

OCTOBER 2019

our redeemer's  
LUTHERAN • BALLARD

# TheVisitor



**Grace Upon Grace**  
Generations of God's Generosity



**LIVING GENEROUSLY**



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**COVER/INSIDE COVER:** *On Cover – Vacation Bible School in 1957 and in 2019. Below – Morgan Fowler, Council VP, using his musical gifts in Worship for the first time.*



**Our community, our calling.**



- 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

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## FROM THE PASTOR...

### ***Grace upon Grace: Generations of God's Generosity***

*From God's fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.*

*- John 1:16*

I don't know who built the house I live in, or who planned the street that it's built on. I don't know who designed my clothes or who planed the wood of my guitar. I wish I did. It is interesting to think through the resources and tools that you have been given, or earned in your life, and all the planning and energy that went into making those be part of your life today.

When I think of legacy, and what I want my legacy to be, this is what enters my mind: offering my energy and love and time and creativity to the best of my ability to make something that is worthwhile. It will withstand the test of time not because then I will receive credit, but because through my efforts, I am giving a leg-up and a means to success to someone who comes after me. I probably won't know that person, but I pray for them sight unseen.

**This month, our congregation is celebrating 75 years of being an official body of faith in North Seattle.** 75 years ago, people who are now long since gone gave from their hearts, hands, and wallets to put together a community modeled on the life of Jesus Christ with the hope of embodying his grace. They did it not to look good, or to meet some social obligation, but because they were called to it by God's spirit. They imbued in this community their DNA of social justice (or social concerns, as it used to be called!), to care for neighbor and stranger. Their giving created this place, and sowed the seeds resulting in our collective heart for those in need.

I bet they never could have guessed who we would be now, 75 years later. I am sure they never pictured me, tattooed and punky, rocking out in the fellowship

hall with a worship band. They could not have guessed that we would be a Reconciling in Faith congregation, welcoming all people regardless of gender expression or sexual orientation. I hope that they would be overjoyed to know that we are still hosting Vacation Bible School with over 50 kids each summer. Over the years, we have grown and changed in God's spirit and in the spirit of the Lutheran Church, staying true to the tenets of constant re-forming espoused by Martin Luther.

**Today, we are the stewards of this estate, the keepers of this mission and fire for God's justice.** We are the singers of the songs of faith handed to us by our mothers and fathers, our pastors and deacons, our friends and family.

**We also now get to make the choices about our land and building, remembering those who built this place, and recognizing our ownership, and the opportunity to make something deeply worthwhile to hand to our children, and our children's children.**

I'm sure that we cannot guess or imagine or fathom what this place will look like 75 years from now. But I bet it will be amazing, filled with love, social justice, and care for the marginalized and oppressed. I pray that it will be filled with song and story, grace and love, and a deep sense of commitment for those yet to come.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gretchen Hestey". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Pastor Gretchen



# LIVING

## GRACE UPON GRACE Celebrating 75 YEARS GENERATIONS OF GOD'S GENEROSITY

As Christians and Lutherans God calls us to be generous with all the gifts given to us. Our generosity can take many forms. We often think of money first, but so much more can be shared - time, mentoring a favorite hobby, musical talents, or simply passing on the grace we receive from God.

This year, we continue our focus on "living generously" with a look at how past generations of Our Redeemer's members modeled trust in God's generosity by their own fearless, courageous generosity.

We'll see their pictures. We'll hear stories of the risks they took for God's sake and for our sake over the last 75 years. We'll give thanks for how we are STILL blessed today by the gifts they gave so many years ago.

We'll see how their story IS our story, and how our story IS Christ's story - of a loving God who has never failed us yet, and never will, constantly turning scarcity into abundance, and fear into love for all people.

How can we be more fearless, courageous, and loving as a congregation and individuals in our time?

As we lean into answering that question with our lives, we will discover the deepest truth of all~ living generously blesses us most of all. Life is just better and fuller!

**Jump into the opportunities  
to explore Our Redeemer's'  
history, current plans, future  
legacy on the next few pages!**

*God IS so generous!*

*Grace upon grace.*

*Generation after generation.*





# GENEROUSLY



## **PACKET. PACKET. WHO'S GOT A Living Generously PACKET?**

**Look for yours on  
Sunday, October 13!**

Guest preacher **Pastor Andrew Yee**, our new Assistant to the Bishop is joining us on October 13 to kick off our Living Generously emphasis and our 75th anniversary celebration. *See Pastor Yee's bio below.*

### **What's in your packet?**

- Stories of people God has blessed in our congregation, our neighborhood and our world.
- A chance to give thanks for God's goodness and for this extraordinary community we value so much.
- An invitation to give financially to support God's work of emotional, physical, and spiritual transformation through Our Redeemer's.



*Paster Andrew Yee  
will be our guest  
preacher October 13.*

### **PASTOR ANDREW YEE, ASSISTANT TO THE BISHOP**

For the past nine years, Andrew Yee has been the Director of Spiritual Care at Josephine Caring Community in Stanwood, Washington. Andy and his wife, Irma, have lived in the northwest for over 20 years -enjoying life with their two boys Jaden (16) and Avery (14).

Andy was born and raised in New York City and in a Lutheran congregation in Chinatown, New York. He received a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Syracuse University before heading off to Chicago to be immersed in social justice work with the Lutheran Volunteer Corps and then the theology of the cross through his studies at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.

Andy has served congregations in Bellevue, Bellingham, and Bainbridge Island. He currently serves the ELCA Association of Asians and Pacific Islanders, enjoys woodworking and making treasures from trash, and one day hopes to complete a video/book titled: "The Gospel According to Seinfeld."



# LIVING



## BITE INTO OUR SWEDISH (PANCAKE) HERITAGE

Sunday, October 20, 10am

Bring your friends and neighbors!

What better way to celebrate God's overflowing generosity to us than with piles of deliciousness? And what better way to remember Our Redeemer's Augustana Lutheran Synod Swedish roots, than by sharing Swedish pancakes, smothered in lingonberries and cream?

Just as with God's grace, there's no cost for this! Except to remember to thank Kari Guddal for treating us. And to thank God, *OF COURSE!*

## REFORMATION SUNDAY WITH CONFIRMATION

Sunday, October 27 after 11am service

On Reformation Sunday, we celebrate God's faithfulness, and our willingness to keep learning, with God's Spirit as our guide. In our liturgical tradition, days that honor God's Spirit are colored in red, and as such, we encourage folks that are attending worship that day to wear red as well! We will also celebrate the rite of the Affirmation of Baptism, commonly known as confirmation. You are also invited to join us at the "Brunquet" honoring our confirmants following the 11am service.





# GENEROUSLY

## WHAT IS ABUNDANCE?

**Sundays 10:05-10:55am, October 13 - November 10** (except October 20)

### 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.

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| October 13:  | In the beginning, was .... abundance?!?                         |
| October 20:  | No class. Taste the abundance of the Swedish Pancake Breakfast! |
| October 27:  | Abundance for .... Everyone?!?                                  |
| November 3:  | Logical vs. Illogical abundance?                                |
| November 10: | Communal abundance?!?   |



# LIVING GENEROUSLY

## 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.



## 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 your first produce, even before you know how much more will follow. Offering our pledges to God is the same act of faith and trust in God's abundance, God's faithful care for us, and God's continuing presence in and through this community of faith. We are responding to God's call to be part of the joy there is in both receiving God's abundant gifts and sharing them with others.

Please pray as you decide what God calls you to pledge, and please pause in gratitude and trust, as you place your pledge in the offering plate on November 12. Our pledging together is a powerful act of worship and community.





## WORSHIP AND MUSIC

### CENTERING PRAYER

Thursdays, 6-6:35PM

**FEELING STRESSED?** Once a week, give yourself half an hour of candlelit quiet in our beautiful 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.*

### PET BLESSINGS, EXTENDING THE TRADITION OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Sunday, October 6 @10:15am

For many of us, our pets are some of our closest companions, and a gift from God throughout our lives. The feast day of St. Francis of Assisi is October 4th, and while we don't generally mark feast days in our congregation, we gladly appreciate and give thanks for Francis' heart for animals.

On Sunday, Oct. 6 between services, we will host a blessing of the animals. You are invited to bring your pet (leashed, caged, or otherwise controlled) both to worship and to receive the blessing. Photos are also welcomed if the creature is unable to make it to church. The pastor will offer words like these:

"Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. You inspired Saint Francis to call all of them his brothers and sisters. We ask you to bless this pet. By the power of your love, enable it to live according to your plan. May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. Blessed are you, Lord our God, in all your creatures! Amen."

All are welcomed to receive this blessing, members, friends, and neighbors alike!





## WORSHIP AND MUSIC

### WEAR RED!

### Reformation Sunday with Confirmation

On Sunday, October 27th, we celebrate the 502nd anniversary of the Reformation of the Church, initiated by our namesake, Martin Luther. As a church in the Lutheran tradition, we are ever-changing, constantly growing and re-forming as we come to further understand God's love and movement in our lives and in the world. On Reformation Sunday, we celebrate God's faithfulness, and our willingness to keep learning, with God's Spirit as our guide. In our liturgical tradition, days that honor God's Spirit are colored in red, and as such, we encourage folks that are attending worship that day to wear red as well!



In that same Spirit of growth and change, we also celebrate the rite of the Affirmation of Baptism, commonly known as confirmation. This year, two young men will affirm their faith – Gunnleiv Loklingholm and John Gibson. Both young men have met the requirements for this privilege, and we are lucky to have them as full-fledged members of this congregation and of the Lutheran church as a whole. They have asked good questions, and been solid participants in class, service events, confirmation camp, fund raisers, and worship leadership. We hope that you will join us at the "Brunquet" honoring them following the 11:00 service.

### Come, Let Us Worship!

*The future, at a glance*

- October 6:** St. Francis' Day – Blessing of the Animals at 10:15am
- October 13:** "Living Generously" Emphasis Kick-off
- October 21:** "Living Generously" Annual Swedish Breakfast
- October 27:** Reformation Day & Confirmation/Affirmation of Baptism (Brunquet following. All are invited!)
- November 3:** All Saints Sunday
- November 10:** "Living Generously" Sunday







## 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. This year, we are planning our faith formation programming up through Christmas, knowing that our work with Vibrant Faith (our consultant agency) will be giving us lots of great insight and work to do in the Spring!

### 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](https://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

### Welcome to the Sprouts Room

*by Jessica Parrott*

All children ages 3–4 are invited to join us for weekly faith formation lessons during the 9 AM service. Katlin, Dana, and Jessica are your teachers, and you can expect to see one of us each week. We are taking a team approach and creating routines and following curriculum so that your child feels safe and cared for as they warm up to a new space with new grownups. Please feel free to leave your child with us, or be with us for as little or long as you'd like. We hope to have a solid number of children to make it a fun and engaging experience for them. We look forward to getting to know you and your child!



*Matt Grover*

### Exploring Faith

*by Matt Grover*

Who doesn't enjoy a great story? In the K–4 class, we are exploring the Old Testament through stories ranging from Abraham and Sarah to Joseph and his many-colored robe. We kicked off our first session learning how God promised Abraham his descendants would outnumber the stars, and how we are all stars in God's firmament. Stephanie Fowler, Harold Laurence, and myself, Matt Grover, co-teach this class.

### Connect Class

*by Pamela Altman*

Hello Connect Families! My name is Pamela and I am helping to teach the Connect class. Sunday, September 15th was our first Connect class with your 5th and 6th grade students. The class starts with Genesis and the creation story. I think the class is called "Connect" because the curriculum attempts to connect the biblical reference for the theme of the week with what that means in the student's lives. We try to have two parents teaching weekly. There is also a high school volunteer helping. If your student did not come last week, please come join us any Sunday.



*Pamela Altman*





## FAITH FORMATION – YOUTH

### On the State of the Nursery

by Hannah Wetter

Let me begin by saying that each and every Sunday that I come in to the nursery I feel blessed. Blessed that I am part of such a caring community and blessed that I get to help begin and launch children's faith journeys.

Recently I've begun to notice that there are times when the nursery is unable to meet the needs of its young visitors, their parents, or myself. While the physical aspects of the nursery will be enhanced throughout the VAB process, there are other aspects that we should focus on in the coming months.

Firstly, I will be posting a volunteer signup on the door of the nursery for upcoming Sundays, and I would love to have an extra set of hands for the 9am service each week!

Secondly, a few congregational members have asked me if I would accept toy donations, and the answer is "YES"! These toys get a lot of love and a lot of use, so it's always appreciated when we get gently used ones to be able to replace broken ones!

My hope for the nursery is that we can continue to make it a safe and welcoming environment for each and every child that comes by. Thank you for your ongoing support and please let me know if you have any questions!



Hannah Wetter



Phillipa Dugaw

### Confirmation 101

by Phillipa Dugaw

Confirmation classes have started and the kids are on their way to learn about the New Testament. Twelve middle schoolers led by Michael Hammett and Pastor Gretchen will take seven months to explore the bible. But that's not all. Once a month they will have the opportunity to go on a faith visit learning about other churches and religious houses. They will provide their time and talent with various service projects, and by participating in worship leadership on Sundays.

I love that this experience can build so much positive growth for our young teens. I pray that it prepares them to be good citizens of this world, that it builds their confidence and gives them the heart to want to serve.

This program starts with kids in the 7th grade and runs for two seasons. I encourage you to get your kids involved and to learn more about this wonderful program.



## FAITH FORMATION – ADULTS

### THEOLOGY ON TAP

**Tuesday, October 22nd, 7pm**

#### **The Thirsty Fish**

9041 Holman Road NW

Join us for an hour or two of informal discussion and fun conversation on the theological topic du jour. Your hosts are Betsy McGregor, Emilie Purvine, and Pastor Gretchen. This is a great monthly event to bring a friend, bring your questions, and get to know some folks in a fun way.

*Note: The Thirsty Fish is 21+, so no minors this month.*



### LIFE MASTERS GROUP SHIFTS GEARS

Now two years young, Our Redeemer's "seniors" group took stock at their September planning meeting. Some events have been very well attended – such as the Progressive Dinners and Taproot Theater. The Advent and Lenten Devotionals, while hugely appreciated by the congregation for inspiration and connection to fellow members, took a tremendous amount of effort. Other offerings, such as the monthly Bible Study and Monthly Movie, have not been terribly well-attended.

Reflecting on all that, the planning group has decided to change focus a bit. Life Masters will meet monthly on the third Wednesday of the month at 12:15pm (after the Wednesday Bible Study). The goals will be socializing and support, sharing snacks/lunch, getting better acquainted, and talking over a topic of shared interest.

EVERYONE 50 years old and above is warmly invited to come to the first get-together. Details below!

### LIFE MASTERS

#### **Aging – 3 Pros & 3 Cons: What are Your Thoughts?**

**October 16 (Third Wednesday), 12:15pm in the Library**

Come join the Life Masters on our journey to build our community and get to know each other better. Our discussion for this meeting will be: Aging. We will each have a chance to share 3 pros and 3 cons we may be experiencing as we age.

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

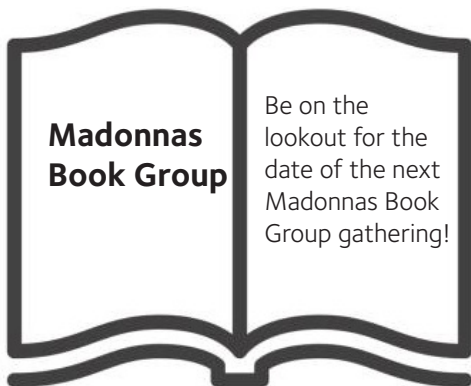


## COMMUNITY

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### CELEBRATE OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS!

|    |                  |    |                           |    |                             |
|----|------------------|----|---------------------------|----|-----------------------------|
| 2  | Patricia Kloth   | 15 | Elizabeth Prentice        | 23 | Zachary McCarthy-Fredericks |
| 2  | Jean McCarthy    | 16 | Katlin Dickinson-Laurence | 23 | Nancy Oldenkamp             |
| 2  | Mike Simmonds    | 16 | Karen Soine               | 23 | Eli Sheppard                |
| 4  | John DeTurk      | 17 | Linda Christenson         | 25 | Paul Hendricks              |
| 4  | Katherine Hawks  | 17 | Dave Eicke                | 26 | Aaron Duke                  |
| 7  | Denise Ecklund   | 17 | Annie Lubkowski           | 26 | John Ellingboe              |
| 7  | Susanna Lessard  | 17 | Tim Watkins               | 27 | Madeleine Fowler            |
| 7  | Lily Lowe        | 17 | Hannah Wetter             | 28 | John Gibson                 |
| 9  | Kari Guddal      | 18 | Elizabeth Beranek         | 28 | Susan Griffith              |
| 9  | Finn Sheppard    | 19 | Maxine Hansen             | 29 | Ron Simonsen                |
| 9  | Lynn Simonsen    | 19 | Skylar Perry              | 30 | Drew Barowicz               |
| 11 | Jenny Fredericks | 20 | Nicholas Copeland         | 30 | Maria Maier                 |
| 11 | Max Perry        | 20 | Shirley Jo Sigurdson      | 31 | Jordan Holt                 |
| 12 | Melanie Olson    | 21 | Jacob Lubkowski           | 31 | Rob Ohm                     |
| 13 | Leta Neill       | 22 | Bruce Jenkins             |    |                             |
| 15 | Marie Brissette  | 22 | Noel Wannebo              |    |                             |
| 15 | Finn Huffstetter | 23 | John Borgmeyer            |    |                             |



### CARING COMMUNITY TEAM

**October 19, Noon**

**Judy Chambers Home**

Caring Community Team will have their October meeting on October 19th, 2019 at 12:00 Noon. The meeting will be at the home of Judy Chambers. This time is a reschedule from the previous meeting date of October 5th. Join us! All caring people are welcome!



# BUILD THE VISION... SHARE THE VISION

## **BENCHMARK VISION-ALIGNED BUILDING (VAB) COFFEE HOUR**

*12:30pm Sunday, October 20th*

The VAB team invites all who are interested to attend our fourth monthly coffee hour focusing on the latest building renovation updates. At this meeting we expect to have much firmer information about the budget and project scope.

We should also have a better understanding of how, or if, we will be able to use our building during construction so we can begin to plan for the move.

Join us on October 20 to see current design drawings. Bring your questions and thoughts!

In mid-November we hope to have completed drawings, budget, and time-line. Both SHKS, our architects, and contractor LZL are very thorough and conservative in their work. However, there are things outside their control, such as how long it will take to get a building permit, that will affect even the most careful planning. When design plans are final we will have a congregational meeting to review and approve them.

Be an active part of Building the Vision. Your participation is valued!





## SOCIAL JUSTICE

### God's Work; Our Hands



#### God's Work, Our Hands is a big success!

Thank you to the many members and friends from Our Redeemers who served in Ballard for God's Work, Our hands week September 15-22! We had around 60 people in those sunny Lutheran shirts cleaning up Carkeek trails, organizing at the Ballard Food Bank, making a delicious dinner meal for 70 hungry neighbors, and/or donating and assembling around 450 sandwiches! Thank you for all of your good work! Enjoy these photos taken at our events.

#### Ballard Food Bank



*continued*





## SOCIAL JUSTICE



### Sandwich Sunday



### Carkeek Park Cleanup







## SOCIAL JUSTICE

### ELCA is a Sanctuary Denomination

In a memorable assembly this year, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America became a sanctuary denomination. This effort to reaffirm God's call for Lutherans to be welcoming neighbors as an act of faith is a time for celebration and an invitation to look deeper at our own calling at Our Redeemers.

#### What does this mean? What can we do?

"In its simplest form, becoming a sanctuary denomination means that the ELCA is publicly declaring that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith. Being a sanctuary denomination is about loving our neighbors. While we may have different ideas about how to fix this broken system and may have different ways of loving our neighbors, our call to love our neighbor is central to our faith.

Being a sanctuary denomination will look different in different contexts. It may mean providing space for people to live; providing financial and legal support to those who are working through the immigration system; hosting English as a Second Language (ESL) classes; marching as people of faith against the detention of children and families; having thoughtful conversations about what our faith says about immigration; or supporting



Janine Truppoy, ELCA

*National ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton*

other congregations and service providers. Whatever your local congregation decides to do, please note that we cannot mandate or direct our congregations and ministries to respond in specific ways. Each must work out what this means for you in your context. **Please understand that no congregation in the ELCA is being asked, expected, or required to break any law."**

- Educate ourselves. Join adult forums November 17th and 24th; December 1st and 7th. Details coming!
- Help Lutheran Immigration Refugee Services reunite families. <https://www.lirs.org/family-reunification/>
- Become a pen pal with someone in detention. <https://www.lirs.org/connect-with-a-pen-pal-in-detention/>





## SOCIAL JUSTICE

*Our Redeemer's had three participants who returned empowered to advocate more effectively with elected officials, collaborate with others, and participate better in human rights work in the U.S. Below is Sydney Spray's reports on what was learned at Ecumenical Advocacy Days 2019.*



*Katlin Dickenson-Laurence,  
Sydney Spray, and Shannon  
Beck*

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September 2019

What a strange thing it is to have such an impactful experience when I was on the edge of a momentous life change like graduating from college. It has now been nearly 5 months since Ecumenical Advocacy Days and I have now also completed a full summer working at Lutherhaven Ministries in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Anyone who has worked in camp ministry can tell you that the experience, while rewarding and life changing in its own right, is quite all-consuming. It has taken me until today to fully reflect on my takeaways from EAD and how I shall apply them to my life as an advocate and Christian.

I have realized in the months following EAD that advocacy can take many forms. One of the keys to advocacy was making sure that your voice as the advocate was not drowning out the voices of those whom you are advocating for. Instead of shouting for those who can only whisper, we can use our privilege to create spaces for whispers to be heard.

Now, throughout the conference, I wondered about the lack of youth centered advocacy workshops. If we want to talk about voices that are overshadowed I think it is imperative that we consider the voices of our youth. The book of Mark chapter 10 says,

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

I think it is all too easy to overlook youth voices in issues because they are not adults and have relatively little power. Working in outdoor ministry for 3 summers has shown me just how broad the spectrum of experience is among today's youth. We see non-binary campers wanting to share their preferred pronouns, campers from group homes desperate to be "normal kids at camp", and young counselors learning to lead groups of wide-eyed squirrely pirates on an adventure of a lifetime, leaving their own pride and self-consciousness behind. These youth just want to be seen and heard without being judged or pontificated at and their stories and experiences have a value that we cannot understate. Their perspectives need to be heard because they too have a share in the kingdom of God and deserve to grow in love and safety and equality.

-Sydney Spray



## SOCIAL JUSTICE

**10.7**

Hunger and Hope: Lessons from  
Ethiopia and Guatemala  
Free Screening  
October 7  
Trinity Lutheran Church

**10.13**

Lutheran Community Services  
Northwest Fundraising Luncheon  
October 13, 12:30-3:00pm

**10.19**

Fall E-Cycle Event  
October 19, 10am -2pm

**10.20**

Ballard Sunday Dinner  
October 20, 2pm  
Ballard First Lutheran Church

**10.29**

Social Justice Team Meeting  
October 29, 12:30pm

**11.1-2**

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering  
November 1 & 2

**11.19**

Faith Action Network Annual  
Fundraising Dinner  
November 19, 4:30pm  
Renton Pavilion

**11.28**

Thanksgiving Dinner, Practical  
Radical Welcome  
Thursday, November 28

**2020**

**4.24-27**

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

**7.16-19**

Women of the ELCA Gathering  
July 16-19, 2020

SOCIAL JUSTICE CALENDAR





## SOCIAL JUSTICE

*October 20, 2pm | Ballard First Lutheran Church*

Join a Ballard Sunday dinner! This month it is October 20th. Emilie Purvine is looking for a co-lead. Want to learn from one of the best? [Sign up early and often!](#)



### ALL HANDS ON DECK!

#### SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM MEETING

*Tuesday, October 29, 12:30pm, Fellowship Hall*

We will have our first Social Justice meeting for this school year, so don't miss it. All who care about social justice in our community and the world are welcome.



Lunch will be provided! Let Shannon know if you can attend and would like to share in lunch! [Outreach@ourredeemers.net](mailto:Outreach@ourredeemers.net) or 502-443-3544. **Join us!**

### NOVEMBER THANKSGIVING DINNER, PRACTICAL RADICAL WELCOME

*Thursday, November 28, Fellowship Hall*

Our Thanksgiving dinner is just around the corner! Do you know that this event requires around 110 volunteers? We are looking forward to working together! Please contact Shannon if you can fill the **Food Prep Lead** position! And if you can participate by hosting a table or filling in some other way, that is always good.

We promise to coach you well so that the event is the best possible experience for you! Contact Shannon [outreach@ourredeemers.net](mailto:outreach@ourredeemers.net).





## SOCIAL JUSTICE

### **HUNGER AND HOPE: LESSONS FROM ETHIOPIA AND GUATEMALA, FREE PREMIER SCREENING AND BENEFIT**

*Monday, October 7, 2019, 7pm, Trinity Lutheran Church*

One of our favorite Lutheran celebrities, Rick Steves, is providing a free premier screening and benefit for his new film. We will have opportunities to learn more about the world ELCA World Hunger is doing and support it. Plus plenty of good Lutherans and other people of good faith to share with. Contact Shannon if you would like to go with a group from Our Redeemer's.

Register here: [hunger-and-hope.eventbrite.com](https://hunger-and-hope.eventbrite.com).



### **LUTHERAN COMMUNITY SERVICES NORTHWEST FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON**

*October 13, 12:30-3:00pm*

Contact Shannon if you would like to join a team going up for this luncheon to learn more and support their work with refugees in our community. [outreach@ourredeemers.net](mailto:outreach@ourredeemers.net).

### **Faith Action Network Annual Fundraising Dinner**

**November 19, 2019 4:30pm**

**Renton Pavilion**

**For more information or to reserve a spot, contact Shannon Beck,  
[outreach@ourredeemers.net](mailto:outreach@ourredeemers.net).**



## SOCIAL JUSTICE

### OUR REDEEMER'S FALL ELECTRONICS RECYCLE DATE IS SET!

October 19, 10am - 2pm    Sign up for this recycle event: <https://signup.com/go/TstbLmO>



Our earth care team is at it again! Can you contribute? Clean out your basement and garage and get rid of all those unwanted electronic items (including weed-eaters, etc!), styrofoam and clothing. Our Redeemer's is partnering with Living Green Technology, BikeWorks, Styrotec, Mary's Place and The Bridge Center. This, as usual, open to the public.

We will be on hand to collect clean, dry styrofoam (please remove all tape and labels; sorry we cannot accept hot tub covers, insulating foam or anything that is dirty, wet or has been left outside). For e-cycling laptops, phones, software accessories, and more. PLUS gently used clothing will be collected for donation to Mary's Place and the Bridge Care Center.

Recycling is FREE. We need many hands! Please sign up here for a shift. <http://signup.com/go/CkAUNqO>

### LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF INGATHERING

November 1 & 2

**THANK YOU** for all the donations! In all we have collected to date:

- 72 Completed School Kits
- 20 Personal Care Kits
- 25 Quilts



Lutheran  
World  
Relief

**The trucks will be here on October 30th, and there is still time to donate!**

**On November 1 & 2 churches from all around the Puget Sound will be delivering truckloads of donations to Our Redeemer's and load them into semi-trailers parked in our parking lot.\***

We invite you to the Ingathering event as a guest or a volunteer.

**Volunteer opportunities include:**

- Baked goods for the In-Gathering: Deliver your baked goods by 10/31 (Halloween)
- Be a part of the hospitality crew to keep the coffee flowing and baked goods stocked.
- Donate money to help with substantial shipping costs to get these items to the people who need them. Thanks! Contact [outreach@ourredeemers.net](mailto:outreach@ourredeemers.net) for more details.

*\* Our Redeemer's is proud to be the In-Gathering site for Puget Sound churches.*





## SOCIAL JUSTICE



WOMEN OF THE ELCA GATHERING  
JULY 16-19, 2020 | PHOENIX  
WELCATG.ORG

### Plan ahead to attend Women of the ELCA gathering July 2020 in Phoenix

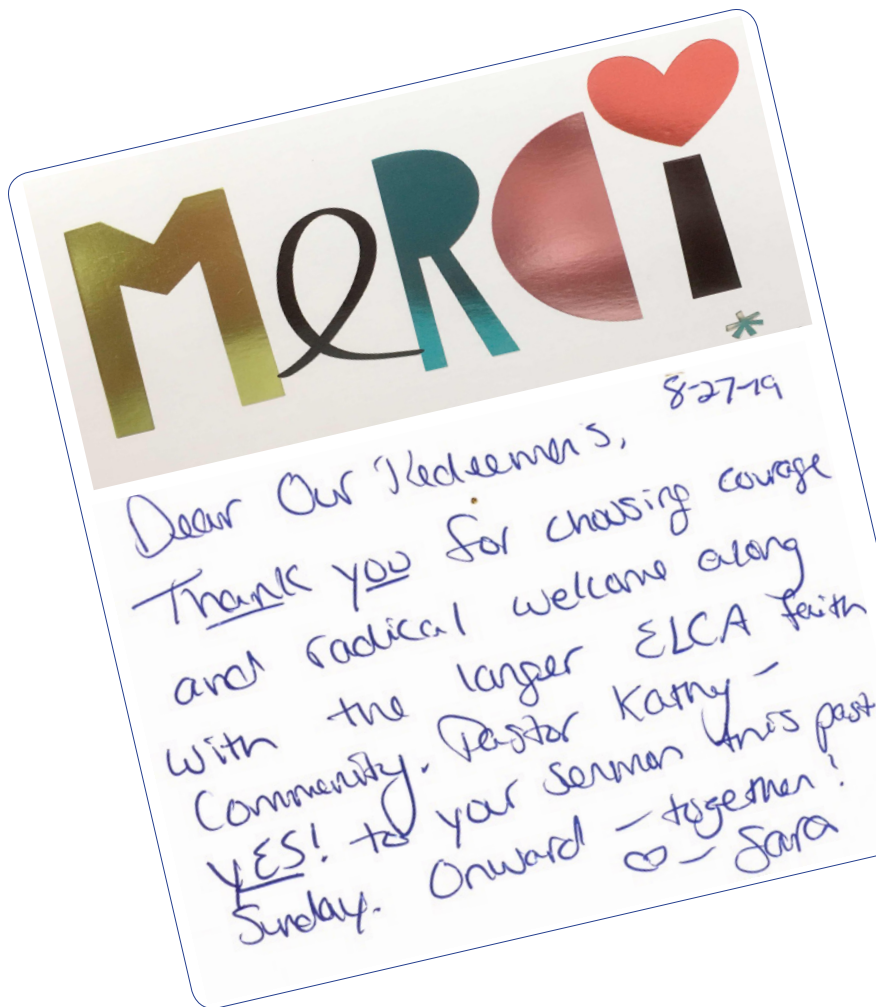
Every 3 years, Women of the ELCA gather for inspiration, education, and mission. It is always a memorable event, so save your pennies for next year! Details to come!

### ECUMENICAL ADVOCACY DAYS 2020

*April 24-27, 2020* **Focus: Climate Change!**

Join a team of Our Redeemer's and Lutherans and other people of faith from around the country at Ecumenical Advocacy Days in April 2020!





Quilting team,

Thank you all so much for the beautiful gift! I love the look and feel of the quilt and am very appreciative of all the thought and effort put into it. While the weather hasn't permitted me to use it quite yet, I'm sure I'll get lots of miles sturdy quilts full on the east coast.

Best,  
Evan Detwiler  
ac



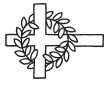



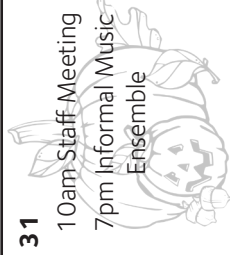




**EVERY SUNDAY:**

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

# OCTOBER 2019

ourredeemers.net/calendar

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday                                     | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday   |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| <br><b>6</b><br>10am Pet Blessing   | <br><b>7</b><br>9am Quilters | <b>1</b>                                    | <b>2</b> Office Closed*<br>7am Men's Breakfast<br>10:30am Bible Study<br>6:30pm<br>Children's Choir<br>7pm Adult & Youth Choir | <b>3</b><br>3:45pm Staff Meeting<br>6pm Centering Prayer<br>7pm Informal Music Ensemble   | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b><br>2pm Alene Moris' Memorial<br> |
| <br><b>13</b><br>LIVING GENEROUSLY<br>EMPHASIS BEGINS<br> | <b>14</b><br>9am Quilters   | <b>15</b><br>6:30pm<br>Church Council       | <b>16</b><br>10am Bible Study<br>12:15pm Life Masters<br>6:30pm<br>Children's Choir<br>7pm Adult & Youth Choir                 | <b>17</b><br>10am Staff Meeting<br>6pm Centering Prayer   | <b>18</b>   | <b>19</b><br>10am-2pm<br>E-Recycling Event<br>12pm Caring Community Team Meeting   |
| <br><b>20</b><br>10am Annual Swedish Pancake Breakfast<br>12:30 VAB Coffee Hour<br>2pm Ballard Sunday Dinner                                | <b>21</b><br>9am Quilters   | <b>22</b><br>7pm Theology on Tap            | <b>23</b><br>10:30 am Bible Study<br>6:30pm<br>Children's Choir<br>7pm Adult & Youth Choir                                     | <b>24</b><br>10am Staff Meeting<br>6pm Centering Prayer<br>7pm Informal Music Ensemble  | <b>25</b>   | <b>26</b>  |
| <b>27</b><br>REFORMATION DAY<br>11am Confirmation<br>12pm Confirmation Brunquet  | <b>28</b><br>9am Quilters   | <b>29</b><br>12:30pm Social Justice Meeting | <b>30</b>  | <b>31</b><br>10am Staff Meeting<br>7pm Informal Music Ensemble<br> |  |   |

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





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206-783-7900  
return service requested

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**SUNDAY WORSHIP**

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

**THURSDAY WORSHIP**

6pm Centering Prayer

living  
generously



**October 13 ~ "Living Generously" Emphasis Begins**

*Receive your reflection and info packet*

**October 20 ~ Annual Swedish Pancake Breakfast**

*Served 10am*

**October 27 ~ Reformation Day | Confirmation**

*12pm Brunquet*

**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*



**Follow Us on Instagram!**

We are on Instagram! Follow us and see what exciting things are happening around the church. @ourredeemersballard



**Like Us on Facebook!**

DO YOU LIKE OUR REDEEMER'S? THEN **LIKE OUR REDEEMER'S FACEBOOK PAGE!** An easy way to invite and engage your friends.