

Our Redeemer's Voice

June 2026

Signs of Health



Rev. Jeremy Loesch

I have told several people that I have a hard time reading signs. Not 'Yield', 'Stop', '55mph', push/pull; but body language, facial expressions, data, and things like that. There are certainly times when it helps for people to be explicitly clear in their communication.

What signs are easy for you to read? And what signs are easier? What signs have you

learned to read over time? Perhaps there is a learning curve in this aspect. One learns to read their pets' body language and their different kinds of barks. One learns to read their spouse and children.

Does the church have signs that can be read? I think so; just about every organization does. What signs can be read in a church? Probably the biggest indicator is attendance, yet that can be misleading. In a similar way, a small church may not appear to be able to do things on the same scale as a large church yet the small church may be able to know people on a more intimate basis. In terms of a congregation, a large church may give the impression that everything is good, yet larger numbers may paper over some warts or blemishes.

The larger the organization the larger the likelihood that there are factions, groups, or cliques. The larger the flock the harder it is for the shepherd to know the sheep. Thus the larger the church the harder it is to know the people. But the larger church has people, which is a tremendous resource. We know the smaller church is always scrambling to find just one volunteer for whatever the activity.

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Reverend Jeremy Loesch

The terms 'small' and 'large' can be misleading. Terminology that I have been focusing on recently is healthy or sick. Size is not necessarily an indicator of health or sickness. You may be familiar with large churches that have those destructive factions and cliques tearing itself apart from the inside.

We are a small church by numbers. But are we healthy? Here are some indicators that I have been paying attention to.

Our average attendance is up over the last several years, and there have been over 30 people in the pews several times this year. I'm not going back on what I wrote about size, but I share

that to write this: attendance follows the Gospel. When the good news of Jesus Christ is proclaimed and lived by a congregation, I believe that is an indicator of good health. And good →



Welcome Alex, the newest confirmed member and the 500th ORLC person to be welcomed into our ORLC family. Alex was confirmed on the Day of the Pentecost, May 24, 2026. Congratulations Alex!

(From page 1) health begets good health.

We are concerned with making Jesus Christ known. We are not concerned with who gets credit for something, we are concerned that something gets done. Right now we are getting some things done. We have had consistent numbers of people working to make sleeping bags and in the last season we made over 30! 30 homeless people and people struggling with addictions had something warm to bundle up in and hopefully had the knowledge that love and care existed in a world that often told them otherwise. I believe our community garden is an indicator of health. It takes a lot of work and this year we have a healthy number of gardeners from both the community and the congregation. And a product of the garden is that some hungry people in the region will have fresh, healthy produce. We are concerned with providing something good for the community, and by God sending the sun and the rain, we are doing that.



Pentecost Season

I think our worship is an indicator of health. I want to make sure that our worship delivers the goods- delivers the love, grace, and forgiveness of Jesus. From beginning to end we can celebrate the peace that comes through His forgiveness and we can move into our week with the knowledge that we are at one with God and with one another.

As one notoriously bad at reading signs, those are some signs I am reading right now. What signs do you see that I might not? Tell me about them.

Grace and peace to you from our Lord Jesus. Pastor



Pentecost Begins

From June 2018 ORLC Archives By Arlen Besel, Worship Chair

Our Gospel readings start with the Jesus as the Lord of Sabbath, but the Jewish legalists wanted to link Him to Beelzebub which He quickly dismissed.

Jesus likens the kingdom of God with the growing of a seed that extends and provides fruit.

Our June sermons end with the nativity of John the Baptist from the Gospel of Luke.

The Epistle lessons for the period come from Second Corinthians. Paul reminds them that his message is all about Jesus Christ. His message includes words of encouragement in the resurrection.

As Paul continues to encourage them he tells them of their future Heavenly home. In this life we may have challenges and trials, but our future is very bright and sure.

The Old Testament lessons start with a look at the Commandment on the Sabbath. The next reference is to the sin of Adam and Eve and their expulsion from Eden.

In Ezekiel we read one of God's many calls to repentance to the people of Israel, but such calls are to us as well.

As we reflect on John the Baptist, Isaiah speaks of the comfort God will provide His people.



Reversing Babel?

By Dr. Kari Vo for Lutheran Hour Ministries June 4, 2025

Acts 2:1-8, 11b, 14a, 16-17a, 21 – When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed

(Continue From Page 2) and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? ... We hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." ... But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, ... This is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: 'And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh ... And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

It's kind of fascinating to me to compare what happened at Babel and at Pentecost. At Babel, the people sinned,

and so God confused the languages of the people, so they could not live together in unity anymore. As a result, they spread out over the face of the earth. Now, at Pentecost, God does a miracle so that everyone can understand the message of Jesus, in their own languages. And that message brings them together in a new unity as people who trust in Jesus. Though they come from many nations, they are now one in Jesus, our Savior, who suffered, died, and rose again to bring us all back to God.

But it's not an exact reversal, is it? Because God doesn't take away the different languages. No, He leaves those in place—along with the different cultures, countries, and customs that have grown up. Instead, He sends the Holy Spirit to see to it so that Jesus' message gets through in spite of the differences. And even today, our missionaries learn new languages and cultures so that they can take Jesus' story to the ends of the earth.

It looks to me like God doesn't like to waste anything, even if it first came as a result of judgment. The variety of the human race adds to Jesus' glory on the Last Day. Then all of us who belong to Jesus will be what John described in Revelation: "a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" (Revelation 7:9b-10).

Our Redeemer News& Notes

PRAYER LIST— The Johnston family, Karin, Fred, Ramona, Nancy, Mark, Karen, Mimi, Mary, Ginny, Faith, Brenda, Michael, Bill, Janet, Charlu, Jessie, Betty, Sarah, Sandy, Libby, Mike, and Louise.

FELLOWSHIP — Fellowship Sunday is the second Sunday of the month. Please join us after the service for coffee and to say hello. We are always looking for someone to bring the snacks. Let Lina know. You can also sign up on the Narthex bulletin board. June fellowship will be on the 14th. —*Lina*

BIBLE STUDY—Bring your coffee and join us each Sunday at 8:45 a.m.

MEN'S BREAKFAST — All men, those in your household, and friends are invited to join June 27 at 8 am. Let us talk, eat, and enjoy each other's company. Bring your own breakfast. We serve the coffee. Date pending.

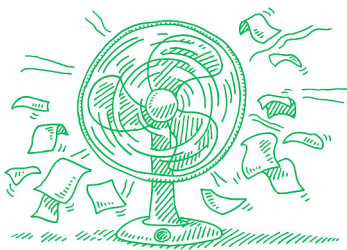
COUNCIL & CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2026 — Council meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month. (June 17, July 15, Aug. 19, Sept. 16, October 21, November 18, and December 16). Voters' Assembly (Congregational Meetings) will be held on Sundays; September 27 and the

Annual Meeting on November 15.

COOLING PROTOCOLS — The fans in the church are placed strategically for the comfort of everyone. If you find that the fan is blowing directly on you and is too much, please move to another pew. Do not turn the fan off. To continue to ensure the comfort of all, please keep the partition between the church and the overflow room closed before and after church. To help keep energy costs down, please shut all doors to rooms not being used to increase cooling efficiency during the summer months. Thank you. —*Bob (clip art, from Getty Images)*.

SUNDAY SCHOOL – Sunday School will resume after Labor Day. Please let pastor know if you are interested in helping out.

BUILD A BAG—After assembling 34 sleeping bags over the fall and winter, the Build a Bag group are taking a well deserved break. The group will resume in the fall. If you are interested in helping out, see Marybeth, Lina or Ruth. No sewing skills needed.



Our Redeemer News & Notes

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY—The Little Free Library is a gift to those who continue to use it. We always appreciate the donation of children's, young adult, and appropriate adult books. Thanks to all who donate books. If you have a moment when leaving church, stop by and straighten up the books. Check to make sure there no unacceptable materials left. —Julie

NEWSLETTER & ANNOUNCEMENTS—News to be included in Sunday's bulletin is due Tuesday morning each week; newsletter deadline is 20th of the month. You can view the newsletter on our website, OurRedeemerNewark.org, or on our Facebook page at facebook.com/ourredeemernewark. Printed copies are sent to our homebound each month. If you would like a printed copy, Please let the secretary know.



Sixteen community gardeners gathered on May 6 to get tips and advice from ORCHARD member and master gardener Rick. They shared salads from their gardens, cookies, pizza and other goodies... along with their experiences in the garden.

Rick talked about starting plants from seed, places to obtain seed, and how to upcycle old newspaper into biodegradable seed starting containers.



AND THE SEASON BEGINS



The good news is that this season we have six first time gardeners joining us. We are excited to see the garden grow. You may also notice some additional plant varieties growing in the garden beds this season.. Walking around you will find everything from root vegetables to corn. Some of the beds include beets, cucumbers, squash, zucchini, peppers, tomatoes, dill, corn, strawberries, peas, potatoes, onions, lettuce, herbs, beans, carrots and more.

Our next social is scheduled for June 24 at 6 p.m. Everyone in the church is invited to come meet our 2026 garden family. Bring your favorite beverage and a snack to share with our neighborhood gardeners. All are welcome. Come see for yourself how the garden community is fulfilling the mission of the ORCHARD. —Robin



In June, we're invited to notice the everyday blessings that often go overlooked. Stewardship is simply a response—offering back a portion of what we've been given with thankful hearts. Even small acts of generosity can make a lasting difference. —Kathy



The Race of Faith: First Place



IN THE WORD

And He sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all" (Mark 9:35).

OF THE WORD

Imagine what would happen if the last runner to cross the finish line was declared the winner of the race. There would be some laughter, questions of sanity, and a reality check at the awards ceremony. The truth is, the last runner in is never the winner.

So imagine the disciples' confusion when Jesus declared that for anyone to be first in His kingdom, he must, in fact, be last. How is this possible? Jesus placed a "winning" status on those who serve others with humility. Need an example? Jesus humbly served His creation by being born into our midst, feeding us through His Word, healing us, and saving us. By humbly serving our neighbors we follow Jesus' example.

WALKING WITH MY LORD

Christ Jesus, in humility You served all of creation and made the supreme sacrifice by giving Your own life on Calvary's cross. Help me to follow Your example and humbly serve my neighbor. In Your name I pray. Amen.

Mustard Seed: The Race of Faith. Author: Amanda Stacy, DCE. 18/28 ©2015 Lutheran Women's Missionary League, 801 Seminary Place Ste. L010, St. Louis, MO 63105. Code: #40196 Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations were taken from ESV Bible® (The Holy Bible English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Thank you both for your time and talent that you have shared with ORLC over many years.



Spotlight on Gary & June

Gary, you have served in the leadership position of recording secretary for the ORLC Church Council for many years. Your dedication, wisdom, and the countless hours that you have given to us over the years has not gone unnoticed here at Our Redeemer.

You have given time and commitment as a lay minister, sharing sermons and assisting in many ways when there was absence of a pastor. You have also served as lector and in other capacities as needed during church services.

Importantly, as part of the call process in the past, you have helped in the search and transition of a new pastor who would fulfill the needs of this congregation.

Gary and June, your faithfulness has been noted and appreciated. You have supported each other, while serving God and sharing your love for Jesus and your Church family and for those in need. Something has probably been left out, but you have done all of this and so much more out of your love for Jesus, for your church family, and for those in need. For this and everything all that you do, we thank you.



THANK YOU



Every other month Our Redeemer's Voice will spotlight a different member of our congregation. Names are selected randomly. We have so many in our congregation who have let their light shine at Our Redeemer and beyond. We appreciate every one, everyday! If you have someone you would like to put in the spotlight, let us know.

Orphan Grain Train Happenings



THE FIRST 2026 SHIPMENT IS on its way Those receiving our donations choose the specific content they need from our supply March 18th was a cold but brisk day for Mid-Atlantic Branch to pack our sixth container for Republic of Georgia.

The truck arrived way ahead of time, allowing us to start (and finish!) earlier than planned. With only ten bikes and ten suitcases to load, the challenge became securely fitting in 1,246 boxes.

We pray the women's, men's, and children's items, plus special nutrition meals and bedding, will arrive with no delays to bless many!

DELIVERING HOPE CONTINUES AFTER DISASTERS — OGT remains still deeply involved in Yancey County, NC following Hurricane Helene in 2024. In addition to many shipments of food, in 2025. We sent a 28 bed sleeping trailer to house volunteers, and in January 2026 another trailer to house 16. Homes are being remodeled and new homes built. And that's the tip of the iceberg of our mission. Check out OGT.org for lots more news on what's happening across the country and around the world

VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE — Our final numbers from the Fall 2025 Matching Fund Drive: Fall Program Donations added up to \$26,459.19 with a match of \$25,750. Thank you to all who generously helped us exceed our goal. In 2025 we gained 84 new volunteers over 2024, a 7.3% increase. Those volunteers packed 4083 boxes, an increase of 570 over 2024, a 16.2% increase. Keep up the good work. In April alone volunteers donated over 534 hours.

WISH LIST —You can also contribute to OGT by purchasing selected items from any Boscov's Department store in person or on-line and have them shipped to OGT c/o Christ Memorial Church, 89 Line Rd, Malvern, PA 19355. To access the list on Boscov's Official Site: type "Registry" in the search bar. Type OGT in "Search a Name". The gift list will appear. Click "View Registry" to see the list and shop.

KEEP US IN PRAYER — The Lord led us to our Jennersville warehouse and now we need His continued leading as we face the need to leave our current space by September, 2026. Please join us in prayer for His wisdom, provision and guidance. We need a minimum of 6,000 sq ft if renting, 10,000 sq ft if buying, with preference of location being southeastern Chester County, or possibly another safe neighborhood near the PA-DE state line. It is not necessary to be on a main road. Preferred specifics: rest rooms, a heated facility, access to a break room, office space, drive in donor accessibility, a loading dock suitable for 53' semi-trailers, and parking for at least 12 vehicles. Please contact us if your leads Rob Hall rob.hall.OGT@gmail.com or (484) 459-921. You can also contact Ruth who serves on the Board.

St. John's Lutheran Church, Dover



Hats off to former ORLC member Bonnie Johnston and her crew at St. John's Lutheran Church in Dover who make the iconic "pillowcase dresses."




This year they have made 400 dresses that will be given to Orphan Grain Train for distribution around the world.

The dresses were draped over the back of the pews to gain perspective of how much a few hands can accomplish.

Over the last few years, this group has made over 2,000 of these dresses.

June 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<p>SERVING Pastor Jeremy Loesch ORGANIST Julie</p>	<p>LECTORS 6/7 Julie 6/14 Stephen D 6/21 Paul 6/28 Bob 7/5 Emily</p>	<p>USHERS 6/7 Denny 6/14 Paul 6/21 Loren 6/28 Stephen S.</p>	3	4 Pastor Circuit Meeting	5	6
<p>7 Bible Study 8:45 a.m. Communion DS 3 10 a.m. Julie </p>	8	9 Announcement Deadline	10	11	12	13
<p>14 Bible Study 8:45 a.m. Worship DS 3 10 a.m. Digital Fellowship Sunday</p>	15	16 Announcement Deadline	17 Council 7 p.m. Zoom	18	19	20 Newsletter Deadline
<p>21 Bible Study 8:45 a.m. Communion DS 3 10 a.m. Julie </p>	22	23 Announcement Deadline	24 Garden Social 6 p.m.	25	26	27 Men's Breakfast 8 a.m.
<p>28 Bible Study 8:45 a.m. DS 3 10 a.m. Worship—Digital</p>	29	30 Announcement Deadline	JULY 1	2	3	4
<p>5 Bible Study 8:45 a.m. Communion DS 3 10 a.m. Julie </p>	6	7 Announcement Deadline	8	9	10	11

June Bible Readings

1 Isaiah 12:1-6
Acts 15-16

2 Psalm 150
Acts 17-18

3 Psalm 1
Acts 19-20

4 Psalm 2
Acts 21-22

5 Psalm 3
Acts 23-24

6 Psalm 4
Acts 25-26

7 Psalm 5
Acts 27-28

8 Psalm 6
Joshua 1-5

9 Psalm 7
Joshua 6-8

10 Psalm 8
Joshua 9-11

11 Psalm 9
Joshua 12-16

12 Psalm 10
Joshua 17-21

13 Psalm 11
Joshua 22-24

14 Psalm 12
Judges 1-3

15 Psalm 13
Judges 4-6



*Read a little each
day and you will
get through the
entire Bible in
one year*

16 Psalm 14
Judges 7-9

17 Psalm 15
Judges 10-12

18 Psalm 16
Judges 13-15

19 Psalm 17
Judges 16-18

20 Psalm 18
Judges 19-21

21 Psalm 19
Ruth

22 Psalm 20
1 Samuel 1-3

23 Psalm 21
1 Samuel 4-6

24 Psalm 22
1 Samuel 7-9

25 Psalm 23
1 Samuel 10-12

26 Psalm 24
1 Samuel 13-15

27 Psalm 25
1 Samuel 16-18

28 Psalm 26
1 Samuel 19-21

29 Psalm 27
1 Samuel 22-24

30 Isaiah 12:1-6
1 Samuel 25-27

