

NOVEMBER 2019

our redeemer's
LUTHERAN • BALLARD

TheVisitor



Grace Upon Grace
Generations of God's Generosity



LIVING GENEROUSLY

Contents

FROM THE PASTOR 3

LIVING GENEROUSLY 4

WORSHIP & MUSIC 9

FAITH FORMATION - YOUTH 14

FAITH FORMATION - ADULT 18

FAITH FORMATION - FAMILIES 19

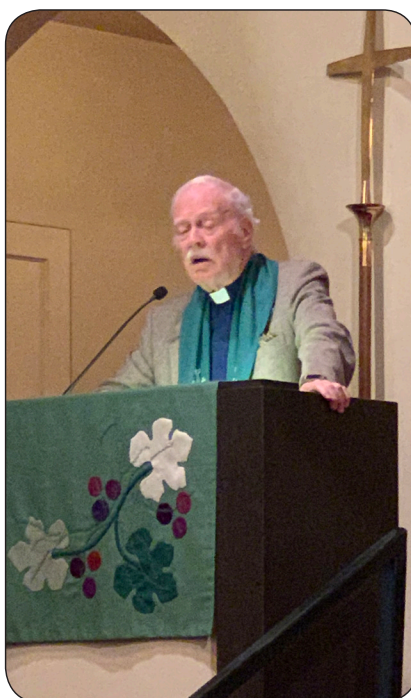
COMMUNITY 20

VISION ALIGNED BUILDING 24

SOCIAL JUSTICE 26

CALENDAR 31

COVER/INSIDE COVER: *On Cover - from our archives, Our Redeemer's Confirmands in 1945 and 2018. Below - Assistant to the Bishop Andrew Yee and member Pastor Joshua Lilianstolpe, and Pastor Kathy engage the congregation during the church's Giving Generously emphasis.*



our redeemer's
LUTHERAN • BALLARD

- Katherine Hawks, Pastor
- Gretchen Mertes, Pastor
- Karie Stearns, Parish Administrator
- Karen Lee, Traditional Worship & Music Director
- Shannon Beck, Interim Social Justice Coordinator
- Debbie Lematta, Communications Coordinator
- Katlin Dickinson-Laurence, Office Coordinator & Co-Welcome Minister
- Amy Hammett, Co-Welcome Minister
- Hannah Wetter, Nursery Care Provider

Our community, our calling.

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

FROM THE PASTOR...

Grace upon Grace: Generations of God's Generosity

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ⁷ But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

- II Corinthians 4:1, 7

I had an interesting conversation with the minister from University Unitarian Church recently. That church is preparing to move back into their building after a substantial renovation – like ours will be.

I asked him how it had gone. He said, “Well, our 2012 strategic plan allotted eight years for this. At the time, we all said, ‘No! No! It can’t POSSIBLY take that long!’ But here we are, eight years later, finishing up right on time!”

I had to laugh! With some relief. Because we began our building process a year later, and, God willing, we’ll also finish in about eight years – even with all the bumps in the road.

It has seemed long, hasn’t it? As Pastor Gretchen said, “We’re at the stage of stale excitement.” It all takes an enormous amount of time, effort and money. And most of the work is behind the scenes. For example, I wrote a letter to the City Council last week-end to support the P-Patch’s request for a portion of the \$3 million allocated for P-Patch gardens in Mayor Durkan’s budget. Will it bear fruit? We won’t know for a while. But I’m proud that even though selling our property to the P-Patch and GROW adds a whole layer of complex process to our renovation, our congregation has decided we must attempt it for the sake of the larger community.

The truth is: things are moving forward. Before TOO long (probably January) we’ll have compelling images to reignite our enthusiasm for a beautiful, more functional, inviting, accessible building that serves as a hub for community events and needs. And we’ll also have

opportunities for congregational input and questions. And...IF all goes according to plan (IF!), we could be in our newly renovated sanctuary by Christmas 2020.

But most important, through it all, what makes Our Redeemer’s the special community we are continues on. Four babies will be baptized on All Saints’ Day, as we also give thanks for those who’ve blessed us and our congregation in years past. Hands continue to serve those without homes at our joyful community Thanksgiving Dinner, and each month at Ballard Sunday Dinner. Cards, meals, prayers and hearts support members facing health or life challenges. The gospel of God’s infinite goodness and unconditional love is preached, taught, and sung with energy...and lived day by day by day.

So, we do NOT lose heart, dear friends, even as the days grow darker and shorter. We know in Whom we place our trust and we know in Christ all things work for good. So, as the wonderful old hymn says, “How can we keep from singing?”

SO much to be thankful for! May we pause each day to give thanks and open our hearts to live the generosity Christ calls us to.



Pastor Kathy



LIVING C

In this Thanksgiving season rich with gratitude and our congregation's emphasis on Living Generously, I share two favorite, simple poems from beloved teacher and pastor, Gerhard Frost.

TAKK FOR ALT

**She was not quite ninety-seven
when she died.**

**One who waited at her side
heard her say it:**

**"Takk for alt" "Thank you for
everything."**

**It was her home-going word to
God.**

Like a good guest

she addressed her Host.

**She spoke as one well-taught,
well-taught by life,
by memory and expectation!**

**To be gift-conscious is to be
wise;**

**to know whom to thank is
grace indeed.**

**to know the gift and love the
Giver,**

**to have learned life's dearest
lesson,**

is to be rich toward God.

-Gerhard Frost

GENEROUSLY

I invite you to pray these, perhaps daily, and begin or end your day calling to mind the people, moments, and gifts of the recent day. May we all live grounded in the contentment and fullness that gratitude and generosity generate. The title of the first poem says it all: "Thank you, God, for everything!"

LET US GIVE THANKS

Let us give thanks this moment:
for the sturdy fact of God's
continuing love,
for mercies which go before us
and follow after us,
for those free gifts
which cost God so much.

Let us give thanks:
for memory and expectation,
for the good that we have known
and know today in Jesus Christ,
for the Spirit's brooding presence
in our nights and our days.

Let us give thanks:
for pleasures which comfort
and pains which force our growth
and keep us at the Shepherd's side,
for deep meanings revealed
and mysteries mercifully concealed,

for the image of God within us,
the capacity to inquire and adore.

Let us give thanks for one
another,
for just being together,
for differences that complement
and complete,
for gifts which enrich
and disagreements which
challenge,
for our oneness in Christ.

Let us give thanks for melody and
mirth,
for rhythm and beat,
for the repeated and the common,
for the ever-unfolding,
and for senses with which to
respond.

And let us give thanks for
Someone to thank.

—Gerhard Frost



LIVING C

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY - COURAGEOUSLY GENEROUS SAINTS

November 3

Who has changed or blessed your life with their generosity - either to you or to someone else?

The first Sunday of November, we will once again give thanks for all God's baptized family ("All Saints") with special focus on those who have been baptized at Our Redeemer's this year, and those we love who have died and been raised in Christ to new and eternal life.



This year, as we seek the freedom and joy of living generously, we look to the people in our lives whose courageous or astonishing generosity has especially touched or blessed us. They are the ones who can teach us and encourage us to be more generous ourselves. This is always a meaningful service. Special thanks to those of you who are willing to share your stories.

To participate:

- Let Pastor Kathy or Pastor Gretchen know who in your life has been courageously generous. If you are open, we would like to either transcribe your story of their impact, or invite you to share it with the congregation on All Saints Day. Bring a photograph of that person, and/or others you love who have passed away to place on the altar (at 9am) or on the window stills (at 11am).
- A flower for each of the newly baptized will grace our altar and during the prayers, a bell will be rung for each member of our community who has died since All Saints Sunday last year.
- As you come forward for communion, light a candle in memory of your loved ones and place it in the bowl of water, symbolizing the waters of death and resurrection which unit us all beyond time, space and even death.

living
generously



November 3 ~ All Saints Sunday

Courageously Generous Saints

November 10 ~ Generosity Sunday

Offer your pledge toward God, and God's ministries through Our Redeemer's

GENEROUSLY

GENEROSITY SUNDAY

November 10

Please bring your pledge card to offer.

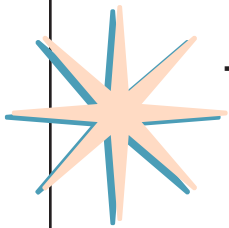


On November 10 each of us is invited to offer God the “first fruits” of what God, our scandalously generous God, has given us, by pledging our financial gifts to God’s work through Our Redeemer’s in the coming year.

If you grew up on a farm, you know that “first fruits” is from agricultural Bible times, and means giving the produce that ripens first, even before you know how much more will follow. Offering our pledges to God is a similar act of trust in God’s abundance, care and continuing presence in this community of faith. We respond to God’s call to both receive God’s abundant gifts and share them with others.

Please pray as you decide what God calls you to pledge and pause in gratitude and trust as you place your pledge in the offering plate on November 10th.

Our pledging together is a powerful act of worship and community.



Throwback-Vintage-Anniversary-Retro Family Potluck!

Generosity Sunday- November 10, 12:30pm

by Pastor Gretchen

To wrap up our celebration of 75 years as a congregation, and our successful emphasis on generosity, we are having an old-fashioned potluck. If you’re like me, you have recipes from way-back-when that you love and miss from church potlucks gone by. Well, now is the time to dust off your jell-o mold and get out the casserole dish! At 12:30 on Sunday November 10th, we will gather in the fellowship hall for a time of fun and food!

Just for fun, you’re invited to dress as your favorite era of “vintage Lutheran” just for fun, and we’ll have a prize for the best outfit! Frilly aprons, wide ties, and cat-eye glasses are all pre-approved!





LIVING GENEROUSLY

Generosity Sunday

Sunday, November 10

**As Christians and Lutherans, we are called to be generous
with the gifts God has given us.**

In giving we take part in the flow of God's love.

**On this Sunday we are invited to offer our pledges of financial generosity,
along with our prayerful hopes for what God will do through our giving.
This will be a special and moving worship of generosity and gratitude.**

THANK YOU for your generosity!

WHAT IS ABUNDANCE?

Sundays 10:05-10:55am, November 3 & 10

How do you know when abundance shows up in your life?

Harder to answer than you think. For one thing, one person's idea of abundance could be hugely different from another person's. Is abundance the same in all areas of our lives? Is abundance in friends the same as abundance in health? Time? Money? Joy?

Abundance shows up over and over in the Bible's stories about who God is and how God provides for us. God's abundance doesn't necessarily look at ALL like what we thought it would when we hoped for it, but we usually know it when we receive it. Or least, when, later on, we stop to think about it.

The Bible also shows how abundance multiplies when we share. Abundance abounds...more and more. Grace upon grace.

JOIN US to investigate how to live with eyes, ears, and hearts wide open to see, hear, and share God's abundance in our lives.

November 3: Logical vs. Illogical abundance?

November 10: Communal abundance?!?





WORSHIP AND MUSIC



Caroling with Music Director Karen Lee

Sunday, Dec. 1 ~ 2:30pm

Calling all singers! You are invited to join Ms. Karen Lee and members of our choir for an afternoon of Christmas Caroling. Each year, we journey outside the church to bring joy and smiles to folks from our congregation that are either home-bound or living in retirement communities. It is so much fun!

Regardless of how long it may have been since you've sung, you are welcomed and wanted to join in the celebration. *Sign up by telling Karen, or on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.*

CENTERING PRAYER

Thursdays, 6-6:35PM

FEELING STRESSED? Once a week, give yourself half an hour of candlelit quiet in our peaceful sanctuary. You do not need to speak or sing anything. Just come and receive.

Centering Prayer is: 10 minutes of calming (recorded) chant ☩ 20 minutes of silence with a word or phrase you choose to remind you want to be in God's presence ☩ A 2-4 minute spiritual reading ☩ then, leave or take in more quiet.

Come experience the healing silence for yourself.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC



Christmas Eve Hand Bell Choir & Instrumental Ensemble

All are welcome to participate!

**Bring your musical instrument or
learn to play hand bells to festive Christmas carols!**

Practices are as follows:

Saturday, Dec. 7, 3-4:30pm - hand bells only

Saturday, Dec. 14, 3-4:30pm - hand bells & orchestra instruments

Saturday, Dec. 21, 3-4:30pm - hand bells & orchestra instruments

The ensemble will perform at the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 24, 2019, 10pm

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church
2400 NW 85th Street

Questions? Contact Karen Lee
karen@ourredeemers.net

(Let Karen know you're participating, and she'll have a part ready for you!)



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

ABOUT THE HYMNALS BEING USED THIS SEASON OF LIVING GENEROUSLY

Confirmation Sunday – The Lutheran Book of Worship

The LBW, or “the green book,” was published in 1978. It was designed at the time to be a unifying piece between four different branches of the Lutheran Church: the Lutheran Church of America, the American Lutheran Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada, and the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. This hymnal was widely used in the first three church bodies, but largely rejected by the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, as being too liberal. The first two of those branches would merge to become our current church body, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

All Saints Sunday – With One Voice

The WOV hymnal, or “the blue book,” was written as a supplement for the LBW in 1995. All the songs were delivered in a unison voice, or one voice, to help further congregation singing, which seemed to be lagging at the time, as congregations moved away from traditional liturgies toward “Praise and Worship” style services. While they may have underestimated the draw to singing in harmony, this hymnal still contains many of our most treasured songs.

Generosity Sunday – Evangelical Lutheran Worship

The ELW, or “the cranberry book,” is our current hymnal and was published in 2006. In our congregation we use it primarily electronically, printing what we need rather than keeping the books in the pews. A solid attempt at including new songs, international melodies, and traditional hymnody, it is a joy to find old standards and new songs each time we use it.

Come, Let Us Worship!

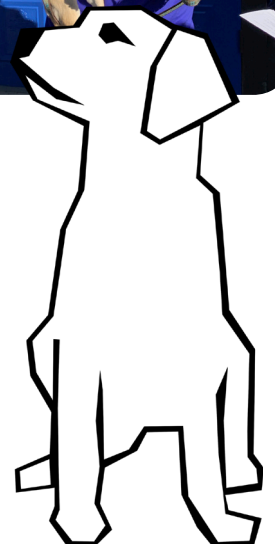
The future, at a glance

November 3:	All Saints Sunday
November 10:	“Living Generously” Sunday
December 15:	Luciafest
December 19:	Blue Christmas
December 22:	Christmas Pageant
December 24:	Christmas Eve
December 29:	New Year’s Healing Service



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Celebrating the legacy of St. Francis of Assisi with the
BLESSING OF THE PETS ON OCTOBER 6, 2019





WORSHIP AND MUSIC

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27TH, 2019



Confirmands: Gunnleiv Loklingholm and John Gibson



Jolyn Mason, Joey Gibson, John Gibson and Craig Gibson



Gry Loklingholm and her son



FAITH FORMATION – YOUTH

CONFIRMATION CONGRATULATIONS

On Sunday, October 27th, we celebrated the 502nd anniversary of the Reformation of the Church started by Martin Luther. In the tradition of our congregation, we also celebrated the faith and baptismal affirmations of two of our ninth grade students, John Gibson, and Gunnleiv Loklingholm.

Each of these young men has participated in confirmation camp, confirmation classes, faith visits, worship assistance, servant events, and taken copious sermon notes. Each of them wrote true statement of faith, which will be a springboard for them as they move into adulthood and being full members of our congregation. Both possess a bright intellect and a gentle heart.

If you haven't met John or Leif, make sure that you say hello and congratulations when you see them. They are excellent young men, and we are blessed to have them – their energy, their questions, their faith and their growing edges, as part of our community. Congratulations!



Congratulations



FAITH FORMATION – YOUTH

Faith formation at Our Redeemer's for the "first third" of life is varied and fun! We have classes for all ages, and kids are invited to participate fully in worship. We encourage all young people to be readers, ushers, greeters, communion assistants, and musicians.

Sprouts

Sunday mornings 9am, during worship

Sprouts is a great class for 3 & 4 year olds. These children will be exploring an age-appropriate Bible-based curriculum.

Exploring Faith

Sunday mornings 10am

This class is for K-4th graders, and is a video curriculum with hands on science activities relating to theology and creation! A fun class, about 40 minutes long.

Connect Class

Sunday mornings 10am

The Connect Class is for 10-12 year olds who have lots of questions! Lessons follow a three-part sequence: **See, Explore, and Make**. Each week, tweens focus on a theme by watching a witty video, exploring biblical text, and creating projects ranging from games to art and more.

Confirmation Classes

Varied times and locations

Confirmation at Our Redeemer's is a 2-year sequence of studying Lutheranism, the church, worship, and why we do what we do. This experience encourages middle schoolers to say YES to God and a life of faith, while encouraging questions and freedom of thought. Confirmation classes and events are at different times in the year. For a full calendar, contact Pastor Gretchen.

Sign Up or Register Online!

Parent Volunteer Sign-Ups

Go to signup.com to help in the classes!

For Connect: <https://signup.com/go/NxCqdCx>

Exploring Faith: <https://signup.com/go/oedaAEU>

Sprouts: <https://signup.com/go/CmmrQFB>

Thank you for participating in the faith life of your child!





FAITH FORMATION - YOUTH



Thanksgiving Pumpkin Pie Youth Group Fundraiser!

Thanksgiving is right around the corner and you know what that means: Pumpkin Pie! Our youth are making and selling delicious pumpkin pies!

Pies are just \$15 each

If you do not need a pie for yourself, you are invited to contribute a pie to our community Thanksgiving Dinner.

To order a pie, fill in the form below, and turn it in with payment. If you wish to pay by text, simply text "PIE" and the amount to 206-717-8465.

THE LAST DAY TO ORDER IS NOVEMBER 17!!

Name: _____

Phone/Email: _____

___ Pumpkin Pie(s) for Home

___ Donated Pies for the Thanksgiving Dinner

___ Total pies x \$15 = _____ (your balance)

**Take home pies need to be picked up on
Sunday, November 24!**

Please note: in the event that more pies are donated than needed for the meal, the extra donations will be contributed back to the cost of the Thanksgiving meal, the sleeping bags, and the youth fund. THANK YOU!



FAITH FORMATION – YOUTH

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Save the date for our Christmas Pageant! Sunday December 22, at 11:00 am. Our rehearsal will be 9:00 am – 11:00 am on Saturday, December 21.

This year we will be telling the story of the journey of Mary and Joseph and all the characters they meet along the way. We have roles for children ages 4–94. Everyone is welcome to participate! The available roles are: The Narrator, Gabriel, Mary, Joseph, Shepherds, Angels, Herod, Wise People, and a star. The roles are non-speaking except for the narrator. We need people to help with costumes, wrangling, and props as well! Please let Pastor Gretchen know if you plan on participating, and what roles you might be dreaming of! Parents, this is a great time to ask your kids.





FAITH FORMATION – ADULTS

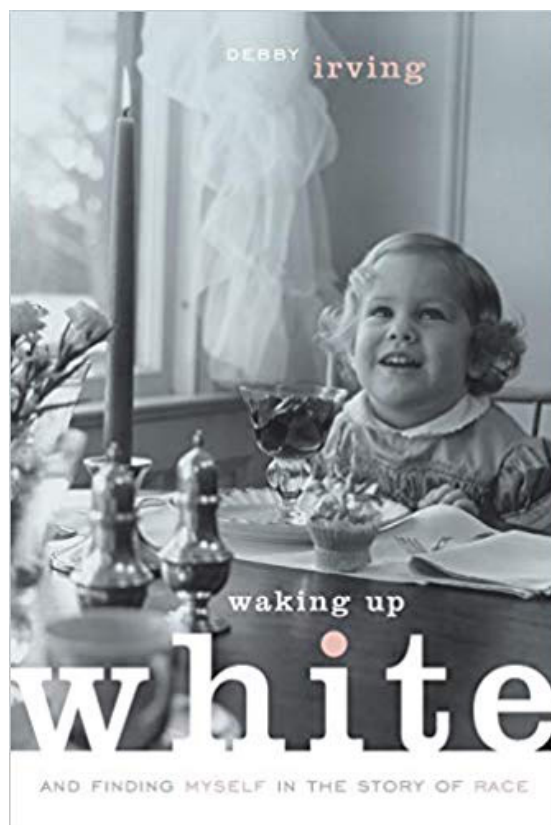
MADONNAS BOOK GROUP INVITES ALL TO JANUARY DISCUSSION

The Madonnas Book Group has selected the book "Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race" by Debby Irving for their January discussion and extends an invitation to the entire congregation to join them. The discussion date is Sunday, January 12th, time tentatively set for 4pm to 6pm, to be moved if it conflicts with a Seahawks Playoff Game (go Hawks!). For more information, ask Candace Todd-Robbins or Margaret Wetter (margaretwetter@comcast.net).

About the book: From the author: Waking Up White is the book I wish someone had handed me decades ago. My hope is that by sharing my sometimes cringe-worthy struggle to understand racism and racial tensions, I offer a fresh perspective on bias, stereotypes, manners, and tolerance. As I unpack my own long-held beliefs about colorblindness, being a good person, and wanting to help people of color, I reveal how each of these well-intentioned mindsets actually perpetuated my ill-conceived ideas about race. I also explain why and how I've changed the way I talk about racism, work in racially mixed groups, and understand the racial justice movement as a whole. Exercises at the end of each chapter prompt readers to explore their own racialized ideas.

"Waking Up White is a wake-up call for white people who want to consciously contribute to racial justice rather than unconsciously perpetuate patterns of racism. With honesty and humility, Debby Irving shares her own story of transformation—a journey of opening herself to learning about the realities of racism and the unintended impacts of white privilege. By confronting her own fears and mistakes, she gleans many useful lessons and tips that can help move others from confusion and avoidance to constructive engagement, authentic connection and courageous action." – Terry Keleher

"Debby Irving's powerful Waking Up White opens a rare window on how white Americans are socialized. Irving's focus on the mechanics of racism operating in just one life — her own — may lead white readers to reconsider the roots of their own perspectives — and their role in dismantling old myths. Readers of color will no doubt find the view through Irving's window fascinating, and telling." – Van Jones





FAITH FORMATION – FAMILIES



NEW! YOUNG FAMILIES GROUP

If your family includes a child three or younger, you are invited to be part of our Young Families Group! We are putting together an event in December, so please contact Pastor Gretchen (pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net) or Amy Hammett (welcome@ourredeemers.net) if you are interested in being in the loop!

We typically meet 4-5 times per year for a play date, support, and fun. If you would like to help coordinate an event, or have an idea for an outing, we'd love to hear about it. More information will be on the way!

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE

At 4:00pm on Christmas Eve, we will be hosting our annual family friendly candlelight service. Featuring the story "Mary's Treasure Box," we will unwrap the gifts Jesus received, and hear the good news of Jesus' love in our lives today.

If you are interested in helping with the Christmas Eve service and will be in town, we will need people in the following roles:

- Actors (3-4 people)
- Ushers
- Communion Helpers
- Readers
- Candle Lighters
- Musicians (all types, especially students, are welcome!)
- Clean-Up

Christmas Eve is a special time, and also a time when we welcome out of town family, neighbors, and first-time guests to worship with us. We need your help to make this service the best it can be. Please contact Pastor Gretchen (pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net) if you are able to help make this Christmas the best ever.





Auction Save the Date

Our Redeemer's Annual Auction is Saturday January 25, 2020!

An Irish Festival for the Feast of St. Brigid.

"It is easy to halve the potato where there is love." (Irish Proverb)

Get your shillelaghs and your shenanigans ready!





COMMUNITY

CELEBRATE NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

1 Michelle Richmond	16 Kenneth Longaker	24 Daniel Malone
1 Jennifer Seyler	16 Maximus Myers	25 Kelly Germann
2 Rebecca Miles	16 Amy Ojendyk	25 Dana Wright
4 Jason Smith	17 Jerry Andrews	26 Lora Campbell
6 Liam Dugaw	18 Andria Ellis	26 Doug Starup
7 Aivree Watkins	20 Elijah Abdullah	28 Dara Schoolcraft
7 Lisa Watkins	21 Carol Alley	29 Cynthia Knight
8 Margaret Giesa	21 Penny Fox	29 Tim Lenihan
11 Amy Dovich	21 Nancy Kristjanson	29 Lillian Rallo
12 Robert McIntyre	21 Sharon LeVan	29 Lorna Williams
13 Ellen Arrington	21 Gry Loklingholm	30 Mary Anderson
14 Jim Freyberg	21 Kelly Lubkowski	
15 Mary Gross	21 Leo Parks	



The Giving Tree

Make a Difference in Someone's Christmas!

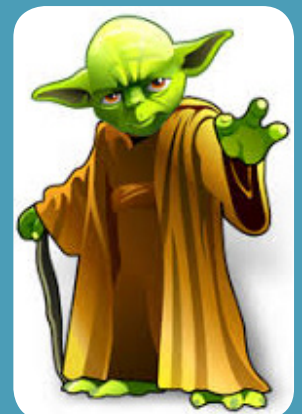
Please take a tag (or maybe even two!) from the tree in the Narthex, starting December 1st. This year, your generous gifts will benefit ORLC Safe Parkers, students in need at **Broadview-Thompson K-8**, and children and parents through **Mary's Place**. There will be a variety of needs to fill - from toys, to warm clothing, to gift cards for special requests and holiday meals. Your participation in this Our Redeemers tradition and your gifts from the heart are greatly appreciated! Please contact Paula Hlastala paulala343@hotmail.com with questions. Thank you!

LIFE MASTERS

NOVEMBER 20TH TOPIC:
"THINGS THAT SHAPED YOUR LIFE"

Please bring a list of 3 things to share with the group.

Remember to bring a light snack. We look forward to seeing you!





Luciafest

**Sunday December 15, 2019
Our Redeemers Lutheran Church
5:00 pm**

YOU are invited to join in the fun of an Our Redeemer's tradition!

Each year the youth of Our Redeemers bring the story of Sancta Lucia to life, and continue a treasured tradition.

Luciafest is open to ORLC youth ages 5 and up to take the parts of star children, Lucia and her attendants, Staffan the Stable Boy as well as lighting control.

This is a beloved tradition in Sweden and Our Redeemers is delighted to bring Lucia's message of light and charity to the community with a traditional tåg (procession), music, food, dancing and costumes.

You'll learn a little Swedish and have a great time bringing holiday cheer to our community.

Rehearsals start Saturday, November 9, 2019 9am.
Contact the Lucia team if you plan to participate

For more information contact Marie Nordquist lutequist@yahoo.com or Jana Davis janaledavis@hotmail.com



COMMUNITY



Family Movie Night

Saturday, November 9, 6pm - Fellowship Hall

Join us for an evening of family fun, pizza, popcorn and a movie! What a great way to spend an evening with the family and others in our community. Kids are welcome to be comfy in their PJs and bring sleeping bags to snuggle in. Bring friends, neighbors, extended family...all are welcome!

Pizza dinner will start at 6pm and the movie will start around 6:15pm. A freewill offering will be collected for the meal. Adults are welcome to bring beer and wine.

If you plan on joining us Saturday, November 9th, please RSVP by Friday, November 8th to hgundack@live.com with the number of kids and adults attending so we know how much pizza to order. See you there!!

Beer & Carols

Tuesday, December 3 & 10 ~ 7pm

**It's the Most Wonderful Time for a Beer
...and Carols!**

You and all your best friends of all ages are invited to come out to The Dane (8000 15th Ave NW) on Tuesday December 3 or Tuesday Dec 10 at 7pm. We will be singing, and laughing, and showing the community just how much fun a bunch of Lutherans can be! Members of the 9am ensemble will be there in festive gear taking your Christmas carol requests. You won't want to miss it!



Caring Community Team Meeting

Saturday, January 11 ~ Noon

Join the Caring Community Team for their January meeting. It will be at the home of Judy Chambers. (Note: we are not having a December Meeting due to Blue Christmas on December 19, 2019.)

BUILD THE VISION... SHARE THE VISION

VAB COFFEE HOUR ON OCT. 20TH MOVES THE VISION FORWARD

BY PASTOR KATHY HAWKS

October's VAB (Vision Aligned Building) coffee hour was a bit meatier than those in the past, but still a ways from the kind of beautiful, complete renderings and details we are all hankering for. Some of our council members were in attendance, both engaging in the process and interested in hearing congregational questions and suggestions.

Even so, we learned some new things. Our contractor, LZL, has reviewed the 50% drawings and estimates the renovation will take 40 weeks, just into January 2021. If the time-line holds, we will need to be out of the building east of the fellowship hall, with the exception of some basement rooms that can be used for storage. Staff has already begun to look at our ministries and programming, and to think through what can happen in the fellowship hall, what can happen in homes, what will need to happen elsewhere. Anyone with a rental home near the church, please let a staff person know, as that could be a great temporary office, Sunday School, meeting space.

LZL also gave us preliminary estimates for constructions costs, which when combined with very rough estimates for soft costs (permits, furnishings, consultants, etc.) and with contingencies for every step along the way, brings the overall initial estimate to \$3.3 million.

The contingencies are included to cover the risks of construction, such as opening up a wall and finding something that requires changing the approach or a whole new undertaking. As we move farther along in planning and construction, we hope to be able to reduce those costs. But until we know what we're dealing with, we need to build them in.

At the meeting, the most recent floor plans were presented. FAB members described how, although the tower which now houses the library and two upstairs classrooms is expected to be removed, we will still end up with more main floor universally-accessible meeting spaces (three fixed-wall rooms, plus movable, sound-proof partitions in the fellowship hall to create 1, 2, or 3 spaces), in a variety of sizes. Why remove it in the first place? A combination of allowing much better clarity of entrance and welcome, giving people walking and driving by a chance to see the vibrant life going on within, much better interior space, and finally, sidestepping the City of Seattle's requirement to bring our whole building up to all codes if we were to make it an attractive entrance, rather than an obstruction, as it is now.

We also looked at progress on the sanctuary designs. VAB members explained that while the new sanctuary will be a mix of traditional and contemporary aesthetics, contemporary does not mean something bland and "auditorium-like". Details are yet to be developed, but the architects are working with Nordic contemporary ideas with natural materials. Similarly, the windows on the southwest corner of the room, are expected to have fenestrations and other elements that will add to their beauty and to being able to regulate the light.



BUILD THE VISION... SHARE THE VISION

Different arrangements of pew chairs (which are specially built to connect to one another, similar to pews, but can be easily reconfigured) will allow more than 217 people, or an intimate group of many fewer. They will also be capable of accommodating concerts and other community events with our new (and much improved!) acoustics and lighting.

One attendee suggested replacing the proposed ramp up to the chancel area to allow accessibility for all with a lift of some kind for those unable to use the stairs, which might also be usable for moving the piano. Another attendee suggestion was to move the three stained glass windows at the east end to another spot so the large Calvary stained glass window could go there, as it is too tall to go most places. VAB members committed to bringing these suggestions to the architects.

The plan for an at grade entrance on the east end of the basement will allow accessibility on that level and move the south bathroom north. This allows the entrance itself to align with the main hallway, bringing light into the basement. A ramp will replace the steps up there.

A landscaping plan has yet to be put on paper, however, Guy Michaelson is a partner at The Berger Partnership, the landscape architecture firm that created a master plan for us many years ago. We implemented the southwest portion of the plan. Guy has been on the VAB team from the beginning, and is taking the lead in designing an entrance that is clearly leads people to the front doors, is accessible from the parking lot, beautiful from the street and from the interiors, and diminishes the confusion from use of the west “mouse hole” entrance.

Much more was discussed, and much more is yet to come. The intake permit meeting with the City of Seattle is scheduled for November 15. In the very near future, we hope to be able to announce a purchase and sale agreement has been reached with the Ballard P-Patch and GROW. At that time, we will share the details and call a congregational meeting to vote on it.

Another congregational presentation is slated for January. SHKS, our architects, will present not only renderings of the planned renovations, but materials to consider and other furnishings options. After input and consideration relating to that meeting, we expect to be able to vote as a congregation on the plans, scope and budget.

Our thanks to our amazing Vision-Aligned Building Team - Jim Arnold, Pastor Kathy Hawks, Mike Hlastala, Kirsten Malone, Ryan Mertes, Guy Michaelson, and Parish Administrator, Karie Stearns - who continue to work tirelessly and with good humor and great skill on this vision-focused project!



Original church construction. Photo courtesy of SHKS, the architects for our renovation.

JOIN US FOR UPCOMING VAB MEETINGS TO REVIEW FLOOR PLANS
SUNDAYS 10:10 - 10:55AM IN THE LIBRARY

November 17 - Sanctuary and new basement entrance floor plans

November 24 - Offices, meeting rooms floor plans and landscape plan



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering

Friday & Saturday, November 1 & 2

On November 1 & 2, the church will be full of Lutherans from around Puget Sound packing up semis with quilts and school kits and more. Our Redeemers offers hospitality in the form of physical sustenance and smiling faces. Perhaps you can be present for a couple of hours Friday and Saturday to welcome guests.



**Lutheran
World
Relief**

Cookies, sweet breads, and the like are needed (Contact Sharon Longacre for info - 206-393-2881) and you can volunteer for a couple of hours Friday, 8am – 2:30pm; Saturday, 8am – 2pm. You can also donate to help pay for the shipping costs. Get the account number from Karie Stearns at Our Redeemers to donate. Thank you for what you can do!

Did you know? Our Redeemer's is the In-Gathering site for Puget Sound Lutheran churches!

Young Adult Ballard Sunday Dinner

Sunday, November 17th

Ballard First Lutheran Church



Calling All Young-ish adults! You are invited to make a difference in the Ballard community! Every third Sunday, we have a team of folks from church that make, serve, eat, and cleanup a meal for 50 people who wouldn't have food otherwise. It happens at Ballard First Lutheran (65th and 20th), and it is such a good event. We call it 'Ballard Sunday Dinner' because everyone should have a good hot meal on a Sunday!

Here at church we have had an influx of awesome young adults in the last few months, and I find that we all are more likely to get together when we actually have something useful to do together than when we just "hang out." So! Let's make dinner and feed some people! November 17th!

Here's the signup: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084daea62ea1fe3-ballard>

If you're interested in being a "lead" (which would be amazing), please know that you are not obligated to know everything - there will be "veteran" leader working with us this time to make sure we know how everything goes. And! Many hands make light work.

Let me (or Shannon) know if you're thinking this is a good thing! I'd love to see you there.

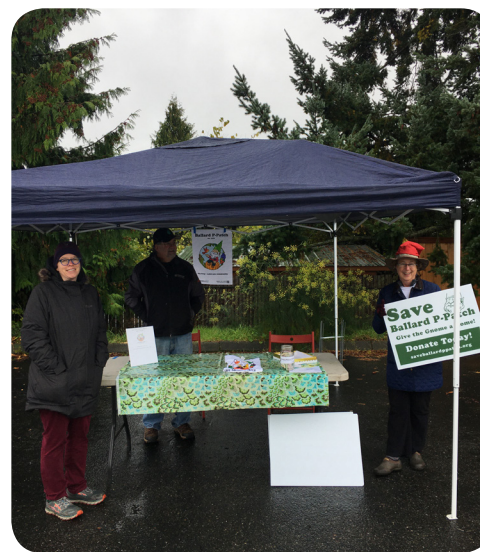
Peace and justice,
Pastor Gretchen



SOCIAL JUSTICE

E-cycle+ a Huge Success!

A heartfelt "thank you!" to everyone who made our 2nd E-cycling+ event of the year a success. Volunteers braved the rain and wind, ate donuts, sorted and packed Styrofoam, sorted clothing, and accepted eyeglasses and various forms of electronics, bicycles, and other materials. Way to go, Ballard! Donated money (\$1,423 total) will go to the Ballard P-Patch effort to buy the P-Patch property from Our Redeemer's.





SOCIAL JUSTICE

SOCIAL JUSTICE CALENDAR

11.1-2

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering
November 1, 8am-2:30pm
November 2, 8am-2pm
Fellowship Hall and Parking Lot

11.10

Faith Action Network Annual
Fundraising Dinner
November 10, 4:30pm
Renton Pavilion
Register: <https://fanwa.ourpowerbase.net/civicrm/event/info?id=174&reset=1>

11.28

Thanksgiving Dinner, Practical
Radical Welcome
Thursday, November 28, 12-1pm
Our Redeemers Lutheran Church

2020

4.17-19

EarthCare Retreat
April 17-19
The Beach

4.24-27

Ecumenical Advocacy Days 2020
April 24-27
Focus: Climate Change!
Washington, DC

7.16-19

Women of the ELCA Gathering
July 16-19, 2020
Phoenix, AZ

Sandwich Sunday is Happening!

Sunday November 24 between services

As the winter months grow colder, a healthy meal really matters. On Sunday, November 24, we will converge at 10am and make sandwiches that will go to hungry families. **Make this your first stop for Advent service!** Maybe you'll have some leftover turkey to share?? Sandwiches go to our partners, REACH.



We need: lunch meat, cheese (not in wrappers - preferably cut), peanut butter, jam, and bread. Thank you for your help!



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Ensure a Thanksgiving Community Meal for All

Thursday, Nov. 28 ~ 12-1pm

Each year, the good folks of Our Redeemer's host anybody and everybody for a no-cost Thanksgiving meal from 12-1pm on Thanksgiving Day.

It takes about 108 (or more!) volunteers to pull it off, and it's an amazing gift not only to those who get to taste it, but especially to those who prepare it and clean it up afterward.



In addition to the essential cooks and servers, we have one very important volunteer position: **Table Hosts**. Each table will have one person who dines with the folks who are there, helps to make sure that everyone gets food, distributes the sleeping bag tickets, and gets to know the people with whom they are sitting. It's a special kind of a job – ensuring that grace is shown and that every person is honored at this meal of gratitude.

Please sign-up to volunteer online at <https://www.volunteersignup.org/AY8PR>.

The categories are:

- Prepare the meal
- Carve the turkeys
- Set the tables
- Cook the meal
- Table Hosts
- Dishing up the meal
- Greeting guests
- Serving and Clearing
- Distribution of sleeping bags
- Washing dishes
- Cleaning up
- Photographer

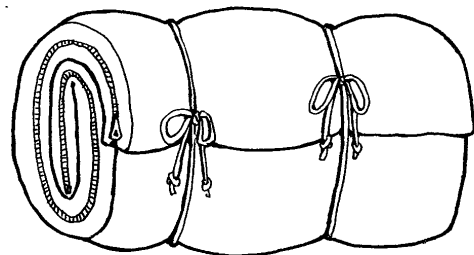
Monetary donations to offset the costs of giving away 150 new sleeping bags are greatly appreciated! Due to the popularity of this opportunity to serve our community, we are asking that all volunteers sign up in advance of this event. Once all the positions are filled, we cannot accept more help.

If you have questions contact Cara Kiggins (outreach@ourredeemers.net), or Margaret Wetter (margaretwetter@comcast.net) What a great community, and a gracious gift! See you on Thanksgiving!

Sleeping Bag Contributions

Help Keep Someone Warm

Sleeping Bag Donations Each year, Our Redeemer's collects donations to purchase sleeping bags for the unfortunately ever-growing unhoused in Seattle. **Consider making a monetary donation of \$22** to help keep someone just a bit warmer this winter. Bags will be distributed at our Thanksgiving Community Meal. Envelopes are on the "Count Me In" clipboards or text 206-717-8465 and type "Bags".





Visit Holden Village in 2020 with Others from Our Redeemer's!

Our Redeemer's is heading back to Holden Village next year August 16-22. Our maximum capacity is 40 if you want to get on the list to ensure a spot, contact Margaret Wetter: <mailto:margaretwetter@comcast.net> and let her know how many people are in your party, the number of adults plus the number of children. For information on the village visit: www.holdenvillage.org.

Dear Our Redeemers,

Sunday's 9:00 worship was great! Good music, good historical sermon, good Swedish pancakes...what's not to like!!! Thank you.

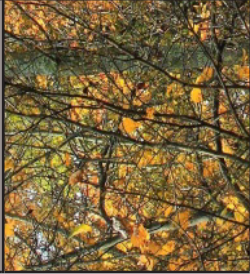


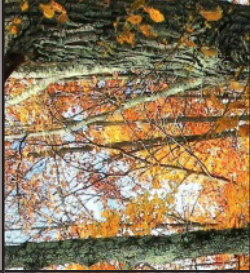







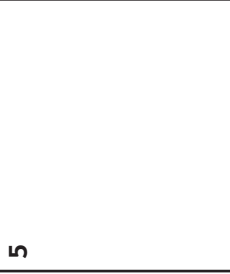
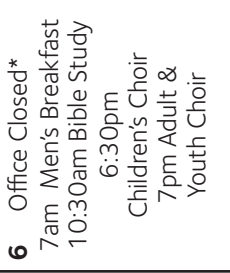
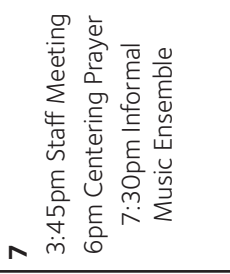


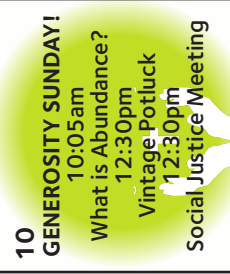



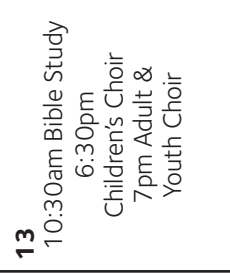
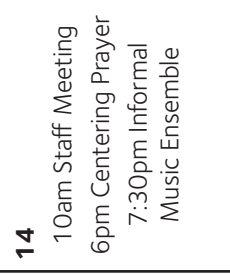
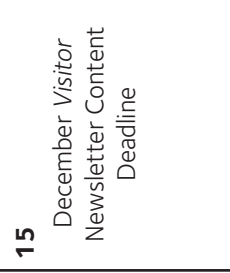


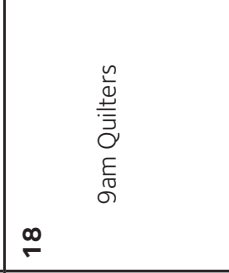
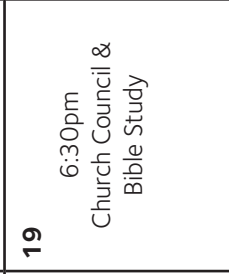
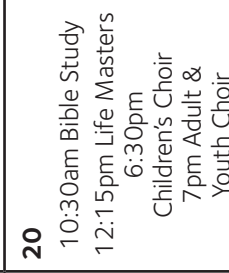
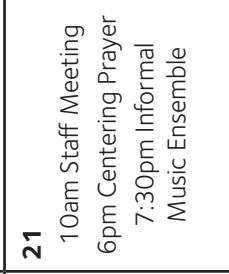
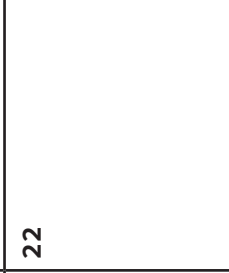
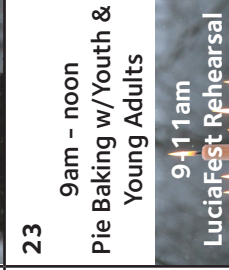
-Sally Parker-Henderson

EVERY SUNDAY:

9am - Informal Worship
10am - Faith Formation for All Ages
11am - Traditional Worship

NOVEMBER 2019

ourredeemers.net/calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 3 Daylight Savings Ends! ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 10:05am What is Abundance?	 4 9am Quilters	 5	 6 Office Closed* 7am Men's Breakfast 10:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult & Youth Choir	 7 3:45pm Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Informal Music Ensemble	 1 8am-2:30pm Lutheran World Relief In-Gathering 	 2 8am-2pm Lutheran World Relief In-Gathering 
 10 GENEROSITY SUNDAY! 10:05am What is Abundance? 12:30pm Vintage Potluck 12:30pm Social Justice Meeting	 11 9am Quilters	 12 7pm Executive Team Meeting	 13 10:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult & Youth Choir	 14 10am Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Informal Music Ensemble	 15 December Visitor Newsletter Content Deadline	 16 9-11am Luciafest Rehearsal
 17 10:10am Adult Forum: VAB Floor Plan Review 2pm Ballad Sunday Dinner Order Your Holiday Pie 	 18 9am Quilters	 19 6:30pm Church Council & Bible Study	 20 10:30am Bible Study 12:15pm Life Masters 6:30pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult & Youth Choir	 21 10am Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Informal Music Ensemble	 22	 23 9am - noon Pie Baking w/ Youth & Young Adults 9-11am LuciaFest Rehearsal
 24 10:10am Adult Forum: VAB Floor Plan Review	 25 9am Quilters	 26	 27 10:30am Bible Study	 28 12-1PM Free THANKSGIVING DINNER at Our Redeemer's	 29 Office Closed	 30

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



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

return service requested

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
SEATTLE, WA
PERMIT #587

Reminder: Daylight Savings Ends 11/3

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9am Informal Service
10am Faith Formation for All Ages
11am Traditional Service

THURSDAY WORSHIP

6pm Centering Prayer

Throwback
Vintage
75th Anniversary
Retro
Family Potluck!

Sunday November 10, 12:30pm

Bring your retro dishes and dress in your favorite era "vintage Lutheran" togs.
Prizes for creativity and authenticity!



Follow Us on Instagram!

We are on Instagram! Follow us and see what exciting things are happening around the church. [@ourredeemersballard](https://www.instagram.com/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.