

JANUARY 2020

our redeemer's
LUTHERAN • BALLARD

*The*Visitor



Still shines the star...



A Community in the Model of Christ

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COVER/INSIDE COVER: On Cover - Sam with his Advent wreath; Hannah Wetter and the Giving Tree; three Luciafest angels; the Sanctuary at Christmas; Beer & Carols with Jeff Brumley, Nick Brown and Shannon Beck. Below - Families making Advent wreaths together.



- 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...

I attended Luciafest last night. My 20th time. At one point, only Christmas tree lights twinkled in the dark, and although Marie Nordquist was in the pulpit, no one was speaking. Or singing. All I could hear were wiggles and coughs. We all sat uneasily like this for a while. Finally, the boy in the pew behind me whispered loudly, "Nothing's happening!!!" I turned and pointed him toward the back of the church, where a row of girls dressed in white, were silently passing candlelight to one another. He said with a big smile, "Oh! SOMETHING's happening!!!"

OFTEN—that's how it is. Looking in front of us, we can't see anything happening, and assume NOTHING's going on. Or watching what's in front of us, we have no clue that things happening behind the scenes are at least as important as what we came for.

OFTEN—that's how it is. Especially in church. I see it daily.

I see volunteers working to recruit and plan for the 130 additional volunteers it takes to host our Community Thanksgiving Dinner. I hear the hours of hand bell, orchestra, ensemble, and choir rehearsals – for Christmas services, but also weekly. Each Sunday, I watch people pour gallons of water into big pots, for coffee we drink without giving a second thought. Our Caring Community Team sends cards, and makes visits, calls, and meals, and no one is the wiser...except for those blessed by their quiet efforts. I approach the altar every week, never wondering: "Will the wine and bread (and grape juice and gluten-free wafers) \ be ready for God's people?" They always are... and at 11AM they have been prepared by the same three women* for longer than my 19 years here! The beautiful quilts appearing twice a year for us to bless and send around the globe, are the creation of a small but mighty weekly group. Church Council and Vision-

Aligned Building team work largely unseen. Sunday School teachers, Ballard Sunday Dinner, our financial secretaries, confirmation parents, ... I COULD fill this whole newsletter with ALL that's happening behind the scenes here.

I bet you are a volunteer working behind the scenes. I hope what you do brings you joy...or at least satisfaction! Know this: What you do IS ministry, not just prelude to ministry. Your "backstage labors" are every bit as amazing as the finished gift you help make possible.

On January 6, we will enter Epiphany season, celebrating the wisdom of the Magi (wise ones), who believed important things happen in the dark, behind the scenes. So, after everyone else had gone to sleep, they looked up into the darkness, and set out, following a star to an obscure barn, where the real event was taking place... "behind the scenes."

Thank you for doing as the Magi did, offering Christ so many of your gifts of time, talent, and treasure behind the scenes. Because of you, our congregation shines the light of God's truth and grace into the darkness. And people suddenly realize where they least expected it: "SOMETHING'S happening!"



HAPPY EPIPHANY!

Katharine H. Hawk

Pastor Kathy



LIVING GENEROUSLY



We are blessed, Our Redeemer's, by a stellar group of folks who generously give time, creativity, heart, and prayer to make sure people of Our Redeemer's realize we don't give to meet a budget, but as part of living our whole lives generously.

That's a tall order! To see all our gifts as full of potential for God's kingdom.

To help us, our Generosity Team have made it possible for:

- Latife Neu to facilitate our second Financial Peace University class – helping us get real about spending and giving and life.
- Our Church Council to continue to move us toward our goal of “Making generosity a core value for Our Redeemer’s.” We’ve had great conversations about scarcity and abundance, and what they involve for us as congregational leaders and as individuals. This year, Council Member Mike Hlastala spoke to the congregation about why he likes giving, and likes giving to God through Our Redeemer’s.
- In temple talks, Doug Starup, Katlin Dickinson-Laurence, Sonja Braasch, and Stephanie Fowler also shared what motivates them to live generously.
- Dana Wright, Carleen See, Jerry Andrews, Guy Michaelsen, and Sally Parker-Henderson shared in written form a bit about what Our Redeemer’s means to them.
- And, of COURSE, Margaret Wetter, who kept us (more or less) on track!

**GENEROSITY IS AT
THE HEART OF GOD’S
GRACE, AND THOSE
WHO LOVE AS GOD
HAS LOVED US.**

**Heartfelt Thanks to You,
Generosity Team!**
*You inspire us to live our
whole lives generously!*

AND, this year, our Living Generously emphasis coincided with our celebration of 75 years of ministry in and through Our Redeemer’s:

GRACE UPON GRACE ~ GENERATIONS OF GOD’S GENEROSITY.

Our thanks:

- To Andy Yee for preaching God’s grace to us on the first Sunday of his new role as Asst. to the Bishop.
- To Joshua Liljenstolpe, who preached and taught us about the generosity of Christ’s church down through the millennia, even to the Swedish immigrant roots of our congregation.
- To Kari Guddal, Margaret Wetter, Carissa de Lange, Margaret Berg, Sonja Braasch, Harold Laurence, Sara Ryerson, Laura Stembridge, Carolyn Davis, Stephanie Running, for heading up yet another opportunity for us to gorge on Swedish pancakes.
- To Christine Anderson, Stephanie Fowler, Kari Guddal, Emilie Purvine, Lisa Thompson, and Dana and Judy Wright for the fantastic 75 years of ministry bulletin board and artifacts display – educational and inspiring!
- To Debbie Lematta, our new Communications Director, for designing the beautiful stewardship packet – with the help of those above who sifted through the archives for photos and quotes.
- To Pastor Gretchen and all her retro potluckers and jello molders, who put together a heart-warming spread of nostalgic eats for our anniversary finale.
- To all who pitched in along the way: Julie Vannoy, Paul Wallstrom, and Margaret Wetter.

We thank each of these people for the part they played in raising up generosity as at the heart of God’s grace, and in the hearts of those of us called to love as God has loved us.



LIVING GENEROUSLY

Thank You For Your Pledge: You Are Enabling God's Work to Go Forward!

To date 119 households have pledged to support or have directly donated to Our Redeemer's financially in 2020.

Have you done so yet? If not, please spend some time reflecting and praying about God's faithfulness and goodness to you, and how you can best express your gratitude and trust.

On behalf of our beloved congregation and on behalf of all who are blessed by what God is doing through us, **THANK YOU for your pledge and your support, and THANKS BE TO GOD, for all God's blessings to us all!**

Creative Ways to Live Generously

People at Our Redeemer's are always giving – year round – of time, energy, skills, and financial resources. Such generous living allows us to serve God, bless one another and care for those in great need, near and far.

If you have not yet fulfilled your pledge, or find yourself moved to give a special year-end gift, you might want to look into these options:

Charitable distributions from IRAs

Minimum retirement distributions are required for those 70-1/2 and older and for those who have inherited an IRA. These distributions can be gifted to the Church. A charitable gift deduction cannot be taken, but this can reduce one's tax basis – even if you don't itemize. This does qualify as all (or part) of the required minimum distribution from an IRA, and may result in some tax savings.

Gifts of Stock

Increased stock prices make gifts of appreciated stock attractive this year. Please contact the church office for instructions on making a direct transfer of stocks and mutual funds. If you have held them for at least one year, the full value of the stock can be used as a charitable gift, and taxes are not owed on capital gains.

Please remember to contact the our Parish Administrator, Karie Stearns, at administrator@ourredeemers.net or 206-783-7900 (x107) if you are making a stock gift to make sure we know who the donor is and to the fund(s) the gift should be applied.

For tax purposes

Please consult your attorney or professional advisor for advice.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Luciafest





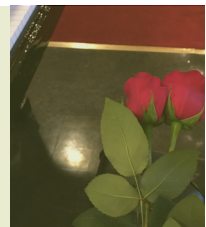
WORSHIP AND MUSIC



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WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Baptism of Our Lord

In the season following the Sunday of the Epiphany, twelve days following Christmas, the weeks of the liturgical year are bookended by two significant moments of change in Jesus' life and ministry. The first is his baptism, which happens in the River Jordan by the hand of his cousin John the Baptizer. The



second is the transfiguration, where, James, John, and Peter accompany Jesus to the top of a mountain, where Jesus is changed into sparkling white garments, with his face shining like the sun. On the way down the mountain, Jesus begins the road to Jerusalem, and his path toward Easter.

As we move through this season, hearing the stories of Jesus' life and ministry, we are invited to reflect on our own paths, and the life we are called to through baptism. Beginning with the calling we hear echoed through our own baptisms in the words of God spoken over Jesus, "This is my son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased," we can begin to imagine that our path of purpose, meaning, and intention are not unlike Christ's – to heal the sick, feed the hungry, lift up the children, and remember the poor.

Epiphany Eve - January 5th

On Sunday, January 5 we will be celebrating Epiphany Eve, anticipating the arrival of the magi, the giving of gifts, and the return of light to our lives by the following of the star.

We will be welcoming **David De Block Wells** as our guest preacher and adult forum facilitator. David is the current Treasurer for Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Washington (LCMUW). He joined the Board of Directors in February of 2014 and has helped discern the multiple transitions they've been tackling over the past few years.

Some members might remember that he attended from 2010-2012 before moving on to a ministry position at Central Lutheran Church in Seattle. In 2017 he left his position to pursue a Masters in Transformational Leadership at Seattle University's School of Theology. After graduating this past June, he continues to stay busy working with LCMUW, working with the King County Academy of Family Physicians, and waiting tables at Place Pigalle in Pike's Place Market.

Join us for worship at 9am and 11am, and the Adult Forum at 10am on January 5th.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Christmas Pageant



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.



FAITH FORMATION – YOUTH

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

Sprouts

Sunday mornings 9am, during worship

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

Exploring Faith

Sunday mornings 10am

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

Connect Class

Sunday mornings 10am

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

Confirmation Classes

Varied times and locations

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

Sign Up or Register Online!

Parent Volunteer Sign-Ups

Go to signup.com to help in the classes!

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

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

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

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





FAITH FORMATION – YOUTH

May Youth Weekend @ Holden Village

by Pastor Gretchen

Hello High School Students in 9–12 grade! You are invited to participate in May Youth Weekends either May 15–17 (Friday – Sunday), and May 22–24 (Friday–Sunday). We will register as a group for one weekend or the other, so make your preferences known!

This year's theme: "Transformation." The theme verse: 1 John 3:2 "Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed." Change is constant and transformation is sacred. How can we express our changing hearts and minds to speak out as change makers in God's World?



The speaker this year is The Rev. Dr. Megan Rohrer. Megan (they/their/them) is an award winning musician and historian and was a finalist for the Lambda Literary award. The pastor of Grace Lutheran in San Francisco, Megan received an honorable mention as an Unsung Hero of Compassion by Wisdom in Action, with His Holiness the Dali Lama and was recently featured both at Martin Luther's house in Wittenberg, Germany for the 500th Celebration of the Reformation and in Cosmopolitan.

The musician is Andy Potsko. Andy (he/him/his) is a singer, songwriter, and storyteller based in Columbus, Ohio. His travels have led him throughout the U.S. and around the world to places like India and Turkey, Venezuela and Nigeria, Denmark and Nepal. as a recent graduate of Trinity Lutheran Seminary, he and his family are awaiting their first call. He is also good friends with Pastor Gretchen, and that means there will be shenanigans.

If you would like to go, registration opens February 1. Please let Pastor Gretchen know by January 25. An adult chaperone is also needed if we have more than 5 youth.



FAITH FORMATION – YOUTH

Go Night – Save the Date March 6

Calling all 6th – 8th graders! We are invited to a synod-wide middle school fun night on March 6, 2020 at Advent Lutheran Church in Mill Creek. It goes from 6pm – 12am, and will include adventures, food, friends, and a giant pile of good times! Let Pastor Gretchen know if you would like more information, or to reserve your spot.

For reference, check out THESE COOL KIDS who went in 2015. #tbgn



FAITH FORMATION – ADULTS

Wednesday's Bible Study Returns

Wednesday, January 8th, 10:30 – noon

It's been awhile since we've been together around that table in the library. We will resume our study on the 8th. Continuing with the Wisdom Books of the Bible, the subject book on that Wednesday is, of all things, JOB! Now, I can't compare shingles and its effects that kept me in pain for those weeks (and to this day) to what Job suffered, but I do think it ironic it is the book we will study.



In an article by Frank G. Honeycutt in the magazine *Living Lutheran*, he talks about studying the Word of God as seeking for hidden treasure. In Matthew, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. The church proclaims a strange truth: faithful discipleship entails a regular search for hidden treasure. He goes on: *Unless you're digging down below the surface of Scripture on a regular basis, your faith will very likely become stagnant.* We welcome fellow "diggers".

Theology On Tap

Let's get together at The Dane (8000 15th Ave NW, Seattle) on Tuesday, January 28 at 7pm for a great discussion with friends and new acquaintances. Our topic: **Does everything really happen for a reason?** Why do we say that when people die unexpectedly, anyway? What is implied about God in that statement? *Let's talk.*

Contact Betsy McGregor or Emilie Purvine for more information!



BUILD THE VISION... SHARE THE VISION

Your Monthly Vision-Aligned Building Update

The members of the Vision-Aligned Building Team and Church Council have invested many hours this month, even though it is the heart of the Advent/Christmas season.

Representatives of GROW, the Ballard P-Patch leadership, and Our Redeemer's sat down on Monday, December 16, to listen and understand the concerns and needs each of us have, as we continue to a purchase and sale agreement.



As has been the case all along, we all brought good faith, trust and candor to our conversation. Our Redeemer's learned more about the uncertainties and timelines relating to the government grants necessary for the purchase, and also more details about what is involved in GROW (the P-Patch's fiscal agent) obtaining a bridge loan.

We parted with a commitment to meet again as soon as possible, on December 30. If all goes as hoped, we hope to bring a purchase and sale agreement to the congregation for a vote as soon as possible in January. Having a signed purchase and sale agreement will aid the P-Patch in attracting significant donations. Even with the short timeline, we will work to provide a number of opportunities, written and conversational, for members to understand this important agreement.

Meanwhile, the Vision-Aligned Building Team met with our architects, SHKS, on December 11. They continue to implement renovation priorities growing out of our strategic plan. The meeting focused on the exterior of our renovation, including a first draft of landscape planning.

Sometime in January, we hope to have updated preliminary design drawings for the congregation to enjoy. An in-depth presentation of fully developed renderings and solid budget are planned for the afternoon of Sunday, February 16. That presentation will allow ample time, and will include virtual reality designs!

Stay tuned. There is a great deal of work going on, and before long your input and vote will be needed to help determine Our Redeemer's direction for generations to come.

Vision-Aligned Building Team: Jim Arnold, Pastor Kathy Hawks, Mark Hlastala, Kirsten Malone, Ryan Mertes, Guy Michaelsen.



The 2020 Auction is on Leap Day!

Our Redeemer's AUCTION is February 29th, Leap Year Day!

Mark your calendars and get ready for a night of fun shenanigans a'plenty!

The auction is a little different from some that you may have been to, because we focus on community building experiences from our own folks to share, rather than "things" that you can bid on and win. Every item that is donated to the auction, and every dollar that is raised goes back into funding the ministry of our church, and helping us to continue to be a beacon of hope and light in our community. It's win-win-win, all the way around!

The 2020 Auction

February 29, 2020!

An Irish Festival for the Feast of St. Brigid.

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

Get your shillelaghs and your shenanigans ready!



How you can help:

- 1. Think about something you can donate to the auction** – a boat ride, a fancy meal for 8, childcare, being helping hands for someone's home, teaching a craft or skill, a vacation getaway, donating a skill or talent. Some of our most popular items have been carpentry, experiences for children, and songwriting! I believe that everyone has something they can donate – even you!
- 2. Help with the planning team** – we need volunteers to decorate, help run the evening, plan children's activities, count and track bids, bartend, and the ever-elusive clean up team. Contact Pastor Gretchen if you are interested!
- 3. Let us know you're coming!** We don't sell tickets anymore, because we want EVERYONE to be able to attend, regardless of financial means – but we do need to plan. So be a good chap and **RSVP!**

Thank you in advance for your help and excitement about this event – it keeps the Our Redeemer's boat afloat, and reminds us of how much we have, how much we like each other, and what good we can do in the world.

"Wherever you go and whatever you do, may the luck of the Irish be there with you."



COMMUNITY



Caring Community Team Meeting

Saturday, January 11 ~ Noon

Join the Caring Community Team for their next meeting and lunch at the home of Judy Chambers. For Judy's address, please contact the church office.

CELEBRATE JANUARY BIRTHDAYS!

2 Ryan Brady	14 John-Otto Liljenstolpe	23 Maxwell Olson
2 Carleen See	14 Arlene Templin	23 Erica Orr
3 Blanche Anderson	15 Chloe Dixon	25 Heather Cook
5 Elyse Allen	15 Colette Duke	25 Janice LaBrash
5 Erica Prentice	15 David Peltó	27 Lars Anderson Sveum Hanson
7 Mark Buening	15 Joe Saldin	27 Jonah Hlastala
8 Annelise Glover	15 Oskar Somm	28 Linda Oswald
9 Brenalee Campbell	16 Kim Barowicz	29 Elisabeth Parker
9 Paula Hlastala	17 Miriam Neu	29 Donald Simpson
10 Rocco Lenihan	21 Lynne McNeill	30 Ruby Brantner
12 Marie Nordquist-Lessard	22 Dorothy Egaas	30 Annette White-Yetter
12 Charles See	22 Quinn McCormick	
13 Carole Trigstad	22 Paul Wallstrom	

COME TO THE JOURNEY!

- Explore your faith
- Restore your faith
- Learn more about Our Redeemer's
- Get acquainted with more folks here
- Or, become a member.

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

Sundays in Lent, 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.
(Child care? 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 welcome to participate. Please let Pastor Kathy Hawks (kathyh@ourredeemers.net) or Pastor Gretchen Mertes (pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net) know you're interested.



COMMUNITY

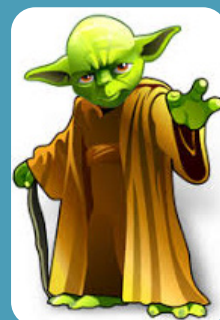
Beer & Carols



LIFE MASTERS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 12:15pm
in the Library

Join this 50+ community for learning, trips, and other activities!
Remember to bring a light snack. We look forward to seeing you!





COMMUNITY

Holden Village Retreat – August 16-22

Registration Update: We still have 20 spots available for Holden Village this summer! REGISTRATIONS ARE FIRST COME FIRST SERVED! Register online, or on paper soon, or you will miss out!

What is Holden Village? It is a beautiful Lutheran retreat center in the Cascade Mountains reachable only by hiking in, or by taking a boat called “Lady of the Lake” to the top of Lake Chelan. A former mining village, it has been restored and built into an amazing facility. The amenities aren’t fancy, but they are clean, and nice. Meals are served all together, and there is chapel each evening in the Village Center. Each week in the summer, teaching staff, artists and musicians are brought in to build up and edify the guests of the village. There are crafts for both young and old(er), and there is childcare available at Narnia each day from 8am – 12pm. It is a great getaway and chance to refocus for single folk, families, couples, and people of all flavors. There is no cell phone reception, and it is quite remote – which we think of as a gift! You are invited to consider joining this retreat, and we hope you will.



Women’s Retreat Save the Date May 1-3, 2020



We are looking for the leadership team to plan our Women’s Retreat this spring. If you would like to help with theme, crafts, meal-planning, worship, or entertainment, please reach out! This is a wonderful event every year, and it comes together so well because of the intentionality and commitment of the planning teams. Thank you in advance for stepping up and making this year meaningful and full of relaxation and renewal. To help, contact Pastor Gretchen.



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Ballard Sunday Dinner

Sunday, January 19th

Ballard First Lutheran Church



Our Redeemers continues to prioritize making sure all our neighbors get a good meal through serving monthly with the Ballard Sunday Dinner every 3rd Sunday. This month it is January 19th. It takes many hands and is a lot of fun! Sign up to volunteer!

- 2-6pm Food Prep: Chop, cook, and prepare food under the direction of the Leads.
- 4-6:15pm Set Up & Serve: Set up tables and chairs and serve guests as they arrive. This is an excellent shift for youth between 13-18 or for children under 12 to serve with a supervising adult.
- 4:15-6:15pm Greeters: Greet guests as they arrive and direct them towards the meal.
- 5:00-7:30pm Serve & Close: Finish serving guests then help clean up and close.

Sign up online at www.tinyurl.com/ballardsundaydinner to take a turn with a shift!



Road to Housing Update

Road to Housing has had a busy month. I hope many of you have had opportunity to meet our many guests. Several families have moved on and we have two new families. Some of you likely met some of our residents at the Thanksgiving Dinner. We had some enthusiastic, supportive workers that day. Our partner, the Urban League, is working hard for us and all of King County.

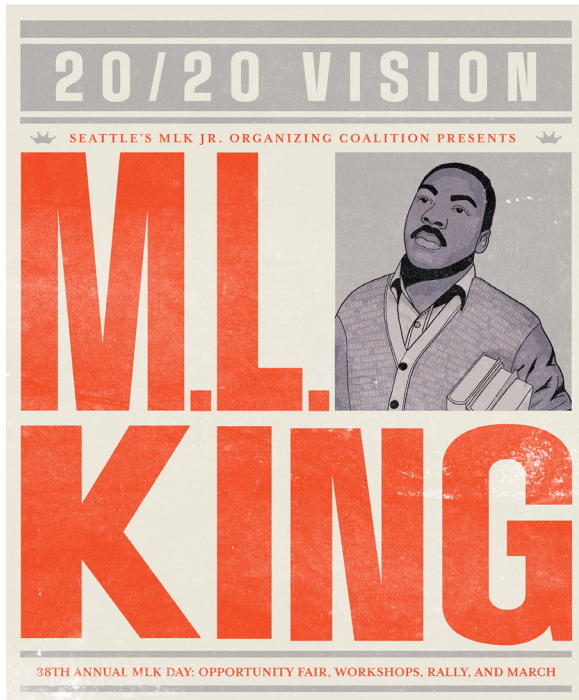
Our deep gratitude goes out to all who contributed to making our Road to Housing guests feel a little more at home this Christmas by offering much needed gifts and love.

Thank you Our Redeemer's, this has actually been the best Christmas ever. The presents were so thoughtful and so needed. I ran out of hair shampoo and don't get paid again until January 2nd. The gifts really came in handy! Thank you all again for being so caring.

- Road To Housing participant



SOCIAL JUSTICE



MLK Day 2020 Options

MLK Weekend Run at Magnuson Park

Saturday, January 18, Magnuson Park, 10am-1pm

Three distance options! More here:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2485493584899821/>

March with Our Redeemers!

2020 Seattle MLK Day

Monday, January 20, 2020, 12:30pm -3:30 pm.

Would you like to carpool? Details forthcoming. In the

meantime, contact Shannon

outreach@ourredeemers.net.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1087317151610685/>

Our Redeemer's Earthcare Retreat

April 17, 18 & 19, Pacific Beach Resort

Plan your time away in April! Join us as we gather to take part in a beach clean up, helping protect our fragile and precious earth. Enjoy fellowship, food, and some thinking forward about what we might do this year to make the planet more livable for all. A team is being pulled together to plan for this. If you would like to be part of a smaller group of folks, let Shannon know: outreach@ourredeemers.net



SOCIAL JUSTICE



IMMIGRATION MONTH: LIVING UNDOCUMENTED

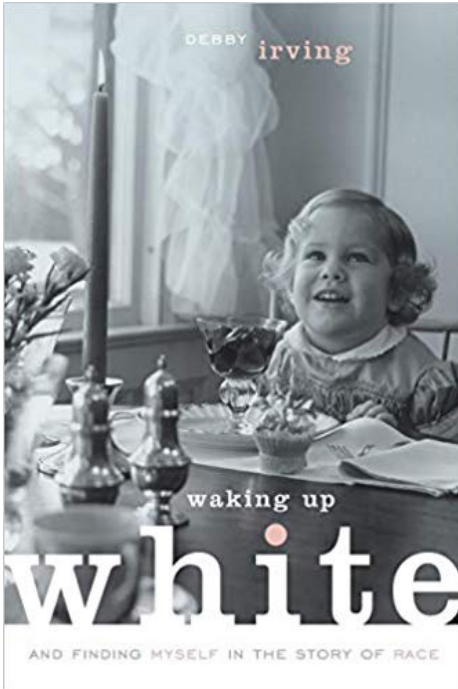
This series is for all who want to know more about how immigration works in the U.S. and it's implications with families. We will spend four Sundays listening to true stories, learning from local advocates, and considering what our call is in this important season in the life our communities and world.

- January 12** "A Prayer in the Night" video and conversation. True stories of detention and immigration.
- January 19** Human rights and the Gospel call to follow Jesus for the life of the world.
- January 26** What is happening in Seattle? Hear from Michael Ramos, Director of the Church Council of Greater Seattle about various ways faith communities are addressing this issue. There will also be a coffee hour after the 11am service to field questions.
- February 2** How then will we live? Together, we will consider practical next steps for a faithful response for our community.

Classes will begin promptly at 10:10am in the library. Bring your coffee and join us!



SOCIAL JUSTICE



Waking Up White – Madonna's Book Club

Sunday, January 12, 4-6pm

Have you ever wondered if your ethno/social/political/racial identity as a white person might be dismissed in your current culture's focus on creating equity? You care about racial justice. And you have worked hard for your life and success. What advantages have you had over anyone else? Have you wondered exactly what is meant by systemic racism?

The Madonnas book group is inviting the congregation to discuss an important book: *Waking Up White*, by Debby Irving. Order it on Amazon or order it from your local bookstore, read it, and participate in a conversation on Sunday, January 12, 4-6pm at the church. (If the Seahawks make playoff, the timing may shift some – stay tuned.) For more information, ask Candace Todd-Robbins or Margaret Wetter (margaretwetter@comcast.net).

About the book:

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

Social Justice January Meeting

Sunday, January 12th

Directly after the 11 am worship service.

Lunch provided.

All are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Questions: outreach@ourredeemers.net

OUR GIVING TREE: Thank you to **Denise Ecklund** for wrapping all the presents for our Road To Housing folks; and to **Paula Hlastala** for coordinating the gifts for Broadview Thompson, Mary's Place, and Road to Housing.



Thank yous...

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous gift to Lutheran World Relief's Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund! Your donation ensures that LWR Quilts and Kits get into the hands of a person who needs it. With your help we have delivered Quilts and Kits to families in Mozambique whose communities were ravaged by cyclone Idai.



Lutheran World Relief

Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard (ret.),
President and CEO, Lutheran World Relief

...from Carolyn Swanson – Two Howevers

Who knew Shingles would keep me from attending church for 6 weeks! I sure didn't. However, the members of my church (that's you) kept bringing church to me via prayers, cards, food, telephone calls, taking me to the doctor (my only outings). Thank you for that. In one of the cards, the sender wrote: "You are surrounded by prayers. May God's power and love be so close to you, that you really feel it." I did. Thank you.

However, I really missed going to church. When I did go back, it was the 2nd Sunday of Advent, and all the joys of worship came flooding back. The sanctuary was/is beautiful-3 lighted Christmas trees; the music filled my soul, including the song "Lost in the Night"—a song I used to sing often in my church life; the choir, as usual, sang a lovely rendition of O Come, O Come Emmanuel; Pastor Kathy telling us to look for the sprout on that stump of Jesse. See it everywhere. It is our sure hope. Communion tasted good. I found treasure.

Dear Our Redeemer's,

We are so thankful for your donation. With approx. 3,200 shopping visits per month, we could not support our neighbors without your generosity.

With gratitude,

The Ballard Food Bank Team





EVERY SUNDAY:

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

JANUARY 2020

ourredeemers.net/calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
5 10am Adult Forum 	6 EPIPHANY 9am Quilters 7pm Faith Formation Team Meeting	7	8 Office Closed* 10:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult & Youth Choir	9 10am Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Informal Music Ensemble	10	11 12pm Caring Community Team Meeting
12 10:10am Immigration Class 12pm Social Justice Meeting 4pm Madonna's Book Group	13 9am Quilters	14 7pm Executive Team Meeting	15 10am Staff Meeting 10:30am Bible Study 12:15 pm Life Masters 6:30pm Children's – 7pm Adult & Youth Choir	16 6pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Informal Music Ensemble	17 February Visitor Newsletter Content Deadline	18
19 Baptisms 10:10am Immigration Class 2pm Ballard Sunday Dinner	20 MLK DAY Office Closed 9am Quilters 9am MLK Fun Run at Magnuson Park 11-3pm Rally & March Downtown	21 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	22 10am Staff Meeting 10:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult & Youth Choir	23 6pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Informal Music Ensemble	24	25
26 10am Sandwich Sunday 10:10am Immigration Class	27 9am Quilters	28 	29 10am Staff Meeting 10:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult & Youth Choir	30 6pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Informal Music Ensemble	31	

*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

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REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP

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

WEEKLY THURSDAY WORSHIP

6pm Centering Prayer

baptisms

There will be baptisms on
Sunday, January 19th.
Do you or your child wish to
be baptized?
Please contact one of our
pastors for information.

Happy New Year from Our Redeemer's staff!



L-R: Karie Stearns, Pastor Gretchen Mertes, Katlin Dickinson-Laurence, Amy Hammett, Shannon Beck, Debbie Lematta, Pastor Kathy Hawks, (baby Hammett), Karen Lee



Follow Us on Instagram!

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



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