



June 2023



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The Good Newsletter of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church



A Message from Pastor Karsten—Summer Brings A New Feel

What is going on now that summer is here? Summer certainly brings a new feel to the days and for most everyone at least a slight change of schedule. Here at Our Redeemer, you can count on a lot being the same around the summer, but there are some special things that will mark our time over these next months.

Worship this June will have us focused on a four week preaching series around prayer. For most of us prayer is something we can appreciate and maybe even engage in, but something we might also struggle with, like others to do, or even feel some sense of incompetence. Your church Board in May deemed 'being a more prayerful congregation' one of the goals we want to work toward this year. So this June we will explore the gift prayer is meant to bring to life and faith, hear more about prayer work in the church, and try out a few different times/ways to pray. Bottom line is that we hope you will lean into this month with an openness and willingness to become more prayerful. We will encourage a prayer practice to grow over the weeks to help this 'conversation with God' become the source of strength, help, healing, wisdom, praise that prayer offers. Summer is a great time to use this different season for some quiet internal work – let's lean into being prayerful people together.

A note on worship this summer. We will continue in the schedule of the first two Sundays being traditional with the last two Sundays being contemporary. Once a month on the fourth Sunday (June 25, July 23, August 27), we plan to worship out in our back courtyard (weather permitting) as we have the past summers. In July and August on the third Sundays (July 16 – Battle Creek and August 20 – Lake Phalen) we will gather with the other East Side Lutheran churches for worship and lunch together. We are also in conversation with our other host churches (Kingdom Life and Messages of Power) to try having a shared service and meal again in August.

We are looking forward to being a collaborative host for a short term intern this Summer. You will read more about Emilia and her work in focused on congregational care inside of this newsletter. But Our Redeemer will be a part-time site for her to lead and learn as she prepares for a future position as a Deacon in a Chaplain setting. Be ready to meet and engage with her as she begins here in mid-June.

We again will be a host for two youth interns (Caileigh and Calvin) who will work primarily with the Community Sharing program but will also do some other work around the church with our rain garden, vegetable garden, and cleaning out some of our spaces. These youth are employed through the City of St Paul and will be here from mid-June to mid-August.

Want to step into some help around the church this summer? – talk to me about working with Community Sharing, the vegetable garden, reworking space to host Sisu school, cataloging music, assisting with mailings, serving on a Team (Missions, Worship Planning) help with VBS, learning our technology for worship. Our shared work makes for better ministry.

Pastor Karsten



Intern Becky's Blurp

I've graduated with my Master of Divinity AND I still get to work with you through August! Thank you for all your prayers, supportive words and guidance on this journey! I'm so fortunate to work with you Eastsiders!

During these upcoming months, I'll be working to organize our Eastside Collaborative Vacation Bible School (VBS) at the host site of Gustavus Adolphus. **Vacation Bible School is going to be OUT OF THIS WORLD** with the Outer Space Galaxy theme 'Stellar'. **July 16-19** Ages 3 - 5th grade can join us at Stellar VBS! We are working together to put on a GREAT community event that will launch us on an adventure that's light years of faith-building fun! [Click here](#) for VBS Registration for ages 3 through 5th grade.

The VBS "STELLAR: Shine Jesus' Light" will kick off with a potluck on Sunday evening, July 16, at 5:30pm followed by VBS 6-8pm. Monday - Wednesday VBS runs 9am-12pm. Everyone is invited to the Open Table meal with VBS celebration on Wednesday evening 5-6pm. Each church involved (GA, GLC, ORLC, AHLC) is invited to create a special Sunday celebration of VBS. This may include volunteers and or campers sharing their favorite parts of VBS and maybe singing a song with/to the assembly.

VBS Volunteers still needed:

- Actors for daily skits
- Greeters to welcoming parents and students
- Desk Registration help
- Rotation Leaders: Bible storytelling, Snack, Craft/Science Games, Video Station
- Preschool Leaders and Assistant
- Small Group Leaders - taking youth from station to station
- Decoration Team for each of the spaces

VBS Volunteer Training will be offered on June 25th and July 9th near the lunch hour. To sign up to volunteer for VBS, [Click here](#) or use this URL: <https://forms.gle/zhTgRWJ7FA25g8DG7>



Eastside Collaborative Upcoming Events:

- Outdoor Worship Battle Creek Park July 16th hosted by Grace Lutheran!
- VBS July 16-19th at Gustavus Adolphus for ages 3 through 5th grade.
- Unite the Night hosted at Our Redeemer August 2 from 5 to 7:30 with music, games, free food
- Phalen Lake Outdoor Worship August 20 hosted by Arlington Hills!



New Prayer Ministry

Intern Becky has assisted us in reinvigorating our Prayer Ministry. As you hear prayer lifted up in the Sermons this month, please consider how we can assist in your prayer life. We have created a new email address, prayers@orlcmn.org and [Google form](#) that will allow us to anonymously collect prayer requests. This form has just a couple of options of where to direct your prayer (Pastor only, Pastor & prayer team, or with the church), what your prayer request is, and optional contact info. The prayer team currently consists of Becky Sliva, Cherie Kilbride, Dianne Derks, Barb Maynard, Joan Paulson, & Kathi Kirchoff. Please let us know if you would like to join our team in any capacity. Thanks!





June Worship Services—Scriptures & Lectors		
Date	Scriptures (Click on links below)	Lectors
4 11 18 25	<i>During the month of June, we will be providing various prayer/scriptures each week.</i>	Hilary Heinrich Darleen Klemm Holly Forsberg Kathi Kirchoff
<i>If you wish to be a part of our services (lector, technology, musically, faith-sharing), please contact the office.</i>		



**In-person &
livestreaming
services every
Sunday at 10:00 a.m.**
<https://bit.ly/orlcworship>



Deacon Intern to Join Us

We are pleased to find another avenue of collaborative work with our local Lutheran partners. This summer, we have the opportunity to have Deacon Intern **Emilia Hurst** with us and Grace Lutheran for 50 hours and Arlington Hills for 100 hours where she will do some visitation, help better organize our congregational visitation program, work on forming a grief group, and assist with some worship leadership. This is part of her preparation to be a Chaplain. You will have a chance to meet Emilia in mid-June and perhaps have ways your lives will interconnect.

My name is Emilia Hurst and I'll be working with the East Side Collaborative for my deacon internship this summer. I'm a student at Luther Seminary and I just finished up all my class requirements. Part of my internship will be here with the East Side Collaborative Churches and the other part will be in the fall where I'll be working as a chaplain at Abbott Northwestern Hospital. When I graduate I want to work as a chaplain, but I'm always open to where the spirit leads me. I'm from Waupun, a small town in Southern Wisconsin and I went to undergrad at UW-Eau Claire where I majored in Creative Writing. Regarding ministry I'm interested in interfaith work, social justice work, pastoral care and helping people work through deconstruction. As for my life outside of school and ministry I love poetry and hope to publish some of my work someday. I also love leisurely walking through nature, doing crafts like jewelry making and scrapbooking, creating fun makeup looks, reading, listening to true crime podcasts, and watching scary movies. I look forward to getting to know all of you and serving you this summer!



Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

Please plan to join us for our semi-annual meeting on **Sunday, June 26**, following worship. We will hold this meeting in the sanctuary and we will provide updates on our financial status, talk over news around Community Sharing as well as address any questions from the congregation.



June Happenings

1 Rejoice Circle in Cassee's Room	1:00 PM
5 Lives Worth Living in Fireside Room	6:45 PM
12 Quilting in Fellowship Hall	9:00 AM
13 Building Crew in Fellowship Hall	9:30 AM
13 Hope Circle in the Fireside Room	7:00 PM
15 Knitting & Crocheting in Fireside Room	6:30 PM
17 U.F.O. Crafting Day in Fellowship Hall	8:00 AM
19 Lives Worth Living in Fireside Room	6:45 PM
20 Board Meeting in Fireside Room	7:00 PM
26 Quilting in Fellowship Hall	9:00 AM



Weekly Events

Bible Study—Every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room and on Zoom

Men's Bible Study—Every Thursday at 7:30 a.m. offsite

TOPS—Every Monday at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Maplewood Gamblers Anonymous—Every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall (1st Thursday of month is open for guests)

Ways to Give to Our Redeemer



Giving of Your Offerings

- Mail your offering/envelope to the ORLC office: 1390 Larpenteur Ave E, St. Paul MN 55109
- Drop off your offering/envelope in the locked mailbox located near our front entrance.
- Make an online offering at the link www.orlcmn.org/donate, which is also available on the first page of our website (www.orlcmn.org) by clicking the "Make Donation" button. Set up an automatic one-time donation or recurring withdrawals from your financial institution, or by using a credit card. (NOTE: There is a 2% fee to use a credit card.)
- Text 844-871-2328, enter amount in message line, send, and then follow instructions to complete.

Purchasing of Gift Cards

When you purchase gift cards through Our Redeemer's "Bucks for Our Building" program, a percentage of your gift card value is given back to church. Remember—the more you buy, the more our church earns! Email Barb at: bemay1635@gmail.com. Or visit her table on the first Sunday of each month.



Giving of Thrivent Dollars

Are you a Thrivent member? If so, check your Thrivent accounts regularly for *Choice* dollars that may have accumulated which can be designated to Our Redeemer or as you choose. If not, become a member—contact the office for details.

Estate Plan Giving

Consider giving through your estate planning directives. Name ORLC in your will to receive a portion of your assets: IRA, stocks, vehicle, boat, camper, house, etc.

Fundraising

Also, by supporting Our Redeemer's various fundraisers throughout the year!

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Vicki Anderson

Joe France

Judy Koza

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Deb Spencer

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www.orlcmn.org

facebook.com/orlcmn

Please send us your prayer requests to prayers@orlcmn.org

Sisu School Update

Hopefully by the time you get this newsletter we will have heard a final decision by Sisu School as to whether or not they have signed the lease. Their Board is scheduled to meet on June 9. If signed, the next steps would include building a firewall along the nursery and music office wall, adding an internal door, beginning installation of a new fire protection system throughout the church, and tending to necessary room cleaning. We will keep you posted when we find out more information from Sisu.



Doulos 20th Anniversary

From June 6 through June 11, Pastor Karsten and Allen Heimerdinger will be traveling to the Dominican Republic to participate in the variety of activities that will mark this special week at Doulos—their 20th Anniversary. Karsten has served on the Board for the school for 18 of these years and Allen has been the class sponsor for this graduating class. They will be there for graduation on Wednesday night, the open house at the school on Thursday, the dedication of the new land (Karsten preaching) on Thursday night, Friday fun day at the local Young Life Camp (Pico Escondido) with previous staff and the local community, and a special Saturday night program. Please keep them and the school in your prayers.

Mission Trip

This July, we are excited to be sending Caileigh Kilbride along with her mom, Cherie, on the collaborative Mission trip to Memphis that includes youth and leaders from six St. Paul congregations. The trip will include both educational and experiential elements to learn more about current racial inequities and learn from history where Memphis was at the center of the Civil Rights work back in the 1960's and beyond. They will also tend to physical care and assistance with various programs serving people in that area. Keep this group of 21 in your prayers for meaningful learnings and time together.

Congratulations to Tereziana

Please join us in congratulating Tereziana Foray-Wright for graduating from Metropolitan University! See her *Letter of Thanks* below:

My Letter of Thanks

To The Our Redeemer Church Family,

Please allow me to thank our Lord in heaven for allowing us to see another day in our lives. It is by His grace that we are alive and able to share the love that is in Jesus Christ. There is so much power we have in Christ Jesus who have given and shown us so much love—Which you all have shown and given me over the years.

On May 6, 2023, I graduated from the Metropolitan University with a Bachelor of Science in Marketing Major with a Management and Communication Minor. TO GOD ALL THE GLORY IS GIVEN!

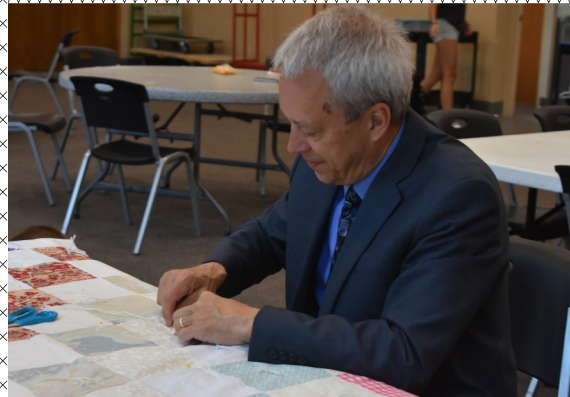


Thank you for all the things you have shared with me throughout the years. Thank you all for allowing me in your space; I thank you all. I have clamped up one step of my life journey through your support. I could not have done this all by myself. I am grateful. I felt loved and sincere around me, and, most importantly, I felt cared for. I say thanks for all the support you've given and shown me.

*Thank you! Thank you,
Sincerely yours,
Tereziana Cautilda Foray*



Blessing of the Quilts Day



Deepest Sympathy to the family of Barbara Howard-Glaeve

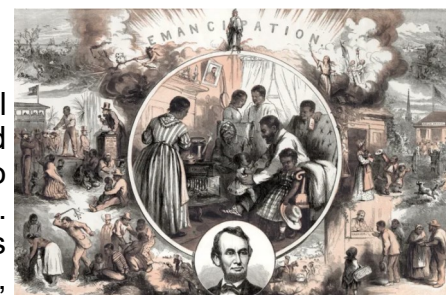
As a reminder, our long-time member **Barbara Howard-Glaeve** passed away on April 28 and her memorial service will be held at Our Redeemer on **Saturday, July 8**, at 11:00 a.m. (visitation one hour prior and luncheon to follow service). Please keep Barbara's family in your thoughts and prayers.



Thank you to each one of you who included me in your prayers and expressed to me your thoughtful concerns while I was going through my series of Parkinson's deep brain stimulation surgeries. Sally and I are truly grateful for our church family. Much appreciative, Rob Kupferschmidt

Juneteenth—End to Slavery—A Federal Holiday

Juneteenth (short for "June Nineteenth") marks the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed. The troops' arrival came a full two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. Juneteenth honors the end to slavery in the United States and is considered the longest-running African American holiday. On June 17, 2021, it officially became a federal holiday.



Illustrated print by Thomas Nast depicting life before and after emancipation. Keith Lancer/Getty Images

Our Website Makeover

Great news! Check out Our Redeemer's new website look! A special thanks to **Dennis Paulson** for his time and efforts—many hours of researching and plugging in the necessary components to make this happen!

Church Directory

It's been a long run, but our Church Directory will soon be in our hands! It is in the final stages at the printer. We will be receiving a draft soon to sign off on and then sent back for final print. A special thanks to **Caileigh Kilbride** who worked diligently in recreating our membership data which was needed for the directory.

Our Daily Bread

Our subscription to *Our Daily Bread* went missing the past three months, but they have since been delivered starting with the second quarter, so you can pick up the June-July-August issue at the Welcome Desk.



2 Randy Luhrs	15 Jeffrey Battey
7 Vince Rodriguez	15 Diana Ersfeld
9 Jeremy Winter	22 Sally Kupferschmidt
10 Adeline Luhrs	24 Russell Kringle

If your birthday is not shown in this month and it should be (or if you prefer your birthday not be announced in the future), please contact the office.



Community Sharing Wednesdays—Drive-Thru FREE Meals and Groceries

We continue our free meals and groceries with much gratefulness to serve our community through our Wednesday Community Sharing program. We serve an average of 200 meals every week. We have around 65 cars and several walk up guests weekly and with homemade meals coming from Loaves & Fishes, and rescue food from the Merrick and North St. Paul food shelves allowing us to provide about \$3,000 worth of groceries. People continue to communicate their appreciation for this help. You can sign up at church or online at <https://bit.ly/loaves-fishes>. Mark your calendar for our **Community Sharing** drive-thru meals and groceries on **Wednesdays** from **5:30 to 6:30 p.m.** **ALL ARE WELCOME!** There are various options for volunteering, so if you can help on a regular or even occasional basis, here are our main needs:



- Wednesdays (approx.) 5:00—6:45 p.m. filling take-out meals, bagging food orders, taking/delivering orders to vehicles in drive-thru.
- Wednesdays (approx.) 12:00 — 4:00 p.m. assisting the chef with food preparation.
- Wednesdays (approx.) 2:00—4:00 p.m. sorting through groceries.

*****WE ARE IN NEED OF EMPTY EGG CARTONS!*****



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
1390 Larpenteur Avenue East
St. Paul, MN 55109

**DATED MATERIAL
DO NOT DELAY**

Address Service Requested