



THE REDEEMER SPIRIT

August 2014

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

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR

REFRESHING REDEEMER

"I will refresh the weary and satisfy the faint."
- Jeremiah 31:25

The Redeemer community isn't known for complacency. In all His serenity, we know Jesus as an activist - "Go into the world and preach the good news" - and we take that example seriously, making sure we fully engage the time, talent, energy and material goods we are given. We each have a long list of to do's: chores, errands, projects and work; plus school, community and church activities. And for every one that gets crossed off, another (or two, or three) appears. It is easy to get caught up in an endless cycle of activity. We remind ourselves of what we accomplish, but also comment often about how little time there is for reflection, course-correction, planning with intention. And if we're not careful, if we don't maintain Christ as our center, and nourish and reenergize our core, we find ourselves reaching points of exhaustion, weariness or even resentment.

In our common life at Redeemer, this is our experience collectively: we have a keen, bold vision of Christ's calling to our community, and it compels us to action. We labor together and we labor hard. We continually challenge ourselves with new ways to increase the ministry - do more, do better work to build up each other, reach out and support those in need, preach the good news, glorify God. It is its own daunting, endless cycle, even with Christ as our strength. And a spiritual community like ours is not immune to the challenge of reflection and being refreshed, or the consequences of ignoring our communal health.

During this transition period for our parish, we have a distinct opportunity to meet that challenge, to reflect and plan with intention. On a spiritual level, we have engaged in a deep Parish Survey that clarifies, or reaffirms, who we are as a community, what we value, what keeps us engaged in this ministry, coming back and investing more of ourselves. It's an activity of reflection and taking stock. We are not trying to define all that Christ calls us to in the future - in a sense we are reexamining what we have now, who we are, what qualities and values we want to carry forward into an exciting ministry under a new rector, full of potential and full of unknowns. It allows us to advance in confidence, collectively grounded, to call new leadership and move forward with them.

On a financial level, we should do the same: assess our financial health, reaffirm our common values, and plan with

intention. As you know, our annual operations have been an exercise in "living by faith" for many years, with the growth in worship, ministry and outreach challenging the growing congregation and our giving (and always slightly outpacing it!) By faith, God's grace and plenty of in-the-time-of-need generosity, we have met our obligations and seen the ministry thrive. As we've run forward fast, we've been very busy with plenty to show for it, but financially have we nourished and reenergized our core? Have we set ourselves up for the exciting future we see for Redeemer?

The Finance Committee took up this question, using a condition report on the existing infrastructure from the Building & Grounds Committee. Like the parish profile, this is not an exercise in defining all that we might be called to in the future; it doesn't contemplate modifications or additions to existing buildings. It is about reflecting on our current condition and taking stock.

Our once-new building is no longer new, nor is our rectory, and certain aspects of both are nearing exhaustion, including roofs, HVAC systems, exterior paint, interior finishes. These assets have naturally deteriorated over the last 15+ years and we have not set aside funds for their replacement. The cost is significant (estimated at \$200k+), and, in whole or in part, beyond what we can absorb in any annual operating budget. Some items are at or past their expected useful lives (HVAC) and pose immediate financial threats, and some are nearing the end (asphalt shingle roofing). We are collective stewards of this parish's assets and reserving funds for upkeep of our buildings is prudent. This allows us to deal systematically with expenses that we can and should plan for, rather than as a series of one-time emergencies. Spreading the cost of these items over their expected useful lives, we should have approximately \$150k of the total cost in reserve currently. We support setting aside reserve funds annually for these expenses going forward.

In addition, there is a funding shortfall in the 2014 budget (\$30k) and the Vestry is asking for additional funds to avoid making cuts to our operations. These two components are the basis for the efforts to raise \$175,000. We encourage robust, open dialogue on these important issues.

In this transition period of reflection, let us make it a time of renewal, spiritually and financially. Let's put our financial house in order as a bold welcome to our new rector and a testament of faith and commitment to our Redeemer's future.

Rick Robinson, *Chair of the Finance Committee*

NOTES FROM THE INTERIM RECTOR

Dear Friends in Christ,

When you and I walk into the worship space of our church, we move literally and figuratively from the past to the present. The central seating area is that of the original Church of the Redeemer, when it first moved to its present site. Its orientation on the plot of ground has been changed and the space reconfigured. Yet the stained glass windows are that of the original church. Without the overhead lights, the space is lit by their jewel toned design.

Then continuing toward the altar, we enter the space added to the original church. Bright, light filled with the new stained glass window focusing us on the altar that centers the space. From Dunrobbin Drive and MacArthur Boulevard, the building can appear to be totally new. Yet the new has been built on the old, the church building nurtured for decades by faithful people of the neighborhood becoming the welcoming holy space so loved today.



In the Gospel of Matthew, we read that Jesus said to Peter, “*You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church....*” Of course the word “peter” meant rock. Yet in its double meaning, we find a message for us as we provide for maintenance of our program budget and our church building through the effort outlined by Rick Robinson on preceding page of this newsletter. Peter was unique among the disciples for his impulsive ways. I wonder about Jesus walking on

water – I get out of the boat and when I sink Jesus holds me up. I am afraid that I too will be arrested and crucified – I deny I even know the man. I jump out of the boat where I’m fishing and swim to shore when I realize it is Jesus on the beach and Jesus tells me to feed his sheep. Jesus’ message, his church, is built upon the efforts of purely human people just like Peter, like you and me. With those who have come before us, we are entrusted with the future of Jesus’ life and message. On the rock that we are his church is built.

We carry his message into the world as we live our lives inspired by his. We are entrusted with its life changing possibilities, to be Jesus’ hands, eyes, and heart today. Part of that gift to us is fully supporting the life we share in Christ in this place with the funds that allow our programming to be all that we value and to maintain the building that enhances all that it is.

Our Search Committee is about to receive over thirty names of priests who will prayerfully explore with the committee whether God is calling them to be the next rector of The Church of the Redeemer. With faith in Jesus’ calling to that priest and to us, I urge you to do all you can to support this life that means so much to us and all who enter our doors.

Faithfully,

The Rev’d Dr. Ann Broomell, *Interim Rector*

NOTES FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

I thank Rick Robinson, Chair of the Finance Committee, the Finance Committee, the Interim Rector, and the Vestry and Staff of Redeemer for all their hard work, loving hearts and wisdom in preparing the figures and process for this new financial campaign.

Christ tells us that God wants us to have life and have it abundantly. This is a great opportunity for the community to come together and take care of the wonderful gifts we have been given. I am proud of all that the Redeemer congregation has done and feel confident that we will meet this challenge with courage and strength.

I thank everyone who has already made a financial commitment to this campaign and ask that each person prayerfully consider what they can contribute to the financial health of Redeemer. All gifts will be gratefully received.

You can be assured that your Vestry will continue to safeguard the Redeemer finances and use them with care to support the life and mission of the church. Thank you to all who give their time, talent and treasure to support Redeemer.

Cathy Arrington, *Senior Warden*

MUSIC

MUSIC AT REDEEMER SERIES 2014-2015

In mid-September, all parishioners and hundreds of others from across the region will receive a copy of the 2014-15 music brochure, detailing the extraordinary slate of events planned for the tenth anniversary season of the series. In the meantime, please add these dates to your calendar:

Sunday, October 19, 5:00 p.m.

Inscape Chamber Orchestra in Concert

Sunday, November 2, 5:00 p.m.

Solemn Requiem Mass

(Dr. Martin Neary, guest conductor)

Sunday, December 6, 5:00 p.m.

A Service of Lessons & Carols for Advent
(Dr. Benjamin Hutchens, guest conductor)

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

The District Eight in Concert

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

Movie Night: Silent Film with accompaniment
by Jonathan Ortloff, organ

Sunday, February 22, 5:00 p.m.

Choral Evensong for the First Sunday in Lent

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

Inscape Chamber Orchestra in Concert

Sunday, April 19, 5:00 p.m.

Organist Nathan Laube in Concert

Sunday, May 17, 5:00 p.m.

Gala Concert in Celebration of the
Tenth Anniversary of the Music at Redeemer Series

Sunday, May 31, 5:00 p.m.

Solemn Evensong for Trinity Sunday

ADULT CHOIR: NEW SINGERS WELCOME!

The 2014-15 choral season will commence with rehearsal on Thursday, August 28, 7:30–9:30 p.m. New members are welcome! All singers must possess a pleasing tone quality and the ability to match pitch and blend. Highlights of the upcoming season will include a Solemn Requiem Mass (Dr. Martin Neary, guest conductor), 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.

YOUTH CHOIR: CALLING ALL CHILDREN AND YOUTH!

The first rehearsal of the Youth Choir will take place on Wednesday, September 5, at 4:30 p.m. An ice cream party will follow at 5:45 p.m. 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

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EfM)

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

EfM meets Tuesday evenings September through May, with breaks for Christmas, our beloved Pancake Supper & Talent Show, and Holy Week. Classes are based on a curriculum developed by The University of the South's Episcopal Seminary. You may register for one year at a time. If you choose to complete the entire curriculum, you will participate for four years, with each year covering a different subject: Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), Christian Scriptures (New Testament), Church history, and Christian Ethics and vocation. At the end of each year you are able to apply for 18 CEU's from The University of the South School of Theology.

EfM is for lay people. It is not about becoming a member of the ordained ministry, 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. We have three spaces available for the class beginning in September, so you must register early. For more information, please contact Jo Barclay-Beard: 301-789-4493 or email jobbeard@yahoo.com

If you are interested, but unable to attend on Tuesday evenings at Redeemer, then you might be interested in the class offered at St. John's Norwood, corner of Bradley Blvd and Wisconsin Ave. The St. John's group meets on Monday evenings. Contact Barbara Ordway: 301-656-5143 or e-mail at bordway@aaas.org

Jo Barclay-Beard, *Redeemer EfM Coordinator*

MISSION

FAITH IN ACTION: OUTREACH FUNDING 2014

The Mission/Outreach Committee recommended, and the Vestry approved, budgeted outreach funding for eight programs for 2014 in response to a first round of applications that were submitted by June 30, 2014. The Committee is working with Redeemer representatives for each program to explore creative ways in which Redeemer can provide not only funding, but also more of our time and talent to help provide greater benefits to those in need and assist the partner organizations to achieve their goals of growth and sustainability.

Hope for Burundi: Redeemer supports the continuing legacy of The Rev'd John Bosco Hakizimana, who was a member of our parish from March 2007 to February 2008. He began building this organization by recruiting three young male graduates from the Anglican University of Burundi when he returned to his homeland of Burundi in 2008. At the time of his tragic and unexpected death in 2009, there was only one *Hope for Burundi* "site" located in Ruyigi Province. Now there are sites in three provinces, as these three men carry on the work of John Bosco with the support of Redeemer and other partners.

Clarice Leslie serves as Redeemer's liaison and has made four month-long trips to Burundi, assisting in the business training conducted in the summer of 2013, working with staff in their tiny office, and meeting many Burundians to help the poorest of the poor after 13 years of civil war. Joelle Morris participated in a trip with Clarice in 2011 and worked with her to host two leaders on a visit here in 2012. Redeemer is providing \$7,000 in 2014 to support agricultural activities to improve nutrition and livelihoods, two women's cooperatives, and a new literacy training in Burundi's indigenous language as an essential step in achieving self-sustainability.

Misa Alegria, St. Stephen & the Incarnation Episcopal Church, Washington, D.C.: Tom Smith, Redeemer's Director of Music, is the liaison, appropriately so, since music is a vital part of both Redeemer and this partner program. The Rev'd Sarabeth Goodwin, who served as a Seminarian at Redeemer, is an important link for Redeemer's partnership with this Spanish-speaking congregation. Sarabeth is the founder and vicar of Misa Alegria. Much of the congregation's growth is due to the increasing quality and breadth of the music ministry that Redeemer has supported since its inception. Redeemer will provide up to \$3,500 to support Misa Alegria's music program. Mission/Outreach Committee members will work with Tom to reach out to Misa Alegria and explore ways that the two congregations can interact more often and get to know each other better. This

outreach initiative falls within Bishop Budde's call for parishes to be partners in ministry for the purpose of growing the church, increasing congregational vitality, and spreading the Gospel.

Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington: Parishioners Mary Helen Carlson and Cindy Winder are the partner representatives with SMGW which Redeemer has supported since 2000. SMGW's Next Step program assists over 300 individuals each month who are homeless, or threatened by homelessness, to make changes in their lives with the aim of transitioning from homelessness to more stable living. Samaritan's partnerships have expanded to include a program with the Bishop John T. Walker School for Boys, the D.C. jail for recently released inmates, and the Arlington Episcopal Churches for emergency assistance, among others. Six new parishes are considering a partnership. Redeemer will contribute up to \$3,500 in 2014 and explore additional ways for parishioner involvement through volunteering and bringing more benefits to the homeless.

Street Church, The Church of the Epiphany, Washington, DC: Parishioners Frank Anderson, and Lou & Kiki Garo serve as Redeemer's liaisons for this ministry of the Church of the Epiphany that serves the homeless, addicted, and the poor of downtown Washington. Every Tuesday throughout the year, Redeemer volunteers participate in providing lunch for more than 60 disadvantaged people in the area of Franklin Square Park. In addition, they bring the church to the people by holding a service of Holy Eucharist in the park. Redeemer is contributing up to \$4,000 in 2014 to assist in the purchase of food purchases and seed money to generate additional funding.

Summer Music Camp: Director of Music Tom Smith organizes an outstanding summer music camp in August that reaches out to the larger community, including children from Misa Alegria at St. Stephen & the Incarnation Episcopal Church. By supporting up to \$2,000 in scholarships for disadvantaged children, we build stronger bonds in our shared love of music. About a dozen families first learned about Redeemer through the Summer Music Camp and were inspired to become members of Redeemer.

9/11 Unity Walk: Parishioners Dominique and Mike Rychlik are the liaisons for Redeemer's involvement in this annual interfaith event that is now in its ninth year. The Walk takes place each year on the Sunday closest to September 11 along Massachusetts Avenue with the opportunity to participate in and observe worship and other customs in different religions. In addition, several Redeemer families participate in the Capital Area Interfaith Friends organization (CAIF), a program for youth with a strong outreach/service component.

Members of CAIF also participate in the 9/11 Unity Walk. Redeemer will contribute \$1,500 to support the walk in 2014 where Redeemer youth speak and show their activism. In the past year the walk has expanded partnerships to include the President's Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge, the Latter Day Saint's Day to Serve, George Washington University's Diversity Office, Montgomery County (which sponsors transportation bringing 500 people to the walk last year), Fairfax County and numerous other faith communities and interfaith organizations.

United Palestinian Appeal Scholarship Program:

Parishioners and marathoners Cathy Baker and Jorge Guzman lead the efforts to raise funds for UPA's scholarship program to support this nonpolitical, non-profit organization's mission "to alleviate the suffering of Palestinians (...) and contribute to the long-term socioeconomic and cultural development of Palestinian society." The runners have raised nearly \$6,000 in 2012 and 2013, in addition to individual contributions from Redeemer parishioners. Iqraa (Arabic for "read") runners raised more than \$27,000 for the UPA Scholarship Program in the 2013 running season alone. Redeemer is providing \$500 in 2014 to support this effort.

Sustainable Harvest International-Trinidad Conservation Project:

Sustainable Harvest International improves family nutrition and secure food systems through crop diversification and the teaching of sustainable farming techniques. Parishioners Ben Ivins and Clarice Leslie (and former parishioner Jeff Stann) have long been involved with this organization. Families are guided through a five-year program. Redeemer is now in its fifth year of supporting the program, which means that the families we started with are completing their education in the program. Redeemer is providing \$3,000 in 2014 to support this project.

Other activities and our Redeemer representatives, which are featured on our bulletin board in the Parish Hall and website, include:

- Bethesda Cares: Olivia Devereux and Elizabeth Simmons
- Manna Food Center: Ben Ivins and Pat Fitzgerald
- Olive Oil Ministry: Marie France (*see following article*)

Mission-Outreach Committee

The Committee wants to engage more parishioners in the activities listed here, as well as other activities central to our mission as a faith community to help those in need. Please talk to any member of the Committee about your ideas and interest in participating. The Committee members are: Olivia Devereux (Finance), Marie France (Communications), John Harbeson, Ben Ivins, Clarice Leslie, Michael Mershon (Church School), Melinda Nelson (Vestry liaison), Jim Packard Winkler (Chair), Denny Shaw, Elizabeth Simmons (Resources), Cindy Winder, and The Rev'd Dr. Ann Broomell (ex-officio).

NEW OUTREACH PARTNER: OLIVE OIL MINISTRY

Redeemer became the newest member of the Olive Oil Ministry in April when the Vestry approved a proposal to join six other local congregations that sell olive oil produced by Palestinian farmers. Led by the Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ's Middle East Committee, the ministry purchases olive oil at a bulk discount from the Palestinian enterprise Canaan Fair Trade. The oil is then sold by the partner churches. They include Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church, Little Rive United Church of Christ, Saint Camillus Catholic Church, and Saint Columba's Episcopal Church, in addition to Westmoreland and Redeemer.

For several years, parishioners at Redeemer have purchased the oil on an ad hoc basis. As a partner in the ministry, Redeemer becomes part of an ecumenical effort whose participation is expected to increase the volume of sales this year. In June, \$534 in oil sales took place at the Strawberry Festival. As of now, no budgeted outreach funds support Redeemer's participation in this ministry.

Proceeds from the sale of the olive oil support the quality of life of farming families, encourage sustainable agricultural practices and help stabilize the Palestinian economy.

Sales of the olive oil also support Tent of Nations, an internationally recognized peace and development nongovernmental organization. Tent of Nations was established over ten year ago by Daoud Nassar, a Palestinian Christian farmer and friend of Redeemer, on his family farm south of Bethlehem. They receive global support, including from Churches for Middle East Peace, and host international volunteers and visitors to work toward peace, justice and reconciliation. Tent of Nations also prepares youth to make positive contributions to their future and to society through the values of understanding, tolerance and respectful coexistence. These goals are achieved through education awareness campaigns, work camps, and youth empowerment.

In May, Olive Oil Ministry representatives from each partner church gathered at Westmoreland UCC for a potluck dinner and meeting to discuss the need to address a decline in net proceeds and the need to continue its support Tent of Nations at a particularly stressful time. There was agreement to raise the selling price of the one-half liter bottle of oil from \$15 to \$18 and to sell a case of six bottles at a \$6 discount (\$100).

Redeemer representatives for the Olive Oil Ministry are parishioners Marie France and Margaret Greens. If you have questions or would like to learn more, please contact Marie: tweedfrance@gmail.com, or Margaret Greene: mhgreene01@aol.com.

PARISH LIFE

COMMUNICATIONS

Are you familiar with Google Apps and/or Constant Contact? If so, Angela Beckman, our Administrative Assistant, would like to hear from you. Having launched the new website, we are now reviewing other aspects of how we communicate with the parish which, at present, includes *This Week at Redeemer*, our weekly email; *The Redeemer Spirit*, our newsletter; Parish Hall bulletin boards; special event emails; and parish-wide meetings. Before making any changes, we would like to gather as much information and/or experiences as possible. If you can help with this review, please contact Angela: office.redeemer@verizon.net or 301-229-3770.

HOSPITALITY

"Be hospitable to one another without complaint."
1 Peter 4:9

The Hospitality Chair is not complaining, just saying "I could use some help!" We still like to gather and chat over coffee and a treat at Coffee Hour in the summer, but it is a smaller, simpler affair. If you have been thinking you would like to host a Coffee Hour, but are intimidated by the size of the usual spread, now is a time to jump in at the shallow end of the pool.

Coffee Hour on Sundays in July and August can be covered by two or three trays of store-bought cookies. The regular tasks still apply: plug in the coffee makers (10:15 a.m.), make the lemonade and put it out on the tables, along with the food, napkins and paper cups. Post-coffee hour, put the mugs in the dishwasher and run it, wash and put away the platters and punchbowl, and be sure to unplug all equipment. Please give it a try by adding your name to the sheet on the Sign-up board in the Parish Hall. Questions? Contact Karen Stewart: karenstewart@westat.com.

Karen Stewart, *Hospitality Coordinator*



PERSONAL NOTES

We offer our congratulations to: Vikki Clayton on her ordination to the Sacred Order of Priests on Saturday, June 14; to Brian, Robin and Zoe Razzino on the baptism of Anna Sophia Razzino; and Cindy Winder on the birth of her grandson, Jacob Jackson Burns.

We offer our condolences to Redeemer parishioners who have lost a loved one recently: Chris Horton on the death of his father, Martin Horton; Mike Rychlik, on the death of his uncle, John Lensch; Scott Williams, on the death of his friend, Ruth Bean; and Jo Campa on the death of her cousin, Dee Dee Quintana. May their souls and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

We wish a happy birthday to those born in August:

Ben Ivins	Genie Jones
Nicholas Rychlik	Claudia Hull
Virginia Pearson	Gwen Chandler
Collette Yehl	Michael Yehl
Lois Brown	Brian Beard
Rick Robinson	Callie Wang
Joanne Bowman	Leifer Tomasson
Peter Carlson	Justin Hess
Stan James	Ayesha Court
Charlie Croston	Erik Devereux
Anya Sokolowski	Caitlin Moriarty
Ioulia Vvedenskaya	Catherine de Fontenay
Rachel King	Charles Penn

We wish a happy anniversary to:

Ron & Sally Pugsley
Tom & Leslie McNaugher
Bramman Avery & Mary K Young
Ben & Hilary Park
Lou & Kiki Garo
John & Ann Harbeson



STEWARDSHIP: FINANCE & BUILDINGS/GROUNDS

TREASURER'S REPORT

In *The Redeemer Spirit* newsletter earlier this year, I reported that Redeemer faced a substantial operating deficit due to a shortfall in actual versus budgeted 2014 pledges. I projected that, without additional revenue, we would run out of cash by the end of the year, since a cushion of available cash was depleted by the deficit incurred in 2013. Unfortunately, at mid-point of this year, my projection remains essentially unchanged. In addition, the Buildings & Grounds Committee has identified building maintenance projects that likely will need to be undertaken in the near future, including exterior painting and replacement of aging HVAC equipment, and at present there is no replacement reserve to fund this work.

In order to meet these challenges and to welcome a new rector to a financially sound parish, the Finance Committee and the Vestry are initiating a fundraising campaign, *Refreshing Redeemer*, to raise \$175,000 to fund a maintenance reserve for the buildings and to balance the 2014 budget. See *p. 1 of this newsletter*. As your Treasurer, I am pleased that the Finance Committee and the Vestry, with the support of the Interim Rector, have made this decision. We have had the luxury over the last 15 years of enjoying a new building with few major maintenance demands (other than the clerestory window repairs), and a cash cushion to carry us through in years when expenses exceeded income. We have now reached a turning point and have the responsibility to ensure the continued maintenance and beauty of this institution.

On the good news side, the Strawberry Festival/Silent Auction generated income of \$20,850. Thanks to all who contributed their efforts to this fun and successful event, with a special hats off to the Chair of the Whole Thing, Jefferson Arrington, who once again made it all happen; the Chair of the Silent Auction, Rick Robinson, who learned how to do it and did it at the same time; and Angela Beckman, who made that possible.

If you are interested in budget details, a copy of the budget with actual income and expense amounts through July and projected expense and income for the balance of the year is posted on the Vestry bulletin board in the Parish Hall. If you have any questions, please contact me: gibliu@verizon.net or 301-229-1168.

Steve Gibson, *Vestry Member/Treasurer*

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Playground Equipment: We extend our heartfelt thanks to those who so generously donated the new playground equipment. The parish and neighborhood children are especially grateful!

Clerestory Window Repairs: Last year, extensive repairs were made to the clerestory windows (the high windows in the Nave). Regrettably, these repairs did not completely resolve the problem of water coming in and damaging the organ. In two recent storms, water has fallen on the pipes on both sides resulting in damage. The contractor has identified what is believed to be the problem and additional repairs have been made.

Kitchen Door Lock: A new lock has been installed on the kitchen door. If you are a regular user of the door for entering the building, please let the Parish Office know in order to get a code for the lock. We ask everyone to take note that this door does not lock automatically. When leaving, please turn the knob on the lock mechanism to lock the door from the inside and leave via another door. If you have a code and wish to exit via the kitchen door, you must enter your code and turn the knob on the lock mechanism on the outside to ensure the door is locked.

Grounds: The B&G Committee is grateful to the weeding, mulching and pruning that parishioners Susan Fitzgerald and Frank Anderson have been doing on an on-going basis. If you would like to assist, you are welcome to join them any Monday evening at 6:00 p.m. or to volunteer at any other time. Please contact Peter Carlson if you wish to help out: 301-983-0541 or spikens@verizon.net.

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



PARISH TRANSITION: THE SEARCH FOR A NEW RECTOR

SEARCH PROCESS UPDATE

The Diocese of Washington's Office of Transition Ministry has received 32 applications for the position of rector of The Church of the Redeemer. The diocese will vet all candidates, ensuring they are priests in good standing, before sending the applications to the Search Committee in early August. In the meantime, committee members are deciding how to review the applications, preparing interview questions, and determining criteria by which the candidates will be ranked. Please continue to keep the Committee and our new rector, whoever he or she may be, in your prayers.

RESULTS FROM THE SEARCH SURVEY

On Sunday, June 29, at a special forum, Search Committee members Jo Barclay-Beard, Joelle Morris, Mike Rychlik and Peggy Tucker offered additional insight into the information gathered through the search questionnaires that were distributed to all parishioners earlier in the year. The results were used to assist committee members in writing the Parish Profile. They also provided valuable information that will fulfill a variety of needs in the future.

The questionnaire revealed that for Redeemer parishioners:

- The quality and style of music and preaching are the most important aspects of our worship, along with the use of traditional Episcopal liturgies.
- Beyond worship, serving all generations, outreach, and religious education for children were ranked as the most important activities that we engage in as a community.
- Parishioners say that their spirits are especially nurtured by sitting in the sanctuary, social events, and opportunities for contemplative practices.
- With regard to growth and use of resources, continuing to have an Assistant Rector received far and away the highest score.
- The most important attributes for a rector are preaching sermons grounded in scripture, working collegially with staff and volunteers, support of a strong music program, planning and leading worship with grace, and effective interpersonal skills.

If you would like a copy of the detailed report, please contact the Parish Office: office.redeemer@verizon.net or the Search Committee.

SEARCH COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jo Barclay-Beard	Mary Helen Carlson
Jane Dealy	Josh Hildreth
Charlie Hundley	Joelle Morris
Nathan Price	Mike Rychlik
Peggy Tucker	

TRANSITION INFORMATION

Information on the transition to new clergy leadership is posted on the Search Committee bulletin board in the Parish Hall. The Diocese of Washington's Parish Transition Handbook is available at: www.redeemberthesda.org. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact any member of the Search Committee.



VESTRY NEWS & PARISH INFORMATION

JUNE VESTRY REPORT

Interim Rector's Report: Vestry meetings will now begin at 6:30 p.m. and adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Individual members will bring sandwiches/snacks. The new Redeemer website was launched on June 12: www.redeemberbethesda.org. The Mission/Outreach Committee made a detailed presentation on Sunday, June 8, which included the introduction of committee members, discussion of outreach experiences, and distribution of information on Redeemer's outreach philosophy and applications for funding. Increased community involvement was strongly encouraged. A 2015 Stewardship Campaign Committee is being formed.

Rector Search Committee: The Parish Profile was approved by Bishop Budde and the Diocese and was posted on the diocesan and Redeemer websites. Applications will be accepted by the diocese and vetted to ensure the applicant is a priest in good standing with the Episcopal Church, before the application is forwarded to the Search Committee.

Treasurer's Report: In Steve Gibson's absence, the Interim Rector reviewed the financial report, updating figures for the new playground equipment.

Finance Committee Report: On behalf of Finance Chair Rick Robinson, the Interim Rector reported that the Finance Committee is researching how to fully fund the 2014 budget through three possible means: trimming the budget, raising pledges, and/or a fundraiser. The Committee will submit a detailed report to the Vestry.

Buildings & Grounds: The new playground equipment was installed and the children, parishioners and neighbors are thoroughly enjoying it. Heartfelt thanks to the anonymous donors who made this possible. There is a long-range plan being made to solve the basement flooding problems.

Strawberry Festival Report: Senior Warden Cathy Arrington reported that the Strawberry Festival/Silent Auction planning is on schedule.

Parish Organization: Mary Packard-Winkler presented a detailed report on ways to put together information and communicate with our growing congregation. This will be an on-going discussion, and the Vestry has been encouraged to reflect and share comments.

Catherine Sands, *Secretary*

JULY VESTRY REPORT

Interim Rector's Report: The Rev'd Ann Broomell reported that Katie Nickerson and Michael Mershon have agreed to be co-chairs of the 2015 Stewardship Campaign Committee. They will begin to plan the approach for the campaign. It was suggested that Coffee Hour could be simpler in the summertime.

Buildings & Grounds Report: Junior Warden Peter Carlson reported that Souleymane Camara has been hired to assist with garden maintenance (he is less costly than Denchfield). Recent rainstorms resulted in water leaking through the clerestory windows in the Nave onto the organ, doing significant damage. Repairs will be required to several organ pipes and chests. Frontier Construction, who repaired the windows in 2013, will review and make a recommendation. The prior work is under warranty. Buildings Chair John Nickum reported that it may be necessary to replace a dual compressor soon at an estimated cost of \$5,000-8,000 per compressor.

On-line Giving Programs: Research is being done into on-line giving programs. The Vestry agreed that it would be good if a system could be in place in time for 2015 Stewardship. The Finance Committee has been asked to report back to the Vestry on possible programs.

Mission/Outreach Committee: Melinda Nelson, Vestry liaison for Mission/Outreach, presented the recommendations of the Mission/Outreach Committee for distribution of budgeted outreach funds based on applications received. There was a discussion about different forms of giving from individual contributions to a particular cause, giving through the church, the role of fundraisers, etc., and the importance of capturing all of this. The Vestry approved the Committee's proposed distribution of \$22,000 to specific organizations. (See pp. 4-5)

Finance Committee Report: Treasurer Steve Gibson presented the Finance Committee's report to the Vestry. The Vestry approved the committee's recommendation to undertake a campaign to provide additional funding needed to balance the 2014 budget and for building maintenance, setting the goal at \$175,000.

Melinda Nelson, *Vestry Member*

AUGUST CALENDAR

Friday, August 1 (*Parish Office closed*)

Joseph of Arimathea

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

Saturday, August 2
Samuel Ferguson, Missionary Bishop for West Africa, 1916
Sunday, August 3
The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Monday, August 4

- 9:00 a.m. Summer Music Camp
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
7:00 p.m. Labyrinth Walk

Tuesday, August 5
Albrecht Dürer, Matthias Grünewald, and Lucas Cranach the Elder, Artists, 1528, 1529, 1553

- 9:00 a.m. Summer Music Camp
11:00 a.m. Street Church at The Church of the Epiphany, DC
7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Wednesday, August 6
The Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ

- 9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
9:30 a.m. Summer Music Camp
12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Thursday, August 7
John Mason Neale, Priest, 1866; Catherine Winkworth, Poet, 1878

- 9:00 a.m. Summer Music Camp

Friday, August 8 (*Parish Office closed*)

Dominic, Priest and Friar, 1221

- 9:00 a.m. Summer Music Camp
12:00 p.m. AA Meditation Meeting
2:00 p.m. Summer Music Camp Closing Performance
8:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Saturday, August 9
Herman of Alaska, Missionary to the Aleut, 1837
Sunday, August 10
The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

- 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, August 11
Clare, Abbess at Assisi, 1253

- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
7:30 p.m. Labyrinth Walk

Tuesday, August 12
Florence Nightingale, Nurse, Social Reformer, 1910

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

Wednesday, August 13
Jeremy Taylor, Bishop of Down, Connor, and Dromore, 1667

- 9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
7:00 p.m. Rector Search Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 14
Jonathan Myrick Daniels, Seminarian and Martyr, 1965
Friday, August 15 (*Parish Office closed*)

Saint Mary the Virgin, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ

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

Sunday, August 17
The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

- 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, August 18
William Porcher DuBose, Priest 1918

- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
7:00 p.m. Labyrinth Walk

Tuesday, August 19

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

Wednesday, August 20
Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, 1153

- 9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting
6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting
7:00 p.m. Rector Search Committee Meeting

Friday, August 22 (*Parish Office closed*)

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

Saturday, August 23
Martin de Porres, Rosa de Lima, and Toribio de Mogrovejo, Witnesses to the Faith in South America, 1639, 1617, 1606
Sunday, August 24
The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 16

- 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
12:30 p.m. Adult Formation Committee Meeting

Monday, August 25

Louis, King of France, 1270

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting

7:00 p.m. Labyrinth Walk

Tuesday, August 26

11:00 a.m. Street Church at The Church of the Epiphany, DC

7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Wednesday, August 27

Thomas Gallaudet with Henry Winter Syle, 1902, 1890

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting

7:00 p.m. Rector Search Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 28

Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, and Theologian, 430; Moses the Black, Desert Father and Martyr, c. 405

Friday, August 29 *(Parish Office closed)*

John Bunyan, Writer, 1688

12:00 p.m. AA Meditation Meeting

8:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Saturday, August 30

Charles Chapman Grafton, Bishop of Fond du Lac, and Ecumenist, 1912

Sunday, August 31

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

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

THE EPISCOPAL
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**REFRESHING REDEEMER:
A MEETING TO DISCUSS
THE PARISH FUNDRAISING
CAMPAIGN**

Sunday, August 3,
9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

Please plan to attend this important gathering
in the life of the parish community.

www.redeemerbethesda.org