



# The Redeemer Review

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 3

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## TIRED?

*Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).*

Have you ever sat on the edge of the bed on a Monday morning and felt like you were trying to wake up from a coma? Have you ever fantasized at three o'clock in the afternoon about pulling the covers over your head and packing it in for the rest of the day? Do you ever find yourself having trouble keeping your eyes open after lunch, or relying on an extra cup of coffee here and there just to get through the day?

Chances are, you may be suffering from a syndrome I like to call *The Irrepressible Recurring Energy Deficit*. The cunning acronym for this insidious array of symptoms spells out, as you may have guessed, TIRED!

TIRED affects negatively on the quality of life. You cannot be productive and effective if you are too TIRED regardless of how skillful and willful you are in life.

TIRED is as the red idiot light on the dashboard of my car, telling me that the engine is overheated. Of course, you can choose to ignore it, but then the engine wears down. Unfortunately, mechanics and new cars are expensive.

TIRED happens for a number of reasons. One of the common reasons for it is restlessness.

Contemporary culture is plagued by the passion to possess. The unreasoned boast abounds that the good life is found in accumulation—"more is better."

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Indeed, we often accept this notion without question, with the result that the lust for affluence in contemporary society has become psychotic: it has completely lost touch with reality. Furthermore, the pace of the modern world accentuates our sense of being fractured and fragmented. We feel strained, hurried, breathless, busy. The complexity of rushing to achieve and accumulate more and more frequently threatens to overwhelm us; it seems there is no escape from the rat race—restlessness, TIRED!

Probably the easiest solution cure for TIRED

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**Worship Services:**

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

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**Rev. Dr. Sunny Ahn**

**Church Secretary:**

**Donna Echtner**

**Director of Youth Ministries:**

**Marianne Rogenski**

**Minister of Christian Education:**

**Rev. Elizabeth Bowes**

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is to get more sleep. If I get a little sophisticated, then I would say that Christian simplicity frees us from this modern TIRED. It brings sanity to our compulsive extravagance, and peace to our frantic spirit.

It liberates us from what William Penn called “cumber.” It allows us to see material things for what they are—goods to enhance life, not to oppress life. People once again become more important than possessions. Simplicity enables us to live lives of integrity in the face of the TIRED realities of our global village.

Although we can name many reasons and solutions for TIRED, I would say that the ultimate reason and solution is “us.” It is our choice. We have a choice to say “yes or no.” We have a choice to allow others or circumstances to control us or not.

Our doctor gives us an order to rest, but we have a choice to follow the order or not. Our God commands us to keep the Sabbath day holy which means REST. To this command, we also have a choice to obey or not.

*Choose for ourselves for this day (Joshua 24:15)!*

During the season of Lent 2012, I pray that by Fully Relying On God, all of us make a right choice to liberate us from TIRED for the journey to grow closer to God through Jesus Christ who promises to give us rest.

Ribbit!

*~Pastor Sunny*



## Lenten Journey 2012 at ORUMC

The season of Lent is a journey in which we have been given the opportunity to grow closer to God through Jesus Christ. There are plenty of opportunities here at Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church (ORUMC) to experience this season of preparation. So, save your days to participate in the Lenten Journey 2012 as follows:

### **"40 Days of Purpose" Lenten Season Sermon Series (5 weeks, 3/4-4/8)**

In combination with the work of Shepherds Ministry, ORUMC offers "40 Days of Purpose" sermon series seeking to answer for each of us the question, "What on earth am I here for?" focusing on God's purposes for our lives, and seeking to take steps of growth in these essential areas.

### **Lenten Study (40 days: 02/26-04/05)**

The Lenten Study at Redeemer's UMC will be held in each small group of Shepherds Ministry, and adult Sunday school. Each day we will be looking at the same devotion from *The Purpose Driven Life*. Our church family and friends will focus on God's purposes for our lives, and we will seek to take steps of growth. It will be a special moment of congregational unity and accelerated spiritual growth.

### **Meals For Millions Lenten Program**

All members & friends of ORUMC are invited to join the Society of St. Andrew in a program of spiritual reflection & action to fight hunger during Lent. This year's program is entitled "Living Proof." Money saved from "giving up something" during Lent will go to the Society of St. Andrew's Meals for Millions hunger relief program.

### **April 1 (Palm Sunday)**

Palm Sunday is the day we remember the "triumphal entry" of Jesus into Jerusalem, exactly one week before His resurrection (Easter, Matthew 21:1-11). For this year, we will design this service with the result of "Reverse Tithing Program." Children will bring the palms to the 9am worship service to create the triumphal entry scene.

### **April 5, 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service**

The Maundy Thursday Service is a Foot/Hand Washing Service with Communion. This year we will dramatize the service with the theme "Beneath the Upper Room" jointly with Our Savior United Methodist Church. It is the day Jesus celebrated the Last Supper and thereby instituted Communion (Luke 22:19-20). Also, Jesus washed the disciples' feet as an act of humility and service (John 13:3-17). Please come to the service with clean feet in clean footwear. Please do not wear stockings or panty hose!

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**April 6, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Good Friday Service**

Good Friday Service at ORUMC is a Tenebrae Service. The word 'tenebrae' is Latin for shadows, so this is a service of shadows. The purpose of the Tenebrae service is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story: the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of the events, and it is left unfinished because the story is not over until Easter Day.

In this service, we use increasing darkness to dramatize the increasing sadness of Holy Week. The most significant feature of this service is the gradual extinguishing of the lights and candles in the sanctuary. The service ends in darkness and silence.

**April 8 (Easter Sunday)**  
**9:00 & 10:30 a.m.**

The Chancel Choir will present an Easter Cantata at both the 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services.

**10:00 to 10:30 a.m.**

The Education Committee invites all to an Easter Egg Hunt for children between worship services from 10:00 to 10:30 a.m.



**UMW**  
**Potluck**  
**Dinner**  
*Tuesday, March 6,*  
*6:00 p.m.*

All women are invited to the United Methodist Women's quarterly meeting and potluck dinner on Tuesday, March 6, 6:00 p.m. at **Pastor Sunny's** house. We will enjoy food cooked by **Sung Ahn, Rob Mottar,** and possibly other helpers. Bring a side or dessert to share, and see what UMW is up to this year.

If you have never been to a UMW meeting before, come join us! We think you will enjoy the evening spent with other women from our church. Mark your calendars.



**United Methodist Men**  
**Breakfast Meeting**  
*Saturday, March 10, 8:00 a.m.*

All men of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to attend our monthly breakfast meeting at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 10.

We are back to our regular second Saturday breakfast meeting followed by the study, *Life in the Spirit.*



## Youth News

by *Marianne Rogenski*

### Sr. High Youth Group

Note the change in time—we are now beginning at 6:30pm and still going to 8:30pm.

#### March

- 4 Youth Group at ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 11 Youth Group at ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 18 Youth Group at ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 24 Youth Group to GCFD 12-5:30pm
- 25 NO YOUTH GROUP

### Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD)—March 24, noon to 5:30pm

The Sr. High will go to the Greater Chicago Food Depository on March 24. We will be assisting them in any way that they need that day. Everyone who attends needs to wear long pants and closed-toed shoes as we are going to be working in a warehouse. We are also encouraged to bring canned food items to donate...so please bring one if you can. I do need other adults to chaperone and drive also.

#### April

- 1 Youth Group at ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 8 NO YOUTH GROUP Happy Easter!
- 15 Youth Group at ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 22 Youth to soup kitchen 1:30-8:30pm
- 29 633 Worship at ORUMC 6:33pm

### Youth to Soup Kitchen *April 22.*

All Jr. and Sr. High youth are invited to serve with ORUMC at the soup kitchen in Roger's Park. We leave ORUMC at 1:30 and return around 8:30pm.

Please bring money to eat dinner at McDonalds on the way home.

### Join us for 633 on April 29!

#### May

- 6 Youth Group at ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 13 NO YOUTH GROUP - Spend time with your mom!
- 20 Graduate Recognition and lunch 10:30am-1pm - NO YOUTH GROUP

Look for more details about the graduate recognition and lunch next month! If you have a high school or college student that will be graduating in May please call the church office and let us know.

### Appalachia Service Project (ASP) News:

We have a wonderful group of about 32 people going on this trip from June 16-23 (these dates are final!). Our next meetings are as follows:

- March 22, 2012, 7-8:15pm—everyone
- April 26, 2012, 7-8:15pm—GL meeting
- May 19, 2012, Day retreat—everyone
- June 12, 2012, 7-8:15pm—everyone

## March Birthdays

Brian Higgins	3/11
Ashley Mottar	3/24
Madeleine Jane Almazan	3/25
Adam Lukowicz	3/26
Ellyanna Rogenski	3/31

**Save the Date**  
**July 16-19, M - Th, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**  
**Vacation Bible School**



### Community Crisis Center

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.

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.

They can always use toiletries (new) including the hotel/motel small items. Basic health supplies (containing no alcohol): acetaminophen, allergy meds., antacids (Tums), ibuprofen, kaopectate, neosporin/bacitracin, sinus meds., and calamine lotion.



## Campbell's Soup Labels

We have a new way to earn credit for Campbell's soup purchases in addition to saving the label itself. Go to (<http://www.elabelsforeducation.com>) and register your Jewel and Dominicks cards and the schools you wish to support. Subsequent purchases of all the Campbell's and "Labels for Education" products will be automatically credited to the schools.

At *Our Redeemer's* we support the McCurdy School in Espanola, New Mexico (in honor of **Evelyn Wiebel** who taught there). We also support the Marcy-Newberry School in Chicago that has been taking care of so many people for more than 120 years (it is actually their Head Start program).

You can still collect labels from Campbell's and "Labels for Education" products and double the credit. I will still take them from the bins on top of either coat rack and send them in.

Thanks and blessings to all of you who support this ministry.

**JoAnne Gregorash**





## News About Summer Worship!

*Summer, you say? Yes, we are planning ahead!*

From May 27 through Sept. 2 you are invited to come to church at 9:00 or 10:30. Since worship attendance patterns vary in summer months, we would like to offer two kinds of experiences to choose between.

At 9:00 there will be an enhanced adult Sunday School class with discussion, scripture, singing and prayer. There will also be Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month. We'll gather in Wesley Hall with coffee, tea, and treats. You'll have a chance to learn and worship in a more casual setting.

Our 10:30 worship will continue in the sanctuary much as it is now. Communion will be served on the first Sunday of each month. Sunday School for children will be offered, combining ages in a one room classroom as in the past.

At either time, we're sure you'll have a meaningful worship and/or learning experience.

**The Worship Team**

## Personal Notes



Our deepest sympathy to:

**Iris Santiago** and family on the death of her father, **Agustin Morales**.

**Marianne Rogenski** and family on the death of her aunt, **Diane Hoff**.

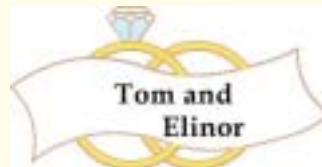


## A Note of Thanks!

Thank you to all for your prayers and the many cards I have received during this difficult time. I am at home and recuperating from my fall.

Thanks again!

**Bea Roden**



## 60th Anniversary

Congratulations to **Tom and Elinor Reader** on their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

## ValentineBall - February 11

Thanks to **Shelomi Gomes** and her team of thousands who converted the sanctuary into a dance hall, provided a fabulous meal, entertained us with great music all evening, and then even cleaned up. It was a great night as you can see by the pictures.







Valentine Ball - February 11



Valentine Ball - February 11



Valentine Ball - February 11





Valentine Ball - February 11



## EASTER FLOWERS



As we look forward to spring and (hopefully!) warmer weather, we also look forward to the celebration of the joy that Easter brings. What a wonderful way to celebrate Jesus' resurrection than with the adornment of the church with flowers. These flowers will be displayed on Easter Sunday as we celebrate the Risen Christ and His promise of new life for us all.

We invite all who love to celebrate Easter with the beauty of flowers to help us adorn the church with beauty in celebration of Christ's victory over death. Here at Our Redeemer's we purchase flowers and then "lend" our flowers to the church until after Easter when they may be taken home. It is easy because 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 lily or tulip or hyacinth. Please fill in the order form below and place with your payment in the beautifully decorated special basket located in the narthex or in the offering plate. The prices of this year's flowers are \$12.75 for Lilies and \$11.40 for tulips or hyacinths. ***Palm Sunday (April 1st) is the (ABSOLUTE) deadline for placing your order.*** Our florist tells me they **MUST** have the order on Monday morning April 2 to ensure we receive not only exactly what we order, but the very best they have to offer. ***We ask that you please order early to help with this goal.***

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Choose Lily (\$) \_\_\_\_\_ Tulip (\$) \_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinth (\$) \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of:

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In Honor of:

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