



The Episcopal Church Welcomes You

*Redeemer  
Bethesda*



SEPTEMBER 2021

# *The Redeemer SPIRIT*

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[www.RedeemerBethesda.org](http://www.RedeemerBethesda.org)



### **Dear Redeemer family:**

I am writing this while on vacation on an island called North Haven on Penobscot Bay Maine. It is lovely and peaceful. This has been a gathering place for my family since my grandfather bought a house in 1921 and I have come here most every summer since I was a small child. COVID blocked travel in 2020 so this year family members have returned. In the past two weeks I have visited with my brother, two nephews, four great nephews, three great nieces, two first cousins and one goddaughter. Luckily not in one house! And our kids and grands weren't able to come this year. I am blessed to be a part of such a large and close family.

I am also blessed to have another family- the Redeemer family. And I look forward to returning soon to you all and joining in our happy expectation of being together again in our sanctuary. See you in September!

In faith,

**Geoffrey Platt,  
Senior Warden**

## **SANCTUARY**

The day is almost here, the day when we begin worshipping upstairs. Thanks are called for and there are two people in particular that need to be recognized.

First, thanks to Silvia Maza. She took over contacting the professionals and overseeing their work upstairs in the sanctuary. There were about five cracks in the ceiling that needed to be repaired and the ceiling painted. Additionally, the floor near the altar was refinished and lightbulbs were replaced with LED lighting. The sanctuary is once again light, bright, and beautiful.

Second, thank you Cathy Arrington. She came over to Redeemer almost daily to help finish sorting kitchen boxes, load and unload the dishwasher, figure out what would go where, and clean out the pantry.

There are still things that need to be done but the projects are getting smaller. If you would like to help out, just let me know. Of course - there is always weeding to be done.

### **Jo Barclay-Beard Junior Warden**



The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

**September 5<sup>th</sup> – we will be upstairs!**

Silvia Maza successfully guided the project of repairing, replacing, and refinishing the ceilings, lightbulbs, and floor in the sanctuary. The result is an even more lovely worship space. Thank you Silvia!

Our indefatigable Junior Warden, Jo Barclay-Beard and many volunteers have tirelessly sorted through and cleaned almost all the **kitchen** items from storage. A thousand thank yous to Jo and crew.



**Sunday Ministries** have their own sign-up page: <https://bit.ly/3kvbw5V>. Choose when to read, usher, help with altar set-up and clean-up, provide flowers, count the deposit, help with Sunday School, sponsor coffee hour. Or...phone or [e-mail Deacon Adrienne](#) and tell her how you want to be a part of making Sunday morning worship happen for everyone.

Soon we will be moving from our transitional website to a **new website** that our intern Maristela has been building for us. This is based on Squarespace technology that I'm told is cheaper and better than Wordpress, works



much better with mobile devices, and integrates well with email campaigns and social updates. In the next two months, you'll be hearing from Barbara Alterowitz and David Hoogerheide, who have generously agreed to co-chair the **Annual Pledge Drive**. Please pray about how you will respond in thankfulness for the new beginnings we are seeing at Redeemer.

There are many folks who are returning from their summer places, foreign service assignments, or just vacation. The choir is beginning their rehearsing and the Music at Redeemer concert series is booked and ready to go. The schedule of Adult Forum at 9am and Worship at 10:30am begins September 12<sup>th</sup>. We will proceed with all activities with caution and safety in mind. Who will you invite to join us?

Although I have loved the intimacy and air conditioning of the new-look Parish Hall, I look forward with relief and joy to welcoming you all and sharing the sacrament with you in the sanctuary again.

**Cricket+**



## Youth Group Kick-off September 8<sup>th</sup>

The Bring Your Own Picnic has moved to **September 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm**. We'll be getting to know each other again and coming up with a calendar and activities and projects for the program year. Helping Nico and Sam with a Bethesda Cares dinner will definitely be on the agenda. A mini-golf outing was suggested as well. Other possibilities are up to us and subject to COVID.

Hope to see everyone **6<sup>th</sup> grade through High School** on the 8<sup>th</sup>!

## LUNCH WITH JESUS



**Each Wednesday at Noon**, the clergy and curious lay folk gather on Zoom to read and discuss the scriptures coming up that Sunday. It's a free-flowing, question-raising, and sometimes challenging conversation that many times leads the assigned preacher into new territory. Think of it as one of the 'prequels' to your experience of worship—you'll hear the readings again, in a different voice, and sometimes you will hear elements of our discussion bubble to the surface of the actual sermon. Bring your study Bible and join us this week. The Zoom link is on the Redeemer home page.

## Little Christians at Redeemer

There's a bumper crop of **1<sup>st</sup> graders** at Redeemer! That means we have a full house for the "Godly Play" room this year. **Shannon Hoogerheide** and **Anne Peyer** are taking the lead for this ministry and they require lots of help from **parents with kids between 2 years old and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade**.

We're experimenting with the time for this age group this fall. **They will meet at 9:00 a.m., at the same time as Adult Forum**. We hope this will enable some parents to take advantage of both educational offerings. The kids will then be with their parents in church or they can move to the nursery. We'll do this through Christmas and then evaluate how it's gone and move forward from there.

Shannon and Anne need every parent with kids in the "Godly Play" age group to volunteer to teach and help supervise. With everyone's help, no one will need to do a class more than once a month or so. The lessons are fun and we have many boxes of hands-on items to go with Bible stories. Our youth group aged young people are welcome to help as well. Please get in touch with Shannon ([shannon.fogwell@gmail.com](mailto:shannon.fogwell@gmail.com)) or Anne ([alowenbach@gmail.com](mailto:alowenbach@gmail.com)) to get involved.

Many thanks to **Godly Play** expert Karen Stewart for organizing all the Godly Play items post-flood. Also, THANK YOU to **Ayesha Court**, who has been a stalwart Godly Play volunteer who is stepping back for a little while to attend to her family's needs.

Bringing our children up in the faith is one of the promises we make to them when they are baptized. Christian formation is the entire parish's responsibility. Please consider how you might be a part of this.

*(Note: anyone assisting with this ministry will be required to complete the Diocesan Safe Church training program online.)*



*Redeemer's beautiful floors, beautiful once again thanks to villatoroshardwoodfloorllc.com*

**We move upstairs** to the Sanctuary the first Sunday of September. Geoffrey Silver and Maristela Romero have been working hard to transition full **Zoom** functionality from downstairs to upstairs, and patching the audio from our existing recording system. A great big thank you to Maristela's father as well for networking the PTZ camera. The Romero's are quite a team.

**Homecoming Sunday** is September 12th. Our plan is not only to celebrate coming back into the sanctuary, but also take time to remember and grieve who and what have been

lost. The rite will be a service for healing. In addition to the collect for the day, a collect of thanksgiving will be said.

When the flood occurred, Cricket+ read a selection from Genesis and reminded us of the gift that is water from the Baptismal prayers. To place an "end parenthesis" to our flood journey, the reading from the Old Testament will also be from Genesis. The other readings will be those assigned by the lectionary.

For the rest of the "Season after Pentecost" we will continue using the liturgy we have used

through the summer, through Christ the King with added musical elements, including the psalm, anthems and additional hymns. Most of the **sung music** will occur toward the middle and end of our services in order to minimize the amount of breath released into the sanctuary, and the time spent with that breath. The choir will be in a large semi circle, masked and distanced. We'll find new air at the end of the service and promptly leave the sanctuary for the Parish Hall and/or outdoors for coffee and fellowship.

## Our New Website

The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

About Us | Become a Member | Education | Leadership | Donate

f | Instagram | [Contact Us](#)

We seek to serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves. We welcome everyone.

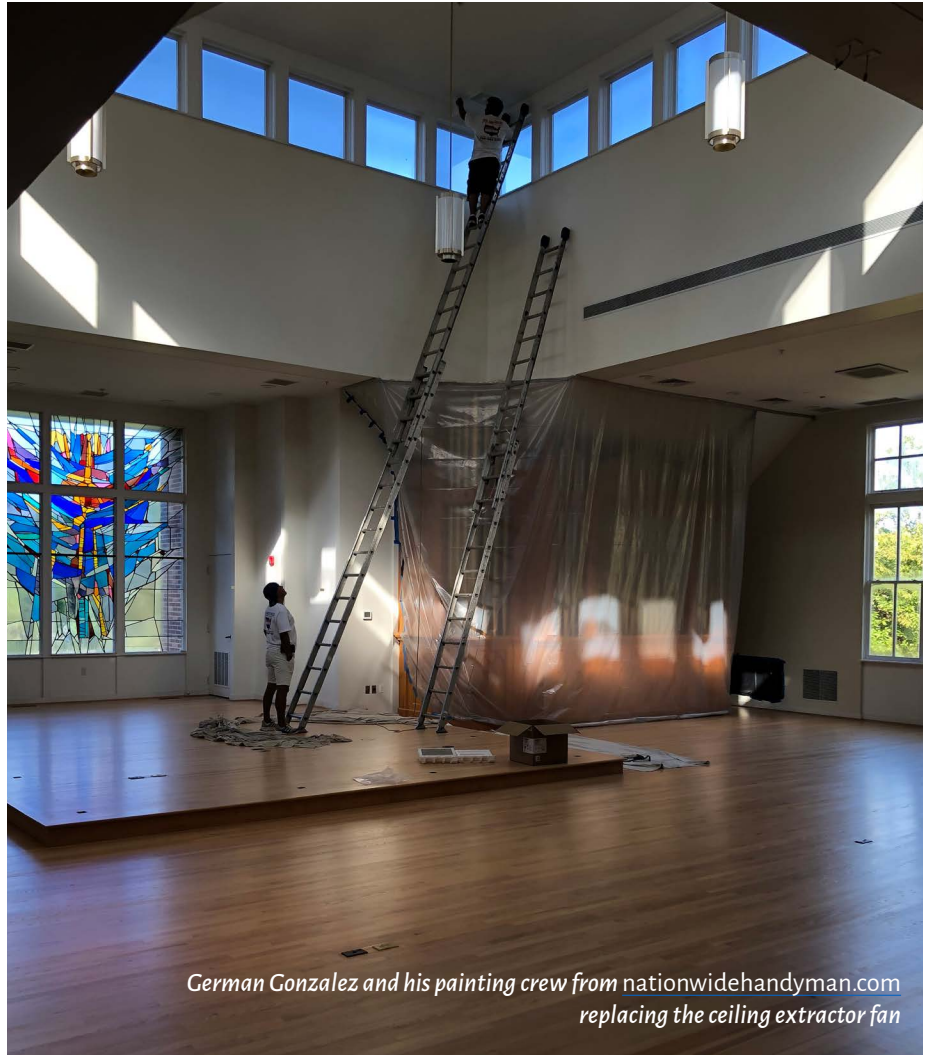
**OUR NEW SEMINARIAN**



**Beginning in September,** we welcome **Becki Casey** as our new seminarian.

Becki is a student at Virginia Theological Seminary entering her second year towards a Master of Divinity.

Catch up on Becki's letter of introduction to us in the August edition of the *Spirit*.



*German Gonzalez and his painting crew from nationwidehandyman.com replacing the ceiling extractor fan*

*Adult Forum  
Sundays at 9*

**Presented by Theo Brown, Returning Citizens Assistance Network (RCAN)**

RCAN works with the public defender's office in DC to identify people returning from incarceration with specific needs for restarting their lives on the outside (clothing, food and necessities, restarting utilities, identification, mentoring, socialization).

**RCAN consists of several churches in the DMV interested in justice reform.**

**SEPTEMBER 12TH  
IN PERSON**



**THE GRATEFUL SHRED!**  
**Cabin John, Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>**

Rid yourself of no-longer-needed bills, statements, or letters via a big, secure, cross-cut shredder.

**The Grateful Shred** happens at **Clara Barton Community Center** on **September 25<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to Noon.**

Chesapeake Paper Systems shredder can handle home office papers, paper clips, staples, rubber bands, folders, binder clips, hanging folders, and labels. It *cannot* shred newspapers, 3-ring binders, cardboard, heavy plastic, heavy metals, boxes, trash, floppy disks, or CDs.

A \$5 donation is requested per box, with proceeds benefitting the **Friends of the Clara Barton Community Center**. One of my projects since the flood has been to scan and digitize our old receipts and accounting paperwork, so we will be shredding for the Church too!



**Margaret Church,  
 Bookkeeper**



*A previous gig for The Grateful Shred at Clara Barton Community Center*

**Adult Forum Restarts,  
 Sundays at 9 a.m.**

Once a month Deacon Adrienne will introduce one of the ministries in our area that respond directly to needs of marginalized people. For **September** we welcome **Theo Brown** of the **Returning Citizens Assistance Network (RCAN)**.

Using a model from Elizabeth Hagan's book *Brave Church: Tackling Tough Choices Together*, Cricket will facilitate discussions on topics important to living as a Christian in our culture today:

**September 19th,  
 Let's Talk about Mental Illness**

**September 26th,  
 Let's Talk about Racism**

*Do you have a request or idea for future Adult Forums? Is there a topic close to your heart you'd like to share? Please contact [Cricket](#) so that we can schedule forums through the rest of the year.*

## PLANNED GIVING TO SUSTAIN REDEEMER'S FUTURE

This is a series of articles addressing stewardship as it relates to the future of our parish. Please be sure to consult with your financial advisor and/or your attorney when you make plans for any giving.



### BEQUESTS AND WILLS

One of the simplest and most common ways to make a planned gift is by naming Redeemer in your will, using the church's full, legal name, "Episcopal Church of the Redeemer"

A bequest is a meaningful way to support our work without affecting cash flow during your lifetime.

There are several *types* of bequests that you can make:

- \* A **specific bequest** indicates the *amount* of cash, securities or other asset you wish to leave to Redeemer. Or it can indicate a specific *percentage* of the total value of your estate.
- \* A **residuary bequest** leaves the remaining portion of your estate (or a percentage of the total) after all other bequests have been satisfied.
- \* You can make Redeemer the recipient of a **contingency bequest**, which considers the possibility of a change in your beneficiary's circumstances.





**SPECIFIC:** a bequest for a specific dollar amount or specific percentage of your estate:

*I give, devise and bequeath to Episcopal Church of the Redeemer the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ as an unrestricted gift, to be used at the sole discretion of Episcopal Church of the Redeemer.*

Or, you can make a bequest for specific assets, such as securities, real estate or personal property. Please be as specific as possible in identifying the property:

*I give, devise and bequeath to Episcopal Church of the Redeemer my [insert description of the asset], to be used and/or disposed of, as the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer determines for its general purposes.*

Redeemer has benefitted greatly by bequests over the last five years. If you do make a bequest in your will, please let the rector know you have done so.  
And, thank you.

**RESIDUARY:** a residuary bequest gives all or a portion of the residue of your estate after payment of expenses and any amounts designated to other beneficiaries:

*I give, devise, and bequeath to Episcopal Church of the Redeemer X percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate as an unrestricted gift, to be used at its sole discretion.*

**CONTINGENCY:** a contingency bequest allows you to account for a change in your beneficiary's circumstances:

*I give, devise, and bequeath [insert name] X percent of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate if s/he survives me. If [insert name] does not survive me, I give, devise and bequeath to Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, X percent of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate as an unrestricted gift, to be used at its sole discretion.*

**THANK YOU, REDEEMER!!!**

Our appeal to you for the **Afghan family in Silver Spring** raised over \$5,000.00 in 24 hours after the *Friday Parish Update* email, and another \$2,500 by Sunday evening. This is an *incredible* blessing and testimony to Redeemer’s big heart, caring embrace, and open mind. Thank you.

**Deacons Adrienne and Terry** are coordinating efforts between our two parishes, and Redeemer’s contribution will be delivered by single check to the Church of the Ascension’s funds for refugees. The diocesan effort to bring



together parishes in support of refugee resettlement is being led by our former candidate for the diaconate, **Anne Derse** who is now at St John’s, Norwood.

*There will be much work to be done in the coming months for these most in need.*



**MANNA**

**Chrissy de Fontenay and Ben Ivins** take your donated items to **Manna Food Center** every week. Please remember to bring food for the altar baskets and the box on the bench outside. This is a spiritual practice that keeps our baptismal promise active. Protein items are especially needed. All items must be non-perishable.



**Bethesda Cares - September 26**

Redeemer is scheduled to prepare and deliver dinner for 30 homeless and hungry people on Sunday, September 26 at 3:45PM at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School, 7500 Pearl

Street, Bethesda, MD 20814. In order to do that, we need your help! Please sign up here [Sign-up Sheet](#) to bring one or more dishes, snacks or drinks.

Thank you for your generosity,

**Sam Penn and Nico Hotes**

## VOLUNTEER NEEDS AT SAMARITAN MINISTRY

Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington works with everyday people who want to make changes in their lives. Their casework team and volunteers work with participants for as long as is necessary for them to take their next steps and achieve their goals.

In addition to case management, advocacy, and assistance with educational, housing, employment, and other goals, Samaritan Ministry also provides direct services such as clothing, toiletries, and food.

### Front Office Coordinator (Northwest)

**Location:** 1516 Hamilton St NW,  
Washington DC 20011

#### Responsibilities include:

- Welcome program participants and offer individual attention
- Sort mail
- Answer the telephone and take messages for staff and program participants
- Assist with distribution and giveaway events
- Other duties specific to the office

#### Qualifications:

Must Be at least 18 years old

#### Time Commitment:

- Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10am-4pm (Hours will be adjusted as needed)
- Must attend a two-hour virtual Orientation , Shadow a FOC

#### Mandatory Trainings (currently virtual):

- Position Focused - FOC
- Specialty Issues - Poverty, Homelessness, Housing, etc.
- Social Justice - Inequality, Racism, Discrimination, etc.

### If interested, please contact:

Sy Jones, Volunteer Manager  
[sjones@samaritanministry.org](mailto:sjones@samaritanministry.org)

### COVID-19 Tracker

#### **!URGENT!** Remote Volunteer Position

**Location:** REMOTE

**Samaritan Ministry is looking for a volunteer to track COVID-19 statistics across the DMV, to inform program decision-making by the organization.**

#### Responsibilities include:

- Updating at least weekly an Excel workbook with the most recent data from COVID-19-related web sites, including those maintained by District, Maryland, and Northern Virginia authorities; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and *The New York Times*.
- Preparing and sending a weekly email to the responsible team at SMGW with the workbook, key takeaways based upon the data, and a brief summary (i.e., quotes) from 2-3 top news stories, with links.
- Participating, if possible, in weekly team meetings where results are discussed along with their impact on SMGW operations.

#### Skills required:

- Good web research skills – Able to identify reliable sources of information, copy and paste links, etc.
- Basic to good Excel skills – able to do accurate, consistent data entry in an Excel workbook; adjust and update existing charts, including editing legends, axes, etc.
- Analytical skills – accustomed to dealing with data; familiarity with data relating to health statistics or similar is a plus.
- Good writing skills – able to synthesize and summarize key points of information and communicate them clearly.

#### Time requirements:

- Once familiar with the work, this will likely require 3-4 hours per week (occasionally slightly more), including participation in the team meeting.

**REDEEMER BOOK GROUP**

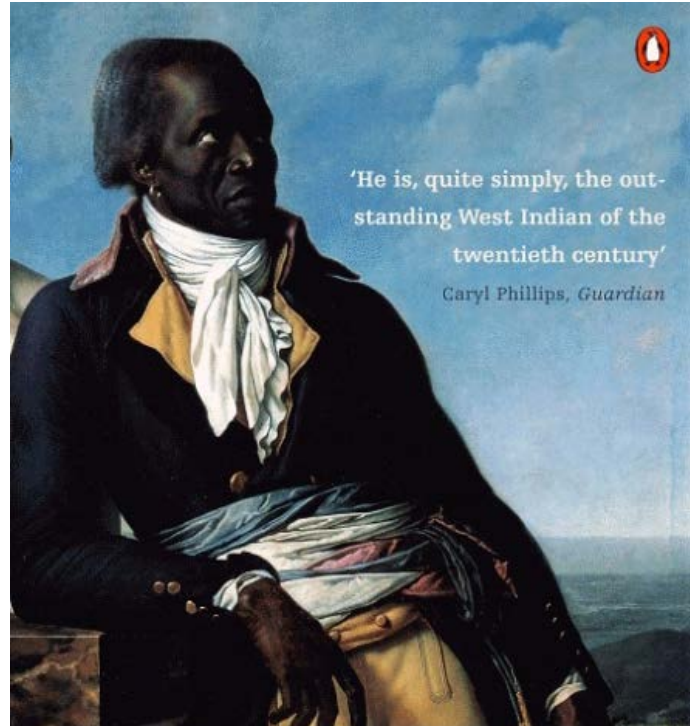
We met in August on Zoom to discuss *For Whom the Bell Tolls* by Ernest Hemingway and had a very lively discussion.

Because of the happenings over the past 18 months on slavery, Black Lives Matter and the recent assassination of the president in Haiti, the Group decided to read *The Black Jacobins* by C.L.R. James. The book was published in 1938 by James, a Trinidadian historian on the history of the Haitian Revolution of 1791-1804. James places the Haitian Revolution in the context of the French Revolution. He focusses on the leadership of Toussaint L'Ouverture, who was born a slave but rose to prominence espousing the French Revolution ideals of liberty and equality, which were embraced by the persecuted blacks of Haiti.

What went wrong?

The book will be discussed on **October 10** IN PERSON or via ZOOM depending on the situation with the pandemic.

For more information, please contact **Bob Dresser** at [robert.dresser@gmail.com](mailto:robert.dresser@gmail.com) or **Huda Kraske** at [hqkraske@aol.com](mailto:hqkraske@aol.com).




IN PERSON

**Let's Talk about Mental Illness**

The COVID pandemic triggered a lot of awareness about mental health. People who had not previously been isolated became so and those who were already isolated became more so. Spending quality time with family was good; spending every minute with family became challenging. Let's talk about why we don't talk about staying mentally healthy.

**Presented by Cricket+**

SEPTEMBER 19TH  
IN PERSON

*Adult Forum  
Sundays at 9*



## Adult Forum Sundays at 9

### Let's Talk about Racism

**Melinda Nelson, Karen Stewart, and Toyin Rose** have answered the Bishop's call to research how systemic racism played a part in the history of our parish. The team will share the rationale for this project and some of the interesting discoveries they've already made.

SEPTEMBER 26TH  
IN PERSON



### REDEEMER MEN'S THIRD FRIDAY LUNCHEON GROUP

The Redeemer Men's Third Friday Luncheon Group has returned to in-person gathering at the Irish Inn at Glen Echo. The group discusses whatever is on their collective minds and catches up on how they are all doing. Being older and retired, sometimes the discussion centers on health, other times on household management, sometimes investment philosophies, national politics, the economy, and, of course, life in the parish. A reminder email is sent to all interested persons early in the week we are meeting.

If you would like to know more about the group, or be put on the email list, contact Bob Dresser: [Robert.dresser@gmail.com](mailto:Robert.dresser@gmail.com)



*The Choir Pews are carefully moved, wrapped, and stored during this period of distancing.*

You are cordially invited to

## A "Welcome Home" Concert

presented by **KASSIA MUSIC**  
Redeemer's *Ensemble-in-Residence*

**UPSTAIRS** in the Church Sanctuary **IN PERSON**

**Saturday, September 18 at 7 p.m.**

All proceeds to the Church's flood gap

### Dear Friends,

After more than a year-long hiatus, we're thrilled to be back for another season at Redeemer. We hope you'll join us for our 21-22 season opener and the church's welcome-back fundraiser on **Saturday, September 18 at 7 p.m.**

Come celebrate the church's reopening with music by Poulenc, Tsintsadze, Bernard, Sam, and others.

We've missed you, we've missed each other, and we've missed live music. We're so thankful to Redeemer and to you all for supporting our streaming concerts when the pandemic first hit. But there's nothing like being together to play and listen with each other in person!



*Redeemer's Ensemble-in-Residence, KASSIA MUSIC*

In addition to the fundraising concert in September, we will play on November 13, January 8, February 19, and April 2, in addition to running a chamber music workshop on March 12. Mark your calendars and grab your masks! We have so much to share with you this coming season, and we can't wait to see you.

**Adina, Bernard, Lauren,  
Sam, & Susanna**



Music at Redeemer

SEASON 2021–2022

September 18	“Welcome home, Redeemer” KASSIA MUSIC
October 16	Juliana Soltis, Bach cello suites
November 13	KASSIA MUSIC
December 4	Vivi Cantando
January 8	KASSIA sonata concert
February 19	KASSIA MUSIC
March 12	Chamber music education day
April 2	KASSIA MUSIC
April 29 (Friday)	ALKEMIE
June 11	Mozart Requiem at Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church



**Well, it’s time to dust off “Plan D”** for Delta. Our on-staff medic quickly confirmed that my perennial desire to seat the choir in “university” seating across from one another, was not a good idea at present. Therefore, we are going to be activating the “Redeemer Labrynth Protocol” and bring our masked and distanced semi-circle indoors. I hope you’ll either join us, or sit back and enjoy our work together.

**Geoffrey Silver,  
Director of Music Ministries**



**I propose to start a small youth ensemble at Redeemer.**

The group would meet once or twice a week with a member of KASSIA for coachings of classical music. Additionally, this ensemble, comprising members of the Church, could potentially play service music, perform during the KASSIA KIDS SPOT (our pre-concert program), and/or represent Redeemer at outreach events.

The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

The ensemble—or ensembles, if interest is great enough—will be appealing for those of you inviting friends to join the congregation, as many families regularly seek music-based extra-curriculars for their children. Furthermore, this idea has the potential to expand into a larger program with a greater reach. Not only would the chamber ensemble provide youth with the opportunity to study with professional musicians, but it has the potential to add more beautiful music to worship.

Parents who are interested in exploring this should write to either myself or Geoffrey. My email is [susanna@kassiamusic.org](mailto:susanna@kassiamusic.org).

**Susanna Mendlow  
Cellist & Vocalist**



**AFGHAN FAMILY RESETTLEMENT**

As of the writing of this article you have donated over \$7500 to the effort to help welcome, settle and provide for the needs of Afghan refugees arriving in our area. I would like to take just a little bit of time to tell you what I am doing in cooperation with Rev. Terri Murphy, deacon at Ascension Silver Spring and Rev. Sara Thorne, deacon at Christ Church Kensington. We are answering the call of Bishop Mariann Budde to take on this call of mercy, hospitality and bridge building. Terri and I met with the family of 7, who now have an apartment in Alexandria with the assistance of members of the local Afghan community. We provided them with the beginnings of putting a household together and acclimating to their new home. We concentrated first on food and the means to prepare it and the basics of setting up their new home. They are grateful and very humble in articulating their needs. We are in the process of obtaining mattresses and pillows for the 5 children and the parents. We provided bedding, towels and provided help for obtaining clothing and toiletries. We are working with them to assess their other needs for home furnishings and want to maximize their involvement in choosing what they feel they need and want and be respectful in recognizing that needs differ culturally.

We know that there is a need for a couple of laptop computers for use by the children for school. Area social service agencies will help enroll the children in school and at that time we may be asked to provide for school needs. This family is part of an extended family that has made it out of Afghanistan and hope to reunite close to one another here in the Metro Area. These other families (one of 4 and two of 3 members) will be arriving in the next couple of months from resettlement camps to which they have been taken for initial screening, medical care and emergency assistance. There is a large Afghan community in the Northern Virginia area, which is why Alexandria was chosen for their initial home. This provides for many things such as fellowship with others of similar cultural experiences, the promise of friendship and help in acclimating to a new cultural environment, and the spiritual support of other Afghan Muslim congregations. We see our role as helping them to become acclimated and begin making those connections that will enable them to thrive in their new home. Our role as a Christian community is one of friendship and support in providing initial basic resources until they are integrated into the care of the broader Afghan community and the assistance of social service agencies to connect them to governmental and community sources of ongoing support. Thank you for your initial generous outpouring of love for this family and for the rest of their family to come. This is being “doers of the Word and not hearers only” and is what Jesus asks of us. We deacons pledge to be good stewards of your love and generosity.

**Adrienne Clamp+**



**CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER'S**

**OPERATING RESULTS** through July 31, 2021 are set forth in the adjoining profit and loss statement. Pledge income was \$20,923 below budget in July and is \$33,745 below budget year to date. Net operating income YTD is \$33,880 below budget. Close attention will need to be paid to pledge fulfillment during the remainder of the year.

Flood recovery expenditures and related building improvement projects, such as kitchen upgrade and new elevator, are not reflected in

the attached profit and loss statement, but are tracked separately. Flood recovery costs are largely covered by insurance, while building upgrade projects have been funded from the building reserve, special donations, and the operating account.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about Redeemer finances.

**Stephen L. Gibson,**  
Treasurer

Redeemer Profit and Loss Statement - July 31, 2021	Jan - July Actual	Jan - July Budget	Jan-July Over (Under) Budget	Annual Budget
<b>INCOME</b>				
2021 Pledge Payments	287,080	320,825	(33,745)	476,500
2021 Over Pledge	3,185	8,750	(5,565)	15,000
2021 Non-Pledge	14,513	14,583	(71)	25,000
2020 Pledges	5,982	583	5,398	1,000
Loose Plate Offering	714		714	
Special Offerings	10	583	(573)	1,000
Event & Activity Income	0	0	0	0
Facilities Use	0	2,917	(2,917)	5,000
Other Income	3,686	3,500	186	6,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>315,169</b>	<b>351,742</b>	<b>(36,572)</b>	<b>529,500</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
Administration Expense	32,635	30,800	1,835	52,800
Diocesan Giving	23,333	23,333	(0)	40,000
Discretionary Account	0	292	(292)	500
Maintenance Expense	52,479	46,958	5,520	80,500
Personnel Expense	171,167	175,412	(4,245)	300,707
Program Expense	7,846	13,213	(5,366)	22,650
Property Expense	27,272	27,417	(145)	47,000
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>314,733</b>	<b>317,425</b>	<b>(2,692)</b>	<b>544,157</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>34,317</b>	<b>(33,880)</b>	<b>(14,657)</b>



**Anniversaries**

Joe and Debbie Babcock-Daley  
Geoffrey and Hope Platt  
Hillary Robinson and Chris Moore  
Thad and Lisa Arrington  
Paich and Jeffrey McInturff  
Anne deFontenay and David Hotes  
Rebecca and Adam Tucker

**Birthdays**

Tim Nickerson  
Jane Dealy  
James Wang  
David Lawrenz  
Judy James  
Jim Packard-Winkler  
John Harbeson  
Charles Raisch  
Michael Hart  
Mary Helen Carlson  
Helen Zitomer  
Henrik Peyer  
Charles Court  
Aaron Packard-Winkler  
Leah Nazarian  
Anna Seckel

*The organ is unleashed*

**Redeemer has been through** extraordinary trials over the last year and a half. I know, I know—just call me Captain Obvious. It's been about three years since I've been a parishioner at Redeemer and I look forward to returning in September, even if just for a few months. I wanted to write you—those whom I know and those to whom I'm a stranger—to tell you what I miss about Redeemer.

I miss being around those of you who, in my experience, don't shy away from the truth. I remember how much I enjoyed playing in the Taizé ensemble. Usually I played my recorder; occasionally I played piano. I'm not very skilled on either one. After one service at which I played particularly badly, I was bemoaning it to a fellow parishioner—one whom I didn't know very well. She smiled and said matter-of-factly, "We don't go to hear you play. We go to worship." That not only checked whatever ego of mine was at play, it also gave me great relief. While we would have all preferred Geoffrey's playing to mine, it was about the worship, not any sort of performance. Thank you, Redeemer.

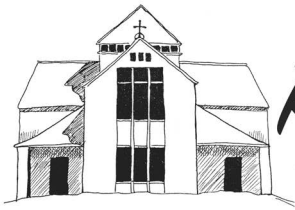
I miss the outreach—especially the concerts, labyrinth services and the strawberry festival. I'm very aware of The Great Commission. I planned on being a missionary at one time, but decided I was too sinful, and it would be hypocritical of me to go out and tell people about Jesus when I wasn't very Christlike. I'm better at quietly setting an example, as best I'm able. I love how Redeemer invites the public into the sacred space without an overt revival going on. We find common ground and offer a comfortable place for people to return, where we are happy to minister spiritually or otherwise. An example is a woman who stopped by the church once when I was the only one there. She asked for Cricket, then told me expectantly that she needed gas money to get home. She knew she could get what she needed at Redeemer. Thank you, Redeemer.



I miss the level of education and the drive to continue education in the parishioners. I took the first two years of Education for Ministry and hope to complete it one day. I like that not everyone at Redeemer takes the scriptures literally at their translated word, rather many know that vital truths lie at the foundation of the stories. I like being around people who can sit and debate their meaning while searching for and establishing my own personal faith. I appreciate the prevailing understanding of *Lord, I believe—forgive my disbelief*. I miss the sermons that aren't full of platitudes, rather are researched and get me thinking. Thank you, Redeemer.

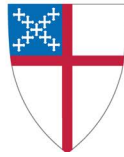
I miss the space. I miss being in the sanctuary alone to practice recorder or piano and seeing the sun cast colored reflections through the stained glass onto the floor before the altar. I miss the books—all that Thomas Merton!—just sitting there waiting to be reread. I miss the garden where I spent an hour in prayer one Maundy Thursday. (I even miss picking weeds!) I miss the labyrinth where I walked and where I played music while others walked. I miss heading over to 7-11 for a quick cold drink or the Irish Inn for soup and wine after choir rehearsal. Once again, thank you Redeemer. I look forward to being back with you.

**Laura Rose**



The Episcopal Church Welcomes You

# Redeemer Bethesda



For COVID-safety reasons, the Parish Office is open by appointment. Please contact individual staff members for appointments.

As Sunday is a work day for staff, please avoid contacting staff members by phone on Mondays unless it's an emergency.

## PARISH CLERGY & STAFF

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**Welcome to The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Bethesda, Maryland,** a parish community of “inquiring and discerning hearts”, where you are welcome to join us in living and wrestling with difficult questions. We value an Anglican spirituality - one that is open to the mystery of the Holy and that celebrates the beauty of creation and upholds the dignity of every human being.

Redeemer is known for beautiful, reverent worship, excellence in preaching and music, and active outreach ministries to its neighbors.

Redeemer's local outreach ministries include support of a Manna Food Pantry, literacy through tutoring at a Silver Spring elementary school, sponsoring blood donation drives, and singing for persons who are ill or shut in.

**No matter who you are or where you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome here at Redeemer. We look forward to greeting you!**

**The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer**  
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**www.redeemberbethesda.org**