

# FELLOWSHIP

## NEWCOMER PROFILE

PEOPLE MAKING THE REDEEMER THEIR FAITH COMMUNITY

INTERVIEWED BY KEN GARNER



Jim Kelleher & Rik Morris

### How long have you been attending services here?

We started almost from the first Rite II service we attended at The Redeemer in early January 2016.

**I know you're newcomers to the Episcopal Church. What is your previous church experience, if any?** For me, Jim, I was born and raised a devout Catholic, and though the liturgical tenants made sense to me, not "feeling welcome," if you will, always bothered me. Rik is a birthright Quaker, and had been much more spiritual than religious, but for both of us, we wanted to share one religion.

### How did you find The Redeemer?

For me, Rik, my first experience was in 1980, when Baccalaureate for Shipley was held within the church – then and now it felt so welcoming and warm. Over the years I shared how beautiful the organ resonated in the sanctuary, and as a Julliard grad, Jim was always eager to hear it for himself.

### What inspired you to attend?

It was though the invitation of Ellen Harvey and Tad Sperry, friends, and a fellow Shipley Trustee of Shipley. They invited

us to "dip our toe" into The Redeemer by attending Lessons & Carols last December. And during the social hour following this incredible service, we just knew this was to be our religious and spiritual home.

### What would you want to tell others about The Redeemer to encourage them to come and explore our parish?

From the moment one enters the church, there is a sense of belonging that is just positively reinforced by the parishioners who greet you with a smile and friendly handshake or nod of the head. Peter, David, and Melissa do their part to engage everyone. The Redeemer is a community within a community, and a place where, when we kneel at the altar, we are all equals and children of God.

### Tell us a bit about yourself outside of The Redeemer—your job, your family, your hobbies.

We, along with a close friend, are founders of Slate Roof Creamery, which makes and distributes sweet and savory specialty butters that are available nationally in grocery stores. We are both only children, and so our "family" is just us. This shared, we both feel as if we have a new extended family! We spend most of our summer on the Cape, still working very long days and traveling to tradeshow and retailers, but sailing and swimming during our "lunch hour" is not too bad. We both love to entertain and attend art and musical events. Rik is an avid classic movie fan, and for Jim, reading is a true pleasure. David Romanik has been very forthcoming with many books to occupy Jim's interest in religion and the Episcopal Church.

## PARISH BUSINESS

### "SUDDEN LIMB DROP" PHENOMENON

BY JAY EINSPIANIER

Chances are you read my article last summer about this phenomena. I know that most if not all of you did. Rest assured that I will not repeat that fascinating article here, again, but we do need to address the damage caused.

Given the number of limbs which suddenly "dropped" from the sky, we have space for a few additional and healthy trees (*tree (n.): a tall perennial woody plant having a main trunk and branches forming a distinct elevated crown; includes both gymnosperms and angiosperms*) in the Graveyard. A number of our canopy trees were damaged and need some severe pruning to prepare for this coming winter. Also, during the winter, assuming that the ground properly freezes, we intend to remove two or three dead or dying "tall perennial woody plants."

Specifically, we have identified locations for four new canopy trees. One spot has already been spoken for leaving us three to go. In addition, our arborist, Jim Ward,

has volunteered to donate a replacement tree for one that is currently "resting comfortably" in our Graveyard on the Pennswood side. He mentioned that the tree from the John B. Ward & Company will be an "Amelanchier."

So, this is an appeal to those in the parish who might be interested in donating a tree or two to the churchyard. Jim Ward will pick out suitable tree varieties for consideration (he highly recommends Swamp Red Maples, *Acer Rubrum*, for its fall color) and that would also complement our current inventory along with suitability in the remaining three locations. The donation needed for each tree is \$1500 which includes planting and care. We anticipate that the trees will be planted either in the late fall of 2016 or early spring of 2017.

Trees and locations will be on a first come first served basis.

Please contact Jay Einspanier (jay@theredeemer.org) if interested.

## SHARING THE JOYS OF CHRISTMAS



### Joy...to the World

*Giving is the supreme expression of joy; and joy is increased when giving is shared.*

*This season, help make joy abound.*

- Give a gift to someone in need.
- Give that gift in the name of someone you love or to acknowledge a teacher or colleague.
- Share the joy of the season by engaging your children in the act of giving.

Print a complete brochure or make your gift online at [www.TheRedeemer.org](http://www.TheRedeemer.org)



- Take home a Bag.
- Return it filled (list in bag)
- Return by December 13

If you can help with the delivery to the agencies on Thursday, December 15, please contact Jay Einspanier at Jay@theredeemer.org.

*It's easy and it's fun!  
Help us spread  
Christmas cheer to 200  
local people in need.*



Bags available in the Narthex and Parish House. You can print a shopping list online from [www.TheRedeemer.org](http://www.TheRedeemer.org).

## EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES CHRISTMAS GIVING PROGRAM

This Christmas, the Christmas Giving program at The Redeemer will be a bit different. So far, 36 children served by ECS have already asked for a bicycle and helmet. We have the opportunity to help fulfill those wishes. If you would like to participate, you can sponsor a child by writing a check to ECS or purchasing a Target or Visa gift card. Bikes will be purchased, picked-up and assembled by ECS.

- \$145 buys both a bike and helmet.
- \$120 buys an older child's bike.
- \$90 buys a younger child's bike.
- \$25 buys a helmet only.

You can also buy a \$25 gift card to Target, donate cash, or write a check to ECS for any amount, and the money will be used for a bike fund. More details about the specific children and the bicycles can be found on sign-up genius.

**All donations must be received by Friday, December 9 at noon.** There will be a marked box in the parish house office where you may leave checks, cash or gift cards.

In addition, ECS is looking for donations of very gently used and like-new instruments for children in the ECS after-school program, specifically one violin and four acoustic guitars. If you have one of these instruments in excellent condition, please consider donating the instrument to ECS. Please contact Marlies Lissack via phone or email to arrange for pick-up and delivery of the instrument.

For more information about ECS Christmas Giving, please contact Marlies Lissack (marlieslissack@yahoo.com or 610-506-9989) or visit sign-up genius [www.SignUpGenius.com](http://www.SignUpGenius.com) and click on "find a sign-up" and type in Marlies' email address.

## CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

Please send the names of the people you wish remembered in the Christmas Memorials. There is a suggested \$25 per name. Please mark these as Christmas Memorials and send them to the Parish Office, attention Tish Zaleta, by Monday, December 18. Be sure to write the name(s) clearly so that we don't make a mistake. You can also do it online at: [www.TheRedeemer.org/donate\\_flowers](http://www.TheRedeemer.org/donate_flowers)