

THE REDEEMER SPIRIT MAY 2011

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

NOTES FROM THE RECTOR

Every Sunday throughout the year we worship together as a community. The shared experience of hearing the Word, praying together, sharing the one Bread and the one Cup deepens and strengthens our relationship with Christ and one another. Many smaller groups meet regularly. Some meet for study, prayer and worship; some to take counsel together for the life of the parish and wider community, in committees and the Vestry. But rarely do we meet as a whole community for conversation, sharing ideas, hopes and concerns for our common life and ministry, except for the Annual Parish Meeting.

As the parish continues to grow and change, it becomes more challenging for us to build and maintain broad communication and a strong sense of common identity. The website, weekly emails and announcements about “what’s happening,” and monthly newsletters are important vehicles for sharing information. But I hanker for more opportunities for us to talk and listen with each other around important aspects of our life as the Body of Christ. So, with the Vestry’s support, I would like us to experiment with occasional all-parish “town” meetings, with particular focus, during the year.

At the end of 2010, there was fairly widespread concern in the parish about our social outreach (service) and justice ministry. The issue came up in the context of the operating budget and funding for these ministries, but there were other, related questions as well. Given this recent history, it makes sense to continue and broaden the conversation about Redeemer’s social outreach and justice ministry by making this the focus of our first mid-year all-parish meetings following the 10:30 service on Sundays May 22 and June 5. I encourage everyone to stay, or come back, for these important parish conversations. Childcare and a light lunch will be provided.

My hope, and that of the Vestry and the participants in this year’s mid-week Lenten program, *The Way of Compassion*, is that the whole parish, adults and youth will join in this conversation and that the all-parish meetings will help build a common understanding of what outreach is; what are the roots, in scripture and church tradition, of service and work for justice and peace; what the opportunities for outreach are at Redeemer; how outreach

All-Parish “Town” Meetings Sundays, May 22 and June 5

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

What is Outreach Ministry at Redeemer? What can it become?

Childcare provided. Please let the church office
know if you will need this care, so we can have
enough adult supervision.

budgeting is done; where our outreach money goes, and why and to whom, and how can we best discern and ensure that projects or issues are *community* endeavors of the parish.

This was the range of the hopes and expectations for the Lenten program, as shared by class participants during the first session. The number and range of hopes and expectations are encouraging, because they witness to the deep concern and broad curiosity about how we can best serve God and the welfare of God’s people in our social outreach and work for justice, as a parish.

An important and energizing element of the Lenten sessions was the opportunity to share our own stories, in small groups. We reflected on what it is like to *receive* help ourselves, and to give help. We recalled a time when we witnessed or encountered injustice, and shared about a justice ministry or issue with which we have been engaged or concerned.

continued on p. 3 ...

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



All-Parish Meetings on Outreach
Sundays, May 22 and June 5, 12:30 p.m.



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.

MAY UPCOMING

Sunday, May 15

- Inscape Chamber Orchestra Concert, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 22

- Liturgy for Welcoming New Members, 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
- All-Parish “Town” Meeting, 12:30 p.m., pp. 1-3
- Bethesda Cares Dinner Program, p. 11
- Redeemer Book Group, 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 24

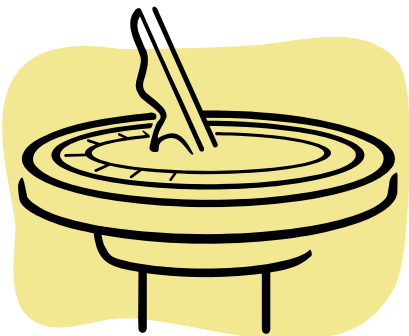
- Evensong for the Millennium Development Goals, 5:00 p.m., Washington National Cathedral

Wednesday, May 25

- Vestry Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, May 30/Memorial Day

- Parish Office closed



JUNE UPCOMING

Saturday, June 4

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

Sunday, June 5

- All-Parish “Town” Meeting #2, 12:30 p.m., pp. 1-3
- Hymn-sing at Christ Church, Alexandria, 5:00 p.m.

Friday, June 10

- Strawberry Picking, hulling, cleaning, p. 4
- Strawberry Festival/Silent Auction set-up, pp. 4-5

Saturday, June 11

- Strawberry Festival & Silent Auction, 11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m., pp. 4-5
- Clean-up after 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 12

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

Saturday, June 18

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

Saturday, June 25

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

Sunday, June 26

- Newcomers’ Reception, 4:00 p.m.

... notes from the Rector continued from p. 1

Telling our stories and listening to others' created strong connections and deeper understanding of ourselves and the group, and stirred the desire and commitment to be of service and work for justice. While we won't be able to replicate the full experience at the town meetings, we will include some small group work and storytelling. One hope I continue to hold is that, out of this whole process of talking and listening together as a parish, will come a regular opportunity for people engaged in social outreach and justice work (through Redeemer or other organizations) to meet, pray, reflect on and share our stories and experiences. This would serve several needs, including mutual support for those engaged in ministries, and greater awareness of what ministry is being done, through Redeemer and beyond.

I hope that our continuing conversations as a parish, through this year, will help us discern how our social outreach and justice efforts can become more effective, more commonly understood and supported. ("Owned" is a word often mentioned.) There will be hard questions to explore as we listen together for what new thing God may want us to do as a parish. In evaluating the Lenten class, participants saw the willingness of the parish to face the hard questions as a good thing. Hearing what is important to others helps us to be open to change and move toward a more communal understanding and participation as a parish, they said. And they are confident that as we continue and broaden the conversation, social outreach and justice ministry at Redeemer will be stronger, better understood and more widely supported.

Every session in the Lenten series opened and closed with prayers, from around the world. This prayer of Archbishop Tutu's is one that the group found especially meaningful:

*In the Eucharist we offer the Bread,
that Bread which carries all the bewilderment, the anguish,
the blood, the pain, the injustice, the poverty, the hate,
the anger, the fear, the death, the bombs—
and we offer it all together with the perfect
all-sufficient sacrifice of the Lamb without blemish
for peace, for transfiguration, for compassion,
for Shalom—
at the heart of the world.¹*

The Rev. Susan Burns
Rector

¹Desmond Tutu, in Peter W. Millar, *An Iona Prayer Book* (Norwich, Canterbury Press, 1998), 25.

OUTREACH

Bethesda Cares

Sunday, May 22

Redeemer will provide dinner for some 60 homeless families through the Bethesda Cares program on Sunday, May 22. A sign-up sheet listing the items needed is on the Sign-Up board in the Parish Hall. It is a joy to have more and more people participating in this important Outreach program. If you have questions, contact Julia Rogers: julia.rogers@me.com.

Special Evensong to Celebrate the Millennium Development Goals, Washington National Cathedral

Tuesday, May 24, 5:00 p.m.

There will be a special Evensong at the Washington National Cathedral on Tuesday, May 24, to celebrate and honor those parishes participating in Millennium Development Goals' projects. Redeemer is among the parishes to be honored for our projects in Burundi and Honduras. A brief description of the work of each parish will be read by a parishioner from that parish during the prayers. Clarice Leslie will represent Redeemer. All are invited to attend this celebration.

Furnishing An Apartment

As part of the Transitional Housing Corporation's Partner Arms program, Redeemer will furnish an apartment for a family transitioning from homelessness on **Saturday, June 18**. We need to provide furniture and household items for a two-bedroom apartment. When families successfully graduate from the program they are allowed to take everything with them. A list of needed items will be posted on the Outreach Board in the Parish Hall and we ask you to sign up to help a family in need. Questions? Contact Gabrielle Herderschee-Hunter: steelorchid@verizon.net.

Rosa Maria at Our Little Roses in Honduras

Wesley Price has agreed to become Redeemer's liaison with Rosa Maria, who we have sponsored since she was a baby at the Our Little Roses Home for Girls in Honduras. Wesley plans on asking the children and youth to write letters and provide photos re-introducing themselves to Rosa in either English or Spanish. Wesley will send these to Rosa. Our Little Roses has been part of Redeemer's Outreach program for almost 15 years and several members of the parish have travelled there. The youth and children of the parish are encouraged to contact Wesley and to help establish an on-going and close relationship with Rosa Maria and Our Little Roses.

The Outreach Committee



**STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
SATURDAY JUNE 11, 2011**



We Need You for the 38th Annual Strawberry Festival

Friday, June 10th

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

Saturday, June 11th

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

There are lots of opportunities for service:

Picking – strawberries hand picked by Episcopalians
Hulling – cleaning strawberries with a great group
Set-up – Friday afternoon and Saturday morning
Book Sales
Boutique – clothing sales
Bake Sale
Collectibles (*see below*)
The Grill – burgers, hot dogs, chips and drinks
Kids' Games, Face Painting & Moonbounce
The Kitchen – shortcakes and sundaes
Bankers –keep track of cash and do the final count
Clean up–Saturday afternoon

We especially need volunteers for the afternoon and evening hours the week of the festival to help with the Boutique, Books and Collectibles. Please contact Jefferson Arrington: jef-ferson7019@aol.com or 240-417-9990. Thank you!

What are "Collectibles"?

People frequently are confused as to just what the term "Collectibles" means. Simply put, they are items—large or small—that someone believes are worth keeping or collecting. This would include, for example: pretty dishes (to include plates, bowls, and vases); nice glassware (drinking glass sets, crystal sets, pitchers, etc.); good costume jewelry; good table linens (not discolored or stained, of course); artwork; picture frames; and items (e.g. comic books, ornaments, etc.) that have historic value or interest. Monetarily speaking, Collectibles can sell for \$5 and up. We retain the right to refuse to accept an item that we think would not sell. When you deliver an item, please let us know if you wish to have it back if it does not sell or if it can be donated to charity. Any items not picked up at the end of the Strawberry Festival (3:00 p.m. Saturday, June 11) will be donated to charity.

The work of pricing begins on Tuesday, June 7. Items may be delivered starting Monday, June 6 and no later than Friday, June 10. If you are anxious to get rid of items sooner, you may leave them on the yellow table on Lee's front porch at 6403 Halbert Road, Bethesda. We hope this helps and that you will start looking for appropriate items right away. We'd like to make this the best Collectibles sale ever!

Lee Shipman and Patricia Snowden



SILENT AUCTION SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2011



Your donations are needed for the Silent Auction—our biggest fundraiser of the year. Forms and flyers are in the Parish Hall and on the home page of our website: www.redeemerbethesda.org. Donation information may also be emailed to the Parish Office. Please submit by Wednesday, May 27.

Donation Ideas

- Meals: Dinner, brunch or high tea for 6-8 prepared and delivered to the winner's home. Offer your specialty (a complete Asian Fusion dinner, for example) or cook the main course and some extras for a Foyer Group.
- Themed Gift baskets: Wine of a particular region/country, homemade cookies, gourmet teas, coffees and treats, items for newborns, spa products (e.g. Aveda), paperback bestsellers, for gardeners, artists You could include a gift certificate in the basket.
- Tours: A museum tour for a group (maybe with dinner related to the museum subject); tour of monuments/area sites (the *Monuments by Moonlight Tour* is a favorite).
- Repeat "Consumable" Gifts : Given monthly for a number of months or longer, such as homemade cookies, dinner salads, flower arrangements, etc.
- Unique/Unusual Gifts: e.g. jewelry, first editions, handcrafted items, paintings, high quality gift items, electronic devices.
- Services: What are you good at? Landscape design, gardening, handyman services, babysitting/childcare, pet sitting or dog walking, car washing ...
- Private or Small Group Lessons: What could you teach? Pasta-making, cookie-baking, musical instrument, crochet, tennis, golf, bookmaking ...
- Technology help! Lessons/problem-solving for those of us who need help using our computers, printers, phones, cameras and other gadgets; and social media (Facebook, LinkedIn). The possibilities are endless.
- Get-a-ways: A week or long weekend at a vacation home.; a night at an area hotel or B&B

Sponsorship: If you are unable to donate an item, we invite you to be a sponsor of the Silent Auction through a cash donation. Checks should be made out to The Church of the Redeemer with "Silent Auction" in the memo line.

Questions: Mary K Young: young@consultzg.com or 301-320-5696; Mary Helen Carlson: carlsonmh1@gmail.com or 301-983-0541; Angela Beckman: 301-229-3770 or office.redeemer@verizon.net.

Tips for Soliciting Merchants/Businesses

Do you frequent a favorite restaurant or shop where you are known? IF yes...please pick up a Merchant Packet in the Parish Hall and take it with you when you next go there. The neighborhood immediately around Redeemer is pretty well covered, but Rockville, Bethesda, DC, Arlington & Alexandria are all certainly appealing!

Parishioner Michele Kitchen, a seasoned salesperson, provides the following 4 steps for asking for a donation (which we know many people find hard to do):

1. Ask the person you know (or who knows you) if the store/restaurant/venue contributes to community organizations? Who should you talk to for a donation?
2. Compliment the manager/owner, say how much you enjoy the food/service/products and how often you go there!
3. Admit you've never asked for a donation before, but since you REALLY like the food/service/merchandise you want to share it with your friends.
4. Give them the packet and ask if they would consider contributing to the Church of the Redeemer Silent Auction! It's tax deductible too!

IF you want to say more, tell them:

- The publicity generated would be sure to draw some additional customers to their store, restaurant or venue!
- This is the 38th Annual Strawberry Festival & Silent Auction and it is a big draw from the entire community! (It was even written up in Bethesda magazine in 2009)
- Monies raised help support the church and its outreach programs.

IF you belong to a museum or club the same strategy can be used! A special tour, event pass or limited membership could bring big \$\$ at "auction!" Same if you are a season ticket holder for sports, theater or music venue.

IF asking for a donation makes you uncomfortable, consider purchasing a gift certificate. Sometimes if you tell a manager the gift certificate is for a community fundraiser, they may offer to "see" your \$25 and give you an extra \$25 or throw in a free appetizer, parking or something!

Give it a try! It's easier than you think & the auction will be richer & more exciting thanks to you. Send or email donation forms to the Parish Office. Thank you!

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Forums In May: *The Season of Gifted and Giving*

The Adult Forum takes place Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall. The theme for the liturgical season of Easter is *The Season of Gifted and Giving*. Not all of us have “the gift of tongues,” but each of us is gifted and each of us benefits from sharing those gifts through giving. The Forums for May are:

Sunday, May 15–Spiritual Life of Children: Parishioner Lowry Adams will present an overview on developing a spiritual life for small children.

Sunday, May 22–Poetry & Prose: A sharing and discussion of poetry and prose on the theme of *Gifted and Giving*. Please bring something to read and share.

Sunday, May 29–Memorial Day Sunday: Members of Redeemer, who are veterans, and their family members will discuss the significance of Memorial Day. As we did last year, we will have the names of men and women in this area who have died in service to the nation in the past year for parishioners to specifically pray for during the services.

“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. The Vestry approved the initiative at the April meeting. The sessions will be on a weekday evening and last about two hours. Nursery care will be provided.

The Adult Education Committee is working out a schedule and identifying “resident experts” among members of the parish to lead sessions on such topics as:

- Fostering spirituality in young children
- Managing the “tasks” in grief and loss
- Appreciating sacred music
- Learning from the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy

Denny Shaw
Adult Education

PERSONAL NOTES

Condolences to Denny Shaw on the death of his mother, Alice. May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Congratulations: to high school graduates Justin Cinkala, Maggie Raber and Gwen Chandler; to Kirk and Caroline Swann on the birth of daughter Charlotte, sister to William and Henry; and to Philip D’Ambrosio and Amy Bowers on the birth of daughter Veronica Hope, sister to Sophia.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome as newly registered baptized members of Redeemer:

Thadeus Arrington
Martin Tamulevich



HOLY WEEK & EASTER



Thank you to all who worked so hard to create a blessed Holy Week and Easter: our clergy for guiding us spiritually and liturgically through the week and for their sermons; the Altar Guild for preparing for all the services and the beautiful decorations on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday; the singers at the mid-week services and the choirs at Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday; Tom Smith for the beautiful orders of service and his leadership of the choirs; and Alice Despard for cleaning and tidying as needed throughout the week; the Parish Life team that produced the Simple Supper on Maundy Thursday and a delicious buffet on Easter Sunday; the many who fulfilled their ministry in the different Liturgical Assistant roles; those who stuffed and then hid Easter Eggs for the children; Alana Carmel, our nursery person, who came early on Easter Sunday and capably coped with a full house of small children.

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.

We need for people to express their interest/commitment/support early because the retreat center needs to know how many of us are coming. Please register by June 5, so that we can make the reservation firm.

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.

NOMINEES FOR BISHOP



The Select Committee charged with the search for the new bishop of Washington, announced the list of five nominees on March 31. Biographies and resumes of the nominees are listed on the diocese's website: www.search.edow.org. The election of the new bishop will take place at a special convention of the Diocese of Washington on Saturday, June 18. “Walkabouts,” when you may hear from and ask questions of the nominees, will be held at each of the following locations from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.:

- Monday, May 23: St. Mary's Foggy Bottom, 728 23rd Street NW, Washington
- Tuesday, May 24: Washington Episcopal School, 5600 Little Falls Parkway, Bethesda
- Wednesday, May 25: Ascension, 205 S. Summit Avenue, Gaithersburg
- Thursday, May 26: Christ Church, 37497 Zach Fowler Road, Chaptico

MUSICAL NOTES

UPCOMING MUSICAL EVENTS

Inscape Chamber Orchestra in Concert

Sunday, May 15, 5:00 p.m.

Inscape's final appearance of the season will feature a semi-staged performance of Leonard Bernstein's one-act opera *Trouble in Tahiti*, a spirited look into the relationship between husband and wife. A premiere by noted composer Joseph Hallman along with Charles Ives' *The Unanswered Question* will round out the program. *Free-will offering. Reception to follow.*

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 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:

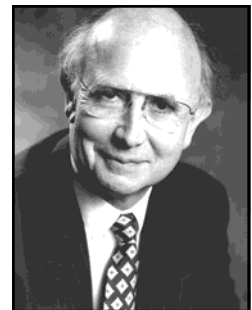
- Utilization of portions of the Orff and Dalcroze methods
- Introduction to reading musical notation
- Study of rhythm through motion
- Study of basic vocal production and solfege
- Choral singing
- Introduction to drum circle technique
- Interactive closing performance for family and friends
- Arts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

Tom Smith
Director of Music



Dr. Gerre Hancock



Dr. Martin Neary

APRIL VESTRY REPORT

Reflections: A very moving discussion followed Robin's reading of portions of Mathew 26:14–27:66, The Passion. She asked us to imagine we were Judas Iscariot, after hearing the cock crow and then encountering Jesus, then imagine the discussion between them.

Directory: The written request for \$500 by Ben Ivins for expenditure on the new picture directory was discussed. It was agreed that a new directory was warranted as the most recent directory was issued in 2008 and there are no copies remaining to offer the many new members. Photos will be taken early October for an anticipated December delivery.

Alternate Lay Delegate for Special Convention to Elect Bishop: Patricia Snowden is unable to attend the Special convention to elect the Ninth Bishop of Washington on June 18, 2011. Gary Hacker and Graeme Browning are both elected alternate lay delegates to the special convention and Gary will represent Redeemer in place of Patricia Snowden.

Minutes: The Minutes of the March Vestry Meeting were approved as written.

Rector's Report: A written report was submitted. Susan and Robin will be away at the diocesan clergy conference May 10 – May 12. A long time member of AA feels a very strong connection with Redeemer and would like to purchase a niche in the Columbarium. (There are 75 niches available.) This will be discussed again at the May Vestry Meeting. The mid-week Lenten program held Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings was attended by 34 people. The average Sunday attendance through Sunday, April 15 is 170. The Parish Office will be closed during Easter week.

Treasurer's Report: Gary Hacker presented the Treasurer's Report. There was a \$334 designated gift for the Youth trip. A motion to approve and disburse accordingly was seconded and approved.

Buildings & Grounds: Peter Kendall presented the Building and Grounds report. It was not an easy task to remove, repair and reinstall a 150-lb bell from a height of 25', but Redeemer's bell is now fixed, many thanks to Joe Clark and Steve Werts.

Adult Education normally takes a break during the summer. Denny Shaw proposed a monthly two-hour evening session to reach out to a larger audience and to explore more serious in-depth issues such as: grief and loss,

parenting, church music, and the upcoming 10th anniversary of 9/11.

Leadership Workshops: Three leadership workshops were provided by the Diocese that were attended by Cathy Baker, Susan Burns, Gary Hacker, Peter Kendall, and Denny Shaw. The workshops taught strategies for helping congregations study and resolve polarizing issues; effective dialogue to live in harmony despite deep disagreement, and the advantages and disadvantages of different leadership styles.

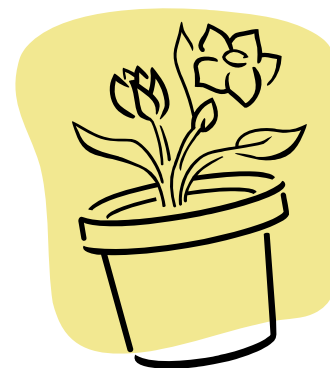
Strawberry Festival & Silent Auction: Jefferson Arrington sent an email to several parishioners looking for a co-chair or multi-chair team to head up the Silent Auction.

Outreach: There were 16 present at this past Sunday's Outreach Meeting. The Committee agreed on the allocation of the outreach budget funds, presented to the Vestry this evening. There was discussion about absorbing the Backpacks Drive for Transitional Housing (currently \$50 each) and Toy Sunday for Community Family Life Services into the outreach budgeted funding in the future. A motion to approve the allocation of the outreach budget funds as requested by the committee was approved. Cindy and Gary will explore language for Redeemer correspondence to groups to which we have committed funds.

Other Business: The brochure and registration form for the All-Parish Retreat in the Fall, produced by the Spiritual Life Committee, has been sent to all parishioners.

The next Vestry Meeting will be held Wednesday **May 25, 2011**, the fourth Sunday of the month (one week later than usual).

Julia Rogers
Recording Secretary



YOUTH GROUP PILGRIMAGE

Members of Redeemer's Youth Group, led by The Rev. Robin Razzino, will depart Saturday, August 6, on a pilgrimage/mission trip to Colorado. Below is their itinerary. The trip is organized by Wonder Voyage.

Day 1 - Arrival, Saturday, August 6: Today plunges us into the strangeness and wonder of Colorado. After arriving in Denver, you'll head south, past many of the places we'll see later in our week. Our journey will break for the day deep in the southern high deserts of Colorado, with a delicious meal and a time of reflection. Our destination is El Convento Bed & Breakfast, a former convent for nuns who once worked in San Luis.

Day 2 - Sabbath, Sunday, August 7: Our morning in San Luis promises to be a fascinating experience. You'll go across the street for morning mass at Sangro de Cristo Church. The Catholic church is the cultural heart of San Luis and a prominent display of the region's deep Spanish roots. We'll spend time in the afternoon hiking and enjoying the great beauty of life outdoors at Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge. We have a special treat planned for the evening: a drive-in movie!

Day 3 - The Quest for Sand, Monday, August 8: Our journey continues with a trek into one of the great natural wonders of North America: the Great Sand Dunes National Monument. The wind through the nearby mountains rushes over the dunes to form shifting hills and valleys of sand. Though our footprints will disappear in a short few hours, we won't easily forget this incredible experience. On the way back, we'll stop by a cool contrast that will refresh us from our adventure at the dunes. Both locales are prime examples of our journeys with God. Sometimes we can feel alone and thirsty, at other times enlivened. In both cases God is full of wonder and hope.

Day 4 - On Mountain Passes, Tuesday, August 9: Today we'll head towards our second home for the week—the EZ Yoke Ranch, a gorgeous home in the high foothills of the Rockies. On the way a trip down winding roads will bring us to one of the strangest sights we've seen in all of our journeys: a medieval castle in the middle of the Rocky Mountains. Bishop's Castle is a shrine to obsession. We'll explore the castle and perhaps talk to its builder. What monuments do we create in our lives? To whom do we build our monuments?

Day 5 - Rapids, Wednesday, August 10: Today presents us with two distinct activities: a morning of service followed by an adrenaline-pumping adventure! In the morning, we'll

have the chance to give back to our hosts at EZ Yoke, and help them maintain their secluded retreat. It's not going to feel too much like work with the Rocky Mountains as a picture-perfect backdrop. We'll spend part of our afternoon whitewater rafting down the Arkansas River, the river responsible for carving the impressive Royal Gorge. On our trip we'll be able to spot birds of prey and mountain goats as we navigate the rapids.

Day 6 - Mountain Top, Thursday, August 11: Our day begins with a visit to Pikes Peak, the mountain that inspired the song *America the Beautiful*. In the afternoon, you'll be free to wander through Manitou Springs, a unique arts district on the outskirts of Colorado Springs. Here we will spend time exploring, shopping and enjoying our choice of noonday meal. The week has been full of beauty and wonder, and we'll take time to reflect on that in the evening. Our team will gather for one last special meal, and our final worship and discussion time together.

Day 7 - Departure, Friday, August 12: Today we will pack up and say goodbye to a fantastic week of exploration, service and encounter. We have learned a little bit about what it means to be a pilgrim and this learning will follow us as we re-enter our busy lives. What will you take home with you? The voyage is now, in fact, just beginning.

Trip Leader Ryan Koenig began with Wonder Voyage almost 10 years ago while living in Galway, Ireland. He joined the Wonder Voyage staff in 2007. He is also pursuing a Master's of Divinity at Asbury Theological Seminary. He lives in Washington, D.C. and hopes to one day finish graduate school.

Accommodations: El Convento Bed & Breakfast, where the nuns of San Luis lived long before it was converted. EZ Yoke Ranch is in the heart of Colorado—mountain streams, ponderosa pine forests, meadows, hiking trails, and all the wonders of God's creation. The setting provides opportunities for such activities as hiking, bird watching, and a cool disc golf course. Quiet bedrooms, cozy lounging areas, a small library and separation from the everyday world makes this an ideal location.

Contact: Please contact Redeemer if you need to reach your family member in Colorado; they can contact the Wonder Voyage office in case of an emergency. There may be an opportunity to jump on the Internet, but this is not a guarantee. Please talk to The Rev. Robin Razzino if you have any other questions about communication with your family member on the trip.

The Rev. Robin Razzino
Assistant Rector

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

The Church Bell: In last month's issue of Redeemer Spirit, we reported that the church bell had gone silent because urgently needed repairs would not allow it to be rung safely. Thanks to the efforts of The Reverend Joe Clark and a contractor friend, Steve Werts, the bell was removed from its high mounting in the ceiling of the bell tower, repaired and rehung (not an easy task as it weighs 150 pounds). Helping to erect the scaffolding to gain access to the bell were Denny Shaw, Pat Fitzgerald and Jefferson Arrington. Many thanks to all for their help in getting the bell ringing again, and special thanks to Joe for taking on this project.

Labyrinth Accident: You may have noticed a blemish on the rosette at the center of the Labyrinth. It occurred as a result of a fire in a portable fire pit which had been placed over the rosette for the Saturday night Easter Vigil service. Unfortunately, nothing had been placed under the fire pit (environmentally safe asbestos composite or some other fireproof and heat resistant material) to prevent hot ash from landing on the Labyrinth stone paver base. The Labyrinth Company has been asked for advice, but said they had not encountered this problem before and are researching the best way to correct it. More to come.

Labyrinth/Columbarium Lighting: Ellen Shillinglaw and Jeff Stann have developed an alternative (read less expensive plan). We have one bid from the Denchfield company in the amount of \$2,148 and others will be obtained. The plan will be considered by the Buildings and Grounds Committee at its meeting Sunday, May 8. The lighting project will be completed when funds are available.

Church Exterior Power-Washing: Some areas of the brick exterior are discolored green from moss and brown from soil at the base of the foundation. In addition, there are other miscellaneous markings which Frank Anderson, David Strother and the Chairman will attempt to remove Monday, May 9, with Frank's power washing equipment. It should help to give those areas a cleaner look and add to the overall appearance of the church.

Landscaping: Next on the Columbarium/Labyrinth landscaping agenda are perennial plantings. Great progress was made in the general landscaping in that area this Spring with the addition of trees, bushes, and Mondo Grass. Now we are looking at perennials to fill in some of the "bare areas. We will try to match available funding (which isn't much) with Ellen Shillinglaw's masterful plan and decide what we can do now before the planting season comes to a close later this month.

Summertime Garden Watering: A sure harbinger of Spring is when the B&G Committee is looking for someone to assist with the Summer garden watering chores. We'll be considering possible candidates at the Sunday, May 8, B&G meeting. If you would like to nominate someone (or volunteer) please talk to Peter Kendall or Parish Administrator Angela Beckman.

Budget Status: The committee will consider where we stand with the B&G 2011 budget. Overall we are below budget for the year to date. That's the good news. We are, however, over budget in two categories (Rectory expenses for electrical work which had to be done and Grounds, because of the extensive Labyrinth/Columbarium landscaping). There are also Buildings issues to be addressed, especially painting, and the surge protector system for the church. With Sexton Alice Despard's help we will determine some priorities within our budgetary limits.

Peter Kendall

Junior Warden/Chairman, Buildings and Grounds



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. Perhaps you have been intimidated by the variety of foods and bounty of home-baked cakes and pastries or by the number of people to be fed. Please let me dispel your concerns!

First, 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. Second, of course, is that you don't have to do this alone. In fact, Parish Life encourages two or more people or a parish committee or group to host a Sunday. This way both tasks (set up and clean-up) and costs are shared. And one member of the Parish Life Committee is always available to answer questions and lend a hand.

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



LABYRINTH BELL

The use of bells as an aid in worship dates back to the ancient world. Hindu and Buddhist temples and monasteries use them; they are part of Jewish religious practice; and the Christian Church adopted them early on. Redeemer rings its bell to summon us to services, celebrate weddings, and mark the passing of souls. Unless you attend Taizé services, however, you may be less acquainted with the practice of striking a bell as an aid to meditation. The bell's purpose here is to attune the mind and heart to the presence of God.

In this spirit, many labyrinths have a bell that the walker may strike as they begin their contemplative journey and then again at its conclusion. I personally find such a bell a wonderful means of centering before contemplative worship, so when I found a lovely bell, I decided to offer it to Redeemer for the labyrinth. It is not essential to your labyrinth experience, but try it and you may be surprised at the result.

Thomas Merton says: *Prayer is then not just a formula of words, or a series of desires springing up in the heart - it is the orientation of our whole body, mind and spirit to God in silence, attention, and adoration. All good meditative prayer is a conversion of our entire self to God.*

Patricia Snowden

Many thanks to Frank Anderson, who hung the new bell from the cherry tree by the labyrinth entrance.

REDEEMER BOOK GROUP



Sunday, May 22, 4:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the Book Group will take place on Sunday, May 22, 4:00 p.m. (note new time!). The group is reading *The Sound and the Fury* by William Faulkner. We will meet at the home of Huda & Jochen Kraske, 4550 N. Park Avenue, #410, Chevy Chase. We hope to be joined by Ann Southard who met Faulkner while she and her husband were in the Far East.

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 the resurrection appearances of Christ (May 15), learn what the Episcopal Catechism has to say about Prayer and Worship (May 22), Ministry (May 29), and Christian Hope (June 5), and have a class quiz (June 12).

The Middle School class will continue its study of the history of Church of the Redeemer with Melinda Nelson on May 15 and May 22 and will discuss Pentecost on June 5. Middle School students will be in church for the full service and will not have class on May 29 (last Sunday of the month) and June 12 (Pentecost Sunday).

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

INTERFAITH OPPORTUNITY

Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)

Saturday, June 4, 9:15 a.m.

The Montgomery County Interfaith Council presents an opportunity to experience a progressive Jewish Shabbat at the Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation, 7727 Persimmon Tree Lane, Bethesda, on Saturday, June 4. The service is part of a MCIC program designed to promote a greater appreciation and understanding of services of different faith traditions. There will be an introduction to the service at 9:15 a.m.; the service begins at 9:30 a.m., lunch at 12:20, and time for Q&A starting at 1:00 p.m. There have been services already at a mosque and a Presbyterian Church, and a visit to a Catholic Church is planned for the fall. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Deena Goldsmith at deenagoldsmith@yahoo.com or call 301-767-3333. You can learn more at the Adat Shalom website: www.adatshalom.net.

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 April 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



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

MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:

Henry Petillo	Rebecca Petillo
Florence Herderschee-Hunter	
Tom McNaugher	Helen Curtice
Jessica Huey	Jane Beightol
Stefanie Greene	Ted Bledsoe
Pooh Beightol	Jianping Zhou
Jessica Downer	Cyrus Sobhani
Anne Winder	Susan Grigsby
Mike Stowell	Brenden Hart
William Imbrie	David Brown
Whitney Cinkala	Maya Livezey
Wesley Price	

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

David & Linda Manning
 Steve & Blair Raber
 Jochen & Huda Kraske
 Melinda & John Nelson
 Jim & Mary Packard-Winkler



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 Ensemble Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m. (*first Monday*)
- Taizé Service, 7:30 p.m. (*first Monday*)
- Christian Contemplative Group, 7:30 p.m.
(*second & fourth Mondays*)
- Service of Healing & Holy Eucharist, 7:30 p.m.
(*third Monday*)

Tuesday

- 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.redeemberbethesda.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

James Livingston, Candidate for Holy Orders
email: jlivingston@vts.edu

■ 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: 201-229-5999 • email: npay@me.com

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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

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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 June is May 27



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.