

THE REDEEMER SPIRIT JULY/AUGUST 2011

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

NOTES FROM THE RECTOR

It's summertime. In some ways, life is a little quieter around here. Like many of you, Vestry members and Redeemer's staff will be away on vacation from time to time. There may be less "traffic" at Redeemer during the week, as there is outside on MacArthur Boulevard, but, still, there is a lot of thinking, planning and doing happening here.

As a parish, we are at a significant point in our growth and development. On Sunday, June 26, we celebrated a new ministry at Redeemer as we welcomed our first ever full-time Associate Rector. The Rev. Robin G. Razzino has been with us half-time for three years, while also serving half-time at Virginia Theological Seminary. She has taken leadership in all aspects of parish life, with special responsibility for ministry with children and youth. During her time here, the parish has experienced considerable growth, both in young families and overall.¹ The shift in size from small to medium size is one of the hardest for a church to make. The energy, experience and creativity that Robin has contributed, even on a half-time basis, have helped us to make that change.

The Vestry's decision to create a new full-time clergy position reflects a commitment to expand and support continued growth not only in size but also in the depth and breadth of our parish ministry. That decision has been undergirded by the congregation's generous response to the 2011 stewardship campaign, when the hope that we would be able to bring Robin on full-time was presented and widely discussed. Our diocesan leadership also values the gifts Robin brings to Redeemer and the wider Church, and affirms Redeemer's vitality. For this reason, the diocese will support this new full-time position, by providing health care coverage and a financial contribution. That financial support will decrease in 2012 and disappear in 2013, in the expectation and confidence that as a parish we will be on an even stronger footing as we move forward and will be able to support our own continuing growth without outside help.

As we grow, procedures that were more or less informal when we were "small" have needed to become clearer and more predictable. Clergy and lay leaders have taken this to heart by opening a parish-wide conversation about outreach, during Lent and at town meetings. (See, *The*

Redeemer Spirit, Feb., May & June.) Planning is underway now for a deeper conversation about a number of recurring fiscal issues, e.g., how we make financial decisions as a parish, how best to balance stewardship and special giving appeals, what kinds of expenses should be covered in the budget and what by designated gifts. Monthly Vestry agendas don't have space for exploring these kinds of questions at length, so we will talk them through on Saturday, August 20 (10 a.m.-1 p.m.). Anyone who would like to participate or listen in on the conversation is welcome to join us for what we are calling "Fostering Maturity in Fiscal Responsibility."

Meanwhile, the life of the parish goes on through the summer. Worship, study, service and fellowship are at the heart of who we are. We gather to worship every Sunday and Wednesday. There is Church School for children and youth. Redeemer's first youth pilgrimage and mission trip in eight years is less than a month away. Toddlers, and their adults, sing and dance on Tuesday mornings in a Music & Movement class. Sounds of piano, violins, and singing are heard during the week, as lessons continue. In August, Summer Music Camp will bring together students from the Bishop Walker School, young members of Misa Alegria at St. Stephen and the Incarnation, and children from Redeemer and the neighborhood for a week of music-making.

There is a new, lay-led Bible study on Sunday mornings. At the summer's first evening adult education gathering, "The Tasks of Grieving," conversation was multi-layered and honest. The July 25 evening gathering, *The Psalms are for Singing*, will be on a lighter note, but lively and inspiring. We're getting ready for the all-parish retreat in October. We furnished an apartment at Partner Arms in mid-June. We'll feed hungry neighbors through Manna Food Center, Calvary Women's Shelter, and Bethesda Cares in July, and help supply children with school supplies in August.

It's summertime. There may be a little less traffic, but the Spirit is on the move among and around us, shaping and moving us right along with it.

The Rev. Susan Thon

¹When Robin came at the beginning of July, 2008, average Sunday attendance was 135. By July, 2009, it had grown to 160.

JULY/AUGUST EVENTS

Wednesday, July 20

- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, July 22

- Interfaith Youth Service Opportunity, p. 10

Sunday, July 24

- Bethesda Cares Dinner Preparation, p. 4

Monday, July 25

- Adult Education Evening Seminar, 7:00-9:00 p.m., p.11

Monday, August 8—Friday, August 12

- Summer Music Camp, 9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 17

- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 20

- Fostering Maturity in Fiscal Responsibility, 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 28

- Launch of Sign-Up for New Photo Directory, p. 2

CLERGY & STAFF SCHEDULES



Over the summer, members of the clergy and staff will be away as follows:

- The Rev. Susan Thon: August 5-8
- The Rev. Robin Razzino: July 20-28; August 6-13 (youth pilgrimage)
- Tom Smith: July 13-22, August 1-5, 14-19
- Angela Beckman: July 25—August 1
- Alice Despard: July 17-23, August 8-11

The Rev. Joe Clark will cover emergencies August 5-8. His phone is 301-869-7944.

SEPTEMBER UPCOMING

Monday, September 5

- Labor Day/Parish Office closed

Sunday, September 11

- Unity Walk

Sunday, September 18

- Homecoming Sunday
- Time & Talent Round Robin

Monday, September 19

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

Wednesday, September 21

- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

NEW PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY

A much-needed new parish photo directory will be produced this fall. It won't happen without you! Starting on Sunday, August 28, we will be asking you to sign up for a time to get your picture taken — the more of us sign up, the less the directory costs the parish. The dates for the photography are Friday, Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, October 7, 8, 10 and 11. There will times during the day and in the evenings. The photo directory helps us get to know one another so we hope you will participate in this important parish event. More details will be coming shortly. If you have questions, please contact Ben Ivins: bivins@nab.org or 301-263-0608.

Ben Ivins

Newcomers & Membership

PERSONAL NOTE

Congratulations to Tom & Leslie McNaugher on the birth of their grandson Samuel John McNaugher, son of Ian and Mary McNaugher.

Welcome to Bshara Nassar, who has come from Israel/Palestine to Washington for the summer and will worship with us while he is here. Bshara is an intern with New Story Leadership for the Middle East, a program to promote peace in Israel and Palestine.

All-Parish Retreat



The Retreat starts on Friday, October 14, at 4:00 p.m. through lunch on Sunday, October 16. This is an opportunity for the parish to come together for spiritual growth, fellowship and lots of fun.

This is a retreat for **all** ages, based on C.S. Lewis' children's book, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. We are very happy that quite a few adults have indicated interest so far, but we really would like more children, youth and families to join us! **The maximum registration cost for families with children is \$350, so, please sign up!** (The balance of family registration fees will be contributed from the Rector's Discretionary Fund.) Scholarship help is available for anyone, so do not let the cost deter you; please talk with The Rev. Susan Thon.

In early September we will begin in earnest to create the magic of Narnia with a Lion made of chicken wire and paper maché, a cardboard box (huge) for the wardrobe, a light pole where Lucy meets Mr. Tumnes, snow (white sheets) and, of course, a nice plate(s) of Turkish Delight!

Although you do not need to sign up till September 18, it would be helpful for the retreat committee's planning if you would indicate your interest by speaking with Frances Sharon, Vestry Person for Spiritual Life, or by adding your name to the list on the Spiritual Life bulletin board in the Parish Hall. The retreat will take place at the Peterkin Conference Center in Romney, West Virginia.

If you have questions, please contact Frances: 202-364-4937 or fwadsworth@verizon.net.

Frances Sharon
Spiritual Life

YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

Please pray for the youth of the parish who will be embarking on their six day pilgrimage/mission trip to Colorado on August 6. The youth will be undertaking three service projects while in Colorado and spending the rest of the time enjoying God's creation. The youth who are going are Gwen Chandler, Marisa Guzman-Vogele, Nico Judge, Evan Judge, Abe Sauer, Cyrus Sobhani, and Katie Wolf-Rodda. Robin and Brian Razzino will accompany the youth on their trip.

Holy God, you led your people, night and day, by fire and cloud, so lead the Redeemer pilgrims by the light of your love. Go before them to prepare a safe path. Stay beside them to instill purpose and joy in their mission. Follow after them to leave peace in the wake of wherever they have stayed. Give your angels charge over their journey. At their returning, may all they have seen be engraved on their hearts, and their sense of home enlarged forever; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Guide. Amen.

The Rev. Robin Razzino
Associate Rector

CONFIRMANDS



Jane Beightol, Robin Razzino, Nico Judge, Abe Sauer, Freddy Muenchow-Pohl and Evan Judge at the confirmation service at Washington National Cathedral on Saturday, June 25, 2011.

CHURCH SCHOOL

Summer School

During the summer, Church School will be organized into two groups: a combined Intermediate/Middle School class and a Little Kids class for the two Godly Play age groups.

Steve Gibson

OUTREACH

Bethesda Cares

Redeemer will be responsible for providing dinner for some 50 homeless persons, as part of the Bethesda Cares Dinner program, on Sunday July 24. This is a wonderful opportunity to be of service to our neighbors in need. There is a sign-up sheet on the sign-up board in the Parish Hall. If you would like to participate by providing one of the food items or by helping with delivery, please sign up. For more information, please contact Julia Rogers: Julia.rogers@me.com or 301-320-4195.

School Backpack/Supplies Drive

For the past five years Redeemer has provided backpacks filled with school supplies to the Transitional Housing Corporation (THC) for school-aged children. THC is one of Redeemer's outreach program partners. The backpack drive is an opportunity to ensure that a child begins the school year with sufficient study tools. This year we hope to raise sufficient funds to buy and fill 60 backpacks. Each costs approximately \$35. We will be asking for donations through August 18. The backpacks will be delivered before the start of the school year. If you would like to help with this effort, donations in any amount are welcome. Checks should be made out to The Church of the Redeemer with "school supplies drive" on the memo line. For more information, please contact Debbie Babcock-Daley: Deborah.babcock-daley@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-764-



OUTREACH: HOPE FOR BURUNDI

On June 21, parishioner Clarice Leslie, Redeemer's liaison for our Hope for Burundi outreach program, received the following email from Fidele and Alexis, two of the young men who are continuing the work of John-Bosco Hakizimana in Burundi:

Hello Clarice, How are you doing in the US? For us, we thank God. We are so happy to hear from you. We had a problem about the Internet connectivity but now it is ok. We have attached our first report to the Church of the Redeemer on the Women's Goat project.

While we (Alexis and Fidele) are writing this message, Kennedy is up country in Kirundo to deal with the Baskets project. Here are a couple of updates about the Sewing and Goats project from our recent visits:

Women's Sewing Project in Makamba: The women are still working together as a group. At present they are making school uniforms from which they expect a big response at the market, because this is the time period just before the school year is going to start. Other good news is that the same women are going to establish their own HfB tree nursery. Many other women who have seen the importance of the HfB project are asking about the continuities of the project so that they can get a chance to be involved. I (Alexis) am preparing to go to Mabanda to talk with the women so that I can know their needs, their thoughts, etc.

Women's Goat Project in Ruyigi: I (Fidele) have already started the project as you will see in the attached report of the **First Step**. Last week, I was in Ruyigi and I have made a meeting with all the women so that I could explain to them about the small number of goats we will start with and together we discussed and decided how to make that work. They gave thanks to Hope for Burundi and to you for the initiative. They suggested not to give the 5 goats to some of them, but as they are working together as a team and peacefully, they suggested giving a goat to each group (one per community nursery). This works well as they are in different community nurseries. When we get additional goats they can share them according to the number of available and continue sharing when goats give birth.

The same Ruyigi women are doing another great work: Working together they are farming a big field of pineapples so that they will get a small income themselves. The only support they need for this is help with seeds. They plan to plant 8,000 plants of pineapples. So, today, I go to Ruyigi for training with a veterinarian from Ruyigi, and the women are so happy to

see the beginning of the projects. When I will come back from Ruyigi, I will send you more details with pictures. We will let you know more about the Baskets project and the Sewing projects after our coming back from up country. Thank you so much for all that you are doing. Blessings! Fidele and Alexis.

The following report was attached to the email.

Women’s Goat Project: First Step Report, June 2011

In May 2011, Hope for Burundi (HfB) started the Women’s Goat project in Ruyigi Province, Ruyigi Commune where the four community nurseries were established. The women of these four groups received the goats. The beneficiaries are 60 women who work as volunteers in the nurseries from different communities: Murehe, Nyarunazi, Muhimbure, and Karambi. The number of goats is 5 (4 female and 1 male). Each community received one female and they will share the male goat.

A Planning Meeting was held in Ruyigi on May 20. Nzambimana Fidele, the HfB Supervisor of the Goat project, and Ntawuyamara Bernard, the HfB Ruyigi local technician met with the women who will receive the goats. Because of the small number of goats, it was very interesting to analyze together how the distribution would be done. The supervisor explained to the women about the number and variety of goats (showing pictures from the goat exploration at Ngozi) and the different benefits from those goats. Afterwards, the HfB Goats Project supervisor took time to explain to the women how they themselves would share the small number of goats and the following was agreed upon:

- The goats will be distributed in groups; one female for each community.
- The male goat will belong to all communities and all of them will use the male for reproduction.
- Every community chose the person to be the leader or first person responsible for the goat and that one will profit only from the fertilizer. They chose:
 Murehe Community: Harimeshi Liberatte
 Muhimbure Community: Nzirubusa Imerde
 Karambi Community: Ntaconkurikira Charlotte
 Nyarunazi Community: Ndayongeje Jeannette
- The shelter will be built by all the beneficiaries working together with the women they chose to be the first person responsible for the goat.
- As they will find another goat from reproduction or when the project is able to get an additional number of goats, they will continue sharing until each one of the women gets her own goat.

- The women are to be trained very soon so that they can start building shelters.

The first meeting ended with a good atmosphere.

Training by veterinarian Bashira Gervain in Ruyigi was completed after one week, on June 1. The training started with prayer and the topics were: the importance of goats in the family; how to take care of goats; how to build a shelter, how to feed the goats; and how to treat the goats when they suffer from disease. After the training, the veterinarian agreed to continue helping the women until they are able to treat their goats very well on their own. Note: the medicines for one year are available for all the goats.

Goat distribution took place on the afternoon of June 10. Supervisor Nzambimana Fidele traveled from Bujumbura to Ngozi, arriving at 7:00 p.m. There he met with Ruyigi local technician Ntawuyamara Bernard and the seller of the goats Ngendakumana Viator from Tangara Commune. They spent the night at the Ishimwe Hotel in Ngozi and left at 5:00 a.m. on June 11 going to the Tanagara Commune in Gisura Hill where the goats were. That morning they traveled with a veterinarian from Ngozi so that he could help to choose the five best goats. They then traveled by truck from Gisura Hill to Ruyigi where the women were waiting and each community group took their goat. The beneficiaries gave thanks to Hope for Burundi and to all who contributed to the project, especially the financial supporters from the Church of the Redeemer.

To date, Redeemer has contributed a total of \$2,269 to the Goat project. Funds spent to date have been for buying the goats (\$180/goat), a one-year supply of medicine (\$128), a pump (\$32), transportation (\$72), fuel (\$86), accommodation, meals and communications (\$130). Total spent by HfB to date: \$1,358.

Report by Nzambimana Fidele



OUTREACH: THC APARTMENT

Redeemer Adopts a THC Apartment

Redeemer has transformed a small, three-bedroom apartment into an inviting home. As a parish, we drew on our creative talents, and organizational skills, to say nothing of our wit and grit, to tap into our abundant blessings here on earth and heaven-sent. Thus we provided just about everything a family of five or six people would need to live comfortably. Our efforts culminated on June 18, "Furnishing Day," when about a dozen of us traveled down to the Transitional Housing Corporation apartment in northwest Washington, D.C., to set up a household with all the wonderful things that folks gave to furnish the bedrooms, living room, dining area, kitchen, and bath. The necessities were accompanied by many thoughtful extras (e.g., stand-alone, titanium towel rack; TV converter box; sporting goods) and charming gestures (e.g., a crayon drawing and note of welcome from Doris Ninde's 4-year-old daughter, Leah). We placed new books and toys from Kathryn Tolbert's colleagues at the *Washington Post* into tall shelves. High on top, we set an exquisite tea set (a Strawberry Festival collectible), out of reach of little hands.

Stuart Chandler drove the truck, which David Manning paid for, and which Aidan Herderschee helped Stuart load and unload in a series of pickups from several donor homes. David Strother used his station wagon to transport beautiful (but heavy) furniture from Anne de Fontenay, whose mother, Chrissy, spared us backaches by hiring two men from CFLS to haul it all up the tight stairwell. Mary Helen Carlson made up beds and set up the bedrooms. Janice and Michelle Huey spent hours in the kitchen, where they cleaned, lined shelves, and filled the cupboards with the bright red dishes and mugs that they donated. Clarice Leslie unwrapped and set up dozens of items, and helped Chrissy arrange the living room furniture. Nearly everyone found time to bicker good-naturedly about how high (or low) to hang the paintings.

In the weeks that led up to Furnishing Day, Redeemer held our first-ever Town Meetings to consider why we do outreach projects like this one. As The Rev. Susan Thon reported, our reasons are many. When we help the needy, we meet Christ. When we work together, we can see and fill needs in ways we could not do alone. The THC apartment project put into immediate practice what we had just met to discuss, and even to debate, in theory. There was indeed "wisdom and economy" in this parish-wide effort. Such a big task did bring us closer together.

We felt blessed to be part of such a loving group effort that had such fabulous results. From the beginning (and in the center of the labyrinth) we asked the Holy Spirit to guide us. The end results led us to believe that a heavenly interior decorator did have fun in guiding the donations!

Redeemer has participated in the THC Adopt-an-Apartment Projects before. The Outreach Committee has long funded THC, which meets all three of the Outreach aims, which are to build on projects in which Redeemer has been involved for many years; increase awareness of the opportunities for service; and encourage the widespread involvement of the congregation.

The next two years will challenge the THC family whose apartment we have furnished, as its members work to make the transition out of homelessness. THC Volunteer Coordinator Andrew Adams asks for our continued prayers for the family's success and for continued growth in understanding why we took on this project in the first place.

With special thanks to Chrissy de Fontenay, Project Mentor and Guardian Angel,

Gabrielle Herderschee-Hunter and Marie France
Project Coordinators



THC volunteers take a break in the comfy living room. Front row: Marie France, John (CFLS), Mary Helen Carlson, THC coordinator Andrew Adams, Aidan and Gabrielle Herderschee, Michelle and Janice Huey. Back row: Henry (CFLS), David Strother, and Clarice Leslie. Not shown: Chrissy de Fontenay, Kathryn and Julia Tolbert, truck driver Stuart Chandler and wingman Steve France.

TREASURER'S REPORT



Clarice, Michelle and Janice setting up the kitchen.

No News is Good News

My father often invoked this phrase and I will use it this time as well. You have not heard too much about the financial position of the parish during the past four months because the news is generally good. The year is half over and we are operating close to budget for both income and expenses and that is good news! If all goes as planned, we will end the year with income matching expenses although it is almost impossible to have that be a perfect match—most likely there will be a small loss or maybe a small profit if we are lucky. This year we have a balanced budget and we have been able to reach our pledge goal.

Below: Andrew enjoying a break in the bedroom.



We do have to be careful though because there are some maintenance issues looming on the horizon that will need to be addressed – hopefully not until 2012 though. Our building is starting to age and maintenance issues and related costs will be a bigger part of our expenses in the future. We have also added a full-time clergy person to the staff, which will increase salaries for 2012 and subsequent years.

What Can You Do? Keeping your pledge current is one of the biggest things that you can do to help the parish and to let your Vestry sleep a bit better. The year is half over and at this time it is helpful if everyone has paid at least 50% (or more) of their 2011 pledge.

Living Room



Below: Chrissy, John, Henry and David unpacking.

If you have any questions concerning the financial position of the parish, please contact Mary K Young (Chair, of the Finance Committee) or myself.

Gary Hacker
Treasurer

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL RESULTS



In the 2011 budget, the goal was to net \$21,000 from the Strawberry Festival & Silent Auction. Happily, we exceeded that with a net figure of \$23,957 (it was \$20,200 in 2010). Thank you again to all those who worked so hard to make this possible and to those who donated food and funds for equipment that enabled us to minimize our expenses. This is the best result we have had – ever!

Jefferson & Cathy Arrington
Peter & Mary Helen Carlson

PASTORAL CARE

Why don't more people avail themselves of the pastoral care services available at Redeemer? Pride? Or (crazy) notions of self-sufficiency? Please don't be afraid to ask for help—*au contraire*, be afraid of not asking for help when you need it.

The Pastoral Care Committee wishes to remind parishioners that the following services are available:

Prayer Support

- Congregational: If you or someone you love needs intercessory prayers, simply contact the clergy or the parish office and give them the name of the person to be prayed for and, if you wish, why prayers are needed.
- Wednesday morning prayer group: Prayers are offered at the 8:00 a.m. morning prayer service for all those in need and especially those in need of long-term prayers.
- Prayer Tree: If you notify the clergy or parish office, a name can be given to the prayer tree—a group of parishioners who will offer supportive prayers.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors

There are a number of trained Redeemer parishioners who will bring Communion to those who are ill, home-bound or in nursing facilities.

Healing

During the 10:30 a.m. service on the first Sunday of the month and at the Healing & Holy Eucharist Service on the third Monday of the month, laying on of hands is offered for yourself or for those you know in need of healing.

Funeral Support

Volunteers will assist with funeral preparations, mainly with regard to setting up the Altar and with any reception following the funeral.

Transportation

Volunteers are available to bring you to church and/or take you to doctors appointments, etc., if you are unable to do so yourself.

Meals

For those who are ill or in recovery from surgery or home-bound, meals can be provided.

Phone Calls, Cards, and/or Visits

If you or someone you know would appreciate a call from a member of the pastoral care team, a card or a visit, please contact the clergy or the parish office.

Important Information/Documents

We also want to remind everyone over the age of twenty one of some things you should have documented:

- Have you executed a will?
- Do you have a durable Power of Attorney?
- A Health Care Directive?
- Do you carry a list of the medical conditions you have and the medications you are taking for them?

It's great if you have done these things. But remember to review them annually to see if current circumstances necessitate changes. Why don't we do these things? Denial or that wonderful five syllable substitute for sloth—procrastination! Don't think about doing it later; do it now and think happily later that you have done what you should. It will make your life and your family's easier.

If you have any questions about any of the services, please contact Jack Hutchings, Vestry Person for Pastoral Care: 301-216-4650 or drjjh@comcast.net.

The Pastoral Care Committee

REDEEMER BOOK GROUP

Having completed a sojourn through Faulkner (*The Sound and the Fury* and *The Reivers*), the group is moving on in July to read *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen. This book explores human-animal bonds in the form of a romantic page-turner told by the hero, nonagenarian Jacob Jankowski. The group will discuss the book on Sunday, July 31, 3:00 p.m. at the home of Susan Grigsby, 7325 University Avenue, Glen Echo.

For August/September, the group has picked the mystery novel *Devil in a Blue Dress* by Walter Moseley. The New York Times said of this book, "A suspenseful novel of human detection more than simply a detective novel ... [Moseley is] a talented author with something vital to say about the distance between the black and white worlds, and with a dramatic way to say it."

For September/October, the group will read *The Tenth Parallel* by Eliza Griswold. According to the NYT, this is "...a beautifully written book, full of arresting stories woven around a provocative issue — whether fundamentalism leads to violence — which Griswold investigates through individual lives rather than caricatures or abstractions."

Bob Dresser

Book Group Coordinator

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Ceiling air conditioning unit repair: An air conditioning unit in the ceiling of the West Nave Transept, which was making ominous and peculiar noises, requires the replacement of a motor in the unit. The replacement cost is \$1,000, which, although expensive, is better than our experience with a similar ceiling unit above the Choir Transept last year. That unit required total replacement at a cost of \$5,600. This problem is separate from the major renovation of the HVAC unit performed last fall/winter. The larger HVAC unit is performing well and cooling efficiently. Only on extremely hot days with temperatures in the mid to high 90's are the ceiling units necessary to keep the Nave at a comfortable temperature, but: we still have to live through the hottest months of this year, and approval has been given for the repair of the current malfunctioning unit.

Choir entry doors: Sexton Alice Despard is doing a masterful job restoring the entry doors to their former glory. The wood repair work is completed and Alice has painted them with primer and the first coat of a color which, unfortunately, did not meet expectations. So back to the drawing board we went and another color, more compatible with the hue of the Redeemer bricks has been selected. When finished the doors will complete the Dunrobbin Drive facade of Redeemer.

Labyrinth fire pit blemish: Despite a good try by the Chairman to remove the stains on the Rosette at the center of the Labyrinth, they remain, although, perhaps, not as pronounced as they were earlier. A liquid cleaner found at a local brick company was not enough to complete the job and so it is back to the drawing board. The stains were caused by a liquid accelerant used to fuel the fire pit which had been placed on the Labyrinth during the Easter Vigil Service.

For future reference, either the Fire Pit should not be placed on the Labyrinth or a method must be developed to prevent a recurrence. One idea, if the blemish can be removed, would be to establish temporarily a raised tray beneath the fire pit, but not sitting on the Labyrinth, to catch any accelerant or falling ash. If the blemish cannot be removed, I suggest placing the fire pit on the grass somewhere close to the Labyrinth, rather than on top of it.

Flagstone pavers: Frank Anderson and John Nickum have purchased and installed flagstone pavers in front of the Labyrinth area bench close to the Parish Hall. They will help reduce the amount of mulch tracked from the bench site onto the Labyrinth, in addition to giving the area a finished look. Thank you John and Frank.

Surge protectors: Sexton Alice Despard has obtained a reasonable bid for the surge protectors and they are being installed in July.

Exterior ceiling drywall repair: Alice is seeking bids for drywall repair work and painting to the exterior ceilings of the portico outside the Parish Hall and the Church Bell Tower. For some time the two areas have been an eyesore and should be repaired before the drywall deteriorates further.

Exterior sign alteration: Calls have been left with the exterior sign contractor to arrange for alterations to the sign at the corner of Dunrobbin and Benalder Drives. The names of Susan Thon, Rector, and Robin Razzino, Associate Rector will be added. More to come.

Flower Room water heater: A new water heater has been installed in the Altar Guild flower prep room to the left of the Altar. It will facilitate arranging of the beautiful flowers we enjoy weekly. The cost was \$648.

Peter Kendall

Junior Warden/Chair, Buildings & Grounds

COFFEE HOUR HELP NEEDED!



You don't have to bake to host Coffee Hour!

If you have not done Coffee Hour and would like to give it a try, now is a good time because summer numbers are smaller. We are in need of people to sign up for the rest of the Sundays in July and through to Sunday, September 4, (Labor Day weekend).

You do not need to make homemade cakes or pastries! Bagels and cream cheese; bread or crackers and cheese or sliced meat; fruit; veggies; dips like hummus or spinach; and store-bought coffee cake, pound cake, and cookies are all easy options that would be greatly enjoyed by the congregation. Guidelines are in the envelope below the sign-up sheet on the Sign-Up board in the Parish Hall. All of us will greatly appreciate your efforts no matter what you provide! For questions, please contact Patricia Snowden: postscript2@verizon.net or 301-229-2170

Patricia Snowden
Parish Life Chair

JUNE VESTRY REPORT

The proposed contract and job description for the full-time Associate Rector position was discussed, including the pre-established need for the position, duration of sick leave, and incremental cost increases for years two and three, during which the financial Diocesan support of the position expires. A motion to approve the full-time Associate Rector contract, effective July 1, 2011, was approved.

The average Sunday attendance at Redeemer for the first 24 weeks of 2011, compared with earlier years is: 179 (2011); 176 (2010); 166 (2009); 140 (2008); 115 (2007).

Treasurer Gary Hacker noted that pledges are our primary income source, followed by the Strawberry Festival proceeds. Parishioners pledge extremely generously, but in future years either more pledges or an increase in the average pledge amount will be needed. Pledges increased 20% in 2011 over 2010. At the upcoming workshop, "Fostering Maturity in Fiscal Responsibility," we will address some recurring issues that are heightened by our parish growth (e.g., stewardship, fund raising, special giving appeals).

Junior Warden Peter Kendall reported that the air conditioning unit in the non-choir transept needs repair, which we hope will be minor. Sexton Alice Despard is painting the choir room doors a shade of red to blend more with the brick, so it will not appear to be the main entrance of the church. The labyrinth has a slight residual stain that Peter hopes will be removed by a cleaning solution he will purchase. Nathan Price offered to research having an energy audit of the facilities made.

A motion was passed thanking Mary Helen and Peter Carlson, Jefferson and Cathy Arrington, Angela Beckman, and Mary K Young for their hard and successful work with the Strawberry Festival. As of the Vestry meeting, the net proceeds appeared to be \$23,000 with the expectation that the final numbers will come in at budget or a little more.

At the end of the second Town Hall Meeting, on June 5, participants knew more about Redeemer's outreach projects and funding than at the beginning. They suggested a third meeting in the fall.

Five Redeemer youth will be confirmed at the Cathedral on Saturday, June 25: Jane Beightol, Evan Judge, Nico Judge, Freddy Muenchow-Pohl, and Abe Sauer.

The next Vestry Meeting will be Wednesday July 20, 2011.

INTERFAITH OPPORTUNITY

Interfaith Youth Service Project: Hanging out with a purpose

"I have not developed the habit of service in our family and with my children for various reasons. But the bottom line is I haven't prioritized it sufficiently."

These thoughts were shared recently by a mother here in Bethesda. Does this sound all too familiar to you? Well, this mom and her family intend to change their priorities in order to focus more on serving others. One way she is planning to do this is to join other families in the community from different faith traditions in working together for the common good. Perhaps your family would like to join hers in this work!

Over the next year, families from Redeemer, as well as the Islamic Weekend School, intend to undertake four quarterly projects which will bring young people together to serve their neighbors. Other faith communities will also be invited to participate in these projects. All are welcome.

It is hoped that through these projects youth will experience:

- putting their faith into practice
- joining forces with other like-minded individuals
- making a positive change in the world
- learning the skills of respectful dialogue, discussion, consensus building, and action planning

The middle and high school youth will take the lead in choosing the projects and needs to be addressed. Through the activities they will get to know one another and participate in service at the same time. Eventually a more formal dialogue component will be added to the initiative.

This interfaith initiative is open to families of any faith/community who are interested in interfaith youth service. We hope that your kids may have friends or you may know families who may be interested; having a buddy when meeting other teens often increases comfort!

The first project focuses on serving our homeless neighbors. **The group will meet on Friday, July 22 at the Church of the Redeemer from 3:00-5:00 p.m.** to prepare dinner for the women who stay at the Calvary Women's Shelter in northeast Washington. After the food is prepared, the group will travel together to serve dinner at the shelter: 110 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, DC. For more information, contact parishioners Dominique and Mike Rychlik: rychliks@gmail.com.

ADULT EDUCATION

Evening Seminar

On Monday, July 25, 7:00-9:00 p.m., the topic for the Evening Seminar will be *The Psalms Are for Singing*. Director of Music Tom Smith will present a brief history of the psalms and discuss ways in which to better appreciate these traditional texts. Light snacks and nursery care will be provided. The next seminar will take place in August.

Denny Shaw

CLERGY-MUSICIAN CONFERENCE

The Rev. Susan Thon and I were privileged to participate in a conference at Virginia Theological Seminary, June 15-17. Entitled *Creating Worship that Works: Clergy and Musicians as Partners in Ministry*, the conference brought together eight clergy/musician teams from across the country. Each team had been recommended by its diocesan bishop. Dioceses represented were Delaware, Indianapolis, Massachusetts, San Diego, Southern Ohio, Virginia, and Washington.

Over the course of three days, the teams made presentations on the history of their working relationship as well as challenges they have faced or are facing in their parishes. The presentations were filmed thanks to a grant from the Washington, D.C. Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Eventually, the video will be edited and shared with the larger church. The hope is that, by examining these particularly strong clergy/musician relationships, some common themes and practices might be discovered that will enable other clergy and musicians to strengthen their own relationships and parish ministries.

The conference concluded with a Sung Eucharist celebrated by the Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston, Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia.

Tom Smith
Director of Music

ELECTION OF NEW BISHOP

On Saturday, June 18, at a special convention of the Diocese of Washington, The Rev. Dr. Mariann Edgar Budde was elected, on the second ballot to be the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Washington.

The Rev. Dr. Budde has been the rector of St. John's, Minneapolis since 1993, a congregation she has led through significant growth and ministry development. A practitioner of family systems theory, Mariann is particularly interested in how to lead faith communities through the systemic transformation required for growth. She is passionate about congregational health and clergy wellness. More information is available at www.edow.org.

The consecration and installation will take place at Washington National Cathedral on Saturday, November 12. Our new bishop will make a visitation to Redeemer on Sunday, December 18.

INVITATION TO A BOOK DISCUSSION

The Meaning of Mary Magdalene: Discovering the Woman at the Heart of Christianity by Cynthia Bourgeault (Shambhala Press 2010, paperback, \$16.95)

"A remarkable invitation into the origins and wisdom of Christianity... . Expect a challenge ... to deepen your capacity for love through the witness of Jesus's beloved disciple." The Most Rev. Dr. Katherine Jefferts Schiori

This summer, Redeemer's Christian Contemplative Group is reading what appears to be an intriguing analysis of Mary Magdalene. We will meet to discuss the book in the fall. If you are interested, we invite you to read the book and then join us at Ron & Sally Pugsley's home on Sunday September 18 (time to be announced) for the discussion. Please let Sally know if you plan to come: salpugs@mac.com or 301-469-5917

Redeemers' Christian Contemplative Group is open to all who are interested in exploring the wisdom tradition and in deepening their spiritual practice. Each session begins with a short liturgy of simple chants, centering prayer, and readings. The group then moves at its own pace through *A Handbook to Practical Wisdom* by Lynn C. Bauman. Meetings are held in the sanctuary, 7:30-9:00 p.m., on the second and fourth Mondays, September through June. For more information, contact parishioner and group leader Alice Despard: 301-263-9644, or visit the group's weblog.

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL ...



... MORE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL



EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Openings for Education for Ministry Group

Are you interested in exploring your faith, deepening your understanding of our Episcopal traditions, and growing in fellowship with other Christians? Then consider joining the Education for Ministry (EfM) group at Redeemer.

EfM meets one evening a week September- May. Classes are based on a curriculum developed by The University of the South's Episcopal Seminary. Members register for one year at a time. If they choose to complete the entire curriculum, they will participate for four years, with each year covering a different subject: Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), Christian Scriptures (New Testament), Church History, and 20th Century Philosophers and Theologians. The course provides an extraordinarily rich opportunity for learning and fellowship.

EfM is for lay people. It's not about becoming a Priest, but about becoming a far more able member of the Priesthood of All Believers - which we are all called to. This is a deeply enriching learning experience, and we are fortunate to be able to offer this course at Redeemer. Currently we only have four spaces open for the class beginning in September so please register early. For more information, contact Jo Barclay-Beard: jobbeard@yahoo.com or 301-593-5993.

Jo Barclay-Beard

BEGINNER'S MIND YOGA

Beginner's Mind Yoga classes, taught by parishioner Alice Despard, will resume on Saturday, September 10, 9:30-11:00 a.m. Beginners are always welcome; mats and props will be provided. During the summer, classes are held on a week-by-week basis depending on student availability. Drop-ins are always welcome (\$15 per class) and the introductory class is free.

Alice 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.alice-despard.blogspot.com, or contact Alice: 301-263-9644 or alicedespard@gmail.com.

JULY/AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:

Christoph Muenchow-Pohl	David Strother
Marcia Sartwell	Harriet Downer
Abe Sauer	Michele Kitchen
James Downer	Tami McMinn
Carolyn Ann Killea	Sebastian Stoner
Howard Wolf-Rodda	Constance Griggs
Erica Eager	Genie Jones
Ben Ivins	Claudia Hull
Nicholas Rychlik	Gwen Chandler
Tom Rogers	Brian Beard
Berit Lindholdt-Lauridsen	Kieran Farrell
Lois Brown	Callie Raulfs
Nicola Neary	Joanne Bowman
Katie Glover	Justin Hess
Pat Petrash	Stan James
Peter Carlson	Elena Petillo
Claudia Serrin	Rachel King
Jack Adams	
Catherine de Fontenay	

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

Joe Clark & Meredith Myers
 John Nickum & Linda Lear
 Bob & Marcy Dresser
 Gabrielle & Han Herderschee-Hunter
 Ron & Sally Pugsley
 Tom & Leslie McNaugher
 Bramman Avery & Mary K Young
 Lou & Kiki Garo



WEEKLY AT REDEEMER

Sunday

- Holy Eucharist, 8:00 a.m.
- Adult Education Forum, 9:15 a.m. (Sept-June)
- Bible Study, 9:15 a.m. (July-August)
- Adult Choir Warm-Up, 9:15 a.m. (Sept-June)
- Youth Choir Warm-Up, 9:45 a.m. (Sept-June)
- 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 Service, 7:30 p.m. (*first Monday, resumes in October*)
- Christian Contemplative Group, 7:30 p.m.
(*second & fourth Mondays, resumes in September*)
- Service of Healing & Holy Eucharist, 7:30 p.m.
(*third Monday, resumes in September*)

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.

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

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

The Rev. Robin G. Razzino, Associate 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

■ THE VESTRY

Cathy Baker, Senior Warden (2012)

cell: 301-229-6963 • email: catherinebaker@mac.com

Gary Hacker, Treasurer/Communications (2012)

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

Jack Hutchings, Pastoral Care (2012)

home: 301-216-4650 • email: drjjh@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

Nathan Price, Stewardship (2014)

home: 301-229-5999 • email: npay@me.com

Frances Sharon, Spiritual Life (2013)

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

Denny Shaw, Adult Education (2013)

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

Cynthia Winder, Outreach (2014)

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

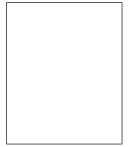
Julia Rogers, Recording Secretary

home: 301-320-4195 • email: julia.rogers@me.com

Mary K Young, Chair, Finance Committee

home: 301-320-5696 • email: young@consultzg.com

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
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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.*