

SEPTEMBER 2019

our redeemer's  
LUTHERAN • BALLARD

# TheVisitor



Heading Out with Hope

A COMMUNITY IN THE MODEL OF CHRIST

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COVER/INSIDE COVER: *Our kids (and teachers) enjoying Vacation Bible School 2019! See more VBS photos on page 10.*



**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

2400 NW 85th St. • Seattle, WA 98117 • 206-783-7900 • [www.ourredeemers.net](http://www.ourredeemers.net)

## FROM THE PASTOR...



### READY. SET. SCHOOL!

#### Take a deep breath! It's all starting up again!

School may have just one goal--education--but, *oh my!* A LOT goes into making that happen: schedules, sports, activities, clothes, friends, teachers, parents, supplies, car pools, and on and on!

#### It's all starting up again here at church, too!

Like school, we have one basic goal: *being a community in the model of Christ for the life of the world*, as our vision statement says. And a LOT goes into making that a reality! (Just take a look at this newsletter!)

During the year ahead, one way we'll do this is by exploring how to form faith in our day and age. Thanks to the generosity of 2017 auction-goers, Jim LaDoux, of the Vibrant Faith Institute ([vibrantfaith.org](http://vibrantfaith.org)), will be coaching us. He has 20 years of youth ministry experience, and has a master's in organizational development and strategic planning. He joined 52 Our Redeemer's folks for a week up at Holden Village in July, interviewed most of them, and began getting to know how we are church together.

I had the chance to talk with Jim about his observations thus far. He said one question he asked that stumped nearly everyone was: *What is the next step on your journey of faith? Developing forgiveness, for example? Regular prayer practice? What is the next step you want to take to nurture your faith?*

Jim's question zeros in on a beautiful opportunity for all of us. Like any committed relationship, intentional nurture of our faith makes the difference between stagnation and life-giving vitality. And, frankly -- the only way we can do that is one step at a time, one day at a time.

I really look forward to this year of deepening our effectiveness as a community where bold and resilient faith thrives. Pastor Gretchen, Betsy MacGregor and Jim will be inviting us all to participate in some way. I hope you'll jump in!

But, in the meantime, as school re-opens this fall, how about re-starting your own journey? How would you answer Jim's excellent question:

#### **What do you want the next step on your faith journey to be this fall?**

Be intentional! Take a next step. In faith. And in love.

### READY. SET. NEXT STEP!!



*Kathleen H. Hawk*

Pastor Kathy

# BUILD THE VISION... SHARE THE VISION



## VISION-ALIGNED BUILDING COFFEE HOUR

September 15th after Worship

Join the VAB team and SHKS Architects to get updates on the progress made to date on planning for our exciting building renovation project. The VAB Coffee Hour will take place at 12pm following the 11 am service. Be an active part of Building the Vision. Your voice in the process is valued!



## LIVING GENEROUSLY

### GRATEFUL ~ The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks

by Diana Butler Bass – provided by Pastor Kathy

(This is the second excerpt from an interview with Diana Butler Bass, author of the book by the above title.)

We usually think of generosity and gratitude as a transactional exchange. If someone gives us a gift, we are in their debt....and need to give a return gift, send a thank-you note, do a favor in return.

This can make gift-giving an attempt to control the universe we live in. "If I give this, then you should do this for me." That just seems to "make sense" to us.

But the structure the Bible puts on gratitude is about abundance and table fellowship and the sharing of gifts for free without any expectation of return. Jesus says no to expecting any kind of payback.

This changes gratitude from only a personal feeling. When we believe we live within a universe of God-given abundance where "everything we have is here", being grateful is also communal and social.

We need to change our question from "How do we control the good gifts of all creation?" to "How do we steward those gifts?" How do we pass the gifts around the universal table (to use Jesus' metaphor) with no expectation of return, to make sure everyone is fed and everyone is cared for and everyone has access to the good gifts of all of creation?



Photo: Lisa Folios

#### A Quote from Wendell Berry~

You mustn't wish for another life.  
You mustn't want to be somebody else.  
What you must do is this:  
"Rejoice ever more.  
Pray without ceasing.  
In everything give thanks."  
I'm not all the way capable of so much,  
but those are the right instructions.



# WORSHIP AND MUSIC

## Sunday Worship Schedule for September

(a little different than usual)

- September 1 one service, 10am
- September 8 one service, 10am ▼ **Kickoff Sunday**
- September 15 two services, 9am & 11am. 9am ensemble and senior choir resumes
- September 22 two services, 9am & 11am
- September 29 two services, 9am & 11am, both are healing services



### ▼ Kickoff Sunday by Pastor Gretchen

Worship 10am, Tailgating Party 11:30am

We are starting off the fall program year with a bang! At the end of our worship service, we will be giving out age-appropriate Bibles to any and all kids that want them for a *Bible Reading Challenge* for this year. Immediately following, we are having a tailgating party in our parking lot. Who doesn't love to tailgate? ...AND, you can still get home in plenty of time to watch the first Seahawks home game! Invite all your people!

Featuring:

- BBQ and Potluck
- Cake Walk
- Bouncy House
- Crafts for Kids



**Save the Dates: 10/6 Pet Blessing**  
**10/27 Confirmation**



## WORSHIP AND MUSIC

### CHOIRS RETURN IN THE FALL

*All are Welcome!*

**Singing in a choir is a wonderful way to:**

- Get involved with a supportive group of people who love to sing and love to laugh,
- Contribute to meaningful worship, and
- Experience God through the joy and beauty of music.

**Jr. Choir** is for children and youth, ages 5 through middle school, and rehearsals end with treats!

**Adult Choir** is for high school students and adults of all ages.

**Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings, beginning September 11:** Jr. Choir 6:30 – 7pm; Adult Choir 7 – 8:30pm.

The Adult Choir also sings at the traditional service most Sunday mornings during the program year, rehearsing that morning's anthem at 9:45am. The Jr. Choir will sing at the beginning of both services, approximately once per month (finalized schedule to be determined with family input).

**Please join us!** It's fun, it's welcoming, and it's an important and special way to praise God and build community! We hope to see you on September 11 as we begin an exciting program year of singing at Our Redeemer's!

Blessings,  
*Karen Lee, Traditional Worship and Music Director and  
Marie Nordquist-Lessard, Jr. Choir Co-Director*





# 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! Below are the classes you can register for – the registration form is available on the next page, or you can print it from the website.

## 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.

## Young Families Potluck and Baptism Class

*September 21 (Saturday) 10am-1pm*

Calling all families with kids three and under! You are invited to connect and grow at a potluck and fun class together. Bring something you know your kids will eat, and learn more about worship and baptism, and perhaps about getting your own children (or yourselves) baptized! *Please register by contacting Pastor Gretchen*. Childcare for older kids will be available.



## Bible Challenge

*September 8 (Sunday) 10am*

Calling all kids! Get a new Bible on Kickoff Sunday, and join the New Testament reading challenge! Read all of the new testament by Christmas, and you can get a SWEET trophy with your name on it. Don't miss out on this awesome opportunity!



2400 NW 85th Street  
Seattle, WA 98117  
[www.ourredeemers.net](http://www.ourredeemers.net)  
206.783.7900



## Faith Formation Registration Form 2019/2020

### Child's Name, Birthdate, Age:

Child 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Child 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Child 3 \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent Info:

Parent 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (    )                      Text ok? Y/N  
Parent 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (    )                      Text ok? Y/N  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I'm registering my child for:

- Sprouts (ages 3-4)
- Exploring Faith (ages 5-9)
- Connect (ages 10-12)
- Confirmation (grades 7-8)
- Middle School Activities (grades 6-8)
- High School Activities (grades 9-12)

### I can totally help out! I can:

- Teach a 6-week session for the \_\_\_\_\_ class.
- Help with supplies and lesson planning
- Send out updates to registered families.

My name: \_\_\_\_\_  
My best time of year: \_\_\_\_\_

Send me all the information about:

- Weeklong Summer Camps
- Weekend Retreats

I'm interested in helping with:

- Confirmation Events
- Thanksgiving Meals
- Sandwich Sundays
- E-Cycling
- The Luciafest
- Christmas Pageant
- Christmas Eve Family Worship

Photo Release Form:

I hereby, authorize Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church (ORLC), to publish the photographs taken of me and/or the above mentioned minor children and our names, for use in the ORLC printed publications, website or social media.

I give permission, to ORLC to copyright, use and publish the photographs of my child with or without names for any lawful purpose, including illustrations, advertising and web content. I release, all claims against ORLC with respect to ownership and publication including any claims of compensation.

I confirm that I am the parent or legal guardian of the minor child(ren) and have the authority to authorize to use their photographs and names.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_



## FAITH FORMATION - YOUTH

### Vacation Bible School Reflection/Thank You – Gretchen

VBS this year was a massive success, thanks to all 47 kids that participated, but mostly, thanks to all our volunteers who made it possible! You are AMAZING! All of these folks gave a solid 40+ hours of their summer to this church so that kids can learn about God and gardening, and that is what I call good stewardship. Caring for kids, the earth, and Jesus all wrapped up in one!

#### Thank you volunteers!

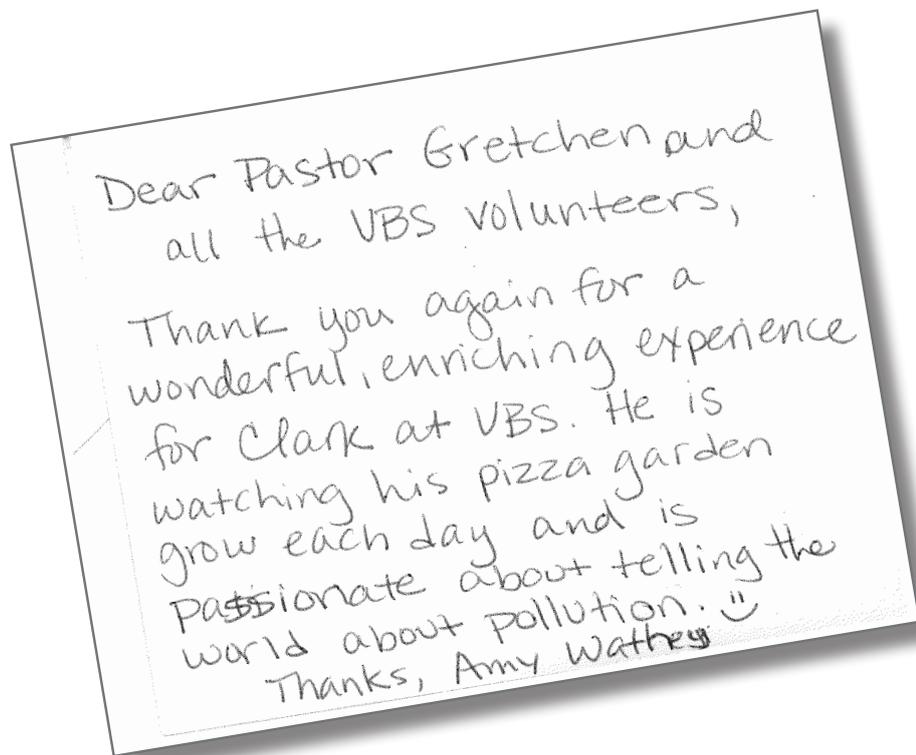
Stephanie Running  
Linda Carbone  
Ellen Arrington  
Dana Wright  
Lynne McNeill  
Betsy McGregor  
Raleigh Somm

Julie Vannoy  
Dray Hawks  
Colin Neu  
Max Myers  
Vanessa Steiger  
Ryan Brown

Leif Loklingholm  
Evan, Hannah, and Erica Kidd  
Dawson Otis  
Tessa Bolton



Special thanks for Jerri Harden for hosting our youth group friends from Montana, and to the McKenzies for letting us cool off each day after running around with kids.





# FAITH FORMATION - YOUTH



## Vacation Bible School 2019





## FAITH FORMATION - YOUTH

### Faith Formation Update

As mentioned in previous newsletters, we have hired Vibrant Faith as a consultant to help us develop stronger faith formation opportunities of children ages 3 to young adult. In July several families and individuals from ORLC traveled to Holden Village,. Among those visiting was our coach, Jim Ladoux. Jim had the opportunity to talk at length with all members who were in the Village. He was able to gain insight from our members and families regarding their view of our current program and also their thoughts on improvements and maintaining vitality for faith formation moving forward.



Next steps for Jim include review of our communication practices, meeting with our pastors and communicating with the wider ORLC membership. He will be visiting us again in the near future, Prior to that visit, Jim will ask for me to gather a representative group of members with whom he can talk. If you are interested in participating in this please let me know by email at [betsymac7309@gmail.com](mailto:betsymac7309@gmail.com). As soon as I have more specific information I will let the congregation know via email or our newsletter.

Peace,  
Betsy Mcgregor

### Confirmation Camp 2019 Success!

A group of 15 people – two adults, two 5 year-olds, a 7 year-old, two 10 year-olds, and 8 confirmation students traveled to Coeur D’Alene, Idaho for a week at Camp Lutherhaven. There was singing and prayer, canoeing and paddle boarding, camping and zip-lining, and of course, learning about our Lutheran Heritage. Many many thanks to the folks who have bolstered our ability to travel to Idaho with their scholarships and donations throughout the year to the confirmation program. Here are the takeaways from the youth that participated:

**“I learned how important teamwork is in a relationship with God. I also learned how much God cares about us.” – Nora Jancola**

**“Jesus loves you no matter what. Jesus forgives no matter what you have done in the past. Jesus cares and it does not matter who you are. Praying is a way to stay connected to God!” – Malaika Dugaw**

**“I learned that God cares for all our needs and will forgive us no matter what. Also, we can trust God with anything.” – Annelise Glover**

**“I now know that God will always forgive me! Now that I have been to camp, I have a different perspective on how I look at things. So I now can not lash out when I’m mad, I can try my best to look on the bright side.” - Elena Malone**

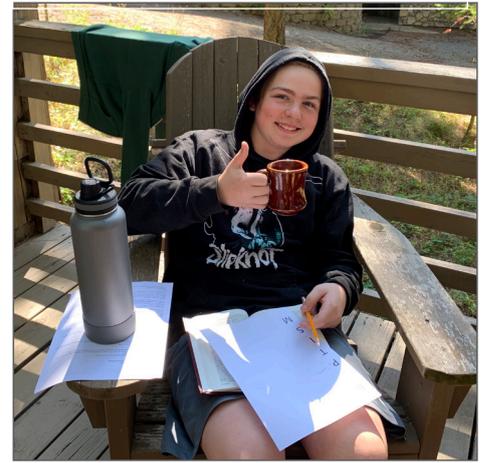
**“I learned that I feel more connected to God when I’m surrounded by nature.” – Elena Thompson**

**“I believe that the songs at camp connected me more to God because when we sang about God and what God does it makes me understand how lucky I am to have someone who always loves and forgives me no matter what.” -Torin Ege**

**“The service around the firelight made me feel a lot more connected to God. I felt like being by the lake and around the fire really helped me feel connected.” – John Gibson**

**“Getting to sit with everyone the last night was really good, because I didn’t have to watch people run when I couldn’t run. The music was also fun.” – Leif Loklingholm**

# Confirmation Camp 2019



# Welcoming Wisdom





### **BIBLE STUDY RESUMES** **An Ancient Breath of Wisdom**

*by Carolyn Swanson*

I had my recurring teaching dream last night. I wondered why; then I knew. The deadline for the “Visitor” was due and I needed to produce an article about the Wednesday Bible Study. So, it (the study) begins this month on September 11, 10:30 a.m., in the library. Incidentally, it wasn’t a particularly happy dream. I kept going to classrooms where I was supposed to teach, but all of the teachers said I had the wrong room.

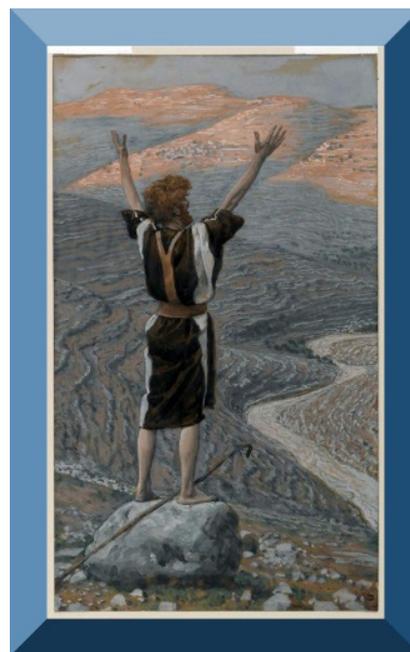
The title of this article encompasses one of the reasons our study on Biblical Wisdom Literature is unique in that these books were probably discussed in King Solomon’s court (900’s) and written by sages, what we might call “the Israelite intelligentsia.” Scholars debate whether there was a group of sages, as distinct from (for instance) prophets or priests, or a general intellectual movement among the Israelite elite but no distinct group. The sages also served as diplomats, palace bureaucrats, counselors, advisors to the king, educators, and scientists. The sages wrote and edited the Wisdom books over the course of almost a thousand (1,000) years.

#### **Question: What is the difference between knowledge and wisdom?**

Another distinctive quality of this study is that for at least a century and a half, the Wisdom books of the Bible have perplexed biblical scholars. In their search for the one idea that unites the whole Bible with this genre, some suggested “covenant,” others “law and grace”—but whichever one they chose, the Wisdom books did not fit. Then, in the early 1960s, some scholars suggested that the Wisdom Literature of the Bible had its own unique voice and theology.

The wisdom books of the Old Testament are Job, Ecclesiastes, and Proverbs. A few Psalms fall into the wisdom category ( 1 , 37 , 49 , 73 , 112 , 127 , 128 ). Biblical wisdom is also partially represented by the books ascribed to Solomon, such as Song of Songs.

**Question:** What is the difference between knowledge and wisdom? “Knowledge understands the light has turned red; wisdom applies the brakes. Knowledge sees the quicksand; wisdom walks around it. Knowledge memorizes the Ten



Commandments; wisdom obeys them. Knowledge learns of God; wisdom loves Him.”

This category of Scripture is all about the fruit of human efforts to understand God, the world, and human nature. And, isn’t that what we are all about? St. Paul says in Ephesians 1:17, “I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.”

That is our goal. Please join us. Everyone will be gladly received.



# COMMUNITY

## WELCOME NEW WELCOME MINISTERS!

We are so excited to have Amy Hammett and Katlin Dickenson-Laurence coming on staff as our co-welcome ministers. Amy will be heading up the 9:00 service, and Katlin the 11:00 service. Their roles are to help volunteers notice and welcome newcomers, and make them feel at home. They also coordinate the Coffee Hour volunteers, so get ready for those emails and phone calls! Be sure to congratulate them. Our beloved Ronda Andrews is stepping down from the position, but will still be on-hand to help, volunteer, and give you a warm hug whenever you need it. Thank you Amy and Katlin!



## NEW COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

It is our joy to welcome to our staff our new Communications Coordinator, Debbie Lematta. Debbie brings with her tons of experience in communications, marketing, and PR strategy, and we are excited to have her as an asset on our team. Welcome Debbie!

## CELEBRATING SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

- |                    |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 3 Kirsten Duke     | 15 Shea Cromwell   | 27 Lilja Kyoko See |
| 4 Olivia Evidon    | 15 Linda Ellingboe | 28 Maryanne Dixon  |
| 4 Marilyn Schulze  | 15 Judy Wright     | 28 Ritchie Neill   |
| 5 Indio Abdullah   | 16 Joni Duvall     | 29 Holly Mangold   |
| 5 Lisa Thompson    | 17 Joe Lessard     | 30 Anna Freyberg   |
| 6 Georgia Green    | 20 Tim Hunter      | 30 Jon Hanson      |
| 6 Ashley Holt      | 21 Britni Chabot   | 30 Ingrid Running  |
| 7 Russ Huffstetter | 21 Isaac Dovich    |                    |
| 8 Lucy Watkins     | 21 Phillipa Dugaw  |                    |
| 12 Genny Arredondo | 21 Stephen Ege     |                    |
| 13 Linda Hintz     | 21 Eric Olson      |                    |
| 13 Judith Jager    | 24 Lisa Glover     |                    |
| 14 Gretchen Mertes | 25 Lindsay Rindler |                    |





# COMMUNITY



**Lutheran World Relief**  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

August 9, 2019

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church  
2400 NW 85th St  
Seattle, WA 98117-3733

700 Light Street  
Baltimore, MD 21230 USA  
lwr.org | 800.597.5972

Dear Friends at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of quilts and kits for LWR's distribution overseas. These gifts of your hearts and hands are beautiful expressions of God's grace and love to people all around the world.

Because of your support, LWR is able to share the tangible love of Christ with thousands of people through your quilts and kits. Last year, LWR and partners Children's Gift Ministry (CGM) and OLAM were busy distributing School Kits in Honduras, to children whose families are vulnerable due to lack of access to the most basic necessities. Parents often have to choose between feeding their children and sending them to school. School Kits were distributed to more than 28,000 Honduran children to help them get back to or stay in school, increasing their chances of breaking the chains of chronic poverty and avoiding the very real risk of gang involvement. In addition to being practical, these kits provide a source of comfort, security and hope to those who receive them.

Your quilts and kits provide important necessities to our neighbors around the world, and serve as reminders that they are not alone or forgotten. On behalf of our neighbors in villages, schools, hospitals and refugee camps around the world, I extend deepest thanks for your contribution, and pray God's richest blessings on your life and work!

In Christ,

*Melanie W. Gibbons*

Melanie W. Gibbons  
Quilt & Kit Ministry Manager

DONATION RECEIPT

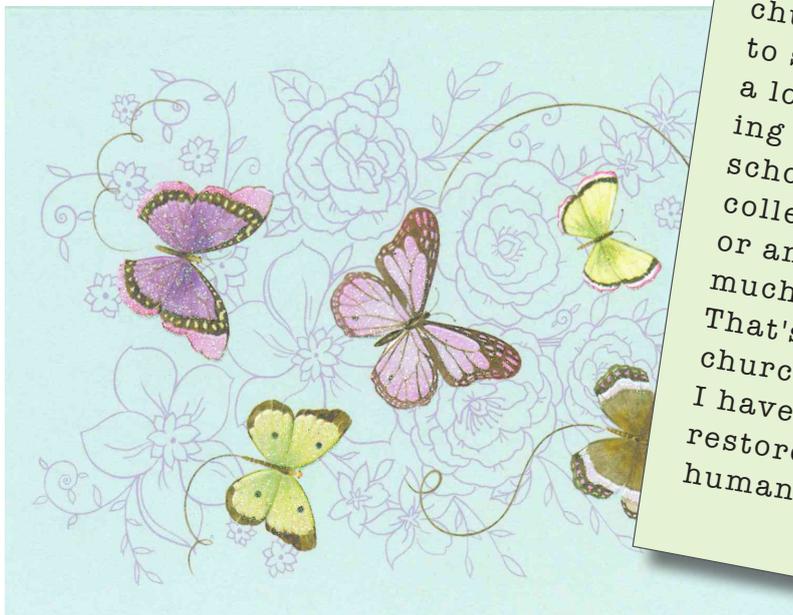
18	Mission Quilts		Baby Care Kits
	Blankets		Fabric Kits
	Personal Care Kits		Soap
24	School Kits		

Please note: this receipt may not reflect your full donation. Based on when the receipt data was pulled, some of your items may have yet to be processed, and you will receive additional receipts for those items as they are scanned into the system.

**[ Theology on Tap ]** Join us for Theology on Tap, Tuesday, September 24th at 7:00pm at Betsy McGregor's home. Betsy has recently moved, so please email her at bemac7309@gmail.com, or message through Facebook to get her new address. Theology on Tap is a great way to meet other members here at ORLC. Please bring a snack and/or drink to share. See you there!



# COMMUNITY



Hi.

I wanted you to know that I drove past your church today and saw a sign out front with a gay flag that says "for harm done by the church, we are sorry". I wanted to say thank you. I went through a lot of traumatizing and demeaning things at the hands of my high school church when I came out in college, and I never expected them or anyone else to apologize for how much they hurt me. Thank you. That's the most healing thing any church anywhere could have said. I have a long way to go, but you restored a tiny piece of my faith in humanity today.

Our Redeemer one and all, 6/24/2019  
 Thank you so much for your visits to Pete Paulson and communion.  
 Also again thank you all for your visits at Ida Culver.  
 Thank you for the beautiful Paper Show. Thanks is a huge word to you all.  
 Nancy Cross-Paulson





## Meet the Members: Judy and Dana Wright

by Nancy OldenKamp

### What drew you to attend Our Redeemer's?

Several years ago our family was going through a rough time and Dana was driving by the church and saw the sign for the Blue Christmas Service. He attended the service and appreciated the spirit of the service and the understanding that the holidays are not always a joyful time. When Dana retired from his work in a congregation in Everett September 2018, we wanted to attend a church close to our home and one in which we could more fully participate as a neighborhood church. Our first Sunday was October 2018 and we were so warmly welcomed by the Pastors and congregation that we never left. When we got out of our bright yellow car to attend the first time, the person getting out of her car next to us was admiring the car's color. When she looked up at us she broke into a huge smile and hugs-Candace Todd-Robbins whom we had known in a former church years ago. It was as if

she were our official greeter and our being there was meant to be. We find that Our Redeemer's weds together the liturgy and a concern for the world's needy and every week the liturgy and sermon feed our souls and help realign our lives to live more attuned to God's mission to redeem the world.

### Family History

Judy grew up in El Paso, Texas as an only child and Dana grew up in Spokane with a twin brother, Jeff and younger sister, Janny. We have 3 children, Sarah who lives in NJ with our granddaughter Angelina, Jana (husband Chris) with children Hazel and Max and lives near Greenlake, and Eliot(wife Kelly) and lives in NJ with children Hope, Elijah and Declan.

### Childhood Memories

Judy's favorite childhood memory was living in Naples, Italy for 7th, 8th and 9th grades while her Dad served in the Air Force on a NATO base. Judy and her family left El Paso

to live abroad and then were reassigned to El Paso at the end of 3 years. After traveling all over Europe and the Middle East, El Paso seemed fairly provincial in its world view and this experience of traveling has developed into a lifelong desire to visit other cultures.

Dana grew up in a family oriented towards sports, baseball, basketball, hunting and eventually golf. His father gave him a set of oil paints when he was only five years old and that started his lifelong love of art. His life also revolved around his maternal grandfather, at whose house he spent many weekends. He was a retired railroad engineer and starting at a young age, he took Dana and his brother to his rail yard and they would spend an entire day riding on the switch engine. Later in his childhood, golf took over as a passion and for most of the summers, he played 72 holes a day. Eventually, he got good enough to play for Shadle Park H.S. and went on to win the Spokane Amateur title and the junior Spokane Amateur title. A fond memory is playing golf with all five members of my family on July 4th and then returning to my grandfather's house for a "corn orgy" with corn picked fresh from his garden.

### **Interests/Hobbies**

Having grown up in the desert, Judy finds gardening to be a magical pastime. Things just grow!! Also having just retired from working as a Medical Technologist at UW, she will take great delight in being with grandkids and also expanding new friendships in the church community.

Dana's interests continue to center on golf, art, hiking, traveling and a great fondness for classic movies. Dana went to college on a caddie scholarship (the Chick Evans Golf Foundation) and he caddied in the 1977 PGA championship at Pebble Beach. Living near New York City for 12 years, enabled him to pursue his love of art and to see many famous paintings that he had seen only in books while growing up. His hiking resume includes the Appalachian and Presidential mountains, the Cascade and the Sierra Madre mountains. But the best of all is Mount Rainier.

### **Looking Forward**

Dana designed a road trip this fall that would be based on a theme. We would visit the state that joined the Union the year that is the same as our anniversary.

We've been married 42 years so we would go to Montana since they are the 42nd state. There's only one problem: Washington is the 42nd state and Montana is 41st. Oops. We're still going on our road trip and pretending we didn't mess up.





## SOCIAL JUSTICE



# God's Work; Our Hands

The week of September 15-22

This year we will have a week of service for God's Work; Our Hands. This event is a deeply meaningful way to live out our mission:

**Looking Inward, Reaching Outward, for the life of the world!**

**Where would you like to serve?** Consider stretching yourself by doing something different than you usually do. Have you been meaning to do Ballard Sunday Dinner? Now's your chance! What about the Food Bank? Grab a friend or two, a couple of family members, and help swing our community toward justice. **Our goal is 100% participation! Here's how:**

**Ballard Sunday Dinner. Sunday, September 15.** Sign up here!  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084daea62ea1fe3-ballard>

**Ballard Food Bank. Thursday, September 19, 11:30 – 2pm.** We can bring up to seven (7) people to volunteer at the Ballard Food Bank. Let Shannon know if you can help out! [outreach@ourredeemers.net](mailto:outreach@ourredeemers.net)

**Clean up Carkeek! Saturday, September 21, 9am – 12pm.** This is an to clean up the park with Seattle Green partnerships. Teens and adults welcomed! All you need is sturdy shoes, gloves, and decently strong back! Sign up here and tell Shannon [outreach@ourredeemers.net](mailto:outreach@ourredeemers.net)! By Wednesday, September 18. <https://seattle.greencitypartnerships.org/event/15175/>

**Sandwich Sunday, September 22.** Plan to converge after 10am worship and make sandwiches to bring to Peter's Place. In July, we had about 7 people donate supplies. Way to step it up for hungry neighbors! Our goal for September is: 20 people! We need bread, meat, peanut butter and jelly, individual sandwich bags, and someone to deliver the sandwiches on Monday, September 23!  
*Can you help?*





## SOCIAL JUSTICE



### COMMENT BY SEPTEMBER 23 ON NEW SNAP RULE

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) has proposed a [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\) rule](#) that would eliminate an estimated 3.1 million children, families, disabled and older adults from access to SNAP benefits. This blockage of nutrition support for vulnerable and hungry people ignores the will of Congress when it [considered this very issue](#) in the 2018 Farm Bill. SNAP serves about 36 million people, the majority of whom are children, the elderly or people with disabilities. The rule eliminates [broad based categorical eligibility](#) (“Cat El”), which is a mechanism used by states to reduce bureaucratic red tape and ensure that vulnerable populations receive the support they need. By eliminating Cat El, states are forced to follow procedures that add to the cost of providing SNAP to low-income populations in areas of wide-spread poverty. People in serious need of healthy, life-sustaining food are qualifying for SNAP by Cat El yet would be denied access if the proposed rule is adopted.

ELCA social teaching urges Lutherans to engage in service and advocacy for our neighbor in need of daily bread. These faith practices express our relationship with Jesus Christ, rooted in baptism that sends us out for the sake of the world.

*“When we pray in the Lord’s Prayer, ‘Give us this day our daily bread,’ we place ourselves in tension with economic assumptions of our society. Rather than being self-sufficient, we need and depend on what God gives or provides through people, practices, and systems. ‘Daily bread’ is not earned by efforts of individuals alone, but is made possible through a variety of relationships and institutions [note to Martin Luther’s ‘The Large Catechism’]. God gives in ways that expand our notions of who ‘us’ includes, from people close at hand to those around the globe. In stark contrast to those who seek unchecked accumulation and profit, our attention is drawn to those who are desperate for what will sustain their lives for just this day.”*  
– From ELCA social statement [Sufficient, Sustainable Living for All](#)

The proposed rule is harmful because it:

- Increases hunger for families by eliminating access to SNAP for 3.1 million vulnerable members of our communities
- Ignores the will of Congress when it addressed this issue in the 2018 Farm Bill
- Harms grocery retailers and agricultural producers by reducing the amount of SNAP dollars available to spur local economic activity
- Threatens the health outcomes and learning potential of children

#### How you can help!

- [Submit a comment](#) that shows your opposition to this rule.
- **Speak out against the SNAP draft rule at a town hall meeting hosted by your senator or representative.**
- **Sign up for ELCA Advocacy Action Alerts from [elca.org/advocacy/signup](http://elca.org/advocacy/signup) to receive the most up-to-date information on the SNAP rule.**

[Register your opposition to the Proposed Rule](#) by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) by making a public comment before September 23, 2018 on “Revision of Categorical Eligibility in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)”



## SOCIAL JUSTICE

### Upcoming:

#### DE-ESCALATION TRAINING WITH BALLARD SUNDAY DINNER PARTNERS

*Tuesday, September 10, 10-2  
at St. Mark's Cathedral*

All Ballard Sunday Dinner volunteers are encouraged to attend this important training. Who knows – it might be helpful in other areas of our lives! Please let Shannon know if you can attend ASAP [outreach@ourredeemers.net](mailto:outreach@ourredeemers.net). (We are also scheduling a weekend training, TBD)

#### SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM MEETING



*Sunday, September  
22, 12:30pm in the  
Fellowship Hall*

We will have our first Social Justice meeting for this school year, so don't miss it, all ye who care about social justice in our community and the world. Bring a snack to share if you wish, and we will think forward for all the good work coming up this fall and do some year planning. It'll be an important meeting not to miss!

#### 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](http://hunger-and-hope.eventbrite.com).





## SOCIAL JUSTICE

### **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).

### **FALL RECYCLE DATE IS SET!**

*October 19, 10am -2pm*

[Sign up here for the Fall 2019 recycle event!](#)

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





## SOCIAL JUSTICE

### LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF INGATHERING

*On November 1 & 2, the trucks will be here!*



Lutheran World Relief

Back to school kit supplies needed!

Education is one of the strongest tools a community has for breaking the cycle of poverty. Ensuring that girls attend school, especially in places where access is deprioritized, has even stronger results. School Kits contain the essential supplies to help children – and in some cases, adults – continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities. Can you donate any of the following to the social justice coordinator office! Assembly dates forthcoming!

- Notebooks - 70 sheets (280-300 sheets total) of wide or college ruled paper approximately 8" x 10.5", no loose leaf paper
- 30 centimeter rulers, or ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- Pencil sharpeners
- Blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- Boxes of 16 or 24 crayons
- 2 ½" erasers



## 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

### NOVEMBER THANKSGIVING DINNER, PRACTICAL RADICAL WELCOME

*Thursday, November 28*

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! This year we are looking for some key positions. Please get a hold of Shannon or Margaret if you can fill any of the following leads! And if you can participate by hosting a table or filling in some other way, that is always good also.

- Food Prep Lead
- Server Lead
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Set up and tear town lead



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).

### ECUMENICAL ADVOCACY DAYS 2020

*April 24-27* **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!



In 2019, we 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. Fundraising efforts forthcoming!





## SOCIAL JUSTICE



### Art in the Garden

This year's Art in the Garden was a beautiful event and Our Redeemer's helped out by collecting nearly \$400 in donations, talking about the reasons for our move to sell the garden plot and our deep desire and hope that the garden will remain a garden, and enjoying a beer with our neighbors. Thanks to Pam Altman, Margaret Wetter, and Julie Vannoy for staffing the table; to Dinah and Ross Coble for their support in set up; and for those who stopped by!

*From Philip Osborne of the P-Patch: Thank you for all your support of this year's Art in the Garden. The fund-raiser was very successful, and we were touched by the generous contributions that came from the Redeemer's booth. The community spirit was remarkable, and folks sure did appear to be having a great time.*

# SEPTEMBER 2019

ourredeemers.net/calendar

## SUNDAYS:

9am - Informal Worship  
11am - Traditional Worship

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10am Combined Worship	2 Office Closed for Labor Day	3	4 Office Closed* 7am Men's Breakfast 5pm VAB Meeting	5 3:45pm Staff Meeting	6	7 9am Traditional Worship Team
8 <b>KICKOFF SUNDAY!</b> 10am Worship & Bibles for Kids 11am Tailgate Party in the Parking Lot	9 9am Quilters	10 11:30am-3:30pm Carpet Cleaning 6pm Confirmation Meeting	11 10:30am Bible Study 5pm VAB Meeting 6:30pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult & Youth Choir	12 10am Golden Beavers 10am Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer	13	14
15 10am Explore Faith & Science 12pm VAB Coffee Hour 2pm Ballard Sunday Dinner	16 9am Quilters	17 630pm Church Council	18 10am Bible Study 12pm Life Masters Kick-off Potluck 6:30pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult & Youth Choir	19 10am Staff Meeting 11:30am-2pm Ballard Food Bank 6pm Centering Prayer	20	21 9am-12pm Clean Up Carkeek 10am - 2pm Young Family Potluck & Baptism Class
22 10am Explore Faith & Science 10:30am Sandwich Sunday! 12:30pm Life Masters 12:30pm Social Justice Meeting	23 9am Quilters	24 7pm Theology on Tap	25 10:30 am Bible Study 6:30pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult & Youth Choir	26 10am Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer	27	28
29 10am Explore Faith & Science	30 9am Quilters	 <b>God's Work, Our Hands Events</b>				

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



2400 NW 85th Street  
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[www.ourredeemers.net](http://www.ourredeemers.net)  
206-783-7900

return service requested

**NON-PROFIT ORG  
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SEATTLE, WA  
PERMIT #587**

**OUR REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE  
STARTS SEPTEMBER 15 - JOIN US!**

**WORSHIP**

9am Informal Service  
11am Traditional Service

**YOUTH ED - 10am**

Sprouts (3-4 year olds)  
Exploring Faith (K-4th grade)  
Connect (5-6th grade)  
Confirmation (7-8th grade)

**ADULT ED - 10am**

**SOCIAL JUSTICE - 9/15-9/22**  
'God's Work, Our Hands'  
September 15-22

**You are invited!**  
Join Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church Sept. 8th for

# KICKOFF SUNDAY!

10am Worship & Bible Giveaway for Kids  
11am Tailgate Party in the Parking Lot

Featuring:

- BBQ and Potluck
- Cake Walk
- Bouncy House
- Crafts for Kids

Bring all your people  
...and still get home in time to watch the  
Seahawks opener!



**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.