

THE REDEEMER SPIRIT APRIL 2009

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

NOTES FROM THE RECTOR

sab-bat-i-cal 1. Of or appropriate to the Sabbath 5. Any extended period of leave from one's customary work, esp. for rest or study.¹

The custom of taking a sabbatical leave has long been widespread in academia, and has become more common in recent years for clergy. As I begin my sixteenth year as Rector of Redeemer in May, I will take my second sabbatical, from May 16 to August 16. (I will come back for Beth O'Callaghan's ordination to the diaconate on June 13, and will celebrate and preach on June 14, when Beth will serve here as deacon. And, yes, you'll see me at the Strawberry Festival that Saturday afternoon.)

In the covenant with Israel at Mount Sinai, the people were commanded to "remember the Sabbath [seventh] day and keep it holy." (Exodus 20:8) The wisdom of taking time for rest and refreshment, in imitation of the Creator, comes, of course, from the Book of Genesis:

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day, God finished the work that he had done, and he rested from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. (Genesis 2:1-3)

Where am I going, and what will I do? I will spend time on retreat, at the beginning and end of my sabbath time. I will learn to sail, as I have longed to do for years. At our home on the western shore of the Bay, I will garden, walk, run, read, paint, and sail our little boat. I plan to take a weekend painting workshop, or two. At some point, Allen and I will go to Maine and also to Vancouver, for a stay in our son's apartment there. (He will be a senior at the University of British Columbia in the fall, in Tanzania for a research project in medical anthropology during the summer, and, after all, we are paying rent on the Vancouver apartment!)

A sabbatical is an opportunity for renewal and growth not only for the clergy person, but also for the parish. We were blessed in 2003 to have received a very generous, once-in-a-lifetime sabbatical grant from the Lilly Foundation, that made it possible for me to travel and study in Scotland (Iona, Mull, and on the mainland), Israel, and Italy. (God bless the Lilly heirs!) Over the three and a half months I was away on pilgrimage, the parish was on a pilgrimage of its own, while staying in place. Parish leaders and the whole

congregation grew in confidence as they realized they were not so dependent on the Rector as they may have thought. We were all revitalized by the experience.

Six years later, we continue to be blessed by strong, wise lay leadership, an enthusiastic and dynamic Vestry, and a growing, energized congregation. While I am away, Senior Warden Tom McNaugher and Junior Warden Meredith Griggs will be the canonical authority in the parish. As in 2006, The Rev. Dr. David Schlafer—Redeemer's non-stipendiary Priest Associate, who has blessed us continually, for almost ten years now, with his wisdom, insight and love—will play an important role as celebrant and preacher on Sunday mornings. This time around, we are blessed, as well, by having The Rev. Robin Gulick, our gifted, part-time, Assistant to the Rector, to provide continuity and clergy leadership. She, too, will, of course, celebrate and preach on Sundays, and will continue to be here on Tuesday afternoons and Wednesdays. Tom Smith, Director of Music; Angela Beckman, part-time Administrative Assistant; and Alice Despard, part-time Sexton, will, as always, contribute to Redeemer's life and growth through their many gifts, insights and solid good sense.

In the May *Spirit*, we will publish details of clergy availability for appointments and pastoral emergencies, and how to request help from the Pastoral Care Committee (meals, transportation, home or hospital communion, etc.). I have the utmost confidence that all will be well while I am away, and I will look forward, when I return, to seeing how the parish has grown and changed! I am deeply grateful to the Vestry, staff and congregation for this opportunity for rejuvenation. I trust that you will all find ways of rest and refreshment this summer yourselves.

The Rev. Susan Burns,
Rector

¹Webster's College Dictionary (New York, New York, Random House, 1991).



Holy Week & Easter at REDEEMER



PALM SUNDAY — April 5

Blessing of Palms, Procession & Holy Eucharist, 8:00 a.m.
Blessing of Palms, Procession & Choral Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.



MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK — April 6

Taizé Service of Prayer & Meditation, 7:30 p.m.



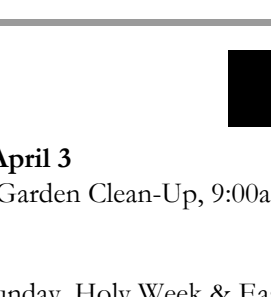
TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK — April 7

Sung Compline, 7:30 p.m.



WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK — April 8

Morning Prayer & Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
The Holy Eucharist, 12:00 noon
The Office of Tenebrae, 7:30 p.m.



MAUNDY THURSDAY — April 9

Simple Supper, 6:30 p.m.
Choral Eucharist, 7:30 p.m.



GOOD FRIDAY — April 10

Stations of the Cross, 12:00 noon
The Solemn Liturgy, 7:30 p.m.



EASTER EVEN — April 11

The Great Vigil of Easter, 8:30 p.m.

EASTER DAY — April 12

The Holy Eucharist, 8:00 a.m.
Festal Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.

APRIL EVENTS

Saturday, April 3

- Spring Garden Clean-Up, 9:00a.m.-noon

April 5-12

- Palm Sunday, Holy Week & Easter, see above

Tuesday, April 14

- Passover Seder & Education for Ministry, p. 10

Sunday, April 19

- Youth Trip to the Baseball game, p. 7

Wednesday, April 22

- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 26

- Inscape Chamber Orchestra in Concert, 5:00 p.m.
Free-will offering. Reception to follow.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday, April 5

Holy Week begins with a commemoration of the procession from the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem. The Gospel is a dramatic reading of the Passion according to Mark by members of the congregation.

Monday in Holy Week, April 6

The Taizé service is an informal, contemplative service with scripture, icons, incense, silence and chant, accompanied by piano, guitar, and other instruments.

Tuesday in Holy Week, April 7

Compline is a brief (about 20 minutes) reflective service to close the day, sung entirely by a small choir. "The way the Church says good night."

Wednesday in Holy Week, April 8

The Holy Eucharist is celebrated at noon. The service of Tenebrae is held after sundown. "Tenebrae" is Latin for "darkness" or "shadows." During the service, candles are gradually extinguished until only one, symbolizing Christ, remains. The candle is hidden, representing his death, then restored to its place, symbolizing the Resurrection.

Maundy Thursday, April 9

The name of this day comes from the same Latin word that gives us the English "mandate," or command. At supper on this night Jesus commanded the disciples: Concerning the bread, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." (Luke 22:19) Concerning the wine, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood." (Luke 22:20) Concerning washing one another's feet, "So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, so you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you." (John 13:14-15)

Following a pot luck supper of soup, bread, cheese and salad, the Holy Eucharist is celebrated at 7:30 p.m. The sacrament is reserved for communion on Good Friday. Sign up to Watch with Christ for one hour in a vigil of prayer beginning at 9:00 p.m. and continuing until noon on Good Friday.

Good Friday, April 10

We walk the journey of Christ on the day of his crucifixion and death, in the Stations of the Cross at noon. We pause for a reading and prayer at each of the 14 wood block prints in the church, commemorating 14 events from Christ's trial to his burial. The observance of Good Friday concludes with the liturgy of the day from the Book of Common Prayer, with solemn collects and anthems of the early church and communion from the reserved sacrament at 7:30 p.m.

Easter Even, Saturday, April 11

The first Eucharist of Easter is celebrated at the Great Vigil. (The celebration is called a "vigil" because it takes place on the eve of a holy day.) We begin on the church lawn after sundown (thus, the third day by Jewish reckoning) by lighting the new fire, the Light of the Risen Christ. Scriptures recounting the history of salvation are read by candlelight in the darkened church. Bring a bell to ring as we sing the first "Alleluias!" of Easter. There will be glorious music.

Easter Day, Sunday, April 12

We will celebrate the Day of Resurrection at the Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m., and a Festal Eucharist and more glorious music at 10:30 a.m. Following the 10:30 service, there



CHURCH DECORATIONS FOR EASTER



In celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord we will decorate the sanctuary with flowers and plants (suitable for outdoor planting). Following services on the Second Sunday of Easter, the Building & Grounds Committee will select some of the plants — which include Easter lilies, geraniums, hydrangeas, hyacinths, tulips and daffodils — for Redeemer's gardens. Other may be taken home by the congregation, or to those who through illness or being homebound were unable to attend Easter services. Flowers from the plants placed in Redeemer's gardens will be used to decorate the church on Sundays throughout the year.

Donations for the flowers and plants can be made in honor, thanksgiving or memory of a loved one. If you wish to have your dedication printed in the Easter orders of service, we will need to have the wording by *Wednesday, April 1*. You can write the dedication on an Easter flowers envelope available in the narthex, pews or parish hall, and place your check or cash inside. Checks should be made out to The Church of the Redeemer; please put "Easter flowers" on the memo line. Thank you!

If you have any questions, please contact Patricia Snowden at postscript2@verizon.net or 301-229-3170, or the church office at office.redeemer@verizon.net or 301-229-3770.

The Altar Guild

MARCH VESTRY REPORT

Beth O'Callaghan

Beth O'Callaghan, Redeemer's candidate for Holy Orders, attended the March 18 Vestry meeting to relay to the Vestry the process toward her anticipated ordination to the transitional diaconate at Washington National Cathedral on June 13. Beth detailed her course work for this semester, the progress of her fieldwork, and her job search. Beth said she feels most drawn, ultimately, to a small parish or to a hospital chaplaincy. The motion to endorse Beth for ordination was introduced, seconded, and passed. She will appear before the Standing Committee this month for their final approval of her diaconal ordination.

Budget

Tom McNaugher, Senior Warden, reported on the results of his announcements at the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services on Sunday, March 14. He said parishioners who have already given are giving more and that there has been one new pledge, bringing the number of pledges to 103, and the amount pledged to \$390,850, as of March 17. After review and discussion of the components of the 2009 Second Draft Budget. The Vestry seconded and passed the vote for Assistant Treasurer Lois Burleigh, Treasurer to use this budget as the approved budget for 2009.

Communications

Gary Hacker has been reviewing Redeemer's website and whether newcomers are using it to find information before visiting our church. As part of his review of communications, Gary has prepared a survey for newcomers about the website to be filled out at the Newcomers Reception at the rectory on March 29.

Coffee Hour

Ben Ivins, Vestry member in charge of Parish Life, discussed some aspects of coffee hour following the 10:30 a.m. service. With increasing numbers of parishioners attending this time for fellowship, and the same individuals apparently volunteering repeatedly to provide food, set-up and clean-up, the suggestion of groups (senior choir, Pastoral Care Committee, etc.) taking on the task for a month at a time will be explored. Announcements will continue to be made during coffee hour, asking people to put a few dollars in the basket to help build up a supply of cookies on hand.

Cynthia Winder
Recording Secretary



TREASURER'S REPORT

Feb 2009	Year to Date			
	Actual	Budget	Variance	2008 Budget
Pledges*	\$118,290	\$123,304	(\$5,014)	\$410,000
Total Ordinary Income	\$131,125	\$133,415	(\$2,291)	\$501,087
Expenses	\$82,499	\$85,927	(\$4,303)	\$524,675
Net Ordinary Income	\$48,626	\$47,489	\$1,137	(\$23,588)

*Pledges include \$22,500 pre-paid in 2008, and \$1,074 of 2008 pledges paid in 2009.

Lois Burleigh
Assistant Treasurer

MAY UPCOMING

Wednesday, May 6

- Chorister Evensong, 5:30 p.m., p. 5

Sunday, May 10

- Mother's Day Toiletries Drive for Samaritan Ministry
- Farewell to Seminarian Valerie Hayes (graduating), and to the Rector (going on sabbatical)

Saturday, May 16

- Labyrinth Walk, 7:30 p.m., p. 5

Sunday, May 17

- Youth Hiking Trip

Tuesday, May 20

- Hope for Burundi-Art Show Fundraiser, p. 9

Sunday, May 24

- Bethesda Cares Dinner

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome as new registered members of Redeemer:

Juliet & Ian Grant-Suttie

STEWARDSHIP 2009

As of March 23, our 2009 Stewardship Campaign had received 104 pledges for a total of \$393,100. An outpouring of generosity, especially from the remarkable number of parishioners who continue to increase pledges made early in the campaign, has brought us to within striking distance of our goal of \$410,000 in pledges for 2009. We have a ways to go yet, but there is growing optimism that we will be able to sustain the wonderful programs that mark Redeemer today. Please pledge if you can; even a small pledge is better than none, since we can't plan without pledges.

Tom McNaugher
Senior Warden

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Forum

Sundays, 9:15 a.m.

There will be no Adult Forum on Palm Sunday (April 5) or Easter Sunday (April 12).

After Easter, we will resume the *Living the Questions* series. The next three segments are entitled: Practicing Resurrection, Debunking the Rapture, and Reclaiming the World. We will spend two Sunday forums on each topic.

Looking ahead: A Labyrinth Walk: On *Saturday, May 16*, at 7:30 p.m., the Adult Education Committee will offer a special program for the Redeemer community and beyond. Penny Morrow will bring a portable labyrinth to Redeemer. She will give a brief talk before a time for walking the labyrinth, by candle light with music, until 9:00 p.m. All are invited. Please plan to come, and invite your friends.

Lois Burleigh
Adult Education

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Spring Garden Clean-Up

Saturday, April 3, 9:00 a.m.-Noon

We will spruce up the grounds for spring. All are welcome! This is a great activity for families and for people of all ages and abilities. No gardening experience is required. We will weed, rake, prune and edge. Please bring rakes, gloves and leaf blowers, if you have them. Bagels and coffee will be supplied. If you would like to "adopt" a garden area to maintain during the year, please let Meredith know.

Meredith Griggs
Junior Warden/Building & Grounds

MUSICAL NOTES

UPCOMING LITURGICAL/MUSICAL EVENTS

Chorister Evensong

Wednesday, April 1, at 5:30 p.m.

Sung prayer at the close of the day, led by Redeemer's treble choristers. Liturgy includes traditional settings of the responses, psalm, and canticles, as well as an anthem and a hymn. Held on the first Wednesday of every month.

Taizé Service of Prayer and Meditation

Monday, April 6, at 7:30 p.m.

An informal, contemplative service with scripture, icons, incense, silence, and chant accompanied by piano, guitar, and other instruments.

Music during Holy Week & Easter

Both choirs have been working diligently to prepare music for the many liturgies of Holy Week and Easter. I encourage all parishioners to come and worship with us as we commemorate Christ's Passion, death, and Resurrection. The full Adult Choir will sing at the Choral Eucharist on Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday, the Great Vigil on Easter Eve, and the 10:30 a.m. Festal Eucharist on Easter Day. Members of the Youth Choir will join the Adult Choir in singing on Palm Sunday and Easter Day.

SUMMER MUSIC CAMP 2009

We are pleased to announce Redeemer's fourth annual Summer Music Camp, *Monday, July 13, through Friday, July 17, 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. daily*. The camp, designed for children and youth ages 7-15 (campers must have completed first grade), will be staffed by three professional musical educators from the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Tuition for the week is \$325. Camp highlights include:

- Utilization of portions of the Orff and Dalcroze methods
- Study of rhythm through motion
- Study of basic vocal production and solfege
- Introduction to reading musical notation
- Arts and Crafts
- Organized outdoor recreation time on the church grounds
- Visit to the historic carousel at Glen Echo Park
- Nature Walk
- Lunch and a snack provided daily
- Teacher/student ratio approximately 1 to 6
- Scholarships available for those who cannot afford tuition

We hope that your child(ren) will join us for a week of musical learning and fun! For more information, please contact Thomas Smith, Director of Music, at 301-229-3770, or by e-mail at music.redeemer@verizon.net. Deadline for registration is June 15, 2009.

Tom Smith
Director of Music

NOTES FROM ROBIN

During Lent, Susan and I led a Lenten Series on establishing a Rule of Life. It was a wonderful experience to both plan and participate in these classes. In our first session, one of the a-ha moments that grabbed me was that though I thought I just didn't have the *time* to pray in silence as much as I wanted, what I really needed was to find the *place*.

I also spent some time with the high school Church School class one Sunday during Lent. During this class, we spent time speaking about "wilderness." Yes, it is other. Yes, it is scary. Yes, it is chaotic. Yes, there are wild beasts there. Yes, it is dry. But...It is also the place of tending angels, quiet, and solitude. It is a place away from the noisiness and stress of our lives. The wilderness is a place to meet God. Lent calls us into the wilderness. But, where do we go to find the wilderness, that *place* where we can be alone with God in quiet?

I know I can carve out fifteen minutes for silent prayer a day; that is no problem. But WHERE will I go to pray? It is hard for me to find a place and I spend at least three days a week working in a church!!! I have had to realize that depending on the day, my place will be different. At home, I have made my living room the place. When I am ready to pray there, I gather my prayer book, a cup of tea, and I light a candle. I settle myself and invite God to make my ordinary living room a Holy space.

Where is that Holy place in your life? Where in the midst of your everyday life can you go to meet God? Or to invite God to meet you? Can you clear off your desk of all the books and home work assignments, light a candle and be still? Can you go to your kitchen when no one else is there, make a cup of hot chocolate and sit at the table in quiet, undisturbed? Now that it is Spring (and almost feels that way), can you walk to a quiet place down the street, sit under a tree and breathe God in?

Lent is a time when we follow Jesus into the Wilderness. Easter is a time when we know the living God is with us wherever we are. I invite you to continue to look for those places where you can be alone with God, to intentionally discover those places and go there and listen for the still small voice of God calling you into deeper relationship, into the peace that passes all understanding, and into the fountain of all good things.

The Rev. Robin Gulick
Assistant to the Rector

REDEEMER YOUTH

Youth "Third Sunday" Activities Continue in April

Thank you to all the youth and adults who came out to the Holocaust Museum in March. It was a moving experience and I hope all benefited from the visit. I am especially grateful for the four adults who accompanied our group and joined us for this experience.

On Sunday, April 19, following the 10:30 service, middle and high school youth will head to DC to watch the Washington Nationals take on the Florida Marlins. The game begins at 1:35. Robin will get tickets ahead of time. Please let her know how many tickets to get for your family. Adults are welcome to join us. We will need at least two adults to help chaperone. We will work out travel details, but I suspect metro is going to be our best option. I ask all the adults who are interested in attending to help get people to and from the stadium! It will be a fun afternoon. Go, Nats!

In May we will go hiking in the Catoctin mountains. Stay tuned for details!

The Rev. Robin Gulick

NOTES FROM VALERIE

Thank you

I want to express my thanks to the Redeemer community for your prayers and support during the time I was taking my General Ordination Exams this past January. I am pleased to be able to tell you that I passed all seven of the exams – much to my astonishment, gratitude, and relief! The next step for me on my journey is an interview on April 2 with my Diocese for approval for ordination to the transitional diaconate. I will graduate from Virginia Seminary on Thursday, May 21, and will be ordained to the transitional diaconate on Saturday, June 13, at the Church of the Redeemer in Midlothian, Virginia.

After ordination, during the summer, I will be working as a non-stipendiary transitional deacon at a parish in Virginia. In September, I will begin working full-time as a Chaplain Resident in the Pastoral Care department at Georgetown University Hospital for one year. I am very excited about this position and all the challenges and opportunities it presents. Again, thank you for your prayers and support for GOEs and as I continue this journey. I am so very grateful for the community of Redeemer.

Grace & peace,
Valerie Hayes

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care Committee

This year one of the Vestry's goals is to strengthen and make better use of Vestry committees. Revitalizing the Pastoral Care Committee became my responsibility, as well as developing an action plan for all the committees. This dual challenge turned out to be fortuitous as working on the first task surfaced issues relevant to the second.

The Pastoral Care Committee thus far includes Kim Barrett, Steve Gibson, Valerie Hayes, Joan Kennedy, Linda Lear, Moses Middleton, Pat Stevens, Peggy Tucker, Cindy Winder and myself. Valerie will serve as secretary/data manager until she leaves us in May and I will serve as Chair. We need a Vice Chair and a replacement for Valerie (come May) and I am hoping for volunteers soon. During our first meeting, we began to discuss a proposed Ministry Statement, as well as the reasons for and functions of the group. Committee members suggested changes to the written materials at the meeting. The following is the result of further revisions via email:

Ministry Statement: The Church of the Redeemer Mission Statement calls us to be loving members of a community of faith, and our Baptismal Covenant affirms that we see and serve Christ in all people, loving our neighbors as ourselves. That love becomes manifest as we pray and care for one another in time of need.

Why do we need a committee? After all, Redeemer members have been caring for one another throughout the parish's years and will continue to do so. While some members of our community have strong support networks, others are newly transplanted and without local family or friends. Redeemer has grown rapidly in the last few years, and some newcomers may be reluctant to ask for help. Others of us, perhaps persuaded by the myth of self-sufficiency, think we ought to be able to take care of ourselves. A more formal pastoral care network will assist our clergy in supporting all the Redeemer family.

What does the Pastoral Care Committee do? The Committee is responsible, under the direction of the Rector and the Vestry, for the oversight of a network of volunteers, available to assist the clergy in offering pastoral care for fellow parishioners. For example, members of the prayer tree support those needing prayers, volunteers assist with the Healing Service, and trained Lay Eucharistic Visitors draw into the Communion circle those unable to attend church in person. Clergy may ask a Pastoral Care Captain to contact an ailing person and develop a plan for volunteers to provide meals, transportation, visits, or other assistance.

Jack Hutchings
Pastoral Care

LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Second Training for Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Redeemer's Lay Eucharistic Visitors take communion to parishioners who are ill or homebound. In doing so, we embody the community of the church and exercise an important pastoral and sacramental ministry. Any baptized person may train to be a licensed Lay Eucharistic Visitor. A second training session will be held on *Saturday, May 2, 9:00 a.m.-noon* in the Sanctuary. The training includes a brief history and overview of this ministry in the Episcopal Church, a discussion of Safe Church practices, training in use of the communion kit, and in administering Communion. This ministry is rewarding beyond measure and is an example of how we are all one Body because we share one bread and one cup. Even if you have been a Lay Eucharistic Visitor (also know as Lay Eucharistic Minister), you are encouraged to attend the training to learn how the ministry is enacted at Redeemer. If you are interested, please let the church office know at office.redeemer@verizon.net or 301-229-3770. If you have questions, please contact Valerie Hayes at vhayes@vts.edu or 703-399-9062.

CHRISTIAN CONTEMPLATIVE GROUP



Finding Our Inner Compass

The Christian Contemplative Group is a small and vital group at Redeemer which meets bi-monthly to share contemplative practices and to focus on the body of teachings known as "the wisdom tradition". The aim of group study and practice is to strengthen the bridge between principles of wisdom and one's own experience, reflecting on the questions that arise from daily life. Like any skill, these principles must be learned and practiced until they become second nature; hence an aid to inner transformation. Through reflection upon experience combined with contemplative practices such as centering prayer, chant, 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 ourselves with our inner compass, or true essence.

Currently, we are studying *The Wisdom Jesus*, by The Rev. Cynthia Bourgeault, and our discussion always follows a brief liturgy of simple chant, centering prayer, and readings. We meet in the Sanctuary on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. (except during Lent and summer). Feel free to join us anytime! For information, contact Alice Despard 301-264-9644 or alicedespard@gmail.com, or Clarice Leslie at 301-229-2609 or cyleslie@verizon.net

Alice Despard



STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

We Need You for The 36th Annual Strawberry Festival

Friday, June 12th

8:00 – 11:00 a.m. Strawberry picking at Butler's Orchard
11:00 – 3:00 p.m. Hulling at Clara Barton Center
3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Set up at Redeemer

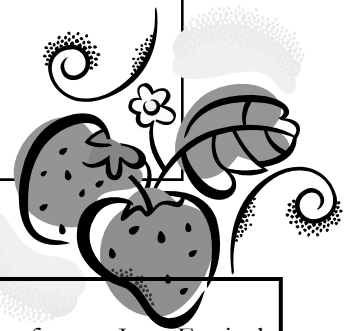
Saturday, June 13th

9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Set up at Redeemer
11:00 – 3:00 p.m. The Strawberry Festival
3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Clean up

There are lots of opportunities for service:

Picking (strawberries hand picked by Episcopalians)
Hulling (Cleaning strawberries with a great group)
Set-up (Friday afternoon and Saturday morning)
Book Sales
White Elephant
Boutique (clothing sales)
Bake Sale
Collectibles
The Grill (burgers, hot dogs, chips and drinks)
Kids' Games, Face Painting & Moonbounce
The Kitchen (short cakes and sundaes)
Silent Auction
Bankers (Keep track of cash and do the final count)
Clean up (Saturday afternoon)

We especially need volunteers for the afternoon and evening hours the week of the festival to help with the Boutique and the Silent Auction.



SILENT AUCTION

Happily, it is time to start looking forward to those delicious strawberries and making plans for our June Festival. Cindy Winder and Susan Vogele are going to co-chair the Silent Auction Committee this year and are ready to welcome any and all volunteers to help them with this endeavor. If you volunteered last year please consider doing so again. The Silent Auction is the single greatest fundraiser that Redeemer does each year and we are counting on this year being another great success. We ask that everyone start thinking about what items or services they would like to donate and perhaps what items you would like to see offered. There will be forms in the Parish Hall for you to fill out. If you have ideas to share or questions, please feel free to contact Cindy at cwwinder@yahoo.com or 301-229-9093, or Susan at jgvperu@yahoo.com or 301-299-2010. Thank you!

OUTREACH

Episcopal Relief and Development Offering: Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday, April 5, a special offering will be received for the work of Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD).

In 2008, the Presiding Bishop designated the first Sunday in Lent as Episcopal Relief and Development Sunday and as an annual celebration of ERD's role in our collective mission to seek and serve Christ in all persons. Subsequently, the 2009 Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington passed a resolution designating the first Sunday in Lent "Episcopal Relief and Development Sunday." Further, congregations and individuals are encouraged to support ERD's life-saving work through prayer and a special offering. Redeemer chose to give the offering even higher visibility by scheduling it for Palm Sunday.

This special offering is to benefit the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) Inspiration Fund of ERD. The Fund is close to meeting its target of raising \$3 million for global health programs in 2009. "The generosity and compassion of countless Episcopalians has made the MDG Inspiration Fund a remarkable success," said Rob Radtke, President of ERD. "We are now within \$250,000 of our goal and hope to achieve it by General Convention in July 2009."

This Fund and other resources have enabled ERD to implement programs that reduce child mortality, improve maternal health and combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and water-borne illnesses in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Beatrice's story (below) illustrates how our offering can make a significant difference in the life of families living in extreme poverty.

Beatrice's Story: Sowing the Seeds of Stability

The future looks brighter today than it has for a long time, according to Beatrice, a resident of Palaka, a small village along Lake Victoria in western Kenya. Like many women in the region, Beatrice has lost children to AIDS and is now responsible for the care of her grandchildren. For years, her only assets were two acres of land that she and her husband cultivated for their income. However, they simply could not earn enough to feed all the children and make ends meet.

Through a partnership with the Ecumenical Church Loan Fund, ERD provided Beatrice and a group of women in her community with training and seed money. They were encouraged to grow sunflowers, as sunflower oil is a daily staple in the region and the process for extracting the oil requires only a small investment in a simple machine. Half of Beatrice's land is now devoted to growing sunflowers. She can sell both the sunflower oil and the seeds for income. Together with the other women in her group, she learned to place bee hives in close proximity to the sunflower fields, allowing them to extract flavorful honey and sell it locally.

For Beatrice, ERD's assistance has brought her financial stability, progress and hope for her grandchildren's future.

This is what makes caring for the body a Christian work, that through its health and comfort we may be able to work, to acquire, and lay by funds with which to aid those who are in need, that in this way the strong member may serve the weaker, and we may be sons of God, each caring for and working for the other, bearing one another's burdens, and so fulfilling the law of Christ. This is a truly Christian life. Here faith is truly active through love. Martin Luther, A Commentary on St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians.

Clarice Leslie
Outreach

Hope for Burundi—Art Show Fundraiser!

Tuesday, May 30, 5-7 p.m.

Save the date! On Tuesday, May 30, 5-7 pm, Redeemer's Outreach Committee is staging a fabulous Art Show fundraiser at River Road Unitarian Universalist Church's stunning new art space. Proceeds will go to the Greener Africa programs of Trees for the Future, with 40% going to our own John-Bosco's Hope for Burundi program! The Jackson Art Center in Georgetown is donating much of the artwork. In addition, Redeemer artists and art collectors will be invited to donate items. More details will be in the May newsletter. For information, contact Steve France at sfrance@bna.com or 301-320-1534.

Steve France
Outreach Committee

New Women's Prayer Group to Focus on MDG Project

The Group, focused on praying for the Hope for Burundi project and empowering Burundian women, will meet on the last Sunday of each month, 7:30-8:30 p.m. The April meeting will be on Sunday, April 26. For more information, please contact Gabrielle Herderschee-Hunter at 301-229-5341 or steelorchid@verizon.net.

Gabrielle Herderschee-Hunter
Outreach Committee

Bethesda Cares Dinner Thank You

Many thanks to Cathy Baker, Jo Barclay-Beard, Chrissy de Fontenay, the Grant-Suttie family, Ben Ivins, Michele Kitchen, Clarice Leslie, Pearl Malstrom, Tom Rogers and the Rychlik family, for providing dinner to the homeless on Sunday, March 22, as part of the Bethesda Cares Dinner program. Our next date for this labor of love is Sunday, May 24, Memorial Day weekend. If you will be in town and would like to help, please sign up on the Sign-Up board in the parish hall.

Julia Rogers
Outreach Committee

EFM AND SEDER

Passover Seder and Education for Ministry

Every year, Redeemer's Education for Ministry class hosts a joyous Passover Seder with great food and wine and Hebrew singing. It is a real learning experience that gives us access to our religious heritage. It is also an opportunity to learn more about EFM for those who may be seeking to learn and deepen their spiritual life. This spring, the Seder will be held in the home of one of our students. You are cordially invited, but advance reservations are essential, since space is limited and meat must be purchased for those who will attend. The Seder will be held on Tuesday, April 14. If you would like to join us, please contact Jo Barclay-Beard at 301-593-5993 or jobbeard@yahoo.com for time and location.

EFM is theological education for laypersons, made possible by an extension program of The School of Theology of The University of the South. EFM seminars provide theological reflection and college-level instruction in the core curriculum of the seminary in four academic years: Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), Christian Scriptures (New Testament), Church History, 20th Century Philosophers & Theologians. Worldwide, more than 100,000 adults have participated in EFM.

Redeemer's EFM group meets on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Is this the spiritual development opportunity for which you have been yearning? Pray about whether you should be enrolling now to begin classes this fall.

Jo Barclay-Beard

BOOK CLUB



We are reading The Shack by William Paul Young, a story about Mack Philip, whose daughter was abducted and believed murdered in a shack in the Oregon wilderness. Four years later, Mack receives a suspicious note inviting

him back to the shack for the weekend. He goes, against his better judgment, and walks into his darkest nightmare, but what he finds changes his world forever. The book has been described as "reading like a prayer, the best kind of prayer, filled with sweat, wonder, transparency and surprise."

Our next meeting is on Sunday, May 3, at 3:00 p.m. at the home of Huda & Jochen Kraske, 4550 N. Park Avenue, #410, Chevy Chase. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Huda at hqkraske@aol.com or 301-656-2087.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:

Tom Smith	Brooke Anthony
Tricia Rogers	John Caldwell
Pat Fitzgerald	Marina France
Sarah Lasseron	Maggie Raber
Sarah Nelson	Maureen Shupe
Eli Livezey	Peter Magrath
Kelsie Kimberlin	Katie Nelson
Chrissy de Fontenay	Beth O'Callaghan
Jordan Avery	Nathan Hotes
Robin Gulick	

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

Alice Despard & Stuart Chandler

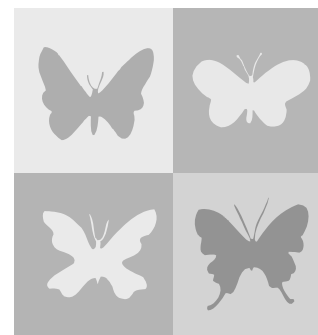
PERSONAL NOTES

Condolences — our condolences to Steve France whose father, Boyd, died on March 2, a beautiful snowy day he would have loved. May his soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Congratulations to Marcia Sartwell for being published in the March-April issue of *Bethesda* magazine. Pick up a copy and enjoy reading about Marcia's reverse 80th birthday party.

Thank you to Kukula Glastris for our wonderful new 110-cup coffee urn—a much needed item for our growing numbers at Coffee Hour.

Parish Hall Chairs — 30 of the new chairs and two dollies arrived early in March—they are comfortable and wonderfully easy to stack and move around. Our thanks again to all those who contributed towards this first purchase. It is hoped that in time we shall be able to purchase an additional 30-40 chairs and two more dollies.



WEEKLY AT REDEEMER

Sunday

- The Holy Eucharist, 8:00 a.m.
- Adult Education Forum, 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
- Women's Prayer Group, 7:30-8:30 p.m.
(last Sunday)

Monday

- AA Meeting, Noon
- Taizé Service, 7:30 p.m. *(first Monday)*
- Christian Contemplative Group, 7:30 p.m.
(second & fourth Mondays)
- Service of Healing & Holy Eucharist, 7:30 p.m.
(third Monday)

Tuesday

- Education for Ministry (EFM) 6:30 p.m.
- AA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Potomac Bottlers Club, 7:30 p.m.
(fourth Tuesday)

Wednesday

- Morning Prayer & Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- AA Meeting, Noon
- The Holy Eucharist, Noon
- Staff Meeting, 1:15 p.m.
- Youth Choir Rehearsal, 4:00 p.m.
- Youth Choir Evensong, 5:30 p.m.
(first Wednesday)
- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m. *(third Wednesday)*

Thursday

- Discovery & Travel Group, Noon *(second Thursday)*
- Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.
- Balkan Folk Dancing, 7:30 p.m.

Friday

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

Saturday

- Beginner's Mind Yoga, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: 301-229-3770 ▪ Fax: 301-320-8037
Website: www.redeemerbethesda.org

*The Church Office is open Monday through Thursday,
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.*

CLERGY, STAFF & SEMINARIANS

The Rev. Susan Burns, Rector

Email: revsusanburns@verizon.net

The Rev. Robin Gulick, Assistant to the Rector

Email: revrobingulick@verizon.net

The Rev. Dr. David Schlafer, Priest Associate

Email: dschlafer@juno.com

Thomas Smith, Director of Music

Email: music.redeemer@verizon.net

Angela Beckman, Administrative Assistant

Email: office.redeemer@verizon.net

Alice Despard, Sexton

Email: alicedespard@gmail.com

Valerie Hayes, Seminarian Intern

Beth O'Callaghan, Candidate for Holy Orders

VESTRY

Cathy Ayers, Stewardship (2011)

Cell: 301-219-1207 - Email: cathy253@gmail.com

Lois Burleigh, Adult Education/Asst. Treasurer (2010)

Home: 301-469-0274 - Email: loisburlei@aol.com

Meredith Griggs, Junior Warden/Building & Grounds (2010)

Home: 301-320-5831 - Email: mmgriggs@gmail.com

Gary Hacker, Communications (2012)

Home: 202-265-6467 - Email: gary.hacker@verizon.net

Jack Hutchings, Pastoral Care (2012)

Home: 301-986-4606 - Email: drijh@rcn.com

Ben Ivins, Parish Life (2012)

Home: 301-263-0608 - Email: bivins@nab.org

Clarice Leslie, Outreach (2011)

Home: 301-229-2609 - Email: cyleslie@verizon.net

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Kristen Vorhes, Assistant Treasurer

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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.