

NOVEMBER 2018

our redeemer's
LUTHERAN • BALLARD

The Visitor

living generously



A COMMUNITY IN THE MODEL OF CHRIST

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COVER: Pet Blessing (Miriam and Freya)

INSIDE COVER: No Kidding! Pumpkin Carving (Sam and Emilie Purvine, Hannah Wetter, Kim and Drew Barowicz, and Steven Rystrom)



Our community, our calling.



- Katherine Hawks, Pastor
- Gretchen Mertes, Pastor
- Karen Lee, Traditional Worship & Music Director
- Don Boelter, Parish Administrator
- Cara Kiggins, Social Justice Coordinator
- Jonath Ochs, Communications Coordinator
- Katlin Dickinson-Laurence, Data Base & Front Office Assistant
- Ronda Andrews, Welcome Minister
- Hannah Wetter, Nursery Care Provider

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FROM THE PASTOR...



The Myth of Security

In the past few months, I've heard over and over again, people talking about not wanting to be a burden to others. *"We've saved and insured ourselves judiciously so our children won't ever have to worry."* *"I've invested so that when I die everything is covered."* In one conversation I myself even mentioned that my husband and I have a generous life insurance policy, so if one of us dies the other won't have any hardship, or need to lean on our families.

But here's the thing...

When we take care of every little thing and every little detail, when we assure ourselves that we have simply every little thing in hand, when we deprive ourselves in order to spare others down the road, we rob ourselves of what is perhaps the greatest gift: **experiencing deep joy and overwhelming gratitude.** And that is the thing God most deeply desires for us. Think of a time when you experienced the heartfelt thankfulness of God's blessings to you. When did you experience that? I bet it was when you received help from your neighbor at a time when you could not help yourself. And in that help, joy was multiplied in the giving and the receiving.

Now, I know that the only things that are sure are death, grace, and taxes. And so our idea that we could secure our futures, and ensure and insure that we are never a burden on another are a great illusion. But we are getting pretty good

at getting close to actual security. And that, my friends, is a travesty. When we no longer need each other, and no longer need to ask for help — for instance when 'Amazon Prime Now' can bring you a cup of sugar to spare you bothering your neighbors and then getting to know them, and maybe liking them, and maybe building a relationship that's (heaven forbid) neighborly with them, that's depriving ourselves (and them) of an opportunity to give and receive a blessing.

Living generously isn't just about giving. It's also about receiving. It's about worrying less and giving away more. It's about asking for help when you need it, knowing that you're there for people in their time of need as well. It's not just about being the one who helps, but being the one who is helped. God's generosity, love and light are seen most clearly in the times when we need them the most.

I'm not telling you to go out and cash in your 401K. But I am asking you to think about what you really need, and what you might be depriving yourself of by being so darned self-sufficient. It's worth some examination.



Peace and generous,
overflowing love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gretchen".

Pastor Gretchen

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"

Matthew 6:25-26

BUILD THE VISION... SHARE THE VISION!

Vision-Aligned Building (VAB) Changes

During the month of September, the VAB Team met multiple times to discuss the three design plan alternatives presented by architects atelierjones llc on August 30 as reported in last month's edition of The Visitor. These plans came as a result of continuing discussions with Lead Architect Susan Jones over the summer regarding delivering budget conscious strategies for moving the project forward in light of the substantial alteration determination by the City of Seattle on the original plans, escalating the projected costs of the project by \$1.5 million.

Reluctantly, the VAB Team came to the conclusion that none of the proposed alternatives met their criteria for successful completion of the next phase of the building project. Furthermore, in light of the substantial alteration decision/additional costs, the VAB Team reached the conclusion that the nature of the project has changed significantly in the three years since atelierjones was retained as

project architect, and that the best way to move the project forward is to retain a new architecture firm.

Therefore, in the month of October, The VAB Team will be meeting with architecture and design firms in the hopes of finding a firm that better matches where we are at currently in the process. After fee proposals are submitted and reviewed, the Team will make its recommendation to the Church Council and Congregation.

There will be a special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 18 between services in the Sanctuary. At this meeting, the VAB Team will summarize work-to-date, give an update on where we are at now, explain decision to change architects, and provide the congregation with financial information about potential new architecture firm.

The VAB Team is: Mike Hlastala, Pastor Kathy Hawks, Kirstin Malone, Ryan Mertes, Jim Arnold, Guy Michaelson, and Don Boelter, Parish Administrator (administrator@ourredeemers.net, 206-783-7900 x.107).

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, Nov. 18
10am (between services)

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 4 ~ 9am & 11am

To remember those who have gone before us, we take the time on All Saint's Sunday to say the names of those who have died in the last year during worship, as well as pray for those whose memories are tender to us. A memorial table will be set for placing photos and mementos, as well as a place to write names and light candles. During the 11am traditional service, you are invited to bring framed pictures of loved ones who have passed away and to place them in the stained glass window sills.

Deaths

Peter Arnold* (10/24/17)

Thomas Jay Brantner* (1/7/18)

Mason Sizemore* (1/31/2018)

Astrid Vik (1/11/2018)

Larry Ward (2/17/2018)

William Lund (2/21/2018)

Lewis Roberts (3/26/2018)

Thelma Hoveland (3/26/2018)

Susan Lundli* (3/26/2018)

David Forssen* (4/21/18)

Ted Thorson** (9/4/18)

Carol Overhus (9/6/18)

Baptisms

Lucas Elijah Frantz (1/7/18)

Harper Krystyna Hammett (11/ 5/17)

*non-member

**former member

FEELING STRESSED?

Thursdays, 6-6:35PM.

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

Centering Prayer is:

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

Come experience the healing silence for yourself.

Generosity Sunday

Sunday, November 11 ~ 9am & 11am

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

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

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

**THANK YOU
for your generosity!**



FAITH FORMATION



Bible Study on Wednesday Mornings at 10:30am

by: Carolyn Swanson

10:30am-noon ~ Church Library

Having completed 7 sessions on Luther's discovery of the Gospel and its medieval context, we move on now to tracing the course of the Reformation. What began as an academic disputation in 1517 about indulgences becomes a rallying cry for Germans to throw off the yoke of papacy. With the invention of the printing press and Luther's translation of the Bible in German, people in this "new" church could hear, read, and even sing the Gospel. And yes, Luther was a hymn writer as well. Things did not go smoothly, however, and the Reformation takes on ideas and even doctrines with which Luther did not agree. When Luther disagrees with concepts, he really does. What did/does this mean for our Lutheran church today? Come and hear.

Questions? Contact Carolyn Swanson (cdkswan@comcast.net).



THE ECONOMY OF LOVE:

Creating a Community of Enough

by Shane Claiborne

Sundays ~ 10am

America thrives on a simple message - That what we have is currently not enough. Not big enough, not nice enough, not fast or hip enough.

The American Dream is based on wanting more. But does God's dream for the world look like the American Dream?

Continuing this five-week study, brief videos help us unpack what the patterns of God's kingdom look like compared to the patterns of our world. We help each other explore: What is the value of enough, and how do we become more like the God who is close to the poor, the hungry, the meek and the merciful?

Economy of Love will challenge us to join in community, journeying together as we begin to consider a new standard of living - a personal economic threshold oriented not around the size of a monthly paycheck, but around the value of enough.

November 4: VULNERABLE

Are we living lives that collide with those of the marginalized?

November 11: FILLED

Is the gospel we preach good news for the rich and poor alike?

November 25: PRACTICE

Are we called to follow Jesus with our hands, our feet and our resources?



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW...
FOR A RARE OPPORTUNITY!**

**Beloved Theologian, Biblical Scholar,
and Pastor**

FRED NIEDNER

Comes to Our Redeemer's

Friday, February 8 thru Sunday, February 10

Some of you may know Professor Niedner from his regular teaching at Holden Village. Pastor Gretchen and Pastor Kathy know him from their days at Valparaiso University. All who have heard him know he has a genius for opening our eyes to the acutely relevant and human dimensions of scripture, in ways that leave us changed and blessed.

This winter, a wilderness of its own kind, and in the wilderness of our unsettling and confusing times, Fred will teach and preach on one of the great biblical stories that resonates from Hebrew scriptures to the New Testament to our own lives. Be sure to save the dates! More details to come.

MANNA AND MERCY IN THE WILDERNESS

Between bondage and freedom, the people of Israel wandered for a generation in the wilderness. Throughout the journey, they murmured about scarcity, complained against their leaders, and considered returning to slavery. They knew intimately both the presence and absence of God. They learned to depend on mercy, one day at a time, and no one got out alive. This is our story, too. This brief Bible study series probes the guides, resources, and promises the scriptures offer for our personal and community wilderness trek.

Session 1 – *How to Recognize a Wilderness When You've Stumbled into One*
Friday dinner and class.

Session 2 – *Are We Alone Here? The Words and the Word in the Wilderness*
Saturday morning.

Session 3 – *Following Christ through the Wilderness, Becoming Part of God's "Backside"*
Saturday afternoon.

Fred Niedner taught biblical theology and Hebrew language in Valparaiso University's Department of Theology for 40 years. In alleged retirement, he contributes to publications that support the church's ministry of preaching and writes a fortnightly Sunday op-ed column for the Chicago Tribune's northwest Indiana edition.

EXPLORE FAITH & JUSTICE: ALL AGES!

Sundays, 10am

On Sundays between services, people and of all ages and life-stages are invited to join in an interactive, story-based experience of faith and social justice. The first three weeks of each month we will explore a different aspect, relationship, and experience of a social justice focus. On the fourth week, we will help to lead worship, bringing our learning and prayers from the prior weeks. In November, we are exploring the reality of hunger:

November 4: *What does the Bible teach us about being hungry, and how to help those who hunger?*

November 11: *What does our relationship with the Ballard Food Bank look like? Who do they serve?*

November 18: *How can we help? Take a field trip to the Ballard Food Bank to deliver our collected food donations.*

November 25: *Bring our learning and reflection to worship, with prayers and reflections of what we've learned offered back to God.*



EXPLORE IN NOVEMBER:

HUNGER

Community Partner: Ballard Food Bank



As we all can see, there is a tremendous need in our community. For over 30 years, Ballard Food Bank has been a trusted community resource in Ballard, Magnolia, and Queen Anne and beyond. Ballard Food Bank's mission is to bring food and hope to our neighbors because there can be enough for everyone. We provide access to healthy foods and services to over 1,200 neighbors each week through our grocery-style food bank and hygiene bar, deliver groceries to over 100 homebound individuals in our Home Delivery Program and provide weekend meals to 400 students across 18 Seattle Public Schools through our Weekend Food For Kids program. **And food is just the first step** – we also offer mail services to those without permanent housing and a Community Resource Hub where clients can get help with their basic needs all in one place.

People often ask us who our clients are. At Ballard Food Bank, our clients are mostly renters, those living on low or no income and 1 in 5 of our clients is currently experiencing homelessness. Families who face difficult circumstances experience food insecurity and are often not able to

access and navigate the necessary supportive services that may be available to them. An unexpected bill, lack of healthcare coverage, or insufficient funds for a security deposit can leave people broke, presenting the difficult choice between food and medication, or even homelessness. While Ballard Food Bank helps clients alleviate the stress of hunger, more needs to be done to help our neighbors navigating poverty. Without an advocate they can trust, or the free time or transportation to visit multiple providers, people cannot access services they qualify for.

To provide greater access to services that can help our clients on their road to self-sufficiency, the Ballard Food Bank has developed the Community Resource Hub – a combination of emergency financial assistance with a curated network of partner agencies available on-site to more holistically meet the needs of our neighbors where they shop. Emergency financial assistance prevents homelessness by providing rent and utility payments, move in deposits that help clients gain or stay in housing and stay warm during the winter. Vouchers for state IDs and driver's licenses help our neighbors gain employment. Our community partners are strategically selected based on client input to address the specific issues our clients face. **Our Community Resource Hub facilitated over 1,100 connections with clients and resource providers last year alone!**

We at the Ballard Food Bank realize the unique position of being a reliable point of trust for many in our community. Food banks are often the first service sought by those experiencing poverty; access to additional critical services on-site can actively improve the lives of our neighbors. By collaborating with agencies already doing great work in our community, and who are experts in other service areas, we help our neighbors access resources in a familiar space they trust and often visit weekly.

How can you help? Our programs like the food bank and the Community Resource Hub wouldn't be possible without supporters like you. Thank you to all the members of the Our Redeemers community who volunteer and financially support us each year. If you would like to get involved we are always need more volunteers! From helping in our grocery, to sorting in our warehouse and running our computer check-in systems at our front desk, it's volunteers that make it possible for us to serve our neighbors. Find out about more volunteer opportunities and sign-up on our website: www.ballardfoodbank.org/volunteer.

And finally, don't miss our biggest fundraiser of the year – the Seattle Turkey Trot 5K! By participating in this festive holiday tradition, you'll help us raise over \$150,000 for our programs AND earn that coveted second piece of pie. The run takes place on Thanksgiving Thursday, November 22nd and you can register at www.seattleturkeytrot.org.



Audrey Gundacker



Karina Hlastala



Emily Malone



Colin McBride



Max Myers

Congratulations, 2018 Confirmands!



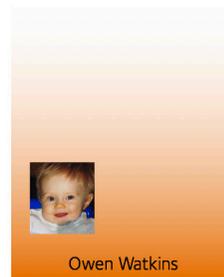
Colin Neu



Max Perry



AJ Schoolcraft



Owen Watkins



Thanksgiving Pies

Purchase: Sunday, Nov. 4 & 11

Pickup: Sunday, Nov. 18

Our Redeemer's Youth Group is making pies again this year! Save yourself the trouble of baking and let these young people (guided by our resident experts, Kim Smith and Bob Carlson) hand craft a pie for you! Pumpkin and berry pies are available. You can purchase them between services on November 3 and 10th, and pick them up at church on the 18th. We need lots of pies donated for the Thanksgiving dinner too, so thank you for your generosity!



Sunday Sermon Friends

We are having so much fun with our Sunday Sermon Friends program, where a friendly adult helps wiggly kids have a fun activity during the sermon time. Kids are excused at the beginning of the sermon, and come back immediately following to participate in the rest of the service. If you think that you can be a leader in this program, please contact Pastor Gretchen. Help is always needed, and our kids (and their families) thank you.



LIVING GENEROUSLY

Tis the Season of Gratitude

by Ronda Andrews, Welcome Minister

Happy Thanksgiving! This is the season when we pause in our busy lives and remember to be grateful on an individual level and on a corporate level. One of our dear church staff, Cara Kiggins, shared that her daughter, Seren, referred to this process as her **“Grateful For”** list.

Here is a list to help you **see, acknowledge, and use** your blessings with a purpose:

1. Simple gratitude for our basic needs (food, water, shelter, clothing) being met. Many in our community are doing without these basic things. Have you ever heard the term “food insecurity”? A lot of school-age children are not sure if they will have enough food most days. You have seen many people who are experiencing homelessness while trying to live on our streets. Our church feeds about 60 of them a hot meal **once a month at Ballard Sunday Dinner**. We also make and serve a delicious **Thanksgiving meal** (turkey and cranberry sauce and all the fixings, yum!) to about 200 people. It takes more than a few people to make this happen. Get involved and volunteer as your time and talents allow, or pitch in a few dollars to help cover the costs. If possible, **buy a pie from our church youth** to support their youth group program.
2. Gratitude for our family, friends, pastors and first responders. You know who I’m talking about: the people who answer their phone and help when you or a loved one has a crisis. Be that person for the people around you.
3. Gratitude for our church and other support systems, including hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, transportation systems, utilities, daycare centers, and libraries. Also include case managers who help folks navigate the complex rules and requirements for various social programs, like our **Safe Parking** program & Medicaid.
4. Gratitude for our blessings that surpass our basic needs: a vehicle, a bike, a house or apartment. How about vacations? A lot of people can’t afford to go somewhere special, so this may just mean a week at home to rest, read, and binge watch a series on Netflix.
5. Gratitude for our jobs and opportunities to help others as caregivers. Remember to pray for the caregivers in your life because being a caregiver is a very demanding responsibility.
6. Gratitude for God’s saving grace, which has been described to me as “undeserved kindness”. God loves us so much! Feel that love and share it with those around you.
7. Gratitude for finding a place where we belong. This can be a community that you call “home”; a church, mosque or synagogue; a university or community college; a book club, a walking or hiking group, a quilting circle, or a Bible study group. Our human need is to form groups to meet our emotional, social and spiritual needs. Not everyone has a place that is “home” or a place that is “safe”. Help them to feel welcome when your path crosses theirs. Be proactive and invite them to visit your safe place. Help them feel comfortable and introduce them to others.

Finally, remember that God wants us to share our blessings with others. Exercise your empathy. Help someone who is struggling to get through this season. Do this purposefully, with care and consideration, every day, and remember to give God thanks for all our blessings.



our redeemer's

LUTHERAN • BALLARD

Social Justice Quarterly Meeting

Sunday, November 11th ~ 12:30pm

Please join in as we discuss ongoing Social Justice ministries. We'll address:

- Exploring Faith and Justice and plans for the focus on Hunger in November and Immigration & Refugees in January.
- Planning a fundraiser for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services
- Action opportunities serving local immigrants and refugees
- A vote on any submitted Community Giving Fund recipients

Bring a brunch dish to share as it's lunchtime and food makes everything better! Contact Cara Kiggins (outreach@ourredeemers.net) with any questions.



Recycling Event Outcomes

Wow! We had one of our biggest recycling events, ever! Over 210 donors delivered over 4,500 electronic items (nearly 3 truckloads worth!), 1800 cubic feet of styrofoam and 54 bags of clothing – all recycled rather than filling the landfill! Thank you to the many volunteers who made this event happen. It is such a joy to greet and serve our neighbors!



Ensure a Thanksgiving Community Meal for All

Thursday, Nov. 22 ~ 12-1pm

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

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

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

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

The categories are:

- Prepare the meal
- Carve the turkeys
- Set the tables
- Cook the meal
- Table Hosts
- Dishing up the meal
- Greeting guests

- Serving and Clearing
- Distribution of sleeping bags
- Washing dishes
- Cleaning up
- Photographer

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

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

Sleeping Bag Contributions

Help Keep Someone Warm

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





Bring Sandwich Fixings and Make Some Sandwiches for Hungry People!

Sunday November 25th between services

Bring sandwich bread, sliced meats, & sliced cheese with you when you come to church! We could use at least 20 loaves of bread and enough fixings to make at least 300 sandwiches. The sandwiches are delivered on Monday morning to Peter's Place Day Center for homeless men and women. Contact Cara (outreach@ourredeemers.net) with any questions!

Road to Housing

We're delighted to be welcoming new guests in partnership with Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle. You may have seen Qiana Tyeveskey around Our Redeemer's lately. She is the Urban League case manager assigned to support guests in our R2H program. Through R2H people living in their vehicle and experiencing homelessness continue to experience the stability and safety of a safe parking spot and access resources like case management support, a bathroom & shower, fridge and laundry.



Ballard Sunday Dinner - Feeding the Hungry

Sunday, November 18th

Ballard First Lutheran Church

Our next turn to feed the hungry and unhoused in our community will be on Nov. 18th. Feed the hungry and get to know our Ballard neighbors.

The following volunteer shifts are available:

- **Lead:** meal plan, shop, and direct cooks 2-6pm
- **Cooks:** prepare food and serve – 2-6pm
- **Set Up & Greet guests** – 4-6pm
- **Late Lead** – Ensure clean-up check list is completed; lock and secure building 5:30p-7:30p
- **Serve & Shut Down** – 5:30-7:30pm

One volunteer's experience:

"I volunteer for one simple reason. One bad turn of luck, and that could be me and my family, needing the help of others. And I want to keep the good work that we collectively do to help those in need" – Ballard Sunday Dinner Volunteer

Sign up online at www.tinyurl.com/ballardsundaydinner



Dear Our Redeemer's,

It is with much sadness that I write this thank you note, because it's also a goodbye note. My husband, Justin, was offered an exciting job in the Bay Area, near Redwood City. It's a great opportunity for us and for our two kids, and we're very excited. And we're also very sad. Mingled in my sadness about leaving is my immense gratitude for the ways my family has experienced God's love through this community. Our kids love Our Redeemer's and Justin and I love Our Redeemer's. I am especially grateful for the opportunity to have served as the Social Justice Coordinator. It has been inspiring to work with this community of people doing social justice in the model of Christ. I am sad to be leaving, but I also know the Lutheran world is a small world and I pray our paths continue to cross in the future.

*In Gratitude,
Cara Kiggins*



COMMUNITY



Life Masters! A November servant event... for the life of the world.

And an enjoyable opportunity to offer hospitality, warmth and even possibly make new friends with other servant-minded Lutherans from across our synod and beyond. And, as we learned from the progressive dinner, the Life Masters excel at hospitality!

On November 2nd and 3rd churches from all around the Puget Sound will be delivering truck loads of LWR quilts and kits at Our Redeemer's to load them all into two semi trailers in our parking lot!

Keep the coffee flowing and baked goods table stocked at the LWR In-Gathering:

- Fri Nov. 2nd 8am-3pm (divided into shifts)
- Sat Nov. 3rd 8am-12pm (divided into shifts)

Here's an opportunity for some friendly faces to offer hospitality to all the churches traveling to Our Redeemer's delivery LWR kits and quilts. This hospitality crew will keep the coffee flowing and the baked goods table, stocked! The In-Gathering days are not only inspiring, they're fun! Sign up for a two hour shift online at <https://www.volunteersignup.org/LXFML>

We can also offer our sibling churches hospitality of coffee and cake, breads, and cookies for a brief rest and visit before they turn back around and head the long way home.

Drop off your baked goods by Thurs. Nov. 1st

Madonnas Book Group

TBD

Be on the lookout for the date of the next Madonnas Book Group gathering. We will discuss Call the Nurse: True Stories of a Country Nurse on a Scottish Isle by Mary MacLeod.



Men's Breakfast

Wednesday, November 7 ~ 7am

Patty's Egg Nest

9749 Holman Rd NW

Refresh your spirit with good company, coffee, and pancakes at Patty's Egg Nest.



Young Families Group

Saturday, Nov. 17 ~ 10:30am

On November 17th from 10:30am-1:30pm, we will have a lunch potluck at church for our young families with kids three and under. We will be making hand turkeys, and sharing fun times together. Please sign up to bring something to share on the list in the fellowship hall.



Visit Holden Village in 2019 with others from Our Redeemer's!

Our Redeemer's is heading back to Holden Village next year July 14 through 20. Our maximum capacity is 60 and so far we have 42 people who have expressed interest in attending. If you want to get on the list to ensure a spot, contact Margaret: <mailto:margaretwetter@comcast.net> and let her know how many people are in your party, the number of adults plus the number of children. For information on the village visit: www.holdenvillage.org



Family Movie Night: Incredibles 2

Saturday, Nov. 17th ~ 6pm

What a great way to spend an evening with the family and others in our community. Bring friends, neighbors, and extended family! Kids are welcome to be comfy in their PJs and bring sleeping bags to snuggle in during the flick.

Pizza, popcorn, fruit, juice, salad, and dessert will be provided. A freewill offering will be collected for the meal. Adults are welcome to bring beer and/or wine. Gluten free pizza is available upon request.

Please RSVP by Friday, November 16th if you plan to attend on Saturday the 17th so we know how much pizza to get: contact Holly at 206 909-7204 or hgundack@live.com

If you can help plan/organize/set-up, let Holly know at the above contact info. Especially appreciated would be help with clean-up after the movie. See you there!!

Caring Community Team

Saturday, Dec. 1 ~ 11am

Join the Caring Community Team for their December meeting. It will be at the home of Judy Chambers. Contact Linda Carbone (lindac19@comcast.net) for more info. We will be planning for Blue Christmas hospitality and our ongoing care for hospitalized and homebound members.



CHRISTMAS DATES TO REMEMBER



Sun, Nov. 25	GIVING TREE BEGINS
Tues, Nov. 27	BEER & CAROLS <i>7pm</i>
Sun, Dec. 2	CAROLING W/ PASTOR GRETCHEN <i>1230pm</i>
Sun, Dec. 9	LUCIAFEST <i>5pm</i>
Tues, Dec. 11	TREE TRIMMING PARTY <i>6pm</i>
Sun, Dec. 16	ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT <i>11am</i>
Sun, Dec. 16	CAROLING W/ KAREN LEE <i>1230pm</i>
Thurs, Dec. 20	BLUE CHRISTMAS <i>7pm</i>
Sun, Dec. 23	CHRISTMAS EVE EVE YOUTH PARTY <i>6pm</i>
Mon, Dec. 24	CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY CANDLELIGHT SERVICE <i>4pm</i> CANDLELIGHT SERVICE <i>10pm</i>
Dec. 25-26	MERRY CHRISTMAS! <i>Office Closed</i>



Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is Coming! Every Christmas season, Our Redeemer's hosts a "Giving Tree" in our narthex. The tree is adorned with gift requests from children and mothers from Mary's Place (a nonprofit homeless shelter and day-center for women, children and families) as well as our own Road2Housing guests. It's an excellent thing, to share generosity during the holidays. If you have questions or concerns, contact Paula Hlastala (paulala343@hotmail.com). Happy shopping!



Beer & Carols (w/ Theology on Tap)

Tuesday, Nov. 27 ~ 7pm

Put on that ugly Christmas sweater! Our 4th annual Beer & Carols is on Tuesday November 27th at 7:00pm. The location is TBA, but mark your calendars now! This event is a blast, and you don't want to miss it! If you have a venue you think would be just the place, please contact Pastor Gretchen and give her all the details. pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net



Luciafest: Help bring it to life!

Sunday, December 9 ~ 5 p.m.

Bringing the story of Sancta Lucia to life is a beloved tradition in Sweden, and Our Redeemer's is delighted to bring Lucia's message of light and charity to the community with a traditional tåg (procession), music, food, dancing and costumes. You are invited to join in the fun!

Rehearsals begin Saturday, November 10, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Participation is open to all youth, kindergarten through high school.

If you would like to participate, or learn more, contact Marie Nordquist at lutequist@yahoo.com



Annual Pageant: Sign up now!

Sunday, Dec. 16 ~ 11am

Calling all angels, shepherds, donkeys, and wise guys! The Christmas Pageant is coming! Children are invited to participate at whatever level they are comfortable – singing, reading, hamming it up, or quietly standing. Rehearsal: Saturday, December 15th, 9am-11am! Pageant: Sunday, December 16th, 11am. Please plan to arrive at 10:15am for costumes and things. If your child would like a speaking part, or a solo, please contact Pastor Gretchen ASAP. Sign ups will be in the Fellowship Hall!



Two Caroling Opportunities

Sunday, Dec. 2 ~ 12:30pm (w/ Pastor Gretchen)

Sunday, Dec. 16 ~ 12:30pm (w/ Karen Lee)

The gift of song is one of the best gifts you can give! This year, we have two traveling caroling opportunities in our church family, both leaving from church at 12:30pm.

The first, on Sunday December 2, is lead by Pastor Gretchen Mertes, headed to 4 different retirement communities to share some joy.

The second, on Sunday December 16th, led by Karen Lee and choir members, will be traveling to the homes of our members who cannot be with us regularly in worship due to help restrictions.

Please join us as we give the gift of Christmas carols and fellowship to our home-bound members. It's a special experience to see those we visit smile and to hear them sing along with beloved Christmas carols!

Sign up to join in - families are welcomed in both groups! All ages and singing abilities are welcome!

*Christmas Eve Hand Bell Choir
& Instrumental Ensemble*

All are welcome to participate!



*Bring your instrument or learn to play
hand bells to festive Christmas carols!
Practices are as follows:*

*Saturday, Dec. 8 from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. -
hand bells only; Saturday, Dec. 15 and
Saturday, Dec. 22 from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
- hand bells and orchestra instruments*



*Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church
2400-NW 85th Street
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service,
December 24, 2018, 10:00 p.m.*

*Questions? Contact Karen Lee
karen@ourredeemers.net
Let me know you're participating,
and we'll have a part ready for you!*

MILESTONES

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

THANKS BE TO GOD FOR...

Those turning 90+:

Jim Freyberg, who was born on November 14, 1927, is turning 91 years old!

Penny Fox, who was born on November 21, 1924, is turning 94 years old!

Doug Starup, who was born on November 26, 1927, is turning 91 years old!

The Baptisms of:

Juniper and Iliana Niedner, who were baptized on October 21, 2018! They are the daughters of Joey and Kara Niedner.

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.

This morning in my prayer time I was just overcome with thankfulness for all that you and Our Redeemer's are doing for our friends experiencing homelessness and economic hardship. Truly, your congregation is so welcoming and hospitable- something that Jenn and I experienced, but that same welcome was offered to the gentleman Jenn ended up talking to, and to Jesus that Pastor Kathy mentioned in her sermon. It just felt... kindred being with you for services last week.

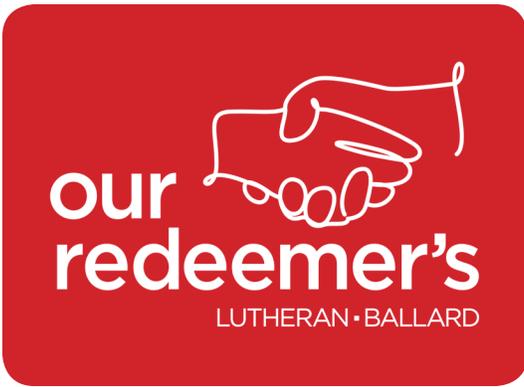
*Jen Manlief
Director of The Bridge Care Center
206-352-3796*

NOVEMBER 2018

SUNDAYS:
 9am - Informal Worship
 11am - Traditional Worship

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1 6pm Centering Prayer & Meal	2 8am - 3pm Lutheran World Relief In-gathering 130pm Folders	3 8am - 12pm Lutheran World Relief In-gathering 9am Traditional Worship Team Meeting
4 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY <i>Daylight Savings Ends!</i> 10am Explore Faith & Justice 10am Adult Forum	5 9am Quilters				6	7 <i>Office Closed*</i> 7am Men's Breakfast 1030am Bible Study 6pm Youth Choir 630pm Children's Choir 630pm Financial Peace 7pm Adult Choir	8 345pm Staff Meeting 6pm Centering Prayer
11 GENEROSITY SUNDAY 10am Explore Faith & Justice 10am Adult Forum 1230 Social Justice Quarterly	12 9am Quilters	13	14 10am Staff Meeting 1030am Bible Study 6pm Youth Choir 630pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult Choir	15 6pm Centering Prayer	16 130pm Folders	17 9am LuciaFest Rehearsal Pie Baking w/ Youth & Young Adults 6pm Family Movie Night	
18 10am Congregational Meeting 10am Explore Faith & Justice 5pm Ballard Sunday Dinner	19 9am Quilters	20 630pm Church Council	21 10am Staff Meeting 1030am Bible Study 6pm Youth Choir 630pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult Choir	22 <i>Office Closed</i> 12pm Thanksgiving Dinner	23 <i>Office Closed</i>	24	
25 10am Sandwich Sunday 10am Explore Faith & Justice 10am Adult Forum	26 9am Quilters	27 7pm Theology on Tap	28 10am Staff Meeting 1030am Bible Study 6pm Youth Choir 630pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult Choir	29 6pm Centering Prayer	30 130pm Folders		

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



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

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Daylight Savings Ends Nov. 4!
Remember to set your clocks back
or else you'll be an hour early to church!
Enjoy that extra hour of sleep.

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Sunday - 9 a.m. (Informal) ~ 11 a.m. (Traditional)
Thursday - 6 p.m. (Centering Prayer)

living
generously



November 11
Generosity Sunday

*Offer your pledge toward God,
God's ministries, and this community we love.*

Return your pledge card
and place it in the offering basket
during worship.