

# The Christian Connection

## Pursuing in Lent

The battle between light and darkness continues in the Season of Lent as it takes an inward turn. Lent is not a season of darkness, but a time for self-examination and penitence, demonstrated by self-denial, in preparation for Easter.

Lent, which comes from an Anglo-Saxon word for "spring," can be viewed as a spiritual spring cleaning: a time for taking spiritual inventory and then cleaning out everything which hinders a relationship with Christ.

Traditionally, the season of Lent begins with a sign of repentance: placing ashes mixed with oil on one's head or forehead. This day is known as Ash Wednesday and it lands on February 14 this year when we will begin our Lenten journey.

### A Holy Pursuit

What will your journey look like this year? What will you be pursuing that will address the victory that Paul writes to Timothy about in II Timothy 2:22? After admonishing Timothy to "flee from youthful lusts", Paul urges him to "pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call upon the Lord from a pure heart." Let me invite you to engage in this meaningful journey in the context of our Lenten Services on Wednesday evenings. Join with those who gather to call upon the Lord from a pure heart where there will be a supportive, positive influence in our journey together.

Each of us can personally identify areas of harmful desires from which to flee. God will shed His light on those dark places and reveal to us the dangers hidden there. With the Holy Spirit's help we will be enabled to flee those traps and encumbrances in our pursuit of the life God is calling us to live.

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### Our Redeemer Chimers



Children, kindergarten and up, are invited to join Chimers!

No fee to participate.

Beginning or early music reading group reinforcement and confidence building ensemble experience.  
Rehearsals - designated Saturday afternoons.

Please find registration form, info, schedule on the ORLC Chapel bulletin board or call ORLC office @ 425.821.2424 or Barbara Moland @ 435.821.3434

The purpose of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church is to worship God in a Bible-based, Christ-centered ministry, evangelizing, discipling, nurturing and equipping people for the spiritual well-being of every life.

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Thankfully, this journey also includes positive goals to pursue. Not only are we led away from the darkness, we are also led toward the light. Paul urges Timothy to pursue those godly goals of righteousness, faith, love and peace. This list is not exhaustive, of course, but gives examples to whet our appetite. That is, we might ask ourselves, "How might I pursue love more fervently this Lenten Season?" Instead of asking, "What are you giving up for Lent?", you may be asked, "What are you pursuing for Lent?" Let God call you forward to His best!

Walking with you in pursuit of God's best,



**Pastor Ken Moland**



## **Sermon Themes February 2018**

### **Worship Service at 9:30 AM Sundays**

**February 4**  
**Fifth Sunday of Epiphany**  
"Early Morning Light"  
Mark 1:29-39  
Beginning in the Light

**February 11**  
**Transfiguration Sunday**  
"Jesus, Light of the World"  
Mark 9:2-9  
Fixing Our Eyes upon Jesus

**February 18**  
**First Sunday in Lent**  
"Triumph in Testing"  
Mark 1:12-13  
Forty Days of Purpose

**February 25**  
**Second Sunday in Lent**  
"Glory in the Cross"  
Mark 8:31-38  
Divine Discoveries in Self-denial

Join us each Sunday to hear God's Word prepared for you.

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my path and a light unto my way."

**Psalm 119:105**

*Happy  
Valentine's  
Day*

# Volunteer Schedule



Please mark your calendars and if there are any conflicts with your schedule, please find someone to fill your spot and let Kristine Dootson know of the substitution. If you are unable to find someone to switch with you, substitute volunteers are Betty Halvorson @ 425-821-6477 and Kristine Dootson @ 425-753-2020.

"You shall be enriched in every way for your generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God."  
**2 Corinthians 9:11**

Date	Nursery	Sunday School	Lay Reader	Flowers	Coffee
2/4	Vilma Luck	Helen Long	Heidi Stedman	OPEN	WMF
2/11	Kristine Dootson	Barbara Moland	Joe Bottem	Wil & Darlene Olson	Deaconesses
2/18	Kim Jarvis	No SS	Prosper Ruberwa	Patti Prue	OPEN
2/25	Nancy Gould	Diana Daum	Patti Prue	OPEN	OPEN

## BIRTHDAYS

Ameeta Chainani	1-Feb
Carol Yonker	4-Feb
Caitlyn Marovich	9-Feb
Kartik Chainani	11-Feb
Joe Barnhart	12-Feb
Rachel Moland	17-Feb
Warren Bosma	18-Feb
Anita (Benz) Dalton	18-Feb
Harley Ostlund	20-Feb
John Barnhart	22-Feb
Emily Bosma	22-Feb
Bob Swaffield	22-Feb
Eli Bosma	25-Feb
Dick Falcone	28-Feb
Patti Prue	29-Feb

## APPEAL FOR EDITOR/PUBLISHER

After over seven years of editing and publishing this monthly newsletter on behalf of ORLC, it is now time for me to hand over the responsibility to someone else. While I have sincerely enjoyed the recurring opportunity to indulge my creativity, for personal reasons, I am unable to continue doing so.

I therefore request anyone with a little time and an interest in serving to consider volunteering to steward this effort. You don't need any advanced skills; just being able to use a computer and work with Microsoft Publisher or similar software will suffice. The time commitment is about 3–5 hours spread over a few days each month.

Please contact me if you have questions or would like more information. It should not take much time for me to share some guidance, if you need it.

## ANNIVERSARIES



Dale & Wanda Lankford	1-Feb-86
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Thank you!  
 Ameeta Chainani  
 ameeta\_c@hotmail.com  
 425-814-2269



## Words of Life from the Cross

### Lenten Services 2018

Wednesdays

6:00 PM Soup and Bread

7:00 Lenten Service

**February 14**                      **Ash Wednesday**

*The Pardoning Word*

“Father, Forgive Them”      Luke 23:34

**February 21**

*The Promising Word*

“You Will be with Me in Paradise”      Luke 23:43

**February 28**

*The Faithful Word*

“My God, My God”      Matthew 27:46

**March 7**

*The Compassionate Word*

“Behold Your Son... Behold Your Mother”      John 19:26-27

**March 14**

*The Suffering Word*

“I Thirst”      John 19:28

**March 21**

*The Dying Word*

“Father, Into Your Hands”      Luke 23:46

**March 29**      **Holy Thursday**

Holy Communion

*The Remembering Word*

“In Remembrance of Me”      I Corinthians 11:23-26

**March 30**      **Good Friday**

Tenebrae Service

*The Fulfilled Word*

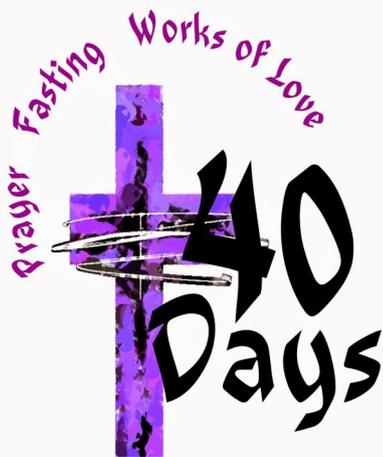
“It Is Finished”      John 19:30

**April 1**                              **Easter Sunday**

*The Vindicated Word*

“He Is Risen”      Matthew 28:6

Plan to come each week to hear Jesus' words for you as He speaks to our hearts from the cross. “Sweet the moments, rich in blessing, which before the cross we spend.”      Walter Shirley



## Call Committee Update & Prayer

As you know, we are in the process of finding and calling a pastor for Our Redeemer Lutheran since Pastor Ken Moland will be retiring this summer. The Call Committee (Betty Halvorson, Joe Bottem, and Pastor Bob Rieth) respectfully ask for your prayers so that everything that we do may be according to God's will during this search.

ORLC's Call Committee traveled to Minneapolis to interview potential candidates to serve as Pastor at ORLC. The interviews were very successful. One of the candidates, Pastor Nicholas Schultz, and his wife, Miriam, have been invited to visit Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Our Redeemer Christian School and the community the weekend of February 10<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Schultz will deliver the message at the Worship Service on February 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM. He will participate in graduation from the AFLC Seminary in May. He is presently serving as Intern Pastor at Good Shepherd Free Lutheran Church in Camarillo, California.

It was suggested that we prepare a list of topics to focus on so that the congregation and the Committee can join together in preparation for the calling of the new pastor:

- The spirit of the outreach—Evangelism
- Renewed discipleship
- Re-energized focus on Youth
- Growth in diversity
- Outreach in the community
- Emphasis on the Family



**Purpose: Seeking the will of the Lord as we search for a pastor and embark on the next phase of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.**

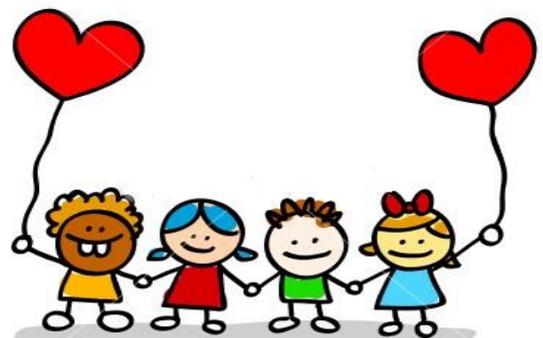
A meeting of the Congregation is scheduled for Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, following the Worship service. Please continue in your prayers that God would guide and provide for the ongoing ministry of our congregation to determine next steps in the Call process.

### St. Valentine's Day Children's Celebration

Why is this celebration named after St. Valentine? And why do we call him a saint? Come and learn more about this special holiday on **Sunday, February 11 at 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.**

Children will make valentines and we will give them to those we visit in Adult Family Homes in the area.

Cookie decorating and fun crafts! Come and enjoy the celebration of Saint Valentine's Day!



**ORLC Women's Bible Study**  
**Thursdays at 10:15 AM in the Library**

A new 7-week study began January 25, 2018 with Priscilla Shrier's  
"Discerning the Voice of God. How to Recognize when God Speaks."



Through these seven sessions, discover the root to clear and daily communication with God—humble obedience. Learn how surrender unlocks His many blessings intended for us, centers us in His will, and helps us discern His voice in everyday life.

We hope you will consider joining this inspiring study ... maybe bring a friend ... and share in this special fellowship.

**Questions? Contact**

Diana Daum	425-821-4061	Helen Long	425-488-3634
Sue Rosebrrok	425-821-2407	Patti Prue	425-823-4284

The *Christian Connection* is edited and published for ORLC by Ameeta Chainani.

It is also available on our website [www.orlckirkland.org](http://www.orlckirkland.org).

If you do not want to receive it in your inbox, please let us know by emailing [orlckirkland@hotmail.com](mailto:orlckirkland@hotmail.com).

**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
**11611 NE 140th St. Kirkland, WA 98034**

*Keeping in touch with the ORLC family!*