

# Voice of The Redeemer

Episcopal Church of

edition of  
**JOURNAL**

July 2017

Volume 7 Number 7

More coverage online at  
[www.TheRedeemer.org](http://www.TheRedeemer.org)

Do we have your email address?  
If not, go to the above address and click  
“NEWSLETTER SIGNUP”

*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

Summer Worship &

Refreshments ..... A2

Time for thought..... A2

Thanks from Melissa ..... A2

Fall Forums announced ..... A3

### OUTREACH

IHN in Review ..... A3

New Zeiders' Book..... A3

ECS Fill the Bus ..... A4

### FELLOWSHIP

Seniors acknowledged ..... A4

Parish Business ..... A4



## AN UPDATE

BY PETER VANDERVEEN

On June 5, the Vestry received a status report from the Legacy into Promise Campaign Gifts committee. The report provided information both on the pledges received to date in the quiet phase of the capital campaign and, also, a detailed projection of the potential pledges yet to come the quiet phase. Both elements of the report were encouraging. On the whole, parishioners have responded most enthusiastically to the renovation plans and generously to the committee's direct solicitations for funding.

The quiet phase has been unofficially underway for quite a while. Officially, it started in November. This has involved scheduling various neighborhood events where the plans can be presented and questions can be addressed and, as possible, making visits to individuals and seeking their support. So far, we have had three neighborhood gatherings, and we have visited with over forty families. The wonderful news is that we have already received 52 pledges and gifts, and as a result we are well on our way to our goal of 10 Million dollars.

During this phase of the campaign, the development of other aspects of the renovation — such as design work on the Parish House interiors and the pursuit of pre-construction permits — has been put on hold. This pause in activity is due primarily to the fact that moving forward on these would incur costs prematurely and, in some cases, this might result, then, in unnecessary



An overhead view of the new courtyard to the Parish House. More drawings and the soon-to-come walk around video are available online at: [www.TheRedeemer.org/capital\\_campaign](http://www.TheRedeemer.org/capital_campaign).

or duplicated expenses.

The Vestry charged the Campaign Gifts committee to continue its work through the summer months and to report back at the October meeting. At that point, the Vestry will be better able to determine the scope, timing, and specific next steps for both the capital campaign and the renovation construction.

The nature of a quiet phase is, as it states, meant to be quiet — which means, in part, that much work is being done a bit more behind the scenes. Unfortunately, some have interpreted this relative silence negatively, wondering whether the campaign has stalled. This is emphatically not the case. The results of all our work so far has been encouraging. Some parishioners have also noted that they would like to

give, but they have not yet been asked. So while there will be a general phase of the capital campaign when everyone is invited to contribute to this project, the Campaign Gifts committee would be happy to hear from anyone who is ready and would like to make a pledge now. As we continue to move forward, the Campaign Gifts committee will prepare new information sets regarding the project.

Vestry member Bob Nalls has generously provided through his own architectural firm a new set of views of the proposed Parish House. They offer a much better three dimensional perspective on the building itself and how it will be situated on the campus. By using specialized software, he has also produced a program that gives the perspective of walking around the building. These views have already proven very helpful in making clearer the physical improvements and possibilities that the renovation will offer.

This is an exciting time for us. We all have the opportunity to insure that The Redeemer remains a vibrant and dynamic church and a great asset to this community for generations to come. This will require a response from all our members, and, I assure you, we will ask for it. But, more than that, it will be our privilege to live in faith and record our witness for many who will come long after us. This is the promise of our work.



PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #1239  
Bellmawr NJ

# WORSHIP

## SUNDAYS

### Summer Schedule

8am Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Lectionary readings available on The Lectionary Page accessible from [TheRedeemer.org/links](http://TheRedeemer.org/links)

**Summer Refreshments Fellowship**



on the lawn following the 10am service

**HELP** by volunteering to host a week.

It's **EASY** and it's **FUN!**  
Full instructions provided.

**You** provide the cookies and/or goodies.  
**We** provide the ice, drinks and the tools.

Please sign-up online  
[www.TheRedeemer.org/RSVP](http://www.TheRedeemer.org/RSVP)



### STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

**The Rev. Peter T. Vanderveen**

Rector  
ext. 17  
[pvanderveen@theredeemer.org](mailto:pvanderveen@theredeemer.org)

**The Rev. David F. Romanik**

Associate Rector  
ext. 13  
[dromanik@theredeemer.org](mailto:dromanik@theredeemer.org)

**Michael Diorio, DMA**

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

**Tory Kline Dunkle, MTS**

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

**Jay Einspanier**

Parish Administrator  
ext. 21  
[jay@theredeemer.org](mailto:jay@theredeemer.org)

**Ken Garner**

Director of Communications & Stewardship  
ext. 19  
[ken@theredeemer.org](mailto:ken@theredeemer.org)

**Francesca (Fran) Merritt**

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

**Paulo Reyes**

Sexton  
ext. 18  
[paulo@theredeemer.org](mailto:paulo@theredeemer.org)

**Betsy Wolford**

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

## ALLELUIA WITHOUT END

### FOCUS ON THE LIGHT OF THE RESURRECTION

By TORY DUNKLE

I've been house-bound this past month or so, which means I've had a ton of time to think about everything from furniture arrangements to next Advent. While all this time to think was a bit maddening at first, as my thoughts have settled, it's been refreshing. During this time, I've thought a lot about what it means to live a life steeped in praise and alleluias of God.

As parents and educators, we spend a fair amount of time focusing on how, when and where we praise our kids. Are we being sincere and specific enough when we praise a child's efforts? Are we praising them enough to help build realistic confidence? Are we offering empty compliments? Are all the "participation awards" necessary?

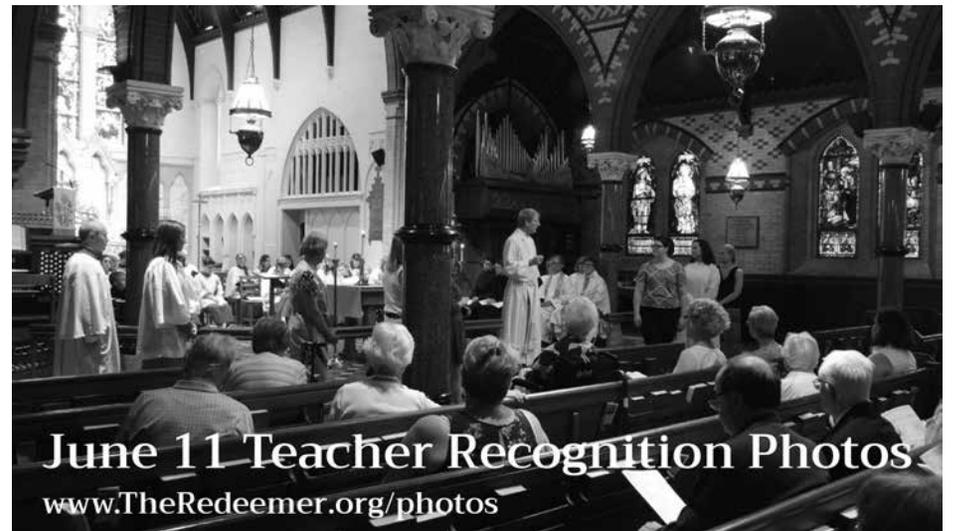
It is easy for this endless cycle to become the only way we seek to integrate an understanding of praise into our children's lives. It is easy for our praise of God to become a list of "thanks" that we recite by rote each night before bed.

We are indeed called to give God our thanks and praise for the daily blessings of food, shelter and family. However, if we

seek to instill in our children a deep sense of gratitude and awe for God's working in their lives, our praise of God needs to be rooted in more. It needs to be rooted in the glorious mystery of the resurrection. If we seek to orient everything in our lives in light of the resurrection, our praise necessarily deepens.

In the light of the resurrection, all of our lives become a call for alleluia. Let us as

grown-ups model for our children how to praise God in all things – both in the valleys and on the mountaintops. Our alleluias may not always come easy, feel natural or look picture perfect. But the more we are able to focus on the light of the resurrection in our lives, we are better able to model to our children the power of praise and alleluia.



## THANKS FROM MELISSA

Our joyful gathering on my last day, filled with stories, and many of you, was a gift. However, your send-off purse was nothing less than remarkable. I did not know you were assembling a gift like this. When Peter told me that Sunday that a significant purse was coming my way, I had no idea what to expect.

I was later told that 77 families participated, and your generosity deeply touched me. While my first reaction was to put the money toward our new home and name our recently converted mudroom a Redeemer satellite, I later decided this money was going to take my family and me to Tanzania.

It has almost been 20 years since I served as a mission partner with the Episcopal Church in Tanzania. I have always wanted to show my family the red clay ground, the green hills, the neighbors and friends I made while there. I am hoping to go out for the opening of my dear friend's health clinic, named in her memory (<https://www.mugomatrust.org>). Annabel Joyce-Jenkins was a doctor while I was there and died of leukemia shortly after returning

home. Her second child is my godson. Since her death, money has been raised for a primary health clinic in Mugoma. I hope to be there for the opening, along with her husband and other leaders on the project.

Your gift has made what was a dream and a lot of rumination a reality. I hope to have some real plans in 2018 for making it to

Tanzania and look forward to sharing them with you upon my return. I thank you for propelling me to do this, and leaving such a significant mark on my family and me.

With deep gratitude for our time together,  
*Melissa+*



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](http://www.TheRedeemer.org)

Facebook: RedeemerBrynMawr

Twitter: @TheRedeemerPA

Submission guidelines are available at [www.TheRedeemer.org/voice](http://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](http://www.TheRedeemer.org/voice)

**MANAGING EDITOR:** Ken Garner

**CONTRIBUTORS THIS ISSUE:**

Peter Vanderveen, Tory Dunkle, Melissa Wilcox, David Romanik, Charles Zeiders, Jessica Todd Harper, Jay Einspanier, Ken Garner

**No August issue. Deadline for the September issue: July 26, 2017**

# OUTREACH

## ADULT FORMATION FALL SERIES TO EXAMINE THE REFORMATION

BY DAVID ROMANIK

*“God’s Truth Abideth Still”:*

*The Reformation 500 Years Later*

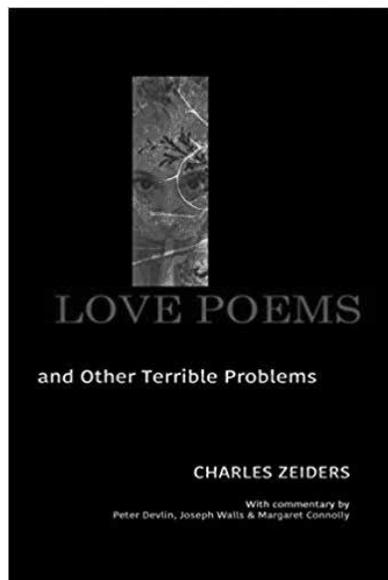
In October of 1517, an Augustinian monk named Martin Luther walked up to the Castle Church in Wittenberg and nailed a document to the door. The document contained a list of grievances against the excesses of the Roman Catholic Church. Though there is some debate as to whether this event actually took place, the posting of Luther’s “95 Theses” is widely considered the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, a seismic shift in the theological, political, and philosophical geography of Europe and, ultimately, the entire world. The Reformation gave rise to numerous denominations and represented a fundamental shift in the way Christians understood their relationship with God. It also touched off some of the most savage conflicts in European history, as Catholics and Protestants vied for doctrinal supremacy.

Despite the hostility engendered by Luther’s protest in Wittenberg, it is worth remembering that he never intended to leave the Roman Catholic Church, let alone found a new denomination. Though he was frustrated by the abuses of the medieval church, Luther initially believed the church could be reformed from within. This was not an uncommon sentiment in the 16th century. Indeed, the Protestant Reformation ultimately led to a period of significant reform and renewal in the Roman Catholic Church. Moreover, the Roman Catholic Church eventually came to embrace Luther’s

principal theological innovation: justification by grace through faith, the belief that we are reconciled to God through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and not through the mediation of an ecclesiastical authority. Pope Francis recently went so far as to praise the prickly German monk: “I think that the intentions of Martin Luther were not mistaken. He was a reformer... There was corruption in the Church, there was worldliness, attachment to money, to power... and this he protested... And today Lutherans and Catholics, Protestants, all of us agree on the doctrine of justification. On this point, which is very important, he did not err. He made a medicine for the Church.”

All of this raises an important question: what significance does the Reformation have 500 years later? If Luther’s fundamental disagreement with the Roman Catholic Church has been resolved, is there anything preventing Catholics and Protestants from being reconciled to one another? Furthermore, how relevant are the doctrinal disputes of the Reformation in our increasingly secular age? In other words, does the Reformation still matter? In honor of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, our 2017 Fall Forum Series at The Redeemer will explore these and other questions. We hope you will consider joining us on Sunday mornings at 10:30 in Room 1-2-3.

## PARISHIONER CHARLES ZEIDERS’ NEW BOOK LOVE POEMS AND OTHER TERRIBLE PROBLEMS



Fisher King Enterprises and il piccolo editions is pleased to announce the publication of *Love Poems and Other Terrible Problems* by Charles Zeiders. Dr. Stephen Martin, Jungian Analyst and President Emeritus of the Philemon Foundation says,

“Charles Zeiders has given us a great gift; a poet, healer, and lover, he shares with fearless eloquence his heart, his mordant wit, and his empathic depth. Most of all, however, he inspires hope, hope in the human soul. I am captivated by his words and reading him I can feel my soul’s enthusiastic approbation. You must give your soul the same pleasure.”

Charles Zeiders is a clinical and forensic psychologist. His books include *The Clinical Christ* and *Wall Street Revolution and Other Poems*.

ISBN: 978-1771690447, Publication Date: May 19, 2017

To order your copy visit [www.fisherkingpress.com](http://www.fisherkingpress.com) or call +1-307-222-9575

## REVIEW OF IHN THE IMPORTANCE OF HOSPITALITY

BY DAVID ROMANIK



My father grew up in a second- and third-generation immigrant community in New Haven, Connecticut. One of his most vivid childhood memories was how important hospitality was in this community. His mother always kept cold cuts in the fridge and booze in the liquor cabinet, just in case a friend or family member dropped by unannounced. Strikingly, this was fairly universal; most of my grandmother’s friends also anticipated that guests could arrive at any moment. Naturally, these impromptu feasts were not the result of careful planning or a strategically composed guest list; they were simply the logical outgrowth of a culture that emphasized hospitality. Indeed, the members of my grandmother’s generation understood that hospitality is ultimately about much more than what we provide to our guests; it is about making room in our lives for other people. In this sense, hospitality is one of the essential tasks of the Church: Christians are meant to create space in their lives, not only for other people, but for God.

One of the ways that we engage this task at The Redeemer is through the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN). At an Adult Forum a few weeks ago, I facilitated a panel discussion about Redeemer’s involvement with IHN. IHN’s mission is to provide a caring environment for homeless families as they work to break the cycle of homelessness in their lives. For many years, The Redeemer has shared this mission by inviting families who participate in the program to stay in our Parish House. Redeemer parishioners welcome IHN families by preparing dinner, staying in the Parish House overnight, or simply stopping by to greet our guests. Our panel included Jen Doyle, the Executive Director of IHN; Mary Hopkins, our indefatigable volunteer coordinator at The Redeemer; and Rick

Davis, a Redeemer parishioner and regular volunteer with the program. Jen gave us a brief history of the program and shared some of its recent successes: over the last two years, 100 percent of IHN participants have found permanent housing and 84 percent are employed in a full-time capacity. In part, this is due to the rigors of the program and the hands-on support provided by the IHN staff and volun-

teers. Mary discussed some of the joys and challenges of hosting IHN families at The Redeemer. During the weeks that The Redeemer hosts IHN, Mary is here every night, ensuring that our guests see a familiar face when they return after a long day. She noted that one of the great blessings of serving as the IHN coordinator is to see how the program transforms the lives of both participants and volunteers. Rick echoed this sentiment, observing that IHN allows guests and volunteers to relate to one another with mutuality and genuine interest.

One of the more revealing moments of our conversation came when Mary noted that there are several IHN “graduates” whom she runs into on a regular basis. They live in the area and work for local businesses; in short, they are part of our community. This recognition may be the most important benefit of volunteering for IHN. It is easy for us to categorize people according to the label society gives them. If people are identified as “homeless,” we might feel compassion for them, but we probably do not imagine that we will ever have any meaningful contact with them. IHN helps us look past the labels assigned by society and allows us to recognize our common humanity. In other words, IHN provides an opportunity to look at the people in our communities and truly see them. Ultimately, this is what is required of us if we are to make room for others in our lives.

Our next IHN host week is July 9-16. I hope you will view this time as an opportunity to practice the discipline of Christian hospitality. Please contact Mary Hopkins ([mhop1367@aol.com](mailto:mhop1367@aol.com)) or Julie Schroeder ([jschroeder5@verizon.net](mailto:jschroeder5@verizon.net)) if you are interested in volunteering.



About once every two months, The Redeemer provides temporary shelter, food & fellowship to homeless families through the IHN program. Our upcoming host week is

**July 9 - 16**

Sign-up Board in  
Parish House or  
[online:www.TheRedeemer.org/ihn](http://online:www.TheRedeemer.org/ihn)

Lots of ways to  
**HELP!**  
Set Up/Take Down  
Dinner Preparation  
Come for Dinner  
Evening Hosts/Visitors  
Overnight Hosts  
Shopping

# FELLOWSHIP

## HONORING COMMITMENT GRADUATING SENIORS

BY MICHAEL DIORIO



June 4 High School Senior Recognitions  
& Holy Baptism  
[www.TheRedeemer.org/photos](http://www.TheRedeemer.org/photos)

It was a bit melancholy for me to acknowledge our three graduating seniors from the choir, only because while I realize each of them will begin a new and exciting life journey, I also know that this path will sadly lead them away from The Redeemer. On June 11, Jennifer Patten, Michael Wilkinson, and Rebecca Susskind turned in their choir folders for the last time, after a collective 37 years of service at The Redeemer.

Jennifer Patten, who has been singing at The Redeemer for nearly seventeen years, recently graduated from Drexel University with a degree in Bio-Medical Engineering. Our high school seniors, Rebecca Susskind and Michael Wilkinson, recently graduated from Conestoga High School and Episcopal Academy, respectively. Both Michael and Rebecca will be headed off to college in the fall.

Since September of 2009, it has been my joy and delight to work with Jennifer, Rebecca, and Michael every week, often multiple times per week. Over the past eight years we have traveled together on the choir's music and mission tours as well as to summer choir camps. Time and again I have marveled at how they have matured and developed, both intellectually and musically speaking. More than that, though, I have been continually moved by their level of engagement and commitment to the program and this parish community.

In thinking about all the years of service these three seniors have offered us, I began to reflect on commitment—inasmuch as it pertains to our youth. The underlying question that I kept returning to was “What is it that keeps them so

plugged in at this place, and for so long, at a time when there exists a manifold of external activities that could otherwise encourage their detachment from us?” What struck me, finally, was the realization that there exists a gap between choosing to be “involved in something” and choosing to be “committed to something.” While both expressions imply participation, to my mind, only one indicates a rooted understanding of engagement. I think that when we are committed we recognize and place an importance on not only that which we receive, but also upon the value of what we offer and how we are invited to contribute. When these values are in balance with each other we can then affirm not only our commitment but our understanding of “why” we do what we do. I would say that, by mark of their years of service here, these seniors have most assuredly affirmed their commitment to this place and our program.

I was delighted that the Choristers group was at the service wherein we acknowledged our seniors, as the youngest members of that choir are the same age as were our three seniors when I began my work with them at The Redeemer. To me, for our youngest members to witness the service and song of their older peers encourages engagement, which can develop into an impressive and rewarding tenure with memories and lessons that can be carried through a lifetime. I wish our seniors every good wish for the next part of their life's journey. It is my hope that they return to us on when they can, remember us frequently, and sing always.



You can help in the following ways:

- Provide a \$25 Visa gift card(s) for teachers to support classroom activities year-round
- Volunteer to help organize backpacks and supplies at ECS
- Donate new unisex backpacks stocked with essential school supplies for elementary and middle school students.

List of supplies needed and more details available on [www.TheRedeemer.org](http://www.TheRedeemer.org).

## THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING PARISH BUSINESS

BY JAY EINSPIANIER

One of the greatest things about working at The Redeemer is that every day brings another surprise. Some definitely fall into the good category: returning parishioners; news of a significant health recovery; a balanced budget. And of course, some fall into the not-so good-category: broken doors, leaky roof (right above the altar!), and a car in the graveyard (yes, this did happen). But new and different was a handrail, which was resting comfortably in bluestone slate on Friday, and discovered unmoored from the same on Monday. Needless to say, my first thought was what force was required to not so gently move the railing from position “A” to position “B” (see below).

Certainly, a sudden act from on high could cause the disruption, but why? A person of significant size could have been thrown into said railing but then, why no body? Could the culprit simply be old age surrendering to Father Time? Finally, college training kicked in and the decision was torque.

Torque is not a Frenchman run amok, but rather a description of force applied in a certain fashion:

Torque, moment, or moment of force is the tendency of a force to rotate an object about an axis, fulcrum, or pivot. Just as a force is a push or a pull, a torque can be thought of as a twist to an object.\*

So, what could or would have applied enough of a twist to rip the railing from its home of many years?

I have my suspicions but the railing is scheduled for repair. No need to replace the metalwork with the upcoming Parish House project. We will just make it safe and serviceable for now and look for those who apply a heavy “twist” on their way into or out of the Assembly Room.

Perhaps the “Legacy into Promise” campaign would make room for naming rights on The Railing?

\* <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Torque>



**Progress Made**

**New Drawings  
Available**



**Visit [www.TheRedeemer.org/capital\\_campaign](http://www.TheRedeemer.org/capital_campaign)  
for up-to-date drawings, a complete case statement,  
and walk-around video when it's completed.**

