



# Our Redeemer Lutheran Church



## THE GOOD WORD

*A newsletter for family and friends of  
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church*

**FROM OUR PASTOR DAVE WEBER**

Here we are in 2025! Another new year. A time when we break out our new calendars and notice that they are fresh. Nothing has been written on them. We get to transfer the important dates and events of our lives onto them. We can leave some off from last year or add some new ones. It depends on where we are in our lives. It is a great opportunity for starting fresh.

Of course, as Christians, we don't have to wait for a New Year to start again. We can go to God and have Him wipe our slate clean any time we wish. The Bible tells us that God alone can make "all things new." It is a good time to take inventory of our lives. What personality characteristics should I seek to enhance and which ones do I need to let go of. We are reminded that with God all things are possible.

What is true for us as individuals is also true of the Church. What things do we need to let go of and what things should we seek to enhance. To help us determine what those things are it is important to remember why we exist as a church. For purposes of this letter I will put forth three things I see as critical if a Church is going to be the Church God desires.

First, we exist to gather men, women, children and youth into the Body of Christ. We refer to that as Evangelism or outreach. That is bringing people into our Church. There is a difference between what I will call sponge evangelism and octopus evangelism. For the most part we are pretty good at the sponge type of evangelism, that is soaking up those who walk through the doors. But octopus evangelism is something else. It means reaching, stretching, touching, finding, drawing in those who are in need of the love and forgiveness of God in Christ Jesus, and may not even have realized it yet.

# January 2024



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Are we at Our Redeemer actively reaching, actively inviting and actively gathering all into the Body of Christ? Churches are not growing because of programs, video screens in worship and other cute packaging, they are growing because their members are actively involved in the worship and ministry of the Church and they are regularly inviting their acquaintances to come to Church with them. Eighty percent of all first-time visitors to a Church come because they had been invited by a friend or neighbor.

Secondly, the Church exists to nurture those gathered together into disciples of Jesus Christ. To allow the Holy Spirit to shape us into the image of Christ given to us in the waters of our baptisms and the hearing of God's Word. It is where we move from the milk of the Gospel into the meat of discipleship. It is what is often referred to as assimilation. Unfortunately, many don't ever move from the gathered stage to the disciplined stage. This is a key movement in the Church. It is key because unless we identify our lives with the life that God has called us into, we will never become the person God wants us to be. If we never become the people God wants us to be, we can never become the Church God wants us to be.

The third stage is the real purpose the Church exists. This is where the rubber meets the road. We exist to equip those disciplined to Christ for mission and ministry. The truth of this statement can be reflected in another way. The Church is the only organization that exists for those who are not here yet. In other words, we are not supposed to be a country club or a cruise ship, existing for the convenience and pleasure of its members. Rather we are to be a rescue boat, finding, saving and nurturing those who are adrift in life without purpose or direction. We are all born with a God-shaped hole in us. Many people try to fill that hole with things other than God and their soul can find no rest. We are to connect them to their Creator. Our Creator will then give them purpose and direction.

Let us resolve to make this New Year a year that we are the Church God wants us to be. As individuals and collectively. Happy New Year everyone.

**Pastor Dave**

New Year New Day!

When the New Year rolls around we (my family) like to make New Year's resolutions. It was funny to me that some people don't do this. A friend of mine said it's because it's just something else he can break or if he wanted to do that he would have already. I like to set new goals for the new year. In fact, we sometimes will make vision boards on New Year's Eve to try and envision what the next year will bring. It's interesting to see all the goals we have for next year. More exercising, more naps, more home cooking. It is such a relief and a blessing to know that we have a God that loves us and renewed us by sending that baby Jesus to earth. And that He so loves us, he will leave the 99 to look for the 1. We are so blessed and highly favored. So this year, forgive a little more, love a little harder and give thanks that we have Jesus!

This year my goal is to have a child-oriented event once a month. A craft night or a movie night; something fun once a month for us to participate in. I will be working with Ettie, Elder of Fellowship & Stewardship and Super Crafter to do a craft night in January.

Thank you so much and Happy New Year!!!

Jade Clark  
Elder of Children & Youth

## Rainbows and Butterflies



Rainbows and butterflies are just what they seem,  
A gift from the heaven for all to be seen.

Rainbows and butterflies surround us with love,  
Reminding us there's always hope from above.

Rainbows and butterflies fill up our hearts,  
Giving us strength to face our dark days.

Rainbows and butterflies are just what they seem,  
A reminder that love can always be seen.

By Ettie Poston



Shhhh! Can you find them? Looking for helpers!

The choir is always looking for members and I'm always looking for weekly readers. But did you know we have silent helpers as well? We need those who can add to their shopping lists supplies for the church like the following:

napkins, paper towels, paper plates, cups, utensils, tissue, room freshener, dish soap etc. to help us keep within our budget.

There are also those who wash and bring back dish towels, potholders and aprons, clean the stove and scrub the kitchen. They remember to bring in samples for the main women's restroom to make it a little friendly. You see, God reminds us to help all people. There are many here at Our Redeemer who can be a "silent" helper. Please join in.

Julie Nunemaker



Grace Hooser - Monday the 13th  
Keith Sullivan - Thursday the 16th  
Almaz Bakit - Monday the 20th  
Diane Parent - Monday the 20th  
Connie Fisher - Tuesday the 21st  
Gabriel Bakit - Wednesday the 22nd  
Blessing Clark - Sunday the 26th  
David Clark - Sunday the 26th  
Pam Redman - Sunday the 26th  
Maria Renee Herman - Thursday the 30th  
Richard Parent - Thursday the 30th



Quint & Beverly Driscoll - Sunday the 12th -  
39 years  
Royce & Linda Walkenhorst - Tuesday the 28th  
- 56 years





young  
at heart

## Young at Heart

**Join us Wednesday, January 22nd, 2025 for a potluck  
at 11:30am & program at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall**

Our speaker for January 22, 2025, is Steven Weitzen. He will speak on "Anti Human Trafficking". Steve, at this time, is District 5340 Rotary Director over some 63 Rotary Clubs. A powerful speaker.

He will speak about the current state of human trafficking in San Diego. How he got involved in the fight. How the kids get drawn into trafficking. What we can do to help prevent trafficking. Stories about victims and survivors of trafficking that he has met along the way. Safe houses that provide shelter and rehabilitation for the victims of trafficking. And much more!

Come and bring a friend!

YAH Coordinator,  
Dick Fisher





# 2025

**Our Redeemer  
Lutheran Church**  
**Orlcsd.org**  
**www.facebook.com/orlcsd**  
**We're now on  
Instagram!**  
**Follow us here:**  
**https://**  
**www.instagram.com/**  
**orlcsd1370**  
**1370 Euclid Ave.**  
**San Diego, CA 92105**  
**619-262-0757**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Prayers & Squares 9:30 Bible Class 10am Providence 7pm	3	4
5 Bible Class 10am Oromo 1-3:30pm Maranatha 4-7pm	6 Counters 9:30 Pastors' Meeting 12:30pm Maranatha 7-9pm	7 Bell Choir 6pm Choir 7pm	8 Bible Class 10am Providence 7pm	9	10	11 LWML 10am
12 Bible Class 10am Oromo 1-3:30pm Maranatha 4-7pm	13 14 Counters 9:30 Pastors' Meeting 12:30pm Elder's 6:30pm Maranatha 7-9pm	15 Bell Choir 6pm Choir 7pm	16 Prayers & Squares 9:30 Bible Class 10am Providence 7pm	17	18 It's Just Girl Talk 9am	
19 Bible Class 10am Oromo 1-3:30pm Maranatha 4-7pm	20 21 Counters 9:30 Pastors' Meeting 12:30pm Council 6:30pm Maranatha 7-9pm	22 Young at Heart 11:30am Bell Choir 6pm Choir 7pm	23 Bible Class 10am Providence 7pm	24	25 Good Word Deadline	
26 Bible Class 10am Oromo 1-3:30pm Maranatha 4-7pm	27 28 Counters 9:30 Pastors' Meeting 12:30pm Maranatha 7-9pm	29 Bell Choir 6pm Choir 7pm	30 Bible Class 10am Providence 7pm	31		



## **Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**

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[www.OurRedeemerSanDiego.org](http://www.OurRedeemerSanDiego.org)

## **MISSION / VISION STATEMENT**

Everyone is important in God's eyes.  
United by God's Word, we worship the  
Lord Jesus Christ, nurture, encourage,  
teach and share – One Word, One  
Body, One Saving Love.

## **Our Pastoral Staff:**

Pastor Dave Weber—619-301-8545

Pastor H.W. "Mike" Mitschke – Pastor Emeritus

Parish Ministry Assistant - Jeri Youtsey

