

THE REDEEMER SPIRIT JUNE 2011

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

NOTES FROM THE RECTOR

On a beautiful May afternoon, more than 40 people stayed after the 10:30 a.m. service for our first town meeting conversation about outreach. There were many new members present, along with old ones; parents (whose young children were ably tended by Michelle Huey); people who have been active leaders in outreach at Redeemer, and many who haven't yet been involved in outreach here. All seven Vestry members who were in town were present. It was a lively group. Conversations were energetic and forthright both in the sharing of stories in small groups and in the whole group.

We began with sharing in small groups about "a time when you experienced brokenness or loss, and then knew something of the Holy, felt closer to God, more whole or free because of the experience . . ." As one participant observed later, "The plumb line went deep very quickly." There was a deep level of trust in these conversations.

As we then reflected on these conversations as a whole group, there was recognition that our vulnerability is something that we have in common with every human being. The response to brokenness or loss has led to compassion for other people who need help; on the other hand, brokenness can create hardness. Relationship and community are key factors in healing and new life; and they also were frequently key factors in the breaking. People noted that there is a line between giving help and creating dependency, and that it is important not to foist help on someone.

We brainstormed about why to do social outreach *as a parish*. The long tradition of scripture and tradition was cited: repeated injunctions in the Old Testament to care for widows; Christ's admonishments to help those in need; and the observation that it is in feeding the hungry and thirsty, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and those in prison that we meet Christ. Awareness of and gratitude for our own abundance, recognition that others have much less, and feelings of empathy also motivate us to do social outreach. Working together as a parish gives us strength to see and fill needs in ways that we could not do as individuals alone. There is "a wisdom and economy" in working together in social outreach, someone said. "We are working out our

All-Parish "Town" Meeting Sunday, June 5

Following the 10:30 a.m. service,
with a light lunch

Outreach Ministry at Redeemer: Programs & Funding

Childcare provided

salvation together. We are climbing Jacob's ladder." Another benefit is that doing social outreach as a parish brings us closer together.

There was a rich conversation about the risks of undertaking social outreach and justice work *as a parish*. We will not always all agree on who should benefit from our outreach, someone said. Nor will we all agree about what is "justice." These remarks by one brave soul prompted recollections from others about divisive conflicts experienced in other parishes around social outreach and justice ministry. It was a wonderfully frank discussion, to which I added my own conviction that disagreement is inevitable when we are honest with ourselves and each other. It is not to be feared in itself but can create opportunity for broader and deeper understanding and community. Speaking hard truths in love is welcome.

As this goes to press, the conversation continues. On Sunday, June 5 we take up questions of "nuts and bolts" of social outreach and justice at Redeemer. There will be an opportunity to learn about some of Redeemer's outreach projects and other social outreach and justice organizations we support. We will review the history of our outreach funding and the current process for allocating funds in the operating budget line for outreach. Questions about outreach funding identified by parish leaders as important to consider during this year will be shared: What are our goals for outreach? What are our criteria for funding an organization or project? How much should we give as a

Notes from the Rector, continued on p. 2

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Strawberry Festival & Silent Auction
Saturday, June 11, 11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.



Choral Evensong for the Feast of Pentecost
Sunday, June 12, 5:00 p.m.

JUNE EVENTS

Saturday, June 4

- James Livingston's Ordination to the Diaconate, Washington National Cathedral, 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, June 5

- All-Parish "Town" Meeting #2, 12:30 p.m., p. 1
- Hymn Festival, 5:00 p.m. (*Christ Church Alexandria*)

Monday, June 6

- Taizé Service, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, June 10

- Strawberry Picking, hulling, cleaning, p. 3
- Strawberry Festival/Silent Auction set-up, p. 3

Saturday, June 11

- **Strawberry Festival & Silent Auction, 11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m., p. 3**
- Clean-up after 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 12

- Choral Evensong, 5:00 p.m., p. 6
- Farewell Reception to follow

Wednesday, June 15

- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 18

- Election of Ninth Bishop of Washington, p. 4
- Recital: Students of Hilary Ryon Parks, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 25

- Confirmations at Washington National Cathedral, 10:00 a.m.

JULY UPCOMING

Monday, July 4

- Independence Day – *Parish Office Closed*

Wednesday, July 20

- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, July 23

- Fiscal Responsibility Workshop, 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, July 24

- Bethesda Cares Dinner Preparation, p. 4

Notes from the Rector continued from p. 1 ...

parish? Who decides? How often? Should we give for social outreach and justice work from the operating budget? What about off-budget fund-raising in the parish? Should there be any? If so, how much or how often? What if we allocated all of the income (minus expenses) from the Strawberry Festival to outreach giving?

Participants in the meeting will be invited to share their own questions. We will end by considering and prioritizing next steps in our parish exploration of how we can best serve our neighbors near and far. One important step is a workshop that, at this point, the Vestry is calling "Fiscal Responsibility," scheduled for the morning of Saturday, July 23. Among other issues, we will consider giving to outreach from the operating budget and off-budget fund-raising for outreach and other parish endeavors. *Everyone and anyone* in the parish who is interested in such questions is invited and encouraged to think, listen and speak with us at this workshop.

The Rev. Susan Burns
Rector



STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL & SILENT AUCTION
SATURDAY JUNE 11, 2011



Just ONE week to go!

Help Needed!

Evenings, June 6-9

Any time you come to help price and sort, you are most welcome! If you are not sure what you might do, please contact Mary Helen Carlson: carlsonmh1@gmail.com or 301-983-0541.

Friday, June 10th

7:30 a.m.. Pickers can meet at Redeemer to share a ride and get maps to Butler's Orchard
8:00 – 11:00 a.m. Strawberry picking at Butler's Orchard—more hands, takes less time!
10:00 a.m. Begin setting up the Silent Auction—for those who want to work indoors!
11:00 – 3:00 p.m. Hulling at Clara Barton Center—great fellowship time.
3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Set up at Redeemer

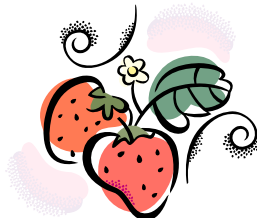
Saturday, June 11th

9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Complete setting up at Redeemer
11:00 – 3:00 p.m. **The Strawberry Festival & Silent Auction**
2:30 p.m. Silent Auction closes
3:00 p.m. Festival Ends
3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Clean up—please stay and help with clean up.

Opportunities to be of assistance: Sign-up sheets are set out in the Parish Hall. We especially need volunteers for the afternoon and evening hours the week of the festival to help with sorting and set up of books, clothing and collectibles. And we need lots of pickers on Friday morning. Please contact Jefferson Arrington: jefferson7019@aol.com or 240-417-9990.

Delivery of Books, Collectibles, etc.: You may deliver books, DVDs, clothing, and collectibles starting on Monday, June 6. Signs will be posted to tell you where to leave different items. Please put your items neatly in the appropriate place. **All clothing must be clean and on hangers.** If you have any questions, please contact Jefferson Arrington.

Silent Auction: Items should be delivered between Sunday, June 5 and Thursday, June 9 to the Parish Office. Set up will take place on Friday and will go easier if we have all items on hand. Thank you to all those who have donated items. If you would like a receipt for your donation for tax purposes, these are available in the Parish Office. If you were unable to donate an item, but would like to support the auction, you can be a sponsor by making a cash donation. Please make checks payable to The Church of the Redeemer with "Silent Auction" on the memo line. If you have questions, please contact Angela in the Parish Office: 301-229-3770 or office.redeemer@verizon.net.



ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Forum

There will be no Adult Forum on Sundays, June 5 and 12. The Forum will resume on Sunday, June 19, Father's Day. The program will be New Tools for Dads. The first tool, *Five Wishes Workbook*, gives dads the means to examine and express their personal preferences for care if they become incapacitated. To view a sample of this booklet, visit www.agingwithdignity.org. The second tool, a Spiritual History form, enables dads to identify their individual views on their experiences with the life of the spirit. The four questions on the Spiritual History form are available at www.gwumc.edu/puchalski/gwish. These tools are of interest and helpful for all of us, dads or not.

"Summer School" – Adult Education Evening Seminars

Instead of taking a break over the summer, this year the Adult Education program will offer a monthly evening seminar on topics too complex for the one hour Forum sessions on Sunday mornings. In July, the topic will be *Tasks of Grieving* that will be led by Sally Pugsley and Ann Heisle. Ann is a regular member of the Christian Contemplative Group that meets twice a month on Monday evenings at Redeemer.

Denny Shaw
Adult Education

ELECTION OF NEW BISHOP

If you were unable to hear the candidates for Bishop in person at the Washington Episcopal School, you can view the webcast provided by the Diocese., by going to the website <http://search.edow.org>, scroll to the second May 24 event and click "view this event." If you would like to share your comments and views on the candidates with those from Redeemer who will be voting at the election, please feel free to contact:

The Rev. Susan Burns (revsusanburns@verizon.net)
The Rev. Robin Razzino (revrobingulick@verizon.net)
Delegate Peggy Tucker (tucker@mail.nih.gov)
Alternate Gary Hacker (gary.hacker@verizon.net)
The Rev. Joe Clark (woodherb@gmail.com)
The Rev. Amy Young (younta@stpatsdc.org)

OUTREACH

Bethesda Cares

Thanks to the efforts of Redeemer parishioners, some 50 homeless people left Our Lady of Lourdes on Sunday, May 22, filled with good food. Thank you to Julia & Tom Rogers, Ben Ivins, Denny Shaw, Kukula Glasstris, Patricia Snowden, Jo Barclay-Beard and Toni Strother for providing fried chicken, ham, potato salad, green salad, quinoa, canned and fresh fruit, dinner rolls with butter, pies and drinks. Thank you also to those who contributed the sturdy carry-out containers that the homeless people much prefer. Our next Sunday for providing the dinner, is Sunday, July 24. If you have questions about this Outreach program, please contact Julia Rogers: julia.rogers@me.com.

Furnishing An Apartment

Redeemer parishioners are invited to help furnish a three-bedroom apartment for the Williams family through Transitional Housing Corporation's Partner Arms project. The Williams family includes mom Natasha, who is 7 months pregnant, Marcus, age 12, Mercedes, age 11, Jovaan, age 7, and Troyvon, age 3. Redeemer will deliver all items to the apartment and set everything up for the family. Delivery and set up will take place on Saturday, June 18. A number of Redeemer youth will help supervise collection and set up of the rooms. We have invited our friends at Adat Shalom and Islamic Weekend School to help us collect new linen/comforters/pillows and new toys (required by the program), as well as with the actual labor on moving day. Hopefully our youth and Adat/ IWS youth will have a chance to get to know one another better in a rewarding way. When the family graduates from the program they will be able to take all the furnishings with them.

If you can donate items, please check the sign-up sheet on the Outreach board in the Parish Hall. Donation tax deduction forms are available on the board or we can email one to you. All are welcome to help on Moving Day, Saturday June 18. We will meet at Redeemer at 8:30 a.m. After loading and unloading all the items, most of the day will be spent at the apartment setting everything up. Please do not drop off items at Redeemer until Thursday, June 16.

If you have questions, please contact Gabrielle Herderschee-Hunter: steelorchid@verizon.net or Marie France: msfrance@comcast.net.

The Outreach Committee

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

Vestry Readings on Church Growth From Institutional and Theological Perspectives

In January the new Vestry decided as a group to read and discuss a book focused on church growth, given that Redeemer appears to be in an expanding stage of development. At our April meeting, we doubled down and picked two books. We will read the first one and then decide if we will read the second.

The first is *Three Hundred Years of the Episcopal Church in America* (1906) by George Hodges, who at the time of writing was dean of the Episcopal Theological School, Cambridge, MA. It provides a quick and informative overview of key events in the establishment and development of the Episcopal Church amidst the more familiar historical events of the Jamestown settlement, colonization, the Revolution, the Great Awakening, the Civil War, and the post-war social upheaval.

From our vantage point in 2011, when our diocese is about to elect its ninth Bishop, it's especially interesting to learn that, until the American Revolution was well complete, we had no bishops at all. This is because for many years church leaders in England were relatively indifferent to the colonies, and by the time they became interested, the colonists didn't want a bishop sent over who tied them back to the King. And so, because there were no bishops in the pre-Independence period, ministers too were in short supply. Men from the colonies interested in the priesthood had to face the "expense and peril" of sailing to and from England for ordination. Consequently most ministers of the early years came from England and had never lived before in America, and, as I infer from Rev. Hodges, not all of them were up to the challenge: "Some of them were good men, filled with missionary enthusiasm," he writes, "but some came because they could not find employment at home."

The American Church got a big boost in early 1700s after a new missionary zeal in England led to the formation of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, which made efforts to recruit and send well-prepared ministers. As Hodges writes, "The new ministers were men of learning and piety. It is true that the second rector of Providence was blown out of church one Sunday by 'an extraordinary gust of wind,' and the people, welcoming this ejection as an act of heaven, refused to let him in again. But this was a notable exception."

Such passages, which suggest that the fine sense of humor found in our parish runs through the Anglican tradition, add color to an otherwise sober recounting of the Church's challenges as it established its houses of worship, canons, articles of government, and its own episcopate.

The Dream of God: A Call to Return (2006) by acclaimed Episcopal author Verna Dozier, takes a hard, loving look at the institutional church. Both in New Testament times and still more so beginning with the Emperor Constantine, the church has fallen short of its calling as the people of God to follow Jesus of Nazareth. "Verna Dozier has been called to be a prophet. Like prophets of the Hebrew scriptures she stands within and loves the very institutions upon which she speaks words of judgement," remarks Loren Mead, past president of The Alban Institute. One Amazon reviewer has commented, "If the hierarchy of most denominations were to read this book and actually take Verna Dozier seriously, we would have a second Reformation."

It is hoped that the Vestry's reflections on these books will help us be more sensitive to past, present, and future as our parish grows. If you also would like to join the reflections, a copy of each will be in the Redeemer library for parishioners or you can let Angela Beckman know that you would like to borrow a copy after a Vestry member has finished reading.

Cathy Baker
Senior Warden

PERSONAL NOTES

Congratulations to ...

- Don McMinn & Harold Lester on the adoption of Alexander Robert Lester-McMinn, grandson to Tami McMinn.
- Callie Raulfs and Dongbo Wang who were married on Saturday, May 28
- James Livingston on his ordination to the Diaconate on June 4.
- John Barnes, named Teacher of the Year by Shenandoah University.

Condolences to Mary K Young and her family on the death of her brother, Jeffrey. May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.

MUSICAL NOTES

UPCOMING MUSICAL EVENTS

Hymn Festival with Gerre Hancock

Sunday, June 5, 5:00 p.m.

On Sunday, June 5, members of Redeemer's Adult Choir will participate in *Hymns of the Spirit*, a Hymn Festival at Christ Church Alexandria. The event will be led by Dr. Gerre Hancock, who, for several decades, served as Organist & Master of the Choristers at St. Thomas Church Fifth Avenue in New York City. Dr. Hancock is a legend in the world of church music and, in particular, organ improvisation. The festival will be structured much like a service of Lessons & Carols, although, for the most part, choral anthems will be replaced with congregational hymns arranged by Dr. Hancock. I extend a special invitation to those who have never participated in a hymn festival.



Taizé Service

Monday, June 6, 7:30 p.m.

The final Taizé Service of the program year will take place on Monday, June 6, at 7:30 p.m. Taizé is an informal contemplative service which includes icons, candles, incense, silence, and chant-like music accompanied by piano, guitars, and other instruments. The quiet beauty of Taizé is an ideal way to begin the week. All are welcome!

Choral Evensong for the Feast of Pentecost

Sunday, June 12, 5:00 p.m.



The 2010-11 choral season will conclude with a festive service of Choral Evensong, sung by Redeemer's Adult and Youth Choirs and conducted by Dr. Martin Neary, retired Organist & Master of the Choristers at Westminster Abbey, London. The liturgy will serve as a farewell to our

beloved choir members Harriet Downer, Nicola Neary, and Clare & Jamie Saunders, all of whom, with their families, will be returning to England over the summer. Music will include works by Arthur Banyon, Martin Neary, Charles Villiers Stanford, and Thomas Tallis. *Reception to follow.*

Summer Music Camp: Now is the time to register!

Redeemer's fifth annual Summer Music Camp will take place **Monday, August 8—Friday, August 12, 2011, 10:00 a.m.—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 Director of Music Tom Smith and professional musical educators John Barnes and Laura Petersen. Tuition for the week is \$350. Highlights include:

- Utilization of portions of the Orff and Dalcroze methods
- Introduction to reading musical notation
- Study of rhythm through motion
- Study of basic vocal production and solfege
- Choral singing
- Introduction to drum circle technique
- Interactive closing performance for family and friends
- 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

We hope your child(ren) will join us for a week of musical learning and fun! For more information, contact the Music Office: music.redeemer@verizon.net or 301-229-3770. The deadline for registration is July 15.

Music at Redeemer Series 2011-12

Please stay tuned for the release of the complete schedule for the 2011-12 season. A wonderfully varied program of concerts and choral services is being planned. Details will be posted on the parish website in early August. All parishioners will receive a copy of the 2011-12 music brochure in mid-September.

Tom Smith
Director of Music



APRIL VESTRY REPORT

Reflections: The Gospel for the Sixth Sunday of Easter (John 14:15-21) was discussed.

Minutes: The April Minutes were approved as written.

Rector's Report: A written report was submitted. We spoke at length about the well-attended (46 people) May 22 Town Meeting on Outreach. Many commented on how well Susan facilitated the meeting and the impressive results of her "permission" to disagree with others opened everyone up allowing them to be candid. The small group breakout sessions were intimate and led to great discussions. Susan reported that of the 40-50 people who participated in the May 24 Prayer Vigil in support of Episcopal Bishop of Jerusalem, Suheil Dawani, nine were from Redeemer. Susan is looking to have a group work with her for the 10th anniversary of 9/11, including connecting with our Muslim, Islamic, and Jewish friends. Susan and Tom Smith will make a joint presentation at a VTS symposium June 15-17, *Creating Worship That Works: Clergy and Musicians as Partners in Mission*. Average Sunday attendance through May 22 is 177.

Strawberry Festival: Jefferson Arrington says things are falling into place. The Silent Auction multiple co-chair suggestion is working out. Everything is done that needs to be done. We need more volunteers, including a clean-up coordinator. The sign-up table will be moved on Sunday into the center of the Parish Hall.

Treasurer's Report: Gary Hacker gave the Treasurer's Report that indicates we are operating on-track. At a future meeting we will have at least a 15-minute time-slot for the Treasurer's Report, to allow more in-depth discussion of Redeemer's Financial Reports and time to respond to any questions.

Buildings & Grounds: As Peter Kendall is out of the country his written report was submitted for review. The labyrinth fire-pit stain appears to have been washed away by the rainfall.

Vestry Discussion-Election of Bishop, June 18: Almost everyone present attended a "Walkabout Session" on May 23 or 24, or watched the webcast of the one held at the Washington Episcopal School. The nominees, The Rev. Ronald G. Abrams, The Rev. Dr. Mariann Edgar Budde, The Very Rev. Samuel Glenn Candler, The Rev. Jane Soyster Gould, and The Rev. Canon John T.W. Harmon, each spoke and answered questions. The energy level was strong even after the two-hour Q&A period. It became

evident quickly that the Search Committee presented us with great choices for our Ninth Bishop.

Robin Razzino Contract: Robin's employment contract was drafted and sent to the Executive Committee for their review. We expect to sign it at the June 15 Vestry meeting. Nathan suggests more communication to parish about not only Robin's transition from part-time to full-time, but also marking a transition point for the parish. We should plan a celebration, tentatively set for June 26. It is anticipated that July 1 will be Robin's official start as full-time Associate Rector.

Stewardship: Nathan had emailed the Vestry a set of questions to gather up quickly key information regarding Stewardship approaches, stumbling blocks, timing of the campaign, any upcoming big issues, and possible candidates for the Stewardship Committee. We discussed the positive aspects of brief witnessing statements and noted there are more testimonials at the 10:30 service than at the 8:00am service. We discussed the Stewardship Brochure, the Visitor Bags, the lack of a current Directory for new members, the Outreach Town Meeting discernment process, budget aspects of upcoming increases for building maintenance and going from one to two full-time clergy.

Spiritual Life: Frances Sharon noted that issuance of the All-Parish Retreat was done in May because of the Peterkin Center's requirement for payment in full 3-months prior to the Retreat, October 14-16. Joe Clark spoke to Peterkin and they moved the date for full payment from July 15 to September 18. The cost of the Retreat will be capped at \$350 for family attendance.

Vestry Reading: Recommended were *Three hundred Years of The Episcopal Church* (published in 1906); and *The Dream of God* by Verna Dozier. We will begin with the former.

Other Business: Steve Gibson took over leadership of the Tuesday evening Bible Study from James Livingston. Attendance is very small, leading us to ask if the timing is optimal. Vestry members wondered if those interested in bible study may already be in EFM; noted that Tuesday evening/evenings in general are not a good time; suggested trying 6-week bible studies with targeted themes, e.g., Pentecost & the Holy Spirit in scripture; women in the bible. The Vestry promised to continue thinking this question and to bring ideas to Steve Gibson.

The next Meeting will be on Wednesday **June 15, 2011.**

Julia Rogers
Recording Secretary

SPIRITUAL LIFE



All-Parish Retreat: October 14–16
CS Lewis has spun a tale of enchantment that captures the heart and the imagination in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. It is a charming and gentle story of make-

believe that connects with the Christian story in ways that children and adults can enjoy together. It makes for a terrific church retreat and all of us at Redeemer are invited to mark our calendars for Friday-Sunday, October 12-14.

If you think you will be interested in going on the retreat, we would appreciate knowing this now, as it will help us with planning. You can sign on the sheet on the Spiritual Life bulletin board. We will be looking for final commitments in early September.

In early September, we will be planning in earnest to create the magic of Narnia with a Lion made of chicken wire and paper mache, 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 Delights!

The themes of faith, devotion, resurrection and transformation run throughout the story and are central to the Gospel story we tell each Sunday. This is an opportunity to journey away for a weekend, creating memories that families will retell for years. This kind of weekend is the “stuff” of church for families and parishes, where we find ourselves reliving the bonfire, the magical kingdoms created by others in the parish acting out the characters, singing hymns around the outdoor altar, and playing board games of Trivial Pursuit until midnight—all the while making new friendships and deepening old ones.

Many parishes have found that events like this are where friendships are made and memories are given color. Even if you are somewhat unsure, please let us know of your interest. Scholarship help is available, so please don't let the cost be what holds you back (talk with The Rev. Susan Burns). We very much want to make this happen and need your help to do it. Thank you.

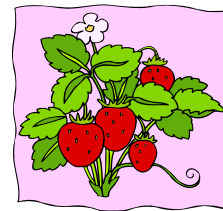
For more information/questions, please contact Susan Burns: revsusanburns@verizon.net or 301-229-3770; Joe Clark: woodherb@gmail.com; or Frances Sharon: fwadsworth@verizon.net or 202-364-4937.

Frances Sharon
Spiritual Life

CHRISTIAN CONTEMPLATIVE GROUP

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

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



REDEEMER BOOK GROUP



The Book Group agreed at its last meeting that over the summer, they should read some light-hearted books. Because of the excitement about Faulkner and his writing, the group decided to go along with Susan Grigsby's recommendation to read his last book, *The Reivers*, published in 1962. Susan assured everybody that *The Reivers* has no “Sound” and no “Fury”, but lots of fun. So, this is going to be the next book that will be discussed on Sunday, June 26 at 3:00 p.m. at Susan Grigsby's house (address).

After *The Reivers*, we will read *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen that tells the story of an orphan who discovers love when he joins a circus during the Great Depression. After that, we will read a Walter Mosley detective book.

So, we're all set for summer fun reading. All are welcome.

Ellen Shillinglaw
Coordinator

CHURCH SCHOOL

The Church School year ends on June 19 with Ice Cream and Games Day for the Intermediate and Middle School classes. Prior to then, the Intermediate class will discuss Christian Hope (June 5), and have a class quiz (June 12).

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. The summer Church School program will start on June 26.

Steve Gibson

GOING TO JERUSALEM

What Next?

Redeemer held a 5-part series entitled *Going to Jerusalem: Pursuing Peace with Justice in the Holy Land* during Lent that included excellent speakers and covered a range of topics relating to Palestine and Israel. The series was designed to deepen our understanding of the area's history and current conditions, learn about the special companion relationship between the Diocese of Washington and the Diocese of Jerusalem, and explore the possibility of a 2012 Redeemer pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

It is hoped that members of the parish will feel moved to continue learning about the Palestine of Jesus and the Palestine of today. We would like to know how best to continue this educational journey and prepare for pilgrimage. Some suggestions are:

- Going on Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2012
- Scheduling a Study Group that would meet once a month at Redeemer on Sundays at 5:00 p.m. with speakers, videos or readings.
- Going to movies, plays, meetings and lectures that focus on Palestine and Jerusalem.
- Looking for ways to involve our youth. For example, talking with young people from Palestine/Israel who are visiting the US under the sponsorship of peace groups such as Kids for Peace.

We would like to hear your ideas also. Please contact: Margaret Greene, mhgreene01@aol.com or Steve France, france.steve.h@gmail.com.

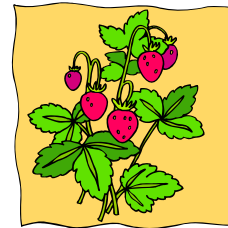
Margaret Greene & Steve France
Adult Education Committee

YOUTH GROUP PILGRIMAGE

Mystery Dinner Fundraiser

I would like to thank Susan Vogeles and Jorge Guzman for hosting a mystery dinner fundraiser at their home on Saturday, May 14. The youth going on the pilgrimage and their friends and family put together a very entertaining and nourishing dinner. Through this fundraiser, the Super Bowl sub sandwich-making fundraiser, the babysitting and gift wrapping last December, and the generosity of Pearl Malstrom's family, we were able to raise a total of \$3,420 for the youth pilgrimage. I am very grateful for the generosity of this parish and the support shown for the youth of Redeemer. Thank you so much.

The Rev. Robin Razzino
Assistant Rector



PARISH LIFE

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

Everyone enjoys the food and fellowship at Sunday morning Coffee Hour. However, only a limited number of parishioners have taken on this ministry and the Parish Life Committee both wants and needs to spread it much more widely. Coffee Hour does not require homemade or fancy 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. We encourage you to do Coffee Hour in pairs or it can be done by a parish committee or group.

So please get together with a friend or committee or group and sign up to host a Coffee Hour. A set of guidelines is 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 on Parish Life events and activities, please contact Patricia Snowden: postscript2@verizon.net or 301-229-2170

Patricia Snowden
Parish Life Chair

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 student Chrissy de Fontenay writes:

I am taking EfM a second time for three reasons: First, EfM covers deeply the Bible, Church history and a thinking faith—all things that should be practiced by all Christians, the priesthood of believers. EfM is based on what is taught in seminaries and offers to participants profound wisdom and resources. Second, is the EfM practice of theological reflection—what every believer actually does, but doesn't necessarily understand well, let alone pursue systematically or in depth. Third, over and over again the Bible emphasizes that we must come together as a community, congregate, in order to hear the Word, to practice our faith, and to help each other.

I have learned and shared so much with my fellow EfM travelers, it is almost impossible to express. When we don't meet in the summer, I deeply miss the fellowship of the wonderful people with whom I have taken this journey. I believe that we can best serve God by preparing ourselves. An EfM community of six or more people is by far the most comprehensive and serious means for readying us to be members of the priesthood of all believers that I have encountered.

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 you must register early. For more information, contact Jo Barclay-Beard: jobbeard@yahoo.com or 301-593-5993.

Jo Barclay-Beard

JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:

Christine Tomassen	Janice Huey
Jane Winer	Kukula Glasstris
Matthew Arrington	Emily Downer
Jack Hutchings	Midge Munger
Toby Kinnahan	Odette Heller Dashner
Tim Kitchen	Susan Ingraham
Marisa Guzman-Vogele	Veronica Sherrard
Mary Lynne McElroy	Dean Cinkala
Olivier Jeanne	Marilyn Bersoff
Howard Wolf-Rodda	Amy Bowers
Luke Rychlik	Christopher Burns
Jacqueline Hull	Zac Nachbar-Seckel
Jack Rabner	Dee Beilstein
Patsy Stann	Cindy Winder

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

David Schlafer & Peggy Tucker
Howard & Julie Wolf-Rodda
Bill & Joanne Bowman



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. We provide mats and props. The Spring Session will begin on Saturday, May 28. During the summer, classes will be held on a week-by-week basis based on student availability. Drop-ins are always welcome (\$15 per class) and the introductory class is free.

Alice Despard has been a practitioner of hatha yoga for over 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.

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 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

- Parish Staff Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- 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 Thon 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

■ 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

6201 Dunrobbin Drive at MacArthur Boulevard

Bethesda, Maryland 20816



THE REDEEMER SPIRIT

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Deadline for the June is June 23



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.

www.redeemerbethesda.org