



The Redeemer Review

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 1

January, 2017



Season of Epiphany

Epiphany Sunday traditionally falls on January 6th, which looks ahead to the mission of the church in the light of Christ's birth in Bethlehem. It was celebrated since the end of the second century, even before Christmas holiday was established.

We use the scripture passage from Matthew 2:9 *"When they heard the king, they set out; and there ahead of them, went the star they had seen at its rising, until it stopped where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy."*

The divinity of Christ was commemorated with the visit of the three Kings in Bethlehem and when John the Baptist, baptized Jesus in the Jordan river.

The mood of the wise men was "joyful." This was in direct contrast to the unpredictability and cruelty of king Herod. In many churches, the reference to the slaughter of children in Matthew 2:16, is often omitted in liturgical reading because it is a very difficult passage. When Herod realized that he had been tricked by his co-equal kings, he went into a furious rage. The wise men went home by another way.

"Epiphany" means to "show", to "manifest" or simply "to reveal." There are so many different traditions associated with Epiphany. Some open presents during this day, others prepare special pastries or cake. Re-affirmation of Baptism is sometimes offered in some churches. The colors of Epiphany are usually the colors of Christmas, white and gold, the colors of newness, celebration and hope.

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In the Methodist tradition, the practice was to start this Sunday with a covenant service and communion. God is revealed to us in a very special way and we are part of the story that is unfolding, connecting with Christ as a welcoming community.

We welcome the New Year 2017 with great hopes and expectations. "Let us not be weary in doing good and in due time we will reap the harvest." Join us and be a catalyst for renewal. Let the light of Christ shine brightly in our hearts this season. God is doing a new thing.

Happy New Year 2017 Blessing!

Rev. Romir R. Esguerra

Redeemer Review

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Our Redeemer's

United Methodist Church

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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

December 25

&

January 1

One service

@ 10:00 a.m.



Peace with Justice Sunday and King Day Event January 15 & 16

by Jill Wood-Naatz

You will be inspired and challenged as you listen to **Lori Radder** talk to us on **Sunday, January 15 at both services**. She will share her passion for social justice and why followers of Jesus are called to this work. She will also share how we, at ***Our Redeemer's***, can support and advocate for social justice in our community and state.

You are invited to our Community Renewal Society (CRS) **King Day celebration on Monday, January 16 to be held at St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Chicago**. We will worship, pray, sing, and learn along side people from other CRS churches in the city and suburbs. Many of our neighboring churches in Chicago are experiencing life in ways most of us can hardly imagine and can't truly understand. But we can learn how to best be supportive of the issues of poverty and racism confronting members of many urban churches. And we can learn how to advocate for solutions.

Dr. Martin Luther King devoted his life to creating the "**Beloved Community**", a society based on justice, equal opportunity, and love of one's fellow human beings. According to the King Center, it is a global vision in which all people can share in the wealth of the earth. In the **Beloved Community**, poverty, hunger, and homelessness will not be tolerated because international stan-

dards of human decency will not allow it. Racism and all forms of discrimination, bigotry and prejudice will be replaced by an all-inclusive spirit of sisterhood and brotherhood.

Please join us for the morning of Jan. 16 from 9:30 to 12:00 as we sing, pray, worship, and learn together. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex as well as a flier about the event. We hope you will join us especially if you have never been part of this kind of event. You may also speak with Annette Brown, Jack Denny, Ellen Kobylewski, or Jill Wood-Naatz for more information.

It's Movie Time

January 26, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

You are invited to watch the documentary "**13th**" at church on Thursday, January 26 at 7:00 - 9:00 pm.

In this thought provoking film, scholars, activists, and politicians analyze the criminalization of African-Americans in the U.S. prison system. It is historical in nature, beginning with the Civil War, and will provoke very interesting discussion.

We look forward to hearing your reaction and thoughts. And if that's not enough, there will be popcorn too!

It is sponsored by the Faith in Action Team at ***Our Redeemer's***.



Education News:

A special thank you this Christmas season to our Sunday School teachers and assistants, members of the education committee, Kids Hope mentors, and all others who help with the Christian Education Ministry at ORUMC. We are truly blessed to have each one of you.

There will be NO Sunday School on December 25 or January 1.

Sunday School will resume as usual at 9am on January 8.

Movie Night

Movie Night is January 7, 5-8pm!

Please note the start time is 5 pm. We will have a fantastic movie, pizza, popcorn, games, and more!

Come with your family or this can be a drop off event. Bring your friends!

Please let Marianne know that you are coming by December 31.

Youth News:

A huge thank you to the youth group leaders! What a blessing you are to this ministry at ORUMC!

January

- 1 NO YOUTH GROUP
- 8 NO YOUTH GROUP
- 15 Youth Group 6:30-8:30pm
- 22 Youth Group 6:30-8:30pm
- 29 The Gathering 6:30-8:30pm
at ORUMC

February

- 5 Youth Group 6:30-8:30pm
- 12 Youth Group 6:30-8:30pm
- 19 Youth Group 6:30-8:30pm
- 24-25 30 Hour Famine 3pm-10pm
- 26 Famine Sunday 9am and 10:30am
NO YOUTH GROUP in evening

*We are so excited to be hosting The Gathering on January 29 and hope to see many youth there! The Gathering is an evening when 3 youth groups from 3 churches come together for fellowship.

30 Hour Famine

30 Hour Famine is almost here! This event is for all who are in 7th-12th grades and all are encouraged to invite friends.

This is an event we do each year through World Vision. The students ask friends and family members to sponsor them as they go on a juice and water fast for 30 hours.

During that time we do Bible study, games, service projects, and more. The students start the fast on their own on Friday night at 3 pm, come to church at 6 pm, and we break the fast at 9 pm on Saturday.

It is an amazing experience and we hope you will join us!

See Marianne for a consent form and a fundraising packet.

Appalachia Service Project (ASP) News:

Our ASP trip will be June 10-17, 2017. If you are interested in this youth mission trip please let Marianne know.

Our next meeting will be January 26 from 7-8 pm.



Morgan Schmidt	1/20
Megan Gaska	1/26
Jonathan Dean	1/27
Hayley Dombek	1/28
Conner Dierbach	1/28
Daniel Launhardt	1/30
Tyler Calderwood	1/31



*Breakfast Meeting
Jan 14, 8:00 a.m.*

*Spaghetti Dinner Preparation
Feb 4, 8:00 a.m.*

*Spaghetti Dinner
Feb 5, 10:45 a.m.*

All men of the church are invited to attend our regular breakfast meeting Jan 14 at 8:00 a.m.

Feb 4 at 8:00 a.m. we will be cooking world famous meatballs for our Super Bowl Sunday Spaghetti Dinner. Come Feb 5 starting at 10:45 a.m.

All members and friends are invited!


Help Wanted

The December 11 Charge Conference reported that two additional people are needed for the Nominations Committee.

If you would be interested in working on this committee, or any other work area in the church, please contact **Pastor Romir**.

You don't want to miss this !!!

It's a Wonderful Life in

TV  **LAND**

**Come enjoy a "FAMILY NIGHT OF FUN"
with a home cooked meal served by Mr. and Mrs.
Clever, skits, games and shenanigans.**

**Saturday, Jan. 28 at 6:00pm
At Our Redeemer's.**

**Tickets will be on sale in the Narthex on Sundays
in January between services or you may call the
church office for details.**

(Sponsored by the Stewardship Committee and Book of Acts)

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women had a fun time on Tuesday, December 6 at our Holiday Potluck Dinner. We also exchanged White Elephant gifts, played games and sang. At our business meeting we approved the disbursement of funds to various missions and UMW causes: Heifer Project, Christian Corner Children's Center, Shelter, Inc, Elgin Community Crisis Center, Habitat for Humanity, 30-hour Famine, Imagine No Malaria, Food Pantry, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Adult Mission Trip, Elgin UMW District Pledge and Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

ORUMW organized a *Feed My Starving Children* event on Friday, December 9 that also included several ORUMC men. They gave their time to help pack 158,976 meals at the "*Hope Filled Holiday*" event and had a fun night.

The United Methodist Women have planned another year of exciting activities. All women of the church are invited to join us at all of these events. We guarantee that you will experience good fellowship, friendship and fun. Please mark these dates on your calendars, so that you can take advantage of these uplifting and exciting gatherings.

2017 United Methodist Women Event Schedule

TUESDAY, MARCH 14 – 6:30 p.m.- **Quarterly Potluck Dinner & Business Meeting**/ Program: "*African Orphanage Mission Trip*"-presented by Susan Jackson.

DATE- TBD- **Retreat at Wesley Woods/ Lake Geneva, WI – Bible Study**

TUESDAY, June 6- 6:30 p.m.- **Annual Salad Supper & Business Meeting** / Program: Speaker & Video

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12– 6:30 p.m. –**Quarterly Potluck Dinner & Business Meeting** / Crafts for a Cause

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19 - **Heavenly Treats**/ Before & after Church Services/ ORUMC- Wesley Room / Set up on Saturday, November 18- Bring your baked goods

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5 – 6:30 p.m.- **Holiday Potluck Dinner & Business Meeting** / Program: Holiday Fun / 2017 Allocations & 2018 Budget/ White Elephant gift exchange





UMW at Feed My Starving Children

Personal Notes



Our deepest sympathy to Danny Flores and family on the death of his grandfather, Jose Flores.

Changes???

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

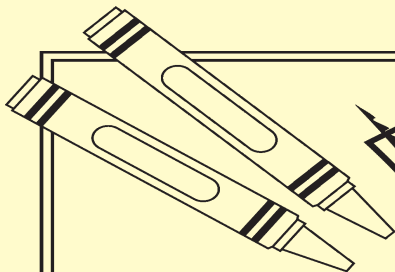
Communion Servers

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



PUZZLE







Light OF THE World









In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way?
Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.



*Directions: Use the key to fill in the missing vowels.
Then read the completed Bible verse.*



KEY:  **A**  **E**  **I**  **O**

  M  TH  L  GHT  F

TH   W  RLD. WH   V  R

F   LL  M  W  LL  N  V  R

W   LK  N  D  RKN  SS."

 J  H N 8:12, NIV

Answer: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness." John 8:12, NIV

Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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



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