



The Redeemer Review

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 1

January, 2012



Rev Elizabeth Resigns

Sunday, December 11, Doug Meneely, Staff Parish co-chair, announced during church that Rev. Elizabeth Bowes has resigned. Her last Sunday will be January 8. Doug read her resignation letter as follows.

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

Dear Staff-Parish Committee,

I am writing you to inform you that I am resigning from my position of Minister of Christian Education at Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church. I have been offered and accepted the newly created position of Minister of Discipleship at Glen Ellyn First United Methodist Church effective Sunday, January 15, 2012.

This new job is an opportunity for me to plan, develop and oversee a small group discipleship system with the objective of creating intentional discipleship growth for adults and young adults. It also includes the oversight of all adult Christian education.

This allows me to move into the area that I see as my specialty, which is adult and young adult education and discipleship. It is the ministry I feel called to and that I am passionate about. It is the ministry I went to seminary for and I am trained in.

This was not an easy decision for me to make as I love Our Redeemer's and I love the people here. I was not expecting to leave Our Redeemer's for a long time.

The new opportunity appeared totally unexpected and aligns more closely with my areas of interest. In our two years together we have experienced a lot. While at times it was not comfortable, we both have grown in ways I suspect neither of us imagined. I see God's hand in it all.



Redeemer Review

Published Monthly by

Our Redeemer's

United Methodist Church

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Worship Services:

9:00 and 10:30 am and 6:33 pm

Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Sunny Ahn

Church Secretary:

Donna Echtner

Director of Youth Ministries:

Marianne Rogenski

Minister of Christian Education:

Rev. Elizabeth Bowes

Editor:

Jerry Mc Daniel

I am very proud of the ministry I have done here with you all and you should be too. You have helped me further define my identity as Reverend and as one who is called to serve.

Your ability to step up and lead in new and unimaginable ways with confidence has inspired others to do the same. This is a good thing. Please be assured I will do all I can to assist with the smooth transition of my responsibilities before leaving.

My ministry at Our Redeemer's has been an extremely fulfilling and rewarding time ~ something I will always cherish and look back on fondly. Our Redeemer's will always hold a special place in my heart as the place that nurtured confidence in my ministry.

I am grateful for the time I have had to be among you and witness to God's Spirit in your lives. The Spirit of God is alive and well in the people at Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church.

I wish you all God's abundant blessings,

Rev. Elizabeth Bowes

Celebration Luncheon

January 8 will be **Rev Elizabeth's** last Sunday. To thank her for her extraordinary service during the last two years, we would like to have a potluck luncheon for her January 8 at 11:45 a.m.

Please check the signup sheet in the Narthex and, if you can, volunteer to bring your favorite dish to pass.



“Nothing else distinguishes effective executives as much as their tender loving care of time.”

~Peter Drucker

Time is precious. Ask the coach whose team is behind in the final seconds of a game (*Do you remember the football game Bears vs. Broncos on Sunday, 12/11/11? Ouch~*). Ask the air traffic controller in charge of scheduling takeoffs and landings at a major airport. Ask the news reporter who has just received a breaking story from the AP wire. Ask the cancer patient who has recently learned he has only two months left to live.

Time management is an oxymoron. Time is beyond our control, and the clock keeps ticking regardless of how we lead our lives. Priority management is the answer to maximizing the time we have. Our days are identical suitcases—all the same size—but some can pack more into them than others. No one has a magical ability to make time, but if our lives have direction, we can make the most of the moments we have been given.

Time is more valuable than money, because time is irreplaceable. “You don’t really pay for things with money,” says author Charles Spezzano in *What to Do between*



Birth and Death. “You pay for them with time.” We exchange our time for dollars when we go to work and then trade our dollars for everything we purchase and accumulate. In essence, all we possess can be traced back to an investment of time.

How do you want to invest your time in 2012? The year 2012 is the year of Dragon symbolizing courage to face challenges for success and an intelligent, laborious worker who never puts aside work. I feel like the year 2012 is the year of ORUMC made up with intelligent, laborious servant-leaders who never put aside work and who face challenges boldly for its mission—*make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world*, and its vision—*be the home welcoming, nurturing, and celebrating God and everyone.* Everyone is counted here!

Each of us is like a piece in a giant jigsaw puzzle; every piece has its place in God’s plan. No piece is optional. How frustrating it would be to put together a 1,000-piece puzzle, only to find one piece missing at the end! That’s how God sees us, as a wonderful puzzle made up entirely of incredibly important pieces. Everyone is necessary to complete the divine puzzle. When all the pieces fit together, the world can see a beautiful, completed portrait of the heart of Jesus, beating for people everywhere.

(cont on pg 4)

(cont from pg 3)

I know how busy all of you are. However, I would like to ask: What priority does your God and church get? There is no such “leftover” time. As we all know, we cannot find more time or create time. Per day, we all have 24 hours. It’s a finite and constantly diminishing resource. Let us think and invest the time God has given us in 2012 wisely and purposefully. Time stewardship is our greatest responsibility as God’s people. Let us not lose our priority in spending/investing the precious time we’ve been gifted from God by Fully Relying On God.

Ribbit!

~*Pastor Sunny*

Another Way to Feed the Hungry

Caring Ministries is asking for a volunteer (or a couple) to deliver food to Hanover Township Food Pantry one time each month. **Mike and Jo Anne Rapp** delivered food faithfully for many years, but recently moved to England

We are seeking someone to pick up food from the narthex on the second Sunday of each month, and deliver it to Hanover Park in the course of the week.

If you are interested, please contact **Bruce Bedingfield**, 847-934-6410, or call **Donna** in the church office.



Youth News

by *Marianne Rogenski*

I would like to thank everyone at ORUMC for the generous staff gift—I truly appreciate my ORUMC family and love serving this church and our community. Thank you, Marianne

Sr. High Youth Group

January 2012

- 1 No Youth Group
- 8 Youth Group at ORUMC 7-8:30 p.m.
- 15 633 Worship at ORUMC 6:33 p.m.
NO YOUTH GROUP
- 22 Youth Group at ORUMC 7-8:30 p.m.
- 27-29 Ski Trip!
- 29 NO YOUTH GROUP

633 worship is back!

Join us at 6:33p.m. on January 15 for a great worship experience! If you are able—bring a canned good to help stock the ORUMC food pantry!

Youth Ski Trip

By the time you receive this newsletter you should have already let Melissa Bland or Marianne know that you will be attending the ski trip and also paid a deposit. The remainder of the money is due by January 16.

February 2012

- 5 NO Youth Group
- 12 Youth Group at ORUMC 7-8:30 p.m.
- 19 Youth Group at ORUMC 7-8:30 p.m.
- 24-25 30 Hour Famine at ORUMC
- 26 Famine Sunday Both services - NO YOUTH GROUP



Feb 24-25

World Vision's 30 Hour Famine will be February 24-25, 2012. This is an event for all Jr. and Sr. High students at ORUMC and students are encouraged to invite their friends. Participants raise money to help the hungry and poor throughout the world. They fast for 30 hours (modified fasts are allowed) while participating in games, Bible studies, service projects, and fellowship.

Participants begin the fast on their own at 3 p.m. on Friday, come to church at 6 p.m. on Friday, spend the night, and we all break the fast together at 9 p.m. on Saturday.

If you are interested in participating, please get a consent form from Marianne. Once that has been signed, you will receive your fundraising packet. More info will be mailed and emailed to all Jr. and Sr. High students and as always if you have questions please contact Marianne.

Souper Bowl of Caring

On February 5, 2012, the youth will be asking for donations of \$1 and a non-perishable food item. All food donations will benefit the food pantry at ORUMC and all monetary donations will be used to purchase grocery and gas gift cards.

Please note that on February 5 there will be no Sr. High youth group. The youth council encourages the students to attend the ORUMC Spaghetti Dinner with their families that afternoon.

Appalachia Service Project (ASP) News

To all who will be going on this trip—June 16-23, 2012—there is a meeting on January 11, 7-8:15 p.m. at ORUMC. This is a meeting for the youth and for the adult leaders. Please plan on attending.

Be on the lookout for info about restaurant fundraisers! We will begin these in late January.



Ian Klocko	1/05
Morgan Schmidt	1/20
Megan Gaska	1/26
Jonathan Dean	1/27
Hayley Dombek	1/28
Conner Dierbach	1/28
Daniel Launhardt	1/30



Education

by Rev. Elizabeth Bowes

9:00a.m. Sunday School Resumes Sunday, January 8

First Friday Film Fest

Friday, January 6, 7:00 p.m. all are invited to watch the movie "UP." Beat the winter-blues and get out of the house and join others to watch the movie "UP." Rev. Elizabeth will lead discussion after for those who can stay.

January Children's Sunday School Service Projects Heifer Project

Continue filling your Heifer bank even beyond Christmas. The money collected will go towards buying sheep, ducks and chickens for those in developing countries. Banks are due Sunday, January 8.

Bullying Seminar

Monday, January 30 in sanctuary from 7-8:30PM. Luke Pepper will lead us in understanding the dynamics and diversity of bullying in our culture. And what a biblical and theological response should look like. This offering is open to all ~ including outside guest.

We're Moving

The children's 9:00 a.m. Sunday school classes are moving. In the New Year the classes that meet in Wesley Hall will be moving into their own permanent classrooms. The 2nd-4th grade class will meet in Room 3 (the old Rainbow room). The 5th-6th graders will meet in room 1. The Pre-K-1st grade will remain in the Christian Corner. The adult 9:10 a.m. class can choose to either meet in room 2 or 4.

These changes are a result of our new contract with the custodial service that does not include Wesley Hall set-up and takedown on Sunday mornings. The bid was too expensive to include in this contract. Plus, this solution is doable and saves us money.

The move to classrooms allows all the children Sunday school classes to be right outside of the sanctuary - aiding in drop off and pick up of children. Wesley Hall can be used for games and activities to aid in the educational experience.

This change will take effect Sunday, January 8, 2012. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter!

Trustees and Education Committees

Save The Dates Vacation Bible School

July 16-19

VBS Sunday, July 22

Community Crisis Center

Thank you to all the ORUMC volunteers who helped make the Toy Give-away on December 15 a huge success. We have helped with this very worthwhile event for many years and do get much enjoyment from seeing the children get the gifts they really want.

The Crisis Center emergency food pantry is BARE. They are having an Emergency Food Pantry Drive. A list of nonperishable foods most needed is on the window outside of the office.

They had to SUSPEND the coat give-away because they have no coats. Coats, winter jackets, hats, gloves and scarves are needed for women, men and children. Donations can be left in the church office.

The Center needs all greeting cards (the entire card) to recycle and sell for a money making event which is on-going. They have made thousands of dollars from them.

Summer Worship

The Worship Committee is considering the possibility of having only one worship service each Sunday during the summer – Sunday, May 27 (Memorial Day weekend) through Sunday, September 2 (Labor Day weekend). They want your input before making a decision.

- (1) Do you want one service or two.
- (2) If one service, what time would you prefer: 9:00, 10:30 or other.

Please contact **Jill Wood-Naatz**, 847-884-7709, or **Pastor Sunny**, 847-882-6116.

UMM Breakfast Meeting

January 7, 8:00 a.m.

A Week Earlier Than Usual!

All men are invited to the United Methodist Men's regular monthly breakfast meeting and Bible study Saturday, January 7, 8:00 a.m. at church.

After the meeting we will help un-decorate the church.

Thanks to all who bought UMM holiday snacks. It looks like Cheesy Garlic Pretzels and Puppy Chow are still hits.

UMM Super Bowl Sunday Spaghetti Dinner

February 5, 10:45 a.m.

It looks like the Bears probably won't be playing in the Super Bowl (maybe the Broncos), but you can still come and enjoy the UMM world famous meatballs and spaghetti.

Contact **Steve Miller**, 630-837-5205, for details.

Church Ladies Nite Out

January 18, 6:00 p.m.

The Church Ladies will be going to Hong Kong Chinese Restaurant on Irving Park Rd near Barrington Rd. It is next door to Just Tires! Please join us and bring a friend! We will be meeting there at 6:00 p.m. for good food, good friends and good fellowship.

If you have any questions, please call **Bev Wilkes** at 847-885-2311. We hope all of you will have a very merry Christmas!

ORUMC Valentine's Ball *Sat, Feb. 11, 6:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.*

Mark your calendars ORUMC folks! It's time to dress up, and dust off our dancing shoes because we're having a Valentine's Ball!

The purpose for this event is as a fundraiser for a new sound system for the church sanctuary & a time for our church family to have fun!

So let's dance to songs from the 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s and current day! We will do the electric slide, chicken dance and shuffle! We'll "Move like Jagger", get "Footloose", and try to waltz like Fred Astaire. We'll even catch a slow dance or two! The night is made for love and for family! This event is for all ORUMC folks and friends, and for all ages!

When: Saturday, February 11

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Where: ORUMC

Ticket Prices:

- Adults (11 yrs. and up): \$12
- Children (4 yrs. – 10 yrs): \$6
- Children (3 yrs. and under): Free
- A family of 4 or more members (mom, dad and their children 11 yrs. and older): \$40

Ticket price will include: dance with buffet dinner: meat lasagna, (mostaccioli for the younger children), salad, diner roll, desserts and soda, & one family/couple/ individual professional picture. Photographs will be taken from 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. on the night. So look your best, and come for a great night of dance & fun! All for a good cause too!

Tickets will go on sale starting Sunday, January 1, 2012, in the Narthex, after each Church Service. Tickets can also be purchased every Sunday thereafter, up to a week before the event, or until all tickets are sold.

Tickets are limited! Tickets will not be sold at the door. Pre-sale Tickets Only!

\$10 Song Dedication: Do you want to dedicate a special song to your loved one at the Valentine's Ball? Your \$10 song dedication will ensure your song is played. Your dedication will be specially announced by our DJ, your names will be put on the screen, and your loved one will get a red rose. Please purchase your \$10 song dedication at the time of ticket purchase – dedication slots are limited. Dedications can NOT be purchased on the night of the Ball.

If you are interested in volunteering for this event, or have any questions, please contact **Shelomi Gomes: (847) 466 9736**, or **shelomi@gomesfamily.net**. Please also see in the Narthex, a sign-up sheet for desserts and soda drinks to be brought to the Ball. We also need volunteers to help decorate the Sanctuary for the Ball, help in the buffet setup, and we need a clean-up crew.

There will also be a song-suggestion sign-up sheet in the narthex; this is to get an idea of what songs through the decades ORUMC folks will like to hear at the ball. (The song suggestion sign-up sheet is not for the \$10 song dedications.)



Broncos Won

December 11 Open House and
 Bears vs Broncos Game at Sunny & Sung's Home
 Da Bears Lost, But We All won



Personal Notes



Christmas Greetings

[Arabic - I'd Miilad Said Qua Sana Saida]
 [Chinese - Kung His Hsin Nien bing Chu Shen Tan]
 [English - Merry Christmas]
 [French - Joyeux Noel]
 [German - Froehliche Weihnachten]
 [Norwegian - God Jul]
 [Spanish - Feliz Navidad]

Whatever the language, we know Christ is Lord of all, and his blessing to you is our prayer this holy season.

Our health is plus and minus; does this come out zero? Life is simple for us - but complete. Our neighbors are behaving; you'll have to ask them about our behavior. We are able to go to church, shop for groceries, go out on the town (i.e. Culvers for a hamburger), and pick up library books. We still knit and carve and do jig saw puzzles. "Joy comes in the morning," and lasts all day.

May the love of the Savior fill your holidays with peace.

Fred & Doris Rickleff

Thank You

The staff at *Our Redeemer's* would like to thank all of our friends and members of *Our Redeemer's* for your very generous Christmas gifts. May we all celebrate the gift of Christ this year, the greatest Christmas gift ever given! Wishing you all many blessings during this holiday season and the new year. Thanks again!



The congregation extends sympathy to:

Judy Wilson and to **Julie Gorvett** and the **Gorvett** family on the death of their mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, **Mildred Kime**.

Edie Machonis and her family on the death of Edie's brother-in-law, **Mark**.

Mary Zalay and her family on the death of Mary's mother, **Mae J. Marshall**.

Wedding Anniversary

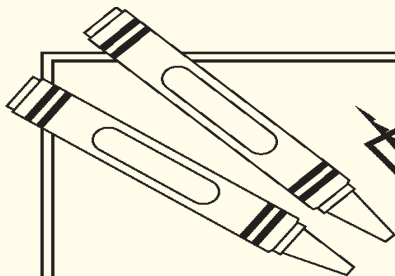
Congratulations to **Fred** and **Betty Miller** celebrating their 45th wedding anniversary.

Gifts From the Heart

by Carol Hollingsworth

On behalf of ChildServ, I would like to thank the 52 families who provided Christmas gifts for 76 children served by ChildServ. It is always so heart warming to see how our congregation responds to this program and provides so generously.

Also, thank you to **Sharon Jung**, **Melissa Bland** and **Glen Hollingsworth** who helped check in and deliver gifts.










PUZZLE







A caring disciple

In Acts 9, Peter tells of a woman who lived in Joppa. She performed good works and helped the poor. Solve the puzzle below to reveal this disciple's two names.

Instructions: Cross out the letters that spell each object and write the remaining letter on the blank.

_____ adcltne			
_____ rohmtae			
_____ srgbape			
_____ rbieda			
_____ pehtshred			
_____ rdhaenlca			
_____ fadoo			

Her name in Greek

_____ pdeesh		
_____ dchilnero		
_____ drove		
_____ acehtr		
_____ sarcos		
_____ nusoatim		

Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church

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