

Voice of The Redeemer

Episcopal Church of

edition of
JOURNAL
December 2017
Volume 7 Number 11

More coverage online at
www.TheRedeemer.org

Do we have your email address?
If not, go to the above address and
"Join our email list"

Worship-Outreach-Fellowship of the people of the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr, PA

WHAT'S INSIDE

Organized around our
principle themes of:

WORSHIP - OUTREACH - FELLOWSHIP
These themes are an outgrowth
of the goals in our most recent
strategic plan "Spiritual Center"
(Worship); "Outreach Within and
Beyond Our Campus" (Outreach)
and "Parish Vitality" (Fellowship).

WORSHIP

Sunday Worship.....A2
Hearing the Story Anew.....A2
Youth Update.....A2
Advent Quiet Morning.....A2
ACM Thanks.....A2
Advent Forums.....A3

OUTREACH

Jo Ann's Ordination.....A3
Christmas Cheer.....A3
Come Caroling.....A3
Convention News.....A3

FELLOWSHIP

Lessons & Carols Dec. 10.....A4
How do you chose music?.....A4
Joyful Giving.....A4
Christmas Baskets.....A4
ECS Christmas Gifts.....A4
Flower Memorials.....A4

PRAYERS, PROVIDENCE, AND LOCK-DOWNS

By PETER VANDERVEEN

The recent mass shooting at a church in Texas sparked a lot of commentary, which reflected how people are thinking religiously these days. This has been both revealing and disquieting.

As the news of the shooting initially spread, many leaders responded with the kind of phrases that come to mind when you have to say something but know that no words are adequate. They spoke of keeping the victims and their families in "our thoughts and prayers." Criticism came swiftly. It was repeatedly pointed out that the people killed didn't need prayers; they were at prayer and in prayer when they were shot. Their deaths effectively proved that prayer doesn't accomplish anything. It didn't keep them safe; it didn't provide rescue. Their words addressed to God were useless. In light of this, some suggested that actual salvation came only when another gunman showed up. Others insisted, once again, that safety can


only be secured through stringent gun laws. But to ask people to pray was meaningless and a diversion from the real tasks that would make a difference.

People also noted that sacred space no longer has any power. Churches were supposed to be exempt from this kind of violence, but since this was so horrifically shown not to be the case, none of us can claim that sanctified space is different than any other. For as much as we'd like to believe that practicing faith will keep us safe, faith grants us no protection, and churches are now just like movie theaters or malls or concert venues. They are mere gathering spaces — thoroughly secularized. God is not more present in any spot, and, as many surmised, God is not present at all, anywhere.

In reading such reactions, I was struck by how thoroughly misconstrued Christianity is on both sides of the issue of belief. Nonbelievers were


quick to frame Christianity in tired caricatures, as if faith were no more than a peculiar want for magic. And many believers seemed only to insist that, in spite of appearances, God is still capable of doing magic. There was little commentary that showed the strength and beauty of faith even in the midst of such tragedies — which is the particular power of the faith in the understanding and practices of the Episcopal Church.

Some have proposed that security for church members can most easily be gained by locking down church buildings once worship has begun. That's a practical but not faithful response. What we are called to do is to know and exercise faith that is true to God, faith that's rigorous, disciplined, honest — faith that gives direction even when people are killed in church. We have that work to do.



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 24
CHRISTMAS EVE




10:00am Holy Eucharist-Advent IV (spoken service)
Please Note only ONE morning service.

4:00pm Christmas Pageant
(doors open at 3:30 pm)
The story of Jesus' birth as Luke told it, staged in tableau form, with hymns and opening prayers.

6:00pm Service of Light and Evening Prayer
Includes choirs and music

10:00pm Festival Eucharist
Peter Vanderveen, *preaching*
9:30pm Prelude Music with the Philadelphia Brass
Three Noels, arr. Steve Heitzer (Philadelphia Brass)
The Blessings of Mary, Mack Wilberg
Rejoice and Be Merry, arr. Richard Price (Philadelphia Brass)
Veni et illumina, James Whitbourn
Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light, J. S. Bach
Gloria in excelsis Deo, James Whitbourn
O Magnum Mysterium, M. Lauridsen
Dona nobis pacem, J. S. Bach
Sussex Carol (Philadelphia Brass)

<p style="text-align: center;">MONDAY DECEMBER 25 CHRISTMAS DAY 10:00am The Holy Eucharist</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SUNDAY DECEMBER 31 1ST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS 8:00 & 10:00am The Holy Eucharist</p>
---	---



An Evening of Nine Lessons & Carols

in the tradition of
Kings College, Cambridge
**Sunday, December 10
7:00pm**

Accompanied by
Michael Stairs
Adrian Binkley

Directed by Michael Diorio
Director of Music

Join the choirs of
The Redeemer as they present
the beloved readings of the
Nativity with anthems and
carols to herald the advent of
our Lord's birth.

A free-will offering will be taken
during the service.

*Proceeds go to support the
Margaret Orr Memorial Choral
Scholarship at The Redeemer.*

Childcare will be available.

This is a great opportunity
to invite a friend to experience
The Redeemer.

Early seating is advised.

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #1239
Bellmawr NJ

WORSHIP

SUNDAYS

7:45 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
 9:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
 11:15am 1st-Holy Eucharist, BCP Rite II
 all others-Choral Matins

DECEMBER 3

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MUSIC: **Choristers & Redeemer Choir**
An Advent Prayer (Choristers) A. Pote
Veiled in Darkness G. Rudolph

DECEMBER 10

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MUSIC: **Schola & Redeemer Choir**
And the glory of the Lord, "Messiah"
 G. F. Handel
En so Lord Jesus, quickly come P. Manz

December 10 at 7pm

Service of Nine Lessons & Carols
All Choirs

DECEMBER 17

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MUSIC: **Choristers & Redeemer Choir**
The Record of John O. Gibbons
The Spirit of the Lord E. Elgar

DECEMBER 24

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PLEASE NOTE ONE SERVICE AT 10AM

CHRISTMAS EVE

4PM PAGEANT, 6PM SERVICE OF LIGHT,
 10PM FESTIVAL HOLY EUCHARIST
 (see front page for music)

DECEMBER 25

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

ONE SERVICE AT 10AM

DECEMBER 31

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

SERVICES AT 8 & 10AM

Lectionary readings available on *The Lectionary Page*
 accessible from TheRedeemer.org/links

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

The Rev. Peter T. Vanderveen

Rector
 ext. 17
pvanderveen@theredeemer.org

The Rev. David F. Romanik

Associate Rector
 ext. 13
dromanik@theredeemer.org

The Rev. Jo Ann B. Jones

Associate Rector
 ext. 16
jjones@theredeemer.org

Adrian Binkley

Michael Stairs Organ Scholar
 ext. 22
abinkley@theredeemer.org

Michael Diorio, DMA

Organist & Director of Music
 ext. 22
mdiorio@theredeemer.org
 (M, T & W office hours)

Tory Kline Dunkle, MTS

Director of Children's Ministries
 ext. 20
tdunkle@theredeemer.org
 (Wednesday office hours)

Jay Einspanier

Parish Administrator
 ext. 21
jay@theredeemer.org

Ken Garner

Director of Communications & Stewardship
 ext. 19
ken@theredeemer.org

Francesca (Fran) Merritt

Program Assistant
 ext. 14
fmerritt@theredeemer.org
 (M, T, W, Th 9-2 office hours)

Paulo Reyes

Sexton
 ext. 18
paulo@theredeemer.org

Betsy Wolford

Parish Accountant
 ext. 11
bwolford@theredeemer.org
 (M & W office hours)

HEARING THE STORY ANEW

By TORY DUNKLE

"Read it again for the first time." I can still hear my high school calculus teacher saying this each time he would assign us to reread a prompt, chapter or book of particular importance. Admittedly, though this repetition was frustrating, it was necessary. Each time I would go back and "read it again for the first time," I understood the mathematical concept a little bit more.

Each year, we revisit the story of Christ's birth: in church, in church school and at home. And each year, Mr. Shamory's words echo in my mind, imploring me to hear the story "again for the first time." I know the story backwards and forwards. Yet, the mystery and miracle of Christ's birth means that God continues to reveal Himself each time we hear the story. Our love and understanding of the

Gospel grows as we strive to hear the story anew.

While we, as grown-ups, must strive to hear the story afresh each year, our children are still hearing the story for the first time. For them, the mystery and miracle of Christ's coming will grow as they continue to hear it, and as we, as adults, guide them toward understanding. We must walk beside them to ensure that they move from a point of recounting the story to realizing Christ as the fulfillment of God's redemptive plan. As we walk with them, we must keep in mind how children should progress in their understanding of the Incarnation.

Catechesis (age 3 to K): Focus is on knowing the story itself. Able to retell the story to others. Know that Mary

and Joseph are Jesus' parents, Jesus was born in manger and the wise men visited.

Godly Play (1st to 3rd grade): Begin to understand the importance of the story. Know that Jesus' birth was planned and foretold long before he was born. Know some of the Old Testament prophecies; Gabriel's appearance to Mary and Joseph; the account of Elizabeth and Zachariah.

Good Shepherd (4th to 5th grade): Begin to understand the full complexity of the story. Jesus as both the fulfillment of God's promises in the Old Testament and God's redemptive plan. Know that story is that of the Incarnation of Jesus – Jesus as both God's human son and God himself.

YOUTH UPDATE

By JO ANN JONES

This fall it has become clearer how true it is that the walk of faith is truly a journey: full of fits and starts, great highs and lows, unexpected joys and open questions for which we wait in hope for answers. It seems that the youth at The Redeemer are very much in the midst of their journeys. For several weeks the members of Rite 13 have been exploring the images of God; how each of them is made in the image of God. They have been examining images of God as found in our Church and creating images of God for themselves. While a good part of their lock-in was spent in fellowship, with great food and entertainment, they also had many quiet moments in the Church in the dark – experiencing that place in the silence where they could feel God's presence in the holiness of the space.

Similarly, the members of Redeemer Youth Group spend time in the church, often in prayer and meditation. Then they engage in open conversations about the development of their faith, sharing

their questions, the answers they are living into, listening to one another, and sometimes even challenging one another. Their leaders have been supplying them with reading materials on spirituality so that they have additional resources to guide and enlighten them in their journey. They are most fortunate to be joined by those former Redeemer Youth Group members who are attending college nearby and are taking the time to journey with the current youth group members. New opportunities are presenting themselves for broader fellowship. The Redeemer Youth Group will meet the youth group of Bryn Mawr Presbyterian for an exciting game of kickball – perhaps the first of many. Go RTG! And finally, plans are underway for the work weekend in early March. The group would like to provide assistance to those in Texas affected by the recent hurricanes and flooding. Their dinner to raise support is scheduled for January 26, 2018.

The members of the confirmation class

SAVE THE DATE

RYG Festive Fundraising Dinner

Friday, January 26, 2018

Please save the date! Hosted by Redeemer Youth Group, this festive evening is the primary fundraiser for our annual work trip. More details coming soon. We hope you can join us!

are diligently pursuing their journey to confirmation. They have been considering what it means to make mature commitments to renounce evil and to renew their commitment to Jesus Christ. Our time together is designed to engage them to think about life in a different way and to expose them to ways to do that.

Something to look forward to: Sabbath time for families with children in grades six to eight may resume in early 2018. This is an opportunity for community building among those families and to give them an opportunity to experience our campus in a less formal way.

WOMEN'S ADVENT QUIET MORNING

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

Take a break from the pre-Christmas frenzy and join us for music, prayer, readings, and fellowship, as we focus on the time of waiting, wonder, and anticipation that precedes the arrival of a child into our lives. There will be coffee, tea and morning snacks beginning at 8:30am, so come on time to meet and chat before we start our quiet hour. It truly is a quality hour of renewal and will help you put the Christmas hustle and bustle in perspective so that you can more fully experience the joy of the season. All women are invited and encouraged to bring a friend. Contact Devika Singh at devikasingh74@hotmail.com with any questions.

ACM THANKS

Many thanks to all who visited the African Children's Mission table at the Christmas Bazaar and contributed to our success. This year, we are indebted to Susan Adeniyi-Jones' daughter, Naikhoba Munabi, MD, for the lovely Malawi note cards that she designed: the baobab tree, a common sight in Africa; the lotus blossom, Malawi's national flower; and goats, providing villagers with badly needed income. If you have not yet purchased the cards, they are still available from Prill Bradshaw prillbrad@verizon.net. Proceeds this year will help to meet our commitment to nursing scholarships in Malawi, Africa, as well as to provide support for children and youth affected by HIV/AIDS. Please contact Prill if you would like to actively make a difference by participating in ACM.

Episcopal Journal is published monthly by the Episcopal Journal.

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Episcopal Journal, PO Box 937, Bellmawr NJ 08099-0937

Voice of The Redeemer

Church of the Redeemer
 230 Pennswood Road
 Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

610-525-2486 ♦ Fax 610-525-8547

www.TheRedeemer.org

Facebook: RedeemerBrynMawr

Twitter: @TheRedeemerPA

Submission guidelines are available at

www.TheRedeemer.org/voice

or by contacting Ken Garner.

All submissions are subject to editing for grammar, content clarity, and space limitations.

Trish Bennett, Copy Editor pro bono

Back issues available at:

www.TheRedeemer.org/voice

MANAGING EDITOR: Ken Garner

CONTRIBUTORS THIS ISSUE:

Peter Vanderveen, Tory Dunkle,
 Jo Ann Jones, Bea Durham Blackman,
 David Romanik, Michael Diorio,
 Ken Garner

Deadline for the January issue: December 4, 2017

WORSHIP

SUNDAY ADULT FORUMS

Advent
A Season of Hope
& Expectation

Advent Forum Series
Time, Eternity, and God

BY DAVID ROMANIK

More than any other season in the Church year, Advent is concerned with time. For many of us, this is most evident in our countdown to Christmas; indeed, much of Advent is concerned with lamenting how little time is available to us as we attend various holiday gatherings, shop for family and friends, and do our end-of-year charitable work. In this sense, Advent simply becomes an extension of our overscheduled and excessively busy lives. When understood properly, however, Advent reveals the unique relationship Christians are meant to have with time. It is the moment in the liturgical calendar when we acknowledge that in Jesus Christ, the eternal has come to dwell among us. The implications of this recognition are profound: we are free to live our lives understanding that time is not a commodity to be spent, but a gift from God. Moreover, we can view the world not from our parochial historical vantage, but from the perspective of eternity. This year, our Advent forum series will explore the ways that time is measured in the Christian tradition and how this can change the way we experience the world.

December 3

A Time for Every Purpose Under Heaven

We generally assume that there is only one way to measure time, but in fact, the measurement of time is often relative and dependent on many variables. This is a persistent, if unfamiliar theme in the Bible. Indeed, one of Scripture's fundamental assumptions is that our faith can reorient our understanding of time. Join **Jo Ann Jones** as she explores the biblical understanding of time and consider how it can shape our perspective on the world.

December 10

"You are Unchangeably Eternal": Theological Time in Augustine's Confessions

Despite revolutionizing Christian theology, Augustine of Hippo is probably best remembered for writing *Confessions*, one of the world's first autobiographies. Modern readers of *Confessions* tend to focus exclusively on the lurid details of Augustine's young life and the story of his conversion to Christianity. This, however, ignores the more important and, frankly, more interesting part of the book, in which Augustine lays out his theological vision. In particular, the African bishop describes time in a way that fundamentally challenges our experience of the world. Join **Peter Vanderveen** as he examines a new translation of this ancient autobiography and explores how it might shape our lives today.

December 17

Messiah and the Sovereignty of God

There are few pieces of music that are more familiar than *Messiah*, George Frideric Handel's sweeping oratorio about the coming of God's anointed. Unlike some of Handel's other oratorios, *Messiah* does not have much of a plot. It is not particularly focused on the life of Jesus, though he is purportedly its main character. Indeed, *Messiah's* text seems to go out of its way to avoid anything that is directly applicable to our situation. This is because *Messiah* is not about us: ultimately, it is meant to illustrate how God transcends time and our experience of it. Join **David Romanik** as he examines this extraordinary piece and considers how it illuminates our understanding of God.

CONVENTION REFLECTION

BY DAVID ROMANIK

One of the striking aspects of the Episcopal Church is the extent to which our community transcends the boundaries of our parish. We are part of a larger whole, and on Friday, November 3 and Saturday, November 4, we were reminded of that larger identity when the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania gathered for its 234th Annual Convention. Clergy and lay delegates from the Diocese's 132 parishes met for worship, prayer, and to discuss the activities of the Episcopal Church in Southeastern Pennsylvania. Church of the Redeemer was represented by Jessica Harper, Cheryl Masterman, Peter Vanderveen, and Jo Ann Jones. Though it is always exciting when the Diocese gathers in one place, the business before the Convention was relatively uncontroversial: we approved the 2018 budget, changed several canons

to reflect current practices, and elected diocesan officers. Among those elected were Redeemer's own Norm McClave, who was elected to the Diocesan Finance Committee, and Jo Ann Jones, who was elected to Standing Committee and as an alternate to General Convention. Their election and willingness to serve is both a recognition of our larger identity and a reminder that The Redeemer continues to be an important source of leadership in the Diocese of Pennsylvania.



CHRISTMAS CHEER PASTORAL CARE VISITS

BY DAVID ROMANIK

In Matthew's gospel, there is a series of parables in which Jesus uses horticultural metaphors to describe the kingdom of God. There is, of course, an obvious reason for employing this imagery: Jesus and his original audience were part of an agrarian society; it's always helpful when teachers use language and examples that people understand. At the same time, I suspect there was a deeper reason that Jesus so frequently compared the reign of God to plants and seeds. Anyone who has ever spent any time in a garden knows that there is something miraculous about the germination of a seed. The idea that something smaller than a fingernail can yield something larger than a house is breathtaking to even the most experienced horticulturist. Nevertheless, this growth is the most natural thing in the world; it frequently occurs with no human intervention whatsoever. Jesus uses horticultural metaphors to describe the kingdom of God in order to reveal that God has the capacity to transcend human limits and operate beyond human expectations.

There are few people who need this



reminder more than those who are suffering from pain, illness, or loss. Every Christmas at The Redeemer, we offer poinsettias to parishioners who, for many reasons, need to be reminded of God's power to transcend human limitations. The Pastoral Care Committee invites you to deliver Christmas flowers to those who have been on our prayer list, suffered a loss, or have been unable to attend church services. Plants will be available in the Parish House during the week before Christmas. If you would like to help with these deliveries, please call or e-mail Monica Hackett (610-952-2836; monicahackett@comcast.net) or David Romanik.

**YOU'RE INVITED TO THE ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD
OF THE REV. JO ANN BRADLEY JONES**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2017

11:00AM

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, BRYN MAWR

THE RT. REV. DANIEL P. GUTIERREZ, XVI BISHOP OF PENNSYLVANIA, PRESIDING

A reception in the Parish House will follow the service.

CAROLING AT ROSEMONT CARE

DECEMBER 17 AT 4:00PM

BY DAVID ROMANIK

A few weeks ago, a British psychologist named Linda Blair claimed that too much Christmas music, especially early in the "holiday season," is detrimental to one's mental health. Blair argued that excessive Christmas music "forces people to remember all the things they have to do before the holiday," leading to stress and frustration. To a certain extent, I am inclined to agree, though I wonder if detrimental effect of Christmas music has less to do with the music itself, and more to do with the way we experience it. For the most part, Christmas music has become background noise, an inescapable soundtrack for a stressful and busy time. Listening to Christmas music has become a solitary endeavor: something that we are vaguely aware of while we drive to our next appointment or hustle through the mall. In this context, Christmas music is a signifier of loneliness and expectations, when it should be a celebration of community and grace.

One way to reclaim the true meaning and power of Christmas music is by singing it with other people. When we sing Christ-



mas carols, we refuse to relegate them to the background and instead allow them to shape our relationships with those around us. It is with this in mind that the Pastoral Care Committee is, once again, sponsoring a caroling excursion to a local continuing care residential community. This year, we will be visiting the Rosemont Care and Rehabilitation Center. On Sunday, December 17 at 4:00, you are invited to join us as we sing songs of the season with the residents of this facility. No musical expertise is necessary; all that is required is a desire to reclaim the unifying power of Christmas music. Space for this excursion is limited, so please contact David Romanik if you are interested or have any questions.

FELLOWSHIP

LESSONS & CAROLS

WITNESSING LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

By MICHAEL DIORIO



For many Episcopal churches, Lessons & Carols has become the pinnacle carol service. Many people feel a strong emotional

attachment to the phrases from the 1611 King James Bible, so rarely offered nowadays. At The Redeemer, our service mirrors that which is traditionally offered at King's College, Cambridge. The core of the service is focused around nine readings, beginning with the creation of Man; the fall from grace; the promise foretold of Christ's coming; the Annunciation, and the birth of Jesus.

It was Dean Eric Milner-White who first planned the Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols at King's in 1918. White remarked that "the pattern and strength of the service is derived from the lessons and not the music....the main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God seen through the windows and words of the Bible."

Over the past nine seasons at The Redeemer, our Lessons and Carols service has evolved, musically speaking.

This shift in style is partially a response to world events, yet the service retains the celebration of the "loving purposes of God."

In sharp contrast to the over-played "tinsel tunes" of the season, the music of Lessons & Carols returns us to a place of awe and wonder at the mystery of the Incarnation.

No other service begins with the voice of a child narrating, through song, the story of Christ's birth, and we are then invited to join the narrative as witnesses. We are led to greater awareness and profound engagement, as Christ's coming brings Light to the world's darkness.

This season, please make time to have time. Take the opportunity to quiet the external noise that stifles wonder, and experience the beauty of The Redeemer in the season of joy, Sunday, December 10, at 7pm.

While there is no admission charge, all proceeds from the free-will offering collected at Lessons & Carols go to the Margaret Orr Memorial Choral Scholarship Fund. Established in 2012 by the family and friends of long-time chorister Margaret Orr, this scholarship aids Redeemer choristers with financial needs, enabling them to benefit from our musical outreach and learning activities.

CAPTURING AWE AND EXUBERANT JOY

CHOOSING MUSIC TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

By MICHAEL DIORIO

On Christmas Eve, we offer three distinctly different services: the Christmas Eve pageant, the 6pm Service of Light and Evening Prayer, and the 10pm Festival Eucharist. While each of these is a celebration of Jesus' birth, each reflects the awe and joy of the Incarnation uniquely, and—all respect due to TV "Christmas Specials" and Yuletide crooners—within a specifically Christian context.

About 14 years ago a congregant asked me why we didn't utilize chimes or other percussive trappings of the season. And while, even at a "Festival Eucharist," jingle bells are not particularly appropriate, there are



very real questions faced by directors of church music programs when it comes to assembling works that profoundly commemorate the birth of Jesus. In fact, that congregant's inquiry made me question my intentionality behind the music planning for this service.

How can the gravity of Jesus' birth be captured in a 60-minute service? What expressions can best articulate the joy of God's presence on earth?

My feeling is that, even 60 hours of music would not be sufficient to the task or would fully reflect the exuberance and awe we experience at the Coming of Christ. In fact, it has become my experience that attempting to cover the gamut of expression is dangerous, as it often leads to a place where one experiences far too much of far too little. I believe that walls can be blown away by wonder and awe just as much as they can by fanfare and oratorio. It is in this light that we plan our music for Christmas Eve.

There might be some works that make one focus their listening a bit more closely, or pieces that

comment on the birth of Jesus in a way that enhances understanding. Whether boisterous or reflective, our music programming is designed to create that deeply special space for the liturgy to occupy. When the foundational elements of the profoundly sacred are united together in worship, our services can resonate with both joy and wonder.

SHARING THE JOY



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.



- Take home a Bag.
- Return it filled (list in bag)
- Return by December 17

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.*



Print a complete brochure or make your gift online at www.TheRedeemer.org

Bags available in the Narthex and Parish House. You can print a shopping list online from www.TheRedeemer.org.

EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES CHRISTMAS GIVING PROGRAM

The Episcopal Community Services Christmas program is once again upon us! You can help make a child's Christmas wish come true. This year over 40 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 payable to ECS or purchasing a Target or Visa gift card. Bikes will be purchased, picked-up and assembled by ECS.

\$125 buys a bike and helmet.

\$100 buys a bike only.

\$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.

All donations must be received by Friday, December 8 at noon.

There will be a marked box in the Parish House office where you may leave checks, cash or gift cards.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity in making a child's Christmas special this year!

For more information about ECS Christmas Giving, please take a card with detailed instructions from the Christmas tree in the Parish House or contact Marlies Lissack (marlieslissack@yahoo.com or 610-506-9989).

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 Fran Merritt, 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