



# *The Redeemer*

## *Review*

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 11

November, 2013



Imagine a trapeze artist walking across the sawdust floor of a circus tent. She walks purposefully and gracefully toward the rope ladder leading to a tiny platform high above. Slowly she begins to climb, the ladder swaying as she ascends. Upon reaching the platform, she grasps the bar attached to another rope secured to the top of the tent. Poised on the edge of the platform, she pushes off into the air, swinging forward and back, gaining speed.

At the same time, across from her, another artist holds his bar, steps off his platform, and begins to swing, soon matching the rhythm of his partner. With fluid movements, he twists his body up and over the bar to hang by his knees. With his arms free, you realize he has become the “catcher,” ready and waiting for her to let go. Back and forth they swing as the tension mounts. Suddenly she releases her bar and is flying through

the air. In that brief moment she experiences the profound freedom of letting go.

In the Buddhist tradition, the slogan “nothing to hold on to” is understood to be at the heart of spiritual practice. When we try to hold on to anything, we are denying the reality of impermanence. Even though we know intellectually that everything is changing, we search for ways to avoid this truth. We expend enormous amounts of energy seeking permanence and security, looking for ways to keep things as they are. We hold on.

Imagine what would happen to the trapeze artist if she didn't let go. She would swing indefinitely, stuck in the one back-and-forth movement, just one way of being alive. She must let go to free herself for new life. And so it is for us.

(cont on pg 2)



(cont from pg 1)

Letting go is a spiritual practice that offers freedom and space to grow and change, cooperating with our impermanent reality rather than fighting against it.

As we are approaching the season of “thanksgiving” or “gratitude” I am thinking about how often we are pulled from experiencing the holiness of the present moment by thoughts of our past. We might remember a particularly wonderful thanksgiving in our life, wish it were like that again this year, and despair at all the difficulties now surrounding us. Maybe we had a hurtful encounter with a friend or family member and are rehashing what was said, what we wished we’d said, and wondering how it might have turned out differently. We could be carrying a deeply disturbing memory we can’t seem to let go of, and when it comes to mind, we go back over the incident again and again, retelling the story and rekindling old hurt and anger.

Wishing things were as they used to be, reworking old conversations, and telling our painful stories of abuse and injustice is natural. But if we do so to place blame or dwell on another’s guilt, our pain turns to resentment, and our lives fill with bitterness. Bitter people hold tightly to their past, remember every detail of the story, and sink into self-pity. Captured by past events, they are unable to move forward into new life. The possibility of forgiveness as a means of letting go of their hurt and bitterness may never have occurred to them.

## ***Redeemer Review***

Published Monthly by

***Our Redeemer's***

**United Methodist Church**

1600 W Schaumburg Road

Schaumburg IL 60194-3900

(847) 882-6116

email: [orumc@orumc.org](mailto:orumc@orumc.org)

Website: [www.orumc.org](http://www.orumc.org)

**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**

**Editor:**

**Jerry Mc Daniel**

Forgiveness keeps us from being stuck in the past and helps us find a way beyond the prison of bitterness. When we forgive, we let go of our emotional attachment to what has happened, but we do not forget or excuse the wrong that was done or the pain that was caused. Sometimes we are able to go to the person who has hurt us and offer them our forgiveness. Many more times forgiveness is something we do in our own hearts without engaging the other person face-to-face. Either way, forgiving another has no predictable outcome; it does not always lead to reconciliation, nor does it necessarily make a difference in the other person's life. What it can do is transform the person who has found the courage to forgive.

I pray that we all become the transformed persons of God who let go of the past with the courage to forgive in this season of "thanksgiving" to maximize the joy of salvation in our life and the life with others.

Have a joyful Thanksgiving.

~Ribbit!

~ **Pastor Sunny**

## "Christian Gratitude"

### Sermon Series

(4 weeks: 11/03-11/24):

The word "gratitude" comes from the Latin "gratia," which means: agreeableness, or pleasantness. A miserable person lacks gratia, that is, he is unpleasant and disagreeable.

But gratia also refers to the state of being thankful. So, the agreeable person is also thankful (gratia). He gives thanks, for he is grateful.

The two meanings of gratia are intimately linked; for the one (thankfulness) leads to the other (agreeableness)—the state of being pleasant or agreeable.

Gratitude is first and foremost a recognition, or as the etymology of the word 'recognition' suggests, a "re-knowing" or a "knowing-again." It involves taking a second look and recognizing something that was not grasped at first glance.

It is a recognition that what was given was given gratuitously (without having earned it). We will rethink about the meaning of Christian gratitude in this sermon series.



## Appalachia Service Project (ASP) News:

We had our first meeting in October—thanks to all who were able to make it! If you are interested in going on the trip in June please contact Marianne as soon as possible for more info.

Our next meeting is January 23 but be on the lookout before then for some fundraising opportunities! Also, for those who are going, please remember to get your money in by November 1 if possible. There is space for more volunteers, so tell your friends!

## Youth News

*by Marianne Rogenski*

### November

- 3 Youth Group @ ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 10 Youth Group @ ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 17 Youth Group @ ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 24 Sr. High to soup kitchen 1:30-8:30pm
- Jr. High to My Sweet Kake 6:30-7:30pm

On November 24 the Sr. High group will be going to the soup kitchen in Roger's Park. Please arrive at church at 1:30 and bring money for dinner. We get back to church at about 8:30pm. If you plan to go, please contact Marianne by 11/17. We also need parents to drive. If you can do that, please let Marianne know by 11/10.

On November 24 the Jr. High will go to My Sweet Kake, 869 S. Roselle Rd, for treats and fun. Please drop off at the store at 6:30 and pick up at the store at 7:30. Note the change in time.

### December

- 1 Youth Group @ ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 8 Youth Group @ ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm



<b>Allison Gorvett</b>	<b>11/9</b>
<b>Nicholas Meyer</b>	<b>11/25</b>
<b>Jonathan Dean</b>	<b>11/27</b>
<b>Patrick Brock</b>	<b>11/29</b>
<b>Kimberly Trenn</b>	<b>11/30</b>



## Education News:

by *Marianne Rogenski*

*Grow, Proclaim, Serve...One Room Sunday School:* Thank you to all who are helping with our One Room Sunday School—it is going very well and is tons of fun! Our teachers are amazing and we have wonderful assistants and youth working with the children!

*Parents*—don't forget that on the first Sundays the students will all meet in the sanctuary first thing. On November 3 they will watch the children's choirs and then go back to class together where they will have a lesson and also take communion as a class. On December 1 they will watch the children's choirs, go to class together, and then return to the sanctuary to take communion with the whole congregation.

*Trunk or Treat:* Thank you to all who came to participate in or help with our first ever Trunk or Treat event!

*Advent Festival:* Our annual Advent Festival will be November 30, 4-5:30pm, at ORUMC. This is a time for the whole family to come and participate in various activities having to do with Advent. Hope to see you there!

*Do you have an idea for family outings or events?* The education committee would love to hear any ideas or suggestions you may have! Please talk to Marianne.



The 12th Annual  
Open Mic Night  
*Saturday, Nov 2,*  
7:00 pm

Mark your calendars now and start rehearsing! This is a great night for the whole ORUMC family. Come out and sing, recite a poem, dance, play an instrument, tell a joke, or just watch and be entertained! There will be food, fun, and great acts for sure! Coming soon...watch for our event wall in the narthex for performer, volunteer, and donation sign-up.

Questions? Contact **Gwyn Greenwalt** at [jgreenwalt1@att.net](mailto:jgreenwalt1@att.net) or 847-884-1392.

---

## Community Thanksgiving Worship Service

*Tuesday, November 26, 7:30 p.m.*

The community Thanksgiving service will be held on Tuesday, November 26 at 7:30 p.m. at Roselle UMC, 206 S. Rush St., Roselle, IL. This is a joint community service for Cook's Corner Cluster of the Elgin District. Please mark your calendar and join the service.

---

## Hanging of the Greens

*Saturday, November 30,*  
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

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.



Community Crisis  
Center  
Winter Wear Drive



The Community Crisis Center collects gently used coats and winter wear for men, women and children that are given out at no cost throughout the cold weather season. Used items need to be clean and not have missing buttons or broken zippers. Please limit coats to warm jackets, parkas and car coats.

### *Accepted Items*

- ◆ Coats: gently used and new **parkas, jackets & car coats** for men & women
- ◆ Gloves & mittens: gently used and new. Please include dark colors and heavy men's gloves
- ◆ Hats: gently used and new. Please remember dark colors for men
- ◆ Scarves: gently used and new

**Please do not donate lightweight or spring items, sweatshirts, sweaters, long trench or dress coats.**

**Larger sizes are needed in both men's and women's items.**



### Donate Bath Towels

Please donate new or gently used bath towels for Community Crisis Center's Shelter Program (We do not need washcloths, hand towels or kitchen towels).

Collections can be delivered to the Community Crisis Center at 37 S. Geneva Street, Elgin, IL. Please call before making a delivery.

Each year the Crisis Center Shelter Program provides safe shelter to 200 women and their 200 children who are homeless due to domestic violence or financial crisis. Services are available at no cost to the client.

The Community Crisis Center is a non-profit social service agency providing services to individuals and families in Kane and NW Suburban Cook Counties who are dealing with economic crisis, domestic violence or sexual assault.

Contact **Lisa Winchel** at 847-742-4088 or [lwinchel@crisiscenter.org](mailto:lwinchel@crisiscenter.org) for more information or visit [www.crisiscenter.org](http://www.crisiscenter.org)

## Consecration of Memorial Gifts

These loving gifts made to **Our Redeemer's** to honor the memory of friends and family will be consecrated on Sunday November 3, 2013.

- ◆ Contributions to the Sound System Fund in loving memory of **Jim Evitts**
- ◆ Contributions to the Sound System Fund in loving memory of **Justin Miller**
- ◆ Contributions to the Sound System Fund in loving memory of **Paula Patterson**
- ◆ Contributions to the Sound System Fund in loving memory of **Harry Schlinker**

Please take a moment to notice the Memorial Book, "In Remembrance", kept in the Narthex in the Usher's cabinet, and read through all the records of Memorial Gifts that have been given to **Our Redeemer's** United Methodist Church over the years. We are grateful for the many wonderful gifts that honor the memories of our church family.

If you are interested in learning more about legacy giving to ORUMC please just ask any of the Memorial Committee members.

### 2013 Memorial Committee

**Carl Jeziorski, Julie Kuhn, John Machonis, Jerry McDaniel, Jane Martin, Karen Moore, Jim Naatz, Jeff Randall**

## My Home

by **Inez Morgan**

*This house of mine is built of prayer,  
And I shall always remember where  
All through the day God's Love was spread  
And on into evening 'til we were snug in  
bed.*

*His very presence fills this tower  
And love grows and blossoms like a fragile  
flower.  
All doubts and fears are swept away,  
When a family bends it's knees to pray.*

*These memories will always remain  
Inscribed by love on my heart and brain.  
Many have come for shelter to me  
from the storms of life, to escape from the  
sea of misery.*

*Here in my high tower,  
We have talked and shared for many an  
hour.  
They all say it's special, and it will ever be,  
This castle of mine, from earth's cares free.*



## Men's Survey

Our church has been selected by the **General Commission on United Methodist Men** to participate in a survey. One of the things that the General Commission is hoping to learn is how they can better serve local churches. They want to learn from churches like ours, how churches become more vital through engagement with men's ministry. They will share their key learning with us and offer our church support based on what they learn.

The GCUMM is asking that all surveys be completed before the end of October. Please go to this link to take the brief 20 question survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6Y93JG6>.

In order to make the survey valuable we need as many men as possible from our church to participate. Please take the survey only once.

If you have any questions about the survey or why we are participating, feel free to call **Steve Miller**, 630-926-8373.

## Gifts from the Heart

Once again, the congregation of *Our Redeemer's* has the chance to brighten the holidays for a child by providing gifts to children through the program, Gifts from the Heart. This is the 27th year that the program has been implemented here. Members of the congregation are given the opportunity to sign up for the number of children they wish to sponsor.

This year you may sign up in the narthex on October 27, November 3, November 10, or November 17. ChildServ requests that no more than **\$40** be spent on each child. The names and ages of the children you sponsor will be given to you on November 24 or December 1. Then the unwrapped gifts, bundled together for each child, are returned by Sunday, December 8. We must deliver all the gifts to ChildServ after church, so you must have the gifts returned to church by 11:00am on December 8.

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. Gifts from the Heart has been very well supported by the *Our Redeemer's* congregation and we hope that, once again, you will find that it is a very worthy outreach to children, and you will find it in your heart to add another or several additional children to your Christmas list.

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



## ORUMC 50th Anniversary

*Our Redeemer's* will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2014. We will begin celebrating on Palm Sunday, the 50th anniversary of the first worship service, and complete the celebration on October 12, the 50th anniversary of the chartering of the church. We are inviting previous pastors to participate through the year, and to attend the October 12 celebration.

We would like to notify previous *Our Redeemer's* members and invite them to participate by visiting and/or sending pictures and remembrances of events in the life of the church.

We will be printing an anniversary announcement in November and invite you to include it with your Christmas cards to former members.

## Journey Through Grief

The loss of a loved one is a life-altering event. *Journey Through Grief* is a six-week course that will explore the tasks of grief, offer the opportunity to share experiences with others who have lost a loved one, and provide information on how to cope with loss. Each session will provide both the support of others who are going through a loss and education about this difficult journey. The cost is \$30/person. Registration is required at 866-253-9426 or [www.alexianbrothershealth.org/events](http://www.alexianbrothershealth.org/events)

- ◆ **When Option 1:** 10/29, 11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 11/26, 12/3; Tuesdays, 10am-11:30am
- ◆ **When Option 2:** 01/08, 01/15, 01/22, 01/29, 02/05, 02/12; Wednesdays, 11am-12:30pm
- ◆ **When Option 3:** 03/18, 03/25, 04/01, 04/08, 04/15, 04/22; Tuesdays, 1pm-2:30pm
- ◆ **Where:** Alexian Brothers Parish Services (25 E. Schaumburg Rd, Suite 106, Schaumburg, 847-981-3514)

## Personal Notes



Dear  
Pastor  
Sunny,

Thank you for hosting another successful Crop for a Cause event at ORUMC. We were able to raise \$2000 for the National MS Society. Your support means so much to me! Please accept this check and use it as you see best.

Thank you again.

Love,

**Laura Machonis**

---



Our deepest sympathy to: **Randy and Nancy Schmidt** and their family on the death of their son, **Samuel Schmidt**.

And to **Jon Montgomery** and his family on the death of his father, **Dr. Robert Montgomery**.

---



UMM  
Pizza  
Sale

Thanks to all who purchased pizzas from the United Methodist Men.

We made a few extras, but WE'RE SOLD OUT!

Thanks again

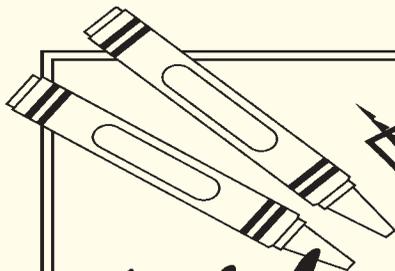


Welcome  
Our New  
Members

Welcome to our  
New Members:

**Tom Noxon**, brother of **Greg Noxon**

**David Miller**, husband of **Pam Miller**



# PUZZLE

## Why we're thankful

Leaves falling from trees are a sign of autumn's arrival. Giving thanks to God is a sign of our gratitude for his many blessings.

Directions: Using the words in the leaves, discover why it's good for us to thank God. (Hint: Use word length to help you.)

love

forever.

for

his

LORD

is

Chronicles

1

thanks

endures

to

Give

good

the

“G \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_,  
 \_\_\_\_\_;  
 \_\_\_\_\_.”

16:34, NIV

Answers: "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever." 1 Chronicles 16:34, NIV

***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](http://www.orumc.org)**