



Redeemer News

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**The Episcopal Church
of the Redeemer**

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CLERGY

The Rev. Bruce A. Freeman

Rector

The Rev. Charlie Brumbaugh

Associate Rector

The Rev. Nancy Hopkins-Greene

Assisting Priest

The Rev. Alice Connor

Curate

The Rev. Gary Lubin

Deacon

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

SUNDAYS in SUMMER

8:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

5:00 pm

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

WEDNESDAYS

7:00 pm

Holy Eucharist with Healing

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday

8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Editor: Elizabeth Grover

Next issue: July 3

Deadline: June 29

FROM THE RECTOR

Can we both be right?

This has been a wonderful summer in the Freeman household. Our daughter Audrey, a recent Miami University graduate, is home, as is our son Nat, who will be a college sophomore in the fall. Of course, our youngest, Carl, continues to reside at home as a high-school sophomore. Outside of the joy of having everyone at home for the first time in a while, it has been interesting to note how our relationships have grown and matured over time. For instance, it has come as a revelation to me that Audrey, now an adult, has opinions and beliefs that I don't share. And that it is really OK. In fact, it has been quite amazing to see the world through her eyes. It has opened up a new way of seeing. It's not always comfortable, but I find that her views help me to grow and mature. Of course, her brothers wish that I was also open to seeing the world as they do. But some things come with time and can't be forced. It takes work and maturity to come to the place where disagreement can exist side by side with communion and unity.

The news in the Anglican/Episcopal world continues to be filled with disagreement, threats of schism, consecration of rebel bishops and constant uncertainty. Each day, international news sources, secular media and religious blogs bring new insight and news to light. There is a fluid nature to our life in the Anglican Communion right now, and the measure of where we are depends on who and when you're asking. However, I note that more folks than ever are talking about how the international disagreement over matters of sexuality, scriptural authority and Church governance has called *all* of us to wrestle with the crucial matter of our basic identity as Anglican Christians. We are asking basic questions such as – What ultimately binds us together? What are the limits of our diversity within the Church? How should we be speaking to each other? Where does authority really reside?

From my perspective, the Anglican/Episcopal church is getting somewhere. We are starting to see that our disagreement is in some ways over whether we can

disagree and still stay in communion with each other. Many church leaders are starting to articulate the belief that we need to find a definite way to stay in communion with each other even as we vehemently disagree. In fact, we are starting to see that one of our greatest gifts as a community is this ability to disagree *and* worship together at the same time.

Bishop Stephen Bayne was the first Executive Officer of the Anglican Communion back in the mid 1900's. He was quoted in a recent document from the House of Bishops as observing "that the Church often has been torn apart by honest convictions, held by conscientious persons aligned against each other, certain that what each sees to be right must be maintained inviolate. And how often afterwards, when we look back on that history, we see how wide of the mark both sides were. . . . But we do not come to the wisdom by simply abdicating our convictions. Rather we are led to it by the Lord who gently guides and teaches us as we are quiet and prepared to be taught, and prepared to keep the (fellowship) inviolate, leaving room at the Table for those on both sides."

It is a deeply held Anglican belief that it is in fact this ability to stay at the table together, through thick and thin, that gives our tradition its uniqueness in the diversity of Christian denominations. God needs us to hold the radical middle place in which our unity in Christ is the overriding and critical factor in how we operate as a religious community.

Our Vestry has been talking recently about how the Redeemer community might honor and support its diversity while at the same time staying in communion. This community has for a long time been committed to empowering all of the members of our church, all the baptized as it were, to know and serve Christ. Just as each of us is meant to have a fulfilling knowledge and experience of God, we are also each called to live this knowledge out in the context of our whole lives. This means that eventually some of us will recognize the call to advocate for perspectives which we believe honor the spirit of Christ, but which are clearly not held by other members of our community. How should we deal with this? Leave the parish if we irritate other people with our beliefs? All agree to stifle our opinions unless we all can agree on the same opinion? Clearly not. The Vestry has responded by having conversations about how we might disagree at Redeemer and still find a way to live more closely to our unity in Christ. At our most recent

meeting in June, the Vestry developed a draft guideline about how groups might be established at Redeemer and about how they will relate to each other. Roughly, the wisdom of the Vestry was that, though a group might be called to advocate for a cause or belief, they cannot speak for the whole of the Redeemer community. More than that, it will be a sign of our commitment to Christ and to our determination to be an open, faithful worshipping community when we can foster conversation amongst members who differ. With this in mind, here are the rough guidelines for groups seeking to become established at Redeemer:

Groups (two or more individuals) seeking to establish an organization at the Church of the Redeemer should:

! Have a purpose/mission that is consistent with the mission of the Church of the Redeemer as set forth by the Vestry Purpose Statement: *The Church of the Redeemer will invite all to know and serve Jesus as a part of our faith community and to reach out with love and support to those in need.*

! Have a clergy liaison assigned.

! Participate within a Ministry Board.

! Operate with A SPIRIT OF respect and mutual accountability WITHIN THE community of the Church of the Redeemer.

This is still a work in progress. However, the Vestry clearly wants to establish an orderly sense of how we can respect and foster Christian advocacy and at the same time support a climate in which contrary opinion is honored. This should be a hallmark of Redeemer and of the Episcopal Church as a whole. Our Vestry certainly would welcome your reactions to these preliminary guidelines regarding our common life.

We can both be right. We are, each of us, made a new creation in Jesus Christ. In him is the possibility for true fellowship, true communion. God's power makes it possible that we all can be one, in him, even in our diverse perspectives and approaches. May God's Spirit continue to empower us to hear each other and to share in God's Communion of Love.

In Christ,

Bruce

**SPECIAL FOCUS:
SUMMER AND STEWARDSHIP**

**A stewardship look at
The Millennium Development Goals:
Is it relief or is it development?**

It's a common question. And knowing the difference is important.

Relief is about bringing healing to acute crisis situations. Development is about creating long-term solutions to situations that are chronically broken. The two are related. You can't do development in a situation of acute crisis. The key is to do relief in ways that empower development – ways that get people to a place where they can start using the gifts God gave them to sustain themselves and not in ways that foster dependency.

One way to think about the distinction between relief and development is using our baptismal covenant. The final two promises in the covenant have to do with the Body of Christ's commitment to bringing healing where there is brokenness:

- *Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?*
- *Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?*

Broadly drawn, the first one is about relief and the second about development. When we see a starving sister or brother and give them food, we are seeking, serving and loving Christ in them. It's doing what Christ did when he fed the hungry or brought sight to the blind – bringing immediate Good News that corresponded directly to the critical bad news in their life. That's relief.

But development is different. Development is about addressing the root causes that allow hunger and poverty to happen. It is about dealing with large systems – and we do that by striving for justice and peace. We do that by helping people in ways that don't create dehumanizing dependency but that foster and respect human dignity and that allow the image of God that resides in each person to come to full flower.

The Millennium Development Goals are about development, not relief. They are about striving for justice and peace, about effecting permanent and transformative change to systems that allow poverty to exist and thrive. In certain situations, relief might be necessary as a precursor to create a context where development can happen. But in those cases, relief must be done in ways that promote and respect human dignity and in ways that prepare people not for a life of handouts, but for a life of being co-creators of the future that is God's dream for us all.

From Episcopalians for Global Reconciliation

**A summer opportunity:
Our Journey of Hope**

This August, Episcopal Retirement Homes' Parish Health Ministry will be partnering with local church health ministry teams and the Cancer Treatment Centers of America to sponsor *Our Journey of Hope*, a lay ministry program that provides training to parishioners on how to minister to those faced with cancer.

Our Journey of Hope's lay ministry training program was designed with the help of patients, leading cancer experts and spiritual advisors. The training is intended for anyone who wants to reach out to cancer patients and their families. The one-day training sessions will be offered from 9 am to 5 pm on the following dates:

Thursday, Aug. 23 at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Bexley (Columbus)

Friday, Aug. 24 at St. George's Episcopal Church, Centerville (Dayton)

Saturday, Aug. 25 here at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

The training covers the following topics:

1. Our Journey of Hope mission and vision
2. Scientific research showing the impact of spirituality on health
3. The faith factor
4. Cancer — what it is and isn't
5. Cancer Treatment Centers of America's whole-person philosophy of care
6. Special needs of cancer patients
7. What to say, what not to say

A SUMMER FOCUS: Habitat for Humanity update

The Habitat house in which Redeemer is involved is underway! We will be working with Crossroads Church and Regency Centers to build the house, which is located in Madisonville. However, Regency's volunteer participation will be limited to a couple of weekday events, and because of some other commitments, Crossroads will not have volunteers on site until August. With summer vacations and activities, June, July, and August are tough months for volunteering, but we need volunteers every Saturday this summer. To sign up, please email me or use the sign-up sheets in the narthex.

The house is located at 6305 Sierra St. Feel free to drive by at any time to check out progress. To reach the house, take Red Bank Road north to Madison Road and turn right. Turn left on Glenshade (opposite the Saab dealer), go one block, then turn right on Sierra Street. The HFH house is the second house on your right.

Jack Barter (jbarter@cinci.rr.com)

A collage of crosses or what I brought back from my summer vacation

As part of the Art Committee's efforts to install beautiful and meaningful art on the walls of our parish building, we would like to start a collection of crosses for the north wall of the Max Long Parlor. Our goal is to have the congregation collect crosses that represent many facets of our Christian faith. It would be terrific if these crosses came from around the world.

As you travel, keep an eye out for beautiful crosses that might be good additions to our collection. Although the crosses can be dimensional on the front, they need to be flat on the back so that they can be hung. They can be just a few inches high, but should not exceed 15 inches. If you find a cross you'd like to donate, please put your name, the date and the country where it was made on the back, and bring it to the parish office. The Art Committee will then consider adding it to our collage of crosses; once we have at least ten crosses that have been approved, we will begin to hang them. Please help our display to grow by donating a cross from your visits to exotic places – or simply from your visit to a local artist or import shop.

Marcia Shortt, Nancy Gollobin, and Francie Morrison
Redeemer Art Committee

Stewardship in the summer: The grass is always greener.....

....when you water it. Not what you expected? Redeemer now uses a company to service our irrigation system and our fountain which is not what I expected. Outside Effects, owned and run by a young man named Ethan Petro, is a model of high-quality work and, at the same time, is also a vibrant example of stewardship – of God working for good for those who love him. When Ethan first came to look at our sprinkler system, I off-handedly inquired if he takes care of fountains, too. He said he does and now ours is clear and running well. He just as casually remarked to me that his fee would be going to *charity: water*.

What is *charity: water* and what was this about our costs for these repair and maintenance items going to them? It turns out that *charity: water* is an organization which operates much like our own Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD). The salaries of the staff, the printed material, and all other costs associated with this organization are funded by private donors, so all the money they raise goes directly to their cause – providing clean, safe, drinkable water in Africa. Also like ERD, *charity: water* does not “reinvent the wheel”, but works to support local organizations which are already established and helping to make safe water accessible for the population they serve. (You can learn more about this fabulous effort at www.charityis.com.)

When Ethan purchased Outside Effects in January of 2006, he brought a strong sense of stewardship with him. So he changed the name and created a new business philosophy. Beginning in the spring of 2007, 50% of the income from service work and 100% of income from work done for churches now goes to *charity: water*. And in this case “income” is not as an accountant might describe it, something that's left over after the salaries and supplies and overhead expenses are paid. Rather, Outside Effects gives away every penny of what they bring in from these jobs. So far they've already sent enough money for three wells.

We can all learn from Ethan and his business practices. We *can* take care of ourselves *and* care for our fellow humans as well. To learn more about this company, visit www.outsideeffects.com.

Juliette Stuard

A summer trip to El Hogar: How you can help

On July 13, twelve members of Redeemer will be taking a mission trip to the El Hogar Agricultural School (“the Farm”) outside of Tegucigalpa in Honduras. As on past trips, we would like to take various medical supplies, new or gently used clothing and other items needed by El Hogar Projects. We will be collecting the following items in the narthex and the church office from June 17 until July 8:

Jeans – especially sizes 28, 30 and 32
Dark socks
Shoes – especially sizes 8, 9, 10 and 11 (teens)
Blankets
Shampoo, soap and toothpaste
Benzoyl peroxide cream (for acne)
Antifungal cream (for athlete’s foot)
Antibiotic cream such as Bacitracin or Neosporin
Thick white socks (for control of athlete’s foot)

As always, financial donations are also welcome. (Please make check payable to Church of the Redeemer, subject line: “Farm trip supplies.”) Thank you for your generosity!

Nancy Hopkins-Greene

What else you can do for El Hogar

El Hogar is undertaking a dormitory project at the Tegucigalpa home for younger boys; four unsafe wooden dorms will be replaced with one large concrete structure that will accommodate ten more boys. The new dormitory will also provide a more home-like environment for these children. Right now, the dorms are used solely for sleeping at night; the new dorm will have a place where boys could spend evening time together and also come inside during inclement weather. The total cost of the project is \$285,000, which includes the cost of the dormitory and an additional \$35,000 for various other projects and repairs. El Hogar has \$72,000 in hand and a \$50,000 challenge grant. Two Redeemer families have put together another \$5,000 challenge grant. This means that Redeemer contributions (up to \$5,000) will be matched 2 to 1! If you feel called to contribute, checks can be written to Redeemer and sent to the Redeemer office (memo line: “El Hogar Dormitory”) so that we can total them and send them all in together.

Seeing God on my vacation

My husband John and I have just returned from the Northwest, where we spent a week cruising up the coast of Alaska and a long weekend with lots of family in a small house on the Olympic Peninsula in Washington. Yes, the scenery was beautiful. Yes, the food was good. No, I did not get seasick. Yes, I got some pictures of whales. Yes, it is good to be home.

But where was God on this trip? Sometimes when one is taken out of one’s everyday environment, it is easier to see the presence of the Holy. However, one of the frustrating things about my illness is that it forces me to focus on me. I get so distracted by my own body that I cannot look outward. Yet it is in the outward looking that I make connections with people, and it is when those connections “click” that I feel God is present. So despite any troubles that my body caused me, I saw God in:

! The eyes of my husband – an awestruck geologist – upon seeing the face of the Mendenhall Glacier

! My 22-year-old nephew Lewis singing “Soulman” with the karaoke machine – totally in his element

! The Tlingit man in the gift shop of the Russian Orthodox Church in Juneau who told us about his church, his faith, and his culture

! The ride in a two-person paddleboat with my 10-year-old nephew Michael as he gave me a tour of “his” lake on the Olympic Peninsula

! The bright smile of my 11-year-old niece Rachel as she completed the final round in our game of Grandmother’s Trunk (to pass the time – and prevent bickering – as we sat in the car on the ferry to Seattle)

! Annie Graner squealing – no, shrieking! – when we came into sight along the airport hallway upon returning to Cincinnati

So perhaps – for me – the lesson is to keep one’s heart open to those human connections that all hold potential to connect us to God. Have a great vacation – and let us know where you find God.

Elizabeth Grover

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next **BOOK GROUP** meeting will take place on Wednesday, July 11 (changed from July 4), at 7:30 pm in the parish library. We will discuss *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards. All are welcome.

The next gathering of the **POETRY LOVERS GROUP** will be on Monday, August 6, at 7 pm. Since this is the Feast of the Transfiguration, the theme will be transfiguration and companion concepts like transformation, change, epiphany, mountaintop experiences, etc. The place has not been determined.

The **SYCAMORE SPIRITUALITY CENTER** is a community of spiritual directors offering a variety of programs that begin this fall. *Contemplation in Everyday Life* is a yearlong interfaith formation experience; it includes two overnight retreats and eight full Saturdays, all aimed at learning to notice and contemplate the unfolding of the Divine in your life. For those who discern a calling to the ministry of spiritual direction, they also offer a subsequent two-year training program. The location is the Mt. St. Francis Center for Spirituality in Floyd Knobs, Indiana. For more information, call Rita Senn at 812-944-1662.

PARISH CALENDAR EVERY WEEK THIS SUMMER

Sunday

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
 10:00 am . . . Summer Blend (Eucharist) in the Sanctuary
 Child care for the youngest ones (under age 4)
 11:15 am Fellowship and lemonade
 5:00 pm Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

Monday

1:00 pm Staff meeting

Wednesday

12 noon Downtown Bible Study
 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

Thursday

10:00 am Bible Study
 8:00 pm Al-Anon meeting

Friday

8:30 pm AA meeting

Upcoming events

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|----------|---|
| June 23 | <i>Navajoland trip returns</i> |
| 9:00 am | Habitat house dedication |
| 11:00 am | Diaconal ordination at Cathedral |
| June 26 | 7:00 pm Theology Group |
| June 29 | 9:00 am <i>Redeemer News</i> deadline |
| July 1 | 11:15 am El Hogar travelers meet |
| July 3 | 2:00 pm <i>Redeemer News</i> collating |
| | 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist |
| July 4 | <i>Independence Day: Parish office closed</i> <i>No Downtown Bible Study</i> <i>No Holy Eucharist</i> |
| July 6 | CORe rafting trip departs |
| July 7 | 5:30 pm The Celebration and Blessing of the Marriage of Christine Engel and Jim Bennett |
| July 9 | 5:30 pm Stewardship |
| July 11 | 7:30 pm Mission Implementation |
| | 7:30 pm Book Group |
| July 13 | <i>El Hogar trip departs</i> |
| | 9:00 am <i>Redeemer News</i> deadline |
| July 14 | 9:00 am Freestore/Foodbank |
| July 18 | 9:00 am Newsletter collating |
| July 20 | <i>El Hogar trips returns</i> |
| July 22 | <i>Kenyon Conference begins</i> |
| July 27 | <i>Kenyon Conference ends</i> |
| | 9:00 am Newsletter deadline |