

WORSHIP MISSION FELLOWSHIP

NEWCOMER PROFILE

PEOPLE MAKING THE REDEEMER THEIR FAITH COMMUNITY

INTERVIEWED BY KEN GARNER



Helen Wortham and Mary Beth Sedwick

This month we feature Helen Wortham and Mary Beth Sedwick

Thank you very much for sharing your story with us about your entry into The Redeemer community.

How long have you been attending services here?

We started coming to services off and on about two years ago. A year later we found that we were attending on a regular basis and decided to join.

Are you a life-long Episcopalian? If not, have you had religious affiliations before becoming involved at The Redeemer?

Neither of us was brought up in the Episcopal Church. Mary Beth was raised Catholic and Helen was raised Protestant. The Episcopal Church seemed like the right balance between our two backgrounds.

How did you find The Redeemer and what attracted you to attend?

Mary Beth was driving by and said, "That's a beautiful building! Let's go to church there and see what it looks like inside."

What would you tell others about The Redeemer to encourage them to come and check us out?

The Redeemer has a great balance of formality and beauty during its services that the building itself suggests, and a relaxed friendliness of its clergy and congregation that we enjoy for a church community.

Why do think it's important to financially support the church?

As we grow older, we feel that it's important to give back to our community and help those less fortunate than ourselves. The Redeemer has a wealth of opportunities to lend time and give financially towards this goal.

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

Mary Beth is in her 24th year at Lankenau Medical Center where she has worked as an ICU nurse and currently coordinates nursing education. Her mother and three siblings live in North Jersey. Helen is a medical and scientific illustrator, and her mother and brother live in Dallas. Mary Beth is a steadfast Eagles fan and Helen is a diehard Cowboys backer, which makes for some tension Sundays during the fall.

SINGING IS PRAYING TWICE

FEAR OF THE INTONED WORD

BY MICHAEL DIORIO



The adult choirs ended the season with a party at the home of Susan and Warren Ayres on June 9. Pictured here: Wilson Jeffreys, Michael Diorio, Peter Vanderveen, Trish Bennett and Hope Knight. As you can see, we have a lot of fun! Join us!

Why does the thought of our own singing sometimes bring a pained expression, or an embarrassed smile? Do we sing more only if/when surrounded by others? And if "sing more" means just above a stage whisper, is our self-consciousness the speed bump that discourages vocalizing?

In the final analysis, everyone is able to intone a word, but questions may come when we're asked to elongate that intonation into a broader musical line: What do I do with the sound, once I make it? How can I increase my volume without sounding crazy? How could I achieve a more pleasant tone?

I would like to set forth a challenge to those less-than-confident singers, or to those who would simply like to learn more about singing, but have been apprehensive or uncertain as to how to go about it.

For the month of September, all of our choir rehearsals, children's through adults', will be open to everyone. If you feel that your child could benefit from the music program at The Redeemer or you, yourself, could learn a few things, why not try it out?

The choirs at The Redeemer are very special communities within our larger parish family. We care for, support, encourage, and embrace one another, accepting both those who offer skills, as well as those who seek to gain them. We welcome everyone joining our choirs, if only for a part of the season. Some people have said they would like to join, but they don't feel that they have anything to add to the sound. Nothing could be further from the truth. I guarantee that anyone coming to our rehearsals will find a friendly

PARISH BUSINESS

SUMMER SOLSTICE

BY JAY EINSPIANIER

Activities certainly slow down in the summer months here on The Redeemer's campus. Vacations take up significant portions of the summer weeks, and many parishioners de-camp for the "warm" waters of Maine! However, the work of the Parish continues.

Financially, because of the lower activity level, we traditionally enter a period where our expenses exceed our revenues. In accounting speak this is known as "negative cash flow." For example, we have traditionally budgeted to be in a negative state for June, August and September. During these months, while our expenses do not increase (and in fact, drop a bit) our revenues decrease, at times significantly, given family vacations coupled with fewer services and lower attendance.

So please, do not abandon us for another summer love!

We have completed the repairs to the lychgate. A "lychgate," (also "lichgate," "lycugate," or "lych gate," from the Old English "lic," meaning corpse) is a gateway covered with a roof, found at the entrance to a traditional English, or En-

glish-style churchyard. As you might remember, the structure suffered a direct hit by two trees during Super Storm Sandy. Thanks to some great help from Richard Wesley, Kyle Lissack, Jim Ward and Bill Delafield, everything is back where it should be and ready for the next century.

You may have noticed some additional traffic and activity surrounding the Parish House and Parish House Cottage this past month. That is because we have rented the Cottage to the Main Line Art Center. They are temporarily homeless, as their building is undergoing extensive renovation work. We anticipate having them with us through the end of September.



atmosphere, regular laughter, and a lively process of shared learning.

Just as the hymnal exists for the congregation, so does the choir. Both elements support the service and help elevate the liturgy, encouraging a deeper understanding of our Sunday focus and an illumination of the biblical texts. I believe that if you, or your child, happened into one of our rehearsals, that

same illumination would come to you as well.

Please carefully consider. We'd be most happy to greet new faces in September!

Learn more about all the choirs and the rehearsal schedules at www.TheRedeemer.org/choirs