

# THE REDEEMER RECORD

Vol. 112, No. 1

January, 2017



## LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

**Rev. James Erlandson, Pastor**

285 North Dale Street, St. Paul, MN 55103

651-227-8295

[www.redeemerstpaul.org](http://www.redeemerstpaul.org)

Tahnea Brown, Office Manager

Dr. Jon Campbell, Music Director

Katie Thompson, Organist

## **A Letter From Pastor Erlandson**

Dear friends,

As we close out the calendar on 2016 and begin a new year, we reflect on the past year and look forward to beginning another. Our reflection may be a mixture of sadness, regret, satisfaction and accomplishment. In many ways we have probably fallen short of our own expectations, but have also experienced joy and moments of renewed hope. For those times of falling short, we ask for forgiveness, and discover again the power of God's forgiveness. We resolve to "do better", and ask for God's guidance.

We enter the year 2017 with hope and expectations, but also with some fear for what the future will bring. The national political climate has made some fearful of the changes that may be coming, if campaign promises are kept. What will happen to undocumented immigrants, or persons of other faiths – if words spoken out of ignorance or anger turn into legislation or action? Will "we the people" be able to continue to hold things together for the common good, when there is so much divisiveness, hostility and suspicion?

This is a challenging time for the world, our nation, and the Church. While we are committed to remain nonpartisan in politics, we are also bound by faith to *"love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, and your neighbor as yourself."* We are bound to the values of our faith, which include following Jesus in compassion for those who suffer, to break down the barriers that would divide us, to care for *widows, orphans, and all who are vulnerable*. Indeed it is a "good time to be the Church", as our faith is challenged today in ways that we might not have imagined in previous years.

For who would have imagined that we in the Church would ever have to "go public" in the community with our commitment to "stand with undocumented immigrants" and offer sanctuary in our churches to those who are faced with deportation? We hope and pray that it does not come to this, but part of our witness to the world is to declare our willingness to make sacrifices and give sanctuary out of love for God and neighbor. The first line of defense against mistreatment and injustice of others is our voice and our example of faith.

In the past Lutheran Church of the Redeemer has been a place where immigrants from many nations have come to worship in a new land. More recently we have offered our church undercroft as a place for families experiencing homelessness to sleep in safety and warmth, until they could find a home of their own. We have shared this ministry with many other congregations through Project Home- et. The new sanctuary movement is just another step in our journey of faith, in which we hope no family faces deportation or fear, for the "crime" of being "undocumented". We will speak out boldly for the need of a path to citizenship, and the repair of our broken immigration system. The last resort would be for our churches to be sanctuaries for families at risk, but only if our words and our efforts fall short of what we hope to accomplish: a community and nation where all families can live in safety, without fear.

*"Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you...For I was hungry and you gave me food, thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you gave me clothing, sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me." (Matthew 25:34-36)*

Indeed it is a good time to be the Church. And it is critical that we act as the Church, with faith, hope and love, as a witness to the world. May God give us strength and faith to be true disciples of Jesus Christ.

*Pastor Jim Erlandson*

## January Calendar

### Recurring Weekly Events

Sun.	10:00 am ~ Worship
	11:15 am ~ Coffee Fellowship
	12:00 pm ~ Universal Life Church of God
	12:00 pm ~ Praise Covenant Church
Mon.	4:00 pm ~ Shakespearean Youth Theatre
Tues.	4:00 pm ~ Shakespearean Youth Theatre
Wed.	7:00 pm ~ Senior Choir
	8:00 pm ~ Courage to Change N.A.
Thur.	6:30 am ~ Prayer & Meditation A.A.
	4:00 pm ~ Shakespearean Youth Theatre
Fri.	4:00 pm ~ Shakespearean Youth Theatre
	8:00 pm ~ Words into Action N.A.
Sat.	8:00 am ~ Siloé Church
	1:00 pm ~ Shakespearean Youth Theatre

### Other Events

1st	10:00 am	First Sunday of Christmas
<b>2nd</b>		<b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b>
3rd	7:00 pm	Vestry Meeting
5th	10:00 am	ISAIAH Clergy Meeting
	11:00 am	Women's Guild Meeting
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>ISAIAH Sanctuary Training</b>
8th	10:00 am	Baptism of Our Lord
10th	7:00 pm	Elders Meeting
11th	6:00 pm	ISAIAH Affordable Child Care Meeting
<b>12th</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>ISAIAH Sanctuary Training</b>
<b>16th</b>	<b>6:00 am</b>	<b>MLK Breakfast</b>
<b>19th</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>ISAIAH Sanctuary Training</b>
<b>21st</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>St. Olaf Choir Concert</b>
<b>29th</b>	<b>11:30 am</b>	<b>Annual Meeting</b>

**Women's Guild** ~ will meet Thursday, January 5th at 11:00 AM. This is a planning meeting. Bring a sandwich or salad. Coffee and dessert will be served by hostesses Ruth Belmonte and Mary Lou Knipe. Bring a sandwich or salad.

### January Altar Servers

If you are unable to serve, please contact an elder or the church office no later than the Tuesday of the week you are signed up to serve so that a replacement can be found.

<b>Jan. 8</b>	<b><u>Deacon</u></b>	<b><u>Subdeacon</u></b>	<b><u>Reader</u></b>	<b><u>Crucifer</u></b>	<b><u>Acolyte</u></b>
<i>Baptism of Our Lord</i>	Tammy Cownie	Joel Michael	Diana Rankin	Benjamin Cretsinger	Neal Caerwyn
	<b><u>Thurifer</u></b>	<b><u>Bannerbearer</u></b>	<b><u>Bannerbearer</u></b>	<b><u>Torchbearer</u></b>	<b><u>Torchbearer</u></b>
	David Tannen	Obang Agwa	Todd-Allen Hamilton	DeAnne Hilgers	Mike Sprung
<b>Jan. 15</b>	<b><u>Deacon</u></b>	<b><u>Subdeacon</u></b>	<b><u>Reader</u></b>	<b><u>Crucifer</u></b>	<b><u>Acolyte</u></b>
<i>2 Epiphany</i>	Michelle Geschwill	DeAnne Hilgers	Lance Harris	Ray Hayes	Jack Sprung
<b>Jan. 22</b>	<b><u>Deacon</u></b>	<b><u>Subdeacon</u></b>	<b><u>Reader</u></b>	<b><u>Crucifer</u></b>	<b><u>Acolyte</u></b>
<i>3 Epiphany</i>	Joel Michael	Joann Conroy	Sybil Harris	Ali Michael	Phoenix Mason
<b>Jan. 29</b>	<b><u>Deacon</u></b>	<b><u>Subdeacon</u></b>	<b><u>Reader</u></b>	<b><u>Crucifer</u></b>	<b><u>Acolyte</u></b>
<i>4 Epiphany</i>	Bob Paddock	Leilani Drake	Jared Geschwill	Todd-Allen Hamilton	Jared Geschwill

## **JANUARY SCRIPTURES**

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.

	<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Psalms</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
<b>January 1</b> <i>1 Christmas</i>	Isaiah 63:7-9	Psalms 148	Hebrews 2:10-18	Matthew 2:13-23
<b>January 8</b> <i>Baptism of Our Lord</i>	Isaiah 42:1-9	Psalms 29	Acts 10:34-43	Matthew 3:13-17
<b>January 15</b> <i>2 Epiphany</i>	Isaiah 49:1-7	Psalms 40:1-11	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	John 1:29-42
<b>January 22</b> <i>3 Epiphany</i>	Isaiah 9:1-4	Psalms 27:1, 4-9	1 Corinthians 1:10-18	Matthew 4:12-23
<b>January 29</b> <i>4 Epiphany</i>	Micah 6:1-8	Psalms 15	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	Matthew 5:1-12

## **JANUARY WORSHIP AT REDEEMER**

Sunday, January 1, 10 am – First Sunday After Christmas

Sunday, January 8, 10 am – The Baptism of Our Lord

---

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation is set for **Sunday, January 29th at 11:30 am** in the church undercroft, immediately following the worship service. We will receive copies of the church annual report, approve the church budget for 2017, and elect officers (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) and a Vestry at-large representative. Any confirmed member of Redeemer is eligible to serve. **Please submit annual report articles NO LATER than Thursday, 19th.**

---

## **Reconciliation In Christ Service - "ReAwaken the Welcome"**

Come and celebrate with the other 42 RIC Lutheran Congregations in the Twin Cities as we "ReAwaken the Welcome". Saturday, January 28th at 4:30 pm at St. Paul Reformation Lutheran Church (100 Oxford St. N, St. Paul, MN 55104). Pastor Margaret Kelly will be preaching and a soup supper will follow the service. All are welcome!

---

## **ADULT FORUMS**

**Jan. 1, 2017 No class**

**Jan. 8, 2017 11:30 A. M. "Isaiah Update"** presented by Isaiah members. This will be a time to discuss Isaiah's agenda during the coming legislative session.

**Jan. 15, 2017 11:30 A.M. "Report from the Anti-racism Team"** presented by Pastor Jim and others regarding initiatives to provide a safe haven for those threatened with deportation.

**Jan. 22, 2017 11:30 A.M. "Proposed Budget for 2017"** Presented by treasurer Bonnie Hughes. This is your opportunity to ask for more detailed information prior to the annual meeting next Sunday.

**Jan. 29, 2017 11:30 A. M. Annual meeting.** No Adult Forum.

\*\*\*\*\*

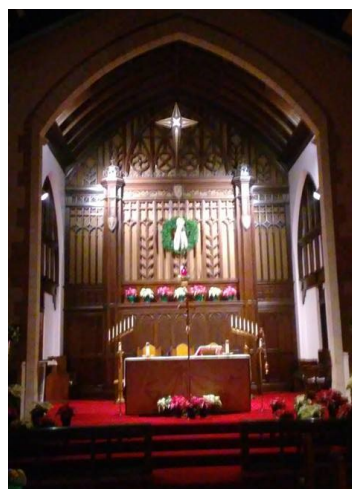
There will be an Adult Forum Planning meeting Thurs. Jan. 5, 2017, 10:00 A. M. in the library. You are invited to attend. For information contact Joan Foreman at 651-699-0266.

---



**Judge DeAnne Hilgers Investiture Ceremony** ~ You are cordially invited to attend the investiture ceremony for Ms. Hilgers as she becomes a member of the District Court of Ramsey County. The program is to begin promptly at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, January 3rd, 2017 in the cortile of the Landmark Center ( 75 W 7th Street, St. Paul, MN) A reception hosted by Lindquist & Vennum LLP will immediately follow.

Christmas/Advent  
2016





## CORE TEAM NEWS

Back on December 6<sup>th</sup>, Redeemer hosted a press conference organized by ISAIAH to announce congregations that are committing to be potential sanctuary sites, and support to those sites, if refugees or immigrants in our community are threatened with deportation. On Thursdays in December, we also began hosting teaching sessions about the immigration system and how it came to be the mess that it is. These teaching sessions will continue on Thursdays in January.

Interested in what you may have been missing? Curious what all this is about? The **Core Team** will be holding **two forums** in January during coffee hour, after the services, on **January 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>**. We will discuss the concerns about sanctuary and immigration as well as concerns for the legislative session that is about to begin. As followers of Jesus, we are called to work towards and be sign posts for the Reign of God that he announced. (And we'll be hearing about that in worship on Sundays in January!)

We are also working towards a public event on **Saturday, January 28, 2017: *For Such a Time as This – Building Our Prophetic Resistance***. The meeting will be held from **1:00pm to 4:00pm** at **Shiloh Temple International Ministries (1201 W. Broadway in Minneapolis)**. We hope to have over 1500 Minnesotans to gather with leaders like Governor Dayton and our Senators, Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken. Together we will lament the failures of our time and articulate a vision of how our communities can flourish as we move in the direction God is calling us toward ... a community in which every member is valued as a beloved child of God, where everyone is included and no one is left out, where we share out of abundance so that all may flourish rather than clinging to whatever we can grab in our fear of scarcity.

Curious about what all this is about? Interested in coming to one of these events? You can talk to any member of the Core Team ... Gretchen Vanderlinden Wang, Lyle and Myrna Nelson, Irene Markley, Trudy Cretsinger, Joann Conroy, and our newest member, Stephanie Stoessel.



**Isaiah sanctuary training at LCR. December 15, 2016.**





**Monday, January 16, 2017**  
**\*7 - 9:30 a.m. (Note later start times below)**  
**Nine neighborhood locations**

#### **Tickets**

**\*\*Adult \$5 Ages 12 & under FREE (Note free breakfasts below)**  
 Registration is required for all sites. Click the registration links below for the breakfast site you would like to attend. You may pay online with credit card, or with cash or check at the door.

#### **2017 Breakfast Sites**

##### **East Side/Downtown St. Paul**

Progressive Baptist Church  
 \*7:45 - 10:30 a.m.

##### **Summit-University St. Paul**

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

##### **West Side/West St. Paul**

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

##### **Northeast Suburbs**

White Bear Unitarian Universalist Church

##### **North Minneapolis/Northern Suburbs**

Brooklyn United Methodist Church

~~~~~



##### **Keynote Speaker ~ Myrlie Evers-Williams**

This year's keynote speaker is Myrlie Evers-Williams, author and civil rights activist. Evers-Williams was the wife of murdered civil rights activist Medgar Evers. While fighting to bring his killer to justice, Evers-Williams also continued her husband's work with her book, *For Us, The Living*. She also wrote *Watch Me Fly: What I Learned on the Way to Becoming the Woman I Was Meant to Be*. Evers-Williams served as chair of the NAACP from 1995 to 1998.

~~~~~

##### **Local Legend Award**

There have been many exceptional community leaders who have been honored with Local Legend Awards at the annual MLK Holiday Breakfast. Each breakfast location also recognizes Local or Emerging Legend who represents Dr. King's vision and legacy. The beneficiary of the offering at the Summit-University site will be our own Urban Partnership seniors ministry.

## THE ST. OLAF CHOIR IS BACK AT REDEEMER AFTER 91 YEARS!

Yes, it is true. On April 29, 1926, Redeemer hosted the St. Olaf Choir's performance at the old Auditorium in downtown St. Paul. Redeemer's choir and Pastor Paul Lindemann were responsible for all of the choir's local arrangements. This included advertising, ticket sales, and providing supper for the choir in what we now call Redeemer's Undercroft.

Now, 91 years later, Redeemer will again host the St. Olaf Choir on Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. This time the choir will actually perform at Redeemer in our renovated sanctuary! We are the choir's first stop on their 3-week tour and their only performance in the Twin Cities. And our own Amy Erlandson is a member of the choir!


While we are not responsible for advertising and ticket sales, we will provide supper for the choir, a post-concert reception, and ushers. In the days leading up to the concert, we will be asking for volunteers to help with a variety of tasks – dusting the sanctuary floor and pews, vacuuming the carpet in the sanctuary and in the stairwells, and just general decluttering and “spiffing up” in the Undercroft and adjacent rooms. We will also need volunteers to assist with serving the supper and the reception. Most importantly, we want to be gracious and welcoming hosts for both the choir and the approximately 400 people who will attend the concert.

Hosting the St. Olaf Choir is an honor and an incredible opportunity for our congregation. It does, however, come with some cost to us and we will need financial contributions to make this event happen. We must make the long-delayed repairs to the plumbing in the sacristy bathroom (about \$2,500). Anton Armstrong, the choir's conductor, will use the sacristy as his “green room.” We also need to purchase food and beverages for the supper and the after-concert reception and have the sanctuary piano tuned.

You will be hearing more specifics about volunteer and financial needs in the coming days and weeks via email. Tickets for the concert are \$30 for adults and \$10 for students. They are available online at [stolaf.edu/tickets](http://stolaf.edu/tickets). They will not be sold at the door. If you need assistance with purchasing tickets online, Redeemer's office will be happy to help you.

12

THE REDEEMER RECORD



St. Olaf  
Lutheran Choir

AT THE


Auditorium

Thursday, April 29th  
1926

8:15 P. M.

Tickets: \$1.00, \$1.50  
\$2.00 and \$2.50

For Sale at W. J. Dyer & Bro. on  
and after April 19th.



Program

1. Sing Ye to the Lord ..... J. S. Bach
2. Misericordias Domini ..... Francesco Durante  
(Anthem for two choirs.)
3. Benedictus qui venit ..... Franz Liszt  
(From Missa Choralis.)
4. Put Up the Sword ..... F. M. Christiansen
5. Yea, Though Through Death's Gloomy Vale ..... G. Schumann  
(Anthem for six voices.)
6. Come, Guest Divine ..... G. Schumann  
(Anthem for eight voices.)
7. From Heaven Above ..... G. Schumann  
(A Christmas song for six parts.)
8. Whence, Then, Cometh Wisdom ..... G. Schreck  
(Motet for eight voices.)
9. O Sacred Head ..... H. L. Hassler
10. Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness ..... Johan Crueger
11. In Heaven Above ..... Norwegian Folk Melody  
(Solo for Tenor.)
12. Praise to the Lord ..... Published first time in 1668 by Peter Soehren  
(Choral anthem for double chorus.)



# THE ST. OLAF CHOIR

ANTON ARMSTRONG • CONDUCTOR

---

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 7 P.M.

*With guest choir, The Central Chamber Singers*  
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer  
285 Dale Street North • St. Paul, Minnesota

\$30 adults, \$10 students • [stolaf.edu/tickets](http://stolaf.edu/tickets)

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer  
285 N. Dale St.  
St. Paul, MN 55103-2486

