

You are cordially invited

WHAT: Annual Neighborhood BBQ/Picnic
WHEN: Saturday, August 27 at 4-6:30pm
WHERE: Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church

With summer's end in sight, it is time for our Annual Neighborhood Picnic. Let's make it a real celebration of hospitality! We will eat, play, share stories, and connect with neighbors and church members and visitors. There will be activities for all ages. Let's take time to appreciate the end of summer and beginning of the new school year, current friendships and making of new friends ~ the joy of all our blessings.

Volunteers are the heart of our church events and we welcome you to get involved. There will be opportunities to help no matter how much time you're able to share. We will need many members of the congregation to take on specific tasks. Please consider how your gift of time can make this picnic as welcoming and enjoyable as possible. All are welcome and it's FREE!

More info to come via the Thursday e-news, church bulletins, and social media.

In the meantime, if you would like to get involved, please contact Lynda and Larry Hanson: text 406-461-0606 or lyndahanson1@gmail.com or Sharon and Mark Langdorf: call 406-458-5540 or familylangdorf@hotmail.com.

OUR REDEEMER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH THE VOICE

August 2022



Out with the old ... in with the new ... kind of ...

Usually this is the time in the interim process where I'm writing reports for the new pastor, tying up loose ends, and saying goodbye to a community I've grown to appreciate and love. But from the start, this interim has been different from the other four I've done, as it became more and more apparent that it was a good fit for my gifts and skills. So now you're stuck with me permanently!

Thank you to the faithful Call Committee, who was willing to be true to the set call process *and* deviate from the set call process when they felt the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Thank you to the synod staff, who encouraged me to take the time to discern what was next by completing my mobility paperwork and interviewing with not just Our Redeemer's, and who were willing to bend the rules when they too saw the Holy Spirit at work in new ways.

Thank you to the many, many members of Our Redeemer's who quietly (and sometimes not so quietly!) took me aside and expressed how they saw the Holy Spirit doing new things in this congregation and felt that my remaining would be in everyone's best interest.

And, thank you to the whole congregation for voting to call me as your next lead pastor. I am honored, and excited, and (appropriately) fearful. God has already begun good work with us in the past year, and I know God has plans to continue our fruitful ministry for years to come.

My time as interim pastor will end on August 14. I will return on September 12 in my new role as the lead pastor. In the meantime, Jason Callon has set up some great visiting preachers: former bishop Jessica Crist, current bishop Laurie Jungling, and synod staff Peggy Paugh Leuzinger. I may need to up my preaching game after all the hot shots have been here! There are also several fellowship opportunities during my time away (movie nights on August 12 and 26, summer swim on August 14, a community picnic on August 27), all times to deepen your friendship with one another.

And finally, as we all prepare for a new chapter in the history of Our Redeemer's, *pray*. Pray for the continued presence of the Holy Spirit in this place. Pray for staff who are busy preparing programming for fall. Pray for the Property Development Team as they continue their work with our ministry partners. Pray for the tomatoes and beans and cabbages in the garden. Pray for our incoming preschoolers. Pray for those who are ill and those who grieve. Pray for the work of our quilters, sewers, and knitters. Pray for our neighbors. Pray for our city. Pray for your departing interim pastor. Pray for your new pastor. (See how I got double prayers for myself there...!) *Pray without ceasing.*

Thank you again for welcoming me into your midst. Here's to many years of ministry together!

Pastor Trina Johnsten



OUR REDEEMER'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
3580 North Benton
Helena, MT 59602
406-442-7842

U.S. Postage
PAID
Non-Profit
Organization
Permit No. 96
Helena, Montana

EMBRACED BY GOD'S LOVE WE REACH OUT TO SERVE BECAUSE OUR REDEEMER LIVES

Welcome to our New Members

Phyllis Michelson-Naegele and Tom Naegele

Tom and Phyllis are joining ORLC by way of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, where they were both active for many years, and Phyllis was in charge of childcare for 27 years. Tom has long been involved with the Helena Walk to Emmaus ministry, where he met several ORLC members. His parents were charter members of ORLC. Both are retired, Phyllis from teaching for 37 years, and Tom from the office supply business for 50 yrs. (He and his father owned Naegele's Office Supply, which originally operated as a printing business in Helena from 1889 to 1990.) Tom and Phyllis have been newlyweds since June 19, 2021. They share four children and five grandchildren.



Sonya Amman

Sonya moved here from Palm Springs, CA in October 2021. Her son David, daughter-in-law Melissa and grandson Tobias live in Helena. Sonya was a member of Hope Lutheran Church in Palm Desert, CA where she was a member of the Altar Guild, reader, and usher. She works for the Montana Department of Agriculture. She grew up in South Dakota and is happy to be back where there are four seasons.

Sharon Haugen

Sharon recently retired from the Building Division of the Helena Community Development Department, where she worked with ORLC's property development team members and partner organizations. She has lived in Helena for 30 years and hopes, through her membership with ORLC, to reach out more to Helena and surrounding communities.



Rocky, Anna, Oliver & Joslynn Forseth

Rocky works in the beef cattle and marketing field and has a family connection with ORLC – Lori Swenson is his cousin. Anna is a veterinarian. Both are natives of Montana: Rocky from Fairfield and Anna from Three Forks. Their children are Oliver ('Olie,' 4) and Joslynn ('JoJo,' 3). Olie and JoJo will both attend ORLC's preschool this coming fall.



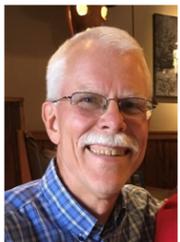
Jill Myhre

Jill is a newly retired special education teacher/director, school counselor, and coach, having worked in Pryor, Montana City, and - most recently - in Baker, Montana. She has two daughters, both of whom were accomplished athletes in high school and college - and four grandchildren. Her hobbies include water coloring, travel, knitting, and sewing.



Dave Mehl

Dave is a retired civil engineer who worked for BNSF railroad for 39 years. His parents were missionaries to Madagascar, during his early years. He lived in eastern North Dakota as a teen. Five years ago, he and Beth, his late wife of 42 years, moved to Helena from Fort Worth, TX. They had always wanted to come back to Montana to retire. They have three wonderful children, Peter, Rebecca (Chris), and Julie. Dave enjoys music, hiking, hunting, volunteering at Food Share, and helping out wherever he can. He believes that everyone needs Jesus, and everyone needs a church home.



The Voice is published monthly as an update on the ministry and mission of

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church

3580 N Benton Ave
Helena, MT 59602
406.442.7842
www.ourredeemerlives.org

Ministry Team

Ministers: **All the People of God**

Pastor Trina Johnsten, Lead Pastor

trina@ourredeemerlives.org

Carol Will, Deacon

Lori Bigwood-Pecarina, Lay Pastoral Associate

Jan Martin, Lay Pastoral Associate

Jeff Martin, Lay Pastoral Associate

Kevin Mathews, Lay Pastoral Associate

Lisa Williams-Mathews, Lay Pastoral Associate

Jackie Bartz, Director of Youth and Family

jackie@ourredeemerlives.org

Liz Swenson, Director of Children's Ministries

liz@ourredeemerlives.org

Jason Callon, Director of Worship and Arts

jason@ourredeemerlives.org

Sarah Magee, Director of Finance and Facilities

sarah@ourredeemerlives.org

Lori Walter, Administrative Assistant

loriw@ourredeemerlives.org

Linda Keim, Organist

Kristine Thatcher, Interim Preschool Director

kris@ourredeemerlives.org

Wendy Vukonich, Preschool Teacher

wendy@ourredeemerlives.org

Alenna Maw, Preschool Teacher

Alenna@ourredeemerlives.org

Joy Novota, Wedding Coordinator

A congregation of the
Montana Synod of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America

Our Redeemer's Church Council

If you have questions or concerns and would like to visit with a council member, please feel free to contact any of us at the following email or phone:

Lynn Voss, President

orlc.pres@gmail.com

(406-459-3939)

Kevin Mathews, First Vice President

kllpmath@msn.com

(406-465-1839)

Cody Salo, Second Vice President

Salo3730@gmail.com

(406-465-4833)

Ingrid Childress, Secretary

ichildress@bresnan.net

(406-431-3344)

Beth Johnson, Treasurer

BJohnson@braunintertec.com

(406-475-5253)

Jan Martin, Past President

jomvallymt@gmail.com

(406-459-3339)

Tom Johnson, Member at Large

tompltsgt@hotmail.com

(406-439-2564)

Clint Mingay, Member at Large

clintm1982@yahoo.com

(406-570-1094)

Carolyn Meyer, Member at Large

carolyn.sierra@gmail.com

(303-513-6695)

Julie Penner, Member at Large

julianne.penner@gmail.com

(406-227-7096)

Tracy Moseman, Member at Large

mtmoseman@hotmail.com

(406-431-4350)

Voice articles due on the 15th of each month

Monday, August 15 @ 5:00pm

loriw@ourredeemerlives.org

Long Term Prayer Concerns

Help us update our Long Term Prayer Concerns list by calling the church office.

Our Members

Phyllis Bauer	Malinda Diamond	Dale Mickus	Jessi Putnam	Adam Williams
Richard Carey	Christine Hoffman	Jim Poore	Verna Strand	
Roberta Carey	Carol Kimble	Vicki Poore	Kim Venetz	

Our Family and Friends

<p>Allie (Luci Pearson) Zachary Ark Brandon Bach Victor Bachmier Lisa Bell (Lynnette Avery's niece) Julie Bliss (Nadine Sim) Steve Boyter Cody Carey (Richard & Roberta's great grandson) Tom Carter Vanessa Chavez (Roberta Carey's granddaughter) Mrs. Coggins (Debbie Hurni's friend) JLD (Gary and Joy Novota) Luke Den Herder Karen Elliot (Chas Elliot's mom) Stormy Flinders The Fox Family (Brooke Sampson) Tom Hammond (Sue Hill's dad) Carter Hasselbach (Friend of the Preschool) Shelby Howke (Amber Lamping) Donna Hurni (Neal Hurni)</p>	<p>Ken Kolar (Carol Kimble's brother) Shawn Kraft and Family (The Arks) Chelsi Kral (Kim & Carl Anfinson's daughter) Larry Kuntz (Dave & Lori Swenson) Jared Larsen (Ruth Reed's grandson) Janessa and Maryssa Martin and Cheyene Bade (Roberta Carey's great nieces) Ricki McDanold (Denise Richards) Sharon McLane Ryan & Abigail McLane) Chris O'Connor (Cheri Goosen's cousin) Laura Oleson (Debbie Hurni's sister-in-law) Elsie Phillips (Teresa Schulz's mother) Jacki Riley (Lori Walter's sister) Evelyn Sabo (Janet Erickson's mother) Carmen Sharp Dorothy Tangen (Craig Erickson's aunt) Ray Lynn Van Oort (Carol Kimble) Doug Williams (Leona Williams' son) Families of suicide victims</p>
---	--

Our Family and Friends Serving in the Military

<p>Chad Beley Lonnie Cook Erin DenHerder Sage Ellis Micah Emmons Jessilyn Emmons Joe Fischer Grant Gagnon Adam Guay</p>	<p>Ryan Girard Austin Grieve Travis Gronley Charlie Heidbreder Roger Henschel Paul Horst Anela Hemry Wade Hemry Cody Johnson</p>	<p>Colton Johnson Corey Longbottom Chance McDowell Kent McGowan Dean McLain Sawyer Linke Erin Mills Brian Neal Keith Nordquist</p>	<p>Chris Oelkers Scott Pocha Courtney Rath Tanner Reddig Cody Stipcich Darrell Stipcich Victoria Stipcich Tait Strom</p>
---	--	--	---

Our Seminarians

Baird Linke
 Shawn Juers

Our Redeemer's Congregation,

Thank you so much for your affirmation of Pastor Trina as our permanent lead pastor. At our July 24th meeting, the vote was unanimous! So amazing to see the love and support our congregation provides and all the great ministries on-going that makes ORLC an inviting place. I wanted to add a special thanks to the Call Committee members: Eric Spangenberg, Eric Meyer, Jessica Salo, Abigail McLane, Gretchen Krumm, Ingrid Childress, Karen Armstrong, and Jacob Yaeger -- "Well done, good and faithful servants!"

Lynn Voss
 Council President

Summer Challenge from Generosity Committee and Council

Summer is traditionally a time when church budgets take a hit. Giving declines as we all take our summer vacations and spend weekends camping. Yet the work of Our Redeemer's goes on, and in some cases ramps up, with Vacation Bible School, the Summer Milk Campaign, and a host of activities for all ages like outdoor movies, and family swim night with other Lutherans in town.

We don't want to lose ground budget-wise at this important time of transition, so the Generosity Committee has issued a challenge to the Council:

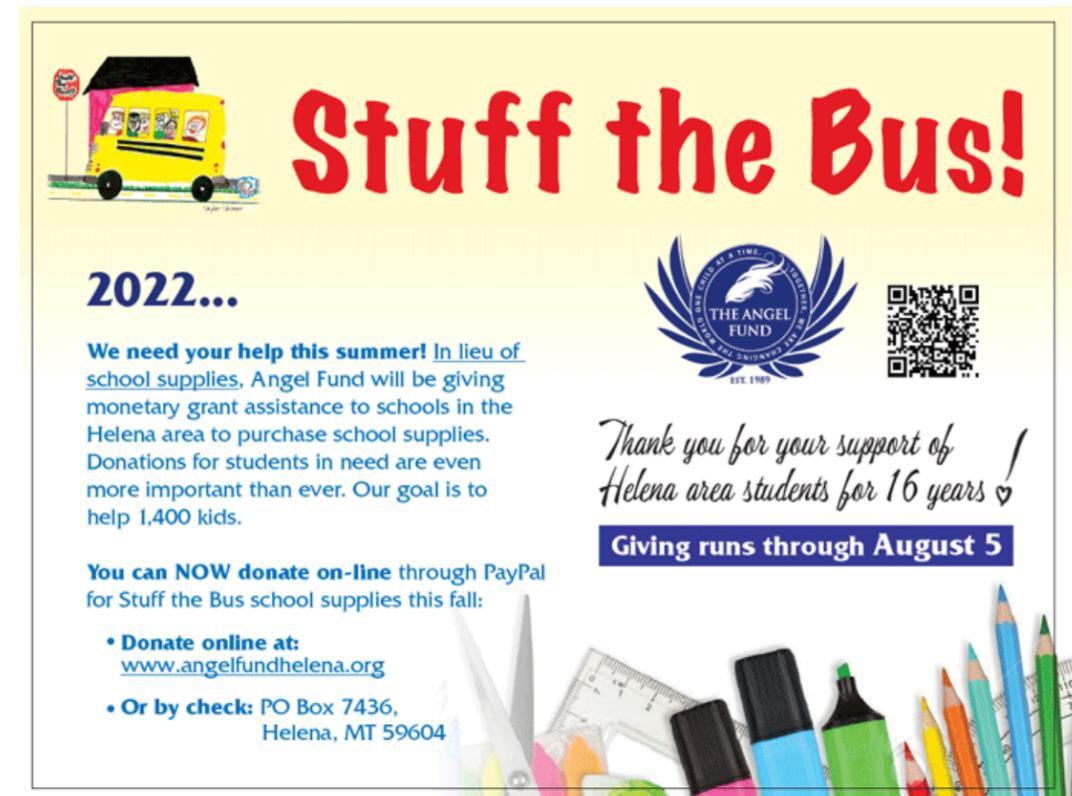
For June, July and August, we members of the Generosity Committee will all increase our monthly giving by \$25-50, AND WE CHALLENGE YOU TO JOIN US!

The Council's response? *We're in! The challenge is on!*

And now we issue that same challenge to you. If you're able, please join us in this friendly contest and support all the wonderful things Our Redeemer's does throughout the year. Grab an envelope on Sunday, mail in a check, or increase your automatic giving. And if you'd like to start weekly or monthly automatic giving, please reach out to Lori Walter in the office and she'll help get you set up.

Thank you for the many ways you support the ministry of Our Redeemer's.

The members of the Generosity Committee and Council



Stuff the Bus!

2022...

We need your help this summer! In lieu of school supplies, Angel Fund will be giving monetary grant assistance to schools in the Helena area to purchase school supplies. Donations for students in need are even more important than ever. Our goal is to help 1,400 kids.

Giving runs through August 5

You can NOW donate on-line through PayPal for Stuff the Bus school supplies this fall:

- **Donate online at:** www.angelfundhelena.org
- **Or by check:** PO Box 7436, Helena, MT 59604

Thank you for your support of Helena area students for 16 years!

Did You Know?

Did You Know... is an idea dreamed up by a bunch of crotchety old guys to take note of some wonderful people in Our Redeemer's who have done some nifty things, (meaning the kinds of things that God likes so much). The idea is to have a few lines in the Voice each month dedicated to someone who has done/ is doing something particularly good for Jesus' sake, especially somebody that many folks might not know about.

Well, you probably did know if you've been hanging around ORLC for a few years. Anyway, the City of Helena assesses residents and businesses a fee/tax for street maintenance, which is included in their real estate tax bill. That's fair enough, since we all use the streets. As a result, ORLC was assessed \$28,900 for street maintenance in 2018. Street maintenance is calculated by applying the street maintenance fee to the number of square feet the business owns. ORLC owns approximately 18.5 acres or approximately 804,550 square feet, which in 2018, amounted to a street maintenance cost of \$28,900. In 2019 our street maintenance fee was a whopping \$48,300, which was more than Walmart paid for their street maintenance fee.

What to do? This you may not have known--- It happened that ORLC had a quiet member who was recently retired from a lifetime of banking. He was very creative and worked with not only consumer and commercial customers, but also city/county governments and elected officials. At Jerry Hoover's invitation, he joined our property committee. He began with quiet conversations with some city commissioners, the city manager and city attorney, other city officials and the

State's Department of Revenue, some of whom understood the plight of a religious organization and their inability to pass the increased cost of street maintenance fees on to their church members. ORLC's "advocate" opened a discussion with city officials and the State of Montana about the possibility to "condominiumize" the church property. (Please note this writer has no clue of the connection between condominiums and undeveloped property.) The city has an exemption to assessing the square foot calculation and using a flat fee, in this case \$206, if the land does not have buildings or fixtures on it, is not fenced or walled and is not used for storage of business inventory or equipment.

In October 2019 ORLC filed a Declaration of Condominium Ownership, separating the church property into two condominium units; Unit 1 for the church "foot print" and Unit 2 being the vacant land. On March 2020 the Department of Revenue recognized our Declaration of Condominium and declared Unit 2 as vacant land for tax purposes.

ORLC's 2021 real estate tax bill from the City of Helena reflected an annualized street maintenance fee for Unit 1 of \$9,173.74 and for Unit 2, \$206.16. A far cry from \$48,300.00.

So, that handy, talented **fellow member of yours**, who was willing to use his talents for us is named **Herb Kulow**. Isn't it great to have fellow members with that kind of talent who are willing to use it for our congregation's sake!



SUPPORT Groups

Grief Support Group



The next meeting of the group for griever will meet on Sunday August 7. The group meets after worship in the Conference Room. If you are interested in participating in the group please contact Jane Peachey at 234-567-1461. Jane is also willing to meet with you or to provide support by phone. She is a retired social worker and bereavement facilitator.

Caregivers Support Group

What is it? A support group for those who are caregivers for loved ones

When will it meet? We will meet on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00pm in the Conference Room.

What will be provided? Caregivers will meet to share experiences and information and pray together.

Please contact Lori Bigwood-Pecarina at 406-672-2470 to indicate interest in the support group.



Preschool Update

Summer is racing by as we are preparing for another year of providing quality preschool in a Christian setting. Very pleased to share that Marie Grissom will be joining our team as the four-year-old preschool teacher. Marie has over seven years of early childhood educational experience. She has taught various monthly themes according to curriculum, as well as an introduction to numbers, letters, colors, first words, the calendar and Spanish. She is looking forward to being part of our program, and we are thrilled to have her.

We are equally grateful to have our three-year-old and Prekindergarten teachers returning this fall, Alenna Maw and Wendy Vukonich, respectively. They are amazing with the children and are also excellent resources.

Our classes are nearly full; just a few openings in the three-year-old's and prekindergarten. If you are interested in enrolling a child or know someone who is; please do so very soon. Registration information is found on our church website under Preschool, or email Kristine Thatcher at Kris@OurRedeemerLives.Org (phone 406-442-7842, ext. 20).

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Kris



Our Redeemer's Lutheran Staff & Servers,
Thank you for making Addy's service a true celebration of her beautiful life. The bulletins were perfect, and the reception was a comforting time to fellowship with friends and family. The personal touches of popcorn and chocolate kisses were so special. Thank you.

In peace,
The family of Addy Selvig

Dear ORLC,

Thank you for EVERYTHING this week! From volunteering to hosting us for meals, you really know how to make a group of counselors feel welcome. Again, thank you for all you do. Hope to see you at camp soon!

Sincerely,

Claire Mary Grey Russell Sammi
Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp Counselors

Dear friends at Our Redeemer's,

Thank you so very much for your thoughts, prayers, and get well wishes during my operation and recovery from open heart surgery in May. I am doing very well though not quite back to full speed which should come with time.

Sending lots of loving thoughts and thanks your way.

Susie Elhart

August Bible Study

The final session of our summer study is "Ties that Bind," where we commit to a new way of life with God and with each other. We will meet August 17 at noon at the Overland Express for lunch followed by the study.

We welcome new members and visitors to join us.

The WELCA Board: August 9 at 10:30am

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief: Tuesdays at 9:00am

Sew in Love Service Group: Thursdays at 9:00am

School Kits

It's the time of year when we collect items for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. Even though we won't be shipping the kits until next spring, now is the time to get them ready while school supplies are on sale. We will be accepting donations in the tub in the narthex from July 24 until the sales end. The following items are needed:

- * 70-sheet spiral notebooks
- * Pencil sharpeners
- * #2 pencils unsharpened
- * 16 or 24 crayons
- * Rulers with both centimeters and inches
- * Blunt scissors
- * Black or blue ballpoint pens
- * 2 1/2 inch erasers

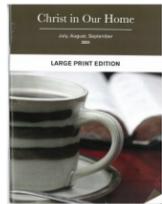
Thank you for helping with this project!

Christ in Our Home

The Christ in Our Home devotional is available on the usher stand in the narthex. Please take a copy and enjoy.

If you need a copy mailed to you, please let me know and I will get it in the mail for you.

Lori Walter
406-442-7842



Coffee hour after worship is going strong. We have missed visiting with our friends, and it feels great to be back together. We will need more cookies for this time of fellowship. Please, bring cookies to the church office, Monday-Friday from 9am - 3pm. Thank you.

**Plymouth Congregational Church's
Helena Community Ping Pong Festival Benefit/Fundraiser
for Afghan Refugee Families and Children of Helena on
Saturday, August 6th anytime between 9am - 1pm,
downstairs in the Fellowship Hall at Plymouth, corner of
Winne and Oakes in Helena.**



**CHILDREN'S
MINISTRIES**

*Keeping our promise,
we teach children to: love God,
love and serve each other,
learn and share God's story.*

Blessing of the Backpacks

Another fall is approaching and it is a time for students to return to school and fall schedules to resume.

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church will have a Blessing of the Backpacks Milestone Celebration on **Sunday, August 28th** at the **9:30am** summer service.

We are inviting **ALL** students (preschool through college) to come with their backpack or school bag. The students will be invited to bring their backpacks forward during worship to have them blessed.

**Please contact Jackie at
Jackie@OurRedeemerLives.Org with
questions.**



KidTime, for children age 3 through 2nd grade, will continue through the summer at the 9:30 service except for Labor Day weekend. Hope to see you there!



KidTime and Sunday School Teachers Needed!

- ⇒ We are in need of a Preschool Sunday School teacher for the 2022-2023 school year. All lessons and materials will be prepared for you!
- ⇒ We are in need of KidTime leaders for the 2022-2023 school year. All lessons are prepared for you!

Contact Liz,
[Liz@OurRedeemerLives.Org!](mailto:Liz@OurRedeemerLives.Org)

**Children's Ministry
Registration Open!**

All children ages 3 (by Sept. 10) through 5th grade are invited to join us every Sunday from **9:45am-10:45am** for Sunday School!

⇒ Please note, this year we will have a separate Preschool Sunday School class for children ages 3-5!

Please follow the link to register for the 2022-2023 Children's Ministry religious educational opportunities OR use the following QR code.

<https://forms.gle/yK1e1bBBCjapQU1TA>



A letter will be sent out to all families with more detailed information, the second week of August.

Contact Liz at
Liz@OurRedeemerLives.Org with questions.





Vacation Bible School 2022




Vacation Bible School was a complete success! We had the pleasure of welcoming 57 elementary aged youth to our church for this fun, faith-centered event. In addition to the campers, we also had over 40 volunteers devote their time and energy to making the week of VBS a great experience for our youth. Finally, we would like to add a special thank you to the 5 FLBC counselors, and Baird Linke who all devoted their time and energy to providing and leading the VBS programming and bringing lots of energy to the group throughout the week.



We are pleased to share that the consultant team has completed the PAR (Preliminary Architectural Report) they were hired to compile to help us plan our site development. The full document can now be accessed from the church website on the Property Development page, which is located under the "Happenings" tab or at the link here [Property Development - Our Redeemer's \(ourredeemerlives.org\)](https://ourredeemerlives.org/Property-Development). You will find that the PAR includes a comprehensive analysis of the housing needs in our community, an analysis of our site and environmental conditions, the proposed master plan for the site, construction estimates, and a proposal for how the development could logistically move forward.

As a part of the planning process, a public meeting was held via Zoom on February 8th, 2022. At this meeting, the consultant team shared the concept for the development, established the desperate need for affordable housing in our community, and the role each of our housing partners is playing in trying to meet that need. The development concept shared at this public meeting showed a total of 131 units in a blend of 1, 2, and 3-story buildings while still preserving open space in the stream setback area in the southeast corner of the site and through the center of the site along the gas line easement.

A variety of public comments were received during the meeting. Some spoke in support of the project, some spoke out against providing affordable housing in their neighborhood, and some neighbors were in support of the concept but reacted negatively to the density and heights of buildings proposed.

The church is committed to the concept of providing affordable housing and sees this work as an outgrowth of our faith commitment. We believe in the right of all people to find safe and comfortable shelter within their means and are eager to welcome income diversity to our neighborhood. At the same time, we want to be sensitive to reasonable concerns from our existing neighbors.

As a result of the feedback received at this public meeting, the consultant team reevaluated the site plan and provided final revisions to the site plan that were published in the PAR as the final recommendation. These recommendations included reducing the overall unit count to 113 units and reducing the heights of all buildings to two stories. The site plan still preserves the southeast corner of the site as designated park land and shows the gas line easement as a public improved green corridor space through the site physically connecting each of the partnering organizations on site. One lot in the southwest corner of the site is proposed for a small community market. Discussions with a group of community organizations engaged in hunger issues have begun to brainstorm funding and organization models for a market that might be a blend of not-for-profit and for-profit food access in this location.

The PAR presents a solid argument for public investment in this project and requests that the City of Helena commit ARPA funds toward this development. Contingent on the receipt of these funds and suitable agreements with the other housing partners, the RMDC board has voted to adopt the role of developer for the project. Our consultant team will be presenting the project to the City-County Joint Work Session on August 2nd to formally request public investment.

These are all very exciting advancements toward the goal of developing our site for affordable housing. The future opportunities a development like this could bring to our congregation are potentially transformative, providing many new ways for our church to engage in community service and outreach.

Attending: Pastor Trina Johnsten, Lynn Voss, Kevin Mathews, Cody Salo, Jan Martin, Beth Johnson, Tom Johnson, Clint Mingay, Julie Penner, Tracy Moseman, Ingrid Childress, Sarah Magee, and Craig Erickson. Excused: Carolyn Meyer.

Lynn called the meeting to order at 6:05. Pastor Trina provided a devotion and opening prayer.

Financial Report Review

Sarah gave the June Financial Report that showed receipts for the General Fund at \$40,251, which is \$9,189 more than June 2021. Building Fund donations totaled \$9,690, which is \$3,134 more than June 2021 but less than the 2022 plan (monthly mortgage). Before making benevolence or Mission Investment payments, we have a positive cash flow of \$18,872.51.

Council decided to pay the May Council Funds and the May and June Building Funds to Mission Investments and pay the April Synod benevolence.

Sarah reported on issues with the air conditioning unit in the Sanctuary. She was tasked with contacting Tri-County to inquire about setting up the Sanctuary on a direct thermostat. She will also check with other experts for their advice.

Craig Erickson, chair of the Generosity Committee, was a guest of the Council and reported on the committee's work to date and plans for the future. The good news is that giving and worship attendance are trending up.

It is encouraging and energizing.

Committee members are in the process of contacting congregation members to ask for their continued support for the building fund. The committee is exploring stewardship approaches beyond the annual "October Pledge Drive ." Conversations with the Council will continue.

Fall Program planning is ongoing with Pastor Trina and staff. It looks as though Youth programs and Confirmation will continue on Wednesday evenings. Special event activities for younger kids and families will be scheduled several times throughout the school year.

Cody Salo reported that the Final Project Report of the Property Development has been posted to the website.

The plan makes some density and height limitations adjustments to accommodate community concerns. When the City budget meeting is held, Gretchen Krumm and Cody Salo will make our official presentation with our partner agencies. RMDC Board agreed to serve as Project Developer, which is very good news. They have experience with similar projects and have a vested interest in its success.

Marie Grissom has been hired for the 4-year-old preschool class. The next Preschool Board meeting will

be on August 8 at 6:15pm. Tracy agreed to serve as the Council and Church representative on the Board.

Kevin explained that the Hospitality Team is seeking a broader vision for their work - Outreach, and Welcome.

Kevin shared their Vision Statement:

Make all feel welcome and invited to join the people of ORLC in experiencing God's healing, life-giving grace and in responding by worshiping and serving in Jesus' name. They seek to foster and support a culture of outreach and connection. The neighborhood picnic is scheduled for August 27.

The Perpetual Fund trustees approved the Perpetual Fund grant application to purchase and install acoustic panels in the Sanctuary designed to improve sound quality for hearing the Word. The Source of the funds is the ORLC Perpetual Fund General Fund interest earnings.

No changes were made to the church's Covid protocols. Masks will continue to be available.

A replacement for the current phone system is still in the works.

The Audit Team for the year 2021 will consist of Jeff Martin, Shauna Helfert, and Mike Burke. Their work will begin in the fall.

New Business

The Congregational Meeting to vote on calling Pastor Trina Johnsten as ORLC's permanent Lead Pastor will be on Sunday, July 24. The Congregational meeting will be held in the Sanctuary to accommodate participation by members via Zoom (now allowed by Roberts Rules of Order). Pastor Trina's start date is estimated to be September 12, 2022. Any necessary action items will be addressed at the August Council meeting.

Steps to begin the next call process for an Associate Pastor will start in the fall. Nominations will again be sought from the congregation.

Sharon Haugen and Del Schubring were appointed to the Property Development Team. Both bring valuable experiences to the process.

Lynn reported that the annual Musikanten Montana concert would be held at ORLC on November 1, 2022. Jason and Sarah will work with them to follow our Building Use Policy.

Nelson Bock brought a church lighting proposal to Lynn for the Council's consideration. Lynn will invite Nelson to meet with the Council at the August meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Ingrid Childress
Secretary

Youth and Family Events

THIS SUMMER!!

Summer Swim Night

Who: All are welcome!

What: Join us for swimming and fun. Bring the whole family (and a swim suit!)

When: August 14th @5pm-7pm

Where: The East Helena Swimming Pool

* Jackie

(Jackie@OurRedeemerLives.Org)
with questions!



Summer Outdoor Movie Nights

Movie: The Mighty
Ducks

When : August 12th @ 9



Movie: The Lego
Movie

When: August 26th

All Outdoor Movie Nights take place in the ORLC courtyard. We will provide movie snacks—bring a blanket and chairs! Contact or Jackie with questions.



HOLY COMMOTION!

Wassup with our youth?



Stay connected this summer and join Jackie and the crew for some fun activities! Mark your calendars and join us for these FREE summer fun events! **All ages** are welcome to join in or just sit back and enjoy the fellowship! Bring your friends!

August 12 & 26 - Outdoor Movie Nights in the Courtyard

Bring your blankets and lawn chairs and enjoy a nice summer's evening outside watching a movie with your family and friends. We will have popcorn, water and lemonade for all to enjoy throughout the evening. Movies start at sunset!

*August 12: *The Mighty Ducks*

*August 26: *The Lego Movie*

August 14 - Family Swim Night

Need a quiet but fun night to cool off? Join ORLC and St. John's for swimming at the East Helena Pool from 5-7pm!

Want to know what's the latest happenings with Safehouse?!

Follow ORLC Safehouse on Facebook to be in the know! And if you are in need of quick text reminders about Safehouse events and happenings, you can sign up for quick text updates and reminders by texting **@safehouse2** to **81010**.



Also, email Jackie at Jackie@OurRedeemerLives.org to be added to the monthly Safehouse E-news.



CONFIRMATION UNIVERSITY

All Middle School students are invited to enroll in Confirmation University (CU). CU is a confirmation model that:

- Allows kids to complete confirmation requirements when they have scheduling conflicts with other activities
- Provides more options for kids to learn how they to fulfill their baptismal calling using their gifts and interests by enrolling in electives
- Allows for more meaningful interaction between the generations of our congregation

CU classes take place from 7:00-8:00pm on Wednesday evenings from September through April.

To register, please fill out the online form:

<https://forms.gle/VQU5VxGPdiuAwuVK6>

If you have questions, please contact Jackie Bartz at Jackie@OurRedeemerLives.org or Liz Swenson at Liz@OurRedeemerLives.org



Safehouse:

High School Youth Group

High school youth, do you ever wish that there was a place that you could be yourself; a place where you could talk about your fears and your struggles and ask tough questions; a place to form lasting friendships and where you are accepted for who you are? Then Safehouse might be the place for you!

We will meet Wednesdays @ 7:00-9:00 pm in Youth Loft following worship from September to April.

Join us for fun, food, fellowship, and faith sharing. Invite a friend! All are welcome!

To register, please fill out the online form:

<https://forms.gle/VuQYXc6MZk1j9FLT8>

If you have questions, please contact Jackie Bartz at Jackie@OurRedeemerLives.org

HUNGER TEAM NEWS

Kendra Wilde Hunger Endowment Fund

Second quarter earnings from this fund netted \$267.84. The Hunger Team decides how to disburse these funds each quarter. This quarter's funds will be given to God's Love to assist in providing for the overwhelming number of guests they now serve. Inflation and bad weather early in the summer have greatly impacted their services. If you wish to donate to this endowment fund, simply write a check and designate Kendra Wilde Hunger Endowment on the memo line.

Hungry Kids Really Need Your Help

As of mid-July, the summer milk campaign had raised almost \$2000. However, that is far short of our \$6000 goal. These funds purchase milk for the Kid Pack program at Helena Food Share. Each dollar donated between now and August 31 will be matched by a local foundation. If we reach our goal (as we have for the last several years), we can provide all the milk for the upcoming school year. But we need your help to do so.

How can you help? Bring in those milk bottles full of coins or checks. Put your check in the offering plate, designating "Milk money" on the memo line. Or donate online at www.ourredeemerlives.org. You will find a special item for Milk Money at that site.

And "THANK YOU" for all you do for hungry kids in our community. All of you are amazing!

Our Productive Garden

Have you checked out the Community Garden recently? It's becoming quite productive, in spite of chilly temperatures in June, hail, and thunderstorms. Stop by some morning to hear the meadowlarks singing and the chickens clucking. And if you wish to lend a helping hand, feel free to pull those weeds that have blossomed or gone to seed and place grass mulch on the beds. The Hunger Team can always use extra hands in the garden to assist in maintaining and harvesting the beds for Helena Food Share. If you have questions or wish to help, please contact Vicki Downhour (greenxena@msn.com, (406) 465-2197) for more information.

Thank You for Supporting God's Love

What a blessing to belong to a church where people willingly lighten the burden for so many. You continue to overflow that God's Love hamper almost weekly. It is always overwhelming to see and amazing all at the same time. A huge shout out of thanks, gratitude, and love for all the Vacation Bible School campers! They raised \$312.52 for the God's Love shelter. WOW! Praise the Lord! And, in addition to this amount, the Kendra Wilde Endowment Fund is donating an additional \$267.84 to God's Love. This money will be put to great use as the needs are never ending. Hunger Team thanks you for your continual support. This month we are giving our deepest thanks to our Vacation Bible schoolers and Kendra Wilde for choosing to make a difference in the lives of so many. We are blessed!



August Birthdays!

Remember our friends in Christ with a Birthday prayer!

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>1 Clay Perry
Bill Schulz
Lloyd Teigen</p> <p>2 Reese Wickens</p> <p>4 Kari Brekke
Carson DesRosier
Carter Mummey
Cody Vukonich</p> <p>5 Ellen Dodds
Nora Richards</p> <p>6 Ben Vukonich
Kenzie White</p> <p>7 April Gronley
Daniel Hill
Judy McMaster
Rob Williams</p> <p>8 Dodie Heffner
John Steinhoff</p> | <p>9 Beth Barry
10 Caroline Burke
Erik Goughnour
Sue Hill
Deena Verworn
Eli Voss</p> <p>11 Charlotte Neill
Steve Wade</p> <p>13 Kimber Michalson
Dorothy Morrison</p> <p>15 Alayna Boe
Rose Oelkers
Dan Wickens</p> <p>16 Max Cover
Pat Lynch</p> <p>17 Clint Mingay</p> <p>18 Ray Brekke
Carla Cronholm
Mona Erb
Florine Hart</p> | <p>19 Dorothy Cail
Joslynn Forseth
Madilyn Lamping
Alyssa Magee
Amy Mingay</p> <p>20 Monroe DeVerniero
Hildegard Fohnagy
Cort Jensen
Bryce Sampson</p> <p>21 Violet Lawton
Joe Ruby</p> <p>22 Janay Buckley
Kathy Gessaman
Brady Martin
Morgan May</p> <p>23 Doug Ferris
Pam Strand</p> <p>24 Amanda Hill</p> <p>25 Noah Hemry</p> <p>26 Byron Dike</p> |
|---|--|---|

SERVANT ADVENTURE LEADERSHIP TEAMS 2022

@ LUTHER HEIGHTS BIBLE CAMP, IDAHO
JUNE 26-JULY 1, 2022



ESCAPE ROOM



HORSEBACK RIDING



LOW ROPES COURSE



SPELUNKING



In lieu of the ELCA National Youth Gathering being canceled, some of our youth decided to team up with youth from Christ the King in Bozeman and participate in Servant Adventure Leadership Teams (SALT) at Luther Heights Bible Camp in Idaho. We adventured in horseback riding, white water rafting, spelunking at Craters of the Moon, conquered an Alien Escape Room, traversed low ropes course, and learned all about God: Boundless Beyond Measure in Bible study, worship, and service. So proud of this crew for trying a new camp, leading worship and being wonderful examples to other campers. I couldn't have asked for a more kind, caring, and big hearted group!



WHITE WATER RAFTING



WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY

HOSPITALIZED? LET US KNOW...

We have a caring group of individuals who are happy to visit hospitalized members. The hospital staff is not currently asking religious preference or church membership on admission. Please notify the church office if you, your family, or friends are hospitalized. We want to be a part of your healing process.

Sharing a Prayer on your Anniversary

Happy Anniversary
Celebrate with those married 40 years or more this month!

Toni & Jerry Guay	8/8/1980	42 years
Mike & Vonda Dyr Dahl	8/24/1979	43 years
Ralph & Julie Peck	8/9/1975	47 years
Glenn & Janet Erickson	8/9/1969	53 years
Terry & Linda Young	8/10/1968	54 years
Herb & Diana Kulow	8/20/1966	56 years
Pat & Linda Keim	8/30/1964	58 years
Scott & Nedra Brown	8/30/1963	59 years

Come to The Water

Baptism Class at Our Redeemer's

Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters.

Interested in baptism? Please let Pastor Trina know! We offer a one-hour session during which we discuss what Lutherans believe about baptism and go through what happens in the baptismal rite. These sessions are scheduled at a mutually agreeable time. Pastor Trina can be reached at trina@ourredeemerlives.org or 406-442-7842.

Deaths

6/9/2022 Addalyn Rose Selvig

August

2022

AD = Administrative Wing
 CR = Classrooms
 PS = Preschool
 HS Loft = High School Loft

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
	1	2 9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief
7 9:30am - Worship + KidTime 9:45am - Grief Support Goup	8 6:00pm - Preschool Board - Sewing Room	9 9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief 10:30am - WELCA Board - AD-1 6:30pm - Executive Committee meeting - Conference Mtg.
14 9:30am - Worship + KidTime 5:00pm - Youth & Family Swim Night - East Helena Pool	15 Voice Articles Due	16 9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief 10:00am - Worship Service @ Touchmark 6:00pm - Council Meeting - Community Rm
21 9:30am - Worship + KidTime 5:00pm - Family Promise Service Project ***** Family Promise Week ***** August 21—28 *****	22 5:00pm - Family Promise Service Project 7:00pm - Caregivers Support Group - Conference Rm	23 9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief 6:30pm - Hunger Team - Conference Room
28 Blessing of the Backpacks 9:30am - Worship + KidTime	29	30 9:00am - Quilting for Lutheran World Relief

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4 9:00am - Sew In Love	5	6 9:00am - Ping Pong Fundraiser - Plymouth Congregational Church
10	11 9:00am - Sew In Love	12 9:00pm - Outdoor Movie Night 	13
17 12:00pm - Combined Circle Bible Study - Overland Express	18 9:00am - Sew In Love	19	20
24 1:00pm - WELCA combined Bible Study - Great Room	25 9:00am - Sew In Love	26 9:00pm - Outdoor Movie Night 	27
***** Family Promise Week ***** August 21—28 *****			
31			