



Unwrapping Gifts

This year Easter will fall on April 24. This is one day short of the latest day upon which it can fall and the first time it has fallen on this date in over 135 years. It will be this late again in 2095. In the year 2000 one may recall that Easter fell on the 23rd of April and in 2008 it fell on March 23rd, the earliest day [by one day] upon which it may fall. The relevance of this information is that the date of Easter sets for us the length of time during which we celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord, from the Twelfth Day of Christmas through the Transfiguration. This year we will observe the Epiphany season for eight Sundays, concluding with the Transfiguration of our Lord on the ninth Sunday, March 6, with Ash Wednesday being March 9. Mark your calendars now.

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Bible Class & Fellowship at Our Redeemer

Worship with communion: Sunday, 9 am
Adult Bible Class: Sunday, 10:30 am, at auditorium
Sunday School: 10:30 am, at Aloha Room
Wednesday Bible Class: 10 am, at Aloha Room

LWML Bible Study: 3rd Thursday of the Month, 6:30 pm
Japanese Language Fellowship and Bible Study: 1st Sunday of the Month
The Men's Fellowship: Saturday, 8 am, at the Waioli Tea Room

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Pastor

In the process of Divine Call

Music Director

The Rev. Karl Bachman

Secretary

Holly Maertens

Business Manager

Jerry Sobieski

President Lester Pelletier • **Vice President** Peter Tirbak • **Secretary** Ruth Crockett • **Treasurer** Stephen Okumura • **Deacons** - • **Fellowship** Peggy Pridgeon • **Parish Education** Nellie Miller • **Stewardship** Clarence DeLude • **Property Management** - • **Education** Karl Bachman • **Representatives to Lutheran High Board** Nellie Miller, William Schriefer

Our Redeemer Lutheran School

Principal

Bonnie Jo Alle

Administrative Secretary

Karen Dote

Admissions Director

Wyndy Quandt

Principal and 1st Grade Bonnie Jo Alle • **Preschool Director** Delle Tanioka • **Music** Alan Bauchle • **Computer** Ali Beasley • **Science** Crystal Stafford • **Art** Heidi Shiozaki • **Language Arts/Athletics** William Shriefer • **Preschool** Nancy Schultz • **Kindergarten** Michele Zane • **1st Grade** Wyndy Quandt • **2nd Grade and Choir** Christine Eilers • **3rd Grade** Nicole Nolting • **4th Grade** Tim Martin • **5th Grade** Kate Markert • **6th Grade** Crystal Stafford • **7th Grade** Lorine Pelletier • **8th Grade** Kristy Schropel • **2 year olds** Mei Chun • **3 year olds** Carol Huth • **4 year olds** Jessica Guillemette • **Assistants** Sharilyn Garcia, Tawny Starritt, Lauren George, Jolyne Ishoda, Alex Morales, Yong Hong Hsu, Annie Huang

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Lutheran High School of Hawaii

Principal

Art Gundell

If we think back to our Christmas worship where we celebrated the gift of Jesus, Epiphany becomes the unwrapping of that gift and its ultimate meaning for our lives. The Twelfth Night on January 6th [observed at Our Redeemer on January 2nd this year] will remind us of the visit of the Three Kings [a.k.a. Wise Men/Magi] and the first hint that in this child there is something greater in store for us. The next Sunday as we observe the Baptism of Our Lord we hear the Isaiah prophecy, "Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights." So the scriptures begin to unwrap the meaning of this marvelous birth, pointing to the Baptism of Our Lord which is the ground for our own Baptism where Jesus takes upon himself all of our human failings and gives us in exchange all of his righteousness. Then begins the sharing of the gift as disciples are called and in turn call others to witness to this Jesus and what he means for the good of all creation.

Ultimately we are personally involved in the story as the Sunday readings give us portions of the Sermon on the Mount and the implications for our life together as followers of Jesus who love one another as he loved us, who serve one another in word and deed, who become the salt of the earth, and by our good works become the light that reveals to others the glory of God the Father. On Transfiguration Sunday we get the quintessential glimpse into the meaning of the Christmas gift as Jesus is seen upon the mountain in full divine splendor -- the fulfillment of the whole law and the prophets. Today the gift continues to be given as weekly we hear the Word of God in our worship service and we receive the gift of Jesus wrapped in bread and wine. Our lives then become a continual unwrapping of that gift as we love and serve those around us, hearing God say, "Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights."

The Rev. Karl Bachman



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 "Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen,
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Our Calendar

On January 1, most people on earth celebrated a new year: AD 2011. The symbol 'AD', as we all know, stands for *anno Domini*. The number, 2011, purportedly shows how long it has been since the event of the first Christmas took place. The use of AD for numbering the years, however, is not as long as the Christmas Story itself. For long, people in the Western Europe, including the Christians, used various starting points for numbering the years. The most common practice was to name an era starting with a new king ascended the throne. One of those eras was Diocletian era (*anno Diocletiani*), which started with the beginning of a Roman Emperor reign: the Emperor Diocletian (reigned 284 -385). Diocletian era was used in the Easter table, a list of dates marking the Easter period. Dyonisius Exiguus, a priest who lived in Rome, felt that numbering the years based on the reign of a Roman emperor who instigated the killings of

many Christians was not appropriate. So, for his Easter table, he started to use *anno Domini*, or the year of the Lord. He started from the number 525,

which he believed showed the number of years had passed since the birth of Christ.

The practice was accepted both in the Western and Eastern Christendom, although some Orthodox churches also used *anno Mundi* (the year of the world; purportedly showed the number of years had lapsed since the beginning of creation) for numbering the years.

The term *anno Domini* is used in both Gregorian and Julian calendars. The calendar we use today, known as the Gregorian calendar, was established by Pope Gregory in 1582. Since the Council of Nicaea in 325, for more than a millennium, all nations in Christendom followed Julian calendar, the existing calendar which was established by Julius Caesar as a reform of the Old Roman calendar. One of the purposes of a calendar at the time was to mark the beginning of seasons. However, the Old Roman calendar, which supposedly corresponded with the revolution of earth around the sun, was too 'short' compared to the

actual revolution. Julius Caesar corrected this mistake by adding a day in the leap year (those years divisible by four). Over time, however, it was realized the remedy was a bit too much: dates in the calendar were now 'longer' than the actual dates. As a result, the dates of events in Julian calendar were not in sync with the beginning of the seasons. Since the time of some Church festivals, particularly Easter, depend on the cyclical seasons, the inaccuracy created an issue.

Pope Gregory corrected this by establishing that 'leap year' does not apply to years that are divisible by 100, except for those that are divisible by 400. So, the year 1900 is not a leap year, but 2000 is. To deal with the cumulative effects of too many days already found in the Julian calendar, the pope shifted the dates on the calendar by dropping 10 days. So, October 4, 1582 in Julian calendar was followed by October 15, not by October 5, in Gregorian calendar.



Gregorian calendar, being a Catholic enterprise since it was established by a pope, was at first rejected by many Protestant countries. Gradually, however, it was accepted and many countries adopted the calendar. The number of days has changed a bit since Gregorian time because of the cumulative effect: it became 13 days. Some branches of Christianity, particularly some Orthodox churches, still use a modified version of Julian calendar for liturgical purpose. They follow the leap-year correction, but not the date shifting. As a result, their dates are 'fixed' compared to the Gregorian calendar. December 25, Christmas Day, in the modified Julian calendar always falls on January 6 in Gregorian calendar. ■



Church Secretary. Sandie Stoutenburg has graciously volunteered to be in the office to perform

some of the duties of the church secretary. The ORLS secretary, **Holly**, will continue to do the Sunday worship bulletin. Sandie will be in the office for approximately two hours, 9-11 am, from Monday to Friday. Thank you to Sandie for filling in until other arrangements are made.

Worship Care. Sharon Shinno and Nelda Peterson took over Worship Care from Sandie Stoutenburg. Worship care includes the preparation of the church for

services to include the church proper and setting up for communion. Volunteers take on the responsibility for a month at a time. If you have questions or would like to volunteer please contact Sharon or Nelda. We owe Sandie a big thanks for her service. She prepared an extensive notebook of procedures and guidelines for others to follow.

New Pew Bibles

On the 4th of December new pew Bibles were dedicated. They were a gift from **Richard and Takako Thompson**. For many of our members it is a special blessing to have a larger print Bible and one that is in the English Standard Version, the same version used in our Worship readings. In the back of the Bibles are special worship aids prepared especially for Lutherans. Thank you Richard and Takako for providing God's Word for us in our sanctuary.

Offerings for the month November: Offering \$15,350.00. Parsonage kitchen repair \$195.00. Music \$40.00. Total received for parsonage kitchen repair (Sept.-Nov.) \$2,295.00

2011 Offering Envelopes are already in your mailbox in the Aloha Room. Please Note - your envelope number may not be the same each year due to changes in our membership. If you have not received your offering envelopes or have any questions, please contact **Sharon Shinno**.

Requiescat in Pace. Robert Ebert, charter member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, died in the Lord on Wednesday, December 22, 2010. There will be a memorial service on Wednesday afternoon, January 12, 4:00 p.m., at the church. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

Mission/Vision Committee

The committee promoted giving Christmas gifts to public school children enduring difficult financial circumstances. Four families, whose names were provided by two local public schools, were recipients of the program. The first family, with a 7-year old boy and a 6-year old girl, was from **Hokulani Elementary School**. The other three families were from **Prince Jonah Kuhio Elementary School**: A family with a 9-year old girl, a family with a 5-year old boy, and a family with a 5-year old boy and a 6-year old girl. In all, there are three boys and three girls. Gifts were donated by church families and one school family. All gifts were wrapped on Sunday, December 12,

by volunteers. Donations of cash were used to purchase a box of granola bars, a bag of Goldfish crackers and dried fruit strips for each child. The gifts was delivered on Thursday, December 16, before students were dismissed for Christmas. Thanks to all who helped with this project.

On December 20, three members helped clean the Puaena Place gutter. They trimmed shrubbery, re-glued the kitchen counter, etc. Thank you!

January 8th Work Day. Saturday, January 8 seems a little bit late, but it is the date set aside to remove the lights and dismantle the nativity. Again it is a lot of work but with the help of many of you it can be done in three hours. Please try to come at 9am.

Voters Assembly Decisions

At its December 5, 2010, meeting, the Voters Assembly voted on two important issues. The first issue was granting a peaceful release to **Pastor William Shimkus**. On the second issue, the Voters Assembly voted to assume the management of the **Lutheran High School of Hawaii** for the 2011-2012 academic year, conditional on our ability to secure appropriate funding.

Brief School Update. Though the process is moving well through the bank, there is no final word at this time on the request. In the meantime the Board of Education is appointing a transition team to be in place should the financing become available. Watch the Sunday bulletins for further updates.



Roland Cazimero and Friends

They will give a benefit concert for the Lutheran High School of Hawaii on **Friday evening, February 11, at 7:30 pm** at the **Hawaii Theatre**. A \$5 discount for LHS family and friends is available if you tell the box office when you call. Price: \$75, \$60, \$45 (plus \$3 restoration fee). Please, no children age 3 and under. Call and charge by phone Tuesday through Saturday, 9 am until 5 pm. Hawaii Theatre, 1130 Bethel Street, Honolulu, Hawaii.

C-N-H District

The California-Nevada-Hawaii District is requesting a faith offering in support of missions—"For a New Generation." It is a one-time thank offering. The suggested donation is \$1 per baptized member. It will be collected in January.

Constitutional Amendments

The Synod stipulates that congregations vote on two Synodical amendments.

Amendment A: Amend Articles X and XI by changing the title of "Vice-President-Finance—Treasurer" to "Chief Financial Officer" and make this an appointed position. The new position will not be in the line of succession to the presidency.

Amendment B: Add a new Article XIV to the Constitution to clarify the relationship between the Bylaws and Constitution. **New wording:** The synod in convention may adopt Bylaws that are consistent with and do not contradict the Constitution of the synod, which controls and supersedes such bylaws and all other rules and regulations of the Synod. Bylaws, which may be adopted, revised, or eliminated by a simple majority vote of a national convention, are binding regulations for the Synod and its conduct and governance.

There will be a **Voters Assembly on Sunday, February 6, 2011, at 10:30 am** to vote on these amendments. Our decision is due by March 16, 2011.

Parsonage Rental. The Board of Directors at its December 14 meeting voted to rent the parsonage instead of letting it sit vacant. The agent who handled the property previously has been contacted to work for us again.

River of Life Focus for January

Our January focus is on cans of vegetables and fruit. As is always true, any item you wish to donate is greatly appreciated.

We had a wonderful out-pouring of personal care items in December to be used as Christmas gifts to the men, women and children who rely on the River of Life Mission. The mission held a Christmas Store which invited each of their guests to come in and pick up items of their choosing. All men and women were given new under clothes and a choice of outer clothing along with the personal care items. It is a great way to share the blessings of Christmas. Christmas giving reminds us of the great gift we receive in Jesus born in Bethlehem.

'Twas the Night Before Christmas

On Christmas Eve, harpist **Nyle Hallman** enhanced our Christmas worship with beautiful music. Our Redeemer's **Lynsey Pelletier** accompanied her on violin and **Courtney Bynum** on flute.



As soon as this interim pastor arrives we can resume things like confirmation instruction and regular pastoral care for the congregation.

There will be a congregational meeting [information, not business] on Sunday morning, January 9, at 10:30 am when **Pastor Bruce Betker** will be here to discuss the call process with us. Pastor Betker is our district's Regional Vice President for Hawaii. He is also currently serving as Circuit Counselor until a new one can be appointed. This is pertinent information in that ultimately the Circuit Counselor will be with us through the completion of the call process. Pastor Shimkus was the Circuit Counselor, therefore a replacement needs to be appointed in his absence. Please be with us on January 9 to receive more information on how we receive a new pastor.

The Call Process

Since our pastor moved to a new field of service a few weeks ago many are asking about what happens next. In the immediate future we will continue to have worship that is lead by local ministers who can serve on a temporary basis. We hope that this will change as soon as we are able to secure the services of an interim pastor who would be with us every Sunday until we can call and receive a new pastor at Our Redeemer.

A **Call Committee** has been formed to help facilitate obtaining a new pastor. This is under the auspices of the Board of Directors. The members of the committee are: **Kari DeLude, Greg Dotson, Frank Lutz, Nicole Nolting, Paul Oliver, Sharon Shinno, Turro Wongkaren** and Chairman **Peter Tirbak**.

Aloha and Hau'oli Makahiki Hou!

On December 3, 2010 Students enjoyed a "**Free Dress Day**" (certain guidelines were outlined). In order to enjoy this event students contributed \$3.00. The total amount collected was \$400.00; the money was used to help defray the cost of the Mamiya Theatre rental for the Christmas program.

"On  the
Wilder
Side"

Our **Christmas program** was presented on Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at Mamiya Theatre. It was lovely!

The "S Force" sold a total of 1500 candy canes, at 15 cents a piece, to our student body. Students purchased them to give to their classmates and teachers. \$125.00 of the funds raised went to the shipment of the "**Operation Samaritan Christmas Boxes**" we packed.

During December the "S Force" also sold **Our Redeemer Lutheran School tee shirts**. The tee shirt design was created by **Nia Miyashiro** and **Tess Fukuyama**. A total of 130 shirts were sold. The tee shirts may be worn on Friday's in place of uniform shirts. The proceeds raised will go toward the 7th and 8th grade 2011/2012 Washington D.C. Trip.

School resumes on Wednesday, January 5, 2011.

God's Peace and Aloha,

Principal Alle

Focus of the Month: The Wongkarens

Turro was born and grew up in Jakarta, Indonesia. While Indonesia is a country with the largest number of Muslim population in the world, his family is from one of several regions whose population is predominantly Christian. During his undergraduate study at the University of Indonesia, he was active in various campus ministries. In 1997 Turro came to Honolulu to pursue an M.A. in economics at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Looking for a church in his first week, he went to the Church of the Crossroads, a visible church along University Avenue. However, upon looking at the church sign, which said “Meditation at 9 am”, he decided to check out a different church. So he walked back toward the University YMCA where he stayed at the time. On the way back, he noticed the Our Redeemer Lutheran Church sign and decided to enter the church. He hasn’t left the church ever since and became an active member.



In 1998, in an event organized by the university’s international student service, he met **Diana Stojanovic**, a student from Serbia (once part of a country called Yugoslavia) who was pursuing her Ph.D. in electrical engineering. They married in 2001 at ORLC, officiated by Pastor Tom Windsor. Due to the economic situation in the early 2000s, after completing her degree, Diana decided to stay in Hawaii and pursue another Ph.D. This time it was in Linguistics. Meanwhile, Turro entered the Ph.D. program in Sociology. Along the way, he also finished an M.A. in Asian Studies.

Turro has been involved in several ministries in Our Redeemer. He was a member of the Board of Outreach. He has been the church Webmaster since 2004, and since last year has been helping with the church newsletter. Every month, you see him serve as a communion assistant. He also serves in the Call Committee for the new pastor. The Wongkarens enjoy being part of ORLC *ohana*. They plan to complete their studies in the mid 2011, and will leave Hawaii shortly afterward.

January Birthdays. 1 Frank Freitas, 9 Elijah Standefer, 11 Doris Watanabe, 12 David Lau, 12 Allen Bauchle, 14 Matthew Schroppel, 20 Bette Shimkus, 22 Mark Klintworth, 23 Carl Weinsteger, 23 Shirley Laser, 24 Marilee Baumgartner, 25 Jack Dotson, 26 Nick Freitas
Anniversary. 12 Karl & Betty Scholl, 16 Brian & Pam Benton

Help our members celebrate...send a note, make a phone call, pray a private prayer of blessing upon our friends.

Prayer Chain – In the absence of a permanent or vacancy pastor in ORLC, **Ruth Crockett** will maintain the prayer list. She can be reached at 963-4223 (please leave a message) or email crockett@lhshawaii.org. Requests for prayers via the Prayer Chain can continue to be called into **Nelda Peterson** 923-4064.

Readings

January 2 Epiphany of Our Lord [observed]

First Lesson	Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalmody	Psalm 72
Second Lesson	Ephesians 3:1-12
Holy Gospel	Matthew 2:1-12

January 9 Baptism of Our Lord

First Lesson	Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalmody	Psalm 29
Second Lesson	Romans 6:1-11
Holy Gospel	Matthew 3:13-17

January 16 Second Sunday after the Epiphany

First Lesson	Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalmody	Psalm 40
Second Lesson	I Corinthians 1:1-9
Holy Gospel	John 1:29-42

January 23 Third Sunday after the Epiphany

First Lesson	Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalmody	Psalm 27
Second Lesson	I Corinthians 1:10-18
Holy Gospel	Matthew 4:12-25

January 30 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

First Lesson	Micah 6:1-8
Psalmody	Psalm 15
Second Lesson	I Corinthians 1:18-31
Holy Gospel	Matthew 5:1-12

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? **Romans 6:1-2**



Our Redeemer
Lutheran Church
Connecting People to Jesus

January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 Frank Freitas' birthday
2 2 nd Sunday after Christmas 9a Worship with communion	3	4 4:30p Communication committee	5 ORLS resumes	6 6p Choir	7	8 9a Working Day
9 Baptism of Our Lord 1 st Sunday after Epiphany 9a Worship with communion 10:30a Congregational Meeting Elijah Standefer's birthday	10	11 6:15p Board of Directors Doris Watanabe's birthday	12 Bob Ebert's memorial service David Lau's birthday Allen Bauchle's birthday K & B Scholl's anniversary	13 6p Choir	14 Matthew Schroppel's birthday	15
16 2 nd Sunday after Epiphany 9a Worship with communion 10:30a Sunday School and Bible class B & P Benton's anniversary	17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	18 The Confession of St. Peter.	19	20 6p Choir Bette Shimkus' birthday	21	22 Mark Klintworth's birthday
23 3 rd Sunday after Epiphany 9a Worship with communion 10:30a Sunday School and Bible class Carl Weinsteger's birthday Shirley Laser's birthday	24 Marilee Baumgartner's birthday	25 The Conversion of St. Paul Jack Dotson's birthday	26 Nick Freitas' birthday	27 6p Choir	28	29
30 4 th Sunday after Epiphany 9a Worship with communion School Choir in Sunday service 10:30a Sunday School and Bible class	31	1	2	3 6p Choir	4	5

Serving January 2011

Worshipcare: Sharon Shinno

	January 2	January 9	January 16	January 23	January 30
	9:00a	9:00a	9:00a	9:00a	9:00a
Communion Assistants	Turro Wongkaren Stephen Okumura	Peter Tirbak David Lau	Richard Thompson Turro Wongkaren	Sharon Shinno Peter Tirbak	David Lau
Ushers	Lester Pelletier David Lau	Paul Tirbak William Schriefer	Paul Tirbak William Schriefer	Lester Pelletier David Lau	Lester Pelletier Paul Tirbak
Acolyte	Leilani Delude		Faith Kollien	Sarah Dotson	Adam Quandt
Flowers	Pam Benton	Karl & Betty Scholl	Peggy Pridgeon	Oliver family	
Reading 1 (lector)	Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalms 72 Jeanette Ardiente	Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalms 29 Suzanne Greene	Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalms 40 Nicole Nolting	Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalms 27 Nellie Miller	Micah 6:1-8 Psalms 15 Peggy Pridgeon
Reading 2 (lector)	Ephesians 3:1-12 Betty Beringer	Romans 6:1-11 Diana Kunz	I Corinthians 1:1-9 Richard Lachmann	I Corinthians 1:10-18 Marcy Reginelli	I Corinthians 1:18-31 Sandy Stoutenburg
Reading 3	Matthew 2:1-12	Matthew 3:13-17	John 1:29-42	Matthew 4:12-25	Matthew 5:1-12

The Good News

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

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Our Redeemer Lutheran School

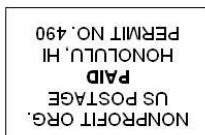
2428 Wilder Ave., Honolulu HI 96822, Ph. (808) 945-7765, Fax. (808) 944-1414, Email: bjalle@redeemer.org, Website: www.orls-hi.org



Lutheran High School of Hawaii

1404 University Ave., Honolulu HI 96822, Ph. (808) 949-5302, Fax. (808) 947-3701, Email: office@lhshawaii.org, Website: www.lhshawaii.org

Return Service Requested



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