

Good News!

March 2011

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

FISHing.....

ORLC representatives **Betty Lou Yenne** (who is also the new secretary of the FISH board of directors!) and **Larry Denis** met with the FISH board of directors to resume partnership discussions after the holiday hiatus.

Fish board members expressed an enthusiastic interest in moving forward and we invited them to join us on a 'field trip' this March to **St. Matthews Lutheran Church** in Beaverton. St. Matthews has operated a food bank for over twenty years and is currently expanding their physical capabilities. They have graciously offered to take us on a tour of their new facilities and then have their staff, including their grant writers and construction contractor, sit down with us to share their experiences and answer our questions as we contemplate the possibilities of traveling a similar road.

The next steps will include an attempt to define more accurately the physical needs of both ORLC and FISH. We will then begin to assemble an architectural team to produce an actual feasibility study as there are many questions which need answers before we can even consider moving forward as a team. These would include, but are not limited to, *road access issues, septic system regulations and restrictions, building and planning code requirements and cost estimate information*. Once we have this information, then we will be in a position to decide if this is something ORLC and FISH really can undertake.

We will keep you posted.

Larry Denis

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Ash Wednesday

Thanks to our new partnership with Asbury UMC we are excited to announce that this year we will be having a **joint Ash Wednesday service at Asbury on Wednesday March 9th**. The time of that service has yet to be scheduled, however we will be sure to make it known through emails, bulletin announcements and the like. Our Redeemer, in turn, will be hosting the **Maundy Thursday and Good Friday worship services on April 21st and 22nd**. Please help us embrace this new joint ministry covenant and join us for worship at Asbury UMC (6th and State in Hood River) on the 9th of March.

A Word From Our Pastor

Pastor Andy

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

I'd like to invite you, just for a moment, wherever you are, to just sit back, relax, take a deep breath and entertain these inquiries about the well-being of your soul. After you've read each question or thought, pause for a moment and let it sit with you, perhaps write down your answer, if there is one, and then move on to the next question. Take your time, this isn't a race. Are you ready? Good, let's begin.

What are the prayers or thoughts closest to your heart these days?

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Isaiah 55:8-9

Where do you usually turn for answers to the thoughts or questions that life tends to throw your way?

"Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you." James 4:8-10

How and where do you see God active in your life these days?

"For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38-39

Are there ways that you could ask God to enter into your life at this time?

"Don't bargain with God. Be direct. Ask for what you need. This isn't a cat-and-mouse, hide-and-seek game we're in. If your child asks for bread, do you trick him with sawdust? If he asks for fish, do you scare him with a live snake on his plate? As bad as you are, you wouldn't think of such a thing. You're at least decent to your own children. So don't you think the God who conceived you in love will be even better?" Matthew 7:7-11

(taken from The Message)

We're entering the time of Lent in a few short days ... This is typically thought of as a season of giving up, letting go, becoming more severe in our spiritual disciplines. But behind all of those conventional descriptions lies one unending truth ... God desires that we draw near because we are loved. Use these questions or some of your own to draw near to the One who loves you.

In Peace, Pastor Andy

A Blessing for your Lenten journey ~



In the fire of revelation,
in the clarity of illumination,
in the shadows of mystery,
in the silence of prayer,
may the Word of God
inscribe itself on your soul
and illumine your way.

- Jan L. Richardson

In the Sanctuary of Women

ORLC Council Meeting Minutes February 15, 2011

Members Present: Rick Denis, Rose Miller, Cheri Anderson, Vickie Wartalski, Jim Matthias, Randy Church and Kathy Terry.
Also present Pastor Andy Wendle. Members Absent: Linnea Denis
The meeting was called to order by President Rick Denis at 7 P.M.
Devotions and prayer were lead by Rick Denis.

Members Concerns: Mari and Jim Matthias' infant niece is home and improving after hospitalization. Marlene Lahti has resumed Altar Guild duties. Jim Anderson still has pain from an injured ankle but is getting around on crutches.

Minutes: The minutes of the January 16th Council meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Cheri to approve the minutes as written; seconded by Jim. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Our treasurer is ill and unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Pastor's Report: See attached.

Pastor has formulated three goals for 2011:

- * Provide Pastoral care to ORLC members as we move towards our transition in July.
- * Provide renewed or emphasized leadership for our worship services.
- * Work on and help the transition to shared ministry with Asbury both develop and go as smoothly as possible.

He suggested that we might move our budget approval process to November.

Joint Ministry Celebration with Asbury will be July 10, 2011.

Committee Reports: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

1. Council Installation is set for **Sunday, March 6th**.
2. After discussion, Jim moved that we allow our facility to be used for the **Garden with God event on Saturday, April 30th**; seconded by Rose. Motion passed.
3. A motion was made by Rose to authorize payment of \$500 to the NDI Capital campaign as approved in our 2011 budget; seconded by Randy. Motion passed.
4. **Jenn Klotz** has asked if she could speak about her ministry in Poland on March 20th. Jim moved that we authorize the presentation from Jenn Klotz and a special offering to support her ministry; seconded by Randy. Motion passed.
5. Our Christmas Eve special offering of \$424 was placed in the Family Preservation Fund. Cheri moved that we send that \$424 to Providence HRMH for their community care fund; seconded by Rose. Motion passed.
6. Time line for 2011 projects:
 - A. Hot water heater: Pastor will work on bids.
 - B. Roof : Rick will check with Brown Roofing, The Dalles for a bid.
 - C. Painting of the exterior of the church: Jim will check with a congregation member about assistance with painting. Various church members have power washers to assist with prep.
 - D. Parking lot resurfacing: Rick will check with a company in The Dalles. Besides resurfacing we need a second handicapped parking space.
7. Joint Ministry Items:
 - * We need two council members and one other congregation member to serve on the JMLT; Dottie Gilbertson currently serves this committee as a congregational member. Vicki Wartalski and Rose Miller agreed to serve on the team. It was moved by Kathy that we accept Dottie, Vicki and Rose for three members of the JMLT; seconded by Cheri. Motion passed.
 - * Discussed priorities for the JMLT meetings. Council feels joint social functions, church worship times, women's/men's ministries as well as Sunday school should be on the agenda.
 - * Accountability of JMLT to Council: requested to report monthly to Council.
8. Signers of checks: Cheri and Rose volunteered to be check signers; Rick and Kathy will continue that assignment. Jim moved to accept Cheri, Rose, Rick and Kathy as check signers; seconded by Randy. Motion passed.
9. **VBS Update:** The theme for this year's VBS will be **Pandamania. It will be held July 25-29th** and will be combined with Asbury Methodist. Rick and Linnea Denis, Cheri and Jim Anderson will be leading VBS.

Next council meeting will be **Tuesday, March 15th at 7 P.M.** at the church. Cheri will lead devotions. Closing prayer led by Pastor Andy. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, *Kathy Terry*

Council Secretary

Council highlights from February 15

- * Council welcomed our newest members **Jim Matthias** and Vicki **Wartalski**.
- * The approval of the \$500 contribution to The Next Door, Inc. capital campaign that was a budget line item in this years budget. We also approved the transfer of \$424 that was collected at the Christmas Eve service to the community needs fund at the hospital. Churches in the area contribute to this common fund at the hospital for community members that may be in need of assistance.
- * And lastly, we voted on four members of our congregation to serve as representatives on the Asbury/Our Redeemer Joint Leadership Team. They are **Dottie Gilbertson** and **Jim Anderson** (members at large); **Rose Miller** and **Vicki Wartalski** (council members).

Submitted by, *Cheri Anderson*

Financial Report

	Income at end of January	\$11604.07
less	Expense at end of January	<u>9230.91</u>
	Net	\$ 2373.16

Submitted by *Linnea Denis*
Treasurer

Daylight
Savings
Time
March 13th



Daylight Savings Time is
March 13th

Spring Begins March 20th



WELCA Meeting

Welca met on Saturday, February 5th. We had 16 women present.. The upcoming WELCA Convention in Spokane July 14-17 is being considered for attendance and transportation. Hopefully we will have some women able to attend. The Church scrapbook updating will be headed by Evi Kujala. After our next meeting on May 14th we will stay for a few hours and help get photos and articles organized. Anyone having photos they think should be included may give them to us for the scrapbooks. Names and dates for the photos will be very helpful! \$500 has been approved for needed supplies for this project. The yard sale will be in early August. Please keep this in mind as you begin your "Spring Cleaning"!!

Special Music

A couple decades ago, the dictator Ceaușescu of Romania, with apparent political motives, encouraged adults to bear as many children as possible. Because of much poverty, the swelling birth population resulted in thousands of babies with no sustainable care by parents.

Thus, scores of orphanages were set up to provide temporary care of these children. Now, as adolescent children are dropped from these orphanages, they have about two alternatives to survive on their own: yes -- drugs and prostitution.

On **Sunday, March 20**, **Jennifer Klotz** will once again be sharing her gift of music at Our Redeemer and telling her stories of working with these children, assuring them that they are not "throw away kids" but children who are made to feel special and loved by God. They get some life skills so that they have a fighting chance at a productive life. Jenn, in addition to singing music that includes her own songs about these children, will share both pictures and stories of her continued work in Romania.



Jennifer is the daughter of Myrin and Audrey and brother of George Bentz. She is a professional singer and her music and story would be a good reason to invite a neighbor or friend to worship with us on March 20.



An Invitation.....

To: Asbury Methodist Men's Group Retreat
Where: Morning Song Acres
When: Thursday **May 19th** – Saturday **May 21st**
Contact: Marvin Turner: (541) 386-1587 **as soon as possible** if interested.

Marvin Turner of Asbury Methodist contacted me recently regarding the above captioned 'Retreat' and to invite the men of ORLC to attend. The cost is \$95.00 per person. I assume that includes meals and lodging for two nights. The retreat is to focus on the Book of James.

Bob White

Our Redeemer and Asbury “Dinners for Eight” program.

This is a fun program where ORLC members will be paired with Asbury members and rotate around to each other's homes for dinner. As of right now we have about 25 people already signed up and I know Asbury has about 20 people as well. So the response and opportunity to do get to know these brothers and sisters of ours will be great! You can sign up this Sunday or next and after that the organizers are going to look at getting the groups started.



**Quilt Tying Event = Fun Fellowship!
Wed, March 2nd, at ORLC
9:30am to 1:30pm
Soup Lunch at Noon**

The quilt tops are already made but need to be backed, filled and tied. The completed LWR quilts are sent all over the world to bring relief to thousands of people who have suffered from disasters. They have also been used to help provide bedding in hospitals such as Mother Theresa's hospital for women in India.

All sewing supplies for this event are supplies. Just come and join us in the fun of making new friends as well as accomplishing something for a good cause. You don't need any special sewing skills to participate in this event. So that we can make appropriate plans for the lunch and prepare the set up for the quilt tying, please RSVP by Mon, Feb 28th with Dottie Gilbertson (541) 354-1459 or dottieg@gorge.net.

Faith In Action

Our committee has finished distributing the **70 Green Light Bags** at food banks in **Odell, Parkdale, Bingen, and Hood River**. As before, they were gratefully accepted by the recipients. Thanks to ORLC for their support.

Service and Cinnamon Rolls during Lent will begin March 12, with service to be determined. Watch for E-mails, listen to announcements, as this is another outreach opportunity for our congregation. Sign up sheets will be available for all dates, including March 26 and April 9. Any service suggestions can be given to committee members or Pastor Andy.

Seeds will soon be sown into pots to start plants for the **Plant Sale May 1 and 8**, as a fundraising effort to support our outreach programs. We will need extra hands to help with the sale, muscle to set up tables and would like a canopy to borrow for either rain or sun protection, depending on the weather on the sale days.

We are a busy, active committee and invite participation, part time or full time. Our meeting time is flexible, but we have been meeting, various days, at 10:30 in the morning. Our next meeting is scheduled for March 3 in the fellowship hall at 10:30am.

*Sharon Pantely, Debby Chenoweth,
Blanch Donahue and Judith Ann Richards.*

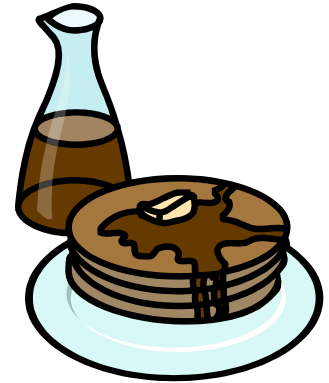


ORLC's confirmation class will be having a **Mardi Gras - Fat Tuesday Celebration and Fund-raiser** on **Tuesday March 8th at 5:30pm.**

This will be an all you can eat pancake dinner with all the fixings and there will be additional table items available for auction that evening. The cost is **\$3/single person, \$5/couple or \$10/family unit.**

This is in preparation for a mission trip they will take to **San Francisco this summer** to experience and work with various homeless ministries in that area. Tickets will be available Sunday for any and all who would like to attend. They are sure to sell out fast as the response has just been overwhelming for this event.

We will be using a secret pancake recipe that has been handed down from generation to generation in the Rowland/Gendreau family. As mentioned above there will be several special items that each table may bid on as the evening progresses that will only heighten their enjoyment of the feast. And of course, what would any Mardi Gras celebration be without beads! Come one, come all, it should be a great time for a good cause.



Family News



One Sunday after church, I asked Charis and Will what they would like me to bring for their dinner (to help out with the newborn in Pastor and Linden's home). Their uniform answer was "peanut butter and jelly sandwiches"!

Audrey Bentz

Ethan Fowler is still excited about his win at the local Pack 282 Pinewood Derby a couple of weeks ago. His car "the Blacksmith" placed first in his Bear group, and was the fastest car in the pack! He will be racing his car (a car made from a block of wood, not to be over 5 oz) in the District race at the Wahtonka Highschool in the Dalles on March 12th.

Amy Fowler received a Mighty Milers medal for having run 26.2 miles (marathon) since the beginning of the school year.

Thea Brevard was seen wall-climbing (indoor version of rock climbing) at Hood River Middle School. **Danielle Green** has become a familiar face in the newspaper with her swimming accomplishments at swim meets.

Worship Assignments

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

2011	Mar 6	Mar 13	Mar 20	Mar 27
Asst Minister	Dave Hindahl			Kris White
Lector				
Acolyte				
Greeter/Usher	Bob & Kris White			
Coffee Hour	Bob & Kris White			
Flowers	Skip & Jennifer Fowler			
Altar Care	Melody	Church	And Barbara	Hustman

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),
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 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 10am Down Manor Bible Study	3 Faith In Action Meeting 10:30am	4	5
6 10am Worship Council Install. 11 Fellowship	7	8 Pancake Dinner & Fundraiser 5:30pm	9 Ash Wednesday Noon Library Meeting	10	11	12 Service and Cinnamon Rolls
13 10am Worship Sun. Schl 11 Fellowship Day Light Savings Begins	14	15 7pm Council Meeting	16 10am Down Manor Bible Study	17 Happy  St. Patricks Day	18	19
20 10am Worship 11 Fellowship Jennifer Klotz Sings @service	21	22	23 10am Down Manor Bible Study	24	25	26 Service and Cinnamon Rolls
27 10am Worship Sun. Schl 11 Fellowship	28	29	30 10am Down Manor Bible Study	31		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women's Quilting is the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 9am in the Fellowship Hall. • 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.

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: April Newsletter submissions :
: Due: March 21, 2011 Send to: :
: orlc@gorge.net :
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