

Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church
1600 W. Schaumburg Road
Schaumburg, IL 60194-3900

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The Redeemer Review

Volume 3

March 2024

**Pastor's
Corner**



Dear friends in Christ,

In a few more weeks we will join Christians of many generations throughout the world in experiencing the journey of Holy Week, by entering into it singing loud Hosannas to remember, once again, the glorious parade of Palm Sunday.

But, yes, there is a but in this joyful parade and celebration and that is, we must remind ourselves that we cannot move from Palm Sunday to Easter without passing over Golgotha and through the tomb. For it is true that as soon as we are born we begin to die, it is also true that before we can begin to live we must learn to die.

Remember the words Jesus said, "Unless a seed dies, it remains a single seed; but if it dies, it produces many seeds and then much fruit." St. Francis of Assisi knew this well when he wrote in his famous prayer for peace; "it is in giving that we receive; it is in dying that we are born again." The Apostle Paul knew this well when he said: "We will not be united with Christ in a resurrection like his, unless we are first united with Christ in a death like his." It is only in dying that a person begins to live. Our old self must die for us to join Christ in his resurrection. It is only when we are united with Christ in a death like his, that we are united

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Redeemer Review

Published Monthly by
Our Redeemer's

United Methodist Church
1600 W Schaumburg Road
Schaumburg IL 60194-3900
(847) 882-6116

email: Call for email address

Website: www.orumc.org

Worship is Sunday at 10am.

**Pastor: Rev. Shirley Pulgar
Hughes**

Christian Education and Youth
Ministries: Melissa Bland
Financial Secretaries: Ellen
Kobylewski and Melinda Taylor
Administrative Assistant:
Melissa Bland

Honorary Editor in Chief
Jerry McDaniel

Co-Editors
Melissa Bland
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with him in a resurrection like his. Only when we have mastered that lesson are we free for abundant living.

What if, dear friends, what if we truly enter into Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the story of Jesus' walk to the cross? We have a unique opportunity to experience these days in word, in Sacrament, in deed, and in solidarity with our sisters and brothers, with every molecule and atom of this beautiful broken world.

Yes, everybody loves a parade, but to truly appreciate one we must go behind the scenes, we must encounter the trash and the smelly, messy lives. We must walk with Jesus. Yes, many of us have to admit that we like to jump from Palm Sunday, with the palm branches and choruses of "Hosanna, save us," straight to "He is Risen." But we must walk with Jesus through Golgotha if we want to find HOPE. As we experience the totality of Holy Week we can hear that this story is for us. Jesus suffers, that is, so that when we are suffering we

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know God understands and cares for us. Jesus is utterly alone by the end of the story so that when we feel alone we know God understands and is with us. Jesus cries out in despair so that when we become convinced the whole world has conspired against us and feel ready to give up, we know that God understands and holds onto us. Jesus dies because so that we know God understands death and the fear of death and reminds us that death does not have the last word.

During the weeklong journey to Easter morning we will have several opportunities for worship that are intended to assist us in reflecting upon Jesus' sacrifice and death for our sake. Each service is unique, designed to make us active participants in the moments leading up the Resurrection.

It all begins on Palm Sunday, foreshadowing the week to follow. The service that morning will bring the Gospel to life through the wonderful participation of our talented members of *Book of Acts*. This will lead us to the hard journey of Holy Week. And, yes, the only

path to the hope of Easter is through the struggle of Holy Week. Like the assurance offered in the 23rd Psalm, we are not given a shortcut around the Valley of the Shadow of Death. You and I will have an opportunity to enter the "valley" together with our brothers and sisters of Our Saviour's UMC. On Maundy Thursday, March 28th, 7:00 p.m. at our church we will participate, together with our friends of OSUMC, of a Service of Handwashing and the Sacrament of Holy Communion. On Good Friday, March 29th, 7:00 p.m. at Our Saviour's UMC, we will participate of the Tenebrae Service where the sacred readings trace the story of Christ's passion, music portrays his pathos, and the power of silence and darkness suggests the drama of this momentous day.

May these holy services bring you new revelations, deeper faith, and a holy discomfort on your way to the empty tomb.

Blessings and strength on your journey though the "valley",

Pastor Shirley

Plan While You Can: Funeral Pre- Planning Workshop

Our Redeemer's United
Methodist Church

**"I want that hymn at my funeral
service."**

Here is an opportunity to write it down for your pastor and loved ones. A beautiful gift you can give to your loved ones and yourself is an end-of-life plan. It offers clarity for your family members and friends, regarding a Funeral, Memorial and Committal Services and Memorial Gifts. On Sundays,

**February 25, March 3, 10, & 17,
Pastor Shirley will lead, *Plan
While You Can: Funeral Service
Pre-planning* in Wesley Hall at
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

Homemade soup and bread will be served. We will hear short presentations from local Funeral Directors as well as The Illinois Anatomical Gift Association. During these sessions you will be able to plan your service, including your choice of hymns,



readings, preacher, speakers, and ushers as well as write your own *Prayer of Thanksgiving* for your Life and *Obituary* with the help of church volunteers.

Attendees will receive a booklet to guide them through *The United Methodist Service of Death and Resurrection*, burial options, and *Planned Giving/Memorial Gifts*. Please register at the church office so we can plan for lunch and workshop materials. Contact Pastor Shirley or Melissa if you have questions or would like additional information.



**Bishop
Announces New
Prairie Central
District
Superintendent**

Rev. Wendy Hardin Hermann was born in Alburn, Alabama, and is a lifelong United Methodist and a second-generation United Methodist clergyperson, following in the footsteps of her mother, an elder who served in Alabama and Georgia. Wendy has a deep love of God, God's people, and the church. Her passions for ministry include planning and leading meaningful and relevant worship, building Christian community among people of diverse backgrounds, empowering and challenging individuals and congregations to practice intentional discipleship, strategizing with churches to plan for their future, and being an ally in creating a boldly inclusive United Methodist Church.

She graduated from Birmingham-Southern College with a Bachelor of Arts in English and from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity. She was ordained and elder in the Northern Illinois Conference in 1999 and has served churches in Hinsdale, Rogers Park, Norwood Park, and Glenview prior to her appointment at Mt. Prospect in 2017.

"I am humbled by Bishop Schwerin's invitation to sit at the

table with the rest of the Northern Illinois Cabinet," Rev. Hardin Hermann said. "I have great respect for Bishop Schwerin and his spiritual leadership. I look forward to getting to know the good people of the Prairie Central District, coming alongside you as we seek God's leading for the future.

"I give thanks for the fruitful and dynamic leadership of outgoing District Superintendent Rev. Jeffry Bross, and I look forward to learning from Rev. Bross in this time of transition."

Rev. Hardin Hermann's call to ministry was shaped by her early experiences of faith formation in the home and local church. In college, she served on the staff of Appalachia Service Project, a home-repair ministry. Those summers in West Virginia changed her life and led her to seek more opportunities to be in ministry with the most vulnerable. Her guiding scripture is from the fourth Chapter of Luke: "the Spirit of the Lord is upon me... to bring good news to the poor... to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Bishop Schwerin asks Northern Illinois United Methodists to hold in prayer Rev. Hardin Hermann, her family, and everyone in an appointment transition.



“The Lion shall dwell with The Lamb.”
Isaiah 11:6

Upcoming Events

March 9 - Game Night at Melinda Taylor’s at 6:30pm

June 4 – Father’s Day gift assembly, guest speaker Joanie from Downsizing by Design at ORUMC

Sept 3 – History of Our Redeemer’s as we celebrate our 60th anniversary at ORUMC

Dec 3 – Annual Holiday White Elephant exchange at ORUMC

Fall Retreat: tentative date Sept 27-28. Details for the program, location and cost to follow

The March/April issue is here and in the narthex.



Take your copy today!



Our upcoming UWF Spring Bible Study

“Sisters in the Bible” by Julie Allyson Ieron. Mary Zalay is the study leader. We will meet on Thursdays @ 7:00 pm in the Choir Room of the church for 8 weeks (March 7- April 25). You should purchase your own study booklet through either christianbook.com or Amazon/ Stock #WW273380.

Contact Mary Zalay to confirm that you will attend.



The United Methodist Men meet over breakfast at Mr. A’s in Roselle at 8:00 am every second Saturday. The next meeting is April 13th.



...and now, a word from

Jerry McDaniel



After umteen years in Schaumburg, IL, I moved to Louisville, CO to be 1.2 miles away from Mary, Mike and Otis! Over Christmas, we toured Balfour, a retirement community in Louisville. I decided it was a great idea, and made the decision to move out of Friendship Village at the end of January.

After a week at Mary and Mike’s, the moving truck arrived, and I moved into Balfour on February 8th. They feed me three times a day and take care of my medical

needs, just like Friendship Village did. The place is smaller, so I couldn’t take couches, my bed, or computer furniture. I can see most of the apartment from my comfy chair. I donated my car, so Mary is in charge of driving me around. She wanted me to be 1,000 miles closer, so that’s her penalty!

The grandfather clock was able to make the trip, and we had Tick Tock Bob come out and get it ticking and bonging. Everything seems to be put away and organized, and I’ve even been doing some activities like Bingo and music events.

I miss all of our friends back in the midwest, but Colorado is a beautiful place to visit, so come on out! Lots of good memories, and hope to see you all again soon!

VISIT THIS LINK FOR MORE PICTURES!!!!!!

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DIPz4zA63e0iLEsBLiaM7AQUdeWahuQ8fMy8UiTmZNU/edit>

Finance Report: 2024 Budget

The Finance Committee would like to let the congregation know that the 2024 budget has been approved. If giving is in line with pledges, and spending reaches requested amounts, we will have a projected deficit of approximately 15%. Expenses always seem to go up, not down.

For the past several years, we anticipated a deficit budget based upon pledged giving and anticipated expenses. Each year, as a church family we have pulled together to give what we can, and to be good stewards of our resources. Last year we were also blessed with a grant from the Felheimer Trust to help with the roof repair. We also had many people step up and contribute extra specifically to meet that need. We have continued to support our many ministries here at Our Redeemers. Giving in 2023 was above budgeted amounts; thank you for your part in this! We actually had a surplus of 7% in 2023! It is our hope that 2024 will follow past patterns of generous giving and careful spending, and the actual numbers will be much more encouraging. It's never too late to pledge, or to share your blessings as you are able.

The following are the year-to-date financial information 2/31/2024

Revenue	\$43,399
Expenses	(42,173)
Net Income	1,226



**1st Place
Claddagh Ringers**



**2nd Place
Fantastic Nine**



There was a rumor that Elton was there.



Caring Ministries Corner



The Caring Ministries Council is seeking a volunteer to deliver food to the Schaumburg Township Food Pantry on the fifth Sunday of the month. Jerry McDaniel served on those Sundays for most all of the 30 years we've delivered food. Even though there are only 4 fifth Sundays in 2024, it just doesn't seem fair to ask Jerry to travel back here from Colorado to deliver on those weeks. This would involve collecting donated food items from the narthex on that Sunday or soon afterward, then delivering them to the food pantry within that week. The food pantry is located at 1 Illinois Blvd. If you are interested, please contact Bruce Bedingfield

Save the Date!

Sunday, May 5th

(11am until 4 pm)

Unlike our "Virtual" blood drives, held during the peak of the COVID-19 Pandemic, we will hold a blood drive in our own Wesley Hall after that morning's worship service. If you are medically able, please consider participating in this important caring ministry by making a blood donation. Blood supplies continue to be at a critical low. Further information will, of course, be forthcoming.



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN We will serve at the Schaumburg Feed My Starving Children center on Friday, March 8th from 2:00- 3:45 PM. If you would like to join in, please inform Melissa in the office or register at FMSC.org using join code KDPV9Z



The Rogers Park Soup Kitchen needs additional volunteers from ORUMC!

Hi all. As always, we are looking for volunteers to join us helping those who count on the Community Feast, also known as the soup kitchen, at the United Church of Rogers Park in Chicago for a reliable, healthy and well prepared meal on Sunday night. The 3rd Sunday of the month is reserved for the team from Our Redeemer's. This spring, we have the month of March off as they have new people who want to learn how to help. If you would like to go this month (February 18th), April 21st or May 19th, simply let Mert Rutledge know as she is the one who keeps tabs on the size of our crew. If you can't get hold of Mert, you can let me know,


JoAnne Gregorash, and I will pass the word on to Mert. We love that there are some of you who come most every month and others who fit it into their schedule when they are able to make it. This ministry is a particular passion of mine and of Mert's and we are always very thankful for those of you willing to help out. Blessings from **JoAnne and Mert.**



A message from Schaumburg Township Food Pantry:

Our church continues to feed our hungry neighbors by making weekly contributions to the Schaumburg Township Food Pantry. If you are financially able, please pick up at least a few extra food items each week when you do your own grocery shopping. Then bring those donations to the cart in the narthex for delivery to the food pantry later that week. The pantry tells us they are MOST in need of oatmeal packets, boxed pasta and apple sauce—any size, any kind for the month of February.

March 2024

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