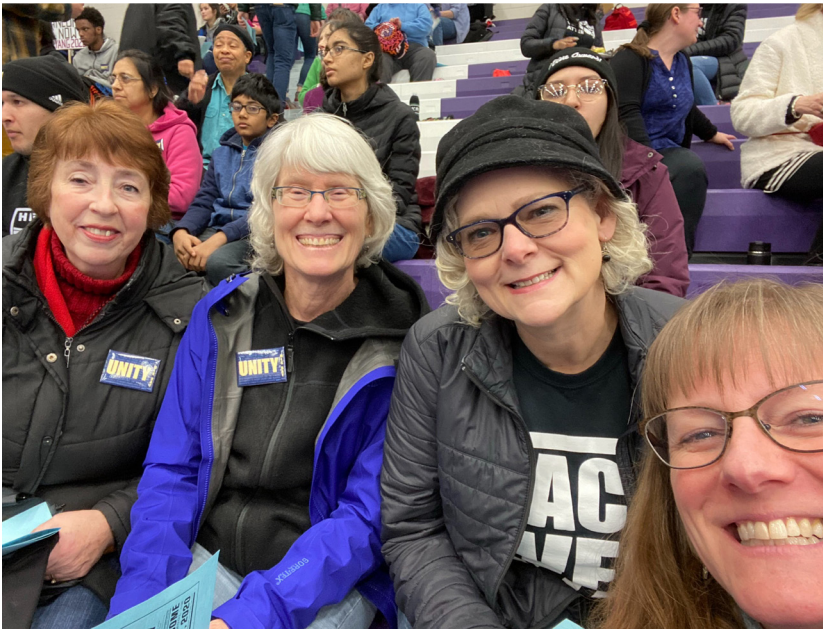


FEBRUARY 2020

our redeemer's
LUTHERAN • BALLARD

TheVisitor



A Community in the Model of Christ

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COVER/INSIDE COVER: On Cover - Our Redeemer's was represented at MLK events at Garfield High School and at the march by Nancy Oldenkamp, Dinah and Ross Coble, Joshua Liljastolpe, Tamara Anderson, Neils Running, Stephanie Running, Sue Johnson, and Shannon Beck. Below - On January 16 Ladder 8 from Seattle Fire Department practiced roof drills at Our Redeemer's, thrilling the daycare kids!



- 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

From the Pastor...

Still shines the star...



Revelation 21:1-5a

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

*'See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.'*

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.'

Have you ever had that feeling where it seems like everything you know is wrong? I feel that way often! There is something immensely comforting about a familiar song, or a dance that you know the steps to, or making a familiar dinner from a recipe that you have memorized. You know how it's supposed to go, and you know the order of operations. It's soothing to fall into the rhythms and patterns of a well-worn routine. I find that as we mature, we start to yearn for things that go the way they should, and we can be completely discombobulated when a wrench is thrown into our works.

So often in the church we talk about God doing something new as a sign of hope, a sign of new life, and a sign of good things to come. But what about when doing a new thing means losing something you cherish, or finding out that you were wrong about something? What if doing a new thing means feeling like all your life experience and learning was for nothing? I sometimes find myself praying "Seriously God? I was just getting the hang of this [relationship, technology, routine, space...], and now it's switching into something scary and different. Can't I just have my old ways and stay here?"

But that is not God's way. We are called to continue learning and growing and changing – even when we think we might have learned enough. Having the familiar, the routine, and the patterned is not a bad thing, but God is bigger and wants more for us than just "the usual." So brace yourself! Because God is doing a new thing, right here, at Our Redeemer's. And while I may not be totally ready (and you might not be either!), I know that God is faithful, and that we are called and sent to be God's hands in the world.



Thanks be to God!

Gabriel Hesteg

BUILD THE VISION... SHARE THE VISION

Your Monthly Vision-Aligned Building Update

PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT IS RATIFIED!

On Sunday, January 26, Our Redeemer's voted 93 to 7 to enter into a purchase and sale agreement with GROW (representing Ballard P-Patch). The P-Patch gardeners ratified the sale the same afternoon by a similar overwhelming margin.



The PSA includes a \$1,950,000 purchase price and \$50,000 non-refundable escrow monies, due on June 1, 2020. The sale will close on July 15, allowing our construction to begin this year before the rains come.

Because the P-Patch's funding depends so heavily on grants, and the timelines and amounts ultimately granted are uncertain, Our Redeemer's, with the full knowledge and endorsement of GROW/P-Patch, will work to have a "Plan B" offer ready in case the P-Patch cannot commit to escrow monies by June.

If that does happen, another congregational vote would be held to consider the "Plan B" deal. But we all sincerely hope that will not be the case!

Our sincerest thanks to our Church Council—especially Mike Hlastala; our administrator, Karie Stearns; and Pastor Hawks, for all the extra meetings and effort throughout December and January that were necessary to negotiate this deal and communicate it to the congregation.

Design

Our architects, SHKS, continue to detail the drawings. No review comments have yet been received from the City of Seattle, although they are overdue. A more detailed drawing set was provided to the contractor for an estimate update, which unfortunately, had to be postponed two weeks until February 17.



Budget

Understandably, our congregation, Council and the Vision-Aligned Building team are all anxious to know what budget will be necessary for our upgrades and renovations. Based on the initial contractor's estimate and estimated soft costs (like engineers, haz-mat, testing and inspections, moving costs, temporary facilities during construction, etc.), the current costs are well above the original budget.

BUILD THE VISION... SHARE THE VISION



As a result, Council is gathering information to be able to recommend a firm budget to the congregation at our February 16 presentation. They are reviewing capital campaign pledges fulfilled and yet to be fulfilled, looking at project scope, possible loans and an extension of our capital campaign.

PRESENTATION OF PLANS AND BUDGET SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 12:30PM

Save the afternoon of Sunday, February 16 to attend the architects' presentation of the renovation and upgrade plans thus far. Council, as mentioned above, will also present a recommended budget. A simple catered lunch will be provided, along with both nursery and child care.

Given that we are heading into Lent, it is likely any congregational vote will be after Easter.





WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Ash Wednesday

Traditional Ash Wednesday service will be held on February 26 at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. Join us for the imposition of ashes, confession, communion, and song. The ashes that are imposed are an ancient reminder of our own mortality. But they are placed on our foreheads in the sign of the cross – the sign that assures us that our sins do not have the final word. God's grace does. And that word is life – transformed and made new.



Ash Wednesday is February 26 this year, and Pastor Gretchen is planning on taking her ash outside the building to smudge any penitent walkers-by, Microsoft commuters, preschool families, and the like. Being Lutheran (or even confessing Christian) is not required, and all are welcome. Spread the word, and bring her a donut!



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.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Recording Update

Pastor Gretchen and Lacey Brown, together with the rest of the informal ensemble, have finished tracking the recording of three original liturgy settings used at our 9am service. Next in the process is mixing and mastering, creating the artwork for the album, and then getting the music out there into the world. The final product should roll out in April, just in time for Easter! We are hoping that you can help in the following ways:

- Share the music through social media and email.
- Enjoy the music in your own spiritual practice
- Let the community know that the best rock band they've never heard plays every Sunday at 9am in Ballard!

We anticipate having a fun party to listen to the music and celebrate the hard work that's gone into creating it. The process of recording and documenting the creative process we've undertaken as a congregation is important, fun, and an honor to share. Thank you for your generosity in making it possible!





WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Baptism Sunday

Mia Brady



Ryan, Jana, Mia, Sean and Ada Brady

Maren Rindler



Lindsay, Maren, Terrence and Lena Rindler





FAITH FORMATION – YOUTH

Let's Talk about Faith Formation Classes

by Pastor Gretchen

We have such wonderful classes this year!

Sprouts (3-4-5 year olds) occurs during the 9am services. **We are looking for one new teacher willing to take on classes once a month.** If you are able or interested, please contact me ASAP! Thank you!

Exploring Faith (K-4th) and **Connect** (5th-6th) are at 10am upstairs on Sundays. If your kids haven't gone to these classes yet, they are missing out! Fun curriculum, great teachers, and meaningful lessons and questions. Please sign up below to help with them if you're able!



Exploring Faith Class Leaders: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054DABA82DA7F49-exploring>

Connect Class Leaders: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054DABA82DA7F49-connect>

Thank you for making time to make these classes awesome, and for encouraging your kids to participate!

Attention 6th-9th grade Families: GO! Night is coming!!

by Pastor Gretchen



GO! Night is a Synod Area Event for Lutheran kids throughout the area. Middle school Go Night (6-9th grade) is Friday, March 6th from 6:00pm until midnight, meeting at Advent Lutheran Church in Mill Creek, \$45 per person, activities at Arena Sports in Mill Creek. Students are more than welcome to bring their friends! **Deadline to register: Sunday February 23.** Contact Pastor Gretchen to get the skinny!



Summer Update

Let's talk about summer!

by Pastor Gretchen



What's the Deal with VBS?

Here's the scoop: Due to uncertain building plans for construction, we have not scheduled anything in the building this summer. (Literally nothing.) SO! I talked with my good friend Nicole over at Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church (www.prlc.org) and we are doing one together. It will be **August 10-14**. The one difference is that it is 9am-12pm, not 9am-3pm. But I will be doing the music, and Nicole is leading the curriculum. It will be so fun! As soon as I have registration information, I will get it to you.





Summer Update

Camp Lutherhaven

Each year, I take confirmands (6th–9th grades) to www.camplutherhaven.com for a week. We have also taken some younger kids (2nd–5th grades) who were ready for overnight camp with us as well. It's amazing. This year, we are going **July 26–31**. It's not cheap, but it's worth it. If we get more than 10 kids that want to go, I will have to do some serious figuring about transportation, but I am all about that kind of problem solving! If you are interested, please let me know by February 7th. I need to let the camp know the size of our group by then.



LUTHERHAVEN

Holden Village

Our congregational retreat is to Holden Village **August 16–22**. It is life-changing. There are just 9 spots left. Your screens will not work there. (What a gift!) Your children will hike, create, sing, play, run, and see wildlife. You get to ride a boat to get there! Please consider coming with us. [Apply online.](#)





FAITH FORMATION – ADULTS

Faith Formation Feedback Sought

by Betsy McGregor

Recently, the Faith Formation team sent out a Vitality Survey to the membership of ORLC. Thank you to those of you who filled out the survey. The information we are collecting will inform our team as we re-build our Faith Formation program for our youngest members. We will share the results of the survey at a forum on February 23, 10am in the Fellowship Hall. All in attendance will have an opportunity to provide the team with further feedback. Refreshments will be provided.



Theology On Tap

Tuesday, February 25, 7pm

Please join us for Theology on Tap at Emilie Purvine's house on Tuesday, February 25th at 7:00 PM. Our topic is to be determined but will promise to be thought provoking. Please check the directory for Emilie's address or contact her at emiliepurvine@gmail.com. *Let's talk!*





FAITH FORMATION – ADULTS

Come to the Journey!

- To explore your faith
OR restore your faith.
- To know more about Our Redeemer's
OR get acquainted with more folks here.
- Become a member
OR MAYBE....All of the above?

EACH OF THESE things take place during what we call "The Journey."

We'll gather each Sunday in Lent (March 1-April 5), 4-6:25pm. Expect "heavy hors d'oeuvre", honest questions, time to listen to the Bible and our own lives, more info about the Lutherans, and about ministries at Our Redeemer's. Childcare? You bet, if you let us know you need it.

You'll receive a letter if we suspect you might have an interest, but **EVERYONE** is warmly welcomed to participate. Please let Pastor Kathy Hawks (kathyh@ourredeemers.net) or Pastor Gretchen Mertes (pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net) know you're interested.





Lent Devotional 2020

Beginning March 1st, you are invited to venture through the wilderness with our devotional from Sanctified Art. Beginning with Ash Wednesday and ending with Easter Sunday, this devotional includes art, poetry, prompts, and reflections inspired by the Lenten lectionary scriptures (year A) and the theme, Wilderness.

“Lent begins in the wilderness. The Spirit guides Jesus into the wilderness where he comes face to face with temptation and struggle. Yet, in his forty days of fasting, resisting, and wandering, Jesus is shaped and formed for ministry. Similarly, through the wilderness of Lent, we are invited to surrender to the wild leadings of the Spirit. We rarely enter the wilderness willingly, but hopefully through our wandering we remember who we are and whose we are. The wilderness can become sacred even if it remains dangerous. There is no wilderness space too harsh or threatening for God’s love. This Lent, we welcome you to the journey.”

If you would like to receive the devotional in your inbox, but do not already receive our weekly emails, please contact Katlin at office@ourredeemers.net to get added to the list. If you would like a paper copy of the booklet, a few will be available at church. To cut down on costs and prevent environmental harm, we’d like to keep printing to a minimum.

Also available are a new resource, daily devotional cards.

WHAT IT IS:

48 devotional cards with a word for the day and a scripture verse and short prayer. Print, cut, and select a card each day of Lent beginning with Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday.

HOW TO USE IT:

- Select a card a day (order doesn’t matter), contemplate the words for the wilderness, and read the scripture verse and short prayer.
- Get creative and display your words in a fun way—adhere the cards to a fridge or wall, create a fun wall hanging, or arrange them on a desk or table. Display the cards so you can continue journeying with the words throughout the entire season of Lent.
- This is a great daily devotional for middle & high school youth, college students, young adults, and adults of all ages—especially those in search of a short and sweet spiritual practice they can sustain for 48 days.





Women's Retreat – May 1–3

Mark your calendars for our annual women's retreat! We are gathering May 1–3, 2020 at Camp Indianola. We are in the planning phases, so if you are interested in helping, we would love to invite you to join us! The women's retreat is a chance for us to gather away from home, and journal, pray, hike, worship, reflect, and get to know one another in a beautiful location. Meals are included – which I know that everyone can appreciate! Intentional time away is an important part of every person's relationship with God and themselves. Scholarships will be available as requested. Registration forms will be available next month.



CELEBRATE FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS!

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|----|-----------------|----|----------------------|
| 4 | Tamara Anderson | 9 | Sydney Record | 22 | Patrick Johnson |
| 4 | Michael Hammett | 11 | Miguel Maier | 22 | Weller Mertes |
| 5 | Henry Fowler | 12 | Guy Michaelson | 24 | Sonja Vonheim-Condon |
| 6 | Harold Alley | 13 | Earl Ecklund | 25 | Christopher Ward |
| 6 | Raleigh Somm | 16 | Eric Johnson | 26 | Barbara Dougherty |
| 7 | Gary Schulze | 17 | Chad See | 28 | Kristine Leander |
| 8 | Cara Kiggins | 20 | Karen Carlson | 29 | Owen Watkins |
| 8 | David Schoolcraft | 20 | Karen Lee | | |
| 9 | Carleigh Bedell | 21 | Karina Hlastala | | |

Computer Monitors Needed

Our Redeemer's is looking for a donation of Two (2) Matching Computer Monitors for graphic layout work produced on a Mac Book Pro. All sizes considered. Contact communications@ourredeemers.net if you or your office have a matching pair to donate.

2-Hour a Week Volunteer Sought

Our Redeemer's is seeking a member who can volunteer 2 hours a week to keep bulletin boards and outside signage up-to-date and organized. Most signage will be printed and ready to pin or put up. Interested? Contact Communications@ourredeemers.net. Thank you!

Shenanigans!

An Irish Festival and Live Auction

Our Redeemer's invites you to a family-friendly night of games, music, food, and fundraising!

Music: The Devillies
"Songs made for Dancing, Crying and Laughing"

Food: The Fork & Fin
"From Sea to Street"

Dancing: Tara Academy of Irish Dance

Bid on Community Experiences at our
Live Auction!

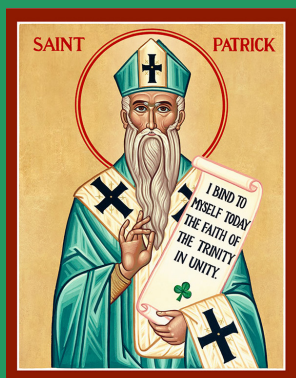
Saturday, February 29 🍀 5pm

Our Redeemer's
Lutheran Church



RSVP
in the Fellowship Hall

No admission charge, but for planning purposes please let us know if you will attend.



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Are You Ready for Some Shenanigans?!

Our Redeemer's Annual Church Festival and Auction is February 29, 2020 – That's right, leap day! We have a host of family-friendly fun from 5-8pm. What you need to know:

1. Food will be provided by the **"Fork and Fin" food truck**. You bring your money, you pay for what you want. They donate 50% of the profits. Fantastic!
2. There will be **beer and wine available for a donation** from fabulous bartender, Jerry Andrews. We will have a festive green non-alcoholic beverage as well, keeping with the theme.
3. **Bidder numbers at \$30** each will be available at the door. **No ticket charge or entrance fee** for those who don't want to bid!
4. We have an actual **Irish band!** The Devilies, from Bellingham will be performing, featuring our own Steven Rystrom.
5. **Irish dancers** from the Tara Academy of Irish Dance promise to enchant you and bring a smile to your face!

We are procuring fun experiential items for the auction. Concert tickets, getaway places, meals together, classes – all of these are wonderful! If you have something you think might be fun to contribute, please contact Pastor Gretchen by February 8th!

Below: Remembering the fun had at last year's auction...





SOCIAL JUSTICE



Each year anti-Muslim hate groups spend over \$30 million dollars to make people afraid of Islam and American Muslims. The websites, YouTube videos, books, white papers, lobbying, and media stars of these hate groups turn the hearts and minds of people against one another, paving the way for a more divided, fearful future. We don't have to live in that future. Together we can build a future based on our shared values and vision for America! Yet Muslims and their allies are daily confronted with challenging questions by people captivated by fear, framed in ways that place them at a significant disadvantage. The Faith Over Fear four-hour Ally Training will give you tested strategies to use in response to these challenging questions - and the fears that underlie them.

Participants will learn about

- Islamophobia and Its Impacts
- Islam and American Muslims
- Effective, Values-Based Messaging
- How to Respond to Difficult Questions

Saturday, February 1, 2020
1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Trinity Lutheran Church
6215 196th St SW
Lynnwood, WA 98036

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/w8xp9y3>
or search for "Faith Over Fear" on Eventbrite

Speakers:

The Rev. Terry Kylo is the Executive Director the Treacy Levine Center, and the founder of Neighbors in Faith, a program of the Center. Terry focuses his pastoral career to counter dehumanization against Muslims and all of God's diverse and valued children. terry@neighborsinfaith.org

Aneelah Afzali is Executive Director of the American Muslim Empowerment Network (AMEN) at the Muslim Association of Puget Sound. She is a graduate of Harvard Law School, who left her legal career 6 years ago to serve as an interfaith justice advocate. She is also on the Board of the Faith Action Network. aneelah@mapsredmond.org

Sponsors: Dar Alarqam Islamic Center, Islamic Center of Mukilteo, Point of Grace Lutheran & Trinity Lutheran Church

More Info: www.mapsredmond.org/amen | neighborsinfaith.org | facebook.com/neighborsinfaith



IMMIGRATION MONTH: LIVING UNDOCUMENTED

This series is for all who want to know more about how immigration works in the U.S. and it's implications with families.

February 2, 10am - Immigration? What is Seattle facing?

Michael Ramos, the Executive Director of the Church Council of Greater Seattle, will be joining Our Redeemer's for the 10am education forum hour to discuss immigration in the Seattle context. He will also join us for a potluck lunch and conversation after the 11am service.

Michael has been deeply involved with this work for decades and will share with us what local congregations are doing. These will be an enlightening, practical conversations as we think together about what it means to be a safe place for all people, especially those who are at risk or incarcerated.



February 9, 10am - What Then Shall We Do?

In a bold move, the ELCA declared itself a "sanctuary church" at the last national assembly. What does this mean for Our Redeemers? What is God calling us to in this particular season? Come for good conversation and some time listening for what God might be calling us to.



SOCIAL JUSTICE

F A I T H . F O R M I N G . F A I T H

An evening of Faith Formation for Rostered Leaders and Laypeople

Facing Climate Change as Disciples of Jesus

As God's people, we all care deeply about climate change. We just don't know where to start. This evening is designed to help us...

Monday, 10 February 2020 at 7:00 pm

Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church

7500 Greenwood Ave North

Seattle, WA 98103

Our Monday Evening together:

Deliberative Dialogue on "Climate Choices: How Should We Meet the Challenges of a Warming Planet?"

Climate change is an issue that affects virtually every American, directly or indirectly, often in deeply personal ways. How can the church address this issue given the red-blue polarization of our time? Is there a way to faithfully engage important questions about the climate crisis that moves us beyond the current political debate and frames the conversation within a biblical and theological perspective? Dr. Leah D. Schade will facilitate a nonpartisan deliberative dialogue in which we'll explore the church's role in engaging this difficult issue.

The Rev. Dr. Leah D. Schade

...is Assistant Professor of Preaching and Worship at Lexington Theological Seminary in Kentucky. An ordained minister in the ELCA, Dr. Schade has served congregations in rural, urban, and suburban settings. She earned both her MDiv and PhD degrees from United Lutheran Seminary, and her book *Creation-Crisis Preaching: Ecology, Theology, and the Pulpit* (2015) is available from Chalice Press. Leah has served as an anti-fracking and climate activist, community organizer, and advocate for environmental justice issues. Her book *Preaching in the Purple Zone: Ministry in the Red-Blue Divide* is available from Rowman & Littlefield. Her newest volume, just released, is co-edited with Margaret Bullitt-Jonas: *Rooted and Rising: Voices of Courage in a Time of Climate Crisis*. It contains essays from a cross section of faith leaders and activists offering their spiritual wisdom and energy for facing the difficult days ahead (Rowman & Littlefield, 2020). Leah is also the "EcoPreacher" blogger for Patheos.com at: <http://www.patheos.com/blogs/ecopreacher/>.

faith.forming.faith

...is a ministry of lifelong discipleship and baptismal formation led by Pastor Paul E. Hoffman. Each year in Seattle, this ministry holds a conference to equip both rostered and lay leaders for our life-long baptismal journey. This year, the conference is expanding to provide this stand-alone evening with our Keynote Speaker, Dr. Schade. We hope you will join us.

The evening is open to all who wish to attend.

A donation of \$25 per person or \$100 per congregation to *faith.forming.faith* is suggested.



SOCIAL JUSTICE

FAITH ACTION NETWORK

A Partnership for the Common Good

Faith Action Network's Interfaith Advocacy Day

February 6, Olympia

FAITH ACTION NETWORK's Interfaith Advocacy Day brings the voices of compassion and justice to our elected leaders. Meeting with your legislators and their staff on this day is putting your faith into action! On Interfaith Advocacy Day, you will be able to:

- Join workshops that will break down the issues on FAN's 2020 Legislative Agenda (<https://fanwa.org/advocacy/legislative-agenda/>)
- Learn how to most effectively advocate in today's legislature
- Meet with advocates from your legislative district to prepare for your legislative visits
- Meet with your legislator! Once you register, FAN will set up an appointment for you and others from your district
- Lunch will be provided

Don't miss this important day in Olympia! Sign up and pay ahead of time so that we can guarantee you a spot. (<https://fanwa.ourpowerbase.net/civicism/event/info?id=179&reset=1>)

Yes, we will be carpooling to Olympia Thursday morning, February 6. Need to know more? outreach@ourredeemers.net.





SOCIAL JUSTICE

Black History Month

In observance of Black History Month, we celebrate the history of the Black Lutheran movement.

Jehu Jones, Jr., was a black slave and minister born in Charleston, SC. He was named after his father, Jehu Sr., a tailor who gained his freedom in 1798 and later became a businessman, opening an exclusive hotel in Charleston.

Jones, became a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Charleston in the 1820s. He was ordained twelve years later, in 1832. He later became a missionary to Liberia to accompany freed slaves to Africa. He returned to Charleston after his ordination and was jailed briefly for violating South Carolina's law prohibiting the immigration of free blacks.

He settled in Philadelphia, which was the largest city in the country at the time. In June 1833, the Pennsylvania Ministry determined that Jones should be appointed to labor as a Missionary among the colored people in Philadelphia under the direction.



The St. Paul congregation that Jones founded in Philadelphia decided to build a church and solicit support from other Lutheran congregations. Throughout Jones' life in Philadelphia, he was active in the social and political life of the city. He organized a convention at Temperance Hall with the intent of uniting free blacks to petition local authorities for civil rights in 1845. He was also active in the Moral Reform and Improvement society, an association of black churches in the city dedicated to improving the social conditions of blacks. Jehu Jones died in 1852.

Source: <https://blackthen.com/jehu-jones-jr-first-african-american-lutheran-pastor/>





SOCIAL JUSTICE

Ballard Sunday Dinner

Sunday, February 16

Ballard First Lutheran Church

"There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread." - Mahatma Gandhi



Ballard Sunday dinner teams are going well, but more volunteers are always needed. Sign up for February's meal. www.tinyurl.com/ballardsundaydinner

If you would like to go a little deeper, we have a need for a couple more leads for cooking and on clean up. Cooking leads work with a seasoned lead. This may require a couple of hours planning the meal and shopping with your co-lead, as well as about 5 hours on a Sunday afternoon. If you would like to learn the ropes of clean up lead, you will join Tom Bernard or John Somm to learn all the things you need to know. This particular lead is about a two hour commitment beginning around 5pm. Think about it, pray about it, and contact Shannon if you are interested in participating! (outreach@ourredeemers.net)

Our Redeemer's EarthCare Retreat

April 17, 18 & 19, Pacific Beach Resort

By Tamara Anderson

Fellowship, Care for the Earth, Negative Ions and Salt Air, Comfortable Accommodations, Relaxation and Good Work, Worship – these are the things I've enjoyed, in years past, while participating in the EarthCare Retreat. Without fail, I have always returned home feeling deeply satisfied.

Please join members of our congregation for a beach clean-up, down time, good food, conversation and informational retreat session on the Washington Coast.

Cost is minimal: \$100-\$200/adult with scholarships available if it is cost prohibitive. We want you there! And you will want to be there!!

Flyers with more information to sign-up are available at church. Deadline to register is March 22.





SOCIAL JUSTICE

Ecumenical Advocacy Days, 2020 – Who is In?

April 24–27, Washington DC.

Imagine! God’s Earth and People Restored

Around the world, the most marginalized communities disproportionately affected by hunger, poverty, and the structural history of colonialism and racism are experiencing the impacts of the climate crisis most profoundly. Women and children in these communities suffer the most.

Earth and its people are groaning and calling for us to respond in hope. We are all affected. Temperatures are rising dramatically and dangerously everywhere, disrupting ecological systems and every type of human activity. The generations of tomorrow depend on what we do today.

EAD 2020 will explore the intersection of climate change and economic injustice. This will galvanize our advocacy on behalf of policies and programs to chip away at the systems of oppression that keep people in poverty and push all life on earth to the brink of destruction.

Co-sponsored by the ELCA, Lutherans and our ecumenical siblings gather for inspiration, support, education, and advocacy. Last year, we had three participants who had a life changing experience in Washington DC.

This year we hope to see at least three of us there. Some scholarships are available! Questions? Talk to Shannon or Katlin or email outreach@ourredeemers.net. For more information, visit <https://advocacydays.org/2020-imagine-gods-earth-people-restored/>.





SOCIAL JUSTICE

Social Justice January 2020 Update: A Path of Hands and Heart and Mind

By Shannon Beck

The Social Justice Team at Our Redeemer's is always considering how to live our faith in creative and practical ways for the "life of the world". We know God calls us to make a difference in our church, our communities, and our world. Together we get to figure out how.

This spring, we continue to do this work by fostering educational opportunities, faithfully partnering with organizations who strengthen our impact, and by participating in actions that deepen our effectiveness and understanding. Three percent of the funds that we raise as a congregation go to this important work. Here is what we are up to:

- We are wrapping up a series on immigration this February with Michael Ramos, the Executive Director of the Church Council of Greater Seattle. Following the Gospel of Christ, we hope to discern what we might do to support those most impacted by war and poverty who enter our country.
- We are learning how to be better advocates by participating in advocacy trainings and events in Olympia (Feb 6) and Washington DC (April 23-27).
- We coordinate Ballard Sunday Dinner the 3rd Sunday of each month, to provide a warm meal to our homeless and under-homes neighbors.
- We walk in the MLK Rally and March and participate in PRIDE every year.
- We have an amazing recycling event twice/year (look for details in March for the Spring event)
- We are excited to retreat together to clean up a beach on the ocean April 17-19.
- We support some of our neighbors living in cars, offering them a stable place to land for a season as they move toward more suitable housing.
- We are listening to political efforts to push war agendas and induce instability, staying particularly tuned to those in the U.S. and abroad who are affected by such aggressions (Iran, Iraq, Venezuela, and more).

This month, we authorized some of our regular partner support:

- Ballard Food Bank - \$1,000
- Bridge Care Center - \$500
- Neighbor in Faith - \$500
- Earth Ministry - \$500
- Faith Action Network - \$500 (we have \$1,000 set aside, but I held back \$500 to support their annual fundraising dinner in the fall)
- Church Council of Greater Seattle - \$500
- Lutheran Peace Fellowship - \$500

Last year, the Council granted money to 3 participants who went to Washington DC for Ecumenical Advocacy. We discussed saving \$2,000 to support continued learning and movement in this event that embodies our primary values of education, partnership, and advocacy.

Thank You

Our Redeemer's R2H/Staff,
Sending ❤️ felt thanks for all your kindness, gifts, &
thoughtfulness.

I sure appreciate the time & care you put into our
Christmas bag & bundles. Don't think I've ever been so
cared for...it helps pave a path forward!...hope...
Forever peace & joy to you ALL
- Road To Housing participant



NO ONE'S CHILD SHOULD SLEEP OUTSIDE

"We were stuck... Mary's
Place gave us the tools
to transition into housing
& employment. We are
so grateful!"

- Amanda, Brandon
& baby jin



Don't Fall for this Scam!

Remember that Our Redeemer's will never email asking for money for gift cards. Hackers have been using Pastor Kathy's email list for a few months targeting our members. Don't fall for it! If you receive any suspicious calls or emails, contact Karie Stearns, our Parish Administrator (administrator@ourredeemers.net).






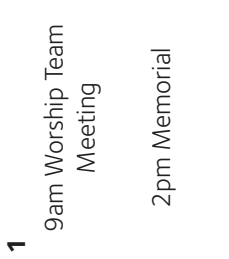




EVERY SUNDAY:

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

FEBRUARY 2020

ourredeemers.net/calendar

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 10am Confirmation Class 10:10am Immigration Forum 12pm Social Justice Potluck | 3 9am Quilters 7pm Faith Formation Team Meeting | 4 | 5 Office Closed* 7am Men's Breakfast 10:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult & Youth Choir | 6 Interfaith Advocacy Days 3:45PM Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Informal Music Ensemble | 7 | 8 9am Worship Team Meeting 2pm Memorial |
| 9 10:10am Immigration Forum | 10 9am Quilters | 11 7pm Executive Team Meeting | 12 10am Staff Meeting 10:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult & Youth Choir | 13 6pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Informal Music Ensemble | 14 ❤️ March Visitor Newsletter Content Deadline | 15 |
| 16 10:10am Immigration Forum 12:30pm Building Design Presentation 2-7pm Ballard Sunday Dinner | 17 President's Day Office Closed 9am Quilters | 18 6:30pm Church Council Meeting | 19 10am Staff Meeting 10:30am Bible Study 12pm R2H Meeting 6:30pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult Choir | 20 6pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Informal Music Ensemble | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 9am Quilters | 25  | 26 Ash Wednesday 10am Staff Meeting 10:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Adult & Youth Choir 7pm Worship Service | 27 6pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Informal Music Ensemble | 28 |  29 Auction! |

*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

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SEATTLE, WA

PERMIT #587

REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP

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

WEEKLY THURSDAY WORSHIP

6pm Centering Prayer

Shenanigans!

An Irish Festival and Live Auction

Our Redeemer's invites you to a family-friendly night of games, music, food, and fundraising!

Music: The Devillies
"Songs made for Dancing, Crying and Laughing"

Food: The Fork & Fin
"From Sea to Street"

Dancing: Tara Academy of Irish Dance

**Bid on Community Experiences at our
Live Auction!**

Saturday, February 29 5pm



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.