



The Redeemer

Review

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 3

March, 2006

**Pastor's
Corner**



Revelation: Faith over Fear

This year a season of preparation for Easter begins March 1, Ash Wednesday. As part of our preparation this season I would like to invite you to a special series of messages we will have on each Sunday of Lent. This Lent we are going for broke; we are going to do a series on the ***Book of Revelation***. Now before you begin “gnashing your teeth” and saying ***Pastor Bill has gone off the deep end*** hear me out.

For too long we have seen ***Revelation*** as a book of fear. From fictional movies like ***The Omen***, to concerns about the coming of the new millennium (*remember the Y2K scare*), we have been flooded with images and ideas that tell us we ought to be afraid. This may be good for certain businesses and their bottom line, but it is not good for the our bottom line, becoming devoted disciples of Jesus Christ. Please join us on March 5 for our first in the series:

Revelation: Faith over Fear

Worship Times 9:00 and 10:30 am

In the weeks leading up to Easter we will talk about issues of power, of discipleship and of hope. We will at times learn more about interpreting the Bible, but **most importantly**, we will seek to grow in our faith in ***practical and relevant ways***.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Bill



Lent

Redeemer Review

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Our Redeemer's

United Methodist Church
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Church Secretary:

[Donna Echtner](#)

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[Marianne Rogenski](#)

Co-Editors:

Jim Cottrell

Jerry Mc Daniel



Don Wiebel **UMM Life Member**

On Super Bowl Spaghetti Sunday the United Methodist Men surprised **Don Wiebel** with the UMM Life Membership award.

At the beginning of the worship service **Marshall Nystrom**, president of *Our Redeemer's* UMM, introduced the current UMM officers and then asked Don to give a little information on the Prisoner Release Ministry. After Don gave the PRM information, Marshall explained that Don had served in almost every capacity on the PRM board since its origination in 1969. In addition, Marshall gave a short slide presentation that showed some of the many hats Don wears around *Our Redeemer's*. He then presented Don with the Life Membership award in honor of all his contributions to *Our Redeemer's* and especially to Prisoner Release Ministry.

Congratulations Don.

Natural Church Development

At the January 19 meeting the Ad Council approved proceeding with the Natural Church Development program. The program is designed to measure the health of our church family.

A presentation to the congregation on March 5 will give an overview of the program and invite interested parties to participate in a survey on March 12. The pastor and 30 members will be asked to spend about 30 minutes to evaluate the following eight characteristics of *Our Redeemer's* church.

1. Empowering Leadership
2. Gift-oriented Ministry
3. Passionate Spirituality
4. Functional Structures
5. Inspiring Worship Service
6. Holistic Small Groups
7. Need-oriented Evangelism
8. Loving Relationships

The completed surveys will be evaluated by the Congregational Development & Re-development office at the Northern Illinois Conference. A coach from the conference will be assigned to help the steering committee figure out what the next step will be to improve the health of our church.

Micah Ministries Lenten Study

Micah Ministries, our new social justice team, will be organizing a Lenten study based on the book *Ending Hunger Now—A Challenge to Persons of Faith* by George McGovern and Bob Dole. All church members and friends are welcome and encouraged to join the study.

These Lenten study classes will be held on Tuesday evenings 7:00-8:30 p.m. on March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4. Call the church office, 847-882-6116, for more details.

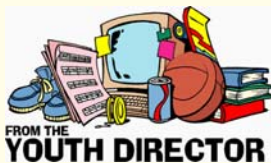


Thirteenth Annual Meals For Millions Lenten Program

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.

This year's Lenten devotion entitled "Crossroads" 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, March 1 and will conclude with a Good Friday Fast on April 14.



by *Marianne Rogenski*

ASP News

To all who are going on the Appalachia Service Project trip in June, your next meeting is March 8 at 7:00 p.m.. Please make every effort to be there. Also, if you have not yet paid your deposit please contact Marianne as soon as possible.

Louisiana United Methodist Storm Recovery Center

This is a new ministry that ORUMC is supporting with a trip in July. The Louisiana UM Storm Recovery Center was started as Louisiana UM Annual Conference's response to the hurricanes in 2005. They are committed to the cleanup and restoration of the hurricane-hit areas. We will be taking a group of 10 people down to Metairie, LA, July 15-22, 2006. We do still have space so if you are 16 years of age or older and interested, please contact Marianne.

Confirmation students:

March 5, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Confirmation class

March 17, 7:00 p.m.

Visit Beth Tikvah Synagogue

March 19, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Confirmation class

On March 17 (this is a change from the original schedule), a Friday night, we are scheduled to attend the family service at Beth Tikvah Synagogue, 300 Hillcrest Blvd, Hoffman Estates. If at all possible we would like to have a parent with each confirmation student. The service starts at 7:30 p.m. The group will meet at ORUMC at 7:00 p.m. and go to the Synagogue together.

Dates to remember:

April 30 - Trip to 2nd Baptist Church in Evanston, IL

May 21, 5:30-7:30 p.m. - 8th grade dinner

Also, don't forget to get to the soup kitchen!

Sr. High students:

March 5, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Game Night

March 12, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

MYF

March 19, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

MYF

March 26, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

MYF

On March 5 we will be having a game night—there will be ping-pong, foosball, carroms, board games, food, and more! We are encouraging you all to come and your friends are welcome. See you there!

Dates to remember:

April 21-23 - Sr. High Super Rally
a conference-wide weekend event with games, activities, a talent show, worship services, and more—all for Sr. High students! Look for more information coming soon.

May 21, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Dinner to welcome incoming freshman into the group



Education Notes

by Amy Johnson

Hey Everyone! Has Spring Fever hit you yet? We are a busy church and we have many more educational (and fun) activities in store for you!

On the two Sundays on either end of Spring Break, we will be having movie days for our Sunday School classes. We know that many families go away during this time and so do many of our Sunday School teachers. We will be dividing the kids into 2 groups by age and showing a movie on March 26 and April 2.

On Palm Sunday, our kids will be with us at the beginning of the 9:00 service to celebrate the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem! Please make sure that you are early to church that day! You don't want to miss this!

We are pleased to announce that we will be doing the “Jerusalem Marketplace—29 AD” for Vacation Bible School this year! Plans are well underway and we are hoping that all of you will join us in the evenings of July 10—13! **Amy Johnson** will be the “Chief Tribe Leader” of this year’s VBS. We will be giving you more and more information as time goes on so please watch and listen for what else is coming your way!

As always, our Education Committee is very grateful and thankful for all that our teachers, parents, and congregation do for our children. We cannot stress enough how much your support means to us and to the Kingdom of God. Truly, this congregation leads by example, as it is evident in our children. God Bless you All!



March Birthdays

- 03/03 Emily Kuhn
- 03/09 Ben Kessler
- 03/09 Sam Kessler
- 03/11 Brian Higgins
- 03/12 Cody Conquest
- 03/22 Susan Rapp
- 03/24 Ashley Mottar
- 03/26 Adam Lukowicz
- 03/31 Elly Rogenski

Marketplace 29 AD is coming to *Our Redeemer's*

Mark your calendars for July 10 – 13 for the return of Marketplace to *Our Redeemer's* for Vacation Bible School. Marketplace is a simulation of a biblical city and it has visited *Our Redeemer's* in the past. The children learn about the Bible through hands on dramatic play experiences rather than pencil and paper activities. The Education Committee is planning a Marketplace experience for our daycare in the morning and a full VBS program for everyone in the evening. The evening experience is for children of our congregation, the daycare, and the community to attend.

If you have not been involved in Christian education in the past this is the event to begin your involvement. We will be looking for “Tribal Parents” to escort a small multi-age group of children through the Marketplace. We will also be looking for carpenters, jewelry makers, candy makers, and many more “craftsmen” to man the shops of the Marketplace. If you are not a teacher or do not consider your talent to be with the young, this program may still need your help. There is a great deal of flexibility in terms of your personal schedule. There are many jobs that only require an hour of your time and we may not need you to come every night.

The Education Committee is attempting to reach out to the congregation, daycare, and community to provide a program that will enhance and build our Sunday School and church. More detailed information will

be available in the coming months. Please prayerfully consider volunteering to help with this exciting experience. You will not be sorry! Contact **Amy Johnson** at 630 372-4722 for more information.

The Marketplace Needs Sheets

Part of the Marketplace experience includes a costume for all children and adult workers. Please save any old bed sheets you have at home and put them in the marked basket in the Narthex. Contact **Amy Johnson** at 630 372-4722 for more information.



Mom's Night Out
Thursday March 2,
7:00 p.m.

Come to Chevy's for a night of food and fellowship, where someone else does all the cooking and cleaning! Mom's Night Out is for all moms, but especially for those with school aged or younger children.

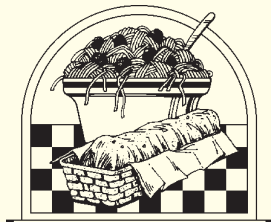
To find out more or to make a reservation please call **Annette Brown** at 847-882-8629 or 847-341-8445 or email at annetteb421@sbcglobal.net.

Reservations are not needed but it is always helpful to know how many people are coming when getting a table. If you can't make it until later please feel free to join us for dessert!

UMM District Lenten Breakfast Meeting

*March 4, 8:00 a.m. at Our
Saviours*

All men of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to attend the United Methodist Men's District Lenten Breakfast March 4, 8:00 a.m. at Our Saviours UMC. The speaker will be **Roger Logue**, director of the Prisoner Release Ministry. Breakfast and a business meeting will follow worship and communion.



UMM Spaghetti Dinner Update

Thanks to all who attended the UMM Super Bowl Spaghetti Dinner. The United Methodist Men will donate \$300 of the proceeds to purchase the *Strength for Service* devotional books for our men and women in military service.

UMM Breakfast Meeting

March 11, 8:00 a.m.

All men of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to attend our regular monthly breakfast meeting at Old Country Buffet. We meet in the back room at 8:00 a.m. on March 11. Don't forget to ask for the group price.



UMW Breakfast Meeting

*Saturday, March 18 -
9:00 a.m.*
Location: Wesley Hall

Ready for Adventure? All women and friends of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to join us as we explore other countries through our "Year of the World" program series. Our main program on Saturday morning is entitled "Impressions of Eastern Europe" and will be presented by **Tracy Torgerson**. We will also have an abbreviated "Call to Prayer and Self-Denial" program that focuses on preserving properties and serving people around the world. Join us for FUN, FELLOWSHIP, and FRIENDSHIP. Breakfast is provided.

Evening UMW Meeting

Wednesday, March 15, 7:00 p.m.
Location: Shirley Odegaard's home

Please come join our new evening circle meeting. If Saturday morning is not an option for you, perhaps this could work into your busy schedules.

The meeting is at **Shirley Odegaard's** house, 2873 Meadow Lane, Schaumburg. Call Shirley at 847-798-1228 for more information and directions.

Camping Planning Potluck

March 19, 5:00 p.m.

All members and friends of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to attend our weekend family campouts. We go out once a month from June to October. We do all the normal camping stuff and share a potluck on Saturday evening. On Sunday we attend a worship service at a local church or at the campground.

Come to the potluck and planning meeting Sunday, March 19 at 5:00 p.m. We will provide Sloppy Joes and buns. You bring your table service, drinks and a dish to pass. After supper we will plan our ORUMC Family Camping program for the summer.

All campers, new and old are welcome. If you would like more information, call **Jerry McDaniel**, 847-895-7385.

Habitat for Humanity

All members and friends of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to participate in the Habitat for Humanity project. We have been trying to schedule one Saturday a month during the school year. There are tasks available for a variety of skill levels. All you need is a desire to help. It's a co-ed activity and youth are welcome, too.

We meet at 7:00 a.m. at church and caravan to the project. We are usually back home by 5:00 p.m.

Call **Mert Rutledge**, 630-289-4334, or **Rob Mottar**, 630-682-5890, if you are interested.

Church Ladies Nite Out

March 22, 7:00 p.m.

The Church Ladies will be going out Wednesday, March 22 at 7:00 p.m. to Joe's Crab Shack on Gulf Road near Woodfield. Please join us and bring a friend! If you need a ride or have any questions, please call **Bev Wilkes** at 630-837-7889. Come join us in good fellowship, good fun and good food.

Ad Council Information

The Ad Council consists of all committee chairpersons, the pastor, the youth coordinator, the co-chairmen, the secretary and interested parties. You are always welcome to attend. Please feel free to join us on the third Thursday of every month at 7:15 p.m. in the Wesley Room.

If you are unable to come, you can read or download the minutes from the church's web-site – www.orumc.org.

Sherrie Cottrell

Ad Council Co-Chair

Crisis Center Items

by Robin Erickson

The kitchen at the center is in need of dish washing liquid (like Joy). There are 40 women and children in shelter every night and that means 40 glasses, plates and silverware that needs to be washed. It takes a lot of dish soap to keep the kitchen cleaned up after meals. Please leave the dish soap in the church office in the baskets. Thank you!

The Promise of Easter

As we prepare to celebrate Easter, we remember that Christ died to save us, that he defeated death to fulfill the promise that we too will have life eternal with him and that he WILL come again. At *Our Redeemer's* it is our tradition to celebrate all these promises by filling the sanctuary with flowers on Easter Sunday. As in the past, members and friends are given the opportunity to purchase Easter lilies, hyacinths or tulips and "lend" them to the church to decorate our sanctuary with symbols of the new life in Christ we all were given when Christ conquered death and arose. He paid the price for our sin and that is the best reason I know for a celebration. We invite all members or friends to continue this tradition and for those who are new to *Our Redeemer's* to become part of our celebration. Ordering is easy. You simply need to fill in the form below and drop it in the basket in the narthex with your payment. The price this year will be \$11.75 for lilies and \$10.00 for either tulips or daffodils. We will order for you, take delivery for you and decorate for you. After Easter, you may take your flowers home and enjoy their beauty in your own house. The deadline for ordering this year is Sunday, April 9. Won't you help us celebrate Christ's resurrection in this small way, so that on Easter Sunday, all may look around and enjoy the beauty of the flowers and remember the promise of this special day; the day of resurrection that gives us eternal life.

Name _____ Phone _____

Quantity: Lilies _____; Hyacinths _____ Tulips: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Finance Report

The following is the financial report through January 2006. The Finance Committee feels that the short fall is due to the first Sunday falling on the New Year's holiday. The new co-chairmen for Finance are **Fred Utne** and **John Machonis**. The Finance Committee meets the third Thursday of the month. All are welcome.

YTD Actual vs. Budget Through January 2006

	Actual	Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Congregation Gifts & Tithes	26,189	30,943	(4,754)	-15%
Sprint Rent	2,122	1,300	822	63%
Other Income	1,535	1,682	(147)	-9%
Total Income	29,845	33,925	(4,079)	-12%
Total Expenses	34,040	33,456	584	2%
Net Income (Loss)	(4,195)	469	(4,664)	

Volunteers Needed:

The ORUMC Worship Technology Task Force (WTTF) is looking for computer literate volunteers to help run computer and projection equipment as needed on a weekly basis during Sunday services. Although a basic understanding of computers would be helpful, training will be provided. A sign up sheet will be located in the narthex near the usher sign up sheet. Please call **Steve Miller** at 630-837-5205 if you have any questions. Please prayerfully consider volunteering your time and talents.

New Voting Equipment

New voting equipment will be in place at *Our Redeemer's* and other county voting precincts for the March 21 primary election. The new equipment will replace the punch card system that has been used in the past.

Two types of system will be used. One is a touch screen system where the votes will be recorded by touching the ballot display on a computer screen. The other is an optical scan system where the votes will be recorded by marking a paper ballot.

In both systems the ballot will be checked electronically before the final vote is recorded. If the voter has under voted or over voted the system will warn the voter and allow him to correct the error before the vote is finally tabulated. In both systems a paper trail is provided that can be used for a recount. Look for more information in the newspapers as Election Day approaches.



Personal Notes



From Don Wiebel

Thank you to all responsible for my UMM Life Membership presentation on February 5. It is a great honor to receive it and I was very surprised and humbled.

Keep bringing in calendars for women in prison. Leave them in the bookcase at the north end of the Narthex. Thank you for contributing over 200 of these each year.

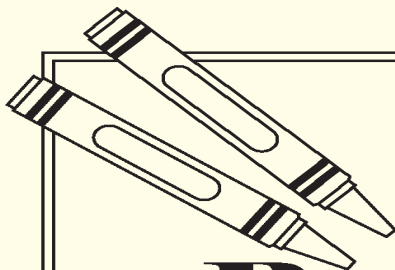


The congregation extends our deepest sympathy to:

Leota Sahr and family on the death of her son.

Tom Kane and family on the death of his father

Glen Hollingsworth and family on the death of his father, **Willis Hollingsworth**.

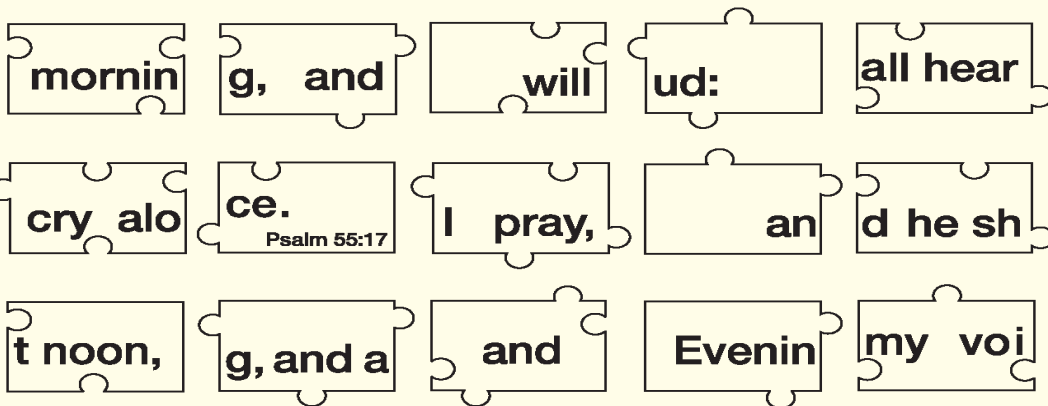
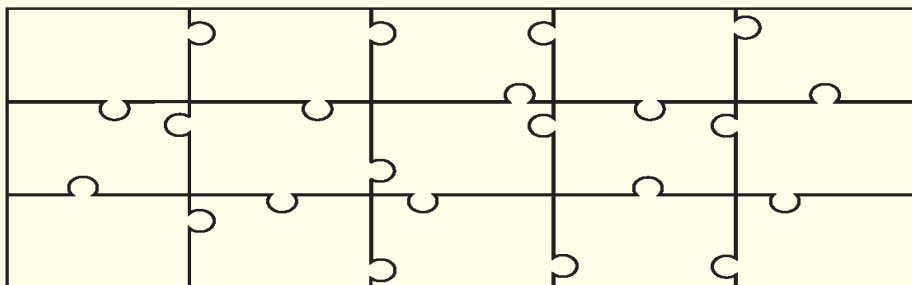


Just for **KIDS**

Pray Today!

The first Friday in March is World Day of Prayer. God wants us to pray to Him everyday. So start today and never stop!

Write the words from the scrambled jigsaw pieces onto the blank puzzle to discover when Psalm 55:17 (KJV) says we should pray.



Answer: Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.

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