



The Redeemer

Review

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 12

December, 2004



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| 11/28 | 4:00 p.m. - Holiday Festival |
| 12/3 | 3:00 to 8:30 p.m. - Blood Drive |
| 12/4 | 8:00 a.m. - UMM Elgin District Advent Gathering |
| 12/5 | Gifts from the Heart - Bring Gifts |
| 12/11 | 8:00 a.m. - UMM Meeting |
| 12/11 | 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. - Betty Oster's Birthday Open House |
| 12/12 | 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. - Lessons in Carols |
| 12/18 | 8:30 a.m. - UMW Meeting |
| 12/19 | 2:00 p.m. - Jr & Sr High Christmas Caroling |
| 12/24 | 5:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Family Service |
| | 7:30 p.m. - Christmas Eve Worship |
| | 11:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Communion Service |
| 12/25 | Merry Christmas |



Angel of the Month Melissa Slife

Our Christmas angel, **Melissa** has been a member of *Our Redeemer's* for only a few years along with her husband, **Mike**. This past June, she gave us another member in the person of her new baby daughter, **Samatha**.

Melissa works full time and gives very generously of her free time. She and Mike have both been choir members. (Melissa has just returned to choir; Mike remains on sabbatical with the new baby.)

She is very active in the UMW by helping with the programming and helps out the Board often. Melissa attended the UMW Regional Conference with her Mom and brought back many stories and information to us. She is now a member of the Nomination Committee and for a few hours each month is able to attend Moms Night Out to share fellowship and now baby talk.

Melissa is a wonderful example of the young new members of *Our Redeemer's*. A little time can go a long way in helping to give a lot of Christmas cheer.

Thank you, Melissa for making this year a little brighter.

Redeemer Review

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Our Redeemer's

United Methodist Church

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Worship Services at 9:00 and 10:30 am

Pastor:

[Rev. Bill Shaw](#)

Church Secretary:

[Donna Echtner](#)

Director of Youth Ministries:

[Marianne Rogenski](#)

Co-Editors:

Jim Cottrell

Jerry Mc Daniel



Faith in Times of War

As all of us have become painfully aware that our nation is involved in an ongoing war in Iraq and Afghanistan. There are many in our church family who have friends, family members or colleagues whose lives have been touched by this ongoing conflict. We as followers of Jesus are called to minister to a broken world in times of war and in times of peace. In relation to the current conflict let me suggest the following.

1. Pray daily.

Pray for peace. Also pray for those who are in harm's way, our service men and women and for those who find this war in their homeland. Especially pray for the children; of our service men and women and for those who live in Afghanistan and Iraq.

2. Foster an attitude of gratitude.

Let us be thankful for those among us who are in the service and who have sacrificed on behalf of our country. Let us also give thanks for those who continually work for a just peace in our world, even when that is not popular.

3. Find a personal connection.

First, if you know a family with someone in the service, look for ways to support them. Second, find a way in which you can help those who are suffering from war. There are

many organizations and agencies that minister to people in areas of war (*The United Methodist Committee on Relief, Red Cross and others*). Third, get to know a veteran. Many of our members in the church have served in the military. It can be a gift to us and to them to listen to their stories. They have so much to teach us. It is so important that we know war has a human face.

4. Finally, to all who have children or work with children.

Make an effort to talk to your children about these issues in their life. In an age appropriate way, let them know what you believe about issues of war and peace. Let them know why you believe the way you do. Answer their questions. Let them know how *your faith in Jesus* helps you make decisions about difficult issues like these. In the future they, like us, will need to make decisions on hard issues. Faith is a wonderful gift from God to help us in difficult times. I believe your sharing your thoughts and faith with them will help them know how to make decisions based on the life giving power of Jesus, not the political correctness of their time, the slogans of their time, or the fears of their time.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Bill

Talent at *Our Redeemer's*

On Sunday, November 14 the youth council sponsored our annual Open Mic night. It was a wonderful night of fun and fellowship. As well as enjoying the performances of many of our youth and adults, we also had a wonderful variety of talents shared by our children. **Brian Higgins** shared his skills at the piano. **Marcus Hill** read us some poetry. **Isaac Rogenski** told us some wonderful jokes. **Ian Shaw** sang a solo. **Abby Hill** sang with her brother. **Melanie, Chris and Nicole Johnson** sang us songs about camping. Also, one of our founding members, **Betty Oster**, gave us a wonderful rendition of two songs from Kay Kyser, promptly receiving a standing ovation.

There was one other moment that stood out for me during the show. A young man, a friend of one of our youth grabbed a hymnal, found Amazing Grace and led us in singing that powerful hymn of faith. As I remember our youth, children and adults sharing their gifts, helping us laugh, allowing us some touching moments to cry, I couldn't help but think that Jesus was smiling and that "*church*" doesn't get any better than this. As we continue to support each other and work on behalf of the gospel of Jesus Christ we truly become a people of that amazing grace that God offers to us. Thanks to our youth council and all who helped plan this event for us. I'll see you all there next year.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Bill



by Marianne Rogenski

What a great month November was for the youth!

We started off with our first youth dinner on November 7 between 5:45 and 6:45pm. We had a terrific turnout—30 kids! We had pizza, drinks, and dessert along with games and fellowship. It was a great time for all.

On the 14th we held our 3rd annual Open Mic Night—brought to ORUMC by the Rock. This was an amazing night of fun, food, fellowship, and entertainment enjoyed by just under 100 people—friends, members of ORUMC, and family. We had songs, jokes, bands, piano solos, and poetry among other things. Everyone did an awesome job and I am sure that I am not alone in thinking that Betty Oster stole the show when she got up and sang—it touched us all. Check www.orumc.org if you missed it!

The 28th was the Advent Festival where once again the children enjoyed a special visitor, making ornaments, and eating—thanks to the Jr. and Sr. High students for all of their help!

Now December is here and I can't believe it but we have another fun-filled month ahead and hope to see you all soon!

It is time to think about the ski trip in 2005, which will be January 21-23. We will be staying at Wesley Woods again and skiing

at Alpine Valley on Saturday. The cost is \$90.00 per person which includes equipment rental (it is slightly less if you have your own.) You can ski or snowboard. It is a wonderful weekend so please contact Cathy Mottar if you are interested. We have to have your money and registration form no later than December 15.

I just want to highlight one event—Christmas caroling. This will be on December 19 this year. We will have caroling and a scavenger hunt from 2-5pm with dinner and hot chocolate at church from 5-6pm. If you are able to help either with driving or with the dinner, please let Marianne know ASAP!

Heifer Project.

The Sunday School and Education Committee are sponsoring the Heifer International Gift Market again this year. From November 28 to December 19 they will be collecting money for Heifer International between services in the Narthex.

The money collected is used to provide animals for families around the world to raise. The gift keeps on giving as offspring from those animals are passed on to other needy families. You can “buy” a gift such as chickens, goats, half-a-cow, etc. and have them donated in honor of your friends and relatives (Pastor Bill is partial to goats).

The Sunday School children have been saving money for the Heifer Project in their Ark Banks. If you still have an Ark Bank, please turn it in to the office.

Youth Calendar

Jr. High Schedule

December

- 5 4-5 pm Confirmation
- 5 6 pm MYF
- 19 2-5 pm Caroling and scavenger hunt
- 19 5-6 pm Dinner

January

- 9 4-5 pm Confirmation
- 9 5-6 pm MYF
- 21-23 Ski Trip
- 23 4-5 pm Confirmation
- 23 5-6 pm MYF

Sr. High Schedule

December

- 5 6:30-8 pm MYF
- 12 6:30-8 pm MYF (Note this is new!)
- 19 2-5 pm Caroling and scavenger hunt
- 19 5-6 pm Dinner

January

- 9 6:30-8 pm MYF
- 16 6:30-8 pm MYF
- 21-23 Ski Trip

There will be one or two youth dinners in January, they will be announced at a later date!

10:30 Sunday School

Starting December 5 there will be two Sunday School classes at 10:30 a.m. One class will be for children 3 years old through Kindergarten. The other class will be for children in 1st through 4th grades.

The nursery will also be available for children under 3 years old.



2005 Budget

The Ad Council approved the finalized balanced budget proposed by the Finance Committee at the November 18 meeting. It represents an increase in expenses of almost \$14,000 over the 2004 budget.

The Fall Stewardship campaign resulted in more than \$282,000 in commitments for Our Redeemers in 2005. Of 116 givers (individuals, couples, or families), 91 increased their commitment above last year's amount. We also expect to receive \$47,000 from others based on last years giving patterns.

In addition, *Our Redeemer's* receives income from other sources, like Christian Corners Children Center, Christmas and Easter offerings that we estimate will be \$24,900.

We expect our expenses for staff, ministries and worship, building upkeep and other ongoing programs will be \$379,500 in 2005.

Stewardship Commitment	\$282,300
Estimate Based On Past Giving	\$47,000
Other Income	\$24,900
Total Operating Income	\$354,200
Sprint Rent Income	\$25,300
Total Budgeted Income	\$379,500

Total Budgeted Expenses	\$379,500
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Financial Update

The following is our financial status as of October 31, 2004. Our total income includes Regular Envelope Income, Sprint Income, and Other Funds Income (such as Loose Plate, CCCC Pre-School, Easter Offering).

Total Income	\$322,967
Total Expenses	\$311,825
Net Surplus	\$11,142



American Cancer Society

Road to Recovery

Because many cancer patients require daily or weekly treatments, may be too ill to drive, or do not have family to help with transportation, the Road to Recovery program provides cancer patients with transportation to and from scheduled cancer treatment appointments. Volunteer drivers donate a few hours each month and use their personal vehicles to take patients to treatment and return them to their homes.

If you are interested in providing these rides, or other volunteer opportunities, please call **Linda Brady** at the **American Cancer Society**, 847-358-3965.



Crisis Center Items for December

The items for December will be lotions and soaps. As the holidays approach these items will be used to give to the Mothers for Christmas gifts.

Thank you all for supporting the center and for caring for the Community Crisis Center's woman and children.



Mom's Night Out

December 2, 7:00 p.m.
Note - Thursday Night

Please join us for a night of food and fellowship at Damon's Restaurant. Mom's Night Out is for all moms, but especially for those with school age or younger children.

Call **Annette Brown**, 847-882-8679, to RSVP or just drop in for dessert.

Blood Drive

December 3, 3:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Our Redeemer's hosts the Schaumburg Blood drive December 3 from 3:00 to 8:30 p.m. All are welcome. Reservations are not required.

UMM Advent Breakfast *December 4, 8:00 a.m.*

The United Methodist Men of *Our Redeemer's* are hosting the Elgin District United Methodist Men's Advent Gathering on December 4 at 8:00 a.m.

There will be a worship service and communion followed by breakfast and fellowship. All men of the church are invited to attend.

Please call **John Machonis**, 847-882-1966, to RSVP.



Gifts from the Heart

December 5 - Bring Gifts

Thanks to all who have signed up to provide Christmas gifts to children from ChildServ, a United Methodist agency serving foster children in the Chicago area.

ChildServ so appreciates the support that *Our Redeemer's* has provided in the past. They couldn't help so many children without the help from churches like us.

Please remember to return your unwrapped gifts **Sunday, December 5.**

Special thanks to **Carol and Glen Hollingsworth** who have sponsored **Gifts from the Heart** since its beginning at *Our Redeemer's*.

ASP News

The Appalachian Service Project trip will be July 30-August 7—please note the date and get in on your calendars! If you are still interested please contact Marianne ASAP.

Our next meeting will be announced shortly.

UMM Breakfast Meeting December 11, 8:00 a.m.

All men of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to attend the United Methodist Men's regular monthly breakfast meeting at Maxfield's Restaurant. Come enjoy breakfast and fellowship.

Lessons in Carols Musical Worship Service December 12, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.

The birth of Christ is celebrated throughout the world in song and story. The choirs of *Our Redeemer's* will lead the worship services on Sunday, December 12 at both 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Through scripture and music, we will recognize the global celebration of Christ's coming. Please join us for these special services.

This service is in lieu of the Vespers service that we have held in previous years on a Sunday afternoon in December.



Children's Christmas Program December 12, 4:00 p.m. CANCELLED

The Children's Christmas Program, originally planned for December 12 at 4:00 p.m. has been cancelled.



Church Ladies' Night Out December 15, 7:00 p.m.

A group of ladies of ALL AGES from *Our Redeemer's* goes out to dinner once every month for good food and good fellowship.

Please join us on December 15 at 7:00 p.m. at YU's Restaurant on Golf Rd right behind the Outback. If you don't want to go alone or need a ride, please contact **Bev Wilkes** at 630-837-7889.

United Methodist Women December 18, 8:30 a.m.

Snowmen, Gifts, Christmas Carols and Friends. These are a few of our favorite things.

All women of the church are invited to attend our Christmas Meeting on Saturday morning, December 18 at 8:30 a.m. in the Wesley Room. Our morning program will include our annual Christmas Ornament Exchange. Please bring an ornament for your 2004 Prayer Partner (the person you sent cards to).

We will also select Prayer Partners for 2005 at the meeting (if you have questions contact **Annette Brown** @ 847-882-8629). This is always a fun event and a festive breakfast is provided.



Currently the Staff/Parish Committee is looking to fill two new paid positions at Our Redeemer's in the coming year. Any qualified and interested candidates should contact the church office.

Director of Christian Education

Director of Christian Education would be a part-time, salaried position consisting of approximately 20 hours a week. Responsibilities would include working closely with the Education Committee, supporting our Sunday School classes and teachers; plus facilitating Adult Education programs as well, including Bible studies, Leadership Training and New Member classes.

Praise Team Accompanist

Praise Team accompanist would be a 10 month position, from September through June. During this time, the accompanist would be expected to assist the praise team at a minimum of two weeknight rehearsals each month, then play for both of the 9 and 10:30 AM Alternative Worship Experience (AWE) services on the third Sunday.

Organist

In addition to the new positions, we are again looking for a new organist.

The organist position is a year round position involving rehearsal times on Wednesday evening and Sunday morning in addition to the two Sunday worship services and extra holiday services during the year.



Personal Notes



Betty Oster's Birthday

December 11, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

All are invited to an "Open House" Birthday Celebration for **Betty Oster's** 81st Birthday.

When: Saturday, December 11th, anytime between 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Where: Jeff and Nancy McPherson's home 1406 Colby Lane, Schaumburg. Please call 847-891-7534 if you need directions.

Come, visit a while and enjoy some refreshments, birthday cake, and fellowship.

Please no gifts - your presence is a gift.

Hope you can stop by and share some time with Betty!

Thank You

At Thanksgiving time I am grateful to the people from ORUMC for their prayers, hugs, cards and phone calls.

A special thank you to **Pastor Bill** for all of his support.

Donna Wells



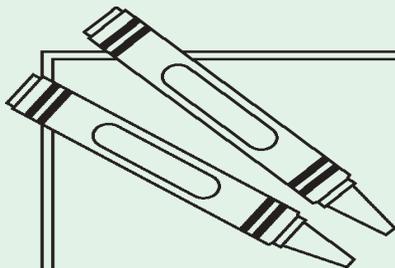
The congregation extends sympathy to **Barbara Will** and her family on the death of Barb's mother **Doris Scott**.

Doris had been a Friendship Village resident and had been attending *Our Redeemer's* for 22 years.

We also extend sympathy to **Dan Brown** and his family on the death of Dan's grandmother, **Anita Brown**.

December Birthdays

- 12/01 Kiana McClelland
- 12/05 Matt Young
- 12/07 Blake Breda
- 12/07 Lukas Torgerson
- 12/14 C.J. Kulprathipanja
- 12/20 Lauren Brown
- 12/21 Abby Hill
- 12/22 Jill Murphy
- 12/27 Dominic Gomes
- 12/27 Brendan Gorvett
- 12/27 Tara Hernandez
- 12/28 Kevin Balk
- 12/28 Joey Dombek
- 12/29 Nick Pope
- 12/30 David Miller
- 12/30 Steven Miller



The Birth of Jesus Foretold

The prophet Isaiah foretold the birth of Jesus Christ. Isaiah knew that Jesus would be called a peacemaker, but that He would also be called by other names.

Use the code to find out what Isaiah said Jesus would be called.

CODE:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A

Z M W S V D R O O Y V

X Z O O V W D L M W V I U F O

X L F M H V O L I , N R T S G B

T L W , V E V I O Z H G R M T

U Z G S V I , K I R M X V

L U K V Z X V .

Isaiah 9:6, NIV

Answer: And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church

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December