

# FAITH MATTERS

A monthly publication of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota

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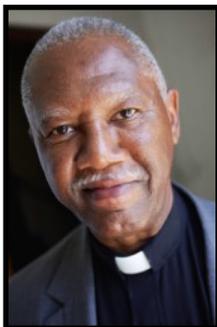
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## FROM THE PASTOR, Kelly Chatman

*18 There is no fear in love; complete love drives out fear. Fear has to do with punishment, and anyone who is afraid has not been completed in love. 1 John 4:18*

Might God be calling the church to a social movement where we move beyond collective pain and protest to the ultimate promise where love overcomes fear?

I have participated in protests for a long time. I marched against the war in Vietnam, marched for school segregation in Boston, the War on Poverty in Washington, the Million Man March and recent marches with Black Lives Matter.

Marching in protests is not enough. As lives continue to be systematically subjected to the assault of prejudice, greed and indifference, people of faith are called to action. Every day we hear about another black man or woman who has been shot and killed by law enforcement. Families are living with the threat of proposed legislation to construct walls, abolish Planned Parenthood and negatively impact health care for poor, vulnerable people. My desire in writing this article is not to inflict more fear, rather to deepen our call to action. We can and must do more than protest.

Marion Hall describes how we are living in the “Age of Protest.” Vulnerable people are systematically under assault. People are living in pain and our response to the pain has been to plan yet another protest. Isn’t it time that we turn our protests more clearly into a force of God’s power, love, and compassion? Remember, we are God’s church, people of faith, a force to hold systems accountable. God, Immanuel is with us.

Marion Hall shares a formula using the words, irritation, intrigue, and innovation as response to current systemic pain and abuse. He suggests we respond to systemic pain experienced in racism, white privilege and oppression and embrace the pain as irritants to intrigue us. He recommends that we allow a place of intrigue to lead us to deeper thinking and commitment in order to imagine and commit to the kind of world we desire. The result is to allow our irritation and imagination to lead us to innovate and build a world filled with experiences of love, compassion and celebration for all people. Allow the irritation to inspire toward innovation.

I invite you to reflect on our life here at Redeemer. In the Harrison Neighborhood of North Minneapolis, Redeemer was once a stigmatized congregation in a stigmatized neighborhood where some people expected that the congregation would close. Thankfully, people got irritated. A remnant of faithful congregation members and partner congregations allowed their irritation to become a source of intrigue. That intrigue developed into the non-profit, Redeemer Center for Life. Intrigue leads to the innovations including, block parties, H-Cubed open mic, hip hop services, fishing trips, residential housing for young adult leaders, Venture North Bike and Coffee shop—acquiring a block of properties and activities to serve as a beacon of hope in the neighborhood. Irritation, intrigue and innovation also resulted in five successful seminary students. There is no fear in love; complete loves casts out all fear.

May God’s love be complete in us that we might be irritated, imagine and innovate for change. Let us pray that we might move beyond the age of protest to imagine that we might have results that are “godly”!

## FROM THE PASTORAL INTERN, Alissa Kretzmann



Redeemer,

Summer has arrived and life at Redeemer is getting more active. Redeemer's kick-off to summer programming was June 14th, and it seems to me that we have a very fun summer ahead of us! But while things at Redeemer are gearing up, I am simultaneously beginning to wind-down my time as a pastoral intern with you all.

Almost one year ago, I packed all my worldly possessions into my car, traveled across the country and began my time at Redeemer. I started this internship—this new thing—not knowing exactly what it would be like or how I would adjust. I'm thankful that, since that very first day, being with you as your pastoral intern has been my great joy. I have seen in you the face of Christ and I have experienced what I believe is undoubtedly a reflection of the Kingdom of God. There is a spirit of community, of grace, of peace and of joy in this place and it is contagious. I feel lucky to have been a part of this community for a short time.

I am perhaps even more thankful though that you have allowed me to enter into the harder parts of life together. Many of you have invited me into the most tender, raw and unfiltered parts of your human experience—moments of pain, fear and grief. This year we have been bombarded with frustrating news stories, confusing verdicts and tragic disasters. Together, we have been journey companions—trying to interpret the world around us, trying to make meaning out of our circumstances, and trying to figure out how our faith should keep intersecting with our lives of work, play, and politics.

Pretty soon, I'll be finishing my time as the pastoral intern at Redeemer and I'll be, once again, starting a new thing. In September, I'll take a few final classes at Luther Seminary before embarking with Kevin on the next exciting step of becoming a pastor! But it's not just me that will soon be starting a new thing. Many of you are starting new things, new eras in your own lives, relationships and jobs. And, as a church, you too are starting a new thing as you welcome the next pastoral intern, Matt Carniff-Kesecker.

In all these new things, I pray that we might be granted the peace and courage that we need. Redeemer, as I begin to say goodbye to you all, I'll be praying this prayer for you, and hope you might just say this prayer for me as well.

*O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

In peace, gratitude and thanksgiving for my Redeemer family,  
Alissa Kretzmann, Pastoral Intern/Vicar



*Alissa and her boyfriend, Kevin recently got engaged! We join with them in their excitement and joy, and hold them in our prayers in this time of transition!*

# June Highlights

## Redeemer's 108th Anniversary

On Sunday, June 11th Redeemer celebrated its 108th anniversary as a church. Members of the community shared a delicious meal, stories and spoken-word. We also celebrated the high school graduation of two of our members, Beatrice and Aaron!



## Redeemer's Summer Kick-Off was a Success!

On Wednesday, June 14th Redeemer kicked off the beginning of summer with food, community and youth programming! "Kids in Action," Redeemer's summer programming for kids started out their summer together by playing games and doing water relays. Afterwards, youth who participated in the first day of "Kids in Action," joined with parents, neighbors from the community, and Redeemer congregation members for our first cook-out of the summer. The food was supplied through the generous funding of a Thrivent Action Team. Teenagers from one of our partner churches, Mount Olivet, came to prepare and serve food alongside Pastor Kelly and Babette. We look forward to a summer of more moments like this where neighbors meet one another and spend time together breaking bread! Cookouts continue on Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00pm for the rest of the summer until our Block Party on August 16th. All are welcome!



## Faith Workday

On Wednesday, June 21st volunteers from one of our partner churches, Faith Lutheran in Waconia, spent the morning working with us on our landscaping and gardening. Youth volunteers were part of Faith's "Summer Stretch" program, a gospel-centered, service-learning day camp for grades 5-8.



# Summer Programming

## **Meet the STEP-UP Interns!**

Summer is here, and so are Redeemer's STEP-UP interns! We were excited to welcome 19 Minneapolis teens to the Redeemer family beginning Monday, June 19th. These teens are serving alongside staff as "apprentices" in Venture North Bike and Coffee Shop, Health Commons, The Garden, Property Management, and Community Leadership, a new Redeemer program that teaches young leaders to inspire change in our community. If you see any of these awesome youth around the church, please share a message of welcome!

## **Kids Open Shop**

**When:** Every Tuesday and Thursday this summer from 12pm to 3pm.

**Where:** Venture North

**Who:** Open shop is for children ages 10 to 14 who are interested in riding and maintaining bikes.

**What:** An experienced mechanic will be available during these times to teach basic bike maintenance skills and bike riding safety. Open bike shop participants that are interested in earning a bike can do so by attending and fully participating in three full open shop sessions.

\*\*No registration necessary

## **Kids Bike Camp**

**When:** Sunday, July 16th from 12pm to 5pm.

**Where:** Venture North

**Who:** Bike camp is for children who've completed kindergarten through 6th grade and are one of the first 10 to be registered by their guardian through Venture North's website or in person at Venture North.

**What:** Bike camp will provide participants with fun activities that teach basic bike riding safety skills, while allowing kids to enjoy doing something active. Participants will be provided a meal, as well as a free bike and helmet upon completion.

\*\*Register in person, or at <http://www.venturenorthbwc.org/programs.html>

## **Kids in Action**

Don't forget, every Wednesday from 3:30-6:00pm is the Kids in Action program!! Starting July 7th, Kids in Action will also take place on Fridays from 9:00am-3:00pm in the Living Room. Click the link below to register your children. We hope to see you there!

<https://www.redeemercenter.org/summer-youth-programs>



# Upcoming Events

## **The Next H-Cubed Open Mic is July 14th**

H-Cubed stands for Harrison, Healing, Harmony and is an Open Mic Community Space for Healing. This month we will facilitate dialogue around community accountability. Our featured performing artist will be SEE MORE PERSPECTIVE, a Twin Cities Native, award winning hip-hopper, poet, producer, and educator. Come join this fun, family-friendly open mic community space where we will share art, poetry, music, and conversation around issues impacting the Harrison Neighborhood in North Minneapolis. A sign-up sheet to perform or speak will be available at the event and food and refreshments will be served! The event will take place from 7:30-9:30pm on Friday, July 14th in The Living Room (1716 Glenwood Ave). ALL are welcome!

## **Support the [Punderful] Ride to Employment Success**

Venture North's bike apprenticeship program is *rolling* along guided by staff members who don't *tire* sharing their expertise. If you can *steer* clear and *handle* a bike donation or two, please drop them off at Venture North. As thanks for your donation, you won't have to *wheel* and deal to get a free cup coffee, possibly made by one of the two STEP-UP barista interns! Take a *brake* [break] and *link* to more information by calling 612-377-3029 or emailing [live-it@venturenorthbwc.org](mailto:live-it@venturenorthbwc.org). Donate a bike and support the interns' *ride* on the *path* to employment success.

## **Come to the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Block Party on August 16th!**

Redeemer Lutheran Church and the Harrison Neighborhood Association invites you to the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Block Party on Wednesday, August 16, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Redeemer's backyard. Enjoy a wide variety of entertainment and activities for every age, all individuals, and entire families. If you have questions or would like to volunteer to help, please contact the Redeemer Office at [admin@redeemermpls.org](mailto:admin@redeemermpls.org) or 612-374-4139.



## **Redeemer is Going Fishing with Faith on Lake Waconia**

On Saturday, August 19th, Faith Waconia will host Redeemer for the annual fishing outing on Lake Waconia. This opportunity is extended to adults and children of all ages to fish in pontoons, boats or on shore. Our partners at Faith Lutheran will provide fishing rods, bait and experience. All we need to do is show up and share excitement for this wonderful opportunity to celebrate the partnership of being together on the lake. Meet at Redeemer at 8:00 a.m. From Redeemer, we will caravan to Faith Lutheran Church, which is just off Lake Waconia. We will conclude the fishing with lunch on the beach and return to Redeemer by 2:00 p.m. Contact Khadejia in the church office to get on the list at [admin@redeemermpls.org](mailto:admin@redeemermpls.org) or by calling the office at 612-374-4139.

## **Alissa Kretzmann Farewell**

Please join us for worship and fellowship on Sunday, July 31 when Alissa Kretzmann preaches her farewell sermon at Redeemer. Alissa has successfully completed her yearlong pastoral internship at Redeemer. Please be sure to join us for worship and fellowship where the congregation will have opportunity to wish Alissa well.

# Calendar

**Every Week at Redeemer: Join us for these ongoing events!**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Adult Bible Study,</b> 9:00AM, <i>Library</i> <b>Prayer &amp; Praise,</b> 10:00AM, <i>Church</i> <b>Worship &amp; Liturgy,</b> 10:30AM, <i>Church</i>	<b>Health and Wellness,</b> 3:00-6:00PM, <i>Living Room</i> (1st & 3rd Monday) <b>Open 12 Step Program,</b> 7:00PM, <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	<b>Busy Fingers Fellowship &amp; Crafting,</b> 9:00-12:00PM  <b>Kids Open Shop</b> 12:00-3:00PM <i>Venture North</i>  <b>Health &amp; Wellness,</b> 3:00-7:00PM, <i>Living Room</i>  <b>Adult Open Shop,</b> 3:00-7:00PM, <i>Venture North</i>  <b>Zumba,</b> 6:00-7:00PM, <i>Living Room</i>	<b>Kids in Action Program,</b> 3:30-6:00PM, <i>Living Room</i>  <b>Weekly Community Cookout,</b> 6:00-8:00PM <i>Redeemer Backyard</i>	<b>Kids Open Shop,</b> 12:00-3:00PM <i>, Venture North</i>  <b>Healing Circle,</b> 5:00-7:00PM, <i>Living Room</i>  <b>Zumba,</b> 6:00-7:00PM, <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	<b>Church Office Closes at 12:00PM</b>  <b>Kids in Action,</b> 9:00-3:00PM, <i>Living Room</i>  <b>Harrison Health and Wellness Yoga,</b> 6:00-7:00PM, <i>Living Room</i>	<b>Men's Group,</b> 10:00AM-12:00PM, <i>Upstairs</i>

## Upcoming Events

**July 4th-** Church Office Closed

**July 14th- H-Cubed,**

7:30-9:30PM, *Living Room*

**July 16th- Bike Camp,**

12:00-5:00PM, *Venture North*

**July 18th- Council Meeting,**

7:00PM, *Library*

**July 27th- RCFL Board Meeting,**

6:30PM, *Upstairs*

**August 16th- Redeemer Block Party**

6:00-8:00PM, *Church Backyard*

**August 19th- Fishing with Faith**

8:00-2:00PM, *Lake Waconia*

## Worship Leaders

	July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30
<b>Greeter</b>	Stephanie Holloway	Stephanie Holloway	Stephanie Holloway	Stephanie Holloway	Stephanie Holloway
<b>Reader</b>	Rachel Birkedal	Amy Courts/ Paul	Jane Friendschuh	Dana Nissan	Jess Swanson
<b>Usher</b>	Michael Simmons	Michael Simmons	Michael Simmons	Michael Simmons	Michael Simmons
<b>Communion</b>	Michael & Kristi Murray				

# Church Updates

## Call for Babette Chatman

This year, Babette Chatman fulfilled her academic and practical requirements to become a pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The final step in her ordination process is for a congregation to extend an official call to Babette to serve as pastor where she will provide "Word and Sacrament ministry." Baptism and Holy Communion are considered word and sacrament ministry. The Redeemer congregation will soon be receiving more information from our church council regarding our own potential call to Babette Chatman. Look for information explaining the duties, financial obligations, and areas of ministry which Babette will engage in, if the Redeemer congregation votes to call Babette to become an ordained pastor serving in the ELCA. In addition to the information explaining the call to Babette, the church council will also provide the date and time for the required official congregation meeting, and the ordination worship service.

Year to Date Revenue	\$113,848.72
Budgeted Revenue	\$164,771.36
Year to Date Expense	\$161,173.05
Budgeted Expense	\$164,250.76
Average Monthly Tithes	\$12,230.40
Budgeted Monthly Tithes	\$17,749
Average Monthly Partner Giving	\$2,116.1
Budgeted Partner Giving	\$3,895.5

## Financial Update: Jan – April 2017

*I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all. But whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess. - Martin Luther*  
Greetings, with April added to our books we have some new trends.

Giving is on the rise! Both Mission Partners and members of Redeemer are feeling more generous as the year moves on. We had some additional expenses in April in the form of some plumbing repairs to the tune of \$3K, but overall our stellar management of the expenses continues as we remain below budget. If you have any questions, you can contact me via phone:

612.231.8323 or email: [mtarras@gmail.com](mailto:mtarras@gmail.com)

## Staff

**Kelly Chatman**— Senior Pastor  
**Alissa Kretzmann**— Pastoral Intern  
**Babette Chatman**— Ministry Team  
**Khadejia Norman**— Office Admin  
**Angela Bonfiglio**— Youth Director  
**Laurie Beckman Yetzer**— Bookkeeper  
**Erica S. Schultz**— Communications  
**Kent Goodroad, Alyssa Schwitzer**— Music Ministry  
**Tyrone Wade**— Maintenance Staff  
**Jia Brown**— Christian Public Leader  
**Jennifer Dodd**— Christensen Residential Learning

## Executive Council Members

**President:** Jeff Felton  
**Vice President:** Phillip Hussong  
**Secretary:** Yordanos Martin  
**Treasurer:** Mike Terras

## Council Ministers:

**Education**— Helen Collins  
**Evangelism/Outreach**— Kristen G.  
**Fellowship**— Led by the committee  
**Service/Advocacy**— Heather Nissen  
**Property**— Stuart Munk  
**Stewardship**— Amy Brandt  
**Worship, Arts & Music**— Mike M.  
**Youth**— Mario Locust

# redeemer

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## IN THIS ISSUE:

June Highlights

Redeemer Anniversary

& MORE!

## JOIN US!

### SUNDAYS:

Adult Bible Study: 9:00 A.M.

Prayers & Praise: 10:00 A.M.

Worship: 10:30 A.M.

### Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 9:00-4:00 P.M.

Friday: 9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.



**Check out our new look!**