



The Redeemer Review

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 12

December, 2016

**Pastor's
Corner**

**Dec 25 & Jan 1
One service @ 10:00 a.m.**

Advent



It's that time of the year again. Advent. A season of waiting. There are four Sundays in Advent signifying hope, love, joy and peace. The final candle is called "Christ Candle" lit during our final service in Advent, to announce the birth of Jesus Christ, our Savior. What is so amazing this year is that Christmas is celebrated on a Sunday and I pray that you will set aside this moment as a sacred gift with your presence. The lyrics of the hymn "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" will come to life as we offer "Glory to the newborn King."

The Good News of Jesus Christ is so welcomed today in our world faced with many challenges and uncertainties. The early disciples of Jesus were called "followers of the Way." Later on the disciples were called "Christians" in the city of Antioch. The term "evangel" which is the same as "Good News"

started to gain prominence to describe the missionary zeal of the Church. *Catholic, Orthodox, Reformed, Mainline Churches, Pentecostal, Evangelical* became a part of the expression of the uniqueness of each tradition but united in claiming the unity of the spirit in Christ. But of course, Our Redeemer's is from the *Wesleyan-Methodist movement*. Something stirred in John Wesley and "his heart was strangely warmed" as he attended a service in Aldersgate.

Advent 2016 is different for many folks. We can no longer thrive in a culture of suspicion. Instead as we enter this season, it is with prayerful and hopeful hearts. Attentiveness to where God is present in our lives requires much from us. We light a candle when there is darkness because Christ overcomes the

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Redeemer Review

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Our Redeemer's

United Methodist Church

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Schaumburg IL 60194-3900

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Worship Services:

9:00 and 10:30 am

Pastor:

Rev. Romir R. Esguerra

Church Secretary:

Donna Echtner

Director of Youth Ministries:

Marianne Rogenski

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Jerry Mc Daniel

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world. I heard stories from folks in the “front line” who receive the anxiety of our time— anxiety has many names like isolation, abandonment, harassment, loss of identity, belonging—to name a few. I recall the words of novelist and author of *Gilead*—*that our anxiety is a forgetfulness that God is faithful*. God is faithful to all of us and in this Advent let us allow the gift of “waiting” to bless us.

Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.” (Luke 1:46-48)

In December, when the night is long and the day is short, ancient people feared the solar light might never be kindled again. This is the gift of Advent. Christ rekindling creation.

Join us for our Advent Sunday services, Christmas Eve services (5 pm Family Service and Christmas play, 7:30 p.m. with our Chancel Choir and 11:00 p.m. with Holy Communion). Please note that we will have one service only on December 25 and January 1 at 10:00 a.m.

Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year to all.

See you in the Advent place,

Rev. Romir R. Esguerra

**Dec 25 & Jan 1 - one
service @ 10:00 a.m.**



December Community Crisis Center

by Sally Donaldson

Annual Coat Give Away:

Gently used heavy winter coats for all members of a family as well as hats, gloves, mittens, scarves and boots are needed for the **Annual Coat Give Away**. They cannot use lightweight or spring items, sweatshirts or long trench coats. The Give Away ends in February.

Toiletries:

Nail clippers and emery boards.

Medicine Chest Items:

(All items must be new, sealed and with current dates) non-alcohol cough syrup and non-aspirin pain reliever (for adults and children), antacids, RID shampoo, anti-diarrhea medications, Orajel, Pedialyte, band-aids, antibiotic ointment, gauze, adhesive tape, disposable thermometers, peroxide, rubbing alcohol, facial tissues.

CCC Food Pantry:

Canned fruit, canned meat meals, beef stew, chili, etc. Also needed are cereal/oatmeal, jelly, peanut butter, mac and cheese, pork and beans, powdered milk, saltine crackers, soups, spaghetti and marinara sauce, spaghetti type canned items, tuna, hand can openers

Please place your donations in the CCC bins located in the closet left of the Information Desk, located in the Narthex.

Thank you so much for your wonderful donations and continued support.



Give the Gift of Heifer for Christmas

For over a decade, Heifer (www.heifer.org) has been a giving opportunity at *Our Redeemer's*. Children and adults alike participate, whether it is through the Fill-the-Ark banks the children use to collect coins or by purchasing an animal to give to a family in need.

As part of your Christmas this year, please consider the purchase of a Heifer animal. A donation in someone's name also makes a good Christmas gift. Starting December 4th and ending December 18, after each service, we will be promoting Heifer in the Narthex for those interested in supporting the cause and sharing the gift. Contact **Jon Montgomery** for more information.



**Habitat
December 17,
7:00 a.m.**

Grab your hammer and join the Habitat gang at church December 17 at 7:00 a.m. We will carpool to the Lake County Habitat site and spend the day helping work on a Habitat house. We return to church by 4:00 or 5:00 p.m.

Call **Mert Rutledge**, 630-289-4334, if you plan to attend or have questions.



by Marianne Rogenski

Appalachia Service Project (ASP) News:

If you are interested in going on our youth mission trip, ASP, the dates are June 10-17, 2017. We don't have a location yet, but put it on your calendar!

Please let Marianne know if you plan to go on the trip or if you have any questions. It is an amazing experience and we encourage all youth to go!

There is a meeting on January 26, 7-8pm.

Youth News:

We wrap up 2016 on December 4, 6:30-8:30, with our Christmas Party! Hope to see you there!

We will begin youth group in 2017 on January 15, 6:30-8:30pm.

Future events:

January 29 The Gathering at ORUMC
6:30-8:30pm

February 24-25 30 Hour Famine

February 26 Famine Sunday

Watch your email for a detailed Winter/Spring schedule.

Education News:

Advent Festival is December 3, 4-6pm!

Come and enjoy lots of Advent and Christmas activities with friends. Adults are encouraged to help decorate the sanctuary.

Activities will be from 4-5:30pm and then we will join for a potluck meal from 5:30-6pm—please bring a dish to share!

No Sunday School December 25 or January 1

Movie Night

Movie Night in Wesley Hall is January 7, 6-8pm! Come and enjoy pizza, a movie, and popcorn!

Birthdays (sorry Nov people)

Allison Gorvett	11/9
Nicholas Meyer	11/25
Jonathan Dean	11/27
Patrick Brock	11/29
Kimberly Trenn	11/30
Matthew Young	12/5
Meghan Lowry	12/6
Blake Breda	12/7
Lukas Torgerson	12/7
Joseph Dombek	12/8
Chalisa Kulprathipanja	12/14
Abigail Hill	12/21
Jill Murphy	12/22
Eric Theile	12/27
Brendan Gorvett	12/27
Dominic Gomes	12/27
Nick Pope	12/29

Gifts from the Heart

by Carol Hollingsworth

On behalf of ChildServ and the children they serve, I would like to thank the generosity of the 54 individuals and families who sponsored 84 children for our Gifts from the Heart program. It is always so heartwarming to see the response from our congregation for these children, from infants through teenagers, who otherwise, would not have quite as bright a Christmas.

I would like to remind those of you who sponsored children, that the unwrapped gifts are to be returned, bundled together for each child, and labeled per instructions, on **Sunday morning, December 4, to church.**

“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ Matthew 25:40

UMM Holiday Snax

The United Methodist Men are still taking orders for their Holiday Snax.

They will make their “Killer Garlic Pretzels” and “Puppy Chow”. (it’s really tasty stuff for people) for delivery in church December 11.

Check out a sample and place an order.

Holiday Concert

One of our newest choir members, **Glenn Hedenberg**, will be singing with the *Spirit of Life Chorus* on two dates in the near future. This is an established chorus of about 75 singers with accompanying instrumentalists.

Their program will feature patriotic music and holiday selections and will benefit homeless veterans in the Chicago area. There is no charge for the concert although a free will offering will be collected.

Concerts are scheduled for:

Sunday, November 27, 4:30pm at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Elgin

Sunday, December 4, 4:30pm at St. Walter Catholic Church, Roselle

Audience members are asked to bring a donation of basic household supplies and personal hygiene items for *Veterans Exiting Homelessness*.

More info can be found at www.spiritoflifechorus.org. Check it out - this looks like a great group.

**Dec 25 & Jan 1
One service @ 10:00 a.m.**

It's a Wonderful Life at Our Redeemer's



The Stewardship team, featuring **Jimmy Stewardship** and **Angel Clarence** performed *It's a Wonderful Life* for the 2017 stewardship campaign. In the end, Clarence got his wings.

It's not too late. If you wish to make a commitment for 2017, please turn in a pledge card before the December 11 Charge Conference.

United Methodist Women

Christmas is upon us and we hope that you plan to attend our December United Methodist Women Holiday meeting. You'll want to join us to take advantage of this fun event:

Please mark your calendar for this **final event of the year**.

Tuesday, December 6 – 6:30 p.m.
Holiday Potluck Dinner & Business Meeting-
in the Wesley Room /

· Program: "Holiday Happenings"

§ Bring a Potluck dish to share

§ Bring a wrapped White Elephant gift (wrap up a funny or odd gift and join in the laughter as we unwrap these "treasures")

· During the Business meeting we'll discuss:

§ 2016 Allocations to Missions

§ 2017 Budget

§ Election time for our 2017 UMW Board & Officers- consider joining the Board or becoming an officer. It's always wonderful to have new board members

§ Bring your ideas for upcoming 2017 event opportunities (retreat- fund raisers- small group events, etc.)

Join us for Fun, Fellowship and Friendship

Just a reminder - if you signed up for Feed My Starving Children - it's Dec 9 at 7:00 p.m.



Peace Pole dedication in memory of Pastor Bill Shaw
November 13

Personal Notes



We are looking for communion servers for the first Sundays of the month when we serve communion.

Please prayerfully consider helping with this ministry. Check out the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Thanks for your help!

Shirlie Witte and Donna Echtner

**All Church
Charge Conference**
Sunday, December 11, 5:00 p.m.

ALL ARE INVITED.



Our deepest sympathy to: **Robyn Gatti** and family on the death of her father, **Robert Oberwetter**.

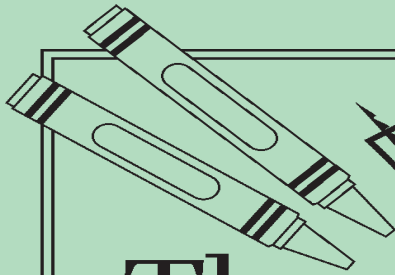


Please remember to let the church know when you have changed your contact information – address, phone or email.



Congratulations to **Fred and Betty Miller** on celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary!

Dec 25 & Jan 1
One service @ 10:00 a.m.

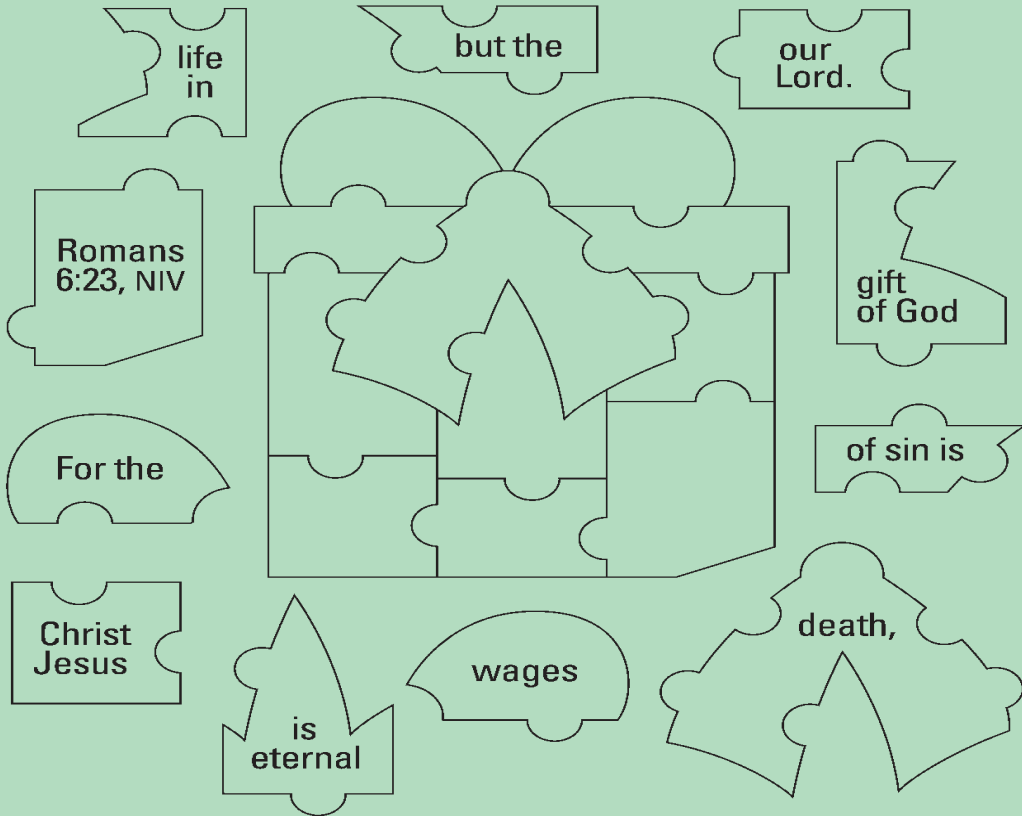


PUZZLE

The greatest gift

Gift-giving is a fun Christmas tradition.
What very special gift has God given to you?

Directions: Write the words from each puzzle piece on the matching blank piece of the gift-shaped puzzle.



Answer: For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23, NIV

Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church

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Schaumburg, IL 60194-3900

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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One service @ 10:00 a.m.**



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