

Good News!

May 2010

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Fundraising Plant Sale for Green Light Project

Faith in Action has been busy raising and acquiring plants to be ready for sale **on May 9 and 16** at ORLC. Proceeds will help to 'fill our bags' with energy saving things to place in our bags for distribution at Food Banks and other social service agencies in the gorge. Some of the plants will be donated to the garden project for the food bank, as well as to our Americore neighbors, who are planting their own garden.

Plan to purchase plants. Gift cards will be available to accompany a plant intended for giving, to indicate that you have contributed to a good cause.

Since the contents of each bag costs around \$30, we have applied for grants, and received one from the Oregon Synod. Our goal is to help as many households as possible in the mid Columbia region, so let us know if you have an idea for distribution.

Help with the plant sale, donations of plants, baskets or wrap for the plants are welcomed. Our committee has also obtained reusable water bottles to be distributed at the March of Dimes walk, and we

could use help to hand them out on May 15th.

May 30th is the fifth Sunday of the month, thus we have designated a **special offering for the Green Light Project** to be our local outreach of stewardship.

We look forward to seeing you at our plant sale. Prices are suggested, but plants are sold by donation. Your support of this project is commendable.

Questions? Contact Blanche, Cindy, Debby, Judith Ann Sharon or Pastor Andy.

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March of Dimes.

Through a grant given by the Hood River County Commission on Children and Families, ORLC will be helping sponsor the **May 15th March of Dimes walk** that will begin at Jackson Park in Hood River. Our sponsorship will take the form of providing a plastic water bottle to all who enter the walk. (This water bottle is an eco friendly one that is specially designed to be able to biodegrade in under 5 years.) We are looking for 1-2 more people to be present at the walk that morning helping hand out these

water bottles to the participants while sharing, as the opportunity arises, a little about our church. Rick Denis and Pastor Andy will be there but we'd love to have a couple more. If interested please **see Pastor Andy** about this potentially neat opportunity! (You can also sign up to become a participant in the march if that is something you'd like to do as well!)

A Word From Our Pastor

Pastor Andy

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

I've been told that what I'm about to do one should not do ... but I'm going to do it anyway. For the past couple weeks or so I've been enjoying Morel mushrooms in a few of our meals here and there and I'm now going to reveal the source of these goodies to you. Who knows, maybe it will draw some new people to church?



Yes, church, you heard me right. A couple weeks ago Craig Terry and I were visiting outside on the church lawn when he stopped short and said "Oh!" and bent down and cut off a mushroom from in front of his feet. (Sorry Craig, I've now told everyone.) Anyway, we then searched for the next several minutes and it turns out that there were about 20 more of the beauties to be found! Since that time I've been out to pluck a few more here and there. Just before sitting down to write this I picked up about 10 nice big ones. And boy are they good. And so is God! You see, I can't help but feel as I walk around the grounds at lunch time searching for these little treasures that I'm seeing one of the surprising ways in which God works in our life.

We can all be wandering along the pathway of life, minding our own business, working in our offices or in the yard, and boom, right there is a delicious surprise that God has thrown onto our path. The only trouble is that we often miss these surprises because we're so busy with those other things. And so sometimes we need someone who can pay attention to what is going on underneath our otherwise busy feet and point out the beauty in our midst.

This is what happened to the disciples isn't it? They, after Jesus' death, got all afraid and locked themselves in a room. They even, in some other accounts, just went back to the business of their lives and it wasn't until a stranger appeared in their midst that they finally were able to stop and notice just what was going on. They also, like me and all of us from time to time, had to have the otherwise obvious pointed out to them. Once that happened though, they never quite looked at themselves or their surroundings in quite the same way again.

I must admit that I don't look at the church grounds in quite the same way now. I always used to look at them as something to be taken care of, something to use to accent our programs, something that could be a burden from time to time. But now, now I look at them as both a real and figurative treasure field of God's surprising grace. Our grounds are now a place to contemplate how God works anew in our lives in light of the resurrection we celebrated on Easter morning.



So if you come to church during my lunch hour and don't find me in the office, just wander around outside a little while and you might see me with a handful of Morels experiencing God's surprising grace. You're welcome to join me either here or by walking around on your own as well. Either way, let me know what you find. I'm always game for a new surprise!

Christ is risen. He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

In Peace,

Pastor Andy

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

The meeting was called to order by President Dottie Gilbertson at 7:10 pm.

Care and Concern: An update on congregants and their families was given. Chuck Henderson has returned home from a Portland hospital and is adjusting to new medication. Frank Moore's mother is feeling better and Shaun Tipton (Betty Yenne's son-in-law) is home after receiving a kidney transplant.

Minutes: The minutes of the March 8th Council meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Rick Denis to approve the minutes as written; seconded by Cheri Anderson. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Skip Fowler will be asked if he's willing to continue to be a check signer. (Rick, Kathy and Dottie are also current signers.) It was noted that the Outreach House electric bill has decreased. We still need to purchase a new dishwasher for the Outreach House.

Treasurer's report was reviewed. Frank moved to accept the report as presented; seconded by Rose. Motion passed.

Correspondence: A letter from the Mission Investment Fund (ELCA) was reviewed. Cheri moved to renew the Mission Term Select investment for two years; seconded by Rick. Motion passed.

We reviewed a letter from Thrivent Financial regarding enrollment in Thrivent Choice. No action taken.

A letter from Ice Fountain Water District was noted. The quality of our water has not changed but the water district may begin low dose chlorination in the near future due to EPA requirements.

Dottie will discuss a letter from Mutual of Enumclaw with Pastor Andy.

Old Business:

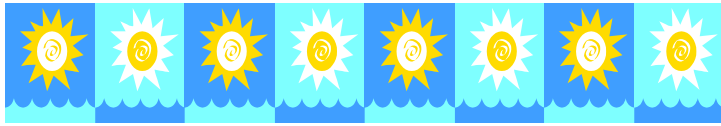
- * Our Redeemer's 50th Anniversary celebration will be August 28-29th. We have secured the Hood River Inn for a dinner and program on Sunday, August 29th, beginning at 1:30pm. Invitations, scrapbooks, etc... still need to be done.
- * Installation of new windows in the fellowship room will be started on April 24th (Spring clean-up day).
- * Air conditioner: Discussed purchasing and placement of a unit for Pastor's office and also talked of venting to include fellowship room. Pastor will check into this purchase.
- * Spring cleanup: 9am to 12 noon on Saturday, April 24, 2010. Suggested jobs were: 1. Outside – prune shrubs, weed, plant flowers. 2. Scrub walls in sanctuary. 3. Clean kitchen area. 4. Wash windows. It was also suggested to pick an area, inside or outside, and do what is needed.
- * Visitation Committee: will check with Pastor to determine if there are any volunteers.
- * Church Property Tasks: We began discussing the priority of jobs to be done – inside and outside. New fellowship room windows and an air conditioner in Pastor's office will be first. Painting and then updates for the Narthex may come next.

New Business: We discussed the possibility of shared ministry with the Methodist Church. A congregational information meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 2nd.

Our next Council meeting will be Tuesday, May 11th at 7 pm. Cheri Anderson will lead devotions.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Terry
Council Secretary



Commitment Sunday.

Thank you to everyone who helped plan and to all who participated in ORLC's Commitment Sunday on April 18th. The day was a good celebration of what God has done for us and how we can then give to our church and the world in response. Thank you!

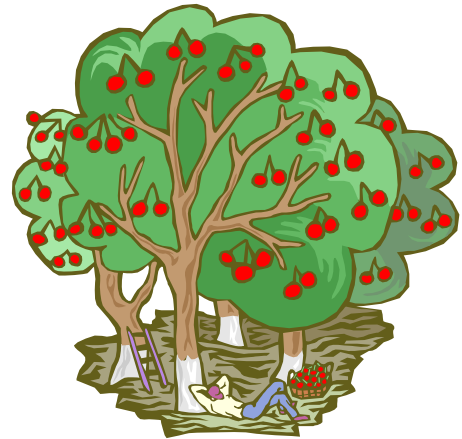
Pastor Andy

On **Sunday May 23rd**, Our Redeemer will welcome and recognize Jill Rowland and husband Phil as members.

A Silent Auction. Do you have yard work that every year you just don't have time to get done? Do you have an evening out planned for you and another couple that you'd love to have a couple of competent, trained baby sitters for? Do you just have an extra project or item that you could use 8 extra hands for? If you've answered yes to any of these then you are in luck! The confirmation class (Emelia, Claire, Sidra and Danielle) are going to be having a silent auction for the month of May to auction off their services for a project of your choosing. Each of these competent and able bodied workers has a great many skills and gifts that you can put to use in a variety of ways. The proceeds raised from this silent auction will be put to good use by helping pay for their camping expenses next summer. So dream up a project that you'd like to have this group work on, look for the sheet in the narthex and sign up to get these four youth working for you!

Sunday School. Our Sunday School class will be meeting after worship on **May 2nd**. On **Friday May 7th at 5:30pm bring a shovel and outside shoes.** We are studying Jesus' words to the disciples about his gift of peace and what that looks like. We hope everyone will be able to make these dates as we look forward to presenting this drama on Mother's Day during worship.

Confirmation Class. Confirmation classes will occur on **May 2nd, 16th and 23rd** at 6:00pm at ORLC. These three classes will conclude our class schedule for this year while we all look forward to confirmation camp in August.



Sometime in May, there will be a **VBS** planning meeting. Look for news in the bulletin.

WELCA

Will meet for our spring general meeting on **Saturday, May 15 from 10-12.** Rolls and fruit will be provided so please just bring yourselves as we meet to discuss activities and goals for the coming months. All women are invited and encouraged to attend.

Soul Cafe

On **May 2 at 4 PM** there will be a special service at Soul Café for the closing of a ministry. The service will be followed by a potluck and celebration of the 7 years of ministry to the Hood River and gorge community. All are invited to attend both the service

and potluck. With great sorrow the board of Soul Café voted to officially close the doors effective April 30th. Our last Sunday supper was held April 24th. Due to the high cost of operations, primarily rent and utilities, combined with declining contributions and reduced grant amounts the board felt that we had reached a point that Soul Café was no

longer sustainable. We'd like to thank everyone who has supported Soul Cafe through your prayers, donations, volunteering and serving of food for the past 7 years. Our prayer is that those who participated at Soul Café find other sources of spiritual and physical support within the community.

Debbie Chenoweth

Synod Assembly

Pastor Andy will be gone **Friday May 28th to Sunday May 29th** attending the OR Synod Assembly in Janzen Beach. While he is gone Audrey Bentz will be here to preach that day and lead the congregation in a hymn sing. If you have a favorite hymn that you'd like to sing that day feel free to get your request in to Audrey before that Sunday! Also, we are short one female participant for the Synod Assembly. If you are interested in attending and can pay your own way to the assembly, **please speak with Pastor Andy.**

Save the date!!

On **Sunday, August 29th**, as part of our **50th anniversary celebration**, Our Redeemer will meet in the afternoon for a special catered dinner and program at the Hood River Inn.

More information will be coming soon but please set this time aside now. Plan to come and visit with old and new friends and family from Our Redeemer.



Mother's Day

Here are some memories and feelings from ORLC members about moms and/or grandmothers.

One day my 3 year old grandson got in trouble for being quite naughty and after getting a stern verbal reprimand from his mom he looked up at her and said "I think I need to call Grandma." Grandmas are great when solace is needed but it is also quite hard when grandmas tell grandchildren they need to listen to mom and shouldn't act in naughty ways.

Dottie Gilbertson



There is so much joy in being a Mother and a Grandmother. One doesn't know where to start. The greatest joy is watching all the little children, students and now young adults that we have known for so many years - some since birth to grow and develop and become such important members of our church family. My heart bursts when I see them and know what strides they have made in their growth and what talents they

share with our church. Their comments during the Children's Sermon, growth in helping with the service and with the music they provide. Well done, parents !!!!!

Bette Lou Yenne



Our entire family celebrated being together, with all four of the grandchildren in together Oregon for the first time. Our family from Maine came over spring break. Though it was a very busy week, we all have special memories of it. We gathered for a family photo in the arboretum, visited the zoo, played hard in Parkdale, riding horses, trying to share the pedal John Deere tractor and other toys. It was a special joy. We are always thankful for their health and happiness!

Sharon and George Pantely

Growing up in San Diego, my family seemed isolated from my fathers extended family in Portland that was large, and seemed so close and caring of each other. Mostly I loved my Grandmother and the attention she lavished both my sister and I when we would visit.

One summer my parents sent my sister and I up for a whole month. Although, in that month, many of my perceptions of my Aunts and Uncles changed dramatically as they became more real and less idealized, my perceptions of my Grandma became deeper and richer.

My favorite memory of that time was the day an afternoon shower brought many Robins and Jays to seek out the worms in my Grandmas yard and I sat with her looking quietly out the window.

Now, for those that don't know me, I should say that I only time I remember the words "quiet" and "still" being used in reference to me, they were quickly followed by, "He's burning up!" and "Quick, go start the car and pull it around while I wrap him up. He needs to go to the Emergency." Being "still" and "quiet" were terribly foreign to me.

Yet, on that day with my

grandma, as I sat with her on her bed watching the birds tugging at the worms and dancing in the water of her bird bath, the rich deep smell of her coffee filled my nose and being "still" and "quiet" came natural and easy and it is the first time I can ever remember that I felt that there was a greater power at work in the world and that somehow the world was OK and that no matter what I would be alright.

Randy Church

Our four children are now 33, 32, 32, and 31. Being a Mom was A LOT of work!!! I think only now can I look back and see how great an experience it was. My favorite part of motherhood is having all four children together, listening to their laughter, teasing, and telling of their memories of growing up. It never ceases to fill my heart with JOY. *Kris White*



I remember a few breakfasts in bed. That could be exciting!!! As the girls got older they would get me a corsage.

☺ Donna Martinson

I was 37yrs old when I became mom. For her 80th birthday we (4 pregnant with Danielle. I had sisters and 1 brother), rented a limo to pick up our mom and her friends and bring them to her surprise birthday party. She has that I discovered I was pregnant, never been afforded the opportunity to ride in a limo, and the look of enjoyment when she arrived with her friends is a memory that is etched in my mind forever. I couldn't believe I was a Mom, and I would just stare at her, thinking "this is my child". I thank God for allowing us to have this child. I also have a memory from my

Sue Miller

Worship Assignments

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

2010	May 2	May 9	May 16	May 23	May 30
Asst Minister	Dave Hindahl		Kristen White		
Lector					
Acolyte					
Greeter/Usher		Bob & Kris White			
Altar Care	Linden	Wendle	and	Kris	White
Coffee Hour	Sharon & George Pantely		Bob & Kris White		
Flowers	Pat Sircoloumb	Betty Dean		Blanche Donahue	Diane Kleinsmith

Nursery will be staffed weekly

Committees, Councils, and Meetings of ORLC

Church Council

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 7pm

2010 Members :

Dottie Gilbertson (President), Rick Denis (V.P.),
Kathy Terry (Sec.), Cheri Anderson, Randy Church,
Rose Miller, 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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Mother's Day 9am Adult Ed 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 11:30 Sun Schl 6pm Conf. Class Plant Sale	3	4	5 9am Quilting 10am Down Manor Bible Study	6	7 5:30 Sun School Bring a shovel	8
9 9am Adult Ed 10 Worship 11 Fellowship Plant Sale	10	11 7pm Council Meeting	12 10am Down Manor Bible Study	13	14	15 10-12am WELCA Meeting March of Dimes Walk
16 9am Adult Ed 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 2pm Card Mking 6pm Conf. Class	17	18	19 9am Quilting 10am Down Manor Bible Study Pastor Andy works from home.	20	21	22
23 9am Adult Ed. 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 6pm Conf. Class	24	25 7pm Women's WELCA Bible Study	26 10am Down Manor Bible Study	27	28 P. Andy attends Synod Assembly	29 P.A at Assembly
30 Pastor Andy at Assembly 10 Worship 11 Fellowship	31 Memorial Day					

- 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.*

The month of May is best known for when flowers bloom and Memorial Day, but did you know it has.....

Lumpy Rug Day
Lost Sock Memorial Day
National Dance Like a Chicken Day
Pack Rat Day
Eliza Doolittle Day
National Escargot Day

And of course, *My Bucket's Got a Hole in it Day*

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: **June Newsletter submissions** :
: Due: June 21, 2010 Send to: :
: orlc@gorge.net :
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