



October 2023



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## The Good Newsletter of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

### A Message from Pastor Karsten—News on the Horizon



I've laid out some good news on our horizon about our renewed focus on prayer, upcoming mission efforts, monthly education series, and annual stewardship drive.

**Prayer Ministry** – With a newly-created Prayer Team, we helped foster a preaching series around prayer during the summer, facilitate a new prayer chain that receives written prayers on Sundays and from our website. We provided an opportunity for people to gather together to pray on the first Sunday of each month following our worship service. One more new thing we will begin is on the third Sunday of the month during Communion, we will have one person sit near the altar rail and pray for the congregation as they come forward for the meal. If anyone would like to kneel in that area, you would receive some individual prayer as well. We are becoming a more prayerful congregation.

**Knowledge Matters** – Sunday, October 8, we will return to having a second Sunday education element for the adults. On this Sunday at 11:15 a.m., we will hear some more about the partnership we have with Tanzania and what is so good about it. This will be a short/wide view of the partnership and provide a special way for us to send greetings when I travel there in November. The second part of this time will be a mini resource fair and sharing about building our life of Prayer. Come for some good informing and equipping.

**Tanzania** – I will be traveling to Iringa Tanzania the first two weeks of November and will be visiting our partner congregation at Kidewa, and making stops at each of their six other preaching points. I am helping to lead this group of twelve that is traveling together and is comprised of folks from six other Saint Paul Area Synod congregations that have a partner – Gustavus, St Timothy in Roseville, St Mark's in North St Paul, Prince of Peace Burnsville, Lutheran Church of Peace in Maplewood and Easter in Eagan. Besides renewing our relationships through staying in the villages for three days, we are also helping to run a program called Day of Grace that brings in pastors and select lay leaders for an evening of workshops and fellowship, then an individual medical check for each person. We look forward to all the good that the trip will bring, and I will come back with plenty of pictures and some new stories to share.



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## News on the Horizon - Continued from front page

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Ahead of this trip, we will be doing a fundraising drive to be able to better help them with their needs. On Sundays, October 8 and 15, you can make a donation that will go to help finish one the churches, help pay for a day of medical care (\$50 for the pastor), buy a motorcycle (\$275), purchase an acre of trees for future use, and train their Evangelists. Your donations go a long way in Tanzania so anything you can share will be appreciated. Be ready to smile big and learn a few Swahili words on October 8 as we will take a congregational photo after worship to share with them.

**Doulos** – Recently Our Redeemer took part in some Dessert Nights that were chances to hear more about the school and the recently purchased land, and consider making a gift to make use of the generous matching gift of \$500,000 that is good until the end of the year. With some members from Our Redeemer attending, as well as members from my previous church, some of my neighbors, and other friends, we will end up sending in close to \$20,000 that will be matched – what a great display of generosity!! Check out [www.doulosdiscovery.org](http://www.doulosdiscovery.org) to get/view more details about the school and the great new site. If you are moved to help, gifts can still be given to me to be passed along.

**Stewardship** – That ship is a'coming at the end of the October and into November. There is so much on the part of God that marks deep faithfulness toward us. And it is out of that faithfulness on God's part that we are stirred and led to our faithful living. Part of that is the call, the invitation, the needs for God's people to be generous. We are praying that this season of stewardship coming up will result in good financial commitments to sustain and strengthen the life and ministry of Our Redeemer. Be ready to join in soon.

*Pastor Karsten*

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## Practical Perspective on Prayer

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Here at Our Redeemer, we have been focusing on being more prayerful people. Just like anything worthwhile, it does not happen overnight and requires some practice. The prayer ministry team will be sharing some insights into how to keep prayer in our lives in a practical way. These monthly articles will highlight a different topic for you to thoughtfully consider.

This past month our readings and sermons have concentrated on forgiveness. So, we want to dig into how we can incorporate forgiveness into our prayer life. The first step is to change your perspective on forgiveness. Forgiveness does not need to be earned: we all deserve to be forgiven. Jesus died on a cross so that we could be forgiven without question!!! So, take that perspective into the world and forgive with reckless abandon. But how does this apply to our prayer life? Take the opportunity to forgive them through prayer. And guess what folks? This applies to you as well!! Forgive yourself! Take time to talk to God and discuss with Him what you need to be forgiven for. Continue to pray for forgiveness for all!

*[See article below on how you can submit your prayers and praises to us.]*

*Prayer Request* 

## Send us your Prayers & Praises Requests

Please continue to send us your **Prayers & Praises!** Pick up a prayer card at the Welcome Desk to provide us with your prayers of concern and joy. This card has a couple of options of where to direct your prayer (Pastor only, Pastor & Prayer Ministry Team, or with the church). Simply place your prayer cards in the offering basket or in the prayer box that is also located on the Welcome Desk. Or, you can email your prayer to [prayers@orlcmn.org](mailto:prayers@orlcmn.org), or through the QR code (shown to the right) that will allow us to anonymously collect prayer requests. These are shared with the Prayer Ministry team, which consists of Cherie Kilbride, Dianne Derks, Barb Maynard, Joan Paulson, & Kathi Kirchoff. If you give permission to share with the church, your prayer will be shown in our bulletin for two weeks and/or in our newsletter. You are also invited to stay after worship on the first Sunday of the month for more group prayer up front by the piano. Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to join our team in any capacity.







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

<b>October Worship Services—Scriptures &amp; Lectors</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Scriptures (Click on links below)</b>	<b>Lectors</b>
1	<a href="#">Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Matthew 21:23-32</a>	Darleen Klemm
8	<a href="#">Isaiah 5:1-7; Matthew 21:33-46</a>	Jim Burke
15	<a href="#">Isaiah 25:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14</a>	Jessica Morgan
22	<a href="#">Isaiah 45:1-7; Matthew 22:15-22</a>	Kathi Kirchoff
29	<a href="#">Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Matthew 22:34-46</a>	Holly Forsberg
<i>If you wish to be a part of our services (lector, technology, musically, faith-sharing), please contact the office.</i>		

## 2023-2024 Music Opportunities

There's still opportunities for anyone interested in joining our music worship team. Rehearsals for handbell choir, sanctuary choir, and worship band are held on **Wednesdays** at the times listed below. I encourage all of you current worship members to invite others to come to rehearsal, especially those who may not feel confident in their musical ability and those who may not attend church on a regular basis. These ensembles are a great place to build community, and your personal invitation may be what gives someone the courage to try something new! If anyone has



questions, feel welcome to contact our Director of Music and Worship, Jeremy Mattson, at [jeremy.j.mattson@gmail.com](mailto:jeremy.j.mattson@gmail.com).



	<b>Handbell Choir</b>	<b>Sanctuary Choir</b>	<b>Worship Band</b>
<b>Rehearsals</b>	6:00-6:50 p.m. on Wednesdays	7:00-8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays	9:00-9:45 a.m. on Sundays
<b>Performances</b>	2nd Sundays	1st and 3rd Sundays	4th Sundays
<b>Experience</b>	All levels of musical experience welcome	All levels of musical experience welcome	Playing an instrument is helpful

## Quilting News

Those quilting ladies have been busy again, (still). Last spring 30 youth size quilts were donated to the Maplewood and Saint Paul Police Officers for their outreach program and to comfort those who are in the midst of a police-needed emergency. The Quilting Ladies have another 35 youth quilts, ready for delivery in anticipation of the approaching colder weather. Quilts are still given out for confirmations, weddings, baptisms, Interns, National Night Out, Alley Shoppe, etc. One of the treasured quilts will be won by some lucky person at the 15th Annual Fine Arts and Craft Sale at ORLC on October 28.

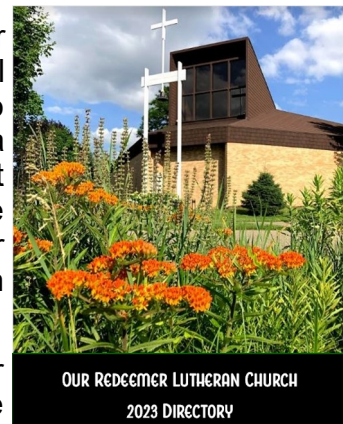
Please consider being part of this fun service group on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 9:00AM until approximately noon, in the Fellowship Hall. The only skills you need are to hold a needle and tie a knot. This helps hold the quilt top, batting and sheet layers together to prepare the quilt tops for hemming. The cutting of squares, piecing, sewing, and hemming of the fabric squares are done by some of the members in their homes. You don't need to bring any supplies as we have enough to share.

Please consider being part of this legacy by joining the fun good conversation and refreshments on October 9 and 23, November 13 and 27, December 11, January 8 and 22, etc. We hope to see you here!

## CHURCH DIRECTORIES - They're here!

Our 2023 Church Directory is available to those who had their photos taken, or who submitted personal photos to be included in the directory. We have a small supply of extra directories that will be available at a later date for a cost of \$10 to those who did not have their photo included but would like a directory--we have a signup sheet for those interested in purchasing one, or you can contact Sally at [office@orlcmn.org](mailto:office@orlcmn.org). A new feature of this church directory is that an app will be available (in 30-45 days) to those interested in having the directory on their smartphone. This app will also allow church staff to update individual's information as needed.

A special thanks to Cailleigh Kilbride, Doreen Winter, and Judy Moe for their assistance with the layout and proofreading. We appreciate everyone's patience through this long two-year process as we met through Covid and other unexpected/expected circumstances.



## God Squad—Ministry Opportunities

There is still time to check out the list of current and new ministry opportunities (a.k.a. God Squad) and send them into the office. Simply indicate which areas you would be interested participating in, or would like more information about before making any commitment.



## Our Redeemer Craft, Fine Art, & Bake Sale

Our Redeemer's Craft & Fine Arts & Bake Sale is taking place on **Saturday, October 28, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** The costs to reserve a spot are: \$25 for one space, \$35 for one space with 6' table, \$30 for one space with 5' round table, and \$2 for electrical outlet usage. To sign up for a space, or for further information, there are forms on the Welcome Desk, or you can contact Claire Sexton at: [clas1249@gmail.com](mailto:clas1249@gmail.com).

Also, we are looking for any of you bakers out there who would be willing to donate baked items for the sale.



October—Regular Happenings		
2	Lives Worth Living	6:45 PM
5	Rejoice Circle	1:00 PM
9	Quilting	9:00 AM
10	Building Crew	9:30 AM
10	Hope Circle	7:00 PM
21	U.F.O. Crafting Day	8:00 AM
16	Lives Worth Living	6:30 PM
17	Board Meeting	7:00 PM
19	Knitting & Crocheting	6:30 PM
23	Quilting	9:00 AM

2023 October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### 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](http://www.orlcmn.org/donate), which is also available on the first page of our website ([www.orlcmn.org](http://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](mailto: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!

## Staff of Our Redeemer

**Pastor Karsten Nelson**  
651-772-2445 x 102  
[karsten@orlcmn.org](mailto:karsten@orlcmn.org)

**Jeremy Mattson**  
Worship & Music Director  
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**Sally Kupferschmidt**  
Office Administrator  
651-772-2445 x 101  
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**Jill Rodriguez**  
Finance Administrator  
651-772-2445 x 101  
[Jill@orlcmn.org](mailto:Jill@orlcmn.org)

**Jim Vansell**, Custodian  
651-772-2445

## Board Members

**Carmen Snaza**, President  
Vicki Anderson  
Joe France  
Judy Koza  
Sharon Peterson  
Larry Pruden  
Beth Renfors  
Deb Spencer

## Contact Information

**1390 Larpenteur Avenue East**  
**Saint Paul, MN 55109**  
**651-772-2445**  
[office@orlcmn.org](mailto:office@orlcmn.org)  
[www.orlcmn.org](http://www.orlcmn.org)  
[facebook.com/orlcmn](https://facebook.com/orlcmn)

*Please send us your prayer requests: [prayers@orlcmn.org](mailto:prayers@orlcmn.org)*



## Bunco Game Night—Friday, October 6

Mark your calendar for another fun night of Bunco Night to be held at Our Redeemer in the Fellowship Hall on **Friday, October 6, 6-9 p.m.** Even if you haven't played Bunco before, don't hesitate to sign up for a fun game night and food. (If you wish, bring a snack to share; a small donation of money is appreciated for food.) In order that we can plan on the number of tables and food needed, please RSVP to Kathi Kirchoff at [kathik717@hotmail.com](mailto:kathik717@hotmail.com) by October 4.

## Rescheduled—Women in Christ Special Event

*Women In Christ Circle* event "Worldly, Wise, Wonderful Women" has been rescheduled for **Saturday, November 4, at 12 noon** in the Fellowship Hall. However, it still features **Joan Paulson** as our Presenter on her role as one of the first Registered Nurses assigned to Vietnam during the conflict. The presentation will be followed by a delicious meal and some Loony Lady antics. Tickets cost \$30\* and can be purchased before Wednesday, November 1, by contacting Kathi Kirchoff at 651-245-3533 or [kathik717@hotmail.com](mailto:kathik717@hotmail.com). Invite your friends and family, neighbors. \*Cost includes lunch, presentation, and lighthearted entertainment.



## Gardening Help

**There's still some help needed in the flower gardens as we wrap up the season of "green." Please contact Carol Rodriguez or the office if you are willing and able to help out.**

## BABY NEWS!

As we are going to print on this newsletter, we just heard the wonderful news about the arrival of **Julian Asher Hinrichs France** on Saturday, September 30, at 9:12 a.m.! Prayer of thanks for the new child of Hilary Heinrich and Joe France! Baby photos to come soon.



1—Lana Larsen	23—Janelle Wong
2—Maria Barrett	24—Cathryn Heimerdinger
7—Jessica Prenzlów-Morgan	28—Steven Keating
9—Shayla Lee	28—Barb Muchow
13—Betty Goodale	30—Caileigh Kilbride
18—Brianna Rediske	Did we miss you?

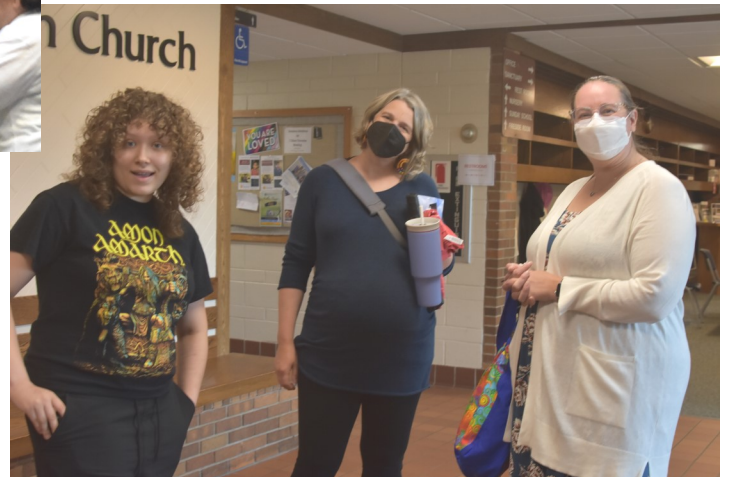
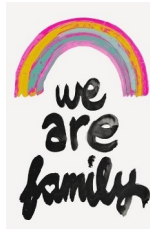
*If your birthday is not shown in this month and it should be (or if you prefer your birthday not be announced in the future), please contact the office.*

## October is Pastor Appreciation Month

October has been observed as Clergy Appreciation Month, the call to honor church leaders' contributions goes back to the time of Apostle Paul. As founder of many of the first Christian churches, Paul enjoined the congregation to give 'double honor' to the elders who managed the affairs of the church. He was especially concerned about honoring "those whose work is preaching and teaching." Paul the apostle also entreated Christian communities to acknowledge those "who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord, and who admonish you." He believed that holding these spiritual leaders "in the highest regard in love because of their work" is crucial to Christian beliefs.

[Hopefully, Pastor Karsten doesn't read down this far in the Newsletter.] Join us on Sunday, October 22, as we honor our Pastor Karsten for his dedication to our congregation for the past 16 years, and also in honor of his 35th Anniversary of his ordination as a Lutheran pastor. Following worship service, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for cake and refreshments. A group card will be made available by Sally to those wishing to sign.







## Community Sharing Wednesdays—Drive-Thru FREE Meals and Groceries

We are grateful to be able to continue providing our free meals and groceries to serve our community through our Wednesday Community Sharing program. We are still averaging about 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 coming from the Merrick and North St. Paul food shelves allowing us to provide over \$3,000 worth of groceries. People continue to communicate their appreciation for this help. To receive meals and groceries, mark your calendar for our **Community Sharing on Wednesdays** from **5:30 to 6:30 p.m.** **ALL ARE WELCOME!** To volunteer, you can sign up at church or online at <https://bit.ly/loaves-fishes>. 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 the boxes of groceries.



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

**DATED MATERIAL  
DO NOT DELAY**

**Address Service Requested**