

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE REDEEMER
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Redeemer News

VOLUME 2008 ISSUE 18

NOVEMBER 19, 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 and
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:

December 3

Deadline:

November 25

FROM THE ASSOCIATE RECTOR



Dear Parish Family,

*"Isn't it a bit unnerving
that doctors call what
they do 'practice'?"*

*—the late comedian
George Carlin*

Last Sunday I had some fun in my Banquet sermon. I compared my son Jesse and his military comrades to the ten bridesmaids (or "virgins" in the King James Version) that Jesus speaks about in Matthew 25:1-13! Both groups must be poised to respond suitably in the blink of an eye. The bridesmaids need to be ready to greet the bridegroom, whatever the hour, their lamps filled with oil and wicks trimmed. The soldiers must keep their bunks perfectly made in case of a snap

inspection, and drill endlessly so they can react swiftly yet prudently to a sudden attack in a crowded neighborhood filled with innocent bystanders.

"Be prepared!" is the Boy Scout motto. What must one do to be prepared?

Practice. A Boy Scout rehearses tying knots so that when he goes camping he'll be ready to tie a tent rope to a stake or secure a buddy rappelling down a cliff face. Every musician, athlete, and, yes, every doctor, knows the importance of practice!

Christians also need to practice. To grow into our calling as disciples, it isn't enough to be baptized and attend worship more or less regularly. To follow the way of Jesus

(Continued on page 2)

FROM THE ASSISTING PRIEST

This past weekend, the clergy, four lay delegates and various visitors attended the Diocese of Southern Ohio's annual convention. Held in Columbus this year, the convention is the primary time when we gather as a Diocese. We vote on the annual budget, hear various reports, elect members to various commissions and committees, hear the Bishop's address and gather for Eucharist. Youth (including two young people from Redeemer this year) lead the worship throughout the two days. For the first time this year, our gathering included "Acts" of mission, delegates dispersing throughout the city to do service projects and/or to learn about various organizations.

The agenda for convention is tightly packed and there are times when it can feel a little monotonous. For the Redeemer delegation, launching M & M's at other delegations and reading Charlie's text messages from across the table seem to be the primary means of staying alert. This year, we also enjoyed the entertainment by "Unconventional" at the banquet Friday night. Charlie Brumbaugh, two other priests and various other musicians made up this classic rock band.



(Continued on page 3)

To grow into our calling as disciples, it isn't enough to be baptized and attend worship more or less regularly. To follow the way of Jesus requires lifelong training.

(From the Associate Rector, continued from page 1)

requires lifelong training. How else can you be prepared for the moment when suddenly you come upon a battered stranger by the side of the road, or a suffering friend asks you if there's any reason to hope, or you spot your wayward child homeward bound on the near horizon? Unless you practice the way of Jesus, how can you be prepared to respond to:

- one you love who asks you to make a life-long commitment?
- a solemn state trooper standing on your porch with bad news?
- innumerable blessings of time, talent, and treasure flowing through your hands?
- an unexpected opportunity to take something you covet yet belongs to someone else?

The Church, to its credit, is often quick to utilize wisdom from the world beyond its walls. Many of you remember a time in the not-so-distant past when you couldn't sit through a sermon or vestry meeting without hearing the ubiquitous term "paradigm shift." Annoying as this became, it's still a useful concept as we consider the relevance of the ancient Gospel in our ever-changing present. The buzzword these days (borrowed from the business community) is "best practices." It can be defined as the techniques that lead to the most effective and efficient way of accomplishing a task. This concept helps congregations discern, for example, efficacious methods and processes to mobilize resources for mission or incorporate newcomers into parish life.

What are the best practices to help us follow Jesus? Or, to use another current buzzword, what helps us in the ongoing task of "Christian formation?"

One of the best books I've ever read on the subject was written twenty-five years ago by Dr. Richard J. Foster, a Quaker. *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth* is described beautifully by another superb author, Eugene H. Peterson: 'Like a child exploring the attic of an old house on a rainy day, discovering a trunk full of treasure and

then calling all his brothers and sisters to share the find, Richard J. Foster has 'found' the spiritual disciplines that the modern world stored away and forgot, and has excitedly called us to celebrate them. For they are, as he shows us, the instruments of joy, the way into mature Christian spirituality and abundant life."

You can guess what some of these best practices are. Prayer. Worship. Service. There are also some surprises, like simplicity, submission, and celebration. Then there's the one I still don't get – fasting! But Jesus practiced them all (as have countless others from many faith traditions). And Foster, in simple, fresh language, tells us how these twelve time-tested "instruments of joy" – if practiced – can prepare us to greet God, and our fellow human beings, in each and every moment.

The Season of Advent begins on Sunday, November 30. It marks the beginning of a new Church Year, and our resolve to await expectantly the coming of Jesus. Will we be ready, like the wise bridesmaids, to greet him? Our chances will be significantly enhanced if we *practice!* Don't wait until New Year's Day to make a fresh start following the way of Jesus.

- Consider participating in the Advent Quiet Day with Bishop Breidenthal at Redeemer on Saturday, November 29. "Instruments of joy" are sure to be featured!
- Read *The Celebration of Discipline* (and give a copy to someone you love). Practice its precepts. See what happens!
- Or more faithfully follow the best practices that, from your own experience, have brought you closer to God thus far.

"Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them..."
(1 Timothy 4:15a)

Faithfully,
Charlie

(From the Assisting Priest, continued from page 1)

The resolutions are a centerpiece of the convention every year. They are typically presented on Friday and addressed on Saturday. They can be the most unpredictable part of convention, often resulting in long – sometimes heated – discussions and debates. It is here that we have addressed issues such as abortion and war. In a denomination that is not particularly doctrinal or rule-driven, these resolutions are vehicles through which we try to make a unified response to various issues in our church and society. The wide range of topics include, for example, at last year's convention, a resolution on supporting veterans and one on supporting the work of Ohio Interfaith Power and Light. There are also a bunch of "courtesy resolutions", everything from greeting the mayor to thanking the hotel staff. A diocesan committee is given the task of addressing the resolutions between conventions.

For most of us, the most common use of the word "resolution" is when we make our personal New Year's resolutions every January. Sometimes we follow through with these resolutions. Sometimes we give up on them. More likely, they simply fade away from our consciousness and we go back to living as we always did. That is a concern for us as a diocese too: We need to be intentional, lest these resolutions are passed by convention and then pass into oblivion.

To that end, it might be helpful for us to reflect on how Redeemer as a congregation might address the resolutions passed last weekend. What were they? R08-1 was a resolution dissolving the union between St. Michael's and All Angels and the diocese. The decision to close a church is no small matter and I, for one, don't know the history and details of this one. I do know that it was a long, hard and thorough discernment process. In any case, there is an important part of this resolution that states "The Diocese is looking forward to and actively planning a vital, relevant ministry in the community" (of Avondale). Again, I am not familiar with the details. However, I wonder if there might be a possibility for Redeemer, with our focus on ministry beyond our walls, to be a part of a new ministry in that area. The next two resolutions, R08-2 and R08-3, both have to do with health care. R08-03 was passed by convention. Redeemer parishioner and deacon-in-training Fred McGavran was involved in crafting and presenting this resolution. The health care crisis in our country is an important concern for followers of Jesus. Perhaps we need to begin by becoming better informed on health care reform. I wonder if a forum or series of presentations on this topic might be offered at Redeemer?

R08-4 and R08-5 both address environmental issues. R08-4 is a resolution supporting and encouraging ministries in sustainable agriculture and strengthening local food systems. R08-5 is a resolution to adopt principles of just and environmentally sustainable community development. We at Redeemer already have a start with our new "green ministry" (or whatever we end up calling it.) These are among many issues that we will be called to address as part of stewardship of the environment.

R08-6 and R08-7 are two different but complementary resolutions that address the Millennium Development Goals. R08-6 is in support of debt relief of developing countries as outlined in the Jubilee Act on World Debt. Members of congregations in our diocese are encouraged to notify their congressional representatives about this endorsement. In the past we have done letter writing like this at Redeemer for Bread for the World. Perhaps it is time that we resume such action, calling on our elected representatives to support causes that address global poverty. R08-7 establishes the fourth Sunday in Lent as "Episcopal Relief and Development Sunday." This will be a Sunday when all congregations will not only have a collection for ERD, but also provide education and information on the work of ERD, the relief and development "arm" of the Episcopal Church. Just recently, Redeemer parishioner Anne Sesler has stepped forward to be our congregational representative for ERD.

Presented by the Social Justice and Public Policy Network of the Diocese, Resolution 08-8 is an extensive resolution concerning economic justice work in the Episcopal Church to be submitted to the 2009 General Convention. The details of this resolution are too lengthy to address. But, at minimum, for us is the reminder that economic justice is an important matter of faith. As a faith community, we at Redeemer do so much to serve the poor in our community. This might be an invitation to us to explore in greater depth the systemic issues that cause homelessness and poverty.

How will we respond to these resolutions at Redeemer? Hopefully, we will not let them slide into oblivion. They remind us that the work of the church extends far beyond our Sunday worship. Jesus told us to pray: "*Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*" As followers of Jesus, as stewards, as a community blessed with many things, we are called to be Christ's presence in the world today.

Peace,
Nancy

Reflections from the Diocesan Convention

Our delegates to the Diocesan Convention have written reflections about their experience, answering the question, "Where did I experience God at the convention?" A big thank you to Ed Ewbank, Karen Staffiera, Jim McCarty, and Clay Bond for serving the parish as delegates, and sharing their experiences with us.

How Can I Serve as a Delegate?

Redeemer's delegates to the Diocesan Convention are elected for two-year terms by the congregation during the church's Annual Meeting in February. If you would like to learn more about representing Redeemer in the future contact Nominating Committee Chairperson Tom Kirkwood (thomas.kirkwood@thompsonhine.com).

God Was Everywhere

by: Karen Staffiera

This past weekend, I had the honor and privilege of representing the Church of the Redeemer at the Diocesan Convention. Much of the weekend involved the business of the diocese; reading resolutions, voting for offices, and the like. However, God was everywhere:

- in the words of the Bishop of New Orleans as he told us how this diocese has supported financially, and physically, the rebuilding of the city.
- in the faces of the youth as they led us in prayer at the end of the first day
- in the joyful dancing of the Electric Slide on Friday night while listening to the clergy band Unconventional play

- in the voices raised in prayer and song as the entire convention gathered for Eucharist in the historic Trinity church in downtown Columbus
- in the collection of women who gathered to prepare the meal for St. John's street church on Sunday
- in the stories about the homeless people served by the aforementioned service, shared by their deacon
- in the good natured pelting of our former rector with M&M's

Know that your church was well served and represented by those who attended convention and much fun was had by all! God is good!

Experiencing God through Interactions with Others

by: Ed Ewbank

Since we are all part of the body of Christ, I see and experience God in my interactions with others. That can occur in large groups, as it did during the Saturday morning worship service at Trinity church. The lovely church was packed with people enjoying the pageantry of a service presided over by Bishop Breidenthal, several other Bishops, and more than a hundred vested clergy.

It can also occur through hearing the stories of individuals, such as Bishop Jenkins of Louisiana talking about how the church is making a difference in the lives of people affected by Katrina and still in the process of rebuilding their communities. Or the story of a rector from a rural parish who is struggling with how to keep a small congregation going in the midst of disagreements among different factions.

I also experience God when I connect with Christians beyond the Episcopal Church. The message from Bishop Holloway of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America really hit home. His message made me think

about changes I have gone through in my own growth as a Christian. I was a member of the ELCA for many years before joining Redeemer and I had little sense of Christian community beyond my own congregation. I did not know who Bishop Holloway was then and had certainly never heard him speak. Now as a member of Redeemer, I have had that opportunity.

I experience God frequently through living fully and loving wastefully and seeing others do the same. One example of this occurred during the performance of *Unconventional* (a band made up of diocesan clergy). Charlie Brumbaugh leaped off the stage while enthusiastically playing "Johnny B. Goode" and continued to play his guitar as he danced with his wife, Anne, in the middle of the dance floor.

Finally, God is experienced as part of the community that is the Church of the Redeemer. I thank you all for giving me the opportunity to be part of this congregation and of the wider diocesan community as a delegate to our convention.

An Underlying Sense of God's Presence

by: Clay Bond

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As a new delegate to the Diocesan Convention I didn't know what to expect. I expected a number of "all in favor" opportunities that I wouldn't know a great deal about—and there were a few. But in each one there was an underlying sense of God's presence and calmness about the decisions we made. Things felt "right".

To take it a step further, I walked away greatly appreciating what we have at Redeemer. We don't take ourselves too seriously and we enjoy our time together like no other parish. We know how to laugh and how to get things done. This was evident to me over the course of two days when, at every turn, someone or something related to Redeemer was being brought into conversation:

- David DuPlantier and the incredible things he is doing to help rebuild New Orleans
- Chet Cavaliere and his long-standing, tireless involvement with the Diocese
- Jim Hanisian and his presence on the Diocesan Board as well as his work with Episcopal Retirement Homes
- Rob Konkol and his involvement with the Diocesan youth
- Fred McGavran and his involvement with health care focused resolutions
- Charlie Brumbaugh playing in The Unconventionals at the banquet

My attendance at the Diocesan Convention confirmed the impact we have and it seems to me that we continue to "find God" in more and more places beyond our walls like no other parish.

Ministry at Convention

by: Jim McCarty

This year was my second and final year as a delegate to attend our Diocesan Convention. The structure of the convention was somewhat different this year and on Saturday morning when we had our "break out sessions", instead of being in a small group discussing ministries, we actually did ministry!

The ministry I chose was "Poverty". In this group we packaged toiletries into small bags for an inner city parish in Dayton. Our group was led by the rector of the parish and she offered insight as to just how important items such as toilet paper, soap, tooth paste and shampoo are to the participants of her programs, yet these items can not be purchased with food stamps. An

individual's discretionary money to purchase these items is simply not available, but the items are critical to one's self esteem.

In difficult financial times, when my immediate reaction is to "hold on" to what I have, this weekend I saw God in "letting go". Giving of time to help someone develop a sense of self worth works in both directions. I grew, and am certain that the recipient of the bags of toiletries grew as well.

Thanks to the Redeemer Community for supporting my trip to the convention. God is truly here for all of us.

Save the Date!

Katharine Jefferts Schori, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church will join us for a workshop entitled "Learning from the Past; Embracing the Future" on Saturday, December 13 from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. The workshop includes lunch provided by Forward Movement Publications. The Presiding Bishop will then spend time with diocesan youth gathered at the Genesis Retreat at Calvary, Clifton. On Sunday, Jefferts Schori will celebrate and preach at 9:00 am in the Banquet service, at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary, and at the 5:00 pm service which will celebrate our Centennial year and include music from the combined choirs of Redeemer, St. Simon of Cyrene, and St. Andrew's. You can register for the Saturday workshop by using our online form (www.redeemer-cincy.org), the sign-up sheet in the narthex, or by phoning the parish office (321-6700).





MISSION BOARD

Musical Medicine

By: Anita Dohn

Anita and Michael Dohn are physicians serving as missionaries with La Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana through the South American Missionary Society at the diocesan Clínica Esperanza y Caridad. They live along the southern coast in San Pedro de Macorís in the Dominican Republic. E-mail: DohnFamily@sams-usa.org

Francisco was sick that morning. He was sitting in the waiting room at the Clinic: eyes dull, shoulders stooped, leaning forward with his elbows on his knees, head drooped. I saw him waiting while I was at the front desk finishing some paperwork for a patient.

Meanwhile, across the patio at the church, a children's program was starting. The Church and the Clinic sit about 30 feet apart. The activities began with singing "Alabaré," a popular praise song in Latin America (alabaré means "I will praise"). The song was sung with the unbridled enthusiasm that only 150 early elementary age children can bring.

Before long, Francisco's foot started tapping to the rhythm. Next, he was looking up and smiling and nodding in time to the music. When his turn came to be seen, he was clapping and singing along with the current song that the children were singing.

The children will never know how they touched a heart that morning, though I did mention it to the activity's adult leaders.

We like to say that the clinic is a "full service" health facility with preventive medicine and community health (to prevent illness and maintain health), with curative medicine (to treat people when things go wrong), and with physical therapy and rehabilitation (to help people regain as much function as possible after their treatment). But as we all know, there is more to health than that. Jesus worked with a "holistic" view of health that integrated mind, body, and spirit. Within the broader definition of "healing," music and songs of praise have their place alongside all the pharmaceuticals and technology.

I believe that the children did more for Francisco's overall health that morning than I accomplished when I saw him for the medical consultation.

Mission Board Funds Center for Respite Care

At its meeting on November 5, Redeemer's Mission Funding Committee approved a \$2,500 "Emerging Opportunities & Emergency Needs" grant for the Center for Respite Care (CRC.) This organization was opened in 2003 to fill a void in the homeless Continuum of Care in Greater Cincinnati. The mission of the CRC is "to provide quality medical care to homeless people who need a safe place to heal, while assisting them in breaking the cycle of homelessness." It is a 14-bed, 24-hour facility for homeless people who are either too sick for a shelter or have been recently discharged from a hospital and need a safe place to heal. It is the only organization in the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky area that offers this type of care. We are delighted that Redeemer is able to support this worthy organization. Contact Nancy Hopkins-Greene (nancy@redeemer-cincy.org) if you are interested in volunteer opportunities at CRC.

YouthWorks 2009

by: Alice Connor

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Current Junior High students are invited to the fabulous and exotic YouthWorks! Cincinnati mission trip. The dates for 2009 will be August 2-7 and space is limited to ten youth missionaries. If you would like to participate, please get your \$100 deposit to the church office by January 12, 2009. The balance is due March 22, 2009.

The actual cost of the trip is \$250 per person but will be subsidized by proceeds from the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Auction at Redeemer on February 24, 2009. Once proceeds have been calculated and divided between youth mission trips, we will update the total cost to participants.

Not sure about the trip? Here is what Catherine Kemper had to say after her first time: *"This whole experience opened my eyes to the real world...I really enjoyed this mission trip and can't wait for the next one."* Ella Henning writes, *"As I looked back at whichever co-op house we were working on and saw the difference we made, no matter how small, I felt as if I had made the biggest difference in the world."*

If you would like more information about YouthWorks!, contact Kelley Flodder (kelleyflodder@yahoo.com) or Bob McGonagle (bob@redeemer-cincy.org).



Prepare Affair '08

More than 50 Redeemer parishioners braved the cold, wet weather on Saturday, November 15 to help elderly and low income home-owners prepare their property for winter. Redeemer was one of the sponsors this year of Prepare Affair organized by People Working Cooperatively. If you want more information about PWC, contact Keenan Beauchamp (533-9356).

Sharing the Giving Spirit of Christmas

by: Julie Anne Baur

Have yourself a merry little Christmas by helping give another family a merry Christmas, too! This year, we will be sponsoring three deserving families through the Interfaith Hospitality Network. All three families are happy to be celebrating Christmas in their own homes this year and Redeemer parishioners can help share the giving spirit of Christmas with them.

The Stiver Family has recently moved into a quiet neighborhood. Their 11 year-old son and 9-year-old daughter are getting adjusted to their new school. Both parents have found employment and although they've had a recent financial setback, they are very happy and grateful for their new life and the changes that have occurred for them in the past few months.

The Blazer family has four children, ages 5, 3, 1, and 3 months. Mr. Blazer was recently injured in an auto accident and has been unable to work, but hopes to



return to work soon. Mrs. Blazer stays home to care for their young children. This busy family is excited to be able to share Christmas together in their own home.

The Overstreet Family has a 15-year-old son and two daughters, ages 4 and 3. Mrs. Overstreet is a single mom who works full-time but still struggles to support her family. She knows that even though it is hard, she will always do what she needs to do to take care of her family.

We hope that your family will share Christmas with one of these families by signing up to purchase a gift from the wish list. Look for sign-up sheets in the narthex on Sunday, November 30. Wrapped gifts must be returned to church by Sunday, December 14. If you have any questions about this ministry, or our adopted families please contact Kristin Theobald (407-7337) or Julie Anne Baur (321-9822). God's blessings to you and your family this Christmas season.



Telling the Story

by: Kelli Jasper, Director of Children's Ministries

Principle characters and narrators

(children in grades 3—6) will rehearse on Saturday, December 20 from 10 am – 12 noon.

On Sunday, December 21 there will be a full cast rehearsal from 11:15 – 12 noon in the sanctuary.

The pageant will be on Wednesday, December 24 at 4:00 pm.

We ask that all participants arrive at church by 3:15 pm on Christmas Eve to get ready. We will need 4 parent volunteers to assist with directing our sheep, shepherds, and angels.

Each year on Christmas Eve the children of Redeemer bring to life the story of God's incarnation. This is a beloved tradition of our parish and we invite all children in preschool (age 3) through 6th grade to participate. Just after Thanksgiving I will send invitations to all children registered for formation but please know that all are invited and encouraged to participate. We can't have too many sheep, shepherds or angels proclaiming the Good News!

Here's the scoop! Preschoolers are invited to be the sheep in the fields; K, 1st and 2nd graders are invited to be either an angel or a shepherd; 3rd and 4th graders draw names for the principle character parts; and 5th and 6th graders narrate. Costumes are provided. If you have a young person in your household, or one that will be visiting on Christmas Eve who would like to participate, please contact Kelli Jasper at the church office, 321-6700 or kelli@redeemer-cincy.org.



There's more! On Christmas Eve we leave baby Jesus in the manger with the Magi traveling from the east. We finish the Christmas story on Epiphany Sunday, which this year is January 4, when tradition has the Magi arriving in Bethlehem. Join us as we find out what happens next. Children are invited to participate in both or either presentation.

Make a Wreath, Enjoy a Meal

By: Kelli Jasper, Director of Children's Ministries

The time of Advent is a gift to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Please make plans to join your parish family on Sunday, November 30 at 6:00 pm to share a potluck dinner and make an Advent wreath for your home. This is fast becoming a parish family favorite you won't want to miss.

The Children's Ministry Team will provide drinks and fried chicken from the Hitching Post. Please bring an item to share that will provide at least 8 servings from the list below. If you last name begins with:

- A-C:** bring bread or cheese and crackers;
- D-K:** bring green salad, fruit, or veggies;
- L-S:** bring a side dish
- T-Z:** bring dessert

After dinner, supplies will be provided for you to make an Advent wreath for your home. During Advent, take time to light the candles, and see how the light grows



each week. Share stories how the gift of this baby, Christ the King, has touched your life.

In Godly Play, Advent is an important part of the curriculum. Listen to what you might hear from Redeemer's children about this time of year. "It is the time of the color purple," "purple is the color of royalty," or "purple is the time for getting ready." The truth in the words of the Godly Play story resonate in my heart when I reflect on them: "Sometimes people can go right through a mystery and not even know it is there. The church knew that the people needed a way to get ready to come close to and enter the Mystery of Christmas. They set aside 4 weeks to get ready."

Childcare for infants and toddlers is available upon request. Please let us know if you need this service by using our online form, or phoning the parish office by Wednesday, November 26.

Faith and Reason Discussion Group

By: Ed Ewbank

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A new discussion group is being formed at Redeemer to tackle the topic of what happens when we use reason to critically analyze faith and scripture. This is intended to be a wide open and wide ranging discussion group without any limits on items to be considered.

Nothing is too sacred to be analyzed. Example topics to be discussed include historical, textual, literary and form criticism of scripture along the lines of what the Jesus Seminar has done. What is Progressive Christianity and how does that fit into Anglican traditions?

The first meeting will be Monday, December 8 in the parlor. We will discuss future meeting dates, topics for discussion and more. Please contact Ed Ewbank (207-2997 or edewbank@yahoo.com) if you have questions.



Stock Donation 101

By: Cathy Hunt, Finance Officer

A number of parishioners make their contribution to Redeemer by donating stock. The easiest way to do this is to have the transfer handled by your broker or the company that holds the stock for you. Since many brokerage firms are very busy with such transfers at the end of the year, please do not wait until the last week of the year to initiate this kind of move. Start the process as soon as possible to ensure that it is completed by December 31.

It is our policy to sell any stock gifts as soon as possible and apply the actual cash proceeds, rather than the value of the stock when donated, to your pledge balance. For gifts to fulfill either your annual pledge or your Cornerstone commitment, you should instruct your broker to transfer the stock to:

PNC Bank
DTC#2616
The Church of the Redeemer
Cash Flow Management Account
#21-70-001-0315342

So that we may properly credit your pledge, please contact Cathy Hunt if the transfer is paying your Cornerstone Pledge.

In addition, it is very important that your broker notify Patty Grelle, our account representative at PNC by calling her at 513-651-8414.

If you hold the certificates yourself, you will need to have them reissued in the name of "The Church of the Redeemer" and deliver the new stock certificates to the church office. It may take up to three weeks to sell such stock, during which time, significant changes in the value may occur.

Finally, please be advised that the parish office is closed the week after Christmas. Any monetary contributions postmarked after December 31 will be recorded in 2009. If you have any questions about stock transfers, please contact our Finance Officer, Cathy Hunt (cathy@redeemer-cincy.org or 321-6700).

Rites of Passage

Since the last publication of this column, we have celebrated the following milestones in our

Births

Grace Elizabeth Driscoll October 31
daughter of Anne and Hugh
Granddaughter of Alan and JudyManzler

New Members

Nancye and Tom Van Brunt
534 Chapel Rd Amelia 45102

**A Look Back in Time**

Between 1908 and 1910 we worshipped in the Town Hall, increasing all the while in members and support. One of the principal achievements of this period was the establishment of a healthy Sunday School.

In the fall of 1910, we moved into what was popularly known as 'The Shack,' but more formally as "the Methodist Tabernacle." This structure, really a long shed, was situated off of Edwards Road. It was reached by a long, rickety board walk. The interior was sheathed

by the labor of the men of the church with panels of double-faced corrugated cardboard. The building was like a colony school house, lighted with electricity, and heated with gas stoves, but having neither water nor sewer connections. Think of holding Sunday School in a building where the children could not even get a drink of water. But here we lived and labored happily, planning all the while to build our own home. Furnishings were obtained from the St. Paul's Cathedral basement and from the Church of the Good Shepherd in Norwood. In 1910 the congregation was formally established as an Organized Mission of the Diocese of Southern Ohio.

From a distance: a long view of membership at Redeemer

By Elizabeth Grover

It is most likely that those who attended the first service at Redeemer walked to church because they most probably lived close by. One hundred years later, we continue to draw lots of neighbors. Our mailing list has 205 households in the 45208 zip code. Many others used to live nearby and continue to attend after their move to the 'burbs.

However, there are some parishioners who live quite far from Redeemer. You might think that because of the distance, these folks don't get as involved. Not true. The Bennetts live in Lebanon, and Christine is a chaliceist. Sharon Smith lives in Mason, and serves on the Altar Guild and the Flower Guild. The Campbells live 37 miles away in Hamilton, but travel to Redeemer where Bob is a lector and both Bob and Lee are ushers. Why do they come so far? Here is what Bob and Lee had to say.

Thank you for asking about our commute to Redeemer (50 minutes one way!). We began looking for a church almost five years ago when we were planning to be married. Rather than simply "eloping" as older couples might do in our situation, we felt it was absolutely essential to be married in a church where the presence of God was strongly felt. We visited a number of churches and met with several clergy before making the decision. From the time we walked into Redeemer and met with Charlie, we knew this would be our church home.

Why are we here and still attending almost every Sunday? At the top of our list is the spiritually uplifting feeling that we have each time we are here. We feel connected to God within these walls — that is most important to us. Also we greatly enjoy the clergy. Charlie married us almost four years ago and Bruce provided


inspiring guidance as we went through the new member class. They combine a deep faith in God and Jesus Christ along with good humor, humility, charisma, individuality, and genuineness. While we do not know Nancy, Alice, and Gary quite as well, we value them and their important contributions. We consider them to be part of the reason we continue to be engaged in the Redeemer community.

We support diversity, openness, and acceptance of all people into the house of God, a philosophy supported at Redeemer. Lee has known how it feels to be in another place of worship where women do not have equal opportunities. Although the Centennial service was a fun and meaningful experience, Lee appreciates the contemporary reality that enables women to serve in any capacity in the church.

We are excited to see the many outreach programs and activities carried on at Redeemer. There is an energy and commitment to people less fortunate, whether it be work at the Freestore/Foodbank or Habitat for Humanity, to name a few of the many activities. We believe in the scriptures which state that our faith must be accompanied by work in the name of God for his people.

We enjoy the people who make up the Redeemer community. A considerable number of them, of all ages, have greeted and welcomed us with enthusiasm, warmth, and genuineness. We thank them wholeheartedly for that.

We made a verbal commitment to Charlie that we would stay active and involved with the Redeemer if he would agree to marry us in the church. Redeemer is our church home, and here we will remain. We look forward to becoming more involved in the future. So Charlie, thank you for opening the doors of Redeemer to us.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Sunday Schedule</p> <p>8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 8:45 am Coffee Hour (narthex) 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</p>				<p>20</p> <p>10:00 am Bible Study 11:30 am IHN Closet Cleanout 4:15 pm St. Cecilia Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir 8:00 pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:30 pm AA meeting</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:00 am Habitat for Humanity 10:00 am Holiday Sale; Sole Mates 1:00 pm Spikenard rehearsal</p>
<p>23</p> <p><i>Blood Pressure Screening after morning services</i> 12:00 noon Confirmation Class 5:00 pm IHN Hosting all week</p>	<p>24</p> <p>1:00 pm Staff Meeting 5:45 pm Admin Committee 6:30 pm Adult Formation Ministry Team</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 am Redeemer News deadline 7:30 pm CORE Game Night</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30 am Redeemer Preschool Thanksgiving Program 12 noon Downtown Bible Study 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist with Healing</p>	<p>27</p> <p><i>Thanksgiving Day</i> <i>Parish Office Closed/ No Redeemer Preschool</i> 8:00 pm Al-Anon</p> 	<p>28</p> <p><i>Parish Office Closed/ No Redeemer Preschool</i> 8:30 pm AA meeting</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:00 am Habitat for Humanity 9:00 am Advent Quiet Day</p>
<p>30</p> <p>6:00 pm Advent Wreath Potluck Dinner</p>	<p>1</p> <p>1:00 pm Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Vestry</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:30 pm CORE Movie Night</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 am Redeemer News collating 12 noon Downtown Bible Study 5:30 pm Growing through Grief 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist with Healing</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00 am Bible Study 4:15 pm St. Cecilia Choir Flower Guild Christmas Party 6:00 pm Choir Supper 7:00 pm Adult Choir 8:00 pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:30 pm AA meeting</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:00 am Habitat for Humanity 9:00 am Community Land Co-Op 10:00 am Sole Mates to Jingle Bell Run 1:00 pm Spikenard rehearsal</p>
<p>7</p> <p>11:15 am Welcome Tour 12:00 noon Confirmation Class 6:30 pm Drum Circle</p>	<p>8</p> <p>1:00 pm Staff Meeting</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:30 pm CORE to Molly Mallone's</p>	<p>10</p> <p>12 noon Downtown Bible Study 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist with Healing 7:30 pm Mission Funding Committee</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 am Redeemer News Deadline 10:00 am Bible Study 1:00 pm Knitting Group 4:15 pm St. Cecilia Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir 8:00 pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:30 pm AA meeting 5:00 pm Genesis Youth Retreat, Calvary, Clifton 7:30 pm CORE Dinner</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8:00 am Habitat for Humanity 10:00 pm Presiding Bishop workshop</p>

THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
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CINCINNATI, OH 45208
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Advent Quiet Day

Saturday, November 29
9:00 am until 3:00 pm



Bishop Breidenthal will offer
meditations on the First Sunday of
Advent Collect.

A light lunch will be provided

Register online, by phoning the parish office,
or using the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

We invite all to know and serve Jesus as part of our faith community and to reach out with love and support to those in need.