



Redeemer Reflections

June 2021

A publication of Our Redeemer Church, Garden Grove, California

Our Mission Statement: To spread the Good News to all through joyful worship and service, so that others may believe and accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. *Our Redeemer Lives!*

**OUR REDEEMER CHURCH,
ELCA**

12301 Magnolia Street
Garden Grove . CA 92841
T: 714.539.9541
F: 714.539.7672
Preschool: 714.539.6643

Email:
office@orcgg.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:
**8:30 AM OUTDOOR &
10:00 AM INDOOR**

Get on the emailing list and the
worship service comes to you!

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday-Thursday
8:30 AM to 2:00 PM
Closed Friday

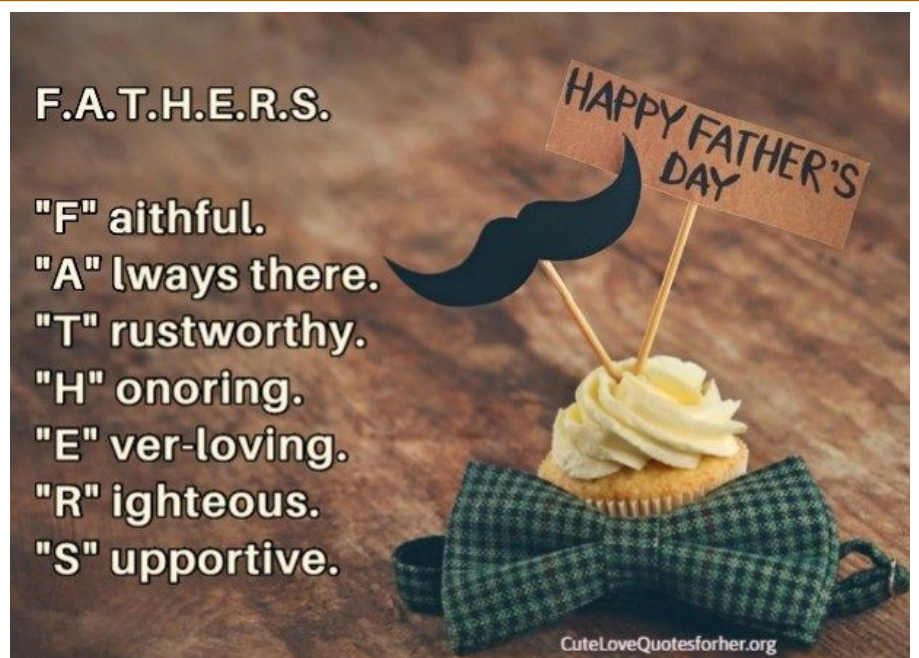
WEBSITE:
www.orcgg.org

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info and photos.*

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*Let us know if you'd like to
receive the monthly newsletter
by email or "snail" mail.*



Happy Father's Day
to all the fathers, grandfathers, uncles,
brothers, and other men who provide us
with love and support!

Parents! Students!
Sunday School is back!!!
Sundays at 10 am

Join us for a special craft and a short Bible time
in North Hall! All teachers have been background checked
and vaccinated. CDC guidelines are followed.

Reflections from the Pastor

by Pastor Brian S. Taylor



Dear Friends:

Don't panic if you hear that Wendy and I have put our house up for sale. We believe the market is currently at its apex. I believe that the housing market is going to make a decline soon, once the government ban of foreclosure on homes is lifted. We are planning to co-purchase a home in Washington DC with our daughter and her family, and selling earlier will give us flexibility to be free to buy when it seems like a good deal. While we haven't set a date for my retirement, we are committed to remaining here through the end of this year, but before my 70th birthday July 24, 2022.

Just as I knew that God was calling me to **Our Redeemer** 15years ago, I know that God is calling me to be a grandpa to our youngest grandson. I am also confident that God is at work preparing for your next pastor to lead you into new adventures that this old dog is unprepared to do.

Change is always hard. I was depressed for two days after we hired a real estate agent. The reality of retirement hit hard. It will be hard for me to retire after 15 years of ministry together. I will grieve the loss of my relationships with you as I am sure many of you will grieve that loss too.... Enough of retirement talk, there are still "places to go, people to see, everything for you and me."

Speaking of places to go, you will have one last chance to join Wendy and me on a trip of a lifetime. On **May 15-26, 2022** we will be the hosts for a tour of Historic Germany that includes tickets to the Oberammergau Passion Play that is performed once every 10 years. The full itinerary and information on the tour can be found by going to **ReformationTours.com/package/rpj/22**. Wendy will be preparing interesting historical stories for each day, I will be preparing daily devotions, and of course, a daily crossword puzzle, and you'll discover more about Martin Luther and your Lutheran faith than you ever dreamed of knowing.

Color brochures are available in the church office.

And speaking of people to see, you need to drop by the church office and meet our new office manager, Julie Cantrell. Rebecca Terrones was offered a full-time job in social work as she is completing her masters in that field. We hated to see her go, but we think you will enjoy getting to know Julie. Make sure you take time to read her article in this month's newsletter, as she introduces herself to the congregation.

Speaking of people to see, there are so many of you I want to get out and see in the coming months. Now that I have received my vaccine shots, and many of you have too, I'll be contacting shut-ins to visit. If you would like a home visit, feel free to call me, if I don't get to you first.

In Christ,

Pastor Brian

Reflections from the Intern Pastor

by Pastor Jill Disbro



Dear Friends,

As we enter the season after Pentecost, that *looong* church season when we consider what it means to be the church, I am struck by the Pentecost story and the way the Holy Spirit moves us to change. From the beginning of time, the Spirit has been moving us and bringing us to new ways of life. When God created humanity, God breathed the Spirit in us to give us life. When God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, God's Spirit lead the way to freedom with a pillar of fire. When the Spirit came on Pentecost, God inaugurated a new church where differences in language and culture are celebrated. And when we were baptized, we received the Holy Spirit empowering us to lives of discipleship.

Life in the Spirit is never static; it is about movement, growth, and change. This change, no matter how difficult it can sometimes be, is also who we are as a church. Our world is changing and we as a church are changing with it. Empowered by the Spirit, we are called to celebrate diversity and difference and welcome people as they are. And, for me, part of that is considering how we welcome people of diverse backgrounds, cultures, and races.

One way the Spirit has prompted change in me came through my experience in Young Adults in Global Mission. I spent a year living and working in a small town in Mexico. Throughout that time, I felt like I stood out. I was constantly referred to as "la güera" ("the white girl"), and I felt my skin color was the first thing people noticed about me. I thought I understood what it felt like to be a minority until a friend told me people weren't calling me "güera" as a negative, but it was a sign of my assumed intelligence and wealth. Although I was "different," I was not discriminated against. After realizing I had a lot to learn, I have continued to read, listen, and learn. My journey of change continues to be empowered by the Spirit.

As we strive to follow Christ's example of compassion and bold love of others, change is inevitable; we are always growing and learning from one another. Some of this work began through our Lenten series on race and white privilege. After the series, some participants expressed a desire to continue connecting for learning and work related to racial justice. A small group has begun meeting to organize and shape what this will look like going forward. And one of the ways we hope to continue this work is to share our own stories, the things we have experienced and learned related to racial justice. This may make some people uncomfortable, and some may feel it's too political an issue for church, but at its core, racial justice is a human issue, a Christian issue, because loving one another means working together to make sure no one suffers.

Grounded in our call to love our neighbors as God loves us, empowered by the Spirit who moves us and guides us through change, we hope you will join us in continuing to learn and work together to illuminate this challenging and important issue. Keep an eye out for more information so you can get involved and let's continue to be a church together that celebrates and learns from diversity.

Blessings, *Pastor Jill*

Church Council Review: May Meeting

PRESCHOOL

Another very positive report about our preschool. Children, parents, and teachers are happy, and the school continues to grow. Finances are solid and a healthy reserve is accumulating. Discussions are underway regarding a Fall Festival and a Halloween “Trunk or Treat.”

FINANCES

Our bookkeeper, Kim Radford, has worked very hard to get our books in order. April giving was above budget, and income/expenses are pretty much balanced, but revenue is down. On a favorable note, ORC has been named beneficiary of a member’s life insurance policies.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

The Eagle Scouts plan to install benches made of cinder block and wood, a drip irrigation system, and a variety of drought-resistant plants in the planter bed on the south wall of North Hall.

SALE OF PASTOR’S RESIDENCE

Pastor Brian has placed his house on the market in order to take advantage of the current “hot” real estate market. No specific date for Pastor’s retirement has been set, but he has agreed to stay through the end of 2021. Efforts have begun to prepare for a pastoral transition.

SWIM PROGRAM

Due to concerns about non-vaccinated children, the 2021 swim program has been cancelled. Thus, ORC will not receive the revenue this program normally generates. However, we plan to resume the swim program in the summer of 2022.

GRANT FUNDS

ORC received a \$4,000 grant to improve the audio-visual equipment. These funds need to be matched, so ORC is having a Special Day of Giving on June 6th. Surplus funds will be earmarked for the Building Fund, since resources have been depleted by some expensive, but necessary projects.

CHURCH DOORS

We have received conflicting information regarding the repair/replacement of the church doors. We are going to request a revised bid to replace the four doors. An anonymous donor has agreed to provide \$8,000 towards the cost.

ENDTER HALL PLUMBING

The sewer line has been repaired, in Endter Hall, but the sewer line from the kitchen needs to be cleared and re-piped. The cost is substantial and approval for this repair is the subject of a May 30th Special Meeting of the Congregation.

REOPENING

Reservations are no longer necessary, but service attendees are requested to sign-in at the check-in desk on Sundays and photographs are taken to document seating. The results of the survey taken on Sunday, May 23rd, will be discussed and appropriate changes implemented.

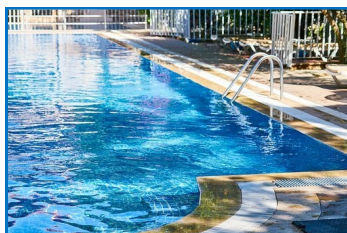


Vacation Bible School

August 2nd-6th

We will be having an outdoor VBS. All our centers will be outside under our shaded awnings. Water play and games will be included this year. And the Slime Contest will happen!!! More info will be coming!

We would love volunteers to help us make this happen. Registration will be open soon.



2021 Summer Swim Program **CANCELLED**

Unfortunately, due to concerns about the safety of children in this time of Covid, our summer swim program will not be held. We are planning on resuming the summer of 2022.

Hello from your new Office Manager . . .

I've been praying for an opportunity to serve the Lord . . And I have been looking for employment. Little did I know that you would be the answer to both my prayers!

I'm Julie Cantrell the new Office Manager. I've completed almost one month in my new position, and I am happy to report that my time has been most enjoyable. I've met some church members in-person, via email, and on the telephone. Everyone (including Pastor Brian, Pastor Jill, and the other staff members) has been so warm and welcoming. You all are a true representation of your faith.

I am learning quite a bit about **Our Redeemer**, it's mission, and the activities the church provides for the community. I've always believed that it is of the utmost importance to be happy in your workplace because the time spent there usually far outweighs time spent with family, friends, or other activities. Thankfully, I have been blessed with a wonderful place to work!

I'd love to meet any of you who would like to come into the church office. (Office hours are Mondays through Thursdays, 8:30am until 2:00pm.) On a personal note, I have four adult children and five grandchildren. And you don't have to twist my arm to get me to talk about them! I'm always willing to show pictures and provide updates and details. I also enjoy horseback riding (English) and reading.

I look forward to working with you to serve our Lord.

Julie Cantrell



MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Deadline is June 7th

Phil Lochhaas Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship honors Phil Lochhaas, Our Redeemer's former Youth Director, who was also involved in many other church ministries.

Members of Our Redeemer who are pursuing a college education are eligible to apply. Applicants need to show that they will be enrolled in a degree-granting program this coming fall. This scholarship is not competitive and all who apply will be awarded scholarship assistance.

Pat Stearns Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship honors Pat Stearns, a registered nurse who regarded nursing as not just a profession, but a calling as well. Students pursuing a career in an accredited nursing program are eligible to apply. This scholarship is competitive and not all who apply are guaranteed support, although ORC has been able to do that in the past.

Pick up applications from the church office; applications are due to the church office by Monday, June 7th.

ORC BOOK CIRCLE

Do you love to read? ORC's Book Circle generally meets at the church on the **fourth Saturday** of each month at **2pm** for fellowship and a discussion of the book of the month. We read a variety of literature, current and classic, fiction and non-fiction. All avid readers at ORC and their friends are invited to join us. For more information, call Ron Stearns at 714.891.9462.

Please note June's meeting date is the third Saturday (**JUNE 19th**) at 2pm. Book to be discussed is *Wild Bill, the True Story of the American Frontier's First Gunfighter*, by Tom Clavin.

Summer Books of the Month:

July *Shroud for a Nightingale*, by P. D. James

August *In the Shadow of the Banyan*, by Vedday Ratner

***"There are greater crimes than burning books;
one of those is not reading them." ~Ray Bradbury***



SPECIAL DAY OF GIVING Sunday, June 6th

We received a Pacifica Synod Technology Grant!!!

Pacifica Synod awarded ORC a \$4,000 grant to update our audio-visual equipment. However, in order to use the funds, ORC must raise matching funds (\$4,000), so ORC is having a Special Day of Giving on Sunday, **June 6th**.

Throughout the pandemic, ORC's staff has made every effort to provide online worship. To make this possible, staff has used their own phones and home computers. With the technology funds, new equipment will be purchased to enable ORC to live stream worship, funerals, memorials, weddings, and other events. ORC recordings will have a consistent, professional quality that staff personal technology could not provide.

Surplus funds raised during the Special Day of Giving will replenish the Building Fund.



Young at Heart

Monday, June 21st

at 11am (patio/gazebo)

What a blessing it will be to be together again! We will take every precaution necessary. Individual sandwiches, sides, and dessert will be ordered. Our special speaker will be Pastor Jill who will share her faith journey, along with some special music from two of our favorites!

For more information, contact Dorothie Bair at 714.746.6290 or ddbair@gmail.com.

BABY NEWS!

We are happy to announce the arrival of Cathleen and Ron Stearns' first great-great niece!

Eleanor Joy Ramos

Born May 22nd at 5:21am

Proud Parents are Lyndsey Trigg and John Ramos

(Note: Lyndsey has been on the ORC Prayer List during her pregnancy. Now that Eleanor has arrived safely, we should pray for her parents!)



Meetings at Our Redeemer

The Church Calendar is available to view at www.orcgg.org

MONTH AT-A-GLANCE

Mondays @ 11am	Grief Support Group (Patio)
Tuesdays @ 12pm	Pastor's Bible Study (Patio and via Zoom)
Thursdays @ 7am	Men's Zoom Bible Study (led by Lynn Badertscher)
Saturdays @ 9am	Lord's Pantry (Patio)
Sundays @ 11:30am	Zoom Coffee Hour

June 8 @ 7pm	Church Council Meeting
June 9 @ 6:30PM	Reopening Committee (Endter Hall)
June 14 @ 1pm	Sincerity Circle (Zoom)
June 14 @ 4:15pm	Ministry Resources Meeting (Choir Room)
June 14 @ 5pm	Preschool Board Meeting (Choir Room)
June 14 @ 7pm	Grace Circle
June 16 @ 7pm	New Faith Circle
June 19 @ 2pm	Book Club
June 21 @ 11am	Young at Heart
June 22 @ 7pm	New Joy Circle
June 25 @ 12:30pm	Preschool Graduation

KEEP CONNECTED

at **Our Redeemer!**

If you would like more information about any meeting or activity, contact the church office (office@orcgg.org or 714.539-9541)

DON'T FORGET !

Everyone on the church campus must wear a mask and practice social distancing. Masks are to be worn over nose and mouth during your entire visit

GRADUATES

Congratulations to the following 2021 graduates:

•**Dylan Barnett**, graduate of Cal State Fullerton with a major in criminal justice; planning a career as a police officer (*Grandson of Dave & Sharon Thompson; son of Beth Turnbull*)

•**Matthew J. Healy**, graduate of Springs Flabob Airport Preparatory Academy (FAPA) in Riverside; attending Cal State (online) while pursuing aviation flight ratings to qualify as a commercial airline pilot (*Grandson of Carol & Jerry Healy*)

•**Claire Leeb**, graduate of Pacifica High School; Claire will be going to UCI in the fall (*Daughter of Jen & John Leeb*)

•**Courtney Manley**, graduate of Emerson College with a Master's Degree in Creative Writing (*Granddaughter of Carrol & Carl Irwin*)

•**Courtney Trigg**, graduate of University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics, minor in German and History, certificate in pre-law studies; plans to attend law school (*Grandniece of Cathleen and Ron Steans*)

•**Blake A. Williams**, graduate of Cal State Long Beach with a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies (*Grandson of Peggy & David Frostad*)

•**Matthew D. Williams**, graduate of University of California, San Diego, with a Master's of Science in Nano engineering (*Grandson of Peggy & David Frostad*)

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

06/01	Carol Healy	06/15	June Jessen
06/01	Terrence Young	06/15	Bob Wallace
06/02	Phyllis Caudill	06/16	Ann Frank
06/03	Daniel Adame	06/17	Muriel Jorgensen-101 years old!
06/03	Rick Fitzharris	06/19	Daniel Huffman
06/03	Jody Taylor	06/19	Patricia Trevor
06/04	Sharon Edmondson	06/23	Alijah Bacon
06/04	Tylee Humphrey	06/23	Kenneth Howery
06/05	Wendy Taylor	06/23	Logan LaMarre
06/05	Machelle Venard	06/24	Cindy Serapin
06/06	Annette Agosta	06/26	Torrey Venard
06/08	Jan Kentopian	06/28	Ray Valenzuela
06/10	Tony Caltigerone	06/29	Wendy Fitzharris
60/10	Caden Guardino	06/29	Donald Frank
06/10	Barb Norcross	06/30	Alex Garcia
60/11	Julie Ray	06/30	Ezekiel Mendoza
06/13	Val Fleming	06/30	Carol Nemitz
06/14	Ron Stearns		
06/14	Lauren Horton		

June Anniversaries

06/02	Patricia & Carl Robertson	60 years (1961)
06/05	Debra & Luis Garcia	22 years (1999)
06/06	Linda & Forest Frederick	45 years (1976)
06/17	Carol & Darrell Tuntland	55 years (1966)
06/18	Dorothy & George Matthews	3 years (2018)
06/20	Peggy & David Frostad	62 years (1959)
06/21	Wendy & Pastor Brian Taylor	46 years (1975)
06/22	Beth & Don Turnbull	25 years (1996)
06/24	Tammy & Fred Wilson	32 years (1989)
06/25	Barbara & Ken Howery	61 years (1960)
06/26	Alexis & John Erickson	11 years (2010)
06/26	Carol & Jerry Healy	Happy 50th Anniversary!
06/27	Kameron & Matthew Anderson	7 years (2014)

Preschool Newsletter

Special Dates

*~Thursday,
June 3rd~*

*Our Redeemer
Trike-a-Thon*



*~Monday, June 7th~
Chocolate Ice Cream day*

~Friday, June 18th~

Donuts with Dad

8:30 am in the Court Yard



~Friday, June 25th~

Pre-K Graduation Parade

Front Parking Lot from 1:30-2:30 pm



DONUTS WITH DAD

Friday, June 18th

7:30am - 9:30am in the Court Yard

*Come have a Donut with your child at
Drop Off*

OUR REDEEMER PRESCHOOL

June 2021

Pre-K Graduation Parade

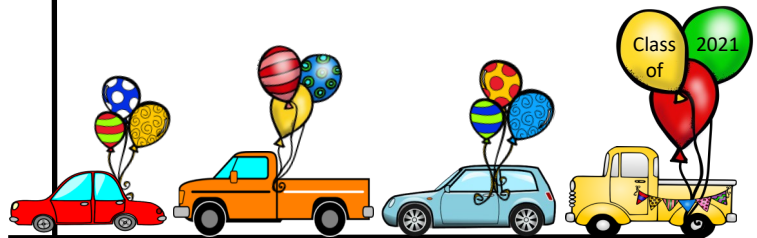
We will be having a Graduation Parade
for all of our Prekindergartners.

Where: Front Parking Lot

When: Friday, June 25th

Time: 1:30-2:30 pm

Class of 2021



Happy Birthday

Matthew R.

Dominic S.

Olivia C.

Liam T.



June 8th

June 13th

June 21st

June 23rd

Redeemer Reflections

*is a publication of Our Redeemer Church.
Deadline for newsletter submissions is noon
on the 15th of each month.*

Sunday Reflections (announcements)

*appear in the Sunday Bulletin. Deadline for inclusion
is 9 am every Wednesday. (This allows us to mail the bulletin to
our members and friends who don't have online access.)*

Thanks for your cooperation!!!

*Please submit to office@orcgg.org. Articles may be edited for
content and space.*

Campus Updates!

Our projects are almost complete. The preschool rooms on the north side of the building have been painted, carpets cleaned, new curtain valances hung (thank you Carol Tutland), new molding installed, and the electrical is all up to code. (All the outlets and switches have been replaced and grounded and our electrical panel has been labeled along with the blueprints.) We also repaired the non-working sink thanks to a new faucet and a new trap. Our preschool director, Cindy Myers, has a newly painted office along with a new floor. Her office hadn't been touched in years. Miss Jean's room has a newly painted ceiling which makes the room look so much better. The North Hall kitchen had a good makeover. The cabinets have been painted a navy blue with grey walls. The center island has been removed and the non-working fridge also was removed. The new floor looks awesome (the old floor was rotten due to the leaky fridge). Next up is countertops, and we have a donated sink that will be awesome.

We are working on the ceiling in Endter Hall (it had numerous grease stains); it is coming along and is almost done. We are very excited to get the kitchen working again after the plumbing issues are fixed.

Do you have access to Thriven Grants? We could use some to continue fixing up the campus. Let Patty or Pastor Brian know and we can help you. We have a list of projects we would like to do.

We will have an Open House in the near future so you can see all the improvements!

OUR REDEEMER STAFF

Senior Pastor

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Intern Pastor

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Organist
John Glessner

Children's Choir

Sharon Edmondson
sharonedmo@sbcglobal.net

Bookkeeper

Kim Radford

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*You can also leave a message
for any of our staff at the
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