



The Redeemer Review

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 3

March, 2015



Lenten and Easter Events

Come join us for the Lenten-Easter events at *Our Redeemer's* United Methodist Church.

March 29- Palm Sunday 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

April 2 - Holy Thursday Communion at 7:30 p.m.

April 3 - Good Friday Service with Cantata at 7:30 p.m.

April 5 - Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m. with light breakfast

April 5- *Easter Service (One Service) at 10: 00 a.m.*

April 5- Easter Egg Hunt for all ages at 11:30 a.m.

We began our journey in Lent during Ash Wednesday with the Taizé - Prayer and song service. It was a meditation that leads us deeply into observing this particularly sacred

time and space. With candles at the narthex of the church, we were led to the sanctuary to watch again the glow of candle lights, the blending of voices, scripture invitation and the ringing of bells.

There are times when we have become so accustomed to the cacophony of sounds that we often dismiss the simplicity of one distinct sound from a finely crafted bell. In some settings, the sound of bells provide the soundtrack for our joyous celebrations and sadly in empathy when we experience profound loss.

The early missionaries used small handbells to call people to assembly. Isn't it ironic that if one needs service, one has to "ring the bell" and expect someone to answer on the other end? We found a small bell in a flea market sold by Tibetan merchants, and repurposed it for the call to prayer.



Redeemer Review

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Our Redeemer's

United Methodist Church
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email: Call for email address

Website: www.orumc.org

Worship Services:
9:00 and 10:30 am

Pastor:

Rev. Romir R. Esguerra

Church Secretary:
Donna Echtner

Director of Youth Ministries:
Marianne Rogenski

Editor:

Jerry Mc Daniel

(cont from pg 1)

How do we pray? How many times do we pray? Why do we pray? C.S. Lewis wrote that “ For most of us the Jesus prayer in Gethsemane is the only model. Removing mountains can wait.” Brother Lawrence wrote “ Prayer is nothing else than a sense of God ‘s presence.” John Wesley, “ God does nothing except in answer to prayer.” Mother Theresa, “ I do not pray for success, I ask for faithfulness.” And finally, Martin Luther, “The fewer the words the better the prayer.”

This period of 40 days for Jesus in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11) was an intense time before the beginning of his public ministry. There was temptation to change stone to bread, to test the power of God and the temptation to rule the world. Jesus knew the source of his strength is from God alone.

We also face many temptations and they come in the form of distractions, detours, interruptions in many guises. The giftedness that we have is that we are given a space, a holy space, so that we may find the sacred in the ordinary. You may find the link from the rethinkchurch.org/lent Lenten photo project interesting with the accompanying meditations in your prayer walk. We may even have this link available in our website, Facebook or your individual Twitter or Instagram account. There is an opportunity to share your photos as well.

This journey is better spent with a companion along the way and in doing so reveals to grace of God.

See you in the Lenten place,
Rev. Romir R. Esguerra

Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) for 2015

By Jon Montgomery

Perhaps you can relate to the limited knowledge of Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) which I had when I first joined *Our Redeemer's* UMC.

I had only a vague idea that SPRC supported staff members and the congregation in some way.

Since then, I have come to learn that SPRC has the primary responsibility to work with staff as they endeavor with the congregation towards the realization of the mission of the church.

In addition to consulting with the district superintendent about congregational needs,

the SPRC works directly with the senior pastor and the lay staff: communicating with them and supporting them with their needs throughout the year, reviewing their ministry annually, and supporting their ongoing development.

The SPRC also works with members of the congregation if they have any questions, concerns about, or positive feedback for staff, beyond what church members have shared directly with staff.

Be sure to reach out to SPRC if we can be of assistance to you and the staff.

To support staff directly, there is an SPRC member liaison for each staff member.

For 2015, the Liaisons are:

Staff Member (& Role)	Liaison
Pastor Romir Esguerra (Senior Pastor)	Jon Montgomery
Marianne Rogenski (Director of Youth Ministries & Director of Children's Education)	Don Balk
Donna Echtner (Administrative Assistant)	Debbie Hernandez
Cathy Scott (Choir Director)	Pam Miller
Ron Zemke (Contemporary Music Director)	Greg Noxon
Colin Drozdoff (Keyboardist/Accompanist)	Von Evitts
Sue Zimmeroff (Children's Choir Director)	Sarah Calderwood
Karen Moore (Redeemer Ringers Director)	Sarah Calderwood
Kim Echtner (Nursery Careperson) and Assistant Nursery Care Staff	Shelomi Gomes



by Marianne Rogenski

Youth News

Youth Group:

- March 1 Famine Sunday, both services No youth group in evening
- March 8 Youth Group, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- March 15 Youth Group, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- March 22 No youth group—spring break
- March 29 No youth group—spring break
- April 5 No youth group—Happy Easter!
- April 12 Youth Group, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- April 19 Youth Group, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- April 26 Soup Kitchen, 1:30-8:30 p.m.
- May 3 Last youth group meeting! 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- May 17 Education Sunday/Graduate Recognition and lunch

Attention Graduates and families of graduates. On May 17 we will recognize all high school and college graduates at our 10:30 worship service. There will be a lunch for all graduates and families immediately following the service.

If you or your child are graduating please let us know through the church office!

ASP News:

On March 12, 7-8:15 p.m. we have a meeting for all members of the ASP 2015 team—see you there!

On April 14, 7-8 p.m. we have a meeting for adults only.

Education News:

You are invited to our **Minute To Win It Night**, March 7, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

This is for all kids at ORUMC ages 3 and up. This will be a dropoff event, but parents can stay if they want! We will have pizza together and then play lots of fun games!

There is a sign up sheet in the narthex. Please sign up by March 4 so we know how much pizza to get. Also, feel free to invite friends!

There will be NO Sunday School on April 5—Happy Easter!

We will have an Easter Egg Hunt after the worship service (approximately 11:30) outside in the courtyard if it is nice enough.

If you would like to donate candy for the hunt, please begin bringing it to church on March 22.



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

Our birthday records have not been updated for quite a while. If we have missed your child's birthday (or yours), please give Donna in the office a call with your dates.

Gift from Fellheimer Trust - Wesley UMC - Macomb

Our Redeemer's UMC received a very generous gift of \$8,000 from The Fellheimer Trust Committee of Wesley UMC in Macomb, IL. The suggestion to seek the grant came from Lori Randall. Wesley UMC is her home church where she attended as a child. Her family still attends there.

As part of our Capital Fund, it will be used to finish the Trustees project to replace the building roof and the Wesley wing windows. As you know the Roof Phase 1 was completed last fall. The Window Replacement Phase 2 will be done late spring when cold and wet weather is done.

Announcements for a Capital Fund Raising Campaign this spring will be coming in the next weeks. The Finance Committee's plan is to reduce the building mortgage balance as fast as possible. Then we will be able to continue ORUMC ministries and missions without budget concerns.

Easter Sunday
April 5
6:30 a.m.
Sunrise Service
10:00 a.m.
One Easter
Worship Service

Adult Mission Sunday

April 19, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.

This year's Adult Mission Sunday service will be April 19 at both 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. services. Come hear about our trip last summer to the New Jersey shore.

During our week of service, we repaired homes damaged by Hurricane Sandy that devastated the region in October of 2012. We will be returning to the same area again this summer. The dates are set for July 11 to 18. We would love to have some of you join us this year.

If you are interested, or would like more information, please email **Mary Balk** at mbalk1127@comcast.net or call at 847-843-0283. Hope to see you on April 19!

UMW Quarterly Meeting

March 3, 6:30 p.m.

All women of the church are invited to attend our next dinner meeting on Tuesday, March 3rd @ 6:30 p.m. Pastor Romir and Vren have invited us to the parsonage for this occasion (1214 Sharon Lane, Schaumburg).

Everyone attending should bring a side dish or a dessert to share and the main dish will be provided by some of the church men. It will be a wonderful evening of fellowship, friendship and fun.

Please join us!



Community Crisis Center

by Sally Donaldson

The CCC is in need of several baby items at this time:

- Disposable diapers (larger sizes and pull-ups)
- Diaper wipes
- Formula
- Baby bottles
- Cups with lids

The CCC is also in need of the following office supplies:

- Pens/ paper/markers
- White copy paper 8 1/2 x 11
- Letter and legal size Manila file folders
- White business size envelopes
- Paper clips/post-it's/notes/staples

The Crisis Center is always in need of nonperishable food.

Please place your items in the CCC bins located in the closet, left of the desk in the Narthex.

Thank you so much for your donations. Your continued support is very much appreciated!

Heifer Donations December 2014-January 2015: Thank you!

Due to your generous donations this past holiday season, \$2,755.92 was raised for Heifer International. Your giving translates into life-changing gifts for families and entire communities in the USA and around the world.

From the children who collected money in banks to the adults and families who purchased animals, Micah Ministries would like to extend a big "Thank you!" for supporting this wonderful mission!

Mental Health Ministries

In November ORUMC hosted Mental Health 101—a presentation on mental health put on by the Interfaith Mental Health Coalition. If you enjoyed that, or if you wanted to attend but were not able to, there is another offering from this group coming up!

On March 9, 7-8:30 p.m.

Elk Grove Baptist Church

NAMI's In Our Own Voice

Two presenters with mental health conditions share their stories in this powerful evening meant to reduce stigma and increase understanding.

For more information please contact Marianne. There are also several posters around the church that you can take a look at.



UMM District Lenten Breakfast

*March 7, 8:00 a.m.
Crystal Lake UMC*

All men of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to attend the Elgin District UMM Lenten breakfast hosted by the Crystal Lake UMM.

Breakfast will begin at 8:00 a.m. We will meet at church at 7:15 a.m. and car pool to Crystal Lake.

We need to turn in a count to the Crystal Lake UMM by February 28. If you plan to attend, please contact Rich Hill at rrhill8950@gmail.com.

ORUMC March 14 Local Breakfast Cancelled

This March 8 lenten breakfast will be in lieu of our monthly meeting on March 14.

**Easter Sunday
April 5
6:30 a.m.
Sunrise Service
10:00 a.m.
One Easter
Worship Service**

Twenty Second Annual Meals for Millions Lenten Program *Good Friday Fast April 3*

Meals for Millions is a mission project for the United Methodist Men, sponsored by the Society of St. Andrew. UMM has provided literally millions of meals of potatoes and other food to the hungry through fund raising activities.

The funds are used to salvage and transport food (especially potatoes), that is perfectly good to eat but which is not suitable for use by processing plants due to size or shape.

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. During last year's Lenten season. *Our Redeemer's* raised \$500.00. Since 1994 *Our Redeemer's* has raised over \$27,000.

This year's Lenten devotion entitled "Into the Wilderness" 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, February 18 and will conclude with a Good Friday Fast on April, 3.

Fasting will begin Thursday at 6:00 p.m. We will break the fast Friday at 6:00 p.m. with pizza at church.

Please sign up in the Narthex if you plan to join us for pizza.

Putting Our Faith Into Action

by Jill Wood-Naatz

Eight members of ORUMC joined nearly 1500 others on January 19 at Liberty Baptist Church in Chicago for a Faith in Action Martin Luther King Day assembly. Cook County President Tony Preckwinkle, 20 state and city elected officials, and 3 Chicago mayoral candidates were present.

Tony Preckwinkle committed to working with the Reclaim Campaign to increase funding for violence prevention and to reduce the detention of low-level offenders in the Cook County Jail.

Eleven elected officials affirmed support for the Community Benefits Agreement with Gateway Development Partners to ensure local residents of Chicago's west side benefit from the jobs and housing created by the \$300 million Gateway development. The development is expected to bring 1,000 permanent jobs to the community.

State legislators made public commitments to support bills that will reduce bars to employment for low-level non-violent offenders who have served their sentence in prison. Legislators also committed to supporting comprehensive education funding reform that includes a fair weighted formula and revenue measures designated for education to fully fund the new formula.

Wow! So much happened in those 2 ½ hours. However, months of hard ground-work preceded the assembly. Thanks go to the Community Renewal Society organizers, policy department, and more than **70**

churches whose members helped to make it all possible. But our work is never done. We must hold these officials accountable to their commitments. That's what we, your Faith in Action Team, will continue to do.

We believe we are doing what Jesus would do by pursuing justice. It is a slow process and we truly thank those of you who support our work. We invite you to join us by making phone calls, sending emails, sharing what you've learned, or attending a meeting or event.

Those who attended the assembly were **Jon and Ruby Montgomery, Annette Brown, Ellen Kobylewski, JoAnne Gregorash, Jack Denny, and Jill Wood-Naatz, and Pastor Romir**. If you are interested in joining our team, contact any of us.

Appalachia Service Project

Hello everyone! It is that time again. Time to do some fundraising for ASP! We will have a restaurant fundraiser at Panda Express, corner of Barrington and Schaumburg Roads, on Sunday, March 15, 11am-7pm. Go for lunch or dinner and take the flyer with you.

Feel free to make copies for friends and neighbors! The flyer will be emailed through the church email, will be on Facebook, and will also be available in hard copy in the Narthex!



Sophie Byrnes was honored January 25 for 37 years of service as *Our Redeemer's* Nursery Caregiver



Scout Sunday February 8



Sound System Dedication February 15

Personal Notes



To my Dear Friends in Christ at *Our Redeemer's*,

My Plan - I thought I was coming to ORUMC to give extra hugging, playing, feeding and safely caring for your dear sweet babies and toddlers in the Nursery and I was thrilled with the opportunity.

God's Plan - Yes, I was going to be nurturing and caring for your dear sweet babies and toddlers, but He wanted me to stay awhile, **37 years was His timing**, so I and my family could be truly enriched and loved by the beautiful Family of *Our Redeemer's*. Who could have ever imaged the timing. He knew. And the Lord knew I would need you in those years as well, to share in my joys and sorrows.

Dear, dear friends, the church family and many individual families, have all been very special to me and my family over these years. Also, your many ministries taught my 'now 20 something' year old children many lessons for life. It also brought us beautiful memories and many close relationships.

Though I will greatly miss being with Jesus' most precious babes in the Nursery and the Nursery staff I've grown close to. I

will continue to share being part of your families, enjoy the wonderful fellowship and joyful homilies by your new pastor, in the future.

Thank you so very much for your beautiful recognition ceremony last month at church. It truly uplifted me and gave me joy, knowing that you cared so much! Your kind spoken and written words, the memory book, the outdoor angel statue, glass encased poem, generous monetary gift, the sweet table and photos, will forever be burned in my heart. I will never forget you.

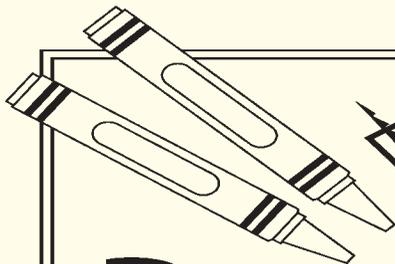
God bless you all, Children of God - We will always cherish you,

Love,

**Sophie Byrnes and Veronica,
Regina and Andrew**



The congregation extends deepest sympathy to **Shirley Genschorck** and her family on the death of **Eldon Genschorck**. Shirley and Eldon were long-time members and dear friends of *Our Redeemer's* from 30 years ago.



PUZZLE

POWER OF PRAYER

When life gets crazy, worry creeps in. But God tells us exactly what to do — any time and anywhere.

Directions: Circle the word in each group that doesn't belong. Then write those words on the numbered lines below.

1
apple
anxious
artichoke

2
every
eagle
emu

3
purple
pink
prayer

4
Paul
petition
Peter

5
taste
touch
thanksgiving

6
rest
requests
relax

7
God
George
Greg

8
puddle
peace
pond

9
transcends
train
truck

10
unusual
unique
understanding

11
guard
giraffe
gorilla

12
hearts
hold
held

13
many
minds
more

14
Philadelphia
Pennsylvania
Philippians

“Do not be _____¹ about anything, but in
 _____² situation, by _____³ and
 _____⁴, with _____⁵,
 present your _____⁶ to _____⁷. And
 the _____⁸ of God, which _____⁹
 all _____¹⁰, will _____¹¹
 your _____¹² and your _____¹³
 in Christ Jesus.” _____¹⁴ 4:6-7, NIV

Answers: 1. anxious, 2. every, 3. prayer, 4. petition, 5. thanksgiving, 6. requests, 7. God, 8. peace, 9. transcends, 10. understanding, 11. guard, 12. hearts, 13. minds, 14. Philippians



EASTER FLOWERS

by JoAnne Gregorash

We all eagerly await Easter because it is the day when together we will celebrate the Risen Lord. Together we will rejoice in the fulfillment of God's promise to us that as Jesus overcame death, so then shall we. What a wonderful way to celebrate Jesus' resurrection by filling the church with flowers. These flowers will be displayed on Easter Sunday as we come together to praise God who sent his son, not only to die for our sins, but to rise again.

We invite all who love to celebrate Easter with the beauty of flowers to join with us in this holiest of celebrations. 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 as we do all the work for you. We order them and arrange them for all to enjoy on Easter Sunday. Then you take them home and enjoy them there.

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. We are using a new florist this year and the prices of this year's flowers are \$12.50 for lilies, tulips or hyacinths. ***Palm Sunday (March 29) is the deadline for placing your order.*** I have promised our new florist that I will phone in the order on Monday, March 30 without fail. ***We ask that you please order early to help with this goal.***

Name _____ Phone _____

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

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church

1600 W. Schaumburg Road
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