



65th
Anniversary
1945-2010



Pastor's Letter

Dear Friends in Christ,

This month we will be celebrating our 65th anniversary as a congregation. There hasn't been a lot of "hoopla" about it because it's not one of those "big" anniversaries (25, 50, 75, 100, etc.) and, to be honest, it sort of snuck up on us. There are both worthy and unworthy ways to celebrate an anniversary. Let me suggest a few.

Perhaps the least worthy way to celebrate is to make it a "Hurrah for us! Haven't we been great?" celebration. That's always a temptation, especially when a congregation has done significant things in the past. Such a celebration may make us feel good about ourselves -- for a time, but it's ultimately hollow. Pretty soon it's back to "business as usual", with little having changed as a result.

A second way to remember a congregation's anniversary takes the opposite approach. Back in 1948, as our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod was getting ready to celebrate its 100th anniversary, Dr. Theodore Graebner of our St. Louis Seminary published a paper entitled "For a Penitential Jubilee".

Continued on page 2

Bible Class & Fellowship at Our Redeemer

Divine Service: Sunday, 9a
Adult Bible Class: Sunday, 10:30a, at auditorium
Sunday School: 10:30a, at Aloha Room
Wednesday Bible Class: 10a, at Aloha Room

LWML Bible Study: 3rd Thursday of the Month, 6:30p
Japanese Language Fellowship and Bible Study: 1st Sunday of the Month
The Men's Fellowship: Saturday, 8a, 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, Wil 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 • **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

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Lutheran High School of Hawaii
Principal
Art Gundell

Pastor's Letter (continued)

There were plenty of people trying to make it a “Hurrah for us” celebration. Graebner instead focused his attention on the Synod’s failures and sins, seeing the anniversary as a time for confession, forgiveness and renewal.

In the same way, a congregational anniversary can be a time to confess to God and to each other our many failures to be the type of congregation, to be the type of people that God has called us to be. Hearing his word of forgiveness, we can then recommit ourselves to the mission that God has given us as his people in this time and place.

A third way to remember a congregation’s anniversary is with thanksgiving. God has indeed blessed us in many ways over the past 65 years. Yet, in distinction to the first kind of celebration mentioned above, an attitude of thanksgiving emphasizes *God’s* gracious activity in it all. It’s not “haven’t we been great?”, but “isn’t God great?” Whatever good we’ve accomplished has been the result of God’s blessings, not because of what we’ve done.



**Hearing his word of forgiveness,
we can then recommit ourselves to the mission that God
has given us as his people in this time and place...**

A final way of remembering a congregation’s anniversary is by focusing on the mission still before us. Looking back at the history of our congregation, the emphasis on outreach to others is unmistakable. That task is far from complete. There are so many in our community who do not know Jesus as their Savior. An anniversary can be a time of renewal, as we remember who we are – people called to be “connecting people to Jesus.”

What we have been we can be again – with God’s help. Happy anniversary!

Pastor Shimkus

What Does *Our Redeemer Lutheran Church* Mean to Me?

The Lord has worked through Our Redeemer for 65 years, and continues to do so. During that long period of time, the church has touched people’s lives in various ways. We asked ORLC members and former members to share what the church means to them.

Heaven is my home. But while I am sojourning here, ORLC is my anchor. It is the people! And yet it isn't the people. It is a place where I can go and learn more about my heavenly home. Here I have a home away from home. Here I hear God's word in its truth and purity.

– Nelda Peterson

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church is a place where I can serve and worship God holy. When I walk through the doors, I know that people love me and care about my well-being. You are my brothers and sisters in Christ; you are my family.

– Nellie Miller

ORLC offers me a place to worship my God: to hear His Word, receive His forgiveness, remember what great things He has done for me, offer my thanks with psalms and hymns, while gathered with others of like mind and heart.

– Frank Lutz

The hymn verse says a lot: “Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth; Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow; Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!” Among those blessings are fellow believers.

– Ruth Crockett

Our Redeemer is a welcoming sanctuary where I can worship the Lord. Our Redeemer is a safe haven where I can find friendship and comfort with my congregation. Our Redeemer is a joy and inspiration to me.

– Dayna Owsley

I have been a member for nearly 33 years. The one word that comes to mind is COMFORT. When someone asks "How are you," they really want to know. When someone says "I'll keep you in my prayer" - they do. I am comforted by friends (my extended family) who care for my well being.

– Sharon Shinno

When my late husband, Dan, and I joined ORLC, the fellowship and friendship of the members of the church helped us to settle down and begin our association with the University of Hawaii. ORLC also helped us to continue our faith in Jesus Christ through Sunday Service, Bible Study and other Christian events that we attended either in our church or in another Lutheran Church.

- Christobel Sanders

ORLC is our boat on which our shepherd (our pastor) and our family (the congregation) help us on our journey to heaven. We receive instruction (both spiritual and education for our children through the schools), encouragement, and above all, love so that this journey, while living in this world, can be endured with joy.

- Wendy Pung

Our Redeemer: Then & Now



In its 1941 Convention, the Missouri Synod decided to expand their ministries to Hawaii but the effort was affected by the war. They managed to open a Lutheran Service Center on Lunalilo Street during the war, and out of it a new congregation was formed in 1945, with services being held in a rented facility at Young Street. That was the beginning of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. Since then, the church has been blessed with and been a blessing to many men and women who are involved with the church. We will look at some of the church's aspects then and now.



The first called pastor was Pastor **Adolph Meyer** who served from 1945 to 1950. After Pastor Meyer, there have been seven other called pastors serving the congregation, including the present one, Pastor **William Shimkus**, called in 2003.

Beside the call pastor, there have been many other men who served as interim pastors, assistant pastors, or vicars.



In the late 1940s, the congregation purchased land at our University Avenue site and started to build a permanent



sanctuary and school. The new building was finished in 1950. At the time, the H-1 freeway was not yet in place.

Since the dedication service on September 3, 1950, the new sanctuary has undergone many changes.



One thing, however, remains the same and is easily recognizable: the wooden cross behind the altar, decorated with flower patterns. The panel gives the sanctuary a memorable and unique look.

From its formation, the church has recognized that Christian education is vital to its ministry. The first classes, kindergarten to the 2nd grade, were held at Young Street in the late 1940s. These grew to include other grades, and the school later built a new campus on Wilder



Avenue, which was dedicated in 1983. Currently Our Redeemer Lutheran School offers classes from pre-school through grade 8.



(Note: Most historical accounts are from "Our Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church 1945 to 1995," published by ORLC in 1995 for its 50th anniversary.)



Greeting Cards. Got cards? Tear off the front (with no writing on back), give them to **Bette Shimkus** or place them in her mailbox. She'll slice them up.

Sunday School. On Sunday, September 13, our Sunday School will begin its new year of study, using FaithWeaver Sunday School by Group Publishing. The same Bible story will be explored in each class by using a variety of active experiences. 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 Millier** if you have questions or want to help.

Sunday School Gathering. All Sunday School children, parents and teachers are invited to **Nellie Miller's** home on Sunday, September 5, from noon to 2 pm. Bring a small dish to share.

Offering. Total offering for the month of July: \$12,475.00. Building Fund: \$20.00. LCMS World Relief: \$15.00. LCMS World Missions: \$15.00.

LWML Bible Study. Our next study will take place on September 16 at 6:30 pm in the Aloha Room (third Thursday of the month). The study is from the LWML Summer 2010 Quarterly and is entitled "Unplugging: Real Rest for the 21st Century." 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**.

LWML Fall Rally. "Look to the Hills: Our God Reigns" is the theme and will be held on Saturday, September 18 from 9 am to 2 pm at the ORLS Library. **Pastor Schneider** from Emmanuel, Maui, will lead our Bible study and **Pastor Shimkus** will lead us in devotions. If you would like more information, contact **Peggy Pridgeon** or **Bette Shimkus**.

River of Life Mission. In September, we will be collecting personal care items for the homeless and those families and individual close to homelessness. These items can be personal or large sizes. For example, items to care for teeth, hair, skin and shaving lotion, antibiotic creams, deodorants, etc.

Note that the **2010 River of Life Walk and Run for Hunger** is just around the corner. Save the date: October 24. It starts at 7 am for registration, and at 8 am the fun begins. More information will come later on this. Thank you for your support of River of Life Mission.



Lutheran High Mega Car Wash. Lutheran High will be holding its annual Mega Car Wash on Saturday, **September 18** from 8:30 am till 3:30 pm here at Our Redeemer and at other Lutheran churches and schools on Oahu.

Money earned from this fundraiser will be used for Lutheran High's scholarship fund, class treasuries and athletic department. While the car wash is free, Lutheran High students are urged to seek pledges or donations to support this event. You can help by making a contribution to **Christian Schroppel**, **Matt Schroppel**, **Lynsey Pelletier** or any Lutheran High student.

"On  the
Wilder
Side"

Aloha!

Our school year is off to a great start! We've been in school a little over a month – all is going well!

Mr. Bien, who has been our janitor and gardener for 20 years, decided it was time to retire. On Wednesday, August 25, 2010 we had "Mr. Bien Day." The last Wednesday Chapel of each month is traditionally "Student of the Month." (Specific students in each grade are "recognized" for their outstanding academics and behavior for the month. In addition, students who have attained certain goals within the "Scholastic Reading Counts Program" receive trophies.) This month, we decided that we would take this opportunity to recognize and say *mahalo nui loa* to Mr. Bien for his dedication to Our Redeemer Lutheran School. The students presented him with an array of cards and gifts. Mr. Bien was most appreciative.

Later, that same day, the administration, teachers and staff gave him a party (Mr. Bien likes parties!) to express our appreciation to him. Saying *aloha* to someone who is leaving is always "bittersweet." Sad because he is leaving, sweet because he is starting a new chapter in his life. We will miss Mr. Bien on a daily basis but he asked if he could stop by from "time to time" to volunteer and donate his time! Of course the answer is "Yes!" Mr. Bien's son-in-law, Tony, is now our new janitor and gardener.

Have a "Sensational September!"

God's Peace & Aloha,
Principal Alle

Focus of the Month: **Christobel Sanders**

You see her in choir, or being a lector. Sometimes you see her wearing traditional South Asian clothes to church. We asked her to write about herself.



My late husband **Daniel Sanders** and I were married in Sri Lanka in 1959. Dan was a founder and lecturer at the Ceylon School of Social Work, and Executive Director of the Institute of Religion and Society. I finished my Teacher Education and taught in Sri Lanka and completed fifteen years of teaching in schools.

In 1965, Dan was offered the World Council of Churches scholarship to pursue his Master's Degree in social work. I joined him in Minneapolis in 1966. Augsburg College offered me a scholarship for courses in music and English as a Second Language. Dan worked as a consultant in the Department of Public Welfare in the Division of Child Welfare for two years. He entered the

Ph.D. program and finished the degree in 1971. We decided we would be a part of the University of Hawaii, and Dan was first professor and later was selected to be the Dean of the School of Social Work. While participating in the events of the School of Social Work, I had the opportunity to pursue an additional Liberal Arts Degree in Music and Religion.

When we came to Hawaii, we found Our Redeemer Lutheran Church close to the University and decided to become members of the church. We were also greeters on Sundays before the service. Dan was the president of the congregation as well as a member of the Board of Elders in the late 1970s. I was teaching in Sunday School, under the leadership of late Bruce Kemp. I was very much part of the LWML. I was treasurer for a few years, and briefly vice president before we moved to the University of Illinois, School of Social Work. There, Dan served in the same capacity as in UH.

Dan was called Home to be with the Lord on October 14, 1989, and in 1996 I decided to return to Hawaii. I continued to be a member of ORLC. I am presently a member of the choir, and member of Worship Care, and part of the lectors. Dan and I have always enjoyed the fellowship, and friendship of the members of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. ■

New Members

As we are celebrating our 65th anniversary, it is important to remember that we do not dwell on the past. The future of our church depends on new people who decide to join the church. On August 15 service, we welcomed two families that officially became members of ORLC. Here they are.

The Dotsons

Last year **Greg Dotson** received assignment from the Navy and moved to Hawaii with his wife, **Amy**, and their children, **Sara** and **Jack**. Greg is originally from New Mexico, while Amy and the children are from Virginia. The children then enrolled in ORLS. Sara is now in 7th grade, while Jack is in 5th grade. The family likes to do outdoor activities together, such as going to the beach, running, and hiking. They all like going to ORLC, as it is linked to the children's school.



The Klintworths

Mark Klintworth and his daughter, **Tenaya Richardson**, are long-term Hawaii residents. Mark works as a videographer for a network television, and Tenaya is a 4th-grade student at ORLS. In his spare time, Mark loves to surf, to do photography, and to keep up

with sports. While they are both officially 'new members', Mark actually has strong ties with our church: His parents were married in this church in 1966, and both he and his brother grew up as members of Our Redeemer. Welcome back, Mark!

September Birthdays: **1** Ruby Hodel, **2** Steve Okumura, **5** Karl (Chuck) Scholl, **11** Richard Lachmann, **11** Lucille Franklin, **13** Peggy Pridgeon, **14** Braven Kamaka, **16** Gina Kealoha, **20** Rick Thompson, **21** Jayla

Cornel, **21** Leilani DeLude, **27** Clarence DeLude, **30** Lynsey Pelletier.

Anniversaries: **1** Turro & Diana Wongkaren, **9** Duane & Betty Beringer, **22** David & Clara Ventzke.

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

September 5: Deuteronomy 30:15-20 | Philemon 1-21 | Luke 14:25-35

September 12: Ezekiel 34:11-24 | 1 Timothy 1:12-17 | Luke 15:1-10

September 19: 1 Kings 8:22-30 | Revelation 21:1-5 | Luke 19:1-10

September 26: Amos 6:1-7 | 1 Timothy 6:6-19 | Luke 16:19-31

Readings will be from the **English Standard Version (ESV)**. They will be *available on the website at the beginning of the month.*

End Note:

New Perspective

Some years ago, when our family was vacationing at Camp Arcadia, on the shore of Lake Michigan, we were on the front porch watching the sunset. It was magnificent with its reds, golds, purples, and grays. As much as we enjoyed what we were seeing, another man, unkempt and a little ragged, seemed to enjoy it far more. He waited till the last glow faded, and had seemed thrilled through and through by the beauty of it all. Finally, someone, not me, because I wasn't that bold, asked him, "You certainly enjoyed that sunset. Are you an artist?" The man replied, "No, I'm a plumber, but I was blind for five years..."

(from The Lutheran Hour broadcast of July 13, 2003)

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. - **1 Timothy 1: 15b-16**



Our Redeemer
Lutheran Church
Connecting People to Jesus

September 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 8:10a ORLS chapel 10a Bible class 6:15p Finance Comm. <i>Ruby Hodel's</i> <i>birthday</i> <i>T&D Wongkaren's</i> <i>anniversary</i>	2 8:30a LHS chapel 6p choir <i>Steve Okumura's</i> <i>birthday</i>	3 6:30p AIAnon	4
5 9a worship with communion 10:30a Sunday school and Bible class <i>Karl (Chuck)</i> <i>Scholls' birthday</i>	6	7 4p communications task force 6p LHS Open House 6:30p Board of Ed.	8 8:10a ORLS chapel 10a Bible class	9 8:30a LHS chapel 6p choir <i>D&B Beringer's</i> <i>anniversary</i>	10	11 9:30a LMCH at Good Shepherd <i>Richard</i> <i>Lachmann's</i> <i>birthday</i> <i>Lucille Franklin's</i> <i>birthdav</i>
12 9a worship with communion 10:30a Sunday school and Bible class 2p LHSA annual meeting	13 <i>Peggy Pridgeon's</i> <i>birthdy</i>	14 6:15p Board of Dir. <i>Braven Kamaka's</i> <i>birthday</i>	15 8:10a ORLS chapel 10a Bible class	16 Dist. Circuit Counselor meeting 8:30a LHS chapel 6p choir 6:30p LWML Bible study <i>Gina Kealoha's</i> <i>birthday</i>	17 Dist. Circuit Counselor meeting	18 LHS Mega Car Wash LWML Fall at ORLS library
19 9a worship with communion 10:30a Sunday school and Bible class	20 <i>Rick Thompson's</i> <i>birthday</i>	21 <i>Jayla Cornel's</i> <i>birthday</i> <i>Leilani DeLude's</i> <i>birthday</i>	22 8:10a ORLS chapel 10a Bible class <i>D&C Ventzke's</i> <i>anniversary</i>	23 8:30a LHS chapel 6p choir	24	25
26 9a Service of the Word -- ORLS Band and Strings 10:30a Sunday school and Bible class	27 6:15p LHS Board of Dir <i>Clarence DeLude's</i> <i>birthday</i>	28	29 8:10a ORLS chapel 10a Bible class	30 8:30a LHS chapel 6p choir <i>Lynsey Pelletier's</i> <i>birthday</i>	1	2

Serving September 2010

Worshipcare: Sharon Shinno (primary); Bette Shimkus (backup)

	September 5	September 12	September 19	September 26
	9:00a	9:00a	9:00a	9:00a
Communion Assistants	Richard Thompson David Lau	Peter Tirbak Sharon Shinno	Turro Wongkaren Stephen Okumura	Peter Tirbak David Lau
Ushers	Paul Tirbak William Schriefer	Lester Pelletier David Lau	Paul Tirbak David Lau	Lester Pelletier William Schriefer
Acolyte	Lynsey Pelletier	Christian Schroppel	Matthew Schroppel	Lynsey Pelletier
Flowers	The Beringers	M. Baumgartner	Christobel Sanders	ORLC
Reading 1 (lector)	Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Jeanette Ardiente	Ezekiel 34:11-24 Doreen Chang	1 Kings 8:22-30 Takako Thompson	Amos 6:1-7 Turro Wongkaren
Reading 2 (lector)	Philemon 1-21 Betty Beringer	1 Timothy 1:12-17 Richard Lachmann	Revelation 21:1-5 Kristy Schroppel	1 Timothy 6:6-19 Willie Williams
Reading 3	Luke 14:25-35	Luke 15:1-10	Luke 19:1-10	Luke 16:19-31

The Good News

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

1404 University Ave., Honolulu HI 96822, Ph. (808) 946-4223, Fax. (808) 943-1247, Email: ourredeemer@live.com, Website: www.orlc-hawaii.org

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

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