

THE REDEEMER SPIRIT MARCH 2009

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

NOTES FROM THE RECTOR

The boxes are small and brightly colored, decorated with faces of smiling children. Look closely: this one, dressed in bright red, is tucked up in bed; "Hospitals" is the caption. Here are tiny children in school uniform: "Schools." Two little boys make the Peace sign, with damaged buildings and rubble in the background: "Respect." A little girl in bright red overalls stands holding the handles of her walker: "Hope." "Churches," announces a photograph of smiling children and teachers standing before an altar. "Peace" proclaims a photo of shining white domed church towers. "For the Diocese of Jerusalem" is superimposed above a panoramic view of the Holy City.

You will find these boxes in the narthex and parish hall. They are offering boxes, for the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, for Lent, for you. Prayer, fasting and giving alms are traditional spiritual practices during Lent. Some of you grew up with Lenten "mite boxes" for collecting change and small bills through the season, brought to church on Easter to be given to those in need. This year, these offering boxes from the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem are available at Redeemer, through the generosity of the Outreach Committee.

Our Bishop, The Rt. Rev. John Chane, recently wrote to diocesan clergy about the needs of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem. The Diocese of Jerusalem extends over five countries, including Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Palestine and Israel, within the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. "Outside of the Holy City," wrote Bishop Chane, "the countryside is overwhelmingly Islamic and Jewish, and even in Jerusalem the dominant Christian traditions are Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Armenian Apostolic. Yet Anglican bishops staunchly maintain a visible Anglican presence throughout the Middle East The entire region is fertile ground for numerous ministries."

The 27 parishes of the Diocese of Jerusalem minister to the needs of their communities, centered on the Cathedral Church of St. George the Martyr in Jerusalem. The Church supports 33 institutions, which include hospitals, clinics, kindergartens and schools, vocational training programs, as well as institutions for the deaf, the disabled and the elderly, reaching out to interfaith neighbors in mutual respect and cooperation. All the schools, hospitals and other institutions serve all persons, whatever their faith and affiliations.

In Gaza, Al Ahli Arab Hospital has been providing health care for more than 100 years. Surrounded by conflict, the hospital stayed open throughout the bombardment and invasion in December 2008 and January 2009, ministering to up to 50 patients daily who suffered injuries, as well as other hospital patients. The hospital has operated for many years under drastic conditions, with uncertain availability and delivery of food and medical supplies, electricity, fuel to run the generator when the power is off, and other much needed supplies—even detergent to wash bed sheets and dishes. Nevertheless, there is no incidence of infection in the hospital (something many U.S. hospitals cannot claim!). The faith and commitment of the hospital staff are nothing short of miraculous.

The Rt. Rev. Suhail Dawani, installed as Bishop of the Diocese in January 2006, sees the centerpiece of his Episcopate as providing pastoral care, and thus encouragement to stay, to a rapidly diminishing Christian community. Political developments over the years have created huge challenges for the Church, and for all Palestinian Christians. Pressures of expanding Israeli settlements in the West Bank and constrictions on Palestinians in the occupied territories, and limitations on Palestinians within Israel have led to emigration of many Christians.

Palestinian Christians, the "living stones" of the Holy Land, need the support of their fellow Christians around the world, not only in material gifts but also in the gift of presence. At diocesan convention, and during his Visitation to Redeemer on February 22, Bishop Chane announced a visit to the Diocese of Jerusalem, in mid-October of this year. This visit, to see some of the important ministries of the Diocese, to meet some of the people and gain an understanding of their lives, is open to clergy and lay people. Bishops Chane and Dawani are also working on a companion relationship between our two dioceses.

Traditionally, the Good Friday offering is sent to the church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. My hope is that, this year, we will be mindful of the needs and ministries of our brothers and sisters in Christ there, and that our collective gift will be augmented by our daily and weekly coins and dollars placed in the offering boxes, and brought to services on Good Friday and Easter.

The Rev. Susan Burns,
Rector



LENTEN OFFERINGS



Sunday, March 1, 5:00 p.m.

Choral Evensong & Organ Recital: Thomas Smith

Monday Evenings during Lent, 7:30 p.m.

Taizé Service every Monday during Lent

(Holy Eucharist and Healing, with Taize chant, on March 16)

Tuesday Evenings, March 3-31, 7:30-9:00 p.m. ☩

Wednesday Mornings, March 4-April 1, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Lenten Class: "Creating A Rule of Life"

MARCH EVENTS

Sunday, March 1

- Choral Evensong & Organ Recital: Thomas Smith, 5:00 p.m., p. 6. *Free-will offering. Reception to follow.*

Mondays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

- Taizé Service every Monday in Lent, 7:30 p.m., p. 6.

Tuesday, March 3

- Lenten Class begins, 7:30-9:00 p.m., p. 3.

Wednesday, March 4

- Lenten Class begins, 10:00-11:30 a.m., p. 3.
- Chorister Evensong, 5:30 p.m., p. 6.

Saturday, March 7

- Daylight Savings Time begins tomorrow! Put your clocks forward when you got to bed!

Thursday, March 12

- ESM Discovery & Travel Group, Noon

Sunday, March 15

- Youth Visit to Holocaust Museum, 2:00-4:00 p.m., p. 7.

Wednesday, March 18

- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m.



LENT

APRIL UPCOMING

Sunday, April 5/Palm Sunday

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

Monday, April 6/Monday in Holy Week

- Lenten Taizé Service, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 7/Tuesday in Holy Week

- Sung Compline, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 8/Wednesday in Holy Week

- A Service of Tenebrae, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 9/Maundy Thursday

- Pot Luck Supper, 6:00 p.m.
- Choral Eucharist, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 10/Good Friday

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

Saturday, April 11/Easter Even

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

Sunday, April 12/Easter Day

- Holy Eucharist, 8:00 a.m.
- Festal Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.
- Hot Cross Buns & Easter Egg Hunt

Wednesday, April 22

- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 26

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

ADULT EDUCATION

Lenten Class: Creating A Rule of Life

Tuesdays, March 3-31, 7:30-9:00 p.m.;

Wednesdays, March 4-April 1, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

The Lenten class will be offered both on Tuesday *evenings*, 7:30-9:00 p.m., March 3-31, and Wednesday *mornings*, 10:00-11:30 a.m., March 4-April 1, with the same basic content at evening and morning sessions. See February's *Redeemer Spirit* for class description. A syllabus and reading list are available in the parish hall, and by email from revsusanburns@verizon.net. Please let Susan Burns or Robin Gulick know by Tuesday afternoon, March 8, if you will be joining the class.

Adult Forum

Sunday, 9:15 a.m.

During March, we will continue with the *Living the Questions* series. On Sundays, March 1 and 8, Denny Shaw will lead the discussion on the subject of Evil, Suffering and A God of Love. On Sundays, March 15 and 22, Susan Grigsby will lead us on the Myth of Redemptive Violence.

There will be a forum on Sunday, March 29, topic to be announced. There will be no Adult Forum on Palm Sunday (April 5) or Easter Sunday (April 12). The *Living the Questions* series will pick up again after Easter.

Lois Burleigh
Adult Education

WISH LIST, ETC.



Wish List, etc.

Thanks to Tami McMinn and Julia & Tom Rogers, Redeemer's kitchen has a new energy-efficient dishwasher and a new hot water heater. A special thank you to Julia's company, Walker-Seal, for the donation of the time it took to pick up the dishwasher at Sears, install it and do all the electrical work for both the dishwasher and the water heater.

Our thanks also to Marie Caulfield & David Riggs, Jack Hutchings, and several of the AA groups and individuals who meet at Redeemer, who donated enough for us to purchase thirty new parish hall chairs and two dollies, that will be here shortly. We hope to purchase an additional 34 chairs and two more dollies when funding is available.

Our thanks also to David and Toni Strother for the new (and infinitely easier to operate) television in the parish hall, as well as a small TV with built-in VHS player that we will be able to use for the Church School.

All these gifts enrich our parish life and we are grateful.

Meredith Griggs
Junior Warden/ Building & Grounds

JERUSALEM 3000

*Here, where prayer was born,
War has finally died;
Where faith was made,
Condemned and tried,
Risen up, cast down,
Drowned in blood,
In thunder, brimstone,
Fire and in flood,
Now all children here
Walk hand in hand
Across the well-worn rocks
And sifting sand.*

*A thousand, thousand wars
Can take their toll.
Blood stains each rock
And every soul.
But O Jerusalem,
Your promise is kept
That peace shall one day reign
As long as once wept.
We celebrate this year
When all wars finally cease:
Jerusalem on Earth
And Earth in peace*

*By Jane Yolen,
Printed in O Jerusalem*



FEBRUARY VESTRY REPORT

Redeemer's newly constituted Vestry met for the Vestry Planning Day on Saturday, February 7, 2009. Did you know that one Vestry member used to own a motel? Or that another has visited the Arctic Circle? These were among the discoveries that day, along with exploration of our feelings about Redeemer's growth and movement—from a parish-sized church to a program-sized church. When asked at the February Vestry meeting, new members expressed that the retreat had been excellent and very helpful. The Vestry has committed to three goals to accomplish during 2009: better welcoming and incorporating of newcomers; better use of committees to accomplish our work; and better communication within the parish. The goals will translate into action items. The Rev. Susan Burns translated the Vestry's brainstorming of steps on welcoming and incorporating newcomers into an action plan presented at the February 18 Vestry meeting. Gary Hacker and Jack Hutchings will do the same for communications and committees, respectively, at the March and April meetings.

Parochial Report

Ms. Burns explained the primary points of the Parochial Report that is submitted by every Episcopal church to the national church and the diocese. Redeemer currently has 221 active members whose baptisms are recorded in the parish register and 80 other active members. The motion to approve the report was seconded and passed.

Financial Procedures Explanation

Lois Burleigh explained to the new Vestry and reviewed for the previous members check-signing procedures, the job of the counters, and bank deposits by the Vestry. Lois said she would address in-kind gifts at the March Vestry meeting.

Stewardship

Tom McNaugher said that of 122 pledging units, Redeemer has received 101 pledges for a total of approximately \$376,000 which is \$34,000 short of the revised goal of \$410,000. While recognizing that this is a tough economic time for some parishioners, we're stopped at a pledge amount that is too low to meet our needs. Additionally, Redeemer is still \$16,000 behind on 2008 pledges. Tom asked the Vestry rhetorically what message will we share with the congregation, how do we budget, and do we guardedly watch spending the first six months of this year. As a result, the Finance Committee will meet before the March Vestry meeting. Jack Hutchings reminded us that when Redeemer has made leaps of faith in the past—expanding the building, building the organ, expanding the staff—money has been tight. But past risks taken have been rewarded, and finances have stabilized.

continued ...

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jan 2009	Year to Date			
	Actual	Budget	Variance	2008 Budget
Pledges*	\$95,958	\$94,635	\$1,324	\$410,000
Total Ordinary Income	\$109,758	\$101,043	\$8,716	\$501,087
Expenses**	\$45,032	\$44,087	\$945	\$524,675
Net Ordinary Income	\$64,726	\$56,955	\$7,771	(\$23,588)

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

**Expenses are understated by \$4,995, as budgeted payments for January to the Diocese (\$2,575) and Outreach (\$2,420) were not made by month-end, but will be paid in February.

Lois Burleigh
Assistant Treasurer

Vestry Report continued ...

Lack of Humidity in Worship Space

Tom Smith brought to our attention that a severe lack of humidity, caused by no humidifier in the heating system, is resulting in problems with the organ, and cracks in the pews and floor. Quick action to remedy is needed to prevent more serious problems.

Other Business

Bishop Chane's Visitation: Preparing for the Bishop's Visitation to Redeemer on Sunday, February 22 included discussion about suggestions for food, inclusion of tables and chairs during his remarks, and sponsorship of altar flowers by the Vestry.

Strawberry Festival: Susan mentioned that Jefferson Arrington needs a co-chair for the June Strawberry Festival. Chairs for the silent auction are being discussed.

April Vestry Meeting: Since the third Wednesday in April falls during Easter Week and is tax day, the April Vestry meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 22.

Cynthia Winder
Recording Secretary

STEWARDSHIP 2009

As of February 22, our 2009 Stewardship Campaign had received 102 pledges for a total of \$375,050. There is a lot of generosity here, not only in the new pledges, but in the remarkable number of parishioners who have increased pledges made early in the campaign. Nonetheless, we're still a good ways short of the \$410,000 in pledges we had hoped for to fund even our minimum-level budget. And we're also a good ways short of 122 pledges, which would represent 100% participation. It may be that today's troubling economic news deters some of you from making commitments stretching out over a very uncertain year. If this understandable logic applies to you, consider a smaller pledge rather than none at all; while we appreciate "loose plate" offerings, we can only plan on pledged amounts.

Tom McNaugher
Senior Warden

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome as new registered members of Redeemer:

John Caldwell	Katie Lasseron
Margaret Greene	Sarah Lasseron
Bradley Kotz	Simon Lasseron
Renee Kotz	Michael Riechers
Allaire Kotz	Julia Rogers
Annelise Kotz	Patricia Rogers

PERSONAL NOTES

News from Bob & Ini Beckman

Bob and Ini Beckman, members of Redeemer from 2005 to 2008 (among many other activities, Ini taught Church School and Bob was our Junior Warden in 2008). They moved to Blacksburg, VA, in 2008. Ini recently wrote to tell us that Bob is going to be in Yemen for three months working for USAID. Bob and Ini met in Yemen 27 years ago! Meanwhile, back home, Ini's massage practice is doing well and she is enrolled in a Master Gardener course. They are attending Christ Episcopal Church in Blacksburg. Their daughter, Anna-Ruth, is doing very well in her first semester at George Mason University.

PARISH LIFE

Such Talent!

Thank you to everyone who shared their amazing talents at this year's Shrove Tuesday Talent Show: Our Master of Ceremonies Pat Fitzgerald, all the voices that joined in singing Faith of Our Fathers in honor of Billy Williams, Nico Judge for juggling, David Strother, Marisa Guzman and Jamie Saunders for their inspired poetry readings, the Intermediate class for the wonderful "Oh, Bats" skit, Jeff Arrington for giving us a sense of the south through stories of his grandfather, Allen and Susan Burns for being Burns & Allen, Nicola Neary for her spirited singing of "Old Fashioned Girl," Alice Despard and Stuart Chandler for performing two of Stuart's own songs, and Steve Raber for sharing one thorough lawyer's letter on real estate law. The evening ended with The Redeemer Cryers and audience singing "Lent is Comin' Round Tomorrow, yes, it is!" Huda Kraske offered one-liners from church newsletters and led us in dancing to Middle Eastern music. Thank you Chrissy de Fontenay for organizing the show.

Our thanks also to Kukula Glastris for organizing and managing the kitchen for the cooking of the pancake supper and to our cooks—Tom McNaugher, Dave & Gail Robinson, Justin Hess, Clarice Leslie, Jeff Stann and all others who helped in the kitchen, with set up and with clean-up. And our thanks to the youth who served us all our pancakes.

A good time was had by all! Let's do it again next year!

Coffee Hour Volunteers

We are in need of some more people to sign up to help with Coffee Hour on Sunday mornings. It works best if two people sign up for each Sunday. Guidelines are available on the Sign Up board in the parish hall along with the sign-up sheet. Basic set up is done by our sexton, Alice Despard, the night before. The volunteers plug in the coffee and hot water pots before the 10:30 a.m. service and set out the food. At the end of coffee hour, the volunteers are responsible for clean up—others almost always pitch in as well. If you can assist with this ministry, we would be most grateful. If you have any questions, please contact Ben Ivins at bivins@nab.org or 301-263-0608.

Ben Ivins
Parish Life



MUSICAL NOTES

UPCOMING MUSICAL EVENTS

Choral Evensong & Organ Recital: Thomas Smith

Sunday, March 1, at 5:00 p.m.

A quintessentially Anglican service to mark the beginning of the season of Lent, sung by Redeemer's Adult Choir. Choral music includes works by John Ireland, Philip Radcliffe and Charles Villiers Stanford. The service will be preceded by an extended prelude of music for organ and organ/saxophone. *Free-will offering. Reception to follow.*

Lenten Taizé Service of Prayer and Meditation

Every Monday in Lent (beginning March 2), at 7:30 p.m.

An informal, contemplative service with scripture, icons, incense, silence, and chant accompanied by piano, guitar, and other instruments. As in years past, Taizé will be offered every Monday evening in Lent. Why not make this beautiful service part of your Lenten practice?

Chorister Evensong

Wednesday, March 4, at 5:30 p.m.

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

SUMMER MUSIC CAMP 2009

We are pleased to announce Redeemer's fourth annual Summer Music Camp, **Monday, July 13, through Friday, July 17, 2009, 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. daily.** The camp, designed for children and youth ages 7-15 (*campers must have completed first grade*), will be staffed by three professional musical educators from the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Tuition for the week is \$325. Camp highlights include:

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

We hope that your child(ren) will join us for a week of musical learning and fun! For more information, please contact Thomas Smith, *Director of Music*, at 301.229.3770, or by e-mail at music.redeemer@verizon.net. Deadline for registration is June 15, 2009.

Tom Smith
Director of Music

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care Committee

The Pastoral Care Committee will have two organizational meetings in March, following which we will be recruiting volunteers for various pastoral care opportunities and identifying training needs. Beth O'Callaghan initiated this pastoral care network by enlisting volunteers last summer. Since then Valerie Hayes has organized a database and is developing procedures. Valerie conducted an initial training session for Pastoral Care Captains and, on February 21, a workshop for Lay Eucharistic Visitors. The timing was fortuitous as on the following Sunday three Eucharistic Visitor teams from Redeemer were needed to visit parishioners unable to come to church. The visits drew the parishioners into our communion circle, as well as into the circle of loving care Redeemer parishioners have for one another. We are eager for further development of this important ministry and will be describing the activities more fully in coming issues of *The Redeemer Spirit*.

The Sending of Eucharistic Visitors

You may have noticed in the past few weeks the sending of Eucharistic Visitors at the end of the Eucharist on Sunday mornings. Eucharistic Visitors are those lay persons called and licensed to carry consecrated bread and wine following the Holy Eucharist to members of the congregation who, by reason of illness or infirmity, were unable to be present at the service. Eight new Eucharistic Visitors have been trained according to the national canons and diocesan guidelines and have begun to make visits to parishioners after the Sunday service, going out in pairs.

The sending of members of the congregation to take communion to those not present has its foundation in the very early church. This ministry was renewed in the Episcopal Church in 1985. Those who become Eucharistic Visitors feel themselves called to this pastoral ministry in the parish and exercise a vital aspect of the ministry of all baptized persons.

Please know that this ministry is available to you and your family if the occasion arises. You may request a visit by contacting the church office. The sending of lay visitors is truly and fully an expression of the body of Christ in the body of the Church.

If you are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Visitor, please contact the church office. Another training session will be scheduled for a half-day on a Saturday after Easter. Should you have any other questions, please contact Valerie Hayes, Seminarian Intern, at vhayes@vts.edu or the church office at office.redeemer@verizon.net.

Valerie Hayes and Jack Hutchings
Pastoral Care

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Upcoming Event: Visiting the Holocaust Museum

On Sunday, March 15, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., the middle and high school youth of the parish will visit the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. If you have been before, you know it is a museum you have to take in over and over again. If you have never been, this visit will serve as an important introduction to one of the most harrowing periods of violence in the history of our world, the effects of which are still felt in very real ways today, over 60 years after it began.

Each exhibit in the Holocaust Museum offers visitors a way to encounter this history of the genocide of Jews in Europe, and see and hear from those who died in the concentration camps and those who survived. The testimony of those who died and those who survived are important for all of us to hear. As Elie Wiesel so eloquently puts it in the preface to his book *Night*, "For the survivor who chooses to testify, it is clear: his duty is to bear witness for the dead and the living. He has no right to deprive future generations of a past that belongs to our collective memory. *To forget would be not only dangerous but offensive; to forget the dead would be akin to killing them a second time.* The witness has forced himself to testify. *For the youth of today, for the children who will be born tomorrow. He does not want his past to become their future.*" (Preface to the New Translation (New York: Hill and Wang, c2006), page xv).

During our visit, we will spend some time viewing the permanent exhibit, but we will not have nearly enough time to go through the entire museum. Therefore, we will concentrate on two areas. We will spend some time looking at Daniels' story (watch a short video at <http://www.ushmm.org/museum/exhibit/exhibit/details/02-daniel/video.htm>) in order to see and better understand the holocaust and resistance movement through the eyes of the youth of that period.

We will also tour the exhibit on Darfur and talk about the dangers of genocide facing our world today. Just five years ago, the Museum's Committee on Conscience declared an Emergency for the Darfur region of Sudan. According to the Museum's website, "The Emergency was declared because acts of genocide or related crimes against humanity are occurring or immediately threatened in Sudan. Tens of thousands of civilians have been murdered and thousands of women raped. Over 1.5 million have been driven from their homes, their villages torched and their property stolen by the Sudanese government and allied militias. The death toll exceeds 100,000 and may be more than 400,000. And the crisis continues—the lives of hundreds of thousands more hang in the balance today."

Following our time with the exhibits we will meet with the Museum's Director for Church Relations, Victoria Barnett.

She will lead us in a presentation and discussion of some of the difficult questions the visit will raise for us: How do we as young people hear these stories and receive this news? What do we do with this information? As Christians, what is our response? Please join me in this important examination of history, faith, and social (in)justice.

We will meet at 2:00 p.m. at the museum. Details will be forthcoming. As always, I need two adults to join us on this trip. If you are interested, please let me know (you do not need to be a parent to help chaperone!)

Pancake Supper Thank You

A big thank you to all the children and youth who helped out with the Pancake Supper. We all appreciate those of you who delivered pancakes with a smile, helped set and clean up, lent your talent to the festivities or just came by to support your fellow parishioners! I look forward to next year's pancake supper and seeing what new talents you develop over the year.

Dinner Round Two?

Some of the best times I had earlier in the year occurred when I was able to meet some of you for dinner and or coffee/ice cream. The end of the summer and the beginning of the school year seemed to be a busy time for many of you. Just to let you (and your parents!) know, I would STILL love to come and join you guys for dinner (I eat anything) or meet up for coffee, etc. I especially am interested in meeting with those families I haven't yet met with, so if you see some windows of light in your schedule, please give me a call or shoot me an email and we can find a time to meet up.

The Rev. Robin Gulick
Assistant to the Rector



Gwen Chandler, Nico Judge and Marisa Guzman share a laugh while checking out the score at Strike Bethesda. Redeemer Youth went bowling on February 15 following the 10:30 am Sunday service.

OUTREACH

Bethesda Cares Dinner—Sunday, March 22

Redeemer helps to feed the homeless once every other month at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Bethesda. The economic downturn has led to more homeless people in need. Our next dinner obligation is on Sunday, March 22, when we will prepare dinner for about 60 people. A sample meal might include 30 lbs of sliced meat (e.g. 4-20lb turkeys or 15 cooked chickens), 10-12 lbs of fresh green beans, 20-25 lbs of potatoes, 2 large serving trays of salad, 60 dinner rolls, a large tub of margarine, 5 large pies, 60 bananas, 4 gallons of juice and 2 gallons of 1% milk. Ready to go foods (rolls, salad, pies, juice, bananas, etc.) can be brought to Redeemer on Sunday and we will transport them if you are unable to join us. However, it is quite a wonderful experience to be there for the dinner, where they have additional volunteers to help serve the meal. If you can contribute something to the dinner for March 22, please sign up on the sheet on the Sign-Up board in the Parish Hall or contact Julia Rogers at 301-320-4195 or jrogers@walkerseal.com.

New Women's Prayer Group to Focus on MDG Project

Redeemer's main Millenium Development Goals' project is John-Bosco Hakizimana's Hope for Burundi project. In response to an Adult Forum last November, that addressed the critical need to empower women and girls for the MDGs to become a dynamic and sustainable reality, a new women's prayer group will start on *Sunday, March 1, 7:30-8:30 p.m.*, and focus on praying for the Hope for Burundi project and empowering Burundian women. Our Burundian friend, Aline Niyonkuru, has graciously agreed to attend. This meeting will be at Gabrielle Herderschee-Hunter's home at 7903 Woodrow Place, Cabin John. Subsequent meetings will be on the last Sunday of the month, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Please let Gabrielle know at steelorchid@verizon.net if you would like to come.

MDG/ONE Parish

Redeemer is one of many ONE Episcopal parishes committed to working with diverse partners to advance the eight Millenium Development Goals (MDGs). Redeemer's Vestry voted to be a ONE Episcopal congregation in April 2007. ONE Episcopalian is a grassroots partnership between the Episcopal Church and the ONE Campaign to rally Episcopalians—one by one—to the cause of ending extreme poverty in our world by 2015 and achieving the MDGs. The ONE Campaign has many partner organizations (government, sectarian, and faith-based) and we can also play a vital role as a church and as individuals to help end extreme poverty. For more information or suggestions for what you can do go to www.episcopalchurch.org/ONE and click on "get involved."

Manna Food Center Collection

The two baskets in the Narthex are for collecting food items for the Manna Food Center. Below is a list of the items that are most needed for the program:

Peanut Butter	Tuna Fish
Canned Fruits & Vegetables	Rice
Baby Formula/Baby Food	Pasta
Canned and Dried Beans	Tomato Sauce
Macaroni & Cheese	Canned Soup
Cereal and Oatmeal	Shelf-stable Milk

For the Smart Sacks, Manna's backpack program for children, the following are best:

- Peanut Butter (18oz jars or smaller)
- Fruit Cans/Cups (small)
- Applesauce (individual cups)
- Juice Boxes (100% juice or with vitamin C)
- Soup (in microwavable containers)
- Kid-friendly Soup (in cans—tomato, alphabet, chicken noodle)
- Easy Mac, Macaroni & Cheese
- Pasta (microwavable bowls or canned)
- Tuna Fish
- Mashed Potatoes or Rice (in pouches that required only adding water)
- Cereal/Oatmeal (individual boxes/packets)
- Crackers (packed in sleeve, eg. Ritz, Saltines)
- Pudding Cups
- Nutritious Cereal Bars
- Raisins/Dried Fruit (individual boxes/packets)
- Peanuts (small packets)

If you have any questions, please contact Chrissy de Fontenay at ccfontenay@yahoo.com.

The Outreach Committee



A PARISHIONER'S VIEW



Grace from the Strangest Places

By Graeme Browning

All of you who may believe in guardian angels might enjoy this story of what occurred to my daughter Lowry and me in Kentucky on January 27.

Lowry attends Centre College, a 200-year-old liberal arts college in Danville, Kentucky, thirty miles south of Lexington. Since she was leaving in mid-February for three months in London with Centre's semester abroad program I had flown to Kentucky on January 24 to meet her and help her drive her car home.

The drive from Lexington to Washington takes nine hours or more, particularly in a car loaded with a college student's belongings, so it's fair to say that both Lowry and I were anxious to get it over with as quickly as possible. The morning we planned to leave the worst ice storm in Kentucky's history occurred, leaving hundreds of thousands without power or water. I insisted on setting out anyway, convinced that years of living in Chicago when I was younger had taught me to drive on any wintry road.

Needless to say, the worst happened. On Interstate 64, outside Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, a small rural town 20 miles east of Lexington, we hit a patch of black ice. I couldn't control the car and it spun full circle and hit the guard rail at a 45 degree angle. The car was totaled. Lowry and I weren't badly hurt but we were terrified and in shock.

We jumped out of the smashed car and huddled together shivering on the side of the interstate in the snow. I was fumbling with my cell phone, trying to dial 911, when out of nowhere a large red truck pulled up beside us. The two very nice men in the truck called the police and took care of us until the police and the EMT's arrived. They turned up the heater in the truck to keep us warm, fished our purses out of the car, retrieved Lowry's shoes (she had jumped out of the car in just her socks), told us we would be all right and not to cry, and then patted us on the back when we cried anyway. When the police took over the two guys drove away, saying they were going ice fishing. They were so kind and, most important, they were right there when we needed help the most.

Lowry and I were talking a few days later about how wonderful it was that those two guys showed up, when we realized two things: first, that we never saw them driving towards us – they just seemed to materialize, and two, that we would NEVER have gotten in a truck with a stranger under any other circumstances, but that both of us felt perfectly safe with them.

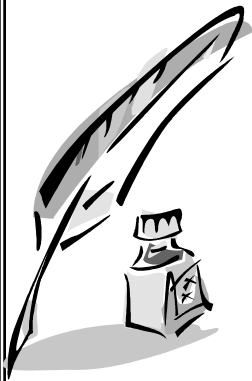
Funny to think that two middle-aged country boys from rural Kentucky could be guardian angels. Even if they weren't angels, I know God sent them.

A Parishioner's View Contributions

In 2008, we enjoyed contributions from several parishioners and welcome anyone to contribute to the newsletter. We invite contributions about people, every-day life experiences, events, retreats, courses taken, books read, photographs, prose, prayers, etc. that have enhanced your spiritual and daily life, whether here at Redeemer or elsewhere.

If you are not a writer but have something you'd like to share, we can help with the actual writing part of it. If you have questions, suggestions or would like to contribute, please contact me in the church office at 301-229-3770 or office.redeemer@verizon.net.

Angela Beckman
Administrative Assistant



BOOK CLUB



The Book Club is now reading Aravind Adiga's novel *The White Tiger*, which has recently received the Man Booker Prize. This is a fast-moving novel set in India, about a complicated man named Balram Halwai (servant, philosopher, entrepreneur and murderer). It is a shocking, gripping and funny story. The Club will meet to discuss the book on *Sunday, March 8, 3:00 p.m.*, at Joan Kennedy's home (5620 Wood Way, Bethesda, 301-229-1638). For more information, please contact Huda Kraske at hqkraske@aol.com.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Spring Garden Clean-Up

Watch *This Week at Redeemer* for the date of the Spring Garden Clean-Up. The date will be one Saturday in March. All are invited to help the Building & Grounds Committee spruce up the grounds and prepare for the wonderful growth that spring and summer will bring.

Meredith Griggs
Junior Warden/Building & Grounds

BISHOP'S VISITATION

On Sunday, February 22, the Right Reverend John and Mrs. Karen Chane visited Redeemer. Bishop Chane celebrated and preached at the 10:30 a.m. service. During a celebratory Coffee Hour, the Bishop addressed parishioners and answered questions. Thank you to everyone who helped make the Bishop's Visitation a success: Altar Guild, Ushers and Greeters, Readers, Choirs and Tom Smith, Acolyte and Crucifer, Bishop's Chaplain, everyone who brought food, coffee hour sponsors and clean-up crew. Thank you!



MARCH

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:

Julia Dohner	Jackson Wade
Sally Bartlett	Steve France
Chris Hull	Jefferson Arrington
Brian Rabner	John Vorhes
Hal Palmer	Justin Cinkala
Sally Pugsley	Philip Burns
Pat Stevens	Elisabeth de Fontenay
Steve Raber	Dillon Stewart
Marie France	Caroline Sherrard
David Hotes	Jessica Jones

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

Elisabeth de Fontenay & Alex Horn
Guillermo & Alicia Yepes
Tim & Michele Kitchen
Pat & Susan Fitzgerald

WEEKLY AT REDEEMER**Sunday**

- The Holy Eucharist, 8:00 a.m.
- Adult Education Forum, 9:15 a.m.
- Adult Choir Warm-up, 9:15 a.m.
- Youth Choir Warm-up, 9:45 a.m.
- Nursery Care, 10:15 a.m.
- Choral Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.
- Church School, 10:30 a.m.
- Coffee Hour
- Women's Prayer Group, 7:30-8:30 p.m.
(fourth Sunday)

Monday

- AA Meeting, Noon
- Taizé Service, 7:30 p.m. *(every Monday in Lent)*
- Christian Contemplative Group, 7:30 p.m.
(second & fourth Mondays, except during Lent)
- Service of Healing & Holy Eucharist (with music from Taizé in Lent), 7:30 p.m. *(third Monday)*

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

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

Thursday

- Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.
- Balkan Folk Dancing, 7:30 p.m.

Friday

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

Saturday

- Adult Children of Alcoholics, 8:00 a.m.
- Beginner's Mind Yoga, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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

CLERGY, STAFF & SEMINARIANS**The Rev. Susan Burns, Rector**

Email: revsusanburns@verizon.net

The Rev. Robin Gulick, Assistant to the Rector

Email: revrobingulick@verizon.net

The Rev. Dr. David Schlafer, Priest Associate

Email: dschlafer@juno.com

Thomas Smith, Director of Music

Email: music.redeemer@verizon.net

Angela Beckman, Administrative Assistant

Email: office.redeemer@verizon.net

Alice Despard, Sexton

Email: alicedespard@gmail.com

Valerie Hayes, Seminarian Intern**Beth O'Callaghan, Candidate for Holy Orders****VESTRY****Cathy Ayers, Stewardship (2011)**

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

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

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

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

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

Gary Hacker, Communications (2012)

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

Jack Hutchings, Pastoral Care (2012)

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

Ben Ivins, Parish Life (2012)

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

Clarice Leslie, Outreach (2011)

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

Tom McNaugher, Senior Warden (2011)

Home: 703-533-365 - Email: tomm@rand.org

Bruce McWilliams, Membership/Newcomers (2010)

Home: 301-320-0142 - Email: brucemcw@msn.com

Mary K Young, Treasurer

Home: 301-320-5696 - Cell 301-346-9878

Email: young@zeuhausergroup.com

Kristen Vorhes, Assistant Treasurer

Home: 301-229-2872 - Email: kristen@vorhes.com

Cynthia Winder, Recording Secretary

Home: 301-229-9093 - Email: cwwinder@yahoo.com

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

6201 Dunrobbin Drive at MacArthur Boulevard

Bethesda, Maryland 20816



THE REDEEMER SPIRIT

A monthly publication of
The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

Deadline for the April issue is March 18



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.