

THE REDEEMER SPIRIT JANUARY 2011

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

NOTES FROM THE RECTOR

Why does Redeemer support the Episcopal Diocese of Washington (EDOW) with a portion of its budget every year? What does EDOW do for Redeemer? What is a diocese, anyway?

As the Vestry has deliberated about how to achieve a balanced operating budget for 2011, and considered our support of the diocese as potentially “discretionary,” I have realized that the role and importance of the diocese are not so well understood, not only in the Vestry, but also in the parish. In the Episcopal Church, a diocese is a body made up of parishes in a given geographic area, with a bishop who oversees the whole and is its chief priest and pastor. The short story is: apart from the Diocese, we would not exist as an Episcopal parish.

The Apostle Paul conceived of the Church as the Body of Christ, with each member a valuable, necessary part of the whole. No individual member is sufficient unto him/herself. So, too, no Episcopal congregation is sufficient unto itself; each is part of its diocese, receiving strength from and contributing to the health of the whole. Each diocese, in turn, is part of the national Church, which is part of the world-wide Anglican Communion, which is part of the one, holy, catholic (universal) and apostolic Church commissioned by Christ to carry the Gospel into all the world.

Each of us draws strength and identity from the vitality of our parish. No one of us, no matter how committed, has the gifts, time, or energy to participate in every aspect of parish life. The same is true of congregations. Each congregation has its own distinctive character, strengths and ministries. All of these together make up a larger whole, “a deeper, richer community of dynamic faith and common mission”¹ that enriches every parish and every individual member. In a very real sense, our diocese is us.

While the Episcopal Church’s form of governance is democratic, with elected leaders, both lay and clergy, it is not a *congregational* church. That is, while local churches are self-governing, they are not autonomous or

independent. Our decisions and life as a congregation exist within the structure and procedures of the larger Church.

For example, our worship is grounded in the Book of Common Prayer (including the Lectionary on which preaching is based), the Hymnal 1982 and other hymnals and liturgies, all authorized by The Episcopal Church. The Sacrament of Confirmation is ministered to our youth and adults by our bishop. Our clergy and seminarians have been raised up by local congregations through diocesan discernment and ordination processes created and carried out by lay and clergy persons. Clergy are carefully screened by their dioceses, well educated and trained in Episcopal seminaries, so they can serve their parishes and institutions well.

The operating budget of the Diocese supports compelling mission work within and on behalf of the Diocese of Washington. Among the more prominent ministries and services funded by the diocesan budget are:

- diocesan-supported youth programs
- financial support and consulting assistance to congregations and clergy in crisis
- financial support to six of the seven Latino congregations in the Diocese
- international missionary work carried out through the national organization of the Episcopal Church
- Diocesan-supported college chaplaincies at the University of Maryland and Howard University
- ministry with the deaf at St. Barnabas Church of the Deaf
- companion diocese relationships with the Church of the Province of South Africa and the Diocese of Jerusalem.

Redeemer has received much encouragement and generous support (including financial) from our bishops and the diocesan staff over the years. This ranges from EDOW’s hosting Redeemer’s website and giving technical support, *gratis*; to assisting Redeemer in finding our outstanding Assistant to the Rector, Robin Razzino, paying for her health insurance, and offering generous financial assistance in 2011 and 2012 to help Redeemer bring Robin on staff full time in July, 2011. Redeemer has also benefitted from diocesan youth programs and mission

¹ This phrase is The Rev. Frank Wade’s, from the *Washington Window*, Vol. 79, No. 5, September-October, 2010.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Annual Parish Meeting, Pot Luck Lunch & Art Show
Sunday, January 23, 12 noon (see p. 4)



Men's Retreat: Men and Their Work
Friday, February 11—Sunday, February 13 (see p. 8)

JANUARY EVENTS

Monday, January 3

- Taizé Service, 7:30 a.m.

Sunday, January 9

- Redeemer Book Group, 3:00 p.m.
- *Darkness to Light: The Countertop Ensemble in Concert*, 5:00 p.m., p. 6. *Reception to follow.*

Monday, January 17

- A Service of Healing & Holy Eucharist, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 19

- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 23

- Annual Parish Meeting & Pot Luck Lunch, 12 noon, p. 4
- Opening of Parish Art Show, p. 9.

Sunday, January 30

- Welcome New Registered Members, at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

FEBRUARY UPCOMING

Monday, February 7

- Taizé Service, 7:30 a.m.

Friday, February 11-Sunday, February 13

- Men's Retreat, p. 8.

Sunday, February 13

- Carmina & Illuminare in Concert, 5:00 p.m., p. 6. *Reception to follow.*

Wednesday, February 16

- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, February 21

- A Service of Healing & Holy Eucharist, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, February 25

- Vestry Retreat begins with dinner at the Rectory, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 26

- Vestry Retreat, 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 27

- Inscape Chamber Orchestra in Concert (II), 5:00 p.m., p. 6. *Reception to follow.*

PERSONAL NOTES

We celebrate with Claudia Serrin, the birth of her great grandchild, Elle Marie Stayin, daughter of Laura & Todd Stayin; with John Nickum and Linda Lear, the birth of James Beckett Lear Nickum, son of Ian & Lindsay Lear-Nickum; and with Chrissy de Fontenay and her family, the marriage of Catherine de Fontenay and Ross Kelly.

We mourn with Robin Razzino and her family, the death of her grandfather, Edwin Gulick, Sr. May his soul and the souls of all the departed, by the mercy of God, rest in peace.



Notes from the Rector continued ...

trips, stewardship and treasurers' workshops, the diocesan-wide administrators' network, Millennium Development Goal grants for Hope for Burundi, spiritual retreats and educational opportunities for all, lay and clergy; and more. Ten years ago the Diocesan Convention established 10% of base year operating income as the norm for giving in support of the Diocesan operating budget, recognizing that parishes then giving a lower portion would need time to increase their giving to the norm. Redeemer's Vestry committed then to increase diocesan giving by ½% each year until we reached the 10% norm. In tight budget years, however, the commitment often has been honored in the breach.

In 2010, Redeemer pledged 7% of our 2008 operating income to EDOW: \$31,000. Bishop Chane has asked all parishes to increase their giving by one percent in 2011. Redeemer's 2011 draft budget designates \$43,270 for giving to the diocese, which is 8% of our 2009 operating income (\$540,881).

Redeemer enjoys a multitude of blessings supported by our parish budget: the beauty of our building (the diocese gave the original 1940 building to the parish outright!); the energy, gifts and commitment of our staff; the reverence and depth of our worship; our music program; the joy of supporting meaningful outreach projects; the support of our growing Church School, and more. But we cannot enjoy these blessings with integrity without also sharing our financial strength with the rest of the Church, through supporting our diocese. It is time to resume increasing our giving to the diocese until we are giving at least the 10% norm we, the diocese, have set for ourselves.

The Rev. Susan Burns
Rector

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome as new registered baptized members:

Marilynn Bersoff	Margery Munger
Amy Bowers	Meredith Myers
Joseph Clark	Nicola Neary
Philip D'Ambrosio	Marylin Raisch
Emily Downer	Catherine Wolf-Rodda
Harriet Downer	Howard Wolf-Rodda
James Downer	Julie Wolf-Rodda
Mary Lynne McElroy	

These new registered members will be welcomed in worship at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, January 30.

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Education for 2011 Seeks Context and Increased Parish Participation

The 2011 Adult Education program begins Sunday, January 9 with The Rev. Susan Burns' explaining the significance of the Liturgical Calendar in the Episcopal Church, and Denny Shaw, Vestry person for Adult Education, offering an overview of plans for the coming year.

The theme for this year is "Seasons of the Spirit," and the adult education presentations will relate to each period of the Liturgical Calendar. For example, January is the Liturgical Season of Epiphany which suggests that God is manifested through Creation. This month's presentations discuss the largest aspect of Creation – the Universe – and the smallest – the genetic code. The final January session will discuss caring for Creation, using the example of global warming. In February the programs will examine how mankind manifests through Vocation. Parishioners will discuss how their faith influences their work in relation to The Word, The Law, Healing and Service.

The Adult Education program seeks parishioners willing to offer presentations as individual themes emerge. Dr. Peter Carlson, for example, will talk about the genetic code on Sunday, January 23. Cathy Baker, writer, and Marcia Sartwell, veteran editor, will reflect on The Word on Sunday, February 6.

The program seeks volunteers to chair one "season" of the proposed calendar, to help as recruiters and organizers, to research appropriate information sources for specific topics, and to explore ways to record and archive selected presentations.

As the newsletter goes to press, discussions continue about the themes for the weeks of Lent and about a summer experiment of offering evening workshops on such topics as grief, parenting and journaling.

If you are interested in helping with the Adult Education program or have questions, please contact me at shawdf22@gmail.com or 301-585-3969, or you are welcome to speak with me on a Sunday morning.

Denny Shaw
Adult Education

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Sunday, January 23, Noon

What is the Annual Meeting?

The Annual Meeting is an opportunity for the parish community to receive a summary of our life and ministry in the past year, to take stock of where we are, and to think about where we are going in ministry and finances. There will be written reports from the Rector, Senior and Junior Wardens, Treasurer, and committee chairpersons or leaders in parish ministries. The budget for 2011 will be presented. The parish will elect new Vestry members and Lay Delegates and Alternates to the 2012 Diocesan Convention. We will thank those who are rotating off the Vestry and this year's lay delegates for their service. During the pot luck lunch, parishioners will be invited to ask questions, raise concerns and make comments.

Anyone who would like to find out more about the life of the parish, contribute to the life of the parish, has an interest in the lay leadership and governance of the parish, has questions, concerns, comments, or is just curious, should attend the Annual Meeting.

What is the Vestry?

The Vestry oversees parish finances and facilities, and the overall health of the parish. The parish elects Vestry members to serve as leaders on behalf of the parish and to be responsible for planning the parish's future. Vestry members also are responsible for learning, educating, informing and persuading others. There are nine voting members, elected to 3-year terms, the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Recording Secretary (officers appointed by the Vestry who are Vestry members with voice but no vote), and the Rector (the chair and a voting member).

The Vestry meets monthly, generally on the third Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Each meeting begins with Bible study and prayer, or other form of spiritual reflection, so that the Vestry is mindful that its work is spiritual, and not only a matter of finances and property. The Vestry also takes time in retreat together once or, optimally, twice a year.

Continuing on the Vestry are Gary Hacker (2012), Jack Hutchings (2012), Ben Ivins (2012), Peter Kendall (2013) and Frances Sharon (2013). Retiring from the Vestry are Tom McNaugher (Senior Warden), Cathy Arrington (Parish Life), Clarice Leslie (Outreach), and Denny Shaw (Adult Education) who filled in following Graeme Browning's resignation.

How does one get on the Vestry?

Vestry members are elected by the parish at the Annual Meeting. If a position becomes open between Annual Meetings, the Vestry appoints someone who serves until the next Annual Meeting and who can then run for a 3-year term. To serve on the Vestry one must be a Qualified Voter and at least 21 years of age. (See below for who is a Qualified Voter.)

2011 Nominees

There are three 3-year positions and one 2-year position to be filled at the 2011 Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee (Cathy Arrington, Justin Hess and Sally Pugsley) will present for election to the Vestry: Cathy Baker, Nathan Price and Cindy Winder for 3-year terms, and Denny Shaw to fill the remainder of the 2-year term. Brief biographies of each nominee will be posted in the Parish Hall shortly.

What does the Lay Delegate do?

The Lay Delegates to Diocesan Convention attend, with the Rector and Assistant to the Rector, the annual convention of the Diocese of Washington at the National Cathedral during the last weekend of January and are voting members of the convention. The convention elects persons to diocesan and national church offices, approves the diocesan budget, and votes on resolutions brought before the convention. Between conventions, the Lay Delegates attend regional meetings with clergy and other lay delegates and keep the Vestry and parish informed of what is happening in the diocese. If a Lay Delegate is unable to attend the convention, an Alternate attends in his or her place. Nominees for Lay Delegate for the 2012 convention are Peggy Tucker and Patricia Snowden; and as alternates, Gary Hacker and Graeme Browning.

Who is a Qualified Voter?

As defined by parish by-laws, *those qualified to vote at the annual meeting* are those whose names are in the Parish Register, are in good standing at least 30 days prior to the date of the meeting, are at least 18 years of age, and have contributed through money offerings and other services for the support of the Parish during a period of at least 30 days preceding the Annual Meeting. A list of Qualified Voters is posted in the parish hall on the Vestry board.

Pot Luck Lunch

We enjoy a pot luck lunch during the Annual Meeting. Please bring your favorite dish to share.

2011 BUDGET

Where does the money go?

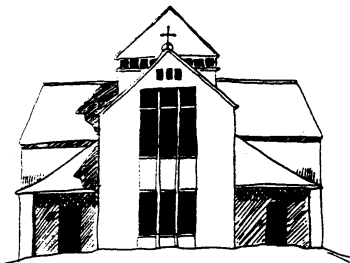
How much can it cost to operate what some might consider a small Episcopal church, but what is in reality a medium-size growing church? The answer is a lot. Many of Redeemer's expenses are fixed or items that we have little, if any, control over. Four items take up 82% of the budget. These are:

- Salaries and employee benefits constitute 55% of the budget.
- Mortgage payments consume 9 cents of every dollar and the mortgage has over 28 years left on it.
- Maintenance, utilities, building repairs, and care of the grounds use 11% of the budget. This figure is higher than normal for 2010, but most likely it will not decrease substantially in coming years, as the building is over ten years old and many items have a life expectancy of 20 years or less.
- Administration expenses are for running our office (telephone, equipment, supplies, the audit, and insurance).

Expense items we have more control over are: (1) how much we give to the Diocese (the Diocese recommends 10%); (2) outreach; and (3) the music program (about 70% of which was funded by the *Music at Redeemer Series* and Friends of Music at Redeemer in 2010). These 3 items represent 12% of our budget.

The vestry is close to finalizing the budget for 2011. The vestry wants to fund all necessary operating expenses and those expenses that support the programs that our parishioners want. The budgeting process is tough and the Vestry is grateful to all those who have pledged for 2011 as this helps us to plan ahead.

Mary K Young, Finance Committee Chair, and Gary Hacker welcome your feedback and comments and will answer any questions that you may have concerning the parish finances.



FROM THE TREASURER

And the number is ...

...a deficit of \$1,000 for 2010. Thanks to the generosity of Redeemer parishioners, we are able to pay for the HVAC/humidification project in 2010 with only an additional \$1,000 needed for this project in 2011. This is good news since we are able to complete this important project and not have to discuss its financial impact for another year.

Redeemer pulled it off again. Thanks to everyone for helping to get us through the financial needs for 2010. However, I have heard from parishioners that they do not like these end-of-year appeals and my goal for 2011 is to encourage the vestry to match our income and expenses so we can avoid these kinds of appeals in the future. It is important for us to live within our means and have a parish that is financially secure.

Redeemer has very generous parishioners and based on 2011 pledges received so far we will be near the top for highest average pledge in the diocese. However, we have yet to meet our 2011 goal. As we go to press, we have received 113 pledges for 2011 totaling \$461,085, which is \$36,356 short of our 2011 pledge goal of \$497,341.

Gary Hacker
Treasurer

CHRISTMAS



We offer heartfelt thanks to ...

- All the children and youth who participated in the Christmas Pageant, to Michelle Huey for her excellent direction, and to both Michelle and Marisa Guzman-Vogele for organizing the rehearsals and the pageant.
- Tom Smith and the Adult Choir for the wonderful and uplifting music.
- Marie France, Kukula Glastris, Tom Smith and Alice Despard for the decoration of the sanctuary and narthex.
- To all who gave donations towards for the greens, wreaths, poinsettias and the Christmas tree to decorate the sanctuary and narthex.

MUSICAL REVIEW

Lessons & Carols, Sunday, December 5

Down the ages Christians have sought to engage the eternal Word of God through music, a form of human expression that has become a signature way for parishioners at the Church of the Redeemer to celebrate all the seasons in the liturgical calendar.

In the expectant, preparatory period of Advent 2010, the Adult and Youth Choirs once again embraced as a model the *Advent Service of Lessons and Carols*, which Dean Eric Milner-White composed at King's College, Cambridge, England, in 1934. Milner-White's composition beautifully balances instructional word with illuminating song. There is the comfort of the familiar, the challenge of elusive meaning, and the acceptance of enduring mystery. Advent services of lessons and carols that are based on Milner-White's model have been celebrated throughout the Christian world for more than seventy years.

Under Tom Smith's musical direction, the form this Anglican service has taken at Redeemer has attracted people well beyond the congregation. The number in attendance has grown steadily over time, and this year the church was filled, if not quite to capacity.

Organist and choirmaster Benjamin Hutchens served as Redeemer's guest conductor. Accompanied on the organ by Tom Smith, Dr. Hutchens led the Adult and Youth Choirs in works by J.S. Bach, Franz Biebl, Marcel Dupré, T. Frederick Candlyn, Andrew Carter, Richard Lloyd, Paul Manz, Boris Ord, and Charles Villiers Stanford. Anthems paired modern music with Biblical verses and with European texts from the 13th, 15th, and 18th centuries.

Those whose participation came from the pews joined in hymns – O come, O come Emmanuel; Creator of the stars of night; Prepare the way, O Zion; Rejoice! rejoice, believers; Hills of the North, rejoice; and Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding. Interspersed among songs and prayers were nine lessons from the Old and New Testaments, each given voice by individuals who came up from the pews to read aloud at the lectern.

The evening's written liturgical notes silently reminded us to consider the season's two awaited arrivals – first Christ newly born to save us, and eventually Christ come again to judge us at the end of time.

In her recitation of the Bidding Prayer, The Reverend Robin Razzino urged us to delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels and in heart and

mind to go even unto Bethlehem. To read and mark the loving purposes of God; to pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth.

The sought-for bond between the glory of the Word and the music of humanity emerged at this Advent service, whose setting rewarded us further with the quiet beauty of the nave. One fusion led to another, and it was possible to sense our bond with one another across time and space. It was possible, too, to catch a slipping glimpse of the divine as we entered this expectant season, which leads us once again toward Bethlehem.

Marie France



UPCOMING MUSICAL EVENTS

Please add these three upcoming events to your calendars. The concerts begin at 5:00 p.m. and are followed by a reception in the Parish Hall. We hope you will join us!

Sunday, January 9, 5:00 p.m.

Darkness to Light: The Countertop Quartet in Concert

The Countertop Ensemble (Chris Dudley, *Artistic Director*), one of Washington's premiere choral organizations, sings music for Christmastide and the Epiphany. Program includes works by William Byrd, Giovanni Gabrieli, Gustav Holst, Kenneth Leighton, Josef Rheinberger, and Thomas Tallis.

Sunday, February 13, 5:00 p.m.

Carmina & Illuminare in Concert

Join Carmina and Illuminare (Vera Kochanowsky, *Director*), two of Washington's leading early music ensembles, for a varied program of sacred and secular choral works by Hildegard, Byrd, Brahms, and others.

Sunday, February 27, 5:00 p.m.

Inscape Chamber Orchestra in Concert (II)

Inscape's exploration of American chamber music continues with two contrasting works by Aaron Copland—the seldom-performed *Three Latin American Sketches* and the oft-performed ballet suite from *Appalachian Spring*. A premiere by composer Nathan Lincoln-DeCusatis completes the program.

Tom Smith
Director of Music

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Youth Pilgrimage Update: Where, When, Why and How!

In August, the high school youth will be going on a Pilgrimage/Mission trip to Colorado. It has been a while since the last group of teenagers from Redeemer went on a Pilgrimage – at least six years. This is certainly the first pilgrimage the Assistant to the Rector has ever led! Fun times ahead!

For this year's pilgrimage, Redeemer has partnered with an organization called Wonder Voyage. This organization has led trips for other parishes in the diocese and comes very highly recommended by the diocesan youth coordinator, as well as other priests in the diocese. I am excited to go on my first Wonder Voyage and look forward to getting these trips together every other year or so (as there is demand). For more information on the Wonder Voyage organization see www.wondervoyage.com

This year, the youth of Redeemer will be heading to Colorado Springs, Colorado. We will spend three days volunteering with local environmental and service organizations, one day visiting the Great Sand Dunes National Monument, and another day whitewater rafting. The rest of our time will be spent outdoors exploring other hikes and activities in the area. We will spend some time in worship and prayer. I am so looking forward to presiding over an outdoor Eucharist with the mountains of Colorado as the backdrop. There is a wonderful outdoor Stations of the Cross that we will spend some time with as well. In the evening we will gather together for meals and discussion and then free time. I am brushing up on all of my board games and hope everyone else is as well (I like good honest competition!).

The trip is not going to be cheap. The price, including airfare, will likely be around \$1,300 per person. Consequently, you all will see the youth of the parish working hard to raise money for their pilgrimage. I am so heartened by the youth who are helping with the fundraisers even though they won't be able to go on this year's trip. We are building a strong community among the youth of this parish and I am grateful for every single one of them!

Last month the youth spent an afternoon offering their babysitting and gift wrapping services to the Redeemer and Bethesda community. The gifts were wrapped beautifully and I believe the kids who were dropped off had a blast. Everyone who volunteered – including all of the adults who chipped in when I had to be away for my

grandfather's funeral – had a wonderful time as well. Everyone remarked how it helped them get into the holiday spirit. Though we didn't raise as much money as we had hoped, we made a good start – and we are all ready to do the same activity next year (and will advertise earlier).

Our next fundraiser is making SUPER sub sandwiches for purchase on SUPER BOWL Sunday, February 6. We will assemble sandwiches starting at 9:00 am so that they can be picked up after the 10:30 a.m. service. Even if you are not planning to watch the game, please consider buying some made-to-order sandwiches for your dinner. The youth of the parish will be handing out order sheets the weeks prior to February 6.

The Rev. Robin Razzino
Assistant to the Rector

SPIRITUAL LIFE: MEN'S RETREAT

Men and Their Work

February 11-13, 2011

Come for a weekend of relaxation, fun, fellowship, and an opportunity to reflect on our lives. The retreat will be led by Joe Clark, Redeemer parishioner and retired rector of Ascension, Gaithersburg. Joe has found that retreats are an opportunity to build community, take a look at an important part of our lives, and make connections between everyday life and the Judeo-Christian tradition.

The theme is *Men and Their Work*. The retreat will start with a home-cooked meal Friday evening that promises to be a feast. Over the next two days, we will do some good talking, using videos, biblical reflections and stories, to help deepen our understanding of who we are and how we are shaped by our work. There is no "answer," but the questions are more important anyway, aren't they? Saturday afternoon will be a time to go hiking, skiing (maybe!), read, sleep, enjoy the company of others in this parish, or simply get away on your own. We'll go out for Saturday evening dinner. On Sunday we will conclude with prayers and Holy Communion, followed by lunch and the journey home.

We hope 8-10 men will want to come so please feel welcome and invited. A maximum size would be 18 people. The cost will be \$125 and includes everything. If you have any questions, please contact Joe Clark: 301-869-7944 or woodherb@gmail.com, or speak with him on a Sunday morning.

Joe Clark

DECEMBER VESTRY REPORT

Rector's Report

The Rev. Susan Burns' written report expressed how full of life Redeemer events are, from weekly worship and fellowship to the special events, and that she is full of "gratitude and delight." Susan described the meaningful presence of John Bosco Hakizimana's widow, Seconde Nigiziyamana, at the memorial wall dedication, when the columbarium, labyrinth and two new gardens were also dedicated. She noted the full attendance at the Celebrate Redeemer dinner in November; the magnificent Advent Lessons and Carols (with special thanks to Tom Smith) and the Advent Quiet Day with Dr. Frank Wade. Susan concluded by saying that she is "dazzled regularly these days by what the Spirit is doing at Redeemer."

Treasurer's Report

Gary Hacker reviewed the November Treasurer's Report, stating that the total 2010 pledge payments as of December 15 were \$442,000, less than the goal of \$446,000, but offset by over pledge payments of \$12,000. In mid-December, \$11,000 of outreach disbursements had yet to be paid. The Vestry approved a motion to disburse only \$1,250 of that amount to cover salaries for Hope for Burundi staff. Unpaid 2010 pledges total \$17,000 of which Gary expects approximately \$8,500 will be paid. He estimated that the deficit for 2010 will be about \$32,000.

HVAC

Junior Warden Peter Kendall submitted a written Buildings & Grounds report. The Vestry approved Peter's motion that the total HVAC project costing \$28,130 be divided in two equal payments: half to be paid the next day and the remainder due after the work is completed in January 2011. The work will be scheduled so as to have no impact on our use of space while the work is in progress.

Budget Areas for Vestry Study and Discussion

At its October meeting, the Vestry discussed outreach and diocesan giving as two budget areas for study. Music (paid choir section leaders) and the hiring of a full-time assistant rector (Robin) were the two discussion areas at the November meeting. While the financial discussion and decisions based on firm budget figures will occur at the January meeting, elements of importance under the four topics were voiced and listed on easel paper for accessibility and recall. The voting members of the Vestry individually wrote their priorities on the board. After tallying all votes the priorities were: hiring Robin full-time in July, 2011, music, diocesan giving and outreach.

Cynthia Winder
Recording Secretary

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

HVAC: The system renovation agreement with HVAC Precision, Inc. was signed and work is scheduled to begin on Phase II of the project in the second week of January. After the success of Phase I, which reduced the air handler noise to an acceptable level, the Vestry voted at its December meeting to proceed with the installation of a steam humidifier and alterations to the duct work, sprinkler system, electric power supply and necessary plumbing. The steam humidifier will add necessary humidity to the heating system air to help preserve the organ and wood fixtures in the nave and sanctuary.

Labyrinth: With the completion of the Labyrinth itself and some of the landscaping around it and the Columbarium, we are looking forward to the addition of benches in that area and one in the Upper Altar Guild Cutting Garden. Three benches have already been subscribed by generous donors: one in memory of Moses Middleton, a second in memory of Huda and Jochen Kraske's mothers, and a third by Angela Beckman in honor of her parents. Another donor has offered to underwrite two more benches, and we will be determining their placement; perhaps one near the children's playground. The Labyrinth has been mulched for the Winter which gives us time to consider Ellen Shillinglaw's plan for additional plantings in the Spring.

Snow Shoveling Brigade: We are still looking for volunteers to assist when the storms of winter drop a few inches (or feet, if we consider the blizzards of last year) of snow on the church walkways. The burden of snow clearing has fallen on those who live closest to Redeemer. If possible, meaning if roads are passable, we hope to enlarge this band of shovelers to include those who can drive to the church to help.

B&G Priorities for 2011: There are a number of projects which will be ranked in priority of need depending on funds available, as we proceed through 2011. Rector Susan Burns, Sexton Alice Despard and B&G Chairman Peter Kendall will be considering the agenda Tuesday, January 11. If you have noticed something needing attention, please e-mail Peter Kendall at pandbkendall@verizon.net. Please remember, however, that unforeseen emergencies will happen, as they did last year, and we will need to consider carefully how we allot projects on our limited B&G budget.

Peter Kendall, Junior Warden
Chairman, Buildings & Grounds

FOYER DINNERS



Please Sign-up!

The next round of Foyer Dinners will take place February – May 2011. To sign-up, please add your name to the list on the Sign-up bulletin board in the Parish Hall. The deadline is January 30.

Since they began in 2008, Foyer Dinners have become an important part of our life as a parish community. Groups of 8-10 parishioners meet about once a month in each other's homes for food and fellowship. The dinners have helped us to become a more integrated, well-stimulated and, indeed, well-fed community! If you have already participated, you know how much fun the dinners are and, if you are new, we hope you will give them a try. If you have questions, please contact parishioner Huda Kraske: 301-656-2087 or hqkraske@aol.com.

REDEEMER ART SHOW



Calling Redeemer artists of all ages and talents! In conjunction with the Annual Parish Meeting on *Sunday, January 23, 2011*, you are invited to contribute works of art (all mediums) to be hung or otherwise displayed in the Parish Hall, to share with parishioners, guests and visitors. You may bring your work to the Parish Office between Sunday, January

16 and Thursday, January 20. Please include with the work your name, the title of the piece and date and a way to display the piece (framed with picture hook, stand, or whatever is suitable). Questions? Please contact Susan Fitzgerald: grahampubs@comcast.net or Frank Anderson: fsculpt@aol.com.

THE ALTAR GUILD



Altar Guild Chairs

The Altar Guild has been expertly led for the past Years by Marie France and Tami McMinn. Marie stepped down at the end of 2010.

We are grateful for her excellent leadership in this important ministry. Marie remains on the Guild so we will continue to have the joy of her wonderful floral arrangements. We are blessed that Kukula Glasris has accepted the position of co-chair with Tami McMinn for 2011.

Altar Flowers

Every Sunday, our Altar Guild members do a beautiful job of arranging the altar flowers to the glory of God and in honor, memory or thanksgiving for loved ones of parishioners who donate the funds for the flowers. The donation requested is \$60. A new calendar for the Sundays in 2011 is now up on the Sign Up board in the Parish Hall. We ask that you sign up at least a week in advance and notify the Parish Office of the wording you would like in the dedication.

COOKIES, COFFEE & COMMUNITY



Each Sunday, after the 10:30 Eucharist, we gather for fellowship in the Parish Hall and are blessed by those who provide coffee and goodies for us to enjoy. This is a ministry that can be done in pairs, by couples, by a group or committee. Nothing elaborate –cookies, crackers, cheese, pound cake, fruit (grapes, melon, apples) – any of these are fine, or whatever you find easiest to do. Homemade or store-bought is up to you.

There are about 70 people who come to coffee hour (around 30-40 in the summer). Alice Despard, our Sexton, sets up the coffee urns, cups, hot water, etc., so all you need to do is plug them in and then set your food out on the table Alice will have set up. She also gets the lemonade ready in the refrigerator.

We hope you will sign up for a Sunday on the sheet on the Sign-Up board in the Parish Hall.

CHRISTIAN CONTEMPLATIVE GROUP

The Christian Contemplative Group meets in the nave on the second and fourth Monday of each month, September through May, 7:30–9:00 p.m. All are welcome to join or drop in at any time.

The group meets 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. Through the study of relevant texts 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 with our inner compass or true essence.

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

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. The Winter Session runs from January 8 to March 19. Classes are \$15 for drop-ins.

Alice Despard has been a practitioner of hatha yoga for over twelve years and began teaching four 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, or contact Alice: 301-263-9644 or alicedespard@gmail.com.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:

Kate Raber	Guillermo Yepes
Kim Barrett	Stuart Chandler
Doris Ninde	Josh Nickerson
Frank Anderson	Susan Guzman-Vogele
Marlene Palmer	Anne de Fontenay
Michelle Huey	Clarice Leslie
Esther Nachbar-Seckel	Jo Barclay Beard
Rebecca Riggs	Ron Pugsley
Joe Daley	Ellen Shillinglaw

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

Toni & David Strother
Susan & Ed Ingraham



CHURCH SCHOOL: GODLY PLAY LESSONS

January	<u>Godly Play I & II</u>
January 9:	Epiphany
January 16:	Baptism
January 23:	Great Pearl Parable
January 30:	Sower Parable

February	<u>Godly Play I</u>	<u>Godly Play II</u>
February 6:	Mustard Seed	Sower
February 13:	Deep Well	Mustard Seed
February 20:	Jonah	Deep Well
February 27:	TBA	TBA

If you have questions, would like more information or would be interested in teaching, please contact Joelle Morris: robotsofsaturn@yahoo.com, or The Rev. Robin Razzino: revrobingulick@verizon.net.

WEEKLY AT REDEEMER

Sunday

- 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

Monday

- AA Meeting, 12 noon
- Taizé Ensemble Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m. (*first Monday*)
- 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.
- Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.
- AA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday

- Morning Prayer & Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- AA Meeting, 12 noon
- Holy Eucharist, 12 noon
- Parish Staff Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- 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.

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.redeemberbethesda.org

The Parish Office is open Monday–Thursday, 8:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

■ CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Susan C. Burns, Rector

email: revsusanburns@verizon.net

The Rev. Robin G. Razzino, Assistant to the Rector

email: revrobingulick@verizon.net

The Rev. Dr. David J. Schlafer, Priest Associate

email: dschlafer@juno.com

Thomas P. 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

James Livingston, Candidate for Holy Orders

■ THE VESTRY

Cathy Arrington, Parish Life (2011)

cell: 301-219-1207 • email: cathy253@gmail.com

Gary Hacker, Communications /Treasurer (2012)

home: 202-265-6467 • email: gary.hacker@verizon.net

Jack Hutchings, Pastoral Care (2012)

home: 301-216-4650 • email: drjih@comcast.net

Ben Ivins, Newcomers/Membership (2012)

home: 301-263-0608 • email: bivins@nab.org

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

home: 202-362-3044 • email: pandbkendall@verizon.net

Clarice Leslie, Outreach (2011)

home: 301-229-2609 • email: cyleslie@verizon.net

Tom McNaugher, Senior Warden (2011)

home: 703-533-365 • email: tomm@rand.org

Frances Sharon, Spiritual Life (2013)

home: 202-364-4937 • email: fwadsworth@verizon.net

Denny Shaw, Adult Education

home: 301-585-3969 • email: shawdf22@gmail.com

Mary K Young, Assistant Treasurer

home: 301-320-5696 • cell: 301-346-9878

email: young@zeuhausergroup.com

Cynthia Winder, Recording Secretary

home: 301-229-9093 • email: cwwinder@yahoo.com

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6201 Dunrobbin Drive at MacArthur Boulevard

Bethesda, Maryland 20816



THE REDEEMER SPIRIT

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The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

Deadline for the February is January 26



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.