



The Redeemer Review

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 12

December, 2012



I Have Learned

Recently I received an email titled “I Have Learned.” The list of simple truths inspired me to create my own list of things I have learned. It was not difficult to generate this list—in fact the ideas came quickly. I found myself considering what I have learned about Christmas.

While the list could have been longer, I intentionally limited it to ten statements; ten declarations that hold meaning for me. Perhaps it’s about accountability; maybe it’s about faithfulness or could it be about living gracefully? Whatever the reason, it helped clarify what I value and created an awareness, a knowing about the choices I make and the rhythm I desire. It is about being grounded in sacred space.

And so, my friends, I share my list, hoping you will take the time to make your own list—and then seek and claim the places and

spaces that can or do appear in your world. Here is the list:

I Have Learned...

- Less is often more.
- The joy of Christmas is in giving.
- Abundance is not about quantity.
- The most precious gifts are priceless.
- Christmas is not about being naughty or nice.
- Without Easter, Christmas has little significance.
- Unrealistic expectations are simply that—unrealistic.
- For better or worse—there is no place like home for the holidays.
- There is always room in the inn.
- The holidays can be holy days.

And finally, the gift we want the most is not likely on our Christmas list.

Merry Christmas! Ribbit!

~Pastor Sunny



Colin Drozdoff

*Hired As Keyboardist
at Our Redeemer's*

I am very pleased to announce that **Colin Drozdoff** has been hired by the Staff Parish Relations Committee to serve as our keyboardist. Colin will begin accompanying the Young Adult Praise Team and Sounds of Grace in mid-November. He'll serve as pianist/organist for both services and by January he will be up and running as the accompanist for the Chancel Choir.

Colin is a recent graduate with a Bachelors of Music degree in Piano Performance from U of I. He just completed a gig as pianist on Princess Cruise Lines. He resides in the Logan Square neighborhood where he is also developing his career as a freelance jazz musician. We are blessed to have him join our wonderful music ministry at *Our Redeemer's*. Welcome, Colin!

Peggy Gire
Staff Parish Relations
Committee

Redeemer Review

Our Redeemer's

United Methodist Church
1600 W Schaumburg Road
Schaumburg IL 60194-3900
(847) 882-6116

email: orumc@orumc.org

Website: www.orumc.org

Worship Services:

9:00 and 10:30 am

Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Sunny Ahn

Hours - Tue-Thur 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

or cell: 630-501-8130 or email:

pastorsunnyahn@gmail.com

Church Secretary:

Donna Echtner

Director of Youth Ministries:

Marianne Rogenski

Editor:

Jerry Mc Daniel



Sat, Dec 1, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

The Christian Education Committee invites all children and families to the Advent Festival 2012 which will be held on Saturday, December 1, from 4:00-5:30 p.m.

We will learn what Advent means and how we are to celebrate the season of Advent. Please speak to **Dorene Gilbert** or **Pastor Sunny** for more information.



Hanging of the Greens

Sat, Dec 1, 4:00 -5:30 p.m.

The Worship Team is inviting all people of God to join in decorating the church for the Advent Season. Please speak to **Jill Wood-Naatz** for more information.



Gifts from the Heart Return Gifts Dec 2

by Carol Hollingsworth

All members who have signed up for Gifts from the Heart are reminded that the unwrapped gifts, bundled together for each child, are to be returned on Sunday, December 2, to be delivered to ChildServ by the Gifts from the Heart elves.

ChildServ, the United Methodist agency that serves foster and at-risk children, has been very appreciative of our congregation's efforts each year in providing gifts for children.

This year, more than any other in the recent past, it is important that we reach out to those who are so affected by the economy and are in need.

If you have any questions about Gifts from the Heart, please contact **Carol Hollingsworth** at 847-310-0491 or clh1325@comcast.net.



Youth News

by Marianne Rogenski

Appalachia Service Project (ASP) News

We still have a few openings (especially for youth) for the 2013 trip. Please let Marianne know if you or anyone you know would like to go. Our next meeting is January 10, 2013, from 7-8:15pm at church. This meeting is for everyone that will be going on the trip.

Youth Group (7th-12th grades)

Most Sunday nights we have youth group at church from 6:30-8:30pm. We gather the first 15 minutes or so and then the Jr. High and Sr. High meet separately for Bible study and discussion. From 8-8:30pm we bring the whole group back together for fellowship and games. We always have a ton of fun—we look forward to seeing all of the youth and they are encouraged to invite friends!

Here is the schedule for December:

- 2 Youth Group at ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 7-8 Sr. High lockin of Hope 7pm-7am
- 7 Jr. High night of Hope 7-10pm
- 9 NO YOUTH GROUP
- 16 NO YOUTH GROUP
- 23 NO YOUTH GROUP
- 30 NO YOUTH GROUP

December 7-8 we will have a Jr. High

Night of Hope and a Sr. High *Lockin of Hope*. We will be spending time working on various service projects, playing games, eating yummy food, and enjoying the company of one another.

The Jr. High will be invited to come from 7:00-10:00 p.m. on Friday and the Sr. High will have a lockin from Friday at 7:00 p.m. to Saturday at 7:00 a.m. We need parents who are willing to be there during those times to chaperone—please let Marianne know if you are interested.

Future dates to make note of:

- January 6—youth group will resume
- January 25-27—youth ski trip (this is a new date because Wesley Woods cancelled our original date)
- February 3—Souper Bowl of Caring
- February 22-23—30 Hour Famine
- February 24—Famine Sunday



Matthew Young	12/5
Meghan Lowry	12/6
Blake Breda	12/7
Joseph Dombek	12/8
Chalisa Kulprathipanja	12/14
Abigail Hill	12/21
Jill Murphy	12/22
Dominic Gomes	12/27
Brendan Gorvett	12/27

Blue Christmas: A Service of Hope and Healing

Tuesday, December 18, 7:00 p.m.

Do you feel blue this holiday season? Are you grieving at the loss of a loved one or job or something that has been meaningful to you? Then, come and join “Blue Christmas: A Service of Hope and Healing” held on Tuesday, December 18, at 7:00 p.m. at ***Our Redeemer’s***. It is jointly organized by Hospice Service at Alexian Brothers Hospital, Our Saviour’s UMC, and ***Our Redeemer’s*** UMC.

As follow-up programs, we are also encouraged to attend “Journey Through Grief” sessions offered by Alexian Brothers Parish Services (ABPS, 25 E. Schaumburg Rd., Suite 106, Schaumburg, IL; 847-981-3514; parishservices@alexian.net) as follow:

Daytime: Thursdays, 9:30am-11am at ABPS; 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 28; 3/07

Evening: Thursdays, 7pm-8:30pm at ABPS; 1/10, 1/17, 1/24, 1/31; 2/7, 2/14

Cost: \$30/person

Pastor Sunny's Office Hours

Pastor Sunny will be in the office Tuesday-Thursday, 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. unless she has to be on duty away from the office. People can reach her via her cell phone (630-501-8130) or via her email: (pastorsunnyahn@gmail.com) if she is not in the office.

Guest Speakers Sunday December 2

Rev. Eric Blachford and **Rev. Kevin Clark** from The NET Church will be bringing God’s message on Sunday, December 2.

The Net Church is a new faith community in Rockford, IL that got started on July 1, 2012 with the mission to daily engage the young, “in years” or “at heart,” to create passionately devoted followers of Jesus Christ who love God and love others.

Let us come and hear what new things God is doing with young people in God’s kingdom.



Community Blood Drive

Thurs, Dec 6, 3:00 to 8:30 p.m.

All members and friends are invited to donate blood December 6 between 3:00 and 8:30 p.m. You can sign up at church make an appointment to give, but drop-ins are welcome, too. It’s a good idea to be hydrated and eat a small snack before giving blood.

Contact **Brenda Raffaelli**, 847-884-9304, if you have questions.



The Spirit of Giving

by Jon Montgomery

Christmas is a wonderful time of year. We celebrate the gift of God's son and the hope that His love and grace brings to us and the world. Since our faith starts with a gift, it is no wonder that the spirit of giving is central to us as Christians. At Christmas, we see this spirit of giving manifested in many ways: the gifts of worship, the gift of being together with family and friends, the gifts we give one another, and the gifts we give to people in need.

For over a decade, Heifer has been a giving opportunity at *Our Redeemer's*. Children and adults alike participate, whether it is through the ark banks the children use to collect coins or the purchase of an animal to give to a family in need. The impact of each initial Heifer gift is multiplied as recipients agree to Pass on the Gift by giving one or more of their animal's offspring to another person in need in their community.

This is truly giving that keeps on giving. And perhaps, that is part of the reason why some of our church members choose to purchase an animal as a gift for a family member

or friend, especially for that hard-to-shop for person on the Christmas list. By giving the gift of Heifer, we allow others to participate in the spirit of giving with us.

Please consider making Heifer a part of your Christmas this year. Starting December 2 and ending December 23, after each service, we will have a table available in the Narthex for those interested in supporting Heifer.

If you have any questions about Heifer or want to help with Heifer this year, please contact **Jon Montgomery** (jamnjl@aol.com or at 630-830-6831).

Micah Ministries Meeting

December 6, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Rev. Chris Pierson

Micah Ministries is pleased to have **Rev. Chris Pierson** speak at a special Micah meeting on December 6 at 7:30 p.m.. The entire congregation is welcome and encouraged to attend. As Director of Connectional Ministries for the Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church, Rev. Pierson will update us on current social justice issues from the larger conference and Methodist perspective in addition to sharing with us about UMCOR's focus and Hurricane Sandy relief efforts. If you have any questions about the meeting, contact **Jon Montgomery** at 630-830-6831.

Another Departed Member Leaves A Lesson For Us All

Jim Evitts—Passing the Peace, Working the Room

by Bruce Bedingfield

Our Redeemer's lost still another saint when **Jim Evitts** died on September 18. Yet it seems that each member we lose bestows at least one lesson for us to learn as a congregation.

We will, of course, miss Jim's wonderful voice and musical talents. We will miss his enthusiastic participation in so many *Our Redeemer's* projects. And each Sunday since we last saw Jim, we miss his wonderful smile.

But Jim's primary lesson to us all is his enthusiasm in the "passing of the peace." Too often, I know I simply shake the hands and greet the people in my immediate vicinity. But Jim truly "worked the room." I usually sit on the opposite side of the sanctuary from where Jim sat with the choir. Yet somehow he would always make his way over to us. Not just us, however; Jim would also greet about everyone else in between (and beyond)!

At Jim's memorial service **Steve Miller** commented that Jim was among the rare souls who would pass the peace to those in the AV booth. Certainly any first time visitor receiving that enthusiastic greeting would feel all the more welcome at *Our Redeemer's*.

We will, indeed, all miss that weekly smile, handshake, and friendly greeting. But we can also vow to gather up a bit of Jim Evitts' spirit as we pass the peace of the Lord.



Community Crisis Center

by Carlene Thompson

Gently used heavy winter coats for all members of a family as well as hats, gloves and scarves (even boots) are needed for the Annual Coat Give Away. They CANNOT USE lightweight or spring items, sweatshirts or long trench or dress coats. The Give Away starts in October and ends in February.

The Crisis Center FOOD PANTRY is always in need of canned fruit, canned meat meals, beef stew, chili, ravioli, etc. Also cereal/oatmeal, jelly, peanut butter, mac & cheese, pork & beans, powdered milk, saltine crackers, soup/Ramen noodles, spaghetti/marinara sauce, Spaghettio type canned items, tuna, and hand can openers.

Save the Date
Film Fest - Movie TBA
Friday, Jan 25, 7:00 p.m.

Beat the winter-blues and get out of the house and join others to watch the movie (title to be announced). All are invited.

Our famous movie expert **Dann Gire** will lead discussion after for those who can stay.



United Methodist Men District Advent Service

@ Barrington UMC

December 8, 8:00 a.m.

Make Holiday Snacks

@ORUMC, 10:30 a.m.

All men of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to attend the Elgin District UMM Advent Service on December 8 at the Barrington UMC. **Steve Nailor** who is our Northern Illinois Conference UMM President will be the speaker. Barrington UMC is at the intersection of Route 62 and Route 59. The program will start at 8:00 a.m. with breakfast. There will be a brief business meeting and then the traditional Advent service. Those who want to car pool can meet at ORUMC and we will leave Schaumburg @ 7:30 a.m.

After the breakfast, business meeting and service, those who can will return to ORUMC to make the "Holiday Snacks" for delivery to our congregation the next morning. Anyone that may not be able to attend the Advent breakfast but who still wants to help with the snack making can meet us at ORUMC between 10:30am and 11:00am.

United Methodist Men Holiday Snacks

The United Methodist Men are taking orders for their (killer) Garlic Parmesan Pretzels and Puppy Chow (for human consumption) Holiday Snacks. Orders will be available for pickup on Sunday, December 9 after both services.

The delicious treats make great munchies for family and friends during the Christmas holiday and they are excellent as gifts for co-workers. Please check out the samples of the goodies and place your Holiday Snack order ASAP.

Church Ladies Nite Out

December 19, 6:00 p.m.

Friendship Village

Everyone is invited to join the Church Ladies Nite Out once a month at 6:00 p.m. Call **JoAnne Gregorash**, 630-837-5155, if you need a ride or have questions.

The next meetings will be:

January 16, Stone Eagle,

Hoffman Estates

**February 20, Lincoln Whiskey Kitchen,
Schaumburg**

Advent Worship

December 9

9:00 & 10:30 a.m. Musical Service

December 18

7:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Service

December 24

4:30 p.m. Family Christmas Eve Service

7:30 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service

January Newsletter Deadline December 10

There will not be a December Ad Council meeting. Please remember to send your January newsletter input ASAP, but no later than December 10, to newsletter@orumc.org.

Please send any calendar updates to Donna prior to December 10 at donna@orumc.org.

Scrapbooking Night at Church Friday, Dec 14, 6:30 p.m.

Attention to any adults interested in scrapbooking, making cards or paper crafting. Join us Friday December 14 from 6:30-11 in Wesley Hall for a time to share in fellowship and a common hobby. If you are an experienced or beginner scrapbooker / card maker or you would like to stop by and learn more about this hobby, please feel free to attend. Please bring all of your own supplies and any snacks or beverages for the evening.

****Note: Since December is a busy month for everyone we are asking people to RSVP if they plan on attending (this month only).**

We usually meet on the 3rd Friday of each month (although this month we are meeting on the 2nd Friday), so if you can't make it this month mark your calendars for January 18th! We would love to have you join us.

Please call **Annette Brown** 847-341-8445 for more information.

United Methodist Women

Tuesday, Dec 4, 6:00 p.m.

The United Methodist Women invite all women of God to join their 4th quarter meeting on Tuesday, December 4, at 6:00 p.m. It's a potluck dinner gathering with a white elephant gift exchange. Please save the date and speak to **Cathy Mottar** or **Melinda Taylor** if you have any questions.

Christmas Football Party

Packers vs da Bears

Sunday, Dec 16, 12:00 noon

Pastor Sunny and her husband **Sung** invite EVERYONE to Christmas Football Party on Sunday, December 16, at 12:00 noon. at the parsonage. There will be lots of food, game prizes, and fun fellowship. Please talk to Sung if you have any question.

Memorial Gifts

The following memorial gifts were dedicated November 4.

Prairie Fire Crab Apple tree

In loving memory of **Archie Wilson** from **Judy Wilson** family and friends

Redbud tree

In loving memory of **Mary Greiner** from friends of Mary Greiner

Christian Comer Children's Center Needs (Computers, Printer/Copier, Sports Equipment and Shelf)

In memory of **Don Wiebel** from Wiebel family and friends

New water fountain

In memory of loved ones from anonymous donors

Donation to the ORUMC Sound System Fund

In memory of **Ken Finke** from family and friends



Personal Notes



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year From the Staff

It has been our honor to serve Christ by serving you this year as your staff.

We appreciate all the help so many of you have given us to make our church more effective.

We wish for you a spiritual Christmas and a New Year full of deep joy.

Rev. Dr. Sunny Ahn,

Senior Pastor

Marianne Rogenski

Youth Director

Catherine Scott

Chancel Choir Director

Ron Zemke

Contemporary Music Director

Karen Moore

Redeemer Ringers Director

Sue Zimmeroff

Children's Choir Director

Sophie Byrnes

Nursery Careperson at 9am

Kimmy Echtner

Nursery Careperson at 10:30am

Allie Gorvett

Assistant Nursery Careperson

Donna Echtner

Administrative Assistant

Dear Our Redeemer's UMC Members:

On behalf of Hanover Township Welfare Services, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of groceries. Your contribution makes it possible for us to keep the shelves of our Food Pantry stocked in these hard economic times.

Our Food Pantry has expanded to help more than 700 families every month. Keeping our shelves full is always a struggle, and is only possible because of thoughtful contributions from people like you.

This year, we hope to keep the Food Pantry well stocked, and help as many struggling families as we can. As you know, the cost of feeding a family does not go away. We hope for your continued support in the future.

Once again, thank you again for your generous donation.

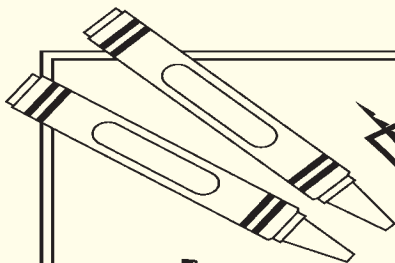
Sincerely,

Brian P. McGuire

Supervisor

Anniversary

Congratulations to **Fred and Betty Miller** on their 46th wedding anniversary.



PUZZLE

cheerful giver

Jesus came to serve and give to others. This Christmas season, consider how you can follow Jesus' example by giving your time, love and kindness.

Directions: Cross out every *my*, *me* and *mine*. Then write the remaining words on the blanks below to read 2 Corinthians 9:7, NIV.



myeachmineofyoumeshouldmygiveminemewhat
youminemehaveminememinemydecidedmeinmy
myyourmineheartmemyminetomygivememinenot
minereluctantlymeormyunderminemycompulsion
minemymeforminemyGodminemymylovesmy
meamyminecheerfulmymegivermineCorinthians

“ _____

 _____ , _____

 _____ , _____

 _____ ”

2 _____ 9:7, NIV

Answer: “Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:7, NIV



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



Christmas comes but once a year but what a wonderful celebration of God's love sent to us in the form of a baby named Jesus. ***Our Redeemer's*** church loves to celebrate birthdays and it is time to celebrate the best birthday of all. A birthday where we receive the gift! The gift of hope as embodied by Our Redeemer, Jesus, who was born to save us all!

Please join us in helping to decorate the church with poinsettias. These flowers will be displayed in the sanctuary to celebrate Jesus. We invite all who love to celebrate Christmas with the beauty of flowers, to help us adorn the church. Here at ***Our Redeemer's*** we purchase flowers and then "lend" our flowers to the church until after Christmas, when they may be taken home. It is easy as we do all the work for you. We order them, arrange them and then make them available for you to take home.

To participate, you may order a white, pink or red poinsettia. Please fill in the order form below and place with your payment in the offering plate or in the beautifully decorated special basket located in the narthex. The prices of this year's flowers are \$11.50.

Sunday, December 16 is the absolute deadline for placing your order. Please order early so that our florist may save us his very best selection and also ensure we are guaranteed to receive just what we order.

Name _____ Phone _____

Choose White (\$) _____ Pink (\$) _____ Red (\$) _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of: _____

Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church

1600 W. Schaumburg Road
Schaumburg, IL 60194-3900

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 6
Schaumburg, IL 60194

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Visit our web site: www.orumc.org