



THE REDEEMER SPIRIT

November/December 2014

A monthly publication of The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Bethesda, Maryland

NOTES FROM THE ASSOCIATE RECTOR

Are you, like me, still on a liturgical high from the worship of the last two weekends?

On Sunday, October 26, our bishop, the Right Rev'd Dr. Mariann Edgar Budde, made an official visitation to the parish. The 8:00 Eucharist was quiet, intentional, and joyful. There was also a real sense of community – of family – and a true lack of pretension: it seemed okay with all of us that the bishop's crozier ended up leaning against the back wall for most of the service! We were still able to give thanks and glory to God, all the while being led by our very gracious bishop.

The 10:30 Eucharist was a feast! Beautiful music filled the nave. Several times, Bishop Mariann brought her hands to her heart and whispered a hushed: "Wow." Indeed.

The worship experience was enhanced for all of us by the confirmation of parishioner Helen Zitomer. For the whole community to be gathered together while one of our own is confirmed has been rare in this diocese, especially over the last decade, when group confirmations at the Cathedral have been the norm. Thank you, Helen, for being open to taking this next step in your spiritual journey alongside all of us!

This splendid Sunday was followed a week later by the glorious liturgies celebrating All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. We sang some of my favorite hymns on Sunday morning and I am still humming them nearly a week later.

The Requiem Mass on Sunday evening was sublime. The music was incredible, but we didn't gather for music only. It was an opportunity to retreat from our frenetic schedules and enter into a spiritual space marked by a still community, a centering sermon, and the opportunity to remember all the faithful departed, especially those friends and family members who died in the last year.

Why were these liturgies so meaningful? I am sure we would all answer this question slightly differently, but I want to suggest that one of the reasons the services had such impact on those gathered is because they were celebrated with a deep liturgical sensitivity.

Recently, in speaking with a large group of clergy and musicians, the Rev'd Frank Wade, a well-known priest of the Diocese of Washington, said that liturgy functions like the night sky, which enables us to see the ever-present stars. During the day, we cannot see the light that burns so brightly as to shine through the ages, but when night comes, the darkness allows us to see what is always there.

Liturgy functions in the same way. Christ is always present with us. He is the one Emmanuel – God with us. Our liturgy, however, helps us to see, feel, and rest in this reality. Sometimes the liturgy is so powerful, we are left singing for weeks on end, glorifying God, and giving thanks for all that God has given us. This week I am so grateful for the Redeemer community and the love that shines through our worship – love that is always present, but made known to us in new ways every time we gather together.

Faithfully, Robin

The Rev'd Robin Razzino, *Associate Rector*

ADVENT-AT-A-GLANCE

Sunday, November 30, 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Guest Preacher: The Rev'd Dr. Wm. Bradley Roberts

Sunday, November 30, 12:00 p.m.

Advent Wreath-making Workshop

Sunday, December 7, 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Guest Preacher: The Rev'd Dr. Justin Lewis-Anthony

Sunday, December 7, 10:30 a.m.

Choral Eucharist with Visit from St. Nicholas

Sunday, December 7, 5:00 p.m.

A Service of Lessons & Carols for Advent

Sunday, December 13, 8:30 a.m.

Advent Quiet Morning

Sunday, December 14, 10:30 a.m.

Choral Eucharist with Pageant

WORSHIP

ADVENT GUEST PREACHER SERIES

On Sunday, November 30, the First Sunday of Advent, the Rev'd Dr. William Bradley Roberts, Professor of Church Music at Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS), will serve as guest preacher at both the 8:00 and 10:30 liturgies. He will also lead the 9:15 Adult Forum. Prior to his appointment at VTS, Dr. Roberts was a full-time parish musician in The Episcopal Church for over thirty years, having served most recently at St. John's, Lafayette Square, Washington, DC. An ordained Baptist minister, Dr. Roberts is also a highly-regarded composer of hymns, anthems, and other liturgical music. He served as chair of The Episcopal Church's Standing Commission on Church Music and was a founding board member and chair of the Leadership Program for Musicians. During the Adult Forum, Bill will lead an engaging and interactive discussion about the music of Advent.

On Sunday, December 7, the Second Sunday of Advent, we will welcome the Rev'd Dr. Justin Lewis-Anthony, Associate Dean of Students and Director of Anglican Studies at VTS, who will preach at both liturgies and lead the Adult Forum. A native of Great Britain, Lewis-Anthony completed a Ph.D. in theology and film at the University of Kent, Canterbury, in 2012. His thesis examined the contrasting ways in which leaders and followers, teachers and disciples, are portrayed in the Christian tradition and in popular film, arguing that much of the expressed desire for "leadership" within the church has its origins within cultural rather than theological models. Prior to his appointment at VTS, Dr. Lewis-Anthony served for ten years as rector of St. Stephen's Church, a large, suburban parish in the city and diocese of Canterbury. From 1998-2003, he held the position of Canon Precentor at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford. Dr. Lewis-Anthony is also a published author. His most compellingly-titled book is: *If You Meet George Herbert on the Road, Kill Him: Radically Rethinking Priestly Ministry* (Continuum, 2009). Come, hear what Justin thinks about this year's stewardship theme, "Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee", which is taken from Herbert's *The Temple*.

ADVENT WREATH-MAKING WORKSHOP

On Sunday, November 30, following the 10:30 Eucharist (approximately 12:00 p.m.) parishioner Susan Grigsby will once again lead an Advent Wreath-making Workshop for all ages. The requested donation to cover the cost of materials is \$12 per wreath. Contributions of fresh greenery from your garden — boxwood, pine, cedar, holly, etc. — are welcome. If you would like to participate, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall so that Susan has enough materials on hand. Questions? Contact Susan: 301-229-7735 or susangrigsby24@gmail.com.

TAIZÉ SERVICE & HEALING RITE

Monday, December 1, 7:30 p.m.

Taizé is an informal, contemplative liturgy with scripture, icons, incense, silence, and chant accompanied by piano, guitar, and other instruments. It is offered on the first Monday of the month (October — June) and every Monday during the season of Lent. The Healing Rite — prayers for healing of body, mind, or spirit for you or someone you love — is offered at the conclusion of the liturgy. All are welcome.

A SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS FOR ADVENT

Sunday, December 7, 5:00 p.m.

The Advent Service of Lessons & Carols, which originated at King's College, Cambridge, England, in 1934, was composed by Dean Eric Milner-White, who, nine years earlier, had also been responsible for the more widely known Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols for Christmas Eve. Based on Milner-White's model, Advent Services of Lessons & Carols have been offered throughout Christendom for over seven decades, most frequently in the cathedrals and parish churches of the Anglican Communion. For more information about Redeemer's take on this deeply beautiful choral liturgy for Advent, see p. 3.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP AT REDEEMER

Wednesday, December 24

We invite you, your family, friends, and neighbors to worship with us on the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Christmas Eve. The schedule is:

Family Eucharist, at 4:00 p.m.

A family-oriented celebration of the Eucharist with congregational carols, choral anthems, and a children's homily. The liturgy will be about 60 minutes in length.

Choral Prelude, at 10:00 p.m.

A candle-lit prelude of organ voluntaries, choral anthems, and congregational carols. Arrive early to ensure seating.

Festal Eucharist, at 10:30 p.m.

A solemn celebration of the Eucharist with full choir and a sermon. Music will include works by J.S. Bach, Harold Darke, John Gardiner, John Rutter, and Tomás Luis de Victoria.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS GREENERY & FLOWERS

We invite you to make a contribution to the cost of the greenery and flowers that will adorn the church this Advent/Christmastide. Contributions may be made in memory/honor/celebration of... or in thanksgiving for... Contribution envelopes will be placed in the pews, Narthex, and Parish Hall in early December. In order for your dedication to be printed in the Christmas Eve service leaflets, it must reach the Parish Office by Tuesday, December 16.

MUSIC

MUSIC AT REDEEMER 2014-15: THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

A Service of Lessons & Carols for Advent

Sunday, December 7, 5:00 p.m.

Modeled after the famed liturgy held each year at King's College, Cambridge, this festive, candlelit service, sung by the Adult and Youth Choirs under the direction of Dr. Benjamin Hutchens, guest conductor, has become a highlight of Redeemer's liturgical year. This year, music will include works by Benjamin Britten, Stephen Cleobury, Gerre Hancock, Paul Manz, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, Sergei Rachmaninoff, Stanford Scriven, and Charles Wood – a choral feast! Childcare will be provided. A reception will follow. All are welcome.

Festal Eucharist of the Nativity

Wednesday, December 24, 10:30 p.m.

An extended, candlelit prelude of organ voluntaries, choral anthems, and congregational carols begins at 10:00 p.m. Music includes works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Harold Darke, John Rutter, John Tavener, Tomás Luis de Victoria, and David Willcocks. Arrive early to ensure seating.

The District Eight: "Music for the Masses"

Sunday, January 11, 5:00 p.m.

The District Eight, one of Washington's newest professional choral ensembles, performs two contrasting, unaccompanied masses: the U.S. premiere of a 1997 setting by Australian composer Brooke Shelley, based on a parody mass by Josquin, and Josef Rheinberger's *Mass in E flat for Double Choir*. Free-will offering. Reception to follow.

An Evening at the Movies: Jonathan Ortloff, organ

Sunday, February 8, 5:00 p.m.

Join us for an old-fashioned evening at the movies, featuring two silent films accompanied by Jonathan Ortloff, one of the most sought after theater organists of our time. This is a family-friendly event. Child care will be available throughout the evening. Popcorn will be served. Free-will offering. Reception to follow.

Copies of the 2014-15 music brochure, which details the extraordinary slate of events planned for the tenth anniversary season of the series are available in the Narthex and Parish Hall. The brochure is also available on the music page of the parish website: www.redeemberbethesda.org.

ADULT CHOIR: NEW SINGERS WELCOME!

The 2014-15 choral season continues with rehearsal on Thursday evenings, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m., in the Nave. New members are welcome! All singers must possess a pleasing tone quality and the ability to match pitch and blend. Highlights of the season include the annual Service of Lessons & Carols for Advent (Dr. Benjamin Hutchens, guest conductor) and participation in the May 17 Gala Concert. For more information, visit the music page of the parish website or contact Thomas Smith, Director of Music: music.redeemer@verizon.net.

YOUTH CHOIR: CALLING ALL CHILDREN AND YOUTH!

Youth Choir rehearsal is held each Wednesday, 4:30 – 5:45 p.m., in the Nave. New members are welcome! Although there is no minimum age requirement, all choristers must be able to read. The Youth Choir is a wonderful – and FREE – opportunity for high quality music education right here at Redeemer. For more information, visit the music page of the parish website or contact Thomas Smith, Director of Music.



CHRISTIAN FORMATION

CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR ADULTS



Advent Quiet Morning

Saturday, December 13, 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

The Adult Formation Committee is planning an Advent Quiet Morning, a time of intentional spiritual preparation for the birth of Christ. The morning will include worship, meditation, guided discussion, and a common meal. If you

are interested in attending, please add your name to the sheet on the Sign-up board in the Parish Hall. Each participant will be asked to bring his/her own lunch with a portion to share; beverages will be provided. Questions? Contact coordinator Mary lin Raisch: raischm@gmail.com or 301-762-2790.

Adult Forum: November/December

Sundays, 9:15 a.m. (Parish Hall)

All are encouraged to participate in the Sunday morning Adult Forums during November and December. The slate of topics and speakers is:

November 16: Life in Ethiopia

A conversation with parishioner Wondimu Geda Deyasso, his son, Danny, Dr. Teshome, close friend of Wondimu, and parishioner Steve France.

November 23: Exploring Celtic Spirituality

A discussion led by parishioner Clark Downs.

November 30: The Music of Advent

An interactive presentation by The Rev'd Dr. William Bradley Roberts, Professor of Church Music at Virginia Theological Seminary.

December 7

A session led by The Rev'd Dr. Justin Lewis-Anthony, Associate Dean of Students at Virginia Theological Seminary.

December 14: The Objectives and Benefits of Bible Study

Parishioner Steve Gibson will facilitate discussion about various approaches to Bible study and what style, format, and times Redeemer parishioners might be interested in exploring, beyond the usual Sunday morning session.

December 21: Walking an Advent Spiral

Parishioners Jenny Nachbar and Joelle Morris will use greenery and candles to create an Advent Spiral (think Labyrinth) on the floor of the Parish Hall. Participants will walk the spiral, lighting candles along the way – a special contemplative opportunity for Advent.

December 28: No Forum

Virginia Pearson, *Adult Forum Coordinator*

CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Church School

Redeemer's Church School offers Godly Play classes I and II for children ages 3–5 and grades 1–3, respectively. Parishioners Joelle Morris, Ayesha Court, and Mike Rychlik take turns teaching Godly Play I, and Karen Stewart teaches Godly Play II. Godly Play topics in November and December will include Old Testament stories and Advent. This month, we will welcome new Godly Play teachers Christine Tomasson, Brian Razzino, and Kim Penn.

Fourth and fifth graders comprise the Intermediate class, which has just completed a unit on prophets: Amos, Micah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel, taught by parishioner Steve Gibson. Melinda Nelson will be teaching the Intermediate class during November and December, with lessons focused on the season of Advent.

Since the High School cohort is small this year, the High School students have joined the Middle Schoolers in a combined class, which has been discussing immigration and refugee issues, under the leadership of parishioners Amy Yount and Jenny Nachbar. Mary K Young and Justin Hess will be teaching the class November – January.

Steve Gibson, *Church School Coordinator*



Christmas Pageant: Calling all Children and Youth!

Sunday, December 14, 10:30 a.m.

All children and youth are invited to participate in the annual Christmas pageant, which will take place on Sunday, December 14, the Third Sunday of Advent, during the 10:30

Eucharist (in lieu of the sermon). To participate with a speaking role, children/youth must be present for rehearsals on Sunday, December 7 (during Church School) and Saturday afternoon, December 13. Of course, walk-on angels and animals on the day of the pageant are always welcome! Stay tuned for more information in the Sunday announcements and *This Week at Redeemer*, the parish's weekly e-bulletin.

MISSION

STREET CHURCH CLOTHING DRIVE

Now through November 16, we are collecting warm, gently-used clothing for the needy and homeless participants in Street Church at The Church of the Epiphany, Washington, DC. Thanks to the generosity of Redeemer parishioners, last year's clothing drive was a success. Let's once again show our care and concern for those who will brave the conditions during the winter ahead. Please bring your contributions to church on Sunday and give them to parishioner Chrissy de Fontenay. Questions? Contact Chrissy: ccfontenay@yahoo.com or 301-229-6835.

BETHESDA CARES

Lunch Program: To further Redeemer's engagement with Bethesda Cares, the Mission Committee will recommend to the Vestry approval of a Mission/Outreach gift of \$1,500 to support the organization's daily lunch program. These hot, nutritious meals, served every day, are a vital part of Bethesda Cares' mission: to find and befriend people who live on the street, and to work with them to obtain permanent supportive housing.

Dinner Program: The next date on which Redeemer parishioners will provide dinner for several dozen homeless individuals is Sunday, November 23. A list of needed food items will be posted on the Outreach board in the Parish Hall. If you are willing to contribute an item and/or help with delivery, please sign-up. Questions? Contact Elizabeth Simmons: livwell_lafflots@yahoo.com, or Olivia Devereux: ohdevereux@gmail.com.

ALTERNATIVE GIFT-GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

On Sundays, December 7 and 14, at Coffee Hour, parish representatives of *Hope for Burundi* and the Olive Oil Ministry will sell "alternate" gifts and stocking stuffers, including beautiful baskets, handmade by skilled members of a Burundian women's cooperative, and Palestinian olive oil from handpicked, unsprayed, tree-ripened olives. A bottle of olive oil makes a great holiday gift alternative to a bottle of wine! All proceeds will benefit these parish outreach partners.

TOY SUNDAY

Sunday, December 7

As in years past, we will collect new, unwrapped toys and funds to purchase toys for needy children on the Second Sunday of Advent. If you prefer not to shop, we invite you to make a donation with cash or check so that parishioners Cathy and Jefferson Arrington can shop on your behalf. Toys will be delivered to the Community Family Life Services (CFLS) Holiday Store, which serves low income parents of young children. CFLS' mission is to help individuals move

beyond poverty and homelessness into self-sufficiency. Questions? Contact: Jefferson Arrington: jefferson7019@aol.com or 301-219-1207.

MISA ALEGRIA BOOK DISCUSSION UPDATE

Redeemer parishioners are invited to engage in a four-part book discussion with members of *Misa Alegria*, the Spanish-speaking congregation at St. Stephen & the Incarnation Episcopal Church, Washington, DC. The sessions will take place in January and February 2015. Redeemer has supported *Misa Alegria* since its inception. The two congregations are expanding their partnership in order to deepen relationships and in response to Bishop Mariann's call to parishes to partner for the purpose of congregational vitality.

The book selected for the joint discussion is *Enrique's Journey* (www.enriquesjourney.com), which is available in Spanish and English. The book tells the true story of a Honduran boy, who traveled alone across the border in search of his mother. Those who participate in these discussions will have a rare glimpse into the lives of fellow readers, some of whom are recent immigrants. Bilingual participants will ensure that everyone is able to understand. The final session may include a fiesta, with fellowship and refreshments.

Parishioner Bob Yates, Chair of the Adult Formation Committee, is coordinating the series with the Rev'd Sarabeth Goodwin, founder and vicar of *Misa Alegria*. Each congregation will host two of the four discussions. Questions? Contact Bob: bob@bobyates.net or 240-205-5783.

END-OF-YEAR PROJECT FUNDING PROPOSALS

Of the funds allocated to Mission/Outreach in 2014, \$2,500 remains available. The committee welcomes proposals to put these remaining funds to good use.

Jim Packard Winkler, *Outreach Committee Chair*

"DAY OF THE DEAD" AT MISA ALEGRIA

Trays of tamales, a bopping bishop, and altars laden with candles and poignant pictures of the deceased. These were a few of the highlights from the *Die de la Muertos* liturgy at St. Stephen & the Incarnation Church on Sunday, November 2. Redeemer parishioners were invited by The Rev'd Sarabeth Goodwin, who warmly welcomed us, as did the congregation, to the large brick church at 16th and Newton Streets in Mt. Pleasant.

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The *Misa* was almost identical in content to Redeemer's own liturgy for All Saints, but included many Latin American features, particularly music. A *conjunto* (band/singing group) led the many songs and hymns; birthdays were honored enthusiastically with song; upcoming travel and operations prayed for; and the side altars were decorated with Mexican cut-out drawings in brilliant colors. Children were everywhere. They even participated at the altar during communion as Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde celebrated the Eucharist. She also gave the *homilia* in fluent Spanish, combining cultures as she told the story of Kate Braestrup, chaplain to the Maine Warden Service, who wrote about the power of love to overcome tragedy in *Here If You Need Me*.



The bishop, in her mitre and grasping her crozier, also led processions to the baptismal font for the renewal of vows and to the altars of the deceased, frequently dancing to the irresistible music. Congregants then lit thin white tapers to honor their dead as more hymns were sung.

The dinner afterwards, in St. Stephen's large parish hall, blended various Latin American customs. Seated at round tables covered with brightly flowered cloths, we were served the near-universal *arroz con pollo*, but then Ecuadorean *colada morada*, a drink made of fruits and thickened with cornstarch, along with Mexican *tamales*, and *arroz con leche*, rice pudding. Conversations were lively – one Colombian woman recounted her 500 km. walk on the Camino de Santiago de Compostela – and the music continued as we chatted with people from Honduras, El Salvador, and Ecuador, along with a parishioner from St. Alban's, the priest from St. Stephen's morning service, and a young bilingual seminarian. But most of all, we were impressed by the genuine feeling throughout the evening. The parishioners seemed to love each other, their priest, and their *Misa Alegria*, or Joyful Mass. Everyone appeared to be involved in some way, from playing a tambourine to swinging the brass incense burners or ladling *chocolate caliente*. They were happy to be there – and so were we. Next time, we hope that more Redeemer people will join with us to strengthen our *enlace* (engagement) with this vibrant group.

Meredith Griggs & Marie France

UNITED PALESTINIAN APPEAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Congratulations to parishioner/marathoner Cathy Baker, who completed the Marine Corps Marathon in October on behalf of Iqraa (Arabic for "read), which raises funds for the UPA Scholarship program. Parishioner Jorge Guzman completed the Chicago marathon recently, also running on behalf of Iqraa. Cathy's report on her run is below:

Dear Friends and Family,

The Marine Corps Marathon was a whole week ago – it seems like it's taken me a week to recover, so I apologize for the delay in reporting my results. It was a perfect day, on the warm side (my advantage), and though it was really, really hard, I was able to finish, with these stats: a time of 3:52:14, a personal record (6.5 minutes faster than 2013); 2/330 female age group (55-59); 606/8600 female runners; 2,559/19,702 runners overall.

As in every race, I learned a lot: for example, that I can get better even as I get older and that the "chattering monkeys" that tell me to quit eventually get tired and quit themselves so I can keep running. I also am awed by the many runners who compete not for time but for personal challenges of every sort. As our coach says, "*every finish is a victory.*" Below is a picture of me with my fellow Iqraa runners.

I want to thank all of my sponsors for both donating to my cause – the college scholarship program of United Palestinian Appeal – and for thinking of me/sending prayers as I ran. I don't know why, but it does help to have that energy coming in from all over the universe. ...I also want to thank those of you who were able to attend the party in honor of my sponsors (thanks Dan Walsh for hosting!). It was really fun and the food was great. I'll try to schedule next year's party at a time convenient to more of you.

Any of you who are thinking about trying out a 5K, 10K, half marathon, or marathon-please contact me and I'll help you get started. The rest of you can be virtual runners and I'll do the legwork.

Thanks again for your support! Best regards,

Cathy "I'm an athlete, who knew?" Baker



P.S. Together, we have raised nearly \$2,000, which, amazingly enough, is sufficient to cover tuition for two students for a year of college in the West Bank or Gaza. The whole Iqraa team is trying to raise \$20,000, so if you intended to sponsor this year, but didn't yet get around to it, you can still do so at: <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=4ceefd>.

PARISH LIFE

REDEEMER BOOK GROUP

Sunday, November 16, 3:00 p.m.

The Book Group has been reading *Deep River*, by Japanese author Shusaku Endo, the story of four Japanese tourists who journey along the Ganges to the Holy City of Varanasi. Endo, who vividly describes the culture and customs of India, takes the reader on a physical as well as a spiritual journey. The group will meet on Sunday, November 16, 3:00 p.m., at the home of parishioners Huda & Jochen Kraske. All are welcome! Questions? Contact Huda: hqkraske@aol.com or 301-656-2087.



CELEBRATE REDEEMER DINNER

Saturday, November 22, 5:30 p.m.

The Vestry cordially invites you to join them for the sixth annual Celebrate Redeemer Dinner. We hope you will come and share this special time of celebration to usher in Thanksgiving and the season of Advent. We will gather in the Parish Hall at 5:30 p.m. for cocktails. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Child care can be provided upon request.

Our chefs are Jefferson & Cathy Arrington, assisted by the young people of the parish who will help prepare and serve the meal. If you would be willing to help clean up afterwards (around 8:00 p.m.), please let Jefferson know. There is no charge for the dinner, but donations will be cheerfully received. There is a sign-up sheet posted in the Parish Hall or you may email your intention to attend to the Parish Office: office.redeemer@verizon.net. Questions: please contact Jefferson at 240-417-9990 or jefferson7019@aol.com.

HOSPITALITY

Parishioners are invited to host Coffee Hour. You can host on your own or with fellow parishioners. It is easier and more fun if you ask a friend, or two or three, to join you and share the work. Coffee Hour can also be hosted by a group: maybe the high school class one week, the grounds crew another. Please pick a Sunday and add your name to the sheet posted on the Sign-up board in the Parish Hall.

Food can be as simple as two trays of store bought cookies and a plate of grapes or whatever you want and is easy for you to do. The coffee pots will be all set up – you just plug them in. Afterwards, we ask that you clean up in the kitchen but the pots will be done for you on Monday.

Karen Stewart, *Hospitality Coordinator*

REDEEMER ART SHOW

We offer sincere thanks to those parishioners whose wonderful and varied artwork has graced the Parish Hall these past eight weeks: Frank Anderson, Cathy Arrington, Cathy Baker, Angela Beckman, Ayesha, Lucy and Charlie Court, Helen Curtice, Susan Fitzgerald, Lou and Kiki Garo, Michael Hart, Ann Hartman, Chris Imbrie, John Judge, David Lorenz, Joelle Morris, Davis and Kelly O'Brien, Linda Rook, Helene Saunders, and Peggy Tucker.

PERSONAL NOTES

We offer our congratulations to: Callie & Dongbo Wang on the birth of their daughter, Hazel-Marie Meilin Wang.

We offer our condolences to: Judy James on the death of her husband, Stan; Blair Raber on the death of her father, Frank McGee, and Adam Whitman on the death of his grandmother, Ozella Whitman. May their souls and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

We wish happy birthday to those who were born in the month of November-December:

Frances Sharon	Angela Beckman
Julia Rogers	Gwen Hess
Anna Razzino	Lois Burleigh
Meredith Griggs	Amy Knapp
Leslie McNaugher	Ann Taylor
Olivia Tyler	Sander Avery
Randolph Court	Mike Rychlik
Cathy Baker	Bramman Avery
Gary Hacker	Thad Arrington
Joan Chevalier	Katie Nickerson
Ellen Paulsen	Davis O'Brien
Jo Campa	Caroline Gibson
Diana Daley	Tyler Packard Winkler
Theo Akpınar	Lucy Court
Susan Cinkala	Jorge Guzman
Lillian Lester-McMinn	Ayesha Court
Charlie Gibson	John Nickum
Mary lin Raisch	Zoe Razzino
Mary K Young	Amy Yount
Jochen Kraske	Evan Judge
Nico Judge	Joan Kennedy
Justin Arrington	Charlie Hundley
Lou Garo	Sam Nickerson
Julia Rychlik	

We wish a happy anniversary to:

Jef & Janice Huey

STEWARDSHIP 2015



*Seven whole days,
not one in seven,
I will praise thee.*

Stewardship 2015 is in full swing! The campaign began on Sunday, October 19, with presentations from co-chairs Katie Nickerson and Michael Mershon at the 8:00 and 10:30 liturgies, and at the Adult Forum, followed by a wonder and well-attended pot-luck luncheon. Brochures with pledge cards were distributed. The Church School children decorated beautiful small cardboard churches – blessed by the Bishop! – in order to think about their own gifts to the life of the church. Don't forget to bring them back on Sunday, November 23.

Stewardship Gatherings are taking place in the homes of parishioners who have graciously welcomed fellow members of the parish into their homes. We had a wonderful time at several of them and encourage you to go too! Each Sunday we have and will continue to sing *King of Glory, King of Peace*, the beautiful hymn that is the source of this year's theme.

All of this work will culminate on Pledge Thanksgiving Sunday, November 23. By that time we hope to have in hand 95% (maybe even 100%) of pledges for 2015. Yes, we are aiming for full participation! Even if it's a small amount at the beginning, all pledges are appreciated and needed. Those who pledge for the first time or who increase their pledge will receive a beautiful print of Redeemer by parishioner Susan Fitzgerald.

If you have already pledged, thank you for your support of our church home. To date, we have received 60 pledges for 2015 totaling \$265,656. If you have not yet pledged, we ask that you prayerfully consider all that Redeemer means to you and participate in this year's stewardship campaign. If you did not receive a pledge packet, please contact the Parish Office. The brochure and pledge card are also available on the parish website: www.redeemerbethesda.org/stewardship-giving/stewardship-pledging/.

Perhaps the most meaningful expressions of stewardship at Redeemer are the personal testimonials given by parishioners. We have already heard testimonials (printed here) from three of our beloved members – David Hoogerheide, Huda Kraske and Christine Tomasson. We know that their words will be a source of inspiration – *Seven whole days, not one in seven* – as you discern your own pledge to Redeemer.

Katie Nickerson & Michael Mershon, *Stewardship Co-Chairs*

David Hoogerheide, Sunday, October 26

"My name is Dave Hoogerheide. My wife Shannon unfortunately can't be here today, so I'll be flying solo. When Katie asked us to give a stewardship testimonial about what we appreciate about Redeemer, it was a bit like having your husband or wife ask you, "Honey, what do you appreciate about me?" Some of us are suave enough to have a ready answer, but most of us just panic!

But I've thought about the question a little. You see, Shannon and I have complicated lives. As a dual career academic couple, we travel often and work long and odd hours on projects that we're never entirely sure will work. And this uncertainty in our professional lives sometimes carries over to our personal lives. For example, we have no earthly idea where we'll be even a couple of years from now.

Redeemer is an oasis for us. And this happens in two ways. First, we have been warmly welcomed and embraced by you the Redeemer community. You have seen our complications not as something to be solved or fixed, but something to be celebrated as an important part of who we are and as something we can contribute to the parish. Thank you for this. Shannon has particularly asked me to mention that she appreciates the ways in which we have been encouraged, but never pressured, to explore our intellectual and musical interests at Redeemer, mine with the choir, hers with the adult forums. And if you doubt me about the warmth of the community here, just come to a coffee hour or two, or pay attention during the peace!

The other way in which Redeemer is an oasis for us is the Sunday morning worship. Every week we enter a bright, open space with beautiful stained glass, transcendent music, and thoughtful liturgy and homilies. We find ourselves transported above the complications and uncertainties of everyday life.

Every week, we carry away both encouragement and transcendence from Redeemer. For this, we give you our heartfelt thanks.

But this is all in the context of the ongoing stewardship campaign. So I wish to leave you with a final thought. If the Sunday morning worship is so powerful and worthy of generous support, how much more so the whole of what Redeemer is and does?"

Huda Kraske, Sunday, November 2

In 2012, my granddaughter Maya was hardly 7 years old. She lived in NY and was visiting us in June and therefore, we brought her with us to the hulling of the strawberries on the Friday before the Strawberry Festival. She was very excited about that, and going back to NY, she actually made a bowl with Strawberry Festival inscribed on it and baked it in some pottery class. She brought it with her last year when she came with us again to the hulling celebration and used it to transport the hulled and cut strawberries. As you can imagine, we all were seriously praying that Maya does not fall and break her bowl. Luckily, she did not.

Recently, Maya had to write an essay for her school about something heroic or helpful she has performed in her life. And if you think that she wrote about her experience at the strawberry festival, you are absolutely right. This is what Maya wrote:

“The strawberry festival in Washington DC is really, really fun and it’s when cakes and pies and other sweet strawberry treats are sold to make money for charity. The day before the strawberry festival, a lot of senior citizens come to some building and either bake the treats or cut the green part of the strawberry. The people that cut off the leaves do this with countless strawberries. My job is to go around with a bowl and collect all of the cut strawberries and deliver them to the kitchen. It might sound simple, but it is ridiculously hard work! At the end of the day, I am pooped, but I always feel proud.”

Maya unfortunately could not join us this year and several of the regulars kept asking me “where is Maya?” It is evident that her two experiences with Redeemer’s strawberry festival had a great impact on her psyche. She felt at home and welcomed with all the smiling and adoring people around her. She genuinely felt useful and contributing to a good cause. And for a young girl to talk of feeling proud because of what she did made me proud too.

By the way, I forgot to add that Jefferson Arrington, who was chairman of the strawberry festival last year, even signed a certificate of appreciation for Maya’s contribution to the success of the festival!

Maya’s write-up reflecting her positive view of herself moved me to think about what Redeemer means to me after not only 2 visits but 22 years of coming here. Unlike many of you who were looking for a church to belong to, I just stumbled onto this place by chance. I was on one of my endless walks in the neighborhood, saw this small church and decided to walk in. I had never heard of the Church of the Redeemer and did not know anyone who went there. But this intrusion into the unknown touched my heart deeply.

The church at that time was tiny, i.e. nothing compared to what you see now. The congregation was small, and there was no rector since the earlier rector had already retired, and the vestry was still searching for a replacement. From the first moment I set foot in that church, there was no going back to the church on O Street, which we were attending at that time. And the rest is history.

Why do I keep on coming to the Church of the Redeemer? The simple answer is because I am much happier coming here than not coming here. This church has welcomed me just as it had welcomed Maya and I feel proud to be a member of this congregation. To me, you are all branches that make this Church the tree of life for my spiritual well-being.

Without the Church of the Redeemer, I would not have met Cathy Baker who sharpened my literary instincts; Steve France who impressed me with his focus on justice and humanity; the Carlsons who took me with them to Iran; Marcia Sartwell with whom I read the entire Old Testament; Steve Gibson who struggles to educate me about events in the Bible, and the sayings of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Peter

and Paul; and Kim Barrett who stuffed me with figs from her giving fig tree. Without being here, I would not have been introduced to so many authors whose writings we read in the book-lovers group, or swept to higher elevations with Tom Smith’s music and I would never have witnessed Chrissy singing her heart out and glorifying God with countless homeless men and women in Street Church in sub-zero temperatures. I mention just but a few of you out there, and not even detailing what the sermons of our clergy have done to unravel the parables of Jesus and the events of the Bible.

Do I need to say more? Simply put, the Church offered me a spiritual haven where I could see God in action through all of you. And that is enough to keep me committed to the welfare of this church until I go into the little cubby hole in the columbarium down there. Hopefully, that won’t be in the near future.

So, where is Maya? Maya is here. Her joy and happiness and pride is our joy and happiness and pride for belonging to our church, the Church of the Redeemer.”

Christine Tomasson, Sunday, November 9

Good morning. This is my story of our little family finding a home at Redeemer, both what keeps us here one in seven days if not more, and what makes us pledge. Our four-year old, Olivia, ends most days with one final question: “What are we doing in the morning?” Saturday night I’m happy to tell her that tomorrow is Sunday. She asks, “going to church.” I say, “Yes!” It’s like a second home so they gladly get ready in the morning, maybe pack a bag of goodies or things to take, and they look forward to playing with friends and seeing friendly faces. Loa loves her Godly Play Sunday school class and she takes it all in. Leifur is two and happily plays and plays in the nursery, which I call the playroom. At home they act out serving bread and wine. At the 10:30 service, midway through the Eucharist prayers, we come up from the playroom to go to the altar.

My favorite part of the service together, a moving, sacred and especially personal time, is communion, thanking Jesus for His love for me, my family, and my church family. My parents raised me in the Episcopal Church in Rockville; then I found a church near my college in Texas; then near my next job and graduate school in Tokyo, then back in DC where I attended and got married in a church downtown, then we moved to Carderock, and finally joined Redeemer, our parish home. As a church member, I have always believed in pledging, aspiring to a tithe. When both my husband and I were working that was a practical goal and we set up an automatic transfer of funds, efficient easy, smooth, foolproof. Then I quit work to be with the babies. Now we find ourselves with no income. My husband is unemployed. For the first few months I was hopeful, as was he, that his next job would be right around the corner, but soon we had to change our lifestyle and pray for the best, but prepare for the long haul. Instead of living as we had, we now give of our time and talents in other ways until he is back to work. At every turn though, when we give we always receive.

See Christine Tomasson Testimonial, continued on page 10 . . .

STEWARDSHIP: FINANCE & BUILDINGS/GROUNDS

TREASURER'S REPORT

While expenses through the end of October are well within the year-to-date budget, year-to-date revenues are falling short of expectations. In particular, pledge fulfillments are lagging substantially behind not only the budgeted pledge amount and the somewhat lower actual amount pledged for 2014, but also behind the amount of pledge payments received as of this time last year. Pledge receipts through October 31 are \$31,530 less than receipts as of a year ago, even though the total amount pledged for 2014 is higher than in 2013.

I am hopeful that pledge fulfillment will pick up in the remaining two months of the year and that parishioners will be able complete their pledges by December 31. Faithfulness in fulfilling pledges will be a crucial factor in the fiscal results for the year.

Year-to-date financial details are available in the financial statements posted on the Vestry bulletin board in the Parish Hall. If you wish to discuss Redeemer's finances or have questions about the financial statements, please feel free to contact me: gibliu@verizon.net or 301-229-1168.

Stephen L. Gibson, *Treasurer*

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

We hope everyone has noticed that the *Refreshing Redeemer* funds, so generously given to do major maintenance work on our buildings and grounds, have already been put to work. But, on the off chance you have not noticed . . .

Painting of the church exterior: Please admire the church exterior's new paint job, the first since the building was constructed 14 years ago! This fresh look is thanks to Buildings Committee member Josh Hildreth, who selected the paint colors, and Ken Tarter and his crew of Chapin Commercial. The painting was completed in time for Bishop Mariann's visit on Sunday, October 26, at a cost of \$13,050. This hard work and dedication to showing the building structure in a "new light" is much appreciated.

Painting of the Rectory: The next buildings project, made possible by the *Refreshing Redeemer* funds, will be the painting of the interior of the Rectory in anticipation of the arrival of our new Rector and for other church uses. Bids are being sought and we anticipate a contract to be in place shortly.

Rectory landscaping: We also hope that you have noticed landscape crews busy removing overgrown brush, ivy, trash, and unwanted scrub trees and bushes from the Rectory yard and surroundings areas, and the application of mulch to those areas. This is work that has been much needed for a

number of years. Additionally, please notice that a skilled arborist and his crew have removed the numerous and hazardous large tree limbs that were over-hanging the Rectory and which presented a safety concern. This work was performed by Denchfield Landscaping. This landscaping and tree limb removal work was completed at a cost of \$5,490.

Fall Grounds Clean-up: We extend our thanks and appreciation to all those Redeemer parishioners who participated in the Fall Grounds Clean-up on Sunday, November 9. Many hands made light work and much good fellowship was enjoyed. Thank you so much for all of your efforts.

These projects reflect a positive spirit and a dedication by the parish to affirm for ourselves and visitors that we are earnestly engaged in maintaining and improving the buildings and grounds – being good stewards of what God has given to us.

Peter Carlson, *Junior Warden/Grounds*
John Nickum, *Buildings Committee Chair*



. . . *Christine Tomasson Testimonial*, continued from p. 9

I know we'll return to our level of pledging, but for now I will teach Godly Play, contribute at Coffee Hour, have Leifur baptized here, participate with Loa in the upcoming First Communion event Robin has arranged, and in the pageant. A recent bright star has been the group here, "Parenting as Spiritual Journey." I am supported here by this exact type of warm gathering and thrilled to support this group that Robin started. I hope to meet others in the same boat as I am, thrilled to pray together. We found Redeemer and Redeemer has continually blessed us. We try to support our church family as best we can.

Any day of the week we drive along MacArthur and we pass by Redeemer, Leifur joyfully yell out, "Church," and points, to be extra clear so we all know where we need to go, and where we need to give and where we feel at home. Amen. Thank you. God bless you.

VESTRY NEWS & PARISH INFORMATION

RECTOR SEARCH UPDATE

Now is a time of great celebration for members of the Search Committee, the Vestry, and the Parish. The Committee has given to the Vestry the names of the candidates the Committee endorses for the position of rector of Redeemer. On Sunday, November 9, the Search Committee and Vestry held a joint meeting, followed by a celebration of the Eucharist for the Committee, led by The Rev'd Dr. David Schlafer.

All of the candidates are superb priests who have the qualities that the parish considers important. They have different backgrounds and strengths and are extremely well qualified to lead and minister to us. All of them have a deep personal relationship with God and are authentically priests – it is not a job, it is who they are and are meant to be. The Committee is grateful to the parish for its support during this process that was filled with the Holy Spirit. The Vestry wisely chose a diverse Committee. The work was very time consuming. There were disagreements but always, ultimately, consensus. The Committee was conscious that they were selecting a rector for the entire parish community. As the Committee ends its part in the process, members have come to love one another and Redeemer more deeply, and feel that the Committee is "one body," one small part of the Kingdom of God on earth.

The Vestry thanks the Search Committee for its dedication, professionalism, deep spirit, and the successful completion of many months of work. The Vestry will now continue the interview and discernment process begun when the candidates' names were received. The Vestry finds the candidates to be well qualified and intriguing individuals. The Vestry will show the candidates our beautiful church, grounds and rectory, share a liturgy, a meal, and a conversation. There is great excitement, and not a little sense of responsibility, within the Vestry. The Vestry's process will be deliberate, open to the Holy Spirit, and supportive of each other. The Vestry will let the parish know when there is news to share.

Prayers and thanksgivings are offered for the work of the Search Committee; the work of the Vestry; and for the love, hearts and minds of the members of The Church of the Redeemer.

Mary Helen Carlson, *Chair of the Search Committee*
Cathy Ayers Arrington, *Senior Warden*

OCTOBER VESTRY REPORT

Associate Rector's Report

The Rev'd Robin Razzino reported that Bishop Mariann Budde will make her second visitation to Redeemer on Sunday, October 26. Parishioner Helen Zitomer will be confirmed during the 10:30 Eucharist. This will be the first confirmation at Redeemer in a long time, as confirmations in recent years have been held at Washington National Cathedral. The Bishop will celebrate and preach at both liturgies and lead forums between services and after Coffee Hour.

Robin shared her thoughts about the liturgical changes made over the last 14 months. The parish has seen a lot of transition as the priest in charge has changed from Susan Thon to Robin to Ann Broomell and back to Robin. She noted that each comes from a different background and has different values and preferences that inform liturgical decisions. Robin plans to return to three practices in effect prior to the interim: placement of the veiled chalice on the altar, the Eucharistic Ministers to come forward; and organ improvisation during the procession after the reading of the Holy Gospel. Announcements will remain after the Peace and there will be no change to the Post Communion Prayer. Robin emphasized her reasons for these changes are based on her own theology, how she worships, and how she leads worship. The Vestry supported her decisions and expressed gratitude for her explanation.

Senior Warden's Report

Cathy Arrington encouraged all Vestry members to do a walk-through of the Rectory so that there can be an informed discussion about what should happen next in terms of repairs or improvements. Cathy noted that a Nominating Committee needs to be formed in December to select candidates for Vestry, as well as delegates and alternates to the 2016 diocesan convention. Traditionally, the committee includes one departing vestry member and two other parishioners.

Buildings & Grounds Report

John Nickum, Chair of the Buildings Committee, reported that the painting of the exterior of the church building should be finished in time for the Bishop's visit. He is in ongoing conversation with Pepco, which is partnering with local electric firms to assist in converting to energy-saving light bulbs. Redeemer should see a change to LED lights on the lower level before the end of November. Junior Warden Peter Carlson, Chair of the Grounds Committee, noted that the Fall Grounds Clean-up will take place on November 9. He

continued on p. 12 . . .

. . . continued from p. 11

also reported that Denchfield is close to completing the clean-up of the landscaping around the Rectory and it is greatly improved.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Gibson reported that the main item of concern, at the moment, is pledge fulfillment. He will write an article for the newsletter on this. He noted that the *Refreshing Redeemer* campaign raised \$88,527. A further resolution was passed in connection with the new bank account for these funds.

Pastoral Care Report

Jenny Nachbar reported that formation of a Pastoral Care Committee has had little success and encouraged discussion about establishing a working committee.

Hospitality Report

Janice Huey said that Karen Stewart continues to be searching for a way to approach Coffee Hour that will be equitable for all. It was suggested that a working Hospitality Committee be formed.

Stewardship Report

Gatherings of small groups in parishioners' homes for fellowship and refreshments are being organized by the Stewardship Committee.

Adult Formation Report

Mary Packard-Winkler reported that Bob Yates is doing an excellent job with the Adult Formation Committee. He has requested more Vestry engagement as we no longer have an interim rector.

Rector Search Process Report

Voting members of the Vestry remained to discuss logistical details for the upcoming interviews with potential candidates rector of Redeemer.

Catherine Sands, *Secretary*



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

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*The Parish Office is open Monday – Thursday,
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.*

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NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Monday, November 10

Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome, 461

- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
7:30 p.m. Christian Contemplative Group

Tuesday, November 11

Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397

- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Wednesday, November 12

Charles Simeon, Priest, 1836

- 9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
4:30 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 13

- 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 14 (Parish Office closed)

Samuel Seabury, First American Bishop, 1796

- 12:00 p.m. AA Meditation Meeting
8:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Saturday, November 15

Francis Asbury, 1816, and George Whitfield, 1770, Evangelists

Sunday, November 16

The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:15 a.m. Adult Forum
9:15 a.m. Bible Study
9:15 a.m. Adult Choir Warm-up
9:45 a.m. Youth Choir Warm-up
10:15 a.m. Nursery Care
10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist
12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour
3:00 p.m. Redeemer Book Group Meeting

Monday, November 17

Hugh, 1200, and Robert Grosseteste, 1253, Bishops of Lincoln

- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
7:30 p.m. Benedictine Group

Tuesday, November 18

Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680

- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Wednesday, November 19

Elizabeth, Princess of Hungary, 1231

- 9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
4:30 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 20

Edmund, King of East Anglia, 870

- 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 21 (Parish Office closed)

William Byrd, 1623, John Merbecke, 1585, and Thomas Tallis, 1585, Musicians

- 12:00 p.m. AA Meditation Meeting
8:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Saturday, November 22

Cecilia, Martyr at Rome, c. 280

- 5:30 p.m. Celebrate Redeemer Dinner

Sunday, November 23

The Feast of Christ the King: Pledge Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:15 a.m. Adult Forum
9:15 a.m. Bible Study
9:15 a.m. Adult Choir Warm-up
9:45 a.m. Youth Choir Warm-up
10:15 a.m. Nursery Care
10:30 a.m. Festal Eucharist
12:00 p.m. Pledge Sunday Coffee Hour
12:30 p.m. Adult Formation Committee Meeting
1:00 p.m. Bethesda Cares Dinner Preparation

Monday, November 24

- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
7:30 p.m. Christian Contemplative Group

Tuesday, November 25

James Otis Sargent Huntington, Priest and Monk, 1935

- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Wednesday, November 26

Isaac Watts, Hymnwriter, 1748

- 9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
4:30 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 27 (Parish Office closed)

Thanksgiving Day

Friday, November 28 (Parish Office closed)

Kamehameha and Emma, King and Queen of Hawaii, 1864, 1885

- 12:00 p.m. AA Meditation Meeting
8:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Saturday, November 29

All day Parish Hall Floor Cleaning

Sunday, November 30

The First Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:15 a.m. Adult Forum
9:15 a.m. Bible Study
9:15 a.m. Adult Choir Warm-up
9:45 a.m. Youth Choir Warm-up
10:15 a.m. Nursery Care
10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist
12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour
12:00 p.m. Advent Wreath-making Workshop

DECEMBER CALENDAR

Monday, December 1

Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon, 1637;
Charles de Foucauld, Hermit and Martyr in the Sahara, 1916
 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
 7:30 p.m. Taizé Service & Healing Rite

Tuesday, December 2

Channing Moore Williams, Missionary Bishop in China and Japan, 1910
 11:00 a.m. Street Church at The Church of the Epiphany, DC
 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Wednesday, December 3

Francis Xavier, Missionary to the Far East, 1552
 9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
 12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
 4:30 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 4

John of Damascus, Priest, c. 760
 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 5 (Parish Office closed)

Clement of Alexandria, Priest, c. 210
 12:00 p.m. AA Meditation Meeting
 8:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Saturday, December 6

Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c. 342
 9:30 a.m. Adult and Youth Choir Rehearsal
 1:00 p.m. Boxwood Tree/Wreath Workshop

Sunday, December 7

The Second Sunday of Advent: Toy Sunday
 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum
 9:15 a.m. Bible Study
 9:15 a.m. Adult Choir Warm-up
 9:45 a.m. Youth Choir Warm-up
 10:15 a.m. Nursery Care
 10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Visit from St. Nicholas
 12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour
 12:00 p.m. Alternative Gift-giving Opportunity
 3:15 p.m. Adult Choir Warm-up
 3:45 p.m. Youth Choir Warm-up
 5:00 p.m. A Service of Lessons & Carols for Advent
 6:30 p.m. Reception

Monday, December 8

Richard Baxter, Pastor and Writer, 1691
 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
 7:30 p.m. Christian Contemplative Group

Tuesday, December 9

11:00 a.m. Street Church at The Church of the Epiphany, DC
 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Wednesday, December 10

Karl Barth, Pastor and Theologian 1968;
Thomas Merton, Contemplative and Writer, 1968
 9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
 12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
 4:30 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal
 6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting

Thursday, December 11

7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 12 (Parish Office closed)

12:00 p.m. AA Meditation Meeting
 8:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Saturday, December 13

Lucy (Lucia), Martyr at Syracuse, 304
 8:30 a.m. Advent Quiet Morning
 1:30 p.m. Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

Sunday, December 14

The Third Sunday of Advent: Gaudete
 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum
 9:15 a.m. Bible Study
 9:15 a.m. Adult Choir Warm-up
 9:45 a.m. Youth Choir Warm-up
 10:15 a.m. Nursery Care
 10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Pageant
 12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour
 12:00 p.m. Alternative Gift-giving Opportunity

Monday, December 15

John Horden, Bishop and Missionary in Canada, 1893;
Robert McDonald, Priest, 1913
 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
 7:30 p.m. Benedictine Group

Tuesday, December 16

Ralph Adams Cram and Richard Uphohn, Architects, 1942, 1878;
John LaFarge, Artist, 1910
 11:00 a.m. Street Church at The Church of the Epiphany, DC
 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Wednesday, December 17

William Lloyd Garrison and Maria Stewart, Prophetic Witnesses, 1879
 9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
 12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
 4:30 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal
 6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting

Thursday, December 18

7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 19 (Parish Office closed)

Lillian Trasher, Missionary in Egypt, 1961
 12:00 p.m. AA Meditation Meeting

8:30 p.m. AA Meeting
Saturday, December 20

Sunday, December 21

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum
 9:15 a.m. Bible Study
 9:15 a.m. Adult Choir Warm-up
 9:45 a.m. Youth Choir Warm-up
 10:15 a.m. Nursery Care
 10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist
 12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour

Monday, December 22

Henry Budd, Priest, 1875;

Charlotte Diggs Moon, Missionary in China, 1912

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
 7:30 p.m. Contemplative Christian Group

Tuesday, December 23

11:00 a.m. Street Church at The Church of the Epiphany, DC
 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Wednesday, December 24

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Eve

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
 4:00 p.m. Family Eucharist
 8:30 p.m. Adult Choir Warm-up
 10:00 p.m. Extended Prelude
 10:30 p.m. Festal Eucharist of the Nativity

Thursday, December 25 (Parish Office closed)

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Day

Friday, December 26 (Parish Office closed)

Saint Stephen, Deacon and Martyr

12:00 p.m. AA Meditation Meeting
 8:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Saturday, December 27 (Parish Office closed)

Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

Sunday, December 28

The First Sunday after Christmas

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 9:15 a.m. Bible Study
 10:15 a.m. Nursery Care
 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour

Monday, December 29 (Parish Office closed)

Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1170

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
 7:30 p.m. Christian Contemplative Group

Tuesday, December 30 (Parish Office closed)

Frances Joseph Gaudet, Educator and Prison Reformer, 1934

11:00 a.m. Street Church at The Church of the Epiphany, DC
 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Wednesday, December 31 (Parish Office closed)

Samuel Ajayi Crowther, Bishop in the Niger Territories, 1891

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting

CLERGY & STAFF HOLIDAY SCHEDULES

Administrative Assistant Angela Beckman will be on vacation Friday, November 21 – Saturday, November 29. The Parish Office will be staffed by volunteers Monday, November 24 – Wednesday, November 26. The Parish Office will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 27.

The parish clergy and staff will be on post-Christmas leave Thursday, December 25 through Monday, January 5. In case of a pastoral emergency during this time, contact the Rev'd Robin Razzino: 703-868-4973.

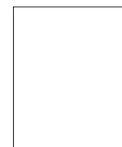


The clergy and staff wish you
 and yours a blessed Christmas
 and a happy, joy-filled New Year!



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

6201 Dunrobbin Drive at MacArthur Boulevard
Bethesda, Maryland 20816



THE REDEEMER SPIRIT

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The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

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Christmas Eve Worship at Redeemer

We invite you, your family, friends, and neighbors to worship with us on
Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24!

■ **FAMILY EUCHARIST, at 4:00 p.m.**

A joyous, family-oriented celebration of the Eucharist with congregational carols, choral anthems, and a children's homily. The liturgy will be approximately 60 minutes in length.

■ **FESTAL EUCHARIST, at 10:30 p.m.**

A solemn celebration of the Eucharist with full choir and a sermon. The liturgy will be preceded by an extended prelude of organ voluntaries, congregational carols, and choral anthems beginning at 10:00 p.m. Music will include works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Harold Darke, John Gardner, John Rutter, Tomás Luis de Victoria, and David Willcocks.