

Good News!

September 2011

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Food Bank Freewill Offering

The Columbia Gorge Chapter of Thrivent has set aside \$500 to \$2000 for four counties, Wasco, Hood River, Skamania, and Klickitat, to provide food assistance. The Lutheran Churches in these counties have been “challenged” to match funds by taking up a freewill offering to help with this important need in our communities.

The FISH offering at Our Redeemer will take place September 11th. Excess funds donated will also be allocated to the Food Banks. Please help with a contribution earmarked for the Thrivent Food Bank Project!

Rose Miller and Bette Lou Yenne

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Identity Theft workshops

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

There are two dates set for the workshops (both workshops cover the same info):

Wednesday September 7 at 7:00 pm at ORLC, session leader is Doug Martin.

Thursday Sept 15th, 7:00pm at Zion Lutheran Church, The Dalles. Session leader is Chad Peterson.

Contact Bette Lou Yenne or Rose Miller. Or sign up online at riverjade@club.net.

These should be very worthwhile events to help us learn about how to avoid becoming victims of America's fastest growing crime. Light refreshments will be served.

Rose Miller

9/11 Tenth Year

Observance:

Wisdom From our Faith Traditions

Gorge Ecumenical Ministries (GEM) invites people of faith from throughout the Columbia Gorge to join together on September 11, 2011 for a time of remembrance, reflection and healing.

The event, *Wisdom From our Faith Traditions*, will begin at 5 p.m. on September 11 at Wilson Park (211 May St.) in Hood River with a shared potluck meal. The interfaith observance will include poems, prayers, blessings and music.

We will gather to remember the events of September 11, 2001

and to reflect upon the wisdom of our faith traditions as we seek healing and peace in our world.

As you are able, please bring a lawn chair or picnic blanket, place setting and food to share.

For further information contact Rev. John Boonstra at 541-505-6282.

A Word From Our Pastor

Pastor Andy

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

As we approach the 10 year anniversary of September 11, 2001, what is your story?

On the 11th of this next month our world will pause and remember one of the more tragic moments in our nation's history. It was not the loss of life or the visual images or the world changing aftermath that singularly made it so tragic but rather it was the cumulative effect of all of those things and more that made it so. Each one of us has a story of that day. We know who we were with, what we were doing, where we were, why we were there and most of all how the day made us feel. Each one of those things has left an indelible mark upon our soul.

Personally, I remember getting a phone call from my father early that morning. Linden and I had just arrived in downtown Seattle, WA where I was to serve a year-long internship and my parents happened to be vacationing in Hawaii. My father, in his serious tone of voice that only a father can truly have, said "Andy, turn on the TV. There is something happening in New York." I turned on the television and watched in sleepy eyed confusion trying to understand just what was going on. After a few moments though, I finally understood enough to hear the news broadcasters say that other un-accounted planes were in the air and that cities like Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle could be next. It was then that I went into our room and told Linden to wake up and get dressed because we might have to leave. The day's events unfolded much differently but one of the moments that will stick with me is of being fearful for our safety enough that I had to consider what it would mean to evacuate. I had never experienced that emotion or feeling before and I don't want to experience it again.

Of course the impacts of that day are much deeper and wider than my own little story. Yet within that story is an element of truth for me certainly and for us in our world. That day we had to consider things that we maybe hadn't considered since perhaps WWII. That day and days since we've had to look differently at our nation, our community, our neighbors not to mention our airports, our buildings and so much more.

And so on September 11th we are going to endeavor to discover the truth of that day through your words and those of scripture. Between now and then I will be soliciting your reflections to play during worship in a kind of video montage of your stories of that day's events. What do you remember? Who were you with? What were you doing? Who did you want to call, hold, be next to at that moment? And would you be willing to share?

If you are, please let me know and I will come for a visit and we'll remember and pray together. Meanwhile we will all prepare for that day by remembering so that those days events might not be repeated ever again.

In Peace,
Pastor Andy

Pastor Andy's new email address is
pastorandy@gorge.net

ORLC Council Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2011

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

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Denis at 7:04 P.M. Devotions were lead by Vicki.

Member Concerns: The Schull family; both Harold and Adeline have been hospitalized. Linnea Denis has been ill. Patti and Bruce Ludwig continue in our prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the June 14th meeting were not available. No council meeting was held in July.

Treasurer's Report: The report was presented by Pastor Andy and reviewed by the council.

Correspondence: None presented.

Pastor's Report: See attached. Pastor would like to work toward ORLC doing more with Asbury, including, but not limited to, administrative and ministry areas.

Committee Reports:

- A. **JMLT:** ORLC and Asbury will hold an ice cream social at ORLC next Saturday, August 13th. The public is invited to share in the activities.
- B. **VBS:** Thirty-two (32) children attended Pandamania at Our Redeemer the last week of July. Many of the needed materials were loaned from local churches.

Old Business:

- A. **2011 Projects:**
 1. Painting of the church buildings: See schedule in the August Newsletter.
 2. The parking lot resurfacing and striping has been completed.
- B. **Ministry opportunities:** None discussed.
- C. **Council retreat:** Planning a fall joint retreat with Asbury.

New Business:

- A. **FISH** Report on August 1st meeting: An ORLC congregational meeting will be called to discuss next steps and the costs.
- B. **Thrivent** free will offering: It was moved by Rose to have a Thrivent freewill offering for FISH on Sunday, September 11th; seconded by Vicki. Motion passed.
- C. **Faith in Action:** Continues in planning stages for *Souper Bowl* as there may be a GEM event to commemorate 9/11 10th anniversary that day too.
- D. **Hood River warming shelter.** There will be training sessions on September 17th & 22nd. We will revisit support in our budget process.
- E. **Funding for NDI** past Capital Campaign: It will not be in the next budget but needs to be discussed where that amount could be used.
- F. **Leadership Development Conference:** Will discuss at our next meeting.
- G. **VBS** for next year? Referred to Education committee.
- H. **New computer** needs for office: Linnea will check on prices.
- I. **Outreach house update:** Two occupants now but soon both will leave. It is unknown when there will be new ones. We will request that Dottie Gilbertson present a report on the Outreach house status at the next council meeting in September.
- J. **Bathroom:** Rose moved that we consult with a plumber to fix the problem with the men's urinal using money from the maintenance fund; seconded by Jim. Motion passed.
- K. **Patti Ludwig:** A benefit golf tournament for Patti will be held September 24th in Hood River. Pastor Andy will contact an ORLC member to see if she would be willing to coordinate the efforts of our Redeemer's participation in the fund raiser.
- L. **New members** will be joining on Sunday, August 21st.

The next council meeting will be **Tuesday, September 6th at 7 p.m.** Devotions will be lead by Jim Matthias. Closing prayer led by Pastor Andy. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Terry
Council Secretary

Joint Ministry Leadership Team (JMLT)
August 15, 2011

MEETING SUMMARY

Members Present: Gigi Siekkinen, Rose Miller, Barbara Beardsley, Dottie Gilbertson, Pastor Andy Wendle, and Vicki Wartalski Members Absent: Jim Siekkinen, Jim Anderson, and Shelley Oates
Meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Gigi Siekkinen at 6:30pm

OPENING PRAYER: Gigi Siekkinen

DEVOTION: Pastor Andy read a passage from 1 Corinthians. We learned that everyone has varieties of gifts, varieties of services, varieties of working, yet it is the same God who inspires them all. We learned that Paul uses the word "you's" to show us the betterment of the whole, the important tasks, to be a true community, commit to different things. Our community of people have special gifts and we have to acknowledge them. "We have a new full kitchen of ingredients and we need to recognize what they are and share them with our community. We need to listen to what our community is saying and attend to it. What do we have? How do we affirm them and use them?"

MINUTES: The minutes from the June 27th JMLT were reviewed. A motion was made by Dottie Gilbertson to approve the minutes; seconded by Barbara Beardsley. Motion passed.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Andy reported that he has a steady flow of Pastoral care visits that are keeping him busy. Pastor Andy is thinking that later in the year he may form a team to help him with the visits to the members.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Reflections on Ice Cream Social:

If the idea was to get more of the community involved, we did not fulfill that area. We did have a good turn out from both churches and lots of kids, 18 in total, enjoyed the games that Gigi and her kids had organized. Everyone enjoyed the ice cream and the chance to sit around and talk. Pastor Andy pointed out that it was a low key event where people were able to bring guests and still have a good time. It was mentioned that maybe next year we would do the ice cream social once a month during the summer this way we can have a larger turn out and our members can invite their friends and neighbors to it. It was also mentioned that we invite the folks from Down Manor.

Recap of VBS:

It was a good week for all who helped. The question came up about how do we get AUMC more involved? We learned the congregation is mostly older people who have already put their kids thru VBS so it may be difficult to get help. We learned that some of the ORLC kids want to know be leaders for VBS. We need to address the following questions: Who is this for? What do they get from it? The idea was bounced around that maybe next year we would do VBS for just the pre-school age kids.

Update on FISH Building Project:

On August 1st, there was a meeting at ORLC to discuss building a new FISH building. We learned that everything is still in the planning stage and that moving along. It was suggested that the Asbury Admin. Team be brought up to date and also to find out if there is support from the congregation so that Asbury can be a true partner in this project. Scott, Donna and Jan who are from Asbury have been to the meetings. The next meeting is September 12th at ORLC.

September 11th remembrance/Souper Bowl Eve

The Faith In Action group at ORLC was planning a Souper Bowl/Remembrance service to mark the 10th anniversary of 9/11. While planning this event we learned that GEM was also looking into organizing something. Sharon Pantely, Pastor Andy and Vicki Wartalski attended a GEM planning meeting on August 10th to share our ideas and to hear what GEM was planning on doing. After careful thought, ORLC decided to postpone our Souper Bowl Event and join with GEM on putting together a 9/11 remembrance service. GEM will be hosting an event at Wilson Park on 9/11 at 5:00pm. It will be a community potluck event. As more information comes forward, I will pass it along.

Joint Mission project to replace Operation Christmas Child:

Immanuel Church took over this project, so now there is an opening for AUMC and ORLC to join together to take on a new project together. Several ideas were discussed. One was to take on a local project, such as adopt a classroom, or a school, or a teacher's cabinet. We need to find a connecting point with a school. We need to live God's word here in our community. Another idea was to reach out to Foster families. Rose mentioned that in Klickitat a group raised money or took donations to fill backpacks with food for kids who depended on school meals. Another idea was to raise funds for haircuts/lice checks or shoes. Dottie mentioned

that we look at the months after Christmas, because this is when kids will need new shoes or a new/used coat. Also January and February is the time when supplies start to run low. Since so many ideas were tossed around, the question was raised do we plan this for 2011/2012 or do we donate our funds and time to FISH?

New Business:

Rose Miller invited the group to an ID Theft workshop that is to be held on September 7th at ORLC from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Gigi said she will pass along the invite the the people at Asbury.

CLOSING PRAYER: Pastor Andy

NEXT MEETING: September 19, 2011 6:30pm at AUMC

October 17, 2011 6:30pm at ORLC

MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Wartalski

Co-Chair



Faith in Action ORLC

Our committee met August 8 to begin planning our Souper Supper event. Pastor Andy had received an Email from GEM [Gorge Ecumenical Ministries] stating that they wanted to plan an event to commemorate the happenings on 9/11 10 years ago. We went on with our planning for the soup supper, but with the understanding that the date would probably need to change. It will, but that will be discussed on Aug. 29 when we meet again.

At our Aug. 29 meeting we will plan for our Green Light bag filling and determine when the Souper Supper will be scheduled. We will be able to fill 66 bags with our current monies which have been raised. Committee members will purchase items to go into the bags and we will again assemble them assembly line style.

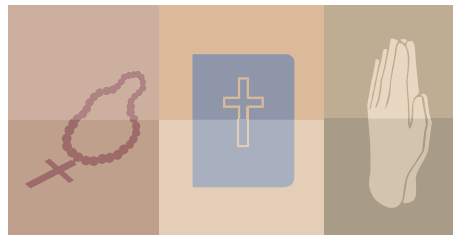
More information on the above items will be forthcoming. We thank everyone for their support, and welcome anyone who would be interested in being part of our busy outreach group. Contact *Sharon Pantely* if interested, or for more information.

WELCA Triennial Gathering

Beautiful prayer shawls graced the wall of the Convention Center in Spokane this July. Two of those shawls were made by Our Redeemer women---Della Henderson and Debby Chenoweth. This was but one of the beautiful experiences that Dottie Gilbertson, Debby, and myself had when we attended the Eighth WELCA Triennial Gathering in Spokane. We enjoyed three days of inspiration: music, worship services, workshops and terrific speakers. The keynote speaker was Leymah Gbowee who felt called to lead Liberia on a mission for peace (Google that name---you'll be amazed!). Hearing and seeing Bishop Hanson was exciting and we even had our picture taken with him!

We've returned with lots of exciting materials to share with you over the next few months ---and with enthusiasm to attend the next Gathering in 2014 in Charlotte, N.C.!

Kathy Terry
WELCA co-president



Women of Our Redeemer

Please save the date to attend WELCA's next general meeting. It will be Saturday, September 24th at 10am at the church.

Following our meeting we'll have a salad potluck. Please come not only to help us make plans for the coming months, but also to enjoy the fellowship of friends. All women are welcome.

Kathy Terry



Our Redeemer Women's Retreat November 11-13th 2011

Don't put away those beach sandals yet!
The ORLC Women's Cannon Beach Retreat is
November 11 to 13, 2011.

In a beautiful and recreational setting, find relaxation and spiritual renewal. The Cannon Beach Christian Conference Center provides excellent food and comfortable rooms. This year we will be staying in East Haven, part of the main center complex. Our speaker sessions will take place in the Prayer Chapel, perfect for our group size. Our Redeemer women have had their retreat at the center since 2004! Look for future news regarding our speaker, room assignments, and deadline dates for deposits.

Retreat committee members are *Cheri Anderson, Jennifer Fowler,*
and Kris White.

Sat Sept 24th Golf Benefit & Auction for Patti Ludwig

A benefit is being held to help raise needed funds for the Ludwig family to continue Patti's care. Patti requires 24 hour supervision, therapy sessions, and medication.

If you wish to help, you can look at the website regarding this event at ***pattiludwig.org***.

Sharon Pantely is the ORLC contact person for questions. Jessica Metta, family friend of the Ludwigs, may also be contacted at Jessica@jmetta.org or 541-399-1033 .



Family
News

Blanche Donahue

I just wanted to share my wonderful birthday experience. From Thurs., July 21 through Sun. the 23rd, 44 family members came to celebrate my birthday. They came from Colorado, Alaska, Washington and Oregon, and I got to meet our 2 newest great-grandsons, ages 2 mo. and 3 mo. Lots of fun, food and singing. A good time was had by all!!!

Sharon & George Pantely

Our summer was highlighted by family. Daughter Heather from Winslow, Maine visited with husband Jeff and children Gabriel and Adriana. Their week was divided between Portland and Parkdale, with the cousins exhausting themselves and their grandparents. While in Portland, they stayed with daughter Georgi and family. After that busy week, Alex and Theo came back to Parkdale for a week of VBS at ORLC, a highlight of their summer. We visited the county fair and ended the week with a wonderful family celebration of the wedding of George and Ingrid. Our family was very happy and quite tired, but thankful for good times.

Worship Assignments

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

2011	Sept 4	Sept 11	Sept 18	Sept 25
Asst Minister				
Lector				
Acolyte				
Greeter/Usher				
Coffee Hour				
Flowers				
Altar Care	Mari	Matthias	and	Cheri Anderson
Mowing	Skip Fowler by Sept 10		Skip Fowler by Sept 24	

Committees, Councils, and Meetings of ORLC

<u>Church Council</u> 2011 Members :	2nd Tuesday of each month @ 7pm. Rick Denis (President), Cheri Anderson (V.P.), Kathy Terry (Sec.), Randy Church, Rose Miller, Jim Matthias, Vicki Wartalski	<u>Worship Committee</u>	Contact Audrey Bentz for meeting times
<u>Financial Officers:</u>	Linnea Denis (Treasurer), Jennifer Fowler (Fin. Sec.)	<u>Evangelism Comm.</u>	Contact Don Shalhope for meeting times
<u>WELCA</u>	Kathy Rice & Kathy Terry (co-presidents) Kathy Rice (Treas.) Kristen White (Sec.)	<u>Faith in Action</u>	Contact Sharon Pantely for times
<u>JMLT</u>	Vicki Wartalski (co-chair)	<u>Mutual Ministry</u>	Contact Pastor Andrew Wendle for times
		<u>Women's (WELCA) Bible Study</u>	Meets 4th Tuesday of each month. Check calendar for location.
		<u>Quilting</u>	1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 9:00am in ORLC Fellowship Hall.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 FISH Offering 9am Worship 10 Fellowship	5 Labor Day Office Closed	6 7pm Council Meeting	7 6-8:30pm Thrivent Id Theft Workshop at ORLC	8	9	10 10:00am WELCA Meeting
11 9am Worship 10 Fellowship	12 Pastor Andy on Retreat	13 Pastor Andy on Retreat	14 Pastor Andy on Retreat	15 7:00pm Thrivent Id Theft Workshop Zion Lutheran Pastor Andy on Retreat	16	17
18 9am Worship 10 Fellowship	19 6:30pm JMLT Meeting at AUMC	20	21	22	23 Autumn Begins 	24 Patti Ludwig Benefit
25 9am Worship 10 Fellowship	26	27 7:00pm WELCA Bible Study	28	29	30	

- 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.

School has begun, please drive carefully!



October Newsletter submissions

Due: September 21, 2011 Send to:

orlc@gorge.net

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