

Redeemer
Bethesda

THE REDEEMER SPIRIT

MARCH 2021

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

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday - TheFIVE at 5pm on Zoom

Monday through Wednesday in Holy Week - Morning Prayers at 10am via phone; Compline at 8pm via Zoom

Maundy Thursday - Liturgy at 7pm on Zoom*; Altar of Repose on camera overnight

Good Friday* - Stations of the Cross outdoors on our lawn. Times and procedures to be announced. Good Friday Liturgy on YouTube featuring the churches of the Southern Montgomery County Episcopal Deanery.

Holy Saturday - 10am on Zoom with Amma Cricket

Easter Vigil* - with St. Dunstan's parish at St. Dunstan's. Time to be announced. Weather permitting.

*Lay participation desired for readings. Please contact Cricket if you are interested. Youth welcome!

Easter Day - Stay tuned! All liturgical events are subject to change. Please watch "This Week at Redeemer" and "From the Hearth" e-mails for updates.

Inside this Issue:

Wardens' Message-2
Rector Message-3
Christian Education-4
Episcopal Relief -5
Birthdays-6
Adult Education-8
Financials-12
Food Drive-13
Vestry Notes-14, 15



Dates of Note:

Daylight Saving Time begins on March 14th. Be sure to set your clocks forward the night before.

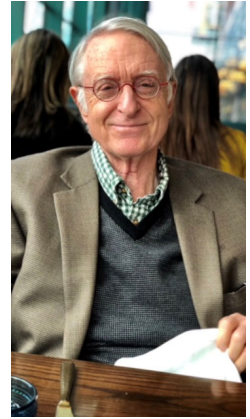
Holy Week is March 28 to April 3.

Easter is April 4.

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

As I settle into my new role I am learning more about aspects of Redeemer that I only knew slightly from my perches in a choir stall or chairing the music committee. One such is Sunday School. At the February vestry meeting long time teachers Steve Gibson and Mary K Young told us about their work with young students especially in the time of COVID and our unique trial, the flood, requiring virtual distance learning. It was clear that these teachers and their colleagues have risen to the occasion, as have their pupils, with ingenuity and energy. Sunday School is a vital building block for Redeemer's future. Thanks to all who are engaged in this important work.

Gian-Philip Toro. The series continues through the spring and can be accessed anytime on Redeemer's website and clicking on "Kaleidoscope." It's an opportunity to revisit or hear for the first time the superb musicians featured in MAR. Thanks as always to our Director of Music Ministries Geoffrey Silver for his creative leadership.



Please keep in touch with each other.

Another activity that resists being cowed by circumstance is Music At Redeemer (MAR). A new online series "Kaleidoscope" is underway that features members of the music committee commenting on and presenting performances drawn from the extensive audio visual archive of MAR concerts. It premiered February 22 with a wonderful program produced by

In the words of an old Irish blessing: "May God hold you in the palm of His hand."

Geoffrey Platt
Senior Warden



Bethesda Cares - March 28



Redeemer is scheduled to prepare and deliver an outdoor dinner for 30 homeless and hungry men on Sunday, March 28 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 on this sheet https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1uq9bL4f5FsibxA_XliTorHi6X_HaavpGcTbPrUYI5NM/edit?usp=sharing to bring one or more dishes, snacks or drinks. Thank you for your generosity.

Sam Penn and Nico Hotes

FROM THE HEARTH

Seasons of Love

[Jonathan Larson](#)

*Five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes
Five hundred twenty-five thousand moments so dear
Five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes
How do you measure? Measure a year?
In daylights, in sunsets, in midnights, in cups of coffee.
In inches, in miles, in laughter, in strife.
In five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes
How do you measure a year in a life?
525,600 minutes! 525,000 journeys to plan. 525,600
minutes - how can you measure the life of a woman or man?
In truths that she learned or in times that she cried
In bridges he burned, or the way that she died.
Remember the love! Measure in love. Seasons of love!*

March 15, 2020. Bp. Budde called all the diocesan clergy together for a Zoom call. "We have to shut down. We are at the epicenter of the pandemic in this area. We have to do this to protect our congregants."

We'd just started Lent and our new evening service. In the blink of an eye, we were virtual. We still are. We will be for a while yet. As much as it pains me to say it, we will be for a while yet. We've not reached the one-year anniversary of "The Great Flood". That's next month. Repairs are coming along.

Instead of measuring only by grief, I invite you to measure in love.

We've been able to keep our staff together thanks to your generosity and the generosity of the federal government. We have lots of kids coming to Sunday School every week. Our pre-pandemic attendance was at 115 per Sunday – an increase over the year before. The Music Committee found creative ways to keep that ministry alive.



The Youth Group held a food drive for Manna. We collected food for Thanksgiving baskets. Eighty kids got tablets to help them with school through our annual "Back Pack Drive". Dozens of families had a happier Christmas thanks to St. Nicholas and Toy Sunday.

When spring arrives, Geoffrey will get the choir together again. They will sing outside, of course. Their rehearsal not only bless themselves, but the neighborhood. We'll figure out how to do some worship outside. (Still masked and socially distant of course.)

Stay strong. Take breaks when you need them. Remember that God's love surrounds you every moment of the day. Keep being the Church!

Amma Cricket+

The Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network (MEPPN) invites Episcopalians from across the state to gather virtually to be trained in addressing key issues with their legislators. Join in and learn about the current priorities of MEPPN and how they tie into the Episcopal Church's mission to build a community of love where all of God's people are cared for mentally, physically, and spiritually.

With more than 3,000 bills introduced during the legislative session, the MEPPN team has taken action on bills that are helping communities usher in a more equitable and just world. Through written and oral testimonies the MEPPN team is using their voice to advocate. Raise your voice in solidarity. Come to listen, come to learn, come to empower.

[Register here to attend Advocacy Day](#)

March 4, 2021

9:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Virtually via Zoom, meeting link will be sent to registrants prior to the event

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Adult Forums in March

The “How to Pray” series continues!

- Praying Bodily—how to use movement as prayerful discipline. (March 7)
Before you panic: This isn’t a dance or yoga class. We can do one of those once the building’s habitable again and we can meet. That’s not the goal here. This prayer is about mindfulness. There are ten exercises you can do anywhere to help you be well. These have been practiced at the Plum Community in south-west France under its founder, Thich Nhat Hanh. They are simple and centering. Join Amma Cricket in prayer through movement.
- Praying with Textiles—how to keep your hands prayerful and your heart mission-focused at the same time. (March 14) Using our hands and textiles provides a repetitive, almost mantric, way to pray for others. At the same time, the products of our labor can be gifts of the Spirit. Join Cathy Arrington, Toni Strother, and Amma Cricket for this session. We’ll talk about our own knitting practices and how prayer shawl ministries have taken root across the nation. All knitters, crocheters, and crafters welcome!
- Praying with Art—how the observation of art and the creation of art connects us with divine energy. (March 21) Lisa Palchick is an artist and iconographer in Dublin, Ohio. She will present her work and talk about how icons and mandalas can assist us in our prayer life. Lisa was once a faculty member at Kalamazoo College Department of Art and she grew up in the DC area. She’s a delight and a deeply spiritual person. Don’t miss seeing some amazing art and meeting Lisa, albeit virtually.

There will not be an Adult Forum on March 28th (Palm Sunday)

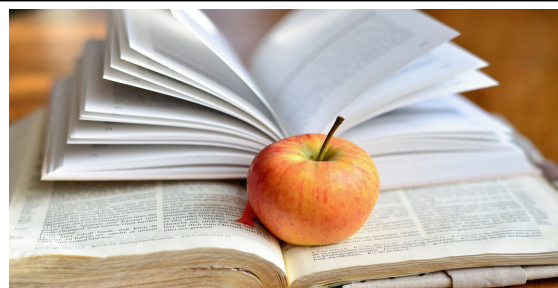


An Invitation to Study the Women in Scripture with Deacon Adrienne

While at my last parish, I began a study of the women of the Scriptures with some parishioners and invite anyone who might be interested in joining us

to our weekly hour together. I think the women are particularly interesting because the Bible is largely about men and their doings while learning to be a nation. In the ancient Hebrew culture, women had little to say outside of hearth and home with a few notable exceptions. This makes the ones who actually are spoken of in the Scriptures interesting and noteworthy. I would welcome your participation with us from 4pm-5pm on Friday afternoons. If you are interested, please drop me a note so I can add your name to the Zoom invitation and forward study notes and assignments (not at all onerous!) to you. My email is adrienneclamp@me.com or deacon@redeemerbethesda.org.

Rev. Adrienne Clamp



Lunch with Jesus Exploration of Sunday Lectionary Readings

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. Bring your study Bible and join us this week. The Zoom link is on the Redeemer home page: www.redeemerbethesda.org.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE-EPISCOPAL RELIEF

Responding to Winter Storms

Episcopal Relief & Development is in close contact with Episcopal dioceses in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Louisiana as they assess needs created by winter storms that are producing widespread power outages across the south.

Winter storms and ongoing freezing temperatures knocked out power in much of Texas on February 14. Over 3 million homes lacked electricity as of Wednesday morning. Without power and heat, many water pipes and water mains froze and burst, leaving people without water and causing damage to their homes. The storms have also interrupted the food supply chain, compounding the challenges for people who lost food due to lack of refrigeration. Food banks have been similarly affected, making it difficult for them to serve vulnerable communities that rely on their services. People without homes have been especially impacted as sleeping outdoors is extremely dangerous in these conditions but shelter space is already limited due to COVID-19 precautions.



The organization's US Disaster Program team has been in communication with staff at the Episcopal dioceses of Dallas, East Carolina, Fort Worth, Oklahoma, Northwest Texas, Rio Grande, Texas, Western Louisiana and West Texas, many of whom have been personally affected by the water and power outages all week. Partners are in the process of assessing the needs of vulnerable communities such as those without housing.

The Episcopal Diocese of Texas, with Episcopal Relief & Development's support, is supplying emergency shelter, warming centers, food, generators and gasoline to

under-resourced communities in the greater Houston, Waco and Austin areas. The diocese is leveraging its long-term Hurricane Harvey recovery team, which was already responding to COVID-19, to meet these immediate needs and will continue to assess how it can provide support as the crisis evolves.

"Our partners in southern states are experienced in responding to hurricanes and are adapting emergency response plans in light of the cold weather and power crisis," said Katie Mears, Senior Director, US Disaster, Episcopal Relief & Development. "As temperatures begin to rise, we expect to see more reports of water damage, and we stand ready to support our partners as they respond."

Please [pray](#) for all those impacted by the winter storms and freezing temperatures. Donations to the [US Disaster Response Fund](#) will enable Episcopal Relief & Development to continue to respond to this crisis and other disasters, whether natural or human-made.

(Photo by TX DOT.)

PARISH LIFE

March Birthdays

Julia Dohner
 David Riggs
 River Amouri
 Bill MacBain
 Patrick Tucker
 Elizabeth Carr
 Steve France
 Shannon Yehl
 Ralph Alterowitz
 Toni Strother
 Jefferson Arrington
 Justin Cinkala
 Athena Hoogerheide
 Sally Pugsley
 David Winer
 Toyin Rose
 Bob Yates
 Maristela Romero
 Nathan Price
 Caroline Sherrard
 Olivia Tomasson
 Jakob Tomasson
 Scott Williams



Our shed is in need of some reparative love. Please contact Jo Barclay-Beard if you're able to help.

Now I lay me down to sleep . .



The order of Compline has been around for millennia.

It is the final prayer office before the monastic folk went to bed for their short night of sleep. This lovely service was restored to the Book of Common Prayer in 1979.

Redeemer's Geoffrey Silver and St. Dunstan's Joey Arkfeld combine talents to offer Compline for both communities each weekday evening at 8:00pm. Yes, there will be music.

Remember Telephones?

Believe it or not, telephones of all ages continue to be a great way to communicate with family and friends. If you're tired of Zooming, or don't have the desire to use new-fangled technology, it's okay. We can pray by phone!

The rectors of St. Dunstan and Redeemer host a prayer conference call Monday through Friday at 10am.

To participate, please follow these instructions:

1. Dial this number: (508) 924-1769
2. That's it!

Access code for callers outside of United States only: 62015450



PARISH LIFE



We've come so far and we still have a ways to go. The new elevator required the construction of a new machine closet, movement of pipes and wiring. Its installation should be complete in a week to ten days. The rector's office is the flooring staging space. When the elevator is finished, the floor is next. The bathrooms are being reset to their original functionality. The parish hall continues as storage space

until we're ready to lay the flooring. Once the flooring is in, we can retrieve our things from off site. We still have painting in a couple of rooms to do. Also, the kitchen parts have been ordered, but haven't been delivered. We keep going—one day at a time. Please contact Jo, our junior warden, or Cricket if you have any questions.

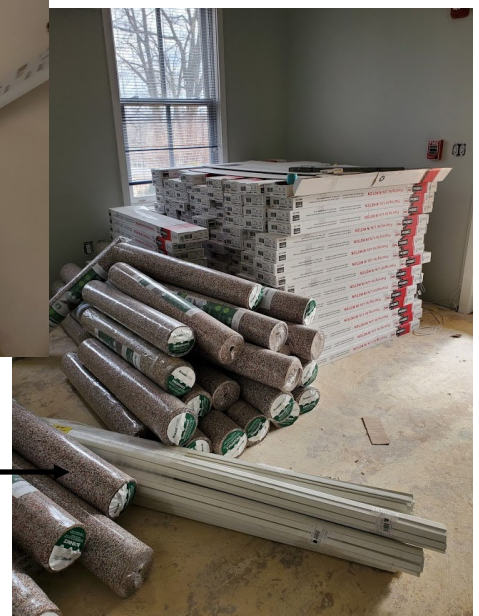
Kitchen



Ladies Room



Rector's office



ADULT EDUCATION

The History of Slavery: The First 200 Years— an encore presentation by Karen Stewart.

Join Karen on Wednesdays in Lent for her fascinating course on Slavery in America. Karen takes you on a journey that will open your eyes to the horrors of this practice in American history. Horrors that continue to haunt us to this day. This encore presentation is a deeper look at this history. If you've attended her presentations at Adult Forums before, there will be more information for you this time around.



Classes are on WEDNESDAY EVENINGS on Zoom. This will be a six-week course from February 24th to March 31st. Each class runs an hour and fifteen minutes, from 7:30pm to 8:45pm. You are strongly encouraged to commit to attending all sessions.

Please register for the class by e-mailing Karen: karenstewart0405@gmail.com. The link will be posted in This Week at Redeemer and From the Hearth—Weekly Edition.



Redeemer/St Dunstan's

Blood Drive

Monday, April 5th

10am to 4pm

At St Dunstan's

See Bob—bob@bobyates.net

There is always light. We need the courage to see it. We need the courage to be it.

REDEEMER MEN'S THIRD FRIDAY LUNCHEON GROUP

While currently suspended, the Men's in-person lunch group has moved online. 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. Monthly attendance has varied from as few as 4 to as many as 11. A reminder email with the online link and time 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).

PARISH LIFE

Redeemer Book Group

Our next meeting will be on March 7 at 3 pm. We will be discussing “Caste: The Origins of our Discontent” by Isabel Wilkerson. Described by the NY Times as an “instant classic,” this timely non-fiction book examines the unspoken caste system that influences people’s lives and behavior and the nation’s fate. Through an immersive, deeply researched narrative and stories about real people, she explores how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system that includes but extends beyond race and enforces a rigid hierarchy of human rankings. All are welcome. The Zoom link is below. For more information, please contact Bob Dresser robert.dresser@gmail.com or Huda Kraske hqkraske@aol.com.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87582685396?pwd=bWg4aHJzWG9kNEExNcUhiakdoZklnQT09>

Leader:	May you walk with God
Response:	In the sharp pain of growing
Leader:	In the midst of confusion
Response:	In the bright light of knowing
Leader:	May you live in God
Response:	In God’s constant compassion
Leader:	In God’s infinite wisdom
Response:	In God’s passion for peace
Leader:	May you walk with God
Response:	And live in God
Leader:	And remain with God
Response:	Now and forever. Amen.



Prayers For These Times

For Those Who are Unemployed

Heavenly Father, we remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this land so to use our public and private wealth that all may find suitable and fulfilling employment, and receive just payment for their labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Those Who Live Alone

Almighty God, whose Son had nowhere to lay his head: Grant that those who live alone may not be lonely in their solitude, but that, following in his steps, they may find fulfillment in loving you and their neighbors; through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.

(From the Book of Common Prayer 1979.)

Music at Redeemer



In the UK, “rain stops play” is a very familiar term. One that will resonate with anyone who follows cricket, a sport that can last for several days, without anyone actually knowing what is going on. It is as intricate and baffling as queuing and complaining-the other two national sports. Very rarely will Britain’s damp weather impact other activities, many of which, particularly rugby, seem

to be designed for an optimal use of water, but it does seem to be a cruel joke to have a country that prides itself on a sport that depends upon a dry wicket, and a field that’s too large an area to cover, in a country where rainy summer days regularly outnumber sunny summer days. So...for three months now, frigid temperatures, “ice and snow have stopped play” for Redeemer’s singers. With the more easily transmissible strains of the virus making one wonder about the veracity of the singers’ masks available, outside it has to be until we are all protected. With any luck, we have seen the last of the snow, and can get together on the labyrinth again soon. In the meantime, Lisa MacBain has brought together her quartet and we have Easter “in the can,” and Janna and I will continue to cantor at *TheFIVE* together with Cricket and our new Deacon, Adrienne Clamp!





Music at Redeemer this year presents a “Kaleidoscope” series, a trip into the archive each month. Our first, “Duets” presented by Phil Toro featured two husband and wife duets, Adina and Bernard Vallandingham from KASSIA Music, and Chuyoung and Erik Suter. The concert ends with the Dunque io Son duet from Rossini’s Il Barbiere di Siviglia, with young artists from the Philadelphia opera world, Alize Rozsnyai, Soprano, Tom Sitzler, Baritone and Irene Moretto, Piano. If you missed these concerts the first time around, I recommend you catch them in their new incarnation on YouTube via our webpage and Facebook. When presented in such a way, you will certainly hear different things. And with our expert videographers (who are audio engineers first, video engineers second), you will have the best seat in the house!

Geoffrey Silver
Director of Music Ministries



FINANCIAL REPORT

Church of the Redeemer Profit and Loss Statement - January 31, 2021	January 2021 Actual	January 2021 Budget	January Over (Under) Budget	Annual Budget
INCOME				
2021 Pledge Payments	119,084	134,015	(14,931)	476,500
2021 Over Pledge	2,677	1,250	1,427	15,000
2021 Non-Pledge	820	2,083	(1,263)	25,000
2020 Pledges	4,314	83	4,230	1,000
Loose Plate Offering	0	0	0	0
Special Offerings	0	83	(83)	1,000
Event & Activity Income	0	0	0	0
Facilities Use	0	417	(417)	5,000
Other Income	3,252	500	2,752	6,000
Total Income	130,147	138,432	(8,285)	529,500
EXPENSE				
Administration Expense	5,749	4,400	1,348	52,800
Diocesan Giving	3,333	3,333	0	40,000
Discretionary Account	0	42	(42)	500
Maintenance Expense	2,550	6,708	(4,158)	80,500
Personnel Expense	24,601	25,059	(458)	300,707
Program Expense	567	1,888	(1,320)	22,650
Property Expense	3,896	3,917	(21)	47,000
Total Expense	40,697	45,347	(4,650)	544,157
Net Ordinary Income	89,450	93,085	(3,635)	(14,657)

Church of the Redeemer's financial operating results for January 2021 are set forth in the adjoining profit and loss statement. As usual, pledge income for the year is heavily front-loaded into January due to carry-in of prepaid pledges from the prior year (2021 pledges paid in 2020). The prepaid pledge amount for 2021 (\$102,882) is below the carry-in in recent years, which averaged about \$140,000 over the prior three years.

Flood recovery expenditures covered by insurance and insurance payments received are not reflected in the attached profit and loss statement, but are tracked separately. Total recovery expenditures and insurance payments from May 2020 through January 2021 are \$206,468 and \$269,036, respectively.

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

Stephen L. Gibson
Treasurer

MISSION

Lenten Food Drive

Montgomery County is one of the wealthiest counties in the country and despite that fact it was determined in a 2017 survey that over 60,000 individuals in the county suffer from food insecurity. This was well before the emergence of a debilitating worldwide pandemic that pushed many who lived on the edge, over the edge. Even in the more privileged Bethesda enclave, many of our neighbors go hungry as do their children, now that schools have been closed. There is ever increasing need to extend SNAP funds farther than they will go. It is our obligation and call as Christians to help those in need. It is part of our baptismal promise to respect the dignity of every human being and to work for peace and justice. One church stepping into the breach is St. John’s Norwood in their ministry of: **Nourishing Bethesda Family Food Distribution** which takes place weekly. Redeemerites are invited to help with the project of purchasing food, packing food (on Thursday evenings) and distributing food packages (on Fridays) as we are able. The following special needs have been identified and a Lenten schedule of contributions published.

<p>First Week of Lent (2/17-2/23)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can of vegetables Plastic jar of peanut butter Can of fruit 2 cans of tuna 	<p>Fourth Week of Lent (3/10-3/16)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 cans of chicken Can of vegetables Can of soup Squeeze mayonnaise
<p>Second Week of Lent (2/24-3/2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can of spaghetti sauce Box of pasta Dried black beans 2 boxes of cereal 	<p>Fifth Week of Lent (3/17-23)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canned tomatoes Can of Coffee Bag/box of granola Box of oatmeal packets
<p>Third Week of Lent (3/3-3/9)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shelf stable milk Dried kidney beans Canister of oatmeal Bag of rice Can of vegetables Can of soup Squeeze mayonnaise 	<p>Sixth Week of Lent (3/24-4/2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bag of rice Can of fruit Small bag of flour Plastic jar of salsa

If you are willing to put a box of food together for one or multiple weeks, please let me know and I will arrange for pick up and transport to St. John’s Norwood for packing into family food packages for distribution to our hungry neighbors. Thank you so much for taking on this important work in whatever way you are able to. If you need more information please do not hesitate to email me and I will give you a call. I look forward to working together to bless our neighbors. ~Deacon Adrienne

deacon@redeemberbethesda.org
adrienneclamp@me.com
 301-325-5458

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Episcopal Church of the Redeemer February 10, 2021 via Zoom

6:36 PM Opening Prayer: Geoffrey Platt

Report from Sunday School Leaders: Mary K and Steve

Structure:

Godly Play 3YO – 3rd grade
Intermediate 4 & 5th graders (kept 6th graders this year)
Middle & HS classes combined due to lack of students

Curriculum: in intermediate class, looked at curriculum but neither interesting nor doable. They make their own and decide how to proceed: 1. Kids do bible reading every Sunday. 2. Telling a story, events in the bible. Works very well to read out loud. Go to a short bible video on Youtube to reinforce and repeat what they've just read. 6 kids in intermediate. Avg about 3 per Sunday.

Observations:

Zoom observations: more difficult to engage the kids ("zoom out"). Those most lively in the classroom are subdued on zoom. One of attendees joins from Tunisia. Very little turnover with teachers.

Mary K and Patrick have been teaching middle/HS class for 2-3 years (Mary K since 2013 same age group, 12-17). Kids are thoughtful, interesting, love to get a chance to be heard. Work with them at the beginning each year to find out what they want to do. Establish guidelines on how they are going to be together. Enables them to have robust conversations: one conversation, keeping it in the room, in confidence, no devices, with respect. Curriculum developed based on what they want to do--current events at the kid's behest. Last year combo of things on their mind. Read the gospel. Since zoom, not as engaged. Two out of three sessions just reading the gospel. Given their feedback, tried to do some games- Some aspect of church history, gospel, etc. embarking on bringing in some guest speakers to try to get involvement. Lately 7-9 on Sundays. At least 6 or 7. Thrilled with the numbers so far. Safe space and a forum to express themselves.

Steve: 38 classes since Zoom's inception. Sunday school had become a little invisible in the church. Having autonomy presents the best program for the kids. Happy to hear feedback.

Minutes of January 20, 2021 meeting:

Presented, edited, as amended (for typographical errors) so moved. Seconded and motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Prepaid pledges are lower than stated.
Flood expense and insurance are NOT in P&L but reflected in cash report.
Summary month by month recovery expense and amount of insurance to separate flood activities from normal operations.
Motion to approve, seconded, and passed

Wardens' Reports

Junior Warden:

January buildings and grounds is under budget.
Elevator is unpacked, sump pump is installed. Cabinets will be ordered shortly.
Rectory Bathroom: Needs to be gutted. Recommend holding off on parish bathrooms. Bowing ceiling, rotted wood, cracked tiles, previous renovations didn't use concrete board. After discussing with contractors, \$30K estimate. \$15k-30K to tear apart find leak, and put back together with concrete board, sealed properly, etc. Would like to reserve \$30K for a total gut job and renovation.
Motion to accept proposal, seconded, and passed.

Discussion on whether or not we wanted to develop permitted plans for parish hall.

Question as to whether or not we'd get a deal for a package deal. \$189K quote to take all bathrooms and turn into all used bathrooms. Bob Yates thinks we'd come in well under that. Still need permitted plans with HVAC, sprinklers, etc. Or put off for six months and revisit where we are. We do have more expenses coming up.

One bathroom issue: flooring. It's a floating floor, and we'll be able to salvage. It won't be as large a cost as if we did linoleum down again. Insurance only covers the repairing of the bathroom floor.

Another issue adding cost: during renovation, new building codes are in place so certain things need to be redone differently at a higher expense. A few of big items: paying off mortgage, new windows, redoing bathrooms will need a capital campaign.

Consensus is to postpone the bathroom conversation for six months. We'll need at least three quotes before considering anything.

Steve has been working to put a priority list together. We need to take this carefully. We have a lot of expenses coming up, and it's not a good idea to put ourselves in the position of need to borrow money. We do need to

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

prioritize our projections and he'll work with Jo on that to deal with the more important or urgent things.

Consideration for (once all over and done with) to hire a professional window washing company to come in and thoroughly clean the windows.

Senior Warden:

Wrote a piece for this month's Spirit, a peek into his current state of mind. The Music committee is taking a look at video archives of music we have. Cynthia, Geoffrey Platt, Phil toro, and Geoffrey Silver. are all going to create programs out of archived music.

Rector's Report:

Deacon Adrienne's first day with Redeemer is Ash Wednesday.

Old Business

Rainbows (Tim Yehl):

International non-profit that is dedicated to helping kids. Idea is giving kids a place where they can talk about feelings and process grief. Tim's mother founded the organization. It teaches kids that emotions are OK, that they are not alone, and it really works.

Cricket would like to do the training. She has another meeting with the deanery next week and will bring it up again. Anyone else who might want to be trained?

New Business

Scott Williams project:

Steve is working with a coalition to promote integrity of the FDA process: Covid education and equity group. Vaccinated populations to get back to normal. One idea is to create a wall of faces "count me in" make a mugshot, one or two sentences as to why they want to be counted in. If you are interested, contact Scott.

Cricket ended the meeting with prayer at 7:59PM

Boo Hamen! Yeah Esther! - It's the Jewish Festival of Purim!

I discovered these delightful cookies when I moved here. My friend sent me this recipe so I can make them whenever I want to celebrate anything! Take some time and read the book of Esther. It's a great story. ~Cricket

(from Duncan Hines)
Hamentaschen (Hamen's hats)

1 box Yellow Cake Mix
1 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 cup vegetable oil
2 eggs
2 Tbsp water
Filling of your choice: prune, poppy seed, canned cherry or blueberry pie filling, or preserves

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

With an electric hand mixer, combine all ingredients until blended. Gather up the crumbly dough and form into a ball.

Divide the ball into four sections.

Use a rolling pin to roll one of the sections 1/3" thick. Cut into 2 1/2 x 3" rounds using a cookie cutter or the rim of a glass or a biscuit cutter. Cover the unfilled dough with a damp dish towel to keep it from drying out.

In the center of each circle, place 1 tsp of filling

Shape: Take the left side of the circle and fold to the right, covering approximately one-third of the circle. Repeat with the right side, folding to the left, making sure that the top of the right-side fold forms a tip roughly resembling a triangle on top. Take the bottom, which should still have a circular appearance, and bring it upward to produce the third side of the triangle. Each side of the triangle should have one corner that is tucked under and one that is folded over. Pinch each corner.

Place folded hamantaschen on a lightly greased or parchment-lined cookie sheet. Bake for 12 minutes or until lightly browned.



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*The Parish Office is closed during the pandemic and renovation.
Please contact individual staff members for appointments.*



The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Bethesda, Maryland: a vibrant, growing parish community of “inquiring and

discerning hearts”, where all – the doubter, the seeker, and the believer – are welcome to join us in living and wrestling with the often difficult questions of faith. Here we value an Anglican spirituality – one that is open to the mystery of the Holy and which celebrates the dignity of human nature and the beauty of all creation. **Come. Be loved. Belong. Believe.**



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