

# Good News!

March 2010

## Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

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### THE FUTURE OF OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN

Choose your evening of  
invitation, conversation  
and commitment

March 16 6 p.m.

*Our Redeemer Fellowship Room*

March 24, 6 p.m.

*A Hood River home, to be announced*

April 7, 6 p.m. (plus movie for kids)

*Morning Song Acres, near Lyle, WA*

ORLC is at a unique time and place in it's 50 years of ministry. All members are urged to attend one of the above "cluster" events for dinner, followed by faithful conversation regarding the future of our church.



# A Word From Our Pastor

Pastor Andy

Grace and Peace to you in the name of our living and loving Savior Jesus Christ!

... *the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost* ... (Luke 19:10)

*"Hi"* he said as I came out of the bathroom here at church. When I had gone into the bathroom nobody was here and so his presence outside the door was surprising to say the least. He realized as much and kind of apologized. Men meeting each other by surprise outside the Men's room is never very comfortable.

*"What can I do for you?"* I said trying to regain some composure. *"Well last night after the NA (Narcotics Anonymous) meeting I bumped into your planter wall out front and didn't have time to leave a note so I wanted to make sure I came back to tell you all that I'd be back to fix it for you."* He said, after introducing himself as "Doug". *"Oh,"* I said chuckling, *"you're hardly the first person to have done that. But thanks so much for letting us know."*

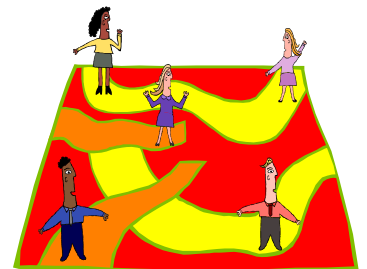


With that we began to walk out to the planter and he showed me where he had bumped into it. *"Wow, you really got it good. You didn't hurt your car did you?"* I asked. *"No, no, I was just looking at other cars pulling out and didn't see it. My car is fine."* He replied.

*"Are you from around here?"* I asked. *"Yeah, I live up in Parkdale and have a brother and his family up there. These are my nephews in the car right now."* He said as we walked over to his car. I waved at them inside the car. *"Well, I'd better be on my way but again, I'm so sorry about this."* Doug said opening his car door. *"Really, it isn't that big of a deal but I sincerely thank you for letting us know. Please know you're welcome here anytime."* I replied. *"Thanks, I've really started to turn my life around and the NA group and your church hosting it is a big help. I'll be back to fix the wall."* And with that he was off and I waved goodbye.

This isn't a story about the planter wall in the front of the church. It is a story about mission. When one begins to engage the world in different ways you undoubtedly have some bumps and blips along the way. Things never go as easily or as smoothly as you might want them to. You will have times where you will be startled by unexpected guests outside your bathroom door and times where the walls you've built get bumped into. And yet within those moments you will also begin to encounter new people, you will begin to have moments where more and more people are in contact with you and you with them, you will begin to see that there are more stories, lives, struggles and joys going on within your community about which you would otherwise be ignorant.

I don't know if "Doug" will be back or not. I don't know just what impact we've made upon him besides the one our wall made upon his car. I don't know if or when I might meet him again. But I do know that without our being willing to risk opening our doors in a gracious way, I probably never would have met him. We, Doug, me and ORLC, might never have had the opportunity to cross paths. And we might never have had someone, from our wider community, be so conscientious and thankful so as to come back on his own time and care for us and our wall. And that is exactly what he did a few evenings later.



Blessings to you and to your chance encounters with the Spirit of God at work in our community.

In Peace,  
Pastor Andy

**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
February 9, 2010**

**Members Present:** Cheri Anderson, Randy Church, Linnea Denis, Rick Denis, Dottie Gilbertson, Rose Miller, Frank Moore, Kathy Terry, Pastor Andy Wendle

Meeting called to order by President Dottie Gilbertson.  
Devotions were lead by Kathy Terry.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the January 5<sup>th</sup> council meeting were reviewed. A correction was made; the recipient of the \$500 donation (\$250 anonymous plus \$250 from Family Preservation Fund) should read Providence Hospital Emergency Voucher Fund. A motion by Frank Moore to approve the minutes as corrected and was seconded by Rick Denis. Motion approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** A motion by Rick Denis to accept the report as given and was seconded by Cheri Anderson. Motion approved.

**Old Business:** Our Redeemer's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A firm date of August 27-29, 2010 is set for the Anniversary observance. Kathy Terry reported that WELCA will work with a planning committee and has designated \$500 toward upgrading the scrapbooks. Discussed adding a missional component to the celebration, i.e., FISH donation, etc..... A committee was formed to plan the anniversary. Members thus far: Linnea Denis, Dottie Gilbertson, Rose Miller, Frank Moore and Kathy Terry.

Synod Gathering: Five council members are scheduled to attend the Mt. Hood Cluster gathering Saturday, February 20, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Gethsemane Lutheran in Portland.

**Committee Reports:** The Futures Committee will be asked to report to the Council in March.

**Pastor's Report:** The Sunday School is working on a new program which will culminate in a drama presented each season of the church year.

Adult education is currently studying "Bible Basics" on Sunday mornings.

The pastor will be accompanying the confirmation class to a middle school youth retreat in Newport, OR on March 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>. Phil Yokers will preach that Sunday.

We discussed formation of a "care & concern" committee to follow up with congregational members after a referral from the Pastor. Randy Church volunteered to be a member.

**New Business:** Rick Denis made a motion, seconded by Randy Church for Pastor and Linden to attend the Region One Pastoral Conference in April in Victoria, B.C. Motion approved. Pastor and Council will look for a pastoral substitute.

A follow up letter to Asbury Methodist, Soul Café and St. Mark's Episcopal regarding sharing of resources and ministries was reviewed and discussed at length.

We discussed goal setting for 2010. The council will meet on Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. to focus on goals with a general council meeting to follow. Linnea Denis will lead devotions at the March meeting.

Meeting adjourned by President, Dottie Gilbertson.

**Treasurer's Report**

**January 31, 2010**

End of January Income \$12515.10

End of January Expense \$ 8065.78

Net Income \$ 4449.32



Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead !  
Daylight Saving Time begins on March 14th.



**"Service and Cinnamon Rolls"** has gotten off to a smashing start. We will continue on **Saturday March 6<sup>th</sup>** as we journey to St. Francis House to work with kids and help them improve their facilities. (This would be a great event for the kids!) And then on Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup> we are planning on helping get the Hood River waterfront park ready for the spring and summer. ORLC's very own Marianne Brevard was instrumental in helping get the waterfront park built and so we will seek to work with her and the organizers of the park to help keep it looking nice and up to date. We look forward to seeing some of you there!

**2010 Roth IRA Conversions Seminar: The Opportunity Ahead**

Presented by Chad Peterson CFP® and Derek Kaufman.

Learn more About:

- \* 2010 Roth IRA conversion changes.
- \* Benefits of a Roth IRA.
- \* Is a Roth conversion right for you?
- \* How might a Roth IRA conversion affect my retirement?

Two options to attend on: **Thursday, April 8th , 2010:**

**Noon - Lunch** Columbia Portage Grill – Shilo Inn The Dalles, OR  
**6:15pm** - Appetizers Best Western Hood River Inn Hood River, OR

**RSVP by March 29th** – call Derek @ 1-888-907-2765 or email derek.kaufman@thrivent.com

Some states have not yet adopted the federal rules, and there may be conflicts between federal and state tax treatment of Roth IRA conversion. You should consult your tax professional for your state's tax rules. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and its respective associates and employees cannot provide legal, accounting, or tax advice or services. Work with your Thrivent Financial representative in collaboration with your attorney and/or tax professional for complete details. Securities and investment advisory services are offered through Thrivent Investment Management Inc., 625 Fourth Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55415, 800-847-4836, a FINRA and SIPC member and a wholly owned subsidiary of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

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**Communication Services**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
 God's work. Our hands.



Dear friend,  
 In December 2009, ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson hosted our **first-ever** online Town Hall forum.

I hope you were one of the thousands of ELCA members across the country who watched and participated online in a nationwide conversation about the mission and ministry of this church. What a remarkable opportunity for all of us to engage in conversation with each other and with the presiding bishop!

**I'm happy to now invite you to join us for our second online Town Hall forum on Sunday, March 7, at 4 p.m. CST.**

There are so many easy ways to participate:

- Watch the event live from 4-5 p.m. CST at [www.elca.org/townhall](http://www.elca.org/townhall)
- Log in to post questions
- Post comments using Facebook Connect
- Tweet about the event using the hashtags #ELCA and #BishopHanson
- Gather members of your congregation for a viewing party

Please plan to join us for this important conversation on March 7 at 4 p.m. CST and invite friends and family to join in too.

Sincerely,

Kristi Bangert  
 Executive Director, Communication Services  
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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Last month we placed an ad in our newsletter looking for someone who might help get us noticed in some of our various community publications and forums. **We are looking for someone who might help highlight the varied and impactful ministries ORLC engages in on a daily basis.** This person would help bring to light the ways in

which we would love for our community to join us in these activities/ ministries/reflections of the gospel of Jesus Christ! This is an important piece of our life together and of our faithful witness to Jesus Christ. This should not be an arduous task but one that with creativity and purpose could be very fun to undertake. If you saw our ad last month or

if you are just reading this for the first time and have ideas about this very thing (or questions) **please contact Pastor Andy.** Help us reach out and let others know about the exciting ministries we have going on through ORLC.

In Peace,  
 Pastor Andy

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## WELCA Meeting

Fourteen women from Our Redeemer attended the January 30th WELCA general meeting. Our Redeemer's 50th anniversary, to be celebrated August 27-29, 2010 was our main topic of discussion. WELCA will assist in the planning for this event and \$500 from the WELCA treasury will be given toward church scrapbook renovation.

It was decided to discontinue the Rosauer's scrip program. We want to thank Kris White for all of her years of work with this program.

Our next general meeting is scheduled for Saturday, May 15th. Please join us for a morning of good fellowship as we plan activities for Our Redeemer.

Kathy Terry  
Co-President



## Cardmaking/Scrapbooking Group

The next meeting is  
Sunday, March 7th, at 2:00pm.  
We've had more ladies join us.  
Come share fun & fellowship!



## Family News

**Claire and Grant Anderson** are both participating in White Salmon Community Youth basketball. They have been playing since mid-January and continue through the end of February. Claire plays on Saturday mornings at 9:00 am at Henkle Middle School and Grant plays on Saturdays at 11:30 also at Henkle Middle School in White Salmon.



**Michael LaMaita**, son of Jean & Craig Sheppard, was selected as a Student of the Month by the Hood River Elks Lodge. He is a senior at Hood River High School. You can read more on the ORLC bulletin board in the narthex.



**Ethan Fowler** is now a member of local Cub Scout Pack 282. He received his "Wolf" badge along with four other members in a February ceremony. Ethan also had the fun of making a Pinewood Derby Car from a wood block kit with his dad. He got 2nd place for his Wolf group and proceeds to the regional race in The Dalles.



If you have a faith story or special memory you would like to share, please send it in for the newsletter.

This month we have a contribution from Evi Kujala.

My mother, Elisabeth (Putkela) Kujala, died in 1995 at age 88. To me she was a remarkable woman. She only went to the 8th grade in school, but was a very wise woman. She helped her mother, who was the country midwife, deliver a baby when she was 14 years old. At 17, she went to work in a boardinghouse that roomed men who worked in the mines in northern Michigan. That is where she met my father Andrew Kujala. Andrew and Elizabeth had 8 children. Andrew died in 1956. Mother was left to finish raising my brother (17yrs), my sister (15yrs) and myself (13yrs). And she did it well. With a strong belief in God and unending faith.

The following is a letter I received from her on my 21st birthday. I have written it as she wrote. It took a lot of years to want to share it, but I feel it is a tribute to a Christian mother.

Dear Evelyn, (*I knew it was serious, she always called me Evi*)

Here I been ironing all morning and all kinds of thoughts come to mind. I had to cry even that hardly couldn't see through the tears to iron. So I'll try to put my thoughts on this paper.

The time sure flies. 21 years ago I was rushed to the hospital at midnight and a few hours later a little dark haired girl was laid in my arms. And that's when your heart seems to overflow with love. When God has trusted you to take care of them. Lots of times it seemed to me that I'm not worthy of taking care of so many children. And without God I could have never done it. So many times I had to pray and ask for help from God. But God hasn't let us always sail a smooth sea. There has been storms too. And God knows best. If we didn't have any trials we would get too proud and forget God.

And when you were three and so sick when I held you in my arms the 32 miles to the hospital and prayed God to spare you and make you well. God heard my prayers.

And I never did tell you when things were going hard for you at school. You felt like giving up. It was I think a Monday morning because I went down the basement to wash clothes (*Yes, my mother washed on Monday, ironed on Tuesday*) I just cried and prayed that everything would turn out right for you. And everything turned out fine then too. So isn't God wonderful?

And that is how she ended the letter. No "love mom" or anything, but I think it was just right. So isn't God wonderful.

*Evi Kujala*

# Worship Assignments

If you find that you cannot serve on the date you are listed, please make arrangements for a substitute.

2010	Mar 7	Mar 14	Mar 21	Mar 28	
Asst Minister	Cindy Morus	Kris White		Debby Chenoweth	
Lector	Bob Havig	Cindy Morus	Debby Chenoweth		
Acolyte					
Greeter/Usher				Gale & Larry Denis	
Altar Care	Melody	Church	and	Barbara Hustman	
Coffee Hour	Sally Havig	Bob & Kris White	Della Henderson		
Flowers	Lent	Lent	Lent	Palm Sunday	

Nursery will be staffed weekly

## Committees, Councils, and Meetings of ORLC

### Church Council

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 7pm

### 2009 Members :

Dottie Gilbertson (President), Rick Denis (V.P.),  
Kathy Terry (Sec.), Randy Church, Frank Moore

### Financial Officers:

Linnea Denis (Treasurer), Jennifer Fowler (Fin. Sec.)

### WELCA

Kathy Rice & Kathy Terry (Co-Presidents),  
Roberta Schweller (Treas.) Blanche Donahue (Sec.)

### Worship Committee

Contact Audrey Bentz for meeting times

### Evangelism Comm.

Contact Don Shalhope for meeting times

### Faith in Action

Contact Pastor Sharon Pantely for times

### Mutual Ministry

Contact Pastor Andrew Wendle for times

### Women's (WELCA) Bible Study

4th Tuesday of each month  
Check calendar for location

### Down Manor Bible Study

Wednesdays at 10:00am

### Quilting

1st and 3rd Wednesdays  
At 9:00am, Fellowship Hall



# March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 10:00 Down Manor Bible Study	4	5	6
7 9:00 Adult Ed 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 2:00pm Card and Scrapbook group	8	9 9:30am Faith in Action  7pm Council Meeting	10 10:00 Down Manor Bible Study	11	12	13 
14 9:00 Adult Ed 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	15	16 6:00pm 3C Evening	17 10:00 Down Manor Bible Study 	18	19	20 First Day of 
21 9:00 Adult Ed 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	22	23 7pm Women's Bible Study	24 10:00 Down Manor Bible Study  6:00pm 3C evening	25	26	27
28 <b>Palm Sun.</b> 9:00 Adult Ed 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 	29	30	31			

- Women's Quilting is the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 9am in the Fellowship Hall.
- *Dual Diagnosis*, Tuesdays 5-6pm; First Tues of the month from 4-6pm.
- *Narcotics Anonymous*, Sundays & Thursdays from 7:30-8:30 in the Fellowship Hall.
- Cleaning on first and third Saturdays.

*In case of emergency of if you are in need of pastoral care, please contact  
Pastor Andrew Wendle at 541-490-6703.*

## March is Women's History Month

Mary Katherine Goddard	First	woman	postmaster	1775
Lucy Brewer	.....	.....	woman marine	1812
Elizabeth Blackwell	.....	.....	to receive a medical degree	1849
Jeannette Rankin	.....	.....	in congress	1917
Pearl S. Buck	.....	to receive Nobel Peace Prize in Literature		1936
Stephanie Kwolek		invented Kevlar (protects firefighters)		1965
Lt. Col. Eileen Collins	.....	.....	to pilot a space shuttle	1995
Condoleezza Rice	.....	African-Amer. woman	Sec. of State	2007

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: **April Newsletter submissions** :

: Due: March 21, 2010 Send to: :

: [orlc@gorge.net](mailto:orlc@gorge.net) :

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Lutheran Church

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