

# Good News!

May 2011

## Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

### *MOTHER'S DAY & MOTHER EARTH DAY* *May 8*

Our Redeemer Lutheran will be a great place to celebrate the day! Worship will feature "PICK YOUR FAVORITE HYMN" –maybe one that was your mother's favorite – or yours.

Then, following worship, all kinds of plants and seedlings will be available, including those listed below. There will be a suggested donation, but whatever you contribute will go to our **Green Light Project** which assists needy mothers in using household products that help save Mother Earth and help "Food Bank" mothers live more economically.

### In This Issue . . .

A Word From Our Pastor	2
Council Minutes	4
News & Events	5-7
Worship Assignments	8
Calendar	9

### **TOMATO PLANTS**

**Cherry Yellow Pear:** 75 days, heirloom, sweet, mild, almost lemony flavor, low acid.

**Better Boy Hybrid:** 75 days, over 1 lb, extremely flavorful, juicy but firm, disease resistant, indeterminate.

**Delicious:** 77 days, excellent slicer, 1+ lbs, smooth solid fruit, large red, developed from Beef Steak.

As for flavor – the name says it all.

**Cherry Yellow Pear:** 75 days, heirloom, sweet, mild, low acid.

**Better Boy Hybrid:** 75 days, over 1 lb, extremely flavorful, juicy but firm, disease resistant, indeterminate

**Black Krim:** 69 days, fruit is dark deep reddish black) with heavy green shoulders. Sweet, really tasty, indeterminate.

**Roma** (the "salsa" favorite): 75 days, premium canner, ideal for salsa, 3 in. pear-shaped, thick and meaty, few seeds. Determinate.

**Siletz:** large (10-12 oz), early tomato, does well in cooler weather, flavorful and good slicer.

**Ace:** Heirloom, low acidity but robust flavor, bush type, great for canning.

**Big Beef:** Enormous, but flavor of old fashioned heirlooms, disease resistant, indeterminate.

**Oregon Spring:** An early tomato (65 days) that is also large and tasty. Weather resistant, determinate.

**Beef Steak Heirloom:** Large, great old fashioned flavor, heirloom so can reuse the seeds for next year!



### **PEPPER PLANTS**

**Jalapeno:** Hot, flavorful, good for salsa

**Bell:** The most popular, green and red, sweet!



# A Word From Our Pastor

Pastor Andy

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

How many Lutherans does it take to change a light bulb? ... Change, who said anything about Lutherans changing?

Well, jokes like that aside, things are indeed changing here! In a short two months we will begin our partnership with Asbury UMC. And while there are larger ideas and themes that we need to embrace in this new opportunity there are also important logistical and planning concerns about which everyone needs to be informed. This article represents my attempt to inform you about some of those transitions before they happen so that we all might be prepared. I will now focus on three transitions: the joint worship celebration, regular Sunday worship after July 1<sup>st</sup>, and the office hour situation as we begin our joint ministry with Asbury.

## Joint Worship Celebration

On **Sunday July 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am** we will have a joint worship celebrating our Joint Ministry Covenant! This service will occur at the Hood River High School, and we will have OR Synod Bishop Dave Brauer-Rieke preaching and Assistant to the Bishop Steve Ross (UMC) also speaking. We've decided to have the service at a 3<sup>rd</sup> party location for several reasons, but two stand out. One, we are concerned about having a lack of space at either church facility. And two, this moves our celebration away from being either churches' "thing" and moves it to being a joint celebration done by us all. I encourage you to read Vicki Wartalski's comments about this celebration to receive more details about some of the other things that may accompany the event.

## Regular Worship Time



**Beginning on July 3<sup>rd</sup> Our Redeemer will be moving its worship time from 10am to 9am and Asbury will be moving its worship time from 10am to 11am.** There were two different questions in addressing the shift of worship times. First, since we both currently worship at 10am the best solution was to move one congregation's worship service to an earlier time and one to a later time. It was generally felt in our various discussions at Our Redeemer that earlier was a better fit for our community. Similarly, it was also generally felt by folks at Asbury that a later time would work better for them. The question that then emerged was just what would those times be? The starting point in that discussion centered around what did late mean and it was a general consensus that late meant 11am. Working backward from this time our discussions at council and in various places centered what time would be best given that 11am time. We talked about 9:30 but it was generally felt that 9:30 would be cutting it too close. And thus it was decided that 9am would be the better choice.

I hope you hear in this brief reporting that this was not a decision reached lightly. It was just a decision that seemed to offer the most prudent choice. This does not and will not preclude someone from either church attending the other church if a later (or earlier) time works better. Indeed several members at both places have indicated a desire to do so already and I encourage you to think about doing the same. As well, I do want to remind everyone that just a short two years ago we were worshipping at 9am. And I'll also point out that this time will allow our various education programs to have a better time fit after our worship services. We will need additional leadership for those opportunities to occur but we have struggled since switching to 10am with attendance and hopefully this switch will help with that. All that said, we do know that this shift will be tough for some folks so please know that your council and your representatives on the Joint Ministry Leadership Team (JMLT) will be attentive to how this transition is going and will, if need occurs, reexamine this issue.

## Office Hours at Our Redeemer

One of the more difficult realities for us to embrace, myself included, is the fact that beginning ministry in this way will mean a reduction in office hours here at Our Redeemer. And yet it is important, I think, to face this challenge and begin the transition as clearly as possible.

Currently I am, of course, available here in the office nearly any day during my normal work week which is Monday through Thursday. I will not be changing my general work week during this transition, I will still work Monday through Thursday. However I will, **beginning the week after Sunday July 3<sup>rd</sup>, start spending half of my office time at Asbury. My intent for the first several months is to split my time by being in Our Redeemer's office on Mondays and Thursdays and in Asbury's Office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.** To help us better embrace this shift, still accomplish our various responsibilities, and maintain more of an office presence at Our Redeemer, I have been working with your church council to increase our office secretary's (Jen Fowler) office hours from 3-5 a week to 10 hours a week. This will allow Jen to work four hours on Mondays and Wednesdays and two hours on Thursdays. This accomplishes two things: 1) It will allow Jen and I to coordinate our work week on Monday mornings when we are here together. 2) It will give Our Redeemer regular office hours on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Jen has been on board with this shift for some time and welcomes this new role. And, quite frankly, this will allow her to be paid for work that she is already doing.

So those are the basics, but there are several important things for you to know. First, I will **not** be a half-time pastor at Our Redeemer nor at Asbury. If there is a pastoral need or crisis that arises and it is my office day at Asbury, call! (Folks at Asbury will be encouraged to do the same.) **I am still your pastor and if there is a need, regardless of where I am that day, please call. You can always reach me on my cell phone (541.490.6703) if you don't know Asbury's number (541.386.2578) or don't remember the schedule.** Second, I will try, as much as possible, to take care of my various "administrative" responsibilities for each congregation during my office hours at each place. This means that worship planning, committee meetings, non-emergency visitations, etc., for each congregation will take place on my days at each congregation. Now obviously there won't be a strict line drawn here, and there will be a great amount of crossover, but in saying this I'm trying to not only respect the various responsibilities I will have in each congregation, but I'm also trying to set a positive precedent regarding what expectations you can have for my time.

To recap, my work week will remain unchanged. I will still work Monday – Thursday. I will be at Our Redeemer on Mondays and Thursdays. To compensate for some of this we will be increasing our office secretary hours thus providing Our Redeemer with office hours of Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. All this said, I will still be your full-time pastor. If there is a pastoral need please call wherever I am.

I hope this begins to give you a general picture of what this is going to look like. If you have questions about these various issues, please do ask either myself, your church council representatives or a member of the JMLT group. We are all here to serve you and look to do so to the best of our abilities. I thank you for your flexibility and look forward to moving with you into these new opportunities.

In Peace,  
*Pastor Andy*



**ORLC Council Meeting Minutes**  
**April 12, 2011**

**Members Present:** Rick Denis, Linnea Denis, Rose Miller, Cheri Anderson, Vickie Wartalski, Jim Matthias and Kathy Terry.  
Also present Pastor Andy Wendle. **Members Absent:** Randy Church

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Denis at 7:06 P.M.

Devotions and prayer were lead by Rose. "Keep your fork – the best is yet to come" was the message in a story about a woman who was very ill. Speaking to her pastor, she said that she wanted a fork in her hand in the casket to remind everyone that dying is not the end but, like dessert, the best is yet to come.

**Members Concerns:** Inez Reynolds is home and doing well. Also, see comments under the Pastor's report.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the March 15<sup>th</sup> Council meeting were reviewed. Cheri moved to approve the minutes as written; seconded by Jim. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Currently, the Treasurer's balance and that of the Financial Secretary do not agree, but they are in the process of resolving the issue. Rose moved to approve the Treasurer's report as presented; seconded by Jim. Motion passed.

**Correspondence:** None discussed.

**Pastor's Report:** See attached.

Significant happenings since the last meeting include two well attended and received Service and Cinnamon Rolls events, replacement of the water heater (twice!) and a GEM event to promote closer relationships with the Hispanic community. Vickie, Sharon Pantely and Pastor Andy attended the GEM event.

Pastor has visited numerous members this past month. Jessie & Milt are in the preliminary planning stage for a move to California. Dave Harris had another stroke several weeks ago but is steadily improving. Pastor Andy has offered our church facilities to the Ludwig family as a place to meet for possible fund raising (for medical expenses) groups. Chuck Henderson is also dealing with ongoing health problems.

A motion was made by Jim to authorize \$300 from the Kids for Christ fund to go toward the confirmation trip expenses; seconded by Cheri. Motion passed.

Discussed Pastor Andy's new schedule that will begin July 1<sup>st</sup> as we start the joint ministry with Asbury.

**Committee Reports:** **JMLT:** The leadership team has discussed plans for the July 10<sup>th</sup> celebration. They will meet with Pastor Steve Ross, Assistant to the Bishop, UMC, on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

- Old Business:**
- A. Time lines.
    - 1. Water heater installation is complete but Bob Havig will finish some electrical work.
    - 2. Painting of the church: plans are progressing.
    - 3. Roof & Parking lot: Brown Roofing has not returned calls. Seal Coat of The Dalles will do the parking lot for our budgeted amount of \$2700.
  - B. Check Signers: Process is almost complete.
  - C. GEM potluck: Follow up dinner is scheduled for May 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - D. Ministry List: None added.

- New Business:**
- A. Budget process: Following discussion, Cheri moved that we have our annual budget approval meeting on November 20, 2011; seconded by Linnea. Motion passed.
  - B. Council Retreat: Planning to schedule for the fall of 2011.
  - C. Spring cleaning: Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup> from 9 – 12 p.m.. Cheri and Kathy will compile job lists for the inside and outside of the church.

Next council meeting will be **Tuesday, May 10th at 7 PM**. Kathy Terry will lead the devotions.

Vickie will submit a JMLT summary for the Newsletter.

Closing prayer led by Pastor Andy.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Terry  
Council Secretary

**Joint Ministry Leadership Team (JMLT) Highlights:**

**July 10, 2011 celebration for Joint Ministry Covenant:**

Plans are underway for the celebration of ORLC and AUMC Joint Ministry Covenant. The celebration will take place on July 10, 2011 at 10:00 AM. We are hosting this event at the Hood River High School. After the worship service there will be a cake and coffee reception. We are still working out all the details and as they become available, I will keep everyone informed. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please feel free to talk to Rose, Jim A., Dottie, Pastor Andy or myself. This is about all of us coming together as one. Also since the service is taking place during the summer and many of you have your vacations planned, the JMLT committee is working on a pot luck/ice cream social to be held about 2 (two) weeks before our worship service. This will be an event that ORLC and AUMC will invite other churches that we partner with and the community to come and see what we are doing. Also it is a time for all of us to gather and get to know one another better.

**Joint meeting with Steve Ross May 15, 2011:**

The JMLT, ORLC council and the Admin Team from AUMC will be meeting with Steve Ross, the Asst. to Bishop (UMC). Steve has agreed to meet with us to help answer questions we may have about bringing our churches together and working smoothly through our transition. We will be asking questions and learning during our time together. I invite any of you who have questions or comments to please pass them along to a council member or a JMLT member and we will get the answer for you and pass along what we have learned.

**Worship time:**

Worship times have been discussed and it has been decided that ORLC will worship at 9:00 AM and AUMC will worship at 11:00 AM this will start on Sunday July 3, 2011. This will give Pastor Andy time after our worship to greet and talk to members before head over to AUMC for their worship service.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Wartalski JMTL Co-Chair



**Financial Report April 2011**

	Income at end of March	\$11836.30
less	Expense at end of March	<u>16285.80</u>
	Net	\$ (449.50)
	Income Year to Date	\$34723.52
less	Expense Year to Date	<u>32915.00</u>
	Net	1808.52

Submitted by Linnea Denis  
Treasurer

## FISH Update

At the **FISH board meeting 4/20**, a discussion regarding future actions of the FISH/ORLC venture were discussed.

Future field trips: We suggested that FISH choose our next visit but they requested that ORLC research that and so we are scheduled to meet with the staff of the Philomath Community Services Food Bank on the morning of May 26th. This is a food bank similar in size and population to FISH, and hopefully will represent a good model as we look to our future together.

Financing the preliminary study: We announced that ORLC has authorized \$2000 toward hiring professional help to get the preliminary studies started and we are ready to move forward with this when FISH is.

Request for liaison: It will become increasingly important to have both organizations involved in decision-making as we move forward.

FISH has had a steering committee in the past to accomplish this and much work has been done in the past by FISH in this regard. We hope that in the future ORLC will be able to help FISH continue to help our community.

Larry Denis

## **Confirmation Class**

Please also note that there will only be two confirmation classes in **May – the 1<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>** – due to scheduling conflicts. Please try to make these classes as best you can and also keep working on worship notes as everyone has some ground to make up on those. See you all then!

## **Children's Sunday**

**School** will be Sunday May 8th and May 22nd during the 1st half of Worship.



## **Update Columbia Gorge Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans**

Do you know if you own **Thrivent products** you are part of the Columbia Gorge Chapter and your benevolent dollars help fund many worthwhile causes, including right here at ORLC?

You have helped fund Project Christmas Child, The Green Light Project, Fish, Our Community Garden, and our quilting project.

You now have the opportunity to direct where some of your Thrivent Dollars go, so be sure to vote when you receive a notice about the next voting event.

We will be having several educational and social events in the coming months, be sure to watch for announcements and plan to attend.

For more info about our Thrivent Chapter see **Bette Lou Yenne or Rose Miller**.



### Faith in Action Report

Our very active committee successfully completed three service projects for our Lenten alternative giving, rather than giving up. Our final event was cleaning and beautifying the Museum courtyard. Asbury members participated in all events and this helped us know each other better, as cooperation makes work more interesting and a lot of fun.

We are all optimistic that summer will come to our valley, and we will have our plant sale May 8 and 15. Offered again are vegetable plants, perennials and some house plants. What can you, as ORLC members do? Volunteer to help sell at the sales, do some 'heavy lifting' for us as we unload our cars and take some flyers to give to friends and neighbors, inviting them to come, as well. This is a major fundraiser for our Green Light Project, so we work hard for this to happen. We thank you in advance for your support.

Our next designated giving opportunity will be **Sunday June 12th**. We will let you know in advance what the giving will be benefiting. Since we garner our funds for Green Light, we are also looking into another fund raiser in the fall that will give everyone the opportunity to also help fill our Green bags! Stay tuned as these plans progress for fall.

Our small though very busy committee works diligently to accomplish what we do. We are always reaching out to invite people to join our 'team'. Our next meeting is **Tuesday May 3rd at 1pm** in the fellowship hall. We welcome anyone and everyone to join, help for a few projects or stay with us for our gatherings.

Report by *Sharon Pantely*

#### **Asbury Methodist Men's Group Retreat,**

Originally scheduled for May 19th-20th, the retreat has been cancelled. If and when it is planned again, the newsletter will let you know!

#### **Women of Our Redeemer:**

**WELCA** will have its next general meeting on Saturday, May 14th from 10-12 p.m. We'll enjoy a salad potluck lunch and if you're able to stay into the afternoon we'll spend time scrapbooking as we organize our church history. All women are invited and welcome. We hope to see you there.

#### **Come Lend a Hand—or Two!**

On Saturday, May 21st, from 9-12 p.m. ORLC church spring cleaning day. More details later.

### Office News

Pastor Andy will be away on May 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. On **May 8<sup>th</sup>** we will have a hymn sing Sunday with a special message prepared for us by **Debby Chenoweth**. Debby as you may know is the Oregon Synod representative to the ELCA Churchwide Council. This has led her into several exciting service positions and she will come prepared on May 8<sup>th</sup> to talk about the ELCA, it's ministry, her involvement and also provide an update about some of the "facts of life" of the ELCA these days.

On Sunday **May 15<sup>th</sup>** we will have **Pastor Joel Schmitz** of Portland serve as a supply preacher that day. We thank him for his future service to us.

Attention Ushers: At the counter in the Narthex is a drawer labeled for everything an usher needs to fulfill their service during worship! Prayer request cards, offering envelopes, and the all important bank bag and recording sheet for offerings. The record sheet does **not** need to be carbon copied; just the one copy please! Please record the number of envelopes/checks/cash, and place in the bank bag. The bank bag should be locked and placed in the secretary's office.

# Worship Assignments

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

2011	May 1	May 8	May 15	May 22	May 29 Memorial Day Wkend
<b>Asst Minister</b>	Debby Chenoweth		Kristen White	Dave Hindahl	Cindy Morus
<b>Lector</b>			Jennifer Fowler	Della Henderson	
<b>Acolyte</b>			Ethan Fowler		
<b>Greeter/Usher</b>		Bob & Kris White			
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Katie & Nathan Koch		The Fowlers	Della Henderson	
<b>Flowers</b>	Jennifer Fowler	Blanche Donahue			
<b>Altar Care</b>	Kris	White	and	Linden	Wendle

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9 Adult Study 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 3:30 Conf. Class	2	3 1:00pm Faith In Action Meeting	4	5	6	7
8 Mother's Day 10 Worship Sun. Schl 11 Fellowship  Plant Sale P.A. Vaca	9	10 7:00pm Council Meeting	11	12	13	14 10:00 am WELCA Meeting
15 10 Worship 11 Fellowship 1:15 Card Class  Plant Sale P.A. Vaca	16	17	18	19	20	21 9:00am ORLC Spring Cleaning
22 10 Worship Sun. Schl 11 Fellowship 3:30 Conf. Class	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 10 Worship 11 Fellowship	30 Memorial Day Office Closed	31				

- 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.*

"If it's drama that you sigh for, plant a garden and you'll get it. You will know the thrill of battle fighting foes that will beset it. If you long for entertainment and for pageantry most glowing, plant a garden and this summer spend your time with green things growing."

-Edward A. Guest, *Plant A Garden*

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

Our Redeemer  
Lutheran Church  
1140 Tucker Road  
Hood River, Oregon 97031  
Phone: 541-386-3993  
E-mail: [orlc@gorge.net](mailto:orlc@gorge.net)  
[www.lutheranchurchhoodriver.org](http://www.lutheranchurchhoodriver.org)