



The Redeemer Review

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 2

February, 2005

Ecumenical Service for Christian Unity

On January 17, 2005 the clergy association of Schaumburg-Hoffman Estates held an ecumenical prayer service at St. Marcelline Roman Catholic Church. The message was shared by three local clergy.

Rev. Harriette Cross, Associate Pastor of Our Savior's United Methodist Church, preached on acknowledging our differences, while we work together as followers of Christ.

Rev. Leroy Kennel, from the Community Mennonite church spoke of the importance of working together for peace and justice.

Father Sergio Romo, from St Marcelline, spoke about the power of working together as churches (using the example of the world's response for the tsunami victims as an example).

I was also a participant in the service. This is the 3rd year for the prayer service and we are excited about it growing and becoming a vital connection for the area churches.

Pastor Bill



Welcome Marion Kehrberg

Please welcome our new organist, **Marion Kehrberg**. Marion is a graduate of Drake University with a degree in church music and organ and has been serving as organist, accompanist, or choir director continuously since 1985.

This is Marion's second stint at *Our Redeemer's*. She was our organist for part of a year in the mid '70's until a new opportunity took her family to Wisconsin.

Her family returned to Illinois and she has most recently been organist at Des Plaines UMC. She moved to Hoffman Estates in the fall and was happy to find that *Our Redeemer's* needed an organist. She will begin playing for us again in February.

In addition to welcoming Marion, please thank **Von Evitts**, **Karen Moore**, and **Paula Patterson** for covering the accompanist duties during the search for a new organist.



Angel of the Month Doug Meneely

by Bev Wilkes

Doug has been a member of *Our Redeemer's* for a long, long time along with his wife, **Carolyn** and their two daughters, **Elizabeth** and **Julia**. Because he has been so active and in all our sights for so long, everyone thought he must have been an angel in the last 3 years BUT lo and behold, this is his first time and I say, about time.

Doug has been in almost all of the organized committees such as Stewardship and Ad Council (previously Ad Board). He is an excellent scripture reader and Liturgist. Doug is very popular and very funny in almost all of the Book of Acts dramas. He was in the church bowling league and can be seen as an usher or a greeter when needed. Doug loves teaching Sunday School (3rd. & 4th this year).

My personal favorite thing about Doug is that he is one of the very few men I have ever met who never lets a chance go by to let everyone know what a wonderful wife he has and what a beautiful person she is. Bless his heart for saying these words out loud! Doug is a very tall man with a gentle soul who offers his help to everyone. His generosity is very hard to beat; we could all benefit from his teachings.

Redeemer Review

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Our Redeemer's

United Methodist Church

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[Marianne Rogenski](#)

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Serving from the Heart

Lent begins this year on Wednesday February 9. On that day we will hold our Ash Wednesday service. That date also begins an exciting opportunity for us as a church.

During Lent we will be offering an adult education class on spiritual gifts. The class will be held on Monday nights, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. It will begin on February 14 and will end on March 28. **Childcare** will be provided for each session.

Our ongoing Monday night New Life Bible Study groups will also participate in the study. All of us know that the Christian faith is not a “spectator sport”. Jesus calls us all to discipleship, to know the fullness of his saving grace as we put our faith into action.

Yet we also know that can be difficult to do. We often do not know where we can serve Christ, or how we can serve Christ, or if we have the gifts and talents required to be an active disciple. The class will go through a designed curriculum called Serving from the Heart to answer many of those questions.

During the classes we will examine our spiritual gifts, our talents and our resources for ministry. We will also explore our individual visions for ministry and how God can call us to the work of kingdom building. Finally, we will celebrate our study with a “Party Of Participation” on March 29.

Although it would be helpful to *attend all of the sessions, it is not necessary*. If you are interested in being part of the study please call the church office at 847-882-6116 so we can order a participant’s manual for each person planning to attend.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Bill

Staff Gift

On behalf of our staff I would like to sincerely thank the congregation for this year’s staff gift. Your generosity in this, as well as your generosity in spirit, makes *Our Redeemer’s* an exciting and rewarding place to do ministry. I pray all of you had a joyous Christmas and are excited about our ministry possibilities for 2005.

Pastor Bill



by *Marianne Rogenski*

This month is an exciting month for the youth! There will be plenty of opportunities for the entire congregation to get involved with our youth ministry and we hope that you consider doing so. Contact me at the church office, 847-882-6116, or email me at marianne@orumc.org.

Souper Bowl of Caring

First, on February 6, 2005 we will again be participating in the nationwide Souper Bowl of Caring. This is an amazing Sunday when we ask everyone to bring in a canned good with \$1.00 wrapped around it. There will be youth in the narthex waiting for you before and after both services and you can drop your donations into the marked containers.

All of the food that we collect will be used to stock the pantry right here at *Our Redeemer's* and the money raised will also benefit the many people who come to our church looking for help. Since 1993 when it began, this event has raised over \$24 million nation wide! Please join us this year in helping those in need!

Youth Dinner

February 6 is also another youth dinner. These are turning out to be wonderful times

of fellowship and fun for all who attend. If you are in Jr. or Sr. High and have not been to one yet, why not start now!

Again, it will be a potluck so if you are able to make an entree for us that would be wonderful. Please let me know ASAP!

Other than a few entrees we are asking that anyone with last names beginning A-L bring a dessert and M-Z a side dish! Let's make this one the best yet!

30-Hour Famine

World Vision's 30-Hour Famine is here once again and we are very excited to be participating for the 3rd year in a row.

This year's 30 Hour Famine will be held on February 25th and 26th and Famine Sunday is February 27th at both services. Any Jr. or Sr. High student may participate. We ask participants to begin fasting on Friday at 3pm and we break the fast together with communion and then a potluck dinner at 9pm on Saturday.

During this 30 hours we drink water and 100% fruit juice. The participants are at the church almost the entire time participating in Bible studies, learning about the poor around the world and specifically in the country that will benefit from the funds that we raise. We will be praying, doing a service project, and of course playing games and having tons of fun in fellowship! We do leave the church once or twice—for our service project and this year we may play laser tag or go ice-skating!

Participants ask family and friends to sponsor them before the Famine weekend—every \$30.00 they raise can feed a hungry child for one month. This is an amazing, eye-opening, and spiritual weekend for the participants and everyone else that is involved.

This year there are many opportunities for everyone at ORUMC to be involved and I hope that you will consider it! We will need a lot of 100% fruit juice and we would love to have some donations. If you are able to do that, please bring it to church by February 20. We need volunteers to be at church during the Famine hours and also to drive to our off-site activities.

Most importantly I would like each participant to have a prayer partner from the congregation this year—someone other than a parent to support them as they participate in the 30-Hour Famine. If you would like more information about being a prayer partner please contact me.

Plumblin' Tour '05

Plumblin' Tour '05 is here! What is it? Plumblin' Tour is an invitation to all interested United Methodist High School youth to learn how to reflect on International issues from a Christian perspective. The seminar will be held at the Church Center at the United Nations in New York City and will focus on the country and people of Iraq, past, present, and future.

It is April 9-13, 2005. There will be workshops, worship, and reflection time, as well as a tour of the city! If you are a high

school student and you are at all interested please see me right away—we need to have the application in by February 21, 2005. This is a wonderful opportunity so please consider it!

Youth Ski Trip

Finally, I would like to thank **Cathy Mottar** for all of her hard work in organizing the January Youth Ski Trip! She has done this for us now for 3 years and the youth council really appreciates it! Also thanks to all of the other adults that chaperoned and also to the students that went—it was a great time for all!

Youth Schedule

February 6

Confirmation 4-5pm
Jr. High MYF 5-5:45pm
Youth Dinner 5:45-6:45pm
Sr. High MYF 6:45-8pm

February 13

Sr. High MYF 6:30-8pm

February 20

Sr. High MYF 6:30-8pm

February 25-26

30-Hour Famine

February 27

Famine Sunday Both Services

March 6

Sr. High MYF 6:30-8pm

March 13

Confirmation 4-5pm
Jr. High MYF 5-5:45pm
Youth Dinner 5:45-6:45pm
Sr. High MYF 6:45-8pm

Finance Committee Update 1/20/2005

With the help of part of the Cell Cross rental income from Sprint, *Our Redeemer's* has closed the books on 2004. Our Regular Envelope Income from pledges and other congregational giving was below budget by 7.5%. We have been able to meet all of our obligations, salaries and expenses using about half of the Sprint Cross Tower income.

Expenses were below budget by 3 %, but total Income was below budget by 8 %. In 2004, our Income from Pledges and other worship offerings was \$307,950. Other income came from Christian Corners, Easter and Christmas offerings, etc. totaled \$26,800.

We have paid our Conference apportionment in full. In addition, from our Sprint Income Tithe (10% of the Sprint income), we have given to several Rainbow Covenant Missions. The balance of the Sprint income (\$12,200) was placed in the reserve fund.

It is the goal of the Finance Committee to cover our expenses without using the Sprint Income from the Cross Tower. We can support *Our Redeemer's* mission better if we have the Sprint Income available to expand ministries, for example, for the addition of a position such as second pastor or Christian education leader.

Actual vs. Budget

Category	2004 Actual Total	2004 Budget Total	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Regular Envelope Income	307,950	332,970	(25,020)	-7.5%
Other Budgeted Income	26,800	23,500	3,300	14%
Total Budgeted Income	334,750	356,470	(21,720)	-8%
Total Budgeted Expenses	347,130	358,140	(11,010)	-3%
Net Income (Loss)	(12,380)	(1,670)	10,710	
Sprint Rent Received	24,600	24,000	600	3%
Sprint Rent Contrib. to Expenses	12,380	1,670		
Sprint Rent Reserve	12,220	22,330		

Financial Foot Notes

Year-End statements have been mailed to all members who had not previously picked them up. Please check your statement and report any errors to the office, 847-882-6116.

Giving envelopes for 2005 are also avail-

able. If you did not receive envelopes, but would like them, please call the office.

When using your giving envelopes, please include your name on the envelope. This helps make sure your giving is correctly recorded in the computer.



Twelfth Annual Meals for Millions Lenten Program

Meals for Millions is a mission project for the United Methodist Men, sponsored by the Society of St. Andrew. Nation wide the UMM have provided literally millions of meals of potatoes and other food to the hungry through fund raising activities.

The funds are used to salvage and transport food (especially potatoes), that are perfectly good to eat but which are not suitable for use by processing plants due to size or shape.

All members and friends of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to join the Society of St. Andrew in a program of spiritual reflection and action to fight hunger during Lent. During last year's Lenten season *Our Redeemer's* raised over \$2000. Since 1994 *Our Redeemer's* has raised over \$18,000.

This year's Lenten devotion entitled "Jesus Remember Me" can help you grow spiritually and provide an opportunity to feed the hungry. Money saved from "giving up something" during Lent will go to the Society of St. Andrew to provide food for the hungry.

The Lenten devotion program will begin Ash Wednesday, February 9 and will conclude with a Good Friday Fast on March 25.

Please sign up in the Narthex beginning

Church Ladies Nite Out 7:00 p.m. @ Rosati's

The Church Ladies will be going out to Rosati's Restaurant Wednesday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m. Please join us and bring a friend!

Rosati's is located at 829 Higgins Rd, one block off Salem in the shopping center between Golf and Higgins (can be reached easily from either highway). If you are in need of a ride or don't like to go alone, please contact **Bev Wilkes** at 847-882-6116. We hope everyone comes to have good fun, good food and good fellowship.



Caring Ministries

The Caring Ministry Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, February 8 at 7:30 p.m. If you are in charge of a Caring Ministry, please plan to attend.

Just as important, if you have an idea for a Caring Ministry that you would like to organize, you are especially encouraged to attend.

Please call **Bruce Bedingfield**, 847-882-6116, with questions.

Oh, the Weather Outside is Frightful, But the Thought of Summer Camp is so Delightful!

What's your child's thing? Maybe it's fishing and hiking. Maybe it's music and drama. How about water sports or horseback riding? The UMC Northern Illinois Conference has a variety of safe, spiritual, and fun summer camps for everybody! Summer camps are for kids entering 2nd grade up through high school, and are offered at Reynoldswood in Dixon, IL, and at Wesley Woods in Williams Bay, WI.

For more information, check out the NIC website at www.niccamp.org. Register before April 1 to receive an Early Bird discount.



Volunteer Opportunity

Friendship Village retirement center is developing a small group worship program for persons with Alzheimer's and other dementias. As part of the program they are looking for volunteers who have a "heart for the elderly" and would enjoy bringing stories of God's love to many of their residents.

If you are interested in this ministry opportunity please call **Rev. Nancy Gordon**, Director of Growth Opportunities, at 847-884-5433.



Community Crisis Center Items for February

As cold and flu season sets in please bring medicine for children and adults, cough medicine, cold medicine and aspirins. Please leave these items in the Narthex in the wicker baskets.

Church Directory Personal Please!

Please note that both the church directory phone and address information and the church email address lists are intended for church and personal business only and should not be used for commercial purposes.

Phone List Updates

You can request an updated phone and address list for your church photo directory at any time from Donna in the office (even if you don't have a photo directory). Please give Donna any changes to your phone or address information as soon as possible also.

Email List Updates

We are currently updating the email address list on the computers in the church office. We would like to have the list as complete as possible to facilitate getting information out to members quickly.

Since addresses change often, and some persons have two or three addresses in the current list, please send your current email address to Donna at orumc@core.com (or, even better, drop off a note in the office).

UMM Super Bowl Spaghetti Dinner

February 6, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

All are invited to the umpteenth annual United Methodist Men Super Bowl Spaghetti Dinner. The men will be serving their world-famous meatballs, spaghetti, salad and garlic bread (some plain bread, too) from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$7 per adult, \$5 per child, or \$20 per family. Ticket sales began in January, but are also available at the door.

Proceeds from the dinner will go toward a variety of UMM mission projects.

UMM Breakfast Meeting

February 12, 8:00 a.m.

All men of the church are invited to attend the UMM monthly breakfast meetings on the second Saturday of the month at 8:00 a.m. The meetings are currently at Maxfield's Restaurant, Schaumburg and Plum Grove Roads, but we are looking for a new location.



Mom's Night Out
Feb 3, 7:00 p.m.

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

Call **Annette Brown**, 847-882-6116, to RSVP or just drop in for dessert.

UMW Breakfast Meeting

February 19, 9:00 a.m.

Note - New Time

All women of the church are invited to attend our Saturday, February 19 United Methodist Women meeting in the Wesley Room. Please note that our meetings are now at a **new time-9:00 a.m.**

Our program for February is entitled "Ties that Bind." There will be an interesting video presentation and a lively discussion following.

Mark your calendars for 2005 and save the third Saturday of every month (excluding July and August) for UMW meetings. We have finalized our program schedule and it includes a variety of meeting topics and events for the New Year.

Keep in mind: Even though our focus is worldwide mission support, we are also focused on FELLOWSHIP, FRIENDSHIP & FUN. Breakfast is provided.

Vacation Bible School

June 20-24, 2005

OK, it's snowing and it's February, but summer is coming and so is Vacation Bible School.

Mark your calendars now! You don't want to miss VBS. It will be in the morning (times to be determined) from June 20 to 24.

Watch for more details when the snow starts to melt.

Personal Notes



Jim Warman

The congregation extends sympathy to **Mary Ann Warman** and her family on the death of **Jim Warman** on December 30.

Jim, Mary Ann and their daughters had been long-time members of *Our Redeemer's* before moving to Lansing, MI about eight years ago. Jim had served as Staff Parish chairman, head teller and a dedicated Chancel Choir member.

Jim and Mary Ann retired to Sycamore two years ago to be close to their new grand daughter, Emily.

Jim began battling cancer last February. In spite of his treatments he was able to enjoy golf for most of the summer. In the fall he discovered that the cancer had spread and started additional treatments

He continued singing and presented two solos at *Our Redeemer's* on Thanksgiving Sunday. He also sang in the Christmas cantata the following Sunday at their Sycamore church. He lost his battle with cancer just over four weeks later.

All who knew Jim join with Mary Ann in mourning his death. As a memorial to Jim, his last performance at *Our Redeemer's* is available on our web site, www.orumc.org.

Jerome Topal

The congregation extends deepest sympathy to **Loretta Topal** on the death of her father **Jerome Topal** on January 15.



Joshua Stephen Hensel

Joshua, son of **Sarah** and **David Hensel** was baptized on January 23. Proud grandmother is **Shirle Witte**.

February Birthdays

- 2/03 **Karen Greenwalt**
- 2/06 **Tabitha Kielhack**
- 2/07 **Lance Foss**
- 2/07 **Tiffany Foss**
- 2/11 **Ellen Swartz**
- 2/12 **Annika Vllejo**
- 2/12 **Ian Vallejo**
- 2/13 **Adante Mendez**
- 2/20 **Mike Hernandez**
- 2/21 **Caitlin Wilkes**
- 2/24 **Justin Edwards**
- 2/29 **Kelsey Lukowicz**

Serving Us in Iraq.

Two *Our Redeemer's* families have sons now serving in Iraq. **Jim** and **Sally Donaldson's** son, **Christian**, has been in Iraq since September.

David and **Denise Pepper's** son, **Jake**, was recently deployed to Iraq.

If you would like to send notes to Christian and Jake, get their addresses from Donna in the office.

Please remember all of those in harm's way and pray for peace.

Richard Vales

Richard Vales, our unofficial missionary to the Philippines, is suffering pain due to spinal pressure on nerves. In his January 9 email Richard said he is being treated for diabetes and arthritis in addition to the back pain. The back pain would probably require surgery, but his doctors say that surgery would be too dangerous.

In spite of his pain, Richard and his wife were able to provide 25 bags of food for hungry families at Christmas and are working to collect more food.

As always, Richard expressed thanks for prayers, support and email from the people of *Our Redeemer's*. You can send email to Richard at wwjd@pltdsl.net.



From the Community Crisis Center

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and clients of the *Community Crisis Center at George Van De Voorde Place* thank you very much for your donations. ...Your support allows us to continue providing critical services to individuals and families in need.

The *Community Crisis Center at George Van De Voorde Place* provides 24-hour, caring and professional services in response to requests from individuals and families affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, homelessness and other crisis situations. We house 40 women and children each night in our **shelter** and offer individual and group **counseling, financial assistance, abuser treatment, and court advocacy**. Founded by volunteers in 1975, the Center has grown to serve over 6,000 people each year.

Again, on behalf of many, thank you for your kindness and generosity...

Gretchen S. Vapnar
Executive Director

Thank You

I want to thank everyone for their prayers and especially for those who have provided meals and rides while I have been recovering from a broken leg.

God Bless you all.
Shirle Witte

Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church

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