

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE REDEEMER
2944 ERIE AVENUE
CINCINNATI, OH 45208
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Redeemer News

VOLUME 2008 ISSUE 7

APRIL 30, 2008

CLERGY

The Rev. Bruce A.
Freeman
Rector

The Rev. Charlie
Brumbaugh
Associate Rector

The Rev. Nancy
Hopkins-Greene
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Alice
Connor
Assistant Priest

The Rev. Gary Lubin
Deacon

WORSHIP SCHEDULE: SUNDAYS

8:00 am

Holy Eucharist
(Sanctuary)

10:00 am

Holy Eucharist
(Sanctuary)

The Banquet
(Great Hall)

5:00 pm

Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

WEDNESDAYS

7:00 pm

Holy Eucharist with
Healing
(Chapel)

PARISH OFFICE

HOURS

Monday through

Friday

8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Editor:

Sharon Jenkins

Next issue: May 14

Deadline: May 8



FROM THE RECTOR

Why do I run? It's a matter of Stewardship

I didn't start running when I was 29 to find God; my initial motivation was to lose weight and maybe, just maybe, to feel better. After a series of viruses, the flu, colds, and general sicknesses, a doctor told me that with the hours I worked (too many), the stresses I was under, and the extra weight I was carrying, I was headed for real physical problems in the immediate future. She told me that I needed to find a way to get back in shape. I chose running because it would be cheap and might fit into our frenetic schedule. Of course, I pulled a tendon in my foot within the first two blocks on my first run. After getting back on the road, I spent six months

working up to running a mile, and disliked most of it. I felt lousy, my muscles ached constantly, and I generally couldn't keep from thinking about the phone calls I needed to return and the people I needed to visit (of course, this was before e-mail). However, the doctor had scared me and I knew that if I wanted to see my children grow up, I needed to find a way to persevere.

It was on an evening run around a local lake, near our house in St. Paul, that I first experienced the joy of running. Somewhere around mile three as I turned the last corner toward home, I became aware that I felt very good. I was elated to be running. I was happy to return to my little family. I was simply happy to be alive. It was a feeling I hadn't had for

(Continued on page 2)

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRIEST

New Life

The resurrection sneaks up on you. It surely snuck up on the disciples who, though they'd been told about it by Jesus, had no clue and were shocked when it happened. And we, going about our lives, are surprised by joy when a resurrection moment catches us off guard. We don't expect it. We don't look for it. And it pops up when we need it the most.

When I worked as a chaplain in the hospital at University of Tennessee, my supervisor had a saying that infuriated me. After we'd had a difficult visit with a patient or been in a situation which pressed our particular emotional buttons, she'd say, "God is so good." Good? Really? That wasn't good, that was terrible and difficult!



(From the Rector, continued from page 1)

many years. My runs soon became a place where I would experience renewal: away from the telephone, the crush of work and home responsibilities and my own need to be useful. I was able to give my body a chance to regenerate and more importantly, to give my spirit a moment to seek God without interruption. For the last 20 years or so my running has been a constant source of inspiration; a place where my body, mind, and spirit are repaired as it were, so that I can face the challenges of life. I guess you could say that my running is a spiritual practice. It is a ritualized form of prayer that allows me to reclaim my relationship with God and myself and also gives me energy to serve God with vibrancy.

So, have I become one of those runners that think that EVERYONE should run in order to get closer to God? I hope not. It has convinced me, however, that each of us needs to have a spiritual practice of renewal. We all need to find places and times to practice at communing with God and ourselves outside of our normal routines. This bit of insight came to me as we were talking about our current TIME & TALENT Campaign. One of the central themes of our Stewardship campaign is that we expect every parish member to commit, as they are able, to Worship + 2. This means that as a member of our community, we are each called to worship and to participate in two ministries — one that serves others and one that serves us. The hope is that participation in the life of this parish and in specific ministries will serve as a vehicle of renewal within all of the commitments of our lives. Worship is intended to be a place apart from the crush of life; a space in which to encounter ourselves, others, and God with intentionality. The ministries we do at church, (the + part), are intended to be concrete ways to know and serve God that depart from our primary ministries in the world. As such, these ministries are meant to renew us, preparing us to serve God more effectively in all of our lives. We all need intentional practices of spiritual renewal. I hope that you will see the submission of your Time and Talent Covenant form as a practical first step in making this practice a central part of your life.

On Sunday, May 4, the Flying Pig Marathon will be streaming by the church on Paxton. We could see it as a pain. It's hard to find parking and sometimes even harder to find a way to get across the race into Redeemer. Despite this, our parish leadership has decided to use the Flying Pig as an occasion for fun, inspiration, and good works. The clergy, affectionately known as the Hog Collars, will be running a relay to raise money for our friends at Madisonville Education and Assistance Center (MEAC). Several parish members, running as a part of our Sole Mates ministry will also be running for MEAC. I find it empowering that we can turn this practice of renewal into a means by which needy people in our community can be served with food, clothes, and shelter. We will have other members out on the corner to cheer on the runners. Some will be accompanying our "Jiggin' Piggy" out to the street to encourage the participants. Many will be praying for the runners (thank you, by the way, for your prayers that my hamstring will stay in one piece). All in all, we hope that our various roles in the marathon will bring a day of renewal to our community. My desire is that the Flying Pig will simply be another way to encourage us in our walk with God, a means by which the Holy Spirit will increase and energize the spiritual gifts we have been given in abundance.

In Christ,
Bruce

"The ministries we do at church...are meant to renew us, preparing us to serve God more effectively in all of our lives. We all need intentional practices of spiritual renewal."

(From the Assistant Priest, Continued from page 1)

I did a funeral for a stillborn baby that summer. We read part of the burial rite from the *Book of Common Prayer*—"In the midst of life, we are in death." From the moment we are born, we are dying. Where is the joy in that? Where is the resurrection in the death of a child? I don't know that I have an answer for that. Perhaps only that "in the midst of *death*, we are in *life*." I saw in that frustration and sadness the seed of the resurrection. It was only in those moments — when we were tested, when we thought we were lost — that realization would dawn, and we could see our ministry and our patients clearly. We could see the love of the two parents for each other or the hope of rehabilitation for a heart patient. In those moments of seeming despair, new life springs up. God gives us what we need when we need it—God is so good.

But let's not assume that the resurrection comes only in times of misery and despair—joy and new life surround us every minute of the day. Sometimes, it's when we're happy that we can most fail to see the good news of the resurrection. It's spring, for goodness' sake! Just being outside is a gift—we try to eat our lunches out there, our windows are open, maybe we're working in the garden, — our souls have woken up from a long, dark winter. I am not the first nor will I be the last to compare the resurrection to spring—it's just so perfect.

We think the world is dead and then we see the tiny shoots of crocus blossoms, and somehow it's always a surprise!

Leighton and I were surprised recently to discover a new life growing between us. We are pregnant and will deliver sometime in November. It is exciting and something we were trying for but even so, it is a shock! There is no going back and we have an entirely new life to look forward to. In the midst of our life in Cincinnati, in the middle of meetings and youth events and home restoration, we have been given the seed of the resurrection. It is a joyful moment in our lives where we weren't expecting one.

This season of Easter is 50 days long—it's easy to forget the excitement and the overflowing flowers of Easter day. We have 50 days to celebrate Jesus' resurrection; 50 days to actively look for the new life around us and in us; 50 days to seek peace and joy and to let this new life sink in. We are all of us beloved by God no matter what we have done and what we are going through. We are all of us included in the new life of the resurrection—it's surprising, but it's true.

+Alice



Editor's Note

You will notice that this edition of *Redeemer News* is not in full color. I have been experimenting with different styles and finishes in an effort to produce the most efficient and easy to read newsletter for the parish. Please let me know what you think. There is always a balance between good stewardship of our resources and producing the best newsletter possible. Please send feedback to Sharon@redeemer-cincy.org.

Why your participation is important

By: Elizabeth Grover

We live in a Christian community. Although we don't actually live with all of our Redeemer brothers and sisters, Redeemer is a community of people trying to live the Christian life together. And it is the Holy Spirit which calls us together for the purpose of supporting each other – being Christ for each other – in this life. So when we give our time or share our talents in ministry with our brothers and sisters, we are being Christ for each other. That is what make us a community.

If you participate in a ministry among us, you can be part of this community, and we as a body will be stronger because of it. It is the participation of all that makes us the body of Christ. Being Christ for each other enables us to live into that baptismal goal of seeking and serving Christ in all persons. If you are Christ for me (supporting me and loving me as Christ would), then when I seek Christ in you, I will find Christ in you. This is why it is so important that everyone make a commitment of time and talents – in addition to a financial commitment – to Redeemer. It is what defines us. It is who we are. It is how we find God.



MEAC – Where the Heart Is

By: Minda Matthews

There are many organizations that help those who are going through a hard time — Madisonville Education and Assistance Center (MEAC) is one resource in our community for people who have run into a rough spot and just don't know where to turn. Perhaps they have lost a job; can't pay rent or buy food; don't know how to kick-start a job search; or they don't have family and they are just lonely.

So what makes MEAC different? It's a wonderful organization but more importantly it is run by awesome people and supported by dedicated volunteers who not only provide the resources to help with these basic needs, but also make MEAC a place where people can go to feel part of a 'community' – almost part of a family. MEAC has a huge heart and that is what got me hooked.

I learned of MEAC several years ago from a friend at Knox church when I was on a major spring-cleaning binge. I had a load of clothes to donate and wanted them to support folks in my community. I ventured over to MEAC's old location and was immediately struck by the energy and joy in that small room. Fast forward a few years, and MEAC was blessed with a new home on Erie Avenue that allowed it to fully develop its offering. When I learned that Redeemer was going to become involved with the organization, I was so excited.

Redeemer touches MEAC in so many ways – from the hundreds of coats and non-perishable items collected for the pantry, to the December holiday party and Feed & Seed dinners – Redeemer is definitely an important part of MEAC! Each time I talk to Director Dorcas Jackson, she sings her praise of Redeemer and offers thanks for our gifts and support. You all have touched the heart of MEAC.

Personally, I am touched by MEAC every time I visit and am always humbled by one more experience or one more person who has been touched by the organization, its staff and volunteers. I recall when Dorcas and I talked about her idea of starting the Feed & Seed. She envisioned providing her clients with a meal once a week. But more importantly, she wanted to give them an evening to be with people — to eat, visit, and be together. She wanted to make them feel that someone cared about them. As we watched the door for the first Feed & Seed, we wondered if anyone would come — and frankly few did. Fast forward to Christmas 2007 when we hosted the holiday party and we were worried that we would have to turn people away! As you may recall, a mighty crew from Redeemer fed more than 150 people that night! It was glorious.

I can still picture the woman waiting patiently for the food pantry to open so she could get food to feed her children. She was so grateful for this gift. I still see the older gentleman leaving the building with slumped shoulders because he had shown up too late to receive a winter coat. All he had was the shirt and sweatshirt on his back. I stopped him and asked if he could help me unload my trunk. You guessed it – it was filled with coats from Redeemer. The look on his face brought tears to my eyes. And most recently, as we had just finished cleaning up from our Monday Feed & Seed dinner in March, a man appeared at the kitchen door and asked if there was anything left...he had missed the dinner because he was late leaving work. We all jumped in with eager hands to put together a 'care package' and sent him along the way with his hands and tummy full. He was so grateful. I laugh when I think of the look on Dorcas' face when she literally jumped onto of the pile of paper goods from the two car loads I delivered last month.

As MEAC continues to build its place as an invaluable resource in the Madisonville community, I look forward to our church continuing to be part of this important ministry. Whether you put dish detergent in the little red wagon for the pantry, donate clothing, or help prepare a meal, I promise you will touch someone more than you will ever know. Moreover, YOU will receive an invaluable gift from doing so. I know that I have — and for that I am so grateful.

Katrina Relief Continues

By: Bob McGonagle

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Last week, I had the privilege of making my seventh trip to the Katrina-ravaged Gulf coast and the city of New Orleans. The 13 hour drive was beautiful with different shades of green scenery speeding by our van. In all, thirteen volunteers from Cincinnati (pictured, bottom right) arrived at St. Mark's Mission Church ready to get to work. We stayed across the river from New Orleans, housed in classrooms with cots, outdoor showers, and open doors – it just doesn't get much better!

Each morning, we crossed the Mississippi to work in the heavily damaged 7th and 9th Wards. Our work consisted primarily of refurbishing shotgun style houses to give people floors, walls for privacy, and maybe even give them back a little sanity. The biggest excitement of the trip came from a gun – thankfully it was only loaded with nails! I was 10 feet up a ladder, and accidentally fired a nail into my chest. God must have been watching because the only damage was a hole in my shirt and a flesh wound above my heart. I couldn't resist singing a verse of "Shot through the Heart" when I realized how close I came to meeting Jesus in person a little sooner than I wanted!

Jason Leo (Rector, Calvary Episcopal Church) was able to deliver a \$10,000 check to the Diocese of Louisiana to help continue this work, which will keep many busy into the foreseeable future. One thing that stays constant in New Orleans is their need for our help rebuilding. The sites, sounds, and food in the French Quarter, and the beautiful sight of Christians rolling up their sleeves to help the abandoned of the Gulf Coast are sad and uplifting, all at the same time. I was accompanied on this trip by Redeemer parishioners Tony Neubroch and Tom Hill. I am thankful for their company, their laughter and the gift of being able to live my Baptismal Covenant every day I wake up. For God is Good!



Memorial Garden Dedicated for Recovery



Redeemer parishioners Rachel Votaw, Sharon Holbrook, Cindy Powell, and Chris Orr were at the Center for Chemical Addictions Treatment on Friday, April 18 for the ground breaking of a memorial garden being dedicated in honor of Jim Orr. Jim was a long time member of Redeemer's Mission Board, leading our church in reaching out to people with drug and alcohol addictions. He loved the outdoors and believed that his own recovery was aided by time spent enjoying nature. The plan for the memorial garden called for creating an outdoor space that would promote meditation and a connection with God, as well as exercise and small group therapy. The garden features a walking path and stations of the 12-step recovery program.

The Center for Chemical Addiction Treatment is a non-profit agency, located in Cincinnati's West End and founded in 1971. The Center serves approximately 1,000 residential patients each year, who are in need of treatment for their alcohol and/or drug addiction. The "CCAT House" is a 24-hour facility, with a medical unit for those in need of detoxification. Once their detox is complete, they can enter a 28-day residential treatment program where they learn tools to maintain their sobriety. A family program is also offered that provides education, consultation and intervention for those seeking help for a loved one or themselves.



Reconciliation with the Earth

Contributed by: Jolene Struebbe and Nancy Hopkins-Greene

Our year-long Adult Formation series on the theme of reconciliation will culminate during the month of May with three sessions on Reconciliation with Creation. On Sundays May 3 and May 10, we will explore the Biblical witness as well as spiritual and theological perspectives on global warming and climate change. We will look at ways that we can respond both as individuals and as a congregation. Finally, on Sunday March 18, we will explore one particular area: eating locally grown and ethically raised foods. Redeemer parishioner Jolene Struebbe will lead us in a presentation about sustainable food choices you can make in Cincinnati.

This talk will touch on changes in livestock production in the past few decades, why these changes are not sustainable ways to raise animals and the effects these production methods have on all of us. In addition, we will discuss current labeling of meat — natural vs. organic. We finish with a discussion of produce, especially that which is locally grown and seasonally available. Handouts will be available outlining small changes you can make to choose sustainable foods in Cincinnati.

Jolene Struebbe, new to Redeemer, has had a passion for food her entire life, beginning in high school where she was personal chef to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, preparing their evening meal. Recently, she has completed the culinary arts program at the Midwest Culinary Institute and is a certified culinarian of the American Culinary Federation. Beyond this she has taken virtually dozens of cooking classes here in the US as well as in England and India. As she becomes an empty nester this fall (along with husband, Jim) she looks forward to teaching people more about food and ways to enjoy it.

Rites of Passage

Since the last publication of this column, we have marked the following milestones in our parish life:

Births

Connor Reynolds Jackson April 17
son of Kate and Matt Jackson

Carter Thomas Adams April 18
grandson of Lee and Dick Adams

Joshua Dale Scharffe and
Joel Thomas Scharffe April 17
sons of Amy & Bill Scharffe

Samuel Roy Edward Charter April 23
son of Dave and Julia Charter

Baptized

Eleanor Margaret Knuth April 20
daughter of Emily and Dennis Knuth

Michael James Moran April 27

Married April 12

Maggie Rose and Andrew Lindsley

Death

Sarah V. Stewart April 24
wife of Bob Stewart

New members

Peter and Jane Nurse 4319 Joan Place 45227

Mandy Peck 1949 Madison Rd. 45206

Nathan Taylor & Alyssa Bond 2639 St. Alban's Ave. 45237

Concert in the Chapel

On Sunday, May 18, at 3:00 pm Redeemer will host Glenn Stephen Gollobin, MD on flute and alto flute accompanied by Robert Conda on piano. The concert will feature music with a Latin flair by composers Astor Piazzollo, Claude Bolling, and Antonio Carlos Jobim.

Although his musical instruction was entirely within the classical realm, Dr. Gollobin took an early interest in jazz which led to his lifelong fascination with the harmonies and rhythms of Brazilian popular music. A local anesthesiologist, Dr. Gollobin lives in Hyde Park with his wife, sculptor Nancy Gollobin, and their two children, Sydney and Max who attend Redeemer.

The pianist, Robert Conda, is active as a freelance accompanist in the greater Cincinnati area, and is one of several ballet accompanists for CCM's Department of Dance.

Mark your calendars for this opportunity to enjoy the acoustics of our chapel brought to life by these two accomplished musicians. The concert begins at 3:00 pm, is free and open to the public.

Sunday Calendar

(every Sunday this month)

May 2008

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8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
8:45 am Coffee Hour
10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
The Banquet
Godly Play for 3's and 4's;
St. Francis for 2's
Child care for under age 2
11:10 am Spiritual formation for all
5:00 pm Holy Eucharist:
Celtic or New Zealand
6:00 pm Youth Group

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 7:30 pm CORe to Cactus Pear 8:30 pm AA meeting	3 8:30 am Community Land Co-Op 9:00 am Lay Reader meeting
4 <i>Flying Pig Marathon</i> 12 noon Choir Brunch	5 1:00 pm Staff Meeting	6 7:30 pm CORe Bible Study	7 5:30 pm Growing through Grief 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist with Healing 7:30 pm Book Group
8 9:00 am <i>Redeemer News</i> deadline 10:00 am Bible Study 1:00 pm Knitting Group 4:00 pm St. Cecilia Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir 8:00 pm Al-Anon	9 8:30 pm AA meeting	10 8:30 am People Working Cooperatively Repair Affair 9:00 am Freestore/ Foodbank;	
11 <i>Day of Pentecost Mother's Day</i>	12 1:00 pm Staff Meeting 3:30 pm Facilities Man- agement Com- mittee 4:00 pm Altar Guild Tea 5:30 pm Stewardship Committee 7:00 pm Vestry	13 7:30 pm CORe to Molly Mallone's	14 9:00 am <i>Redeemer News</i> collating 12 noon Downtown Bible Study 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist with Healing 7:30 pm Mission Funding Com- mittee
15 <i>Last Day of School for Redeemer Preschool</i> 10:00 am Bible Study 4:00 pm St. Cecilia Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir 8:00 pm Al-Anon	16 8:30 pm AA meeting 11:30 am <i>Redeemer Preschool</i> Party at Lunken playground	17 9:00 am Sole Mates	
18 12 noon Formation Celebration and potluck lunch 3:00 pm Chapel Concert Series; Benedictine Way 6:00 pm 'Tween Youth Group	19 1:00 pm Staff Meeting 7:30 pm Mission Outreach Committee	20 7:00 pm Theology Group 7:30 pm CORe Bible Study	21 12:00 noon Downtown Bible Study 5:30 pm Growing through Grief 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist with Healing
22 9:00 am <i>Redeemer News</i> deadline 10:00 am Bible Study 4:00 pm St. Cecilia Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir 8:00 pm Al-Anon	23 6:00 pm Spikenard party 8:30 pm AA meeting	24	

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First Annual End of the Year Formation Celebration!

Please join us on Sunday, May 18 , to celebrate another wonderful year of growing in Christ at Redeemer.

We will gather in the Great Hall for a parish-wide potluck lunch following the morning's formation classes to recognize and celebrate our teachers as well as enjoy some music and fellowship before summer gets into full swing.

Cold cuts and drinks will be provided.

Please bring either a side dish (fruit, veggies, salad, or chips) or a dessert to share.