

Good News!

June 2011

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Faith in Action/ Green Light

Mother's Day was ushered in by a successful fundraising plant sale for the Green Light Project. The sale continued the following Sunday with a grand total of \$525 raised to help fill our bags for fall distribution. Happy Gardening, and a big thanks to all participants-buyers, sellers, growers, patient spouses and visitors to our sale. Plants were also donated to the Americorp workers garden as well as the Asbury/ORLC community garden effort benefiting the Fish Food Bank.

Yet another project is in the planning stages for fall, so 'stay tuned' for your next opportunity.

Sunday June 12th will be our designated giving Sunday, projected to benefit regional outreach through our national church effort to help in flood and tornado devastated communities. Details on this will be forthcoming, as this is an important effort for all of us.

Our FIA team has had a busy spring, and will be making plans for fall at our next meeting June 7 in the fellowship hall at 10:30am. Please come if any of these projects catch your interest, or talk with one of us. Again, thank you for supporting our stewardship efforts.

Sharon Pantely
Chair

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The Confirmation service/ learning mission trip to San Francisco

will take place June 19-26. We will be leaving after worship on the 19th to travel down to the bay area and returning sometime on the afternoon of the 26th. Please pray for us while we are gone not only that our travels go smoothly but also that we may all learn more about what it means to walk with and accompany the "least of these" our faith compels us to serve. (Ret. Pastor Judith Ann Richards will preach and preside on the 26th of June.)

Pastor Andy

Celebration and Farewell

On **June 12th**, please join the Wendle family in celebrating the baptism of Anna Elouise.

On **Sunday June 26th** Our Redeemer will have a fellowship hour good bye for Milt and Jessie Schliebe. Milt and Jessie have been with us a great many years, impacted the lives of a great many people and have been very much loved. Please join us on this day as we say thank you and Godspeed as they move to be closer to family in California. If you would like to contribute something to the fellowship hour please contact either Della Henderson or Roberta Schweller as they have graciously agreed to coordinate the fellowship hour that day.

A Word From Our Pastor

Pastor Andy

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

All beginnings are somewhat strange; but we must have patience, and little by little, we shall find things, which at first were obscure, becoming clearer. ~ Vincent De Paul

So here we are. We are in the last month of life as we've known it over the past little while and on the threshold of new life in partnership with others in our area.

I've covered, as best I can, what I think this time might look like from a practical point of view (see last month's newsletter article) but as we know not everything is practical. And it is with that note that I want to say a couple things.

First, I am extremely and humbly grateful for the time that I have had to serve with you all as your Pastor over the past six and a half years. Your faithfulness and generosity of spirit have made this a wonderful place in which to serve and we have met the challenges of our day in creative, mostly positive and hopefully God-centered ways. Our relationship and time together is not over; but this is an ending of sorts in our life together and I wanted to at least acknowledge how special the past six and a half years have been. Thank you for calling me as your Pastor, for welcoming our family into your lives and for sharing of yourselves. Thank you.

Second, while I do have more than a little bit of sadness at the change coming our way, I am also really excited and I hope you are or will be as well. There will be shifts and challenges ahead; but this way forward, in partnership with Asbury UMC, invites us to consider our future in broader, more hopeful terms than we could have considered before. By virtue of your faithful decisions we now have a new opportunity to reach out into our area, into our community, into the lives of men, women, and children. **We can** seize this opportunity by going forth with our Methodist brothers and sisters. **We can** explore new ways to reach people. **We can** continue to break down the barriers that keep the good news of God's love from being felt. And **we can** do all this as we move into the new life God promises for our individual lives, the life of the church and the life of the world. I look forward and pledge to work with you in this way going forward!

Third and finally, please do know that I still am your Pastor. I may not be in the office as much as I was before. I may have new duties and cares that will come my way. I may have to say "no" to some opportunities in order to say "yes" to others. But I am not relinquishing or moving out of the role of being your Pastor! I value my relationships with you all. I believe bright days are in store for us and I look forward to celebrating all that God has in store for you and I. Please continue to honor me with the opportunity to walk faithfully forward with you all, in your personal lives and in our communal life together.

Beloved, ... this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.
Phil 3:13-14

Let's "press on" people of God ... let's "press on."

In Peace,
Pastor Andy

ORLC Council Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2011

- Members Present:** Rick Denis, Linnea Denis, Rose Miller, Cheri Anderson, Vickie Wartalski, Jim Matthias and Kathy Terry. **Members Absent:** Randy Church. Pastor Andy Wendle was absent as he's on vacation. The meeting was called to order by President Rick Denis at 7:07pm. Devotions were lead by Kathy Terry.
- Member Concerns:** Myrin Bentz is home and doing well following heart surgery. Inez Reynolds has attended church following her hospitalization. Patti Ludwig had a seizure this past weekend but is recuperating.
- Minutes:** The minutes of the April 12th Council meeting were reviewed. Cheri moved to approve the minutes as written; seconded by Rose. Motion passed.
- Treasurer's Report:** See attached. The Treasurer's balance and that of the Financial Secretary do now agree. There was a brief discussion of a report from the Dorothy Aubert Trust. Kathy moved to approve the Treasurer's report as presented; seconded by Vickie. Motion passed.
- Correspondence:** See attached. Rose, chairperson of the local Thrivent chapter, stated that if the local Thrivent Board so designates, ORLC may choose to have a special matched offering for southern states tornado damage.
- Pastor's Report:** See attached. Report was reviewed by council.
- Committee Reports:** The JMLT will meet Sunday May 15th from 2 to 5 p.m. with Steve Ross, Assistant to the Bishop (UMC), the ORLC council and the AUMC administrative team.
- Old Business:**
- A. Time lines/bids
 - 1. Painting of the church: still in planning stage..
 - 2. Roof & Parking lot: Brown Roofing submitted a bid of approximately \$10,000; Maher Roofing's bid was \$8,820. Since our 2011 budget allows only \$4,000 for roofing we will defer his till 2012 and will concentrate on adding funds for that project. No signs of leaks or other problems are evident.
 - 3. Seal Coat of The Dalles will do the parking lot for our budgeted amount of \$2700 and will pave in the next one to two months.
 - B. Ministry opportunities for the future: will add service coordinator.
 - C. Council retreat: will be discussed at our next meeting.
- New Business:**
- A. Budget process: Linnea will contact Bob Havig to discuss when to start.
 - B. Spring cleaning: Saturday May 21st from 9 – 12 p.m.. Jean Sheppard has hired four high school youth on their community service day, May 20th, to weed the church flower beds and to do other outside work.. Kathy Rice will supervise the work on May 20th. Jean has also offered to pay \$100 toward the purchase of mushroom compost. Linnea moved that we allot up to \$400 to buy the compost to place in beds around the building and in the cross bed on May 21st. Motion seconded by Vickie. Motion passed. Work lists for the Spring cleaning will be in the narthex.
 - C. John Neilson, a pianist, contacted Pastor Andy about performing at our service on June 19th. We will request that Pastor contact Mr. Neilson to decline the offer as we wish the service to focus on the confirmands and their trip.
 - D. Newsletter: Everyone is encouraged to read the newsletter to become knowledgeable of changes as we approach the joint ministry.
 - E. Rose moved that we spend \$500 donated by a congregational member toward replacement of the Nativity set. Seconded by Cheri. Motion passed.

The next council meeting will be **Tuesday June 14th at 7 p.m.** Devotions will be lead by Jim Matthias. Vickie will submit a JMLT summary for the newsletter.

Closing prayer led by Jim Matthias.
Meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Terry
Council Secretary

JMLT UPDATES

As most of you know JMLT, ORLC council and AUMC Admin team met with Steve Ross, Asst. to the Bishop (UMC) on Sunday May 15, 2011. The meeting helped to answer some questions we had about bringing our Churches together with a shared vision and mission. Everyone present walked away with a different view or opinion. I will share with you what I learned and how I feel our progress is going.

Members present from ORLC were : Pastor Andy, Rick Denis, Jim Matthias, Jim Anderson, Dottie Gilbertson, Rose Miller and Vicki Wartalski. I encourage everyone, if interested, to talk with other members that were at the meeting to find out their views or opinions of the meeting. The meeting opened with Steve talking about how we need to move our focus away from the Church and more towards the wider culture. He told us denominationalism is fading, that people outside the church are not attempting to figure out the differences between Methodists and Lutherans and if we focus on what is different they will believe that we focus on things that don't matter. We need to listen to what people are saying, both inside and outside our Church. We need to work together and stay together as we work through all of the "bumps" that we will encounter along the way.

It was also made clear that we commit to the desire to be Christians as a more radical, true and life-giving desire than being Methodist or Lutheran. We need to strive to keep our eyes on the purpose (that we shall have life abundant and make disciples of all nations) rather than on the forms (that we shall have a choir, a Sunday School, an organ, etc – all of which are means not ends.)

Some lessons that we can benefit from are to always be completely honest about our hopes and fears. The leadership of the JMLT needs to become leaders within the congregational life. The joint ministry needs to become normal life for everyone, and not something some of us are doing while the rest are just waiting to hear what is going on. Everyone is encouraged to embrace the new ministry as we move forward.

One way ORLC and AUMC can reach new people is by showing non-church people that two denominations can cooperate instead of compete. Also we need to practice with each other the kind of hospitality that is required to meet new people and to welcome them to faith. Most important we all need to shift our focus from survival to revival. This is an important step we must all start to embrace openly.

Steve discussed the importance of patience and persistence we all need to show when we start to encounter people who are less than thrilled with our new partnership. We must acknowledge what they fear or have lost. We must insist that the future will be worth it. We must never allow the possibility of going backwards. As we move forward with our mission, we all must remember that Pastor Andy will need time for family and healthy spiritual practices. Peer support will also be something that will help Pastor Andy through our time of change. It was also discussed that Pastor Andy is here for support and the congregations are the ones who need to make the decisions on where we want to go and how we are going to get there.

ORLC and AUMC can effectively share the ownership of the joint ministry by integrating it into our regular congregational leadership structures as fast as manageable. Also, we all need to give up being in charge and let God take the lead. God is the leader of this movement not us. We need to embrace the journey God has placed us on, we need to listen to what each of us is saying, we must focus on revival vs survival and most important we must all make the effort to move forward and not to look backwards.

This is just a brief outline of what was discussed. I encourage all of us to talk to someone that was at the meeting to gain a better understanding and maybe another point of view of what was shared.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Wartalski
Council Member/JMLT Co-Chair

Office News

A reminder: Beginning on **July 3rd** our worship time will be moving to **9:00am** as we begin our joint ministry partnership with Asbury UMC (whose service will be at 11:00am). This will become our new regular worship time starting that Sunday. We will however, **on Sunday July 10th**, have our Joint Ministry Celebration worship service at 10:00am. Please mark your calendars accordingly!

As I look at my desk calendar, the bottom left corner of June is packed full of “busy-ness!” On June 19th, the confirmation class and Pastor Andy will be going to San Francisco for service work. There is a baptism to celebrate, a special fellowship hour to honor Milt and Jessie Schliebe, FISH volunteer week, Women’s bible study..... And yes my family planned a vacation: the week of June 26th.

So all you newsletter “groupies”, the newsletter will be **one week early**. There will be reminders as the time grows closer. When I return, there will be new office hours. In the office the desk calendar is available for anyone to write down activities/meetings that ORLC has scheduled. This will be a big help to us all in ORLC’s and Asbury’s time of transition. Thank you to Della, the two Kathys, and Linnea, for helping keep things running so smoothly!
Jennifer Fowler



Lawn Mowing Schedule

Areas to be mowed are **around the church** and the **Out Reach House**. It takes about four hours to mow and trim the entire area for a single person. All dates are Saturdays, so you can mow anytime during the week that ends with the Saturday date.

June 4th and 18th	OPEN	August 13th	Bob White
July 2nd	Bob Havig	August 27th	Pete Richards
July 16th	OPEN	Sept 10th	Skip Fowler
July 30th	OPEN	Sept 24th	Skip Fowler
		October 1st	Skip Fowler

FISH Food Bank Schedule

Our Redeemer’s
next volunteer dates are:

June 27th	Mon	3:30-5pm
June 29th	Wed	3:30-5:30pm
July 1st	Fri	3:30-5pm

For more info
please see Linden Wendle

ORLC Yard Sale

Start saving your unwanted items:
Maybe you have an Elvis blanket that your Aunt Mary gave you or a pink lamp that just doesn’t fit in with your décor.

The Yard Sale is on **Sat Aug 6th**.
Items can be brought in the week of Aug 1st.
Children’s clothes welcome,
but **not** adult clothes.

Asbury Methodist Bell Choir

Asbury would like to invite members from ORLC to join our bell choir for the performance at our joint worship celebration on July 10th. We will practice **Tuesday nights from 6:15 – 7:15 starting Tuesday, June 14th**. Anyone who is interested or has questions can call or email me before June 1st. We’re all getting very excited and would love to have more Lutherans join us. Anyone interested can talk to **Gwen Richards** also, who has been playing with the bell choir since January.
Linda Boris

Worship Assignments

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

2011	June 5	June 12	June 19	June 26
Asst Minister	Jill Rowland	Dave Hindahl		
Lector	Phil Scott			
Acolyte	Alden Gendreau			
Greeter/Usher				
Coffee Hour	Audrey & Myrin Bentz	The Wendles	Blanche Donahue	
Flowers	Robin & Dave Hindahl	Anna Elouise Wendle		Audrey & Myrin Bentz
Altar Care	Blanche Donahue	and	Robin	Hindahl

Nursery will be staffed weekly

Committees, Councils, and Meetings of ORLC

Church Council

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 7pm

2010 Members :

Rick Denis (President), Cheri Anderson (V.P.),
Kathy Terry (Sec.), Randy Church,
Rose Miller, Jim Matthias, Vicki Wartalski

Financial Officers:

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

WELCA

Kathy Rice & Kathy Terry (Co-Presidents),
Kathy Rice (Treas.) Kristen White (Sec.)

Worship Committee

Contact Audrey Bentz for meeting times

Evangelism Comm.

Contact Don Shalhope for meeting times

Faith in Action

Contact 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

Quilting

1st & 3rd Wednesdays
at 9:00am in the Fellowship Hall



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 10 Worship 11 Fellowship	6	7 10:30am Faith In Action Meeting	8	9	10	11
12 FIA designated Giving Sunday 10 Worship Baptism 11 Fellowship	13	14 7:00pm Council Meeting	15	16	17	18
19 10 Worship 11 Fellowship Conf Class goes to California.	20 July Newsletter Articles due Pastor Andy gone with Conf Class	21 Summer Begins! 	22	23	24	25
26 Guest Pastor Judith Ann Richards 10 Worship 11 Fellowship Milt & Jessie 1:15 Card Class Conf Class Back	27 FISH Jennifer Vaca All week	28	29 FISH 7:00pm Women's Bible Study	30	1 FISH	2

- Women's Quilting is the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 9am 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.*

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: **July Newsletter submissions** :
: Due: June 21, 2011 Send to: :
: orlc@gorge.net :
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