gift. Over the past months and years, it is common and frequent that many are feeling over-extended or always trying to keep up. It is a sign of the times when our weary world is – to quote the Apostle, Paul – “groaning in labor pains,” – great changes are being born and the world is growing and shifting. As one folk prophet once sang, “O the times, they are a changin’.” And from all this change, from all that commands our attention and the fearful events of our world, we may all surely cling to the hope and trust that rest is coming.

You would not think of summer as a restful season. Crops continue to grow, and fields and livestock need maintaining and monitoring. People continue to work and play, and even take time to travel. Summer feels like a working season. But rest is still found among this time of growth and work. You may find a happy cow basking in the warmth of the evening sun. At the hottest parts of the day, workers around the world take to the shade. Even ranchers and farmers watch and wait for the seeds planted in Spring to shoot up into the sky, and to plump and swell into colorful shapes. Even vintners wait out the summer months as red varietals adapt to the heat and old vines produce darkened fruit, which will create rich, garnet hues. Rest and growth are partners in an ever-changing and living world.

In the scriptures, rest is something that is done in celebration, in respite, and as a well-deserved end of a task. The establishment of the Sabbath when God rests and admires the creation of the earth in the book of Genesis gives us the sense that rest is a natural part of life and work. Rest from hardship and wandering comes in the Hebrews' entry into the promised land. When Ecclesiastes advises us to be at ease, it is with the understanding that the seasons of life are out of our control, and we are taught to radically accept our limitations and rest from the anxieties of an ever-changing world. And of course, the rest from our troubles, the healing of wounds, hearts, and nations, rest from sin, and rest for the weary comes with the reign of God and the coming of Christ. In all of this, God gives hope and comfort. With rest, God aligns change and growth. Rest is part of transition and revival. But God also places boundaries on work and gives an end to labor and labor pains in a new creation.

Rest assured, the Living God is continually and always renewing the face of the earth, and God's people the world over are given new life daily.

Even we, in this small corner of the world, are being grown and shaped and formed by the movement of the Holy Spirit among us. Summer will be a time to reflect on rest and growth and how they relate to our becoming a new creation in Christ. Summer will give us pause to prepare for Kick-Off Sunday and all that follows in the Fall, and reimagine formation. As we make our way to the Annual Meeting on June 23rd, we will have a flurry of activity. On June 7th, I am grateful to announce we can lay a long period of discernment to rest when the Bishop will finalize the call process and install me as your new minister! Graduates will (hopefully) get some rest and time to celebrate their achievements before the next stage in their lives. On June 30th, we get to celebrate Seattle Pride with our fellow congregations and neighbors! With single services starting June 23rd, and formation and choir on pause during the summer, there is time to rest, discern, and play as we are called.



What's Happening in June at Our Redeemer's

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OUR REDEEMER'S STAFF

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- Karie Stearns, Parish Administrator
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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.



June 2, Sunday

9 AM - Informal Worship

9 AM - Sprouts In-Person | Downstairs

10 AM - O-ROCK Youth Classes | Downstairs

10 AM - Adult Forum | Fellowship Hall

11 AM - Traditional Worship

June 3, Monday

5 PM - A Women's Gathering | Obec Brewing

June 4, Tuesday

1:30 PM - Staff Meeting

7 PM - LiVE Synod-wide Bible Study | Zoom

7 PM - Executive Team Meeting | Zoom

June 5, Wednesday

5 PM - BAT Meeting | Our Redeemer's

6:30 PM - Kid's Choir, 7 PM - Choir Rehearsal

June 7, Friday SERVICE OF INSTALLATION

6 PM - Service of Installation and Reception for Pastor Thomas | Our Redeemer's

June 9, Sunday

9 AM - Informal Worship

9 AM - Sprouts In-Person | Downstairs

10 AM - O-ROCK Youth Classes | Downstairs

10 AM - Adult Forum | Fellowship Hall

11 AM - Traditional Worship

June 11, Tuesday

1:30 PM - Staff Meeting

7 PM - LiVE Synod-wide Bible Study | Zoom

7 PM - Grounds Crew Event | Our Redeemer's Gardens

7 PM - Church Council Meeting | Our Redeemer's

June 12, Wednesday

6:30 PM - Kid's Choir, 7 PM - Choir Rehearsal

June 16, Sunday FATHER'S DAY

9 AM - Informal Worship

9 AM - Sprouts In-Person | Downstairs

10 AM - O-ROCK Youth Classes | Downstairs

10 AM - Adult Forum | Fellowship Hall

11 AM - Traditional Worship

2 PM - Ballard Sunday Dinner | Ballard First Lutheran

June 18, Tuesday

1:30 PM - Staff Meeting

7 PM - LiVE Synod-wide Bible Study | Zoom

June 19, Wednesday

Juneteenth - Church Office Closed

June 23, Sunday ANNUAL MEETING

9 AM - Sprouts In-Person | Downstairs

10 AM - O-ROCK Youth Classes | Downstairs

10 AM - Informal Worship

11 AM - Congregational Annual Meeting | Our

Redeemer's

June 24, Monday

9 AM - Grounds Crew Event | Our Redeemer's Gardens

June 25, Tuesday

1:30 PM - Staff Meeting

7 PM - LiVE Synod-wide Bible Study | Zoom

June 30, Sunday PRIDE SUNDAY

10 AM - Informal Worship

11 AM - Pride Parade | Downtown Seattle



Living Generously

Our Redeemer's Mission Budget

Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (Thru 4.30.24) 83.33% Thru the Fiscal Year

To view the Financial Snapshot spreadsheet for Our Redeemer's thru April 2024, visit this [LINK](https://bit.ly/3KmbXYV) (<https://bit.ly/3KmbXYV>). If you have questions or concerns about Our Redeemer's financial status, contact Karie Stearns, administrator@ourredeemers.net.

Income	2023-2024 Approved Budget	Year to Date Income as of 4.30.24	% of Budget Year to Date	Over (Under) Budget Year to Date
Envelope & Loose Offerings	511,100	401,982	72.6%	(23,934)
Church Use	88,506	74,217	88.1%	462
Fundraising (Auction)*	38,000	3,449	83.9%	(28,218)
Interest	1,000	68	9.1%	(765)
Special/One-Time Gifts	-	31,000	6.8%	31,000
Total Regular Income (without Special Giving)**	638,606	479,716	75.1%	(52,455)
TOTAL INCOME	638,606	510,716	80%	(21,455)

Expenses	2023-2024 Approved Budget	Year to Date Expenses as off 4.30.24	% of Budget Year to Date	Over (Under) Budget
Social Justice/Outreach	74,549	43,344	58.1%	(18,781)
Pastoral Staff	172,820	86,697	50.2%	(57,320)
Worship & Music	38,382	43,316	112.9%	11,331
Fellowship & Caring	2,750	3,776	137.3%	1,484
Faith Formation	22,517	20,605	91.5%	1,841
Stewardship	11,419	6,968	61.0%	(2,548)
Communications***	55,667	73,378	131.8%	26,988
Facilities	108,978	98,867	90.7%	8,052
Administration	150,615	102,993	68.4%	(22,519)
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$637,697	479,943	75.3%	(51,471)

Regular giving (envelope and loose offerings) is below budget by \$23,934 and regular income is below budget by \$52,455. However, total expenses are also under budget by \$51,471, mostly due to planned understaffing.

*The majority of auction income processed in May and is not reflected in current year-to-date financials, skewing the total over/under budget year-to-date numbers for regular income.

***Special Giving* denotes a one-time gift that is outside of regular giving.

***Communications expense line will continue to be overbudget for the 23-24 FY due to staffing backpay.

For questions/concerns, to set up giving, or to change your giving, please contact Parish Administrator, Karie Stearns at administrator@ourredeemers.net. Thank you for your support!

Thank You for Your Generosity!

Your offerings provide the spiritual leadership, pastoral care and basic provision that allows Our Redeemer's to meet the needs of the community we lovingly share. Ways to give:

ONLINE GIVING: Go to ourredeemers.net, and click on the "Giving" tab OR call (206)783-7900 x101

MOBILE GIVING APP: Download the free "Vanco" app. Search for "Our Redeemers Lutheran Church"

MAIL A CHECK: Made out to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church and mail to 2400 NW 85th St., Seattle, 98117

DONATE STOCK: Visit ourredeemers.net-click on the "Giving" tab and find "Give...via Donation of Stock" link

SET UP OR UPDATE YOUR AUTOMATIC GIVING: Contact Administrator Karie Stearns (administrator@ourredeemers.net, 206-783-7900 x101). She is happy to help you and answer all your giving questions.



Worship and Music



Installation of Pastor Thomas Voelp

Friday, June 7, 6 PM | Our Redeemer's

You are invited to attend the Installation of The Reverend Thomas Voelp as Pastor at Our Redeemer's. The service of Installation will be held Friday, June 7 at 6:00 pm. A reception will follow hosted and coordinated by Call Committee members.

If you can provide a Vaffer maker and/or you'd like to help make Vaffer on June 6th in preparation for the reception, please contact Pastor Thomas. pastorthomas@ourredeemers.net.



Special Music for Summer Worship!

Beginning Sunday, June 23

Summer Worship, with one service at 10:00 am, begins on Sunday, June 23, 2024. Music during the summer will include a combination of 9:00 am and 11:00 am styles, as well as opportunities for Special Music.

Our wonderful Choir takes a well-deserved break from singing Offering anthems during this time, so **if you have interest in singing or playing an instrument as a soloist or in a small group this summer**, please let Karen Lee and/or Gianfranco Foddai know. We'll be happy to welcome you and the gifts you offer!

Celebrating June Birthdays!

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Ken Lubkowski | 13 Jana Davis | 23 Matt Grover |
| 3 Glory Frodesen | 13 Erik Giesa | 24 Andrew Brissette |
| 3 Harper Hammett | 13 Araya Seyler | 26 Olaf Brissette |
| 5 Metriese Wayne | 14 Deanna Carter | 27 Mary Peters |
| 9 Nelson Miller | 16 Bette Hendricks | 28 Gabriel Jones |
| 9 Christine Skow | 20 Chuck McKenzie | 29 Marli Iverson |
| 10 Denny Palmason | 20 Nancy Parks | 30 Craig Gibson |
| 12 Levi Jancola | 21 Richard Holt | |



Faith Formation



Vacation Bible School

July 29 - August 2, 9 AM-Noon | Our Redeemer's

As the school year comes to a close, so will our Sunday O-ROCK and SPROUTS classes. Our last classes will be on June 23rd,

Even though classes are ending for the summer, Vacation Bible School is on the horizon! VBS is planned for the week of July 29th-August 2nd from 9:00 am - noon.

Come be part of the planning and VBS team! WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! We also could use some responsible teens who need service hours to help at VBS. If you know a teen that can step up please contact Betsy McGregor at bemac7309@gmail.com or Pastor Thomas pastorthomas@ourredeemers.net

Come to the Final "Experiential Church" Adult Forum This Year Sunday, June 9, 10 AM | Fellowship Hall

These past 9 months, we've experimented at Our Redeemers with various ways of experiencing God through art, nature, and embodied practices. On June 9th, we'll gather to incorporate all three, as well as to review how we've experienced God's presence in new ways this past year. All are welcome, including youth.

Adult Faith Formation - Being Church

Sundays, June 2, and June 16 | Fellowship Hall

The Apostle Paul wrote, 'I can do all things through [Christ], who strengthens me.' He also wrote that for the sake of the gospel, he became 'all things to all people.' Sometimes, we read these passages and think that we, as a church, must do all things for all people. We must be like God, even. However, often, this leads to the sense that churches and we as members fall short, especially when we need rest or time to discern what God is calling us to be. The reality is that God enables the universal church to do all things, and we are just one part of the body of Christ.

In preparation for the Annual Meeting on June 23rd, Pastor Thomas will be facilitating three discussions focused on how churches are transformed when they can prioritize and organize around their areas of greatest strength.

Share Your Photos!

We invite each of you to become storytellers through the lens of your cameras! Whether it's a smiling face during Sunday service, a candid capture from a fellowship gathering, or a group shot from a community outreach endeavor, each photo holds the power to illuminate the essence of who we are as a church family.

That's why we're reaching out to YOU to be a vital part of our storytelling journey. We invite you to share your photos of church events with us, so we can weave them into the fabric of our communications and outreach efforts.

Email your photos to communications@ourredeemers.net, along with a brief description of the event and the names of anyone featured in the photo (if applicable). Your contributions will not only enhance our communication efforts but also strengthen the bonds of fellowship within Our Redeemer's. Thank you for your ongoing support and enthusiasm!





Faith Formation

Hope Highlights Our Redeemer's Women's Retreat by Anne McGrew

The beauty of Hood Canal provided inspiration for fourteen women gathered at Seabeck Conference Center in early May. Retired Pastor Deanna Wildermuth provided spiritual guidance through the weekend's theme of "Finding Hope."

The retreat was filled with lots of laughter, good food, wine, and thought-provoking Bible study focused on the scriptures where Mary appeared. (What's a women's retreat without Mary?) Pastor Deanna brought a hope-filled lens to our discussion of the scriptures.

May at Seabeck was rainy, of course, but it didn't prevent walking on the beach and exploring the grounds. Thanks to Sonja Braasch, we even got an introduction to tai chi.

Throughout the retreat, we worked together on a weaving project designed to express the beauty and hope of community. The finished pieces are on display at Our Redeemer's.

Worship and communion wrapped up our time together at Seabeck. Thank you to Pastor Deanna for her passionate and thoughtful guidance through a "hopeful, hope-filled, hope-provoking" retreat.





Community



Our Redeemer's at the Pride Parade Sunday, June 30 | Downtown Seattle

On June 30th, come celebrate God's diverse creation and love in queer identities as Our Redeemer's gathers with other congregations of the Northwest Washington Synod to march in the Seattle Pride Parade!

Each June, communities across the world celebrate, and honor the call for civil rights and equal treatment of queer persons in events. This year marks the 50-year anniversary of Seattle Pride. The theme is "Now!: Now is the moment. Now is our legacy. Now is forever."

Learn more at the Seattle Pride website.
<https://seattlepride.org/seattle-pride->

Pastor Thomas is Our Redeemer's liaison for the Northwest Washington Synod's Pride march 2024. Details like how to sign up and other relevant information are forthcoming from the Synod. You can follow for updates at the Synod website page: <https://www.lutheransnw.org/pages/pride>.



Contact Pastor Thomas by June 16th if you will be marching this year want to carpool or are able to help others to bus or get to the staging area for the parade: pastorthomas@ourredeemers.net. There is limited space to march this year, and participation is on a first-come, first served. Thank you!



A Women's Gathering - First Mondays Monday, June 3, 5 PM | Obec Brewing, 1144 NW 52nd St.

Looking to connect more with other women? You are invited to join our lively gatherings on the first Monday of each month at Ballard's Obec Brewing taproom from 5:00-7:00 pm. Our next gathering is on June 3. Enjoy a variety of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, food trucks, and engaging conversations, as the group composition changes every time. All who identify as female are welcome. Have questions or need transportation assistance? Contact Connie Sandstrom at 206-375-5449 or Kari Guddal at kari_guddal@outlook.com.



Be of Service. Be a Council Member.

Interested in shaping the direction of your church and exercising leadership within your community? Join the Church Council! The Nominating Committee is seeking dedicated individuals to join our council starting in June.

If you have an interest or have questions please reach out to Emilie Purvine (emiliepurvine@gmail.com), Jana Brady (janaledavis@hotmail.com), or Steve Cromwell (steveaaalesund@gmail.com).



Community



Congregational Annual Meeting

Sunday, June 23, 11 AM | Our Redeemer's

Our annual congregational meeting will be on Sunday June 23rd after the morning service (there is just one service that day at 10:00 am). At 11:00 am we will vote on the budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, and celebrate the ending of the 23-24 fiscal and programmatic year. All active members in good standing are eligible to vote.



Monthly Grounds Crew Expands for Summer!

Another monthly Grounds Crew event has been added each month to add to the monthly gardening meetings. The reasons includes surplus task opportunities and scheduling an evening summer time event so more folks can participate. Come join other Our Redeemer's folks as we help maintain our garden beds.

Summer Grounds Crew dates are:

Tuesday, June 11, 7-9 pm
Monday, June 24, 9- noon

Thursday, July 11, 7-9 pm
Monday, July 29, 9- noon

Thursday, August 8, 7-9 pm
Monday, August 26, 9- noon

All seasoned and newbie gardeners are welcome! We augment the services of a landscape company with focused pruning and weeding. So bring your favorite tools to remove or trim plants (we also have plenty to share). Questions? Contact Connie Sandstrom at conniesandstrom05@gmail.com.



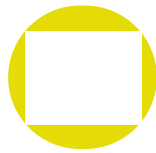
Be an Emmaus Visitor

An extension of the Sunday worship, Emmaus Visitors at Our Redeemer's bring communion to members of our community who, either temporarily or permanently, cannot come to church. Emmaus Visitors also befriend these homebound members, reminding them that they are still essential and valued to our community. Their caring and love knits our congregation together in ties of love and of the Holy Spirit's comfort and peace.



In these ways, Emmaus Visitors bring the presence of Christ and the Church. They bring a caring presence, a willingness to listen, and offer prayer, share Scripture, and bring Communion to those in hospital or at home. Their listening and caring, prayer and communion, are a source of great hope, especially as people may decline in health and strength.

If you're interested in becoming an Emmaus Visitor, contact Julie Vannoy, julianne.van@comcast.net.



Social Justice



Help Out in the Summer Months - Ballard Sunday Dinner

Join us in making a difference at Ballard Sunday Dinner (BSD) every third Sunday of each month this summer! BSD is a collaborative effort with local churches aimed at providing meals for our community members in need, typically serving around 30 guests per month. Our next dinner is scheduled for June 16th.

Volunteer roles are open and flexible. We'll pair you with a partner until you feel confident in a role on your own and provide recipes and shopping lists for volunteers, under the guidance of experienced BSD volunteers. Come be a part of something meaningful!

Please help out this summer by using this link: <https://rb.gy/ea817>. Amy Borgmeyer (amy.borgmeyer@gmail.com) can answer any questions. Thank you for what you can do!

Celebrating Juneteenth 2024

Juneteenth (June 19) is the one of the oldest known commemorations related to the abolition of slavery in the United States. Juneteenth celebrates the date of June 19, 1865, when enslaved people of African descent located in Galveston, Texas, finally learned of their freedom from the slavery system in the United States. Among other traditions commemorating the day, the use of the color red in ceremonies is practiced.

Here are a few things that you can do on Juneteenth around Seattle:

Juneteenth 2024, Jimi Hendrix Park, Wednesday, June 19, 12 - 8PM. Bring the family for a full day of live performances, vendors, family activities. [LINK for more information.](#)

2nd Annual Shoreline Juneteenth Community Celebration, Wednesday, June 19, 4 - 8 PM. Join in for a day of joy, remembrance, and empowerment at Shoreline City Hall! [LINK for more information.](#)

Songs of Black Folk, Paramount Theatre, Sunday, June 16, 7 PM. This music tradition that began on the African continent and was transported to the Americas features the rise of the Negro Spirituals and their evolution into other Black musical genres including, blues, jazz, Gospel, R&B, Hip-Hop, and even spoken word. [LINK for information and tickets.](#)

Perhaps take the day to celebrate through reading about the Black experience in America, visiting the [Northwest African American Museum](#), or take your thoughts and prayers of equity and freedom into nature on June 19. Washington State Parks and our National Parks have free entrance days on the Juneteenth holiday.





Social Justice



**Lutheran
World
Relief**

In early May Lutheran World Relief partners from all over Western Washington arrived at our parking lot filling two large truck containers with quilts, care kits, and more! Our Redeemer's collected 88 personal care kits, with donations made from many different people. A great big thank you to all for your donations and loading help to provide needed items to people all around the world.





2400 NW 85th Street
Seattle, WA 98117

www.ourredeemers.net
(206)783-7900

return service requested

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9 AM Informal Worship
11 AM Traditional Worship



10 AM Summer Worship
starts June 23rd

Stream Online (11 AM)

Facebook: facebook.com/OurRedeemers

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

Church office hours:

Monday-Thursday

10 AM - 3PM

Congregational Annual Meeting

Sunday, June 23 | 11:00 AM

In-Person after our 10:00 AM Summer Worship

We will celebrate and review the ministries and Fiscal Year coming to a close, vote on the FY 2024-25 budget and vote to confirm new Council Members.

Please plan to be in attendance.

All active members in good standing are eligible to vote.

QUESTIONS? Please contact a Council member, Pastor Thomas or [Parish Administrator Karie Stearns](#).



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