

The Good News



Newsletter of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and School Honolulu, Hawaii



Pastor's Letter

Dear Friends in Christ,

At our recent Voters' Assembly meeting, the Mission/Vision Task Force and our congregation's Board of Directors proposed changing our congregation's mission statement. When this item came up on the meeting's agenda I asked those present if anyone could tell me what our congregation's present mission statement said. A few people knew where to look for it (on the back of our worship bulletin), but no one could say what it was without looking it up.

The proposal from the task force and board of directors, which was subsequently accepted by the voters, is short and to the point – "Connecting People to Jesus." That, we are saying, is the purpose of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. It is our reason for existence. It is what we are here to accomplish. Of course, much more could be said. But the idea was that the statement should be one that most people can easily remember without having to look it up.

Why a new mission statement? Why, for that matter, a mission statement at all? First of all, a mission statement is important for it helps to remind us what business we're in. As Christians we are not called simply to "be", but to "do".

Continued on page 2

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

The Rev. William Shimkus
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** Richard Thompson • **Fellowship** Peggy Pridgeon • **Parish Education** Nellie Miller • **Stewardship** Clarence DeLude • **Property Management** Paul Tirbak • **Education** Karl Bachman • **Representatives to Lutheran High Board** Nellie Miller, William Schriefer

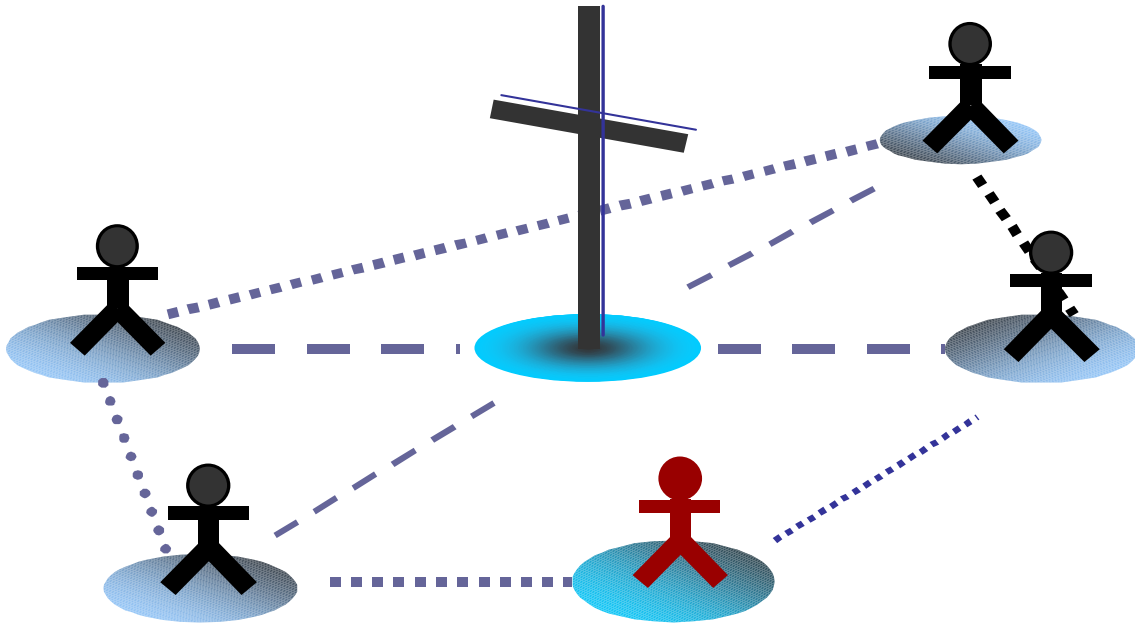
Our Redeemer Lutheran School Principal

Bonnie Jo Alle
Administrative Secretary
Beverly Seki
Admissions Director
Wyndy Quandt

Principal and 1st Grade Bonnie Jo Alle • **Preschool Director** Delle Tanioka • **Music** Alan Bauchle • **Computer** Ali Beasley • **Library** Bette Shimkus • **Science** Crystal Stafford • **Art** Heidi Shiozaki • **Preschool** Nancy Schultz • **Kindergarten** Michele Zane • **1st Grade** Wyndy Quandt • **2nd Grade and Choir** Christine Eilers • **3rd Grade** Nicole Dye • **4th Grade** Tim Martin • **5th Grade** Kate Markert • **6th Grade** Wil Schriefer • **7th Grade** Lorine Pelletier • **8th Grade** Kristy Schroppel • **2 year olds** Mae Chun • **3 year olds** Carol Huth • **4 year olds** Mary Pang • **Aides** Mahe Garcia, Yong Hong Hsu, Karen Ho, Annie Huang, Brittany Pray, Tina Teves

•••

Lutheran High School of Hawaii
Principal
Art Gundell



“Connecting People to Jesus”
is the purpose of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.
It is our reason for existence...

Our task is not simply to exist here on earth until that time when God decides to call us to our heavenly home. God has called us to be concerned for others, especially those others who do not yet know of his forgiving love in Jesus Christ. We are here to connect people to Jesus. And there are many, many people on our island and in our neighborhoods who don't have that connection.

Secondly, a mission statement gives a way to evaluate what we are doing as a congregation. There are literally hundreds of things that Christian congregations can be doing. The vast majority of those things are worthwhile things to be doing. As we consider those things which we should be doing here at Our Redeemer, in view of our mission statement, we will be asking ourselves, “How will this activity or program help us ‘connect people to Jesus’?”

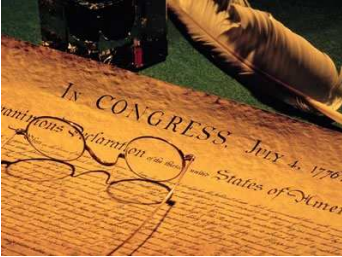
Finally, a mission statement should help us keep our focus where it should be – on others. There are so many things in life and even in the life of the church that seem designed to feed our sinful self-centeredness. “What’s in it for me?” is, unfortunately, not an unusual question among Christians. Mission often calls for sacrifice. We can only do that with the power that God gives as he molds us into the image of Christ, who came “not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45.

May God continue to bless us as we move ahead as a congregation, “Connecting People to Jesus”.

Pastor Shimkus

faith

of Our Founders



We are often times frustrated by those who deny the basis of the faith of our founding fathers. President Reagan summed up that faith. “We establish no religion in this country,

nor will we ever. We command no worship, we mandate no belief. But we poison our society when we remove its theological underpinnings. We court corruption when we leave it bereft of belief.”

Some quotes from our founding fathers:



The Fourth Stanza of the *Star-Spangled Banner*

Whenever Americans talk about the explicit mentions of God or religion in public documents or symbols, they usually talk about the Declaration of Independence (“...endowed by their creator...”), the Pledge of Allegiance (“... under God”), or the motto printed on the money (“In God we trust”). Rarely do they refer to the national anthem. Many Americans seem to forget, as it is rarely sung in national or sports events, about the fourth stanza of the anthem. Like the first three, the theme of the fourth one is also patriotic. However, unlike the other three, it includes a strong religious tone:

It cannot be emphasized too clearly and too often that this nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians, not on religion, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ. - *Patrick Henry, Governor of Virginia.*

My only hope of salvation is in the infinite, transcendent love of God manifested to the world by the death of His Son upon the cross. Nothing but His blood will wash away my sins. I rely exclusively upon it. Come, Lord Jesus! Come quickly! - *Benjamin Rush, signer of the Declaration of Independence.*

The general principles upon which the Fathers achieved independence were the general principles of Christianity.... I will avow that I believed and now believe that those general principles of Christianity are as eternal and immutable as the existence and attributes of God. - *John Adams, our second president.*

We recognize no sovereign but God and no king but Jesus. - *John Hancock and John Adams, signers of the Declaration of Independence.*

*O! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their loved home and the war's desolation!
Blest with victory and peace, may the heav'n-rescued
land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a
nation.
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!*

In our church, we usually try not to leave out any stanza whenever we sing a hymn. The reason is that a song has a complete message that sometimes can only be understood when we sing all stanzas. Perhaps it is time to treat the anthem the same way, to remind us that when Francis Scott Key wrote his poem about how glorious the American flag was in that morning in the early 19th century, he understood that it was God who had made and preserved the land of the free and the home of the brave.



Greeting Cards: Keep saving all those sparkly (and non-sparkly) cards. The ORLS Library can use them

for bookmarks, so tear off the front (with no writing on back), give them to Bette Shimkus or place them in her mailbox she slice them up. Thanks.

LWML Bible Study: Our next study will take place on July 15, 2010 at 6:30 pm in the Aloha Room (third Thursday of the month). The study is from the LWML Winter 2009 Quarterly and is entitled "Relationships 101: Comfort and Compassion." If you would like to join us for dinner, meet in the upper lot at 5:30 pm to walk down to the Greek Kitchen (or be dropped off there). For more info contact **Bette Shimkus** or **Peggy Pridgeon**.

May 30th Voters Meeting. Two important items were voted on in the Annual Voters Meeting. First, the Vision and Mission Committee recommended the following statement of our church's mission, "Connecting People to Jesus." It was unanimously approved.

Second, a slate of officers were unanimously elected. Together with those not up for election, our church officers are:

President : **Lester Pelletier**
 Vice-President : **Peter Tirbak**
 Treasurer : **Stephen Okumura**
 Secretary : **Ruth Crockett**
 Education : **Rev. Karl Bachman**
 Fellowship : **Peggy Pridgeon**
 Stewardship : **Clarence DeLude**
 Parish Education: **Nellie Miller**

Youth Group: Lorien and Lynsey Pelletier will be attending the 2010 National LCMS Youth Gathering. The Gathering will be in New Orleans July 17-21. The theme is "We Believe" and it will be explored through *look, listen* and *live* experiences.

There are servant events, bible study time with family groups, mass worship

and communion, morning and evening prayer and praise times, and more. Check out the website at www.lcmsgathering.com and watch the video under "Youth".

Offering for the month of May: Total offering \$15,911.26. Building Fund \$10.00. Capital Improvement \$745.30.

Sunday School: This Fall our Sunday School will be using Faith Weaver Sunday School by Group Publishing. Since the most powerful influence on children's faith development is the conversation about faith that takes place in the home, every week students will receive a take-home paper that includes ideas for family discussions and activities that will help cement what your child learns at church. The same Bible story will be explored in each class by using a variety of active experiences and it is our hope that you'll find encouragement in your role as a parent and spiritual leader for your child as you grow in faith together. Please bring your children to worship and Sunday School every Sunday and plan on attending Adult Bible Class yourself. Contact **Nellie Miller** if you have questions or want to help.

2010 National Convention. The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod National Convention this year will be held in Houston, Texas, on July 10-17. **Pastor Shimkus** will be attending the convention.

Manoa Stream cleaning will take place on July 24. Meet at Woodlawn Bridge near Longs, Manoa Market Place, at 10 am.

July River of Life Collection: In July we are collecting pasta and other starches for the families and homeless meals. River of Life is expanding their services. In addition to Bible studies, food, and other personal services they have limited rooms for women and are in the middle of a program to house men also.

River of Life can always use financial support. If you choose to do so, please put it in an envelope and place it in the offering plate or you can send it to them directly: River of Life Mission, Box 37939, Honolulu, HI 96837. Thanks for all you do. ■



"Summertime and the livin' is easy..."

But things are still happening when it comes to school... school is never really out! Students and many teachers may be on a break but while they're away "heavy duty cleaning," painting, and repairs are being made. Books are ordered, school tours and new student interviews take place, and at least "187" other important tasks.

"On  the
Wilder
Side"



Currently, both Pre School sites are in Summer Session.

Flash back to last month (2009/10) School Year Session:

The Seventh and Eighth Graders went to Washington DC and New York for their class trip--- it was FABULOUS! In addition to seeing all of the important historical sites, which included laying a wreath at the "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier," they had an additional treat and rare opportunity. They were in the Gallery of the House of Representatives on the day that Representative **Charles Djou** was sworn in. (Perhaps you read about it in the newspaper.) They also had their picture taken with him on the steps of the Capital. How "Cool" is that? In addition to that "Coolness," another "Thrilling Event" occurred while waiting in the Gallery of the House of Representatives: they were greeted by Illinois House of Representative **John Shimkus**

(Pastor's brother). Although he had to leave momentarily to vote, he returned to visit with them some more before they left.

While in New York, they also had a lot of fun and experienced "historical" sites including Ellis Island, The Statue of Liberty, and the Empire State Building. They visited and ate at many restaurants in "Times Square." In addition, the Seventh and Eighth graders were able to enjoy the Broadway production of "Wicked."



Hmmmmmmmmmm---I wonder where their travels will take them over the summer?

Have a truly wonderful summer everyone!



New Members: The Dyes

Doug and Nicole joined ORLC on 23 May. They previously belonged to

Messiah Lutheran and were married in beautiful Makaha Valley by Reverend Patrick Poock. Nicole is originally from Connecticut, and graduated from Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York. She is working on her Masters in Communication at HPU. Doug is from wherever the Navy assigned his father (from coast to coast and beyond). He completed a tour in the US Navy and is majoring in Mechanical Engineering at UH. As a part of that study he

is currently interning with HECO. Nicole teaches grade three at ORLS. She previously taught for three years at Waianae High School and one year at LHS.

Both Nicole and Doug enjoy the out-of-doors. They run, hike, walk and surf. Nicole competes in Triathlons and recently did a 100 mile and 60 mile bike competition. She won the woman's run at the 2009 River of Life Run for Hunger. As a playwright she has entered her plays in both community and school competitions. One of her plays was selected recently at the Kauai Shorts Festival.

We are pleased to have Nicole on our ORLS faculty and doubly pleased that Doug and Nicole joined ORLC. God's blessings to them both. ■

New Members: The Schlechtes

Yolanda and Matt met in Hawaii and were married here in 2004. They live in Manoa and share a love of gardening and caring for plants and animals.



Yolanda raises many varieties of flowers and herbs. They also grow vegetables. Their back yard sounds idyllic - with a pond in which they have fish and about a dozen water turtles. In addition Yolanda feeds wild parrots, cardinals, turtle doves and other wild birds. They also have two dogs and three cats.

Matt has been in Hawaii since 2001 having come here after graduation from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville in Illinois to be with a brother stationed at the Marine Corps Base in Kaneohe. He graduated from Metro Lutheran High School in Edwardsville. He played basketball both in high school and college. In 1989, Yolanda came here from the Philippines as a young child with her mother and stayed. Matt's parents are living in Illinois and Yolanda's mother now lives in the Philippines. Her father is deceased. Matt has been working for Liberty Mutual Insurance Company for the past five years. Yolanda works part time as a massage therapist. We are so pleased to have them join ORLC and to be a part of our *ohana*. ■

July Birthdays. 4 Kana Mathis, 15 Lorine Pelletier, 16 Jordan Kealoha, 16 Lu Seyfer, 17 Betty Beringer, 18 Jeane Yamamoto, 21 George Kunz, 25 Joseph Krakowiak, 25 Randy Laser, 26 BonnieJo Alle, 28 Kari DeLude.

Anniversary: 3 Clarence & Kari DeLude, 4 Jo & Anne Krakowiak, 16 William & Bette Shimkus, 20 Art & Eileen Gundell.

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

Prayer Chain – Please call **Bette Shimkus, 988-1738** or **Nelda Peterson, 923-4064** with your prayer requests. We know God answers prayers.

Scripture Readings (English Standard Version)

July 4

Isaiah 66:10-14 | Galatians 6:1-10, 14-18 | Luke 10:1-20

July 11

Leviticus 19:9-18 | Colossians 1:1-14 | Luke 10:25-37

July 18

Genesis 18:1-10a | Colossians 1:21-29 | Luke 10:38-42

July 25

Acts 11:27-12:5 | Romans 8:28-39 | Mark 10:35-45

Good News Online

The Newsletter is available on the Internet

Starting April 2010, we are phasing out the print copy of the newsletter. However, if you would like to keep receiving the regular print copy through mail, you may certainly continue to do so. Please call our church secretary Holly Maertens at the school office at 945-7765 ext. 223, and ask her to place your name on the 'regular mail' list.

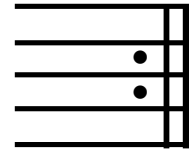
Those who have provided us email address will receive a notification whenever a new issue of the newsletter is available.

The Web version will be available on the last week of the month. Visit our church website: www.orlc-hawaii.org

Let us know if you would like your friends or family members to receive the email notification.

Endnote:

**Just two dots (..)
make the difference!**



That is true. We've heard some people ask, "why do we repeat some pieces of liturgy but not others?" The answer is those two little dots. When you see them at the end of a line of music as shown on the illustration it means that the phrase is repeated. It is as simple as that!

May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might,
for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who
has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. –
Colossians 1: 11-12



Our Redeemer
Lutheran Church
Honolulu, Hawaii

July 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2	3 Athletics Car Wash <i>C & K DeLude's anniversary</i>
4 6 th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) Independence Day 9a Worship with communion 10:30a Bible study <i>Kana Mathis' birthday</i> <i>J & A Krakowiak's anniversary</i>	5	6	7	8	9	10 10-17 Pastor at Synodical Convention in Houston, TX
11 7 th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) 9a Worship with communion 10:30a Bible study	12	13	14	15 6:30p LWML Bible study <i>Lorine Pelletier's birthday</i>	16 <i>Jordan Kealoha's birthday</i> <i>Lu Seyfer's birthday</i> <i>W & B Shimkus' anniversary</i>	17 LHS Rummage Sale 17-21 LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA <i>Betty Beringer's birthday</i>
18 8 th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) 9a Worship with communion 10:30a Bible study 18-26 Pastor on vacation <i>Jeane Yamamoto's birthday</i>	19	20 <i>A & E Gundell's anniversary</i>	21 <i>George Kunz's birthday</i>	22	23	24
25 9 th Sunday after Pentecost 9a Worship with communion 10:30a Bible study <i>Joseph Krakowiak's birthday</i> <i>Randy Laser's birthday</i>	26 St. James the Elder, Apostle (Red) <i>BonnieJo Alle's birthday</i>	27	28 <i>Kari DeLude's birthday</i>	29 ORLS first day of school	30	31

Serving July 2010

Worshipcare: Betty Beringer (primary); Sandie Stoutenburg (backup)

	July 4	July 11	July 18	July 25
	9:00a	9:00a	9:00a	9:00a
Communion Assistants	Peter Tirbak Sharon Shinno	Richard Thompson David Lau	Sharon Shinno Turro Wongkaren	Peter Tirbak Stephen Okumura
Ushers	Lester Pelletier David Lau	Paul Tirbak Lester Pelletier	David Lau William Schriefer	William Schriefer Paul Tirbak
Acolyte	Lynsey Pelletier	Lorien Pelletier	Matthew Schroppel	Christian Schroppel
Flowers	The Changs	The Shimkus		The Shinnos
Reading 1 (lector)	Isaiah 66:10-14 Doreen Chang	Leviticus 19:9-18 Diana Kunz	Genesis 18:1-10a Nellie Miller	Acts 11:27-12:5 Charles Fox
Reading 2 (lector)	Galatians 6:1-10, 14-18 Nicole Dye	Colossians 1:1-14 Richard Lachmann	Colossians 1:21-29 Sandie Stoutenburg	Romans 8:28-39 Wendy Pung
Reading 3	Luke 10:1-20	Luke 10:25-37	Luke 10:38-42	Mark 10:35-45

The Good News

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

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Our Redeemer Lutheran School

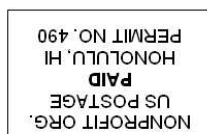
2428 Wilder Ave., Honolulu HI 96822, Ph. (808) 945-7765, Fax. (808) 944-1414, Email: bjalle@rredeemer.org, Website: www.orls-hi.org



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



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
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