

THE REDEEMER RECORD

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July/August 2022



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Rev. James Erlandson, Pastor

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Pastor's Letter

Dear friends,

About 28 years ago, I was called as pastor of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer - in the summer. Kim and I brought our oldest two children, Lisa and David, to Redeemer in August of 1994. We arrived in time for Vacation Bible School, in which our kids could participate - when we could meet families from Redeemer and children from the community. This was our choice, and over the years we enjoyed raising our children here in this diverse congregation.

Less than a year later, our daughter Amy was born, and two years later, Lori came into our lives. All of our children grew up participating in VBS, Sunday School, serving as acolytes and torchbearers, singing in the Cherub, Children's and Youth choirs, and eventually Confirmation and ELCA Youth Gathering trips.

This summer, on Saturday, July 2nd, Amy will be getting married at Redeemer to Ben Kerswell, whom she met at St. Olaf College and got to know in the St. Olaf Choir. She is our third child married at Redeemer, in the hottest months of the year, of course! By the time you read this, Amy and Ben will already have been married, and will prepare to return to Houston, Texas, to their respective music teaching and organ studies. But I say this to emphasize how time flies, as our children grow, and we have all become older. Things change, and our children move on into lives of their own, with a strong connection and hopefully fond memories of their time growing in faith at Redeemer.

Some things have changed in the Church, of course. We no longer have so many children here, and we haven't held VBS or Sunday School regularly for several years. But some new ministries and community relationships have arisen.

After a two-year hiatus because of COVID, the Songs of Hope international youth choir will sing at Redeemer outside in the parking lot again, on Thursday, July 28. We now have Narcotics Anonymous support groups meeting every evening Monday through Friday, year-round. We share our space with Praise Covenant (African) and Universal Life (Hmong) churches on Sundays, and host offices for Rebuilding the Village and Urban Partnership local non-profit ministries. And this year we have opened our sanctuary to Walker-West Music Academy for recitals, special events and rehearsals at Redeemer, as well as other music ensembles such as the Bach Society of Minnesota. So God continues to transform us.

Yes, much has changed at Redeemer, but our Sunday worship ministry continues, along with our excellent musicians and choir. This summer we take a sabbath from our full music ministry, but we look forward to the season ahead of uplifting music and hymn-singing that inspire us to our daily witness of love to the community and world around us.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Jim Erlandson



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Every Sunday our 10 am worship is in-person, and live streamed on YouTube.

COMING EVENTS

- **Amy Erlandson/Ben Kerswell wedding, July 2 at 3:30 pm** - Redeemer friends are welcome to attend the ceremony. Family reception is by invitation.
- **Songs of Hope** will be back! Save the date - **Thursday, July 28, at 6:00 pm.**



Our June Church Vestry meeting was opened at 7:03pm by Ruth on June 14, 2022 on Zoom with prayer. The Vestry invited all to continue to mask during worship to help protect the vulnerable so long as the reported covid risk level is above green.

The Vestry thanked Pastor Jim and his music group for the funds raised by their Jun 11 music program. This brings the amount donated for the new piano to almost half of the \$10000 goal.

The Treasury at the end of May had an overall balance of \$72594 with \$58920 remaining due on our mortgage and \$27300 due Langer for our roof repairs and Center for Energy for lightings. There will be a plan to replenish the benevolence account which is now almost \$1000 in deficit. The Vestry approved raising Church Secretary Tahnea's hourly rate of compensation from July 1 by an appropriate amount due to rising cost of living and since no increase was included yet for 2022.

The Vestry will apply for another \$250 Thrivent card to support the Songs of Hope program on July 28.

Ruth adjourned the meeting at 8:24p.

The next Vestry meeting will be held on Aug 9, 2022 on Zoom.

SUMMER SCRIPTURES & READERS

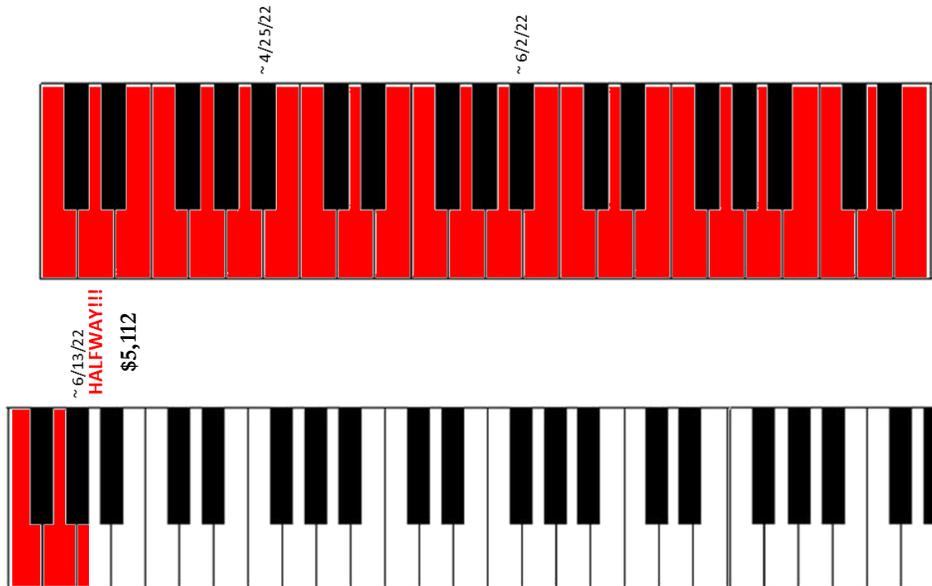
We invite members and friends of Redeemer to read the appointed scriptures for each Sunday. This is a meaningful way to prepare for worship. It also binds us to our homebound sisters and brothers who we also encourage to read the same scriptures weekly.

July 3	Joan Foreman
July 10	Lyle Nelson
July 17	Stephanie Stoessel
July 24	Jonah Hacker
July 21	David Dufresne

	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
July 3	Isa 66:10-14	Ps 66:1-9	Gal 6:[1-6] 7-16	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
July 10	Deut 30:9-14	Ps 25:1-10	Col 1:1-14	Luke 10:25-37
July 17	Gen 18:1-10a	Ps 15	Col 1:15-28	Luke 10:38-42
July 24	Gen 18:20-32	Ps 138	Col 2:6-15 [16-19]	Luke 11:1-13
July 21	Eccles 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23	Ps 49:1-12	Col 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21
Aug 7	Gen 15:1-6	Ps 33:12-22	Heb 11:1-3, 8-16	Luke 12:32-40
Aug 14	Jer 23:23-29	Ps 82	Heb 11:29—12:2	Luke 12:49-56
Aug 21	Isa 58:9b-14	Ps 103:1-8	Heb 12:18-29	Luke 13:10-17
Aug 28	Prov 25:6-7	Ps 112	Heb 13:1-8, 15-16	Luke 14:1, 7-14

Brodmann Piano Fundraiser

OUR GOAL: \$10,225
Can we "complete the scale"?



\$115 buys one "key" but any size donation is gratefully received!

Please write checks to "Lutheran Church of the Redeemer" and "Piano Fund" in the memo line.



Thank you for helping to make the 60 Something Band rock show and piano fundraiser a great success on June 11th!

If you are in the band, thank you for your gift of music! Thank you to Kim Tann and those who helped cook, serve, set-up and clean up.

If you gave a donation to the piano fund, we raised \$2,318! Thank you!

Pastor Jim Erlandson



Get Our Children Off to a Good Start!

School's out — but we're preparing for the fall with our annual School Tools drive! This year, we will collect school supplies (new backpacks, notebooks, scissors, and other essentials) on Tuesday, August 16, at our new delivery day location: **St. Paul's United Church of Christ (900 Summit Ave, Saint Paul, MN 55105).**

Nine programs and agencies (including our own Project Home and Department of Indian Work) are the recipients of this drive. They will distribute supplies to children and their families to equip them with the tools they need to be successful in school. If you have further questions about the materials or the drive, please contact our Congregational Engagement Coordinator, Rev. Phil Romine, 651-661-9350.

HELP STUDENTS FROM FAMILIES WITH LOW-INCOME START SCHOOL WITH THE TOOLS FOR SUCCESS.

This drive is an easy way to join together with area faith communities and organizations to help children in our community who are affected by poverty.

Each year, we collect new backpacks and school essentials to benefit children from families with low-income who are served through nine different programs in Greater Saint Paul. Annually faith communities, businesses, and individuals collect more than \$20,000 of school supplies to fill hundreds backpacks!

Supplies Needed

- Backpacks
- 3-ring binders, loose-leaf paper and folders
- Calculators
- Spiral and composition notebooks
- Pencils, pens, markers, colored pencils, crayons, erasers, highlighters, pencil sharpeners
- Glue sticks & bottles
- Scissors & rulers
- Facial tissue
- School boxes
- Hand sanitizer
- Reusable masks

Get Involved

- Host a drive with your faith community or organization.
- Help deliver and sort items on delivery day.

Donate

We use monetary donations to purchase needed supplies not collected at the drive. Give online and designate "School Tools" in the text field, or send a check payable to Interfaith Action with "School Tools" in the memo line.

Redeemer in Review . . .

60's Somethings Band 6.11.22



Walker West Music Academy 6.23.22



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