

# THE REDEEMER SPIRIT NOVEMBER 2011

The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer ▪ 6201 Dunrobbin Drive ▪ Bethesda, Maryland 20816

## STEWARDSHIP 2012



*We have been blessed to hear inspiring and heartfelt testimonials at Sunday services from parishioners who graciously shared how it is that they feel rooted at Redeemer: Melinda Nelson, Kim Barrett, Michele Casciano, members of the youth group, Marie France, Dominique & Mike Rychlik, Bruce McWilliams and Peter & Mary Helen Carlson.*

*Printed here is the testimonial given on October 16 by Melinda Nelson and Kim Barrett, whose family has been rooted at Redeemer for over 80 years.*

The Stewardship Committee asked me to speak for a few minutes about what Redeemer means to my family. In preparing the talk, I started thinking about roots, the theme of this year's stewardship campaign. Roots provide strength and nourishment and Redeemer has provided that for my family for over 80 years. We are a fifth generation Redeemer family—from my Grandma's Aunt Jeannette Gamble, whose name is on a plaque outside the downstairs church door dedicated to "courageous women", to my grandma Helen, my Mom, Kim Barrett, to me and to my daughters, Katey and Sarah. Redeemer has been a constant in our lives and has had a place all along our family's timeline, from weddings and baptisms, to my Mom teaching me Sunday School, and to me teaching my daughters, and to working together on the Strawberry Festival for 38 years.

I want to share a family story from the early 1960's. The Redeemer Stewardship Committee was doing home visits that year, going from house to house handing out pledge envelopes. Early one Saturday morning the door bell rang, and the head of the committee was standing at our door. Now at that time my Mom was a young mother with three little children and in pretty bad financial straits. She remembers feeling embarrassed and told him that she didn't think she could pledge that year. He said they were trying to get 100% participation and that even a dollar would be fine. She couldn't believe that would be good enough, but she remembers him saying, "If you give something today, I guarantee that you eventually will be a life-long pledger." From that day forward she has given to this church and she has always taught me that it is the commitment itself, a commitment to this place, to this

community, to God that changes your heart. It is not about money.

Another quick story – with the new directories coming out, Angela asked me how my daughter Katey wanted to be listed since she had grown up and moved away. I called her up to ask what Redeemer means to her and to ask how she wanted to be listed. She said, "Redeemer is family, it is about the people" and, of course, her new address and phone number and e-mail should be listed, that is how she will stay connected. About four years ago, my husband John and I moved to northern Montgomery County and we make the 25 mile trek to Bethesda most Sunday mornings because there really is no other place like Redeemer.

So, for five generations, we have found our strength and our nourishment in this community, and that means everything to us.

## NOVEMBER SPECIAL EVENTS AT REDEEMER

### PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

*Sunday, November 6*

*Pledge Sunday, see p. 3*

*Solemn Evensong, 5:00 p.m., see p. 5*

*Sunday, November 13*

*Fall Garden Clean-up, 12:15 p.m., see p. 7*

*Sunday, November 20*

*Parish Baby Shower for the Razzinos,*

*12:15 p.m., see p. 3*

*Peabody Conservatory Organists in Concert,*

*5:00 p.m., see p. 5*

*Sunday, November 27*

*Advent Wreath-making,*

*9:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.*

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR

### Wednesday, November 2

- Episcopal Identity 201, 7:00 p.m., p. 4

### Sunday, November 6 (Daylight Savings time ends)

*The Sunday after All Saints' Day*

- Pledge Sunday, p. 3
- Redeemer Book Group, 3:00 p.m., p. 7
- Solemn Evensong, 5:00 p.m., see p. 5
- Reception (*following Evensong*)

### Monday, November 7

- Taizé Service & Healing Rite, 7:30 p.m., p. 5

### Wednesday, November 9

- Episcopal Identity 201, 7:00 p.m.

### Sunday, November 13

*The Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost:*

- "Casual Sunday": Fall Garden Clean-up, 12:15 p.m., p.7

### Wednesday, November 16

- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

### Saturday, November 19

- Celebrate Redeemer Dinner, 6:00 p.m.

### Sunday, November 20

*The Feast of Christ the King*

- Parish Baby Shower for the Razzinos, 12:15 p.m., p. 3
- Peabody Conservatory Organists in Concert, 5:00 p.m., p. 5
- Reception (*following concert*)

### Thursday, November 24 (Parish Office closed)

*Thanksgiving Day*

### Sunday, November 27

*The First Sunday of Advent*

- Advent Wreath-making (*following both liturgies*)
- Youth Event: Bethesda Cares Dinner

### Wednesday, November 30

- Episcopal Identity 201, 7:00 p.m.



## DECEMBER UPCOMING

### Sunday, December 4

*The Second Sunday of Advent*

- A Visit from St. Nicholas, 10:30 a.m.
- A Service of Lessons & Carols for Advent, 5:00 p.m., p. 5
- Reception (*following Lessons & Carols*)

### Monday, December 5

- Taizé Service & Healing Rite, 7:30 p.m., p. 5

### Wednesday, December 7

- Episcopal Identity 201, 7:00 p.m., p. 4

### Sunday, December 11

*The Third Sunday of Advent: Gaudete*

- Choral Eucharist & Pageant, 10:30 a.m.

### Wednesday, December 14

- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

### Sunday, December 18

*The Fourth Sunday of Advent*

- Visitation by the Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde, Bishop of Washington, 8:00 and 10:30 a.m., p. 4  
**NOTE:** The Bishop will also be present for the Adult Education Forum at 9:15 a.m. and a special forum during Coffee Hour, following the 10:30 Eucharist.

### Saturday, December 24

*The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Eve*

- Family Eucharist, 4:00 p.m.
- Choral Prelude, 10:00 p.m.
- Festal Eucharist, 10:30 p.m.

### Sunday, December 25

*The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Day*

- Holy Eucharist, 8:00 a.m.
- **NO** 10:30 Eucharist on Christmas Day.

## 2011 PLEDGES

We ask all parishioners to complete payment of their 2011 pledge before the end of the year. For 2011 income tax purposes, the church must receive checks so that they are "within the possession of the church" prior to December 31. The last Sunday of the year is December 25 (Christmas Day) and the final bank deposit for the year will be made on Monday, December 26.

## 2012 PLEDGES TO DATE

We are truly blessed by the tremendous generosity of the Redeemer community. As of October 26, we have received 43 pledges for 2012 totaling \$238,820. Of these, three are new, which is a hopeful sign of growth in the size and commitment of the parish. Sixteen households have increased their pledge over last year, 11 remain the same, and 13 have reduced their pledge.

Thank you to everyone who has pledged so far. The pledge goal for 2012 is \$535,000; 10% higher than for 2011 (\$486,000). This increase reflects our growth and all that entails, relating in particular to clergy and staff salaries and building costs. This increase has been addressed further in the October *The Redeemer Spirit* (see pp. 1, 3 of that issue) and by our Treasurer, Gary Hacker, on October 23.

If you have yet to make your pledge, please give your commitment prayerful consideration as soon as you are able. In 2011, we received 127 pledges. For 2012, to date, we have 43 pledges, but we are hoping for 100% participation – a pledge from every household! With Pledge Sunday (November 6) less than two weeks away, we are at 44% of our pledge goal and so we have a ways to go.

The distribution of the 43 pledges received to date for 2012 is shown in the table below, alongside the distribution of the 127 pledges received in 2011.

### Distribution of Pledges

<u>Pledge Amount</u>	<u>2012 Pledges To Date</u>	<u>2011 Pledges Total</u>
\$10,000 and above	4	9
\$7,000 – \$9,999	3	8
\$5,000 – \$6,999	5	7
\$4,000 – \$4,999	3	10
\$3,000 – \$3,999	4	15
\$2,000 – \$2,999	8	23
\$1,000 – \$1,999	14	33
Under \$1,000	<u>2</u>	<u>22</u>
Totals	43	127

Nathan Price  
Stewardship

## A BABY SHOWER



*Sunday, November 20,  
12:15 p.m.*

The date for the birth of Robin and Brian Razzino's baby girl is fast approaching.

In anticipation of the happy day, there will be a Parish Baby Shower for Robin and Brian at coffee hour following the 10:30 Eucharist on Sunday, November 20. Coffee hour will be pot luck that day, so, if you can, please bring your favorite delicious dish to share. If you would also like to make a gift, you could consult Robin's registry at Target, give the happy parents-to-be a Target gift card, or surprise them.

## NEW PARISH DIRECTORY



Between October 7 and 11, 101 Redeemer families came by the church to have their photographs taken for the new parish directory. Our thanks to those who helped make this possible: Kim Barrett, Angela Beckman, Graeme

Browning, Peter Carlson, Mary Helen Carlson, Bob Dresser, Marcy Dresser, Chrissy de Fontenay, Pat Fitzgerald, Margaret Greene, Tom Greene, Katie Glover, Juliet Grant-Suttie, Janice Huey, Ben Ivins, Clarice Leslie, Tami McMinn, Bruce McWilliams, Julia Rogers, Marcia Sartwell, Pat Stevens, David Strother, Toni Strother and Jane Winer.

Our thanks also to the two photographers from Lifetouch, Ricardo and Charlie, who were efficient and helped us all to smile for our pictures.

Ben Ivins  
Membership & Newcomers

## ADULT EDUCATION

### Adult Education Forums in November

The Forum takes place on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall. As economic issues continue to occupy the news, the Adult Forum will focus on ROI – return on investment – regarding combat veterans, Millennium Development Goals, and personal prayer.

November 6: *New Initiatives Aid Veterans and Families*: The military is looking at new initiatives to address the physical health, mental health and employment needs of veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Speaker to be announced.

November 13: *Progress Toward the Millennium Development Goals in Honduras*: The speaker will be Ray Lara, director of the Trinidad Conservation Project (TCP) in Honduras, which helps train farmers in rural mountain areas to restore tropical forests. Parishioner Ben Ivins has arranged for him to provide an update from the field. This project is supported by outreach funding from Redeemer.

November 20: *Some Options for Personal Prayer*: What are some different ways to obtain a better “return” on individual efforts at prayer? Parishioner Alice Despard will present alternatives to the familiar and provide additional ways to practice prayer.

November 27: *Thanksgiving Weekend*: No Adult Forum.

### Bible Study

Sunday Morning Bible Study takes place at 9:15 a.m. in the Intermediate Classroom. During November we will look at the history of Israel and the Jewish people during the Intertestamental Period, from the time of the prophets to the appearance of John the Baptist.

### Episcopal 101 and 201

*201 Classes: November 2, 9 and 30 and December 7*

In October, The Revs. Susan Thon and Robin Razzino led a new series for Redeemer parishioners entitled *Episcopal 101*. Though attendance varied, each week about ten people came to explore: 1) Episcopal Identity and History, 2) Worship and 3) Theology. We all learned something (including those who put the classes together) and we all had fun!!

During the three sessions, we explored the history of the church from Adam and Eve to Katharine Jefferts Schori, the difference between Augustine and Augustin, the difference between Thomas Cromwell and Thomas Cranmer, the origin and theology of the Nicene Creed, the Holy Eucharist, what is in that stack on the altar, the Book

of Common Prayer (have YOU ever read the preface), pneumatology, soteriology, faith, and heresy, among other things. We asked a lot of questions and only got off topic once or twice.

There is still much more to explore! Therefore, we will be holding four *Episcopal 201* classes on November 2, 9, and 30 and Dec 7, 7:00-8:30 p.m., in the Parish Hall. You do not need to have attended any of *Episcopal 101* to come to the *Episcopal 201* classes. Drop ins are most welcome. The exact topics for the *201* classes have not been finalized. However, we can guarantee that if you attend a class you will likely learn something (and have a good time with others in the Redeemer community). Be on the lookout for class topics in upcoming TWARs and Sunday Announcements. See you in class!

## VISITATION BY OUR NEW BISHOP

During her first months as the Ninth Bishop of Washington, Mariann Budde will make an official visitation to one parish in each of the six regions of the diocese. On Sunday, December 18, she will visit Redeemer. This is a great honor and a reflection of the parish's growth, vitality, and spirit. I have had a preliminary telephone conversation with the Bishop-Elect about her visitation. She will preside and preach at both the 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Eucharist; speak and answer questions at the 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum, and during coffee hour after the 10:30 Eucharist. Coffee hour that day will be pot luck. Please plan to bring your favorite dish for sharing. Something baked for coffee after 8:00 o'clock and before the Forum would be nice, also.

Bishop-Elect Budde is dedicated to learning as much as possible about our diocese and parishes during her first year as our Bishop. To that end, she will be at the Vestry's 6:30 p.m. meeting on Wednesday, December 14. At that time, she would like to hear from the Vestry, and others present, anything we would like to tell her about Redeemer. As always, Vestry meetings are open, so all interested persons are invited to attend. Our Bishop-Elect offers, also, to speak to us on any subject we ask. Please let Robin or me know of your particular interest, if you have one, and we will let our new Bishop know ahead of time.

This is an exciting time of transition for the Diocese of Washington. We are thrilled and blessed to be part of the process in this way.

The Rev. Susan Thon  
Rector

## MUSICAL NOTES

### Upcoming Musical Events

Sunday, November 6, at 5:00 p.m.

#### SOLEMN EVENSONG FOR ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

The Adult and Youth Choirs of The Church of the Redeemer sing music by Edgar Bainton, Gerre Hancock, Craig Phillips, Charles Villiers Stanford. This liturgy is offered in loving memory of deceased members and friends of the parish. *Free-will offering. Reception to follow.*

Monday, November 7, at 7:30 p.m.

#### TAIZÉ SERVICE & HEALING RITE

A service in the style of Taizé is held on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the nave. Taizé is an informal, contemplative liturgy with scripture, icons, incense, silence, and chant accompanied by piano, guitar, and other instruments. For the time being, the Service of Healing & Holy Eucharist usually held on the third Monday of each month, has been discontinued. Instead, the Healing Rite – prayers for healing with laying on of hands – will be offered at the conclusion of Taizé. For more information, please speak with a member of the clergy.

Sunday, November 20, at 5:00 p.m.

#### PEABODY CONSERVATORY ORGANISTS IN CONCERT

Richard Fitzgerald, Christopher Keenan, Grace Kim, Jung Yeon Kim, and William Wisnom – all students at Baltimore's famed Peabody Conservatory of Music – perform on the two manual, 28 rank Di Gennaro-Hart organ at The Church of the Redeemer. *Free-will offering. Reception to follow.*

Sunday, December 4, at 5:00 p.m.

#### A SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS FOR ADVENT

Modeled after the service held each year at King's College, Cambridge, this festive liturgy, sung by the Adult and Youth Choirs (Dr. Benjamin Hutchens, *guest conductor*), has become a highlight of Redeemer's liturgical cycle. Music includes works by Andrew Carter, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, and Charles Wood. *Free-will offering. Reception to follow.*

Monday, December 5, at 7:30 p.m.

#### TAIZÉ SERVICE & HEALING RITE

### Adult Choir: New Singers Welcome

The 2011-12 choral season continues with rehearsal each Thursday, 7:30-9:30 p.m., in the nave. All singers must be able to match pitch and blend. Highlights of the season will include two services of Choral Evensong and the annual Service of Lessons & Carols for Advent. For more information, visit the music page of the parish website or contact Tom Smith: [music.redeemer@verizon.net](mailto:music.redeemer@verizon.net) or 301-229-3770.

### Youth Choir: Calling All Children and Youth

The Youth Choir rehearses each Wednesday, 4:30-5:45 p.m. in the nave. Although there is no minimum age requirement, all choristers must be able to read. Highlights of the 2011-2012 season will include two services of Choral Evensong, the annual Service of Lessons & Carols for Advent, and a trip to sing two liturgies in Philadelphia. The Youth Choir is a wonderful – and FREE – opportunity for high quality music education right here at Redeemer. For more information, visit the music page of the parish website or contact Tom Smith.

### Friends of Music at Redeemer

The annual music brochure, along with a *Friends of Music* contribution card, was mailed to over 1000 households (including all parishioners) in late September. Musical programming at The Church of the Redeemer is underwritten, in large part, by the generosity of the *Friends of Music at Redeemer*. Please consider making a contribution to this musical ministry, benefiting both the parish and the wider community. Gifts can be made in memory of... or in thanksgiving for... All gifts are tax-deductible.

Tom Smith  
Director of Music

## PERSONAL NOTES

### Congratulations to ...

- Susan Thon & Peter Magrath on their marriage on Saturday, October 22
- James & Joanne Livingston on the birth of Lee Xavier Livingston on October 15

### Prayers of Farewell to ...

- Ellen Shillinglaw, who is moving to Maine, and Sally Bartlett and Ted Bledsoe, who are moving to North Carolina. They will all be greatly missed. We wish them God speed and blessings in their new homes.



## YOUTH

### Youth Activities: Mark your Calendar:

*Sunday, November 27:* Bethesda Cares! For the fourth year in a row the middle and high school youth will gather at the home of Julia & Tom Rogers to prepare a Thanksgiving feast for over 60 local homeless men and women. Many hands make light work. This is a wonderful opportunity for the youth to share all their blessings with those less fortunate in our community. As we get closer to the date a sign-up sheet will be passed along the youth and their parents so that the youth can provide the food for the meal. Please let Robin know if your child(ren) will be participating in this activity: [revrobingulick@verizon.net](mailto:revrobingulick@verizon.net)

### Youth Activities: Thank you!

A special thank you to Katie, Julie, and Howard Wolf-Rodda who hosted game and pizza night at their house in early October for the middle and high school youth. We all were able to test our sleuthing skills during a game of Clue and our quick thinking in a game of Taboo!

Special thanks to all the Church School teachers who helped prepare all the children and youth for the Help the Homeless mini-walk on October 23. Samaritan Ministry relies on the mini-walks to help raise money for the poor in our community. Thanks to everyone who donated money and participated in the walk (*see next column and picture below*).

And last but not least – thank you to Jefferson and Cathy who hosted another fun Bonfire and cookout at their home at the end of October. This tradition is part of the DNA of the parish and everyone has a fabulous time.

The Rev. Robin Razzino  
Associate Rector



Help-the-Homeless Mini-walk, Sunday, October 23

## CHURCH SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER

### Godly Play 1: Teachers: Joelle Morris, Cindy Winder

Nov 6	Ark and the Tent
Nov 13	Ark and the Temple
Nov 20	Exile and Return/Prophets
Nov 27	Advent

### Godly Play 2: Teacher: Karen Stewart

Nov 6	Ark and the Temple
Nov 13	Exile and Return/Prophets
Nov 20	Holy Family
Nov 27	Advent

### Intermediate Class: Teacher: Steve Gibson

Nov 6	For all the Saints
Nov 13	The Suffering of Job
Nov 20	Ecclesiastes
Nov 27	Proverbs

### Middle School: Teacher: Chrissy de Fontenay

Nov 6	Saints
Nov 13	Saints
Nov 20	Saints
Nov 27	No church School

## OUTREACH: MINI-WALK

On Sunday, October 23, parishioners, led by the youth of the parish, raised \$1,455 for the Samaritan Ministry Help-the-Homeless programs. Thank you to Robin Razzino for her organization and to all those who walked and sponsored this annual event: Chris, Jacqueline & Claudia Hull, Marie Caulfield, Rebecca Riggs, Philip and Sophia D'Ambrosio, Jane Winer, Tom Smith, Maya Livezey, Ellen Paulsen, Ann Caldwell-Williams, Geoffrey Mikol, Jenny, Esther and Anna Nachbar, Amy Yount, Russ Paulsen, David Schlafer, Peggy Tucker, Tom McNaugher, Cara Price, Mary K Young, Robin Razzino, Chrissy de Fontenay, Frances Sharon, Ben Ivins, Susan Thon, Kathryn Dohner, Cheryl Dunson, Patricia Snowden, Julie Wolf-Rodda, Julia Rogers, Steve Gibson, Stuart Chandler, Carolyn Rutledge, Lois Burleigh, Susan Vogeale, Cindy Winder, Steve France and those whose names we apologize if we missed.

Through simply walking, we are able to help those far less fortunate than ourselves and to support Samaritan Ministry, a long-time Redeemer Outreach partner.

## BUILDINGS & GROUNDS



### GARDEN CLEAN UP

Sunday, November 13

12:15 p.m.

**Dress Casually, bring your gardening tools, and join us. Refreshments provided.**

It's that time of year again when the air is fresh and it is a pleasure to tend the garden – no more broiling hot sun, just a happy few hours spent with fellow Redeemer parishioners cleaning our gardens and preparing them for the coming winter.

Various tasks are on the agenda, such as heavy and deep raking of the area between the Main and Choir entry steps and conditioning of the soil there and other select areas. This will ensure the growth of recent plantings. In addition there will be general leaf raking and weeding in areas around the Labyrinth, Columbarium and Lily's Garden.

Dress casually for the 10:30 Eucharist and bring your gardening tools: leaf rakes, heavy garden rakes and digging spades, pruning shears, and don't forget the gloves. We'll start at 12:15 p.m. – right after coffee and a quick chat in the Parish Hall. There will be more refreshments available outside. We hope to increase the number of helpers by holding the clean-up on a Sunday, so please join in and make it happen.

**Children's Safety on the grounds:** An accident on Sunday, October 9, served notice that we should take additional precautions for the safety of young children when they are playing outside after the 10:30 Eucharist. We are checking into the availability of a portable "Caution: Children at Play" sign which can be set up Sunday mornings. The Committee also recommends that an adult be assigned to oversee the playground after the 10:30 Eucharist. Perhaps parents of Sunday School age children could form a rota to perform this service.

Sexton Alice Despard will check the cost of nugget size pine bark mulch to refill the play area around the slide and swings. Some of the previous mulch has been washed away, exposing bare ground. The mulch will reduce the danger of harm to children who may fall while playing on the equipment.

**Ellen Shillinglaw departure:** Ellen, who has been a major contributor to the success of Redeemer's Labyrinth

construction and landscape design, is moving to Orr's Island, Maine. The B&G Committee voted to thank Ellen for her good work, good gardening and landscaping advice and her devotion to Redeemer's gardens, in addition to her friendship. She will be greatly missed. We wish her well on beautiful Orr's Island.

**Ceiling tile replacement:** Damaged and water-stained tiles have been replaced in the Parish Hall, restrooms and kitchen. If you ever look up, you'll be pleased at the view—no more expressions of "Oh, my, I wonder what happened here?"

**Redeemer sign alteration:** The sign at the corner of Dunrobbin and Benalder drives has been finally altered to change Susan's name and add Robin's as Associate rector, and the lighting has been improved.

**Painting projects:** Sexton Alice Despard is finishing the painting of the Shipman Steps railings to make their appearance consistent with those of the Columbarium area. She is also working on an important major painting project which generally goes unnoticed—the rear emergency metal stairway which was in sore need of maintenance. Thank you, Alice! Alice is our unsung hero (ine), and it's time we sang a song in praise of her mighty good works for Redeemer!

Peter Kendall

*Chairman, Buildings & Grounds/Junior Warden*

## REDEEMER BOOK GROUP

Our next book is *Iran Awakening: One Woman's Journey to Reclaim Her Life and Country* by Shirin Ebadi and Azadeh Moaveni. The book is the memoir of one of the great women of our times, Shirin Ebadi, winner of the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize for her work for the oppressed in the face of political persecution. The book chronicles her life and faith, as well as her battles against the Iranian government. We tentatively plan to discuss the book on January 15, 2012, at 3:00 p.m. Also, at this meeting the Kraske's and Carlson's will make a presentation on their trip to Iran in October.

In late February or early March 2012 we plan to discuss a fictional work. Possibilities we are considering include *Birds Without Wings* or *Island Beneath the Sea*; but, as always, we may go in a different direction. Question? Please contact Bob Dresser: robert.dresser@gmail.com.

## SEPTEMBER VESTRY REPORT

**Rector's Report:** Susan Thon, was on retreat at Holy Cross Monastery. She submitted a written report. The average Sunday attendance through September 18 is 161.

**Treasurer's Report:** Gary Hacker reported that pledge statements will be mailed in early October. To help us understand the budget and balance sheet, Gary used the analogy of an automobile's gas gauge (available funds) to the odometer (miles driven or funds expended). This analogy was helpful to many of us. Gary reported that the mortgage refinance will save us about \$620 a month. From the wonderful generosity of several donors, over \$16,000 was given for prepayment of principal and bank fees. We discussed briefly the 2012 Budget. The 2012 pledge goal is anticipated to be \$550,000.

**Parish Retreat—*Aslan in on the Move*:** Frances Sharon reported that 27 adults have registered so far for the Retreat, October 14-16. Susan, Robin and Frances plan to visit Peterkin Camp and Conference center again on September 30 to finalize details.

**Stewardship Report:** Nathan Price reported that the theme this year is "*Deepening our Roots ...*" The brochure is in process and several parishioners have been asked to give testimonials at the Sunday services. On Stewardship Sunday, October 9, Joe Clark's Adult Forum will be on stewardship roots in scripture and lunch will have a "roots" theme.

**Buildings & Grounds Report:** Peter Kendall reported on several upcoming repair projects which are detailed in the B&G report in October's *The Redeemer Spirit*.

**Adult Education:** Denny Shaw has planned some very interesting and thought provoking Adult Education sessions for the remainder of the year. In October, the focus will be on various aspects of Stewardship (technological, financial, human, natural and spiritual); November/December programs will focus on Veterans, outreach and personal prayer. Details are published in This Week at Redeemer and Sunday Announcements.

**Newcomer Committee Report:** Ben Ivins reported that we have positive focus on welcoming newcomers. He asked if we have a system for following up with parishioners who have been absent. This will be discussed further at the next staff meeting.

Julia Rogers  
Recording Secretary

## OCTOBER VESTRY REPORT

**Rector's Report:** Susan Thon shared her experience of the restorative icon painting retreat "*A Brush with God*" at Holy Cross Monastery. She informed us that Bishop Mariann Budde will attend the December 14 Vestry Meeting and be here all day on Sunday, December 18, when she will preach at both services, lead the Adult Forum and answer questions during coffee hour. Episcopal Identity 101, led by Susan and Robin, will be followed by Episcopal Identity 201 beginning in November. Robin will be in charge while Susan is away (October 23-November 8). Average Sunday attendance over the past 42 weeks is 169.

**Fiscal Maturity II Workshop:** Attendees appreciated Joey Ricks' ability to capture our thoughts and restate them appropriately. The workshop focused on concerns about meeting our goals for outreach/giving, the level of passion/involvement in giving beyond ourselves, and the need for procedures and parameters for choosing outreach recipients. We are probably exceeding our giving goals if we factor in special giving beyond the outreach budget. It was decided to have a group draft guiding principles and criteria for outreach projects. The group will be chaired by Cindy Winder and include Outreach committee members, Denny Shaw and Robin (as clergy liaison).

**Treasurer's Report:** Gary Hacker reported that Hope for Burundi received a designated gift of \$3,000. Gary enlightened and entertained us all with the "Peter the Tomato Farmer" story which was an analogy for explaining accounting principles and standards, and the need to capture in narrative Redeemer's generous in-kind giving, special appeals, etc., versus the income statement for an overall understanding of the total value of Outreach giving.

**Parish Retreat:** Frances Sharon reported that the retreat, was a great success. The Peterkin Conference Center in Romney, WV, was at its best with abundant autumn foliage and sunshine. A detailed report on the retreat is on p. 9 of this newsletter.

**Stewardship Report:** Nathan Price reported that the Stewardship Campaign is launched. Testimonials began on Sunday, October 16, with Melinda Nelson (*see p. 1 of this newsletter*), and will continue at both services October 23-November 6. Gary will also speak on October 23 and be available afterwards to answer questions on Redeemer's finances. To date we have received 30 pledges totaling \$208,280, which is ahead of last year.

**Buildings & Grounds Report:** Peter Kendall reported on a variety of completed repairs (*see B&G report on p. 7*). He

asked that we give thanks and appreciation for all that Ellen Shillinglaw, who is moving to Maine, has contributed to glory of Redeemer's grounds – we will miss her. Sunday, November 13, is Fall Clean-up Day. Peter noted that we need to be mindful of children playing outside after the 10:30 service. The wish of a non-parishioner to donate a memorial bench will be further discussed at the November Vestry meeting.

**Adult Education Report:** Denny Shaw suggests that the Adult Forums be recorded as there are many cannot attend these thought provoking and informative sessions due to time conflicts (e.g. adult choir practice). The equipment to do this should be a low budget item and we could establish an audio link on our website for those who wish to hear the Forums and other adult education presentations. We will discuss this further at the November meeting. In January, the season of Epiphany, the theme for the Forums will be exploring the interplay of vocation and faith.

**Directory Update:** Ben Ivins reported that 102 parishioner photos have been taken so far; close to the 105 picture settings required for receiving 130 directories free (we believe in Angela's negotiation skills!). A motion was made and passed to spend \$510 to cover the cost of submitted photos and additional directories up to 200.

Julia Rogers  
Recording Secretary

## SPIRITUAL LIFE

**Parish Retreat:** *Aslan is on the move.*

**October 14-16, led by the Spiritual Life Committee**

On a beautiful fall afternoon, 29 parishioners gathered by Friday evening dinner for a very successful three-day retreat of fellowship, camaraderie, worship, and spiritual enrichment at Peterkin Conference Center, in Romney, WVA, located on 1,140 acres of beautiful woodland.

The four sessions, based on C. S. Lewis's classic novel, *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, were held in the Christian Pavilion with presentations and breakout discussions in assigned small groups. We opened the first evening with an ice breaker, followed by the 2005 Disney version of the film. The presentations were lead by Susan Thon, Robin Razzino, and Joe Clark, who inspired us to embark on a retreat a year ago.

The themes presented at separate sessions were: *Understanding External Evil: The Frozen landscape* (Susan); *Addressing Internal Evil: The Journey of Edmund*, including shield making (Robin); *Offering Ourselves as Living Sacrifices* (Joe); and *God's Self-offering in Christ* (Susan).

We stayed in three facilities of Peterkin: Gravatt, a residential hall of multiple occupant rooms and two reception areas; and Smith and Atkinson, two modern multiplex residences up the road. Contemplative prayer before breakfast on Saturday and Sunday Eucharist were held in the lovely nearby Strider Chapel. The very satisfactory meals were served in a centrally located dining facility.

On our Saturday afternoon off, several of us hiked up Prayer Hill, some canoed on the nearby South Branch of the Potomac River and others took the Potomac Eagle Scenic Railroad on a three-hour trip up a gorge, paralleling the river, where autumn leaves were changing and three eagles soared. On Saturday night, Compline and a "bon fire" with S'mores were held in the Gravatt living room with fireplace, due to fire danger of high winds. At various times, Hink Pink was played with great delight.

Retreatants were: Cathy Baker, Lois Burleigh, Joe Clark & Meredith Myers, Helen Curtice, Jane Dealy, Bob & Marcy Dresser, Corinne Erasmus, Katie Glover, Tom & Margaret Greene, Susan Grigsby, Clarice Leslie, Robin Razzino, Julia Rogers, Cathy Sands, Frances Sharon, Denny Shaw & Ann Taylor, Nwanganga Shields, Patricia Snowden, David & Toni Strother, Susan Thon, Dongbo & Callie Wang, Jane Winer and Cindy Winder.

The indispensable helpers, besides the clergy, were Lois Burleigh, Susan Grigsby, Cindy Winder, Julia Rogers, Patricia Snowden, Callie Raulfs and Angela Beckman. I am very grateful to each for her invaluable assistance.

Frances Sharon  
*Spiritual Life*



## COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS



Thanks to Margaret Greene, Mary Helen & Peter Carlson, Katie Nickerson, and Amy Bowers & Philip D'Ambrosio for hosting Coffee Hour during October.

We are always looking for additional hosts. You do not have to be a cook! Fruits, cheese & crackers, dips, store-bought cookies and cakes are all just fine. And, it is even easier if you do it with someone. So, we encourage you to pair up. We would also encourage groups to sign-up (e.g. the B&G, Outreach or Adult Education committees, the Redeemer book group, the youth, the choirs, etc.)

Guidelines are on the Sign-up board in the Parish Hall, right by the sign-up sheet. (You don't have to fix the coffee urns or set out the cups, etc.—Alice Despard, our Sexton, does all that for you beforehand.) If you have questions, please contact Patricia Snowden, *Parish Life Chair*: [postscript2@verizon.net](mailto:postscript2@verizon.net) or 301-229-2170.



## CHRISTIAN CONTEMPLATIVE GROUP

The Christian Contemplative Group meets in Redeemer's sanctuary on the second and fourth Mondays each month, September through June, 7:30–9:00 p.m. All are welcome to join or drop in at any time. Typically, we begin with a short liturgy of simple chants, readings and centering prayer. We then transition into discussion centering around a selected text, currently *The Gospel of Thomas*. Through the study of relevant texts combined with contemplative practices such as centering prayer and lectio divina, we learn to act in new ways, changing old patterns that no longer serve us, developing more satisfying relationships with ourselves, others and God, and aligning with our inner compass, or true essence.

For more information, contact Alice Despard: 301-263-9644 or [alicedespard@gmail.com](mailto:alicedespard@gmail.com); or Clarice Leslie: 301-229-2609 or [cyleslie@verizon.net](mailto:cyleslie@verizon.net).

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

We wish a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to:

Julie La	Frances Sharon
Julia Rogers	Angela Beckman
Gwen Hess	Timmy Mealey
Lois Burleigh	Meredith Griggs
Amy Knapp	Leslie McNaughter
Jeff Stann	Ann Taylor
Sander Avery	Randolph Court
Michael Rychlik	Cathy Baker
Bramman Avery	Gary Hacker
Katie Nickerson	Ellen Paulsen
Jo Campa	Caroline Gibson

We wish a **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY** to:

Jef & Janice Huey



## BEGINNER'S MIND YOGA

Beginner's Mind Yoga classes, taught by parishioner Alice Despard, are held on Saturday morning, 9:30–11:00 a.m., in the Parish Hall. Beginners are always welcome and classes are a combined Beginner/Advanced Beginner level. We provide mats and props. Drop-ins are always welcome (\$15 per class) and the introductory class is free.

Alice Despard has been a practitioner of hatha yoga for over thirteen years and began teaching five years ago. Her teaching style emphasizes the fundamental aspects of developing equally strength, flexibility, and proper alignment; and cultivating always a "beginner's mind." Health, awareness and serenity are some of the fruits of a yoga practice. For more information, please visit the Beginner's Mind Yoga website: [www.alicedespard.blogspot.com](http://www.alicedespard.blogspot.com), or contact Alice directly. (301) 263-9644; [alicedespard@gmail.com](mailto:alicedespard@gmail.com).

## WEEKLY AT REDEEMER

### Sunday

- Holy Eucharist, 8:00 a.m.
- Adult Education Forum, 9:15 a.m.
- Bible Study, 9:15 a.m.
- Adult Choir Warm-Up, 9:15 a.m.
- Youth Choir Warm-Up, 9:45 a.m.
- Nursery Care, 10:15 a.m.
- Choral Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.
- Church School, 10:30 a.m.
- Coffee Hour (*following 10:30 Eucharist*)

### Monday

- AA Meeting, 12 noon
- Taizé Service & Healing Rite, 7:30 p.m. (*first Monday*)
- Christian Contemplative Group, 7:30 p.m.  
(*second & fourth Mondays*)

### Tuesday

- Education for Ministry (EfM), 6:30 p.m.
- AA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

### Wednesday

- Morning Prayer & Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- AA Meeting, 12 noon
- Holy Eucharist, 12 noon
- Youth Choir Rehearsal, 4:30 p.m.
- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (*third Wednesday*)

### Thursday

- Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.

### Friday (*Parish Office closed*)

- AA Meditation Group, 12 noon
- AA Meeting, 8:30 p.m.

### Saturday

- AA Meeting, 7:45 a.m.



## PARISH INFORMATION

### The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

6201 Dunrobbin Drive at MacArthur Boulevard  
Bethesda, Maryland 20816

Phone: 301-229-3770 • Fax: 301-320-8037

Website: [www.redeemerbethesda.org](http://www.redeemerbethesda.org)

*The Parish Office is open Monday–Thursday,  
7:30 a.m.–3:45 p.m.*

#### ■ CLERGY & STAFF

**The Rev. Susan C. Thon**, Rector

email: [revsusanburns@verizon.net](mailto:revsusanburns@verizon.net)

**The Rev. Robin G. Razzino**, Associate Rector

email: [revrobingulick@verizon.net](mailto:revrobingulick@verizon.net)

**The Rev. Dr. David J. Schlafer**, Assisting Priest

email: [dschlafer@juno.com](mailto:dschlafer@juno.com)

**Thomas P. Smith**, Director of Music

email: [music.redeemer@verizon.net](mailto:music.redeemer@verizon.net)

**Angela Beckman**, Administrative Assistant

email: [office.redeemer@verizon.net](mailto:office.redeemer@verizon.net)

**Alice Despard**, Sexton

email: [alicedespard@gmail.com](mailto:alicedespard@gmail.com)

#### ■ THE VESTRY

**Cathy Baker**, Senior Warden (2012)

301-229-6963 • email: [catherinebaker@mac.com](mailto:catherinebaker@mac.com)

**Gary Hacker**, Treasurer/Communications (2012)

202-265-6467 • email: [gary.hacker@verizon.net](mailto:gary.hacker@verizon.net)

**Jack Hutchings**, Pastoral Care (2012)

301-216-4650 • email: [drjrh@comcast.net](mailto:drjrh@comcast.net)

**Ben Ivins**, Newcomers/Membership (2012)

301-263-0608 • email: [bivins@nab.org](mailto:bivins@nab.org)

**Peter Kendall**, Junior Warden/Buildings & Grounds (2013)

202-362-3044 • email: [pandbkendall@verizon.net](mailto:pandbkendall@verizon.net)

**Nathan Price**, Stewardship (2014)

301-229-5999 • email: [npay@me.com](mailto:npay@me.com)

**Julia Rogers**, Recording Secretary

301-320-4195 • email: [julia.rogers@me.com](mailto:julia.rogers@me.com)

**Frances Sharon**, Spiritual Life (2013)

202-364-4937 • email: [fwadsworth@verizon.net](mailto:fwadsworth@verizon.net)

**Denny Shaw**, Adult Education (2013)

301-585-3969 • email: [shawdf22@gmail.com](mailto:shawdf22@gmail.com)

**Cynthia Winder**, Outreach (2014)

301-229-9093 • email: [cwwinder@yahoo.com](mailto:cwwinder@yahoo.com)

**Mary K Young**, Chair, Finance Committee

301-320-5696 • email: [young@consultzg.com](mailto:young@consultzg.com)

## THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

6201 Dunrobbin Drive at MacArthur Boulevard

Bethesda, Maryland 20816



## THE REDEEMER SPIRIT

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### MISSION STATEMENT

We are called as a loving community of faith to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ in word and action, and to welcome all people who seek a deeper knowledge of God. We will achieve our mission by striving to create a vibrant, focused and growing Church that embodies Christian values and beliefs; implementing programs and services that are meaningful in our daily lives (faith in action); building a safe environment that encourages us to reach out to our community, to people of other faiths and beliefs, and to people who differ from us in important ways.

*The Holy Eucharist is celebrated each Sunday at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.  
Please visit our website to learn more about us.*

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www.redeemerbethesda.org