

Redeemer Review

Volume 8 No. 2

February 2008

Senior Warden's Report

Our 131st Annual Meeting held on January 22nd was very well attended with a potluck supper preceding the business meeting. The thirty-two page report of the activities of 2007 was reviewed with only a few questions being asked. The annual election for vestry was conducted resulting in two new faces joining vestry for terms that will end in January of 2011. The newest members are long-time and very active church members Bruce Carpenter and Margaret Cole. Re-elected to vestry was current Junior Warden, Ted Burrows. Also re-elected were Joan Burrows as treasurer and Terri House as clerk. Whereas vestry seats are for three year terms, the clerk and the treasurer must be elected every year.

Stepping down from vestry after many years of service are Linda Murrelle and Betsy Schumacher. Their long tenure on vestry and valued contributions in vestry discussions were acknowledged during the meeting. They contribute to the parish in many other ways and will continue with those endeavors.

The report that is prepared and passed out at each year's Annual Meeting is very informative and provides many details about the activities of our congregation and the progress being made by Redeemer. Copies of it are still available. Anyone who has not obtained a report may pick up one in the church office or contact the church office to have a copy mailed.

At the end of the report is a page labeled "A Parish Who's Who." Every committee or activity listed on those pages need additional

members. Each committee will be attempting to recruit new members for 2008. But you need not wait to be asked. Volunteer your help. Again, every committee absolutely needs new members.

The other news that can be reported at this time is that we are very close to having a temporary, full-time priest to fill in for our retired Father Lentz. Vestry has interviewed, checked the references and offered the position of "priest-in-charge" to the Rev. Dr. Andrea P. Baldyga. We should think of a priest-in-charge as being a temporary rector, with the option of making the person the permanent rector if this trial period is successful. In contrast, an "interim rector," as has been explained in previous *Redeemer Reviews*, is never allowed to become the permanent rector. If the Rev. Baldyga does join Redeemer we will tell you all the good things we have learned of her, including her leaving a previous profession as a cardiac surgeon to answer her calling to the priesthood.

A reminder - Lent begins the Wednesday after you receive this issue of the *Redeemer Review*. The usual church services have been planned following much the same schedule and format as previous years. If you know or have experiences with variations of our church services, or how to study Lent, or ways to better understand the Lenten season, please talk with me so I can pass on your ideas to the Worship Committee.

(continued on page 2)

Senior Warden's Report (continued)

"Tenebrae" on Wednesday of Holy Week or blessing of homes of parishioners during the Fifty Days of Easter would be examples. Maybe we could really slow down for a day of prayer by having the church open all day on a selected date with Morning Prayer at 9:00, Noon Prayer at 12:00, Evening Prayer at 4:00 and closing with Holy Eucharist at 5:00. Please pass on the ideas you may have.

We are now at the start of our second year of transition that will lead to the calling of a new rector and, as during the first twelve months, your help is needed. Please stay informed of all church business, step in to assist in any situation that you can see your help is needed, communicate any of your concerns to vestry members and pray.

Almighty Father, whose blessed Son before his passion prayed for his disciples that they might be one, as you and he are one: Grant that your Church, being bound together in love and obedience to you, may be united in one body by the one Spirit, that the world may believe in him whom you have sent, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen (BCP, p.255)

A Sincere Thank You

I wish to thank all you wonderful people who sent cards to help me through my recent surgery and post op recovery and to St. Mary's Guild for the lovely floral arrangement. I am overwhelmed with the gestures of love and the offers of help given to me and my husband. Your kind words of encouragement and prayers will be remembered as I struggle through the days ahead. From the bottom of my heart,

THANK YOU. Evie



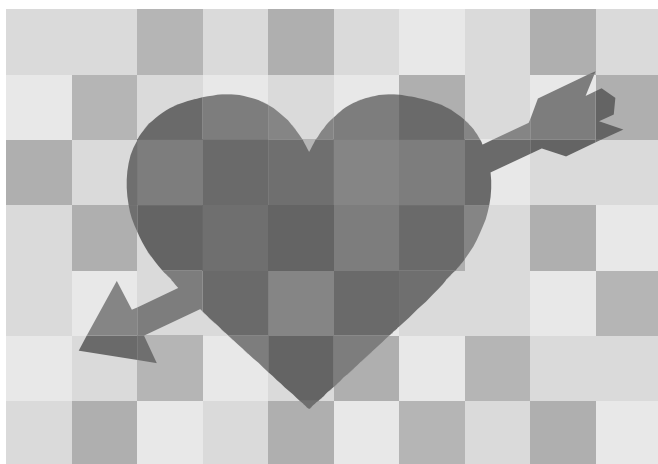
Bishop of Bethlehem The Rt. Rev. Paul V. Marshall	Music Director Kay Bennett	Vestry Jim Nobles, Senior Warden
Celebrant The Rev. Lauri Kerr	Parish Administrator Deborah Wells	Ted Burrows, Junior Warden Joan Burrows, Treasurer
Deacon The Rev. Hazel Hunt	Sexton Thomas Colegrove	Terri House, Clerk Bruce Carpenter
	Newsletter Editor Terri House	Margaret Cole Glenda Hinsman
Office: (570) 888-2270 Email: redeemer@stny.rr.com		Fred Luther David O'Dell
www.redeemersayre.org		Charles Preston Vickie Stewart

Heifer International

Happy are those who consider the poor; The Lord delivers them in the day of trouble.

Psalm 41:1

Hello from The Redeemer Sunday School - This Lenten season the children are again involved in the Heifer Project and are asking the Church community to help with filling an ark. Please take one home. By helping fill an ark this season, you will help people around the world build more productive lives . . . and a better world!



St. Mary's Guild

St. Mary's February 5th meeting will have a change in plans. Instead of a Potluck supper, plan on attending the Shroud Tuesday pancake supper sponsored by the Youth Group. The meeting will follow at 6:30 p.m. with the Rev. Lauri Kerr presenting a talk on the history of Shroud Tuesday. See you there!

Don't forget your pennies!

F E B R U A R Y

T I D B I T S

Birthdays

Charles Lattimer	1
Keith Carpenter	3
Amber Ochab	3
Debbie Johnson	3
John Clare	4
David Maffei	4
James Dunfee	11
Sarah Cole	5
Rock Shadduck	6
Gladys Beeman	7
Robert Davies	7
Walter Moesch	9
James McPherson	11
Joyce Springer	11
Jeffrey Watson	11
Margaret Cole	12
Tyler Rhodes	12
Edward Bailey	13
Dan Wayman	14
Maria Stratton	14
Linda Dix	17
Fred Nichols	17
Lauren McCutcheon	17
Celia Watkins	19
Kay Lattimer	19
Sherrie Gabauer	20
Doreen Marshall	20
Raymond Nobles, III	21
Michael Gaieski	22
JoAnn Lumley	26
Mitzi Mohn	26
Randall Mohn	26
Seth Murrelle	26
Aimee Marshall	26
Raymond Pennoyer	29

Anniversaries

Richard & Doreen Marshall	5
Fred & Evelyn Nichols	12
Michael & Sarah Vertuli	14
Joseph & Linda Murrelle	25
Richard & Gwen Lacey	26
John & Tricia Johnson	28

Calendar of Special Upcoming Events

February	2 & 3		Souper Bowl Weekend
	5	5 - 7:00 p.m.	Pancake Supper sponsored by Youth Group
	5	6:30 p.m.	St. Mary's Guild meeting in Atrium
	6	12:05 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Services with Holy Eucharist
	13	6:15 p.m.	Light Supper with Lenten Conversations (7 pm)
	20	6:15 p.m.	Light Supper with Lenten Conversations (7 pm)
	27	6:15 p.m.	Light Supper with Lenten Conversations (7 pm)



*“Whoever is kind to the needy
honors God.”
Proverbs 14:31*

Forward Day By Day

The current copies for February, March and April are now available in the church.

Editor's Note

Deadline for the March newsletter is Friday, February 22 at 12 noon. Please deliver articles as follows:

Email to: thouse2@stny.rr.com

Or mail to: 807 N Elmer Ave.

Sayre, PA 18840

Or phone: (570) 888-4216

Souper Bowl of Caring 2008

Please join in celebrating the 19th year of the Souper Bowl of Caring on the weekend of February 2nd and 3rd. This is Redeemer's 9th year of participation. All of the donated monies will benefit our local Valley Food Pantry. Last year 15,000 churches generated \$8 million to help fight poverty in the United States. If you cannot attend to participate, send a check to the church office made out to "Church of the Redeemer" and marked in the notation "Souper Bowl of Caring".

Address for Carol Deubler

For those wishing to send notes or cards to Carol Deubler, her address is
4925 Westwind Drive
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

Hymn Request Box

Kay Bennett, organist, has placed a box in the church in order for you to place your hymn requests in. Please let her know your favorites to be sung at our 10:30 a.m. Sunday service.

Highlights of December Vestry Meeting

Budget/Finance Committee - The November financials were presented. The list of monthly bills paid was reviewed. It was noted that the sum of \$9,781.78 was received from November 17 through December 14. The Finance Committee has a meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 20 at 6:30 p.m. with Carl Vallilee to review investments. Vestry members questioned why the special collections such as UTO, Christmas, etc. are lumped in with the pledge amount. David O'Dell will work with on the program and get these sums filtered correctly.

The 2008 Budget was reviewed including the cut in certain expenses. An extensive discussion was held on what could be cut and what expenses should be maintained as is. The Finance Committee is looking at ways to cut expenses in order to get closer to a balanced budget. The Columbarium Fund has \$11,251 in that account with 14 niches left to sell. We have enough niches to sell to fund the purchase of the next bank of niches and there is no restriction on the funds already collected. The amount in this fund is available to help balance the budget. The Stevens DIT funds can be used in the event of a compelling need. There was a discussion as to what constitutes a compelling need. It was noted that in the past we have paid people their wages in advance when asked to do so. Vestry decided that this was not a good practice and voted to restrict this practice.

Church School/Youth - Betsy Schumacher reported that the Church School will be performing Silent Night at the Christmas Eve service. The Church School play will be presented in early January. The Sunday School teachers are meeting Wednesday, December 19 to put together the cookie trays for Helping Hands.

December Vestry (continued)

Discretionary Funds (Balances as of Nov 5) -

General Fund = \$78.74

Guthrie Myers = \$1644.35

Money was spent out of the General Discretionary Fund to purchase the remaining items on the Angel Tree to meet the commitments we made. It was the consensus of Vestry to use money in the Guthrie Myers fund to help fund our youth's attendance at Children's Day with the Bishop in New York City on January 25

Property - Reported by Ted Burrows:

- The cart has been built for the card tables.
- The cable has been installed for the three computers in the office
- The window plaques are done.
- The additional emergency lighting has been done.
- The new mats have been purchased and installed.
- A discussion was held about the cost of snow removal. During the most recent storm we spent \$225 on Sunday to clear all sidewalks and the lot and an additional \$175 on Monday to salt and sand those areas. Another quote was obtained at a lower cost and the Junior Warden was advised to go ahead and change vendors.
- The maintenance checklist was reviewed by Vestry.

Senior Warden Report - Jim Nobles reported:

- An update on the outstanding keys was presented.
- The financial audits are not yet completed.
- The sequencer on the PA system is installed and working. The control cabinet is locked and the key is in the key box in the office.
- Service attendance statistics were reviewed.

December Vestry (continued)

- The nominating committee for open Vestry positions consists of the 4 officers of Vestry along with Joyce Anderson, Margaret Cole and Amy Murrelle. The vacancies start after the January Vestry meeting.
- The Diocesan Acceptance has been cut less than half of what they requested. The amount of \$2,000 has been inserted in the budget for 2008 which is the same as paid in 2007.
- Regarding the Singing Boys Concert, Vestry thanked everyone who worked hard on this project.
- Regarding the inventory, there is more to be done. A form was distributed to Vestry to keep this inventory updated. Linda Murrelle has volunteered to type the inventory.
- Concerning the selection of a Senior Warden for 2008, in some parishes the Senior Warden stays in place until a Rector is hired. We need to address this at the first Vestry meeting of 2008.
- Vestry reviewed a catalog of bulletin covers which can be purchased to enhance the appearance of the weekly bulletin. The cost of these is \$8.00 for 100 covers. Vestry did away with this in the past to save money. This will be tabled until after the January meeting regarding the adopted budget. The readings which have been in the bulletin we have been receiving for free. This subscription will run out shortly. If we purchased those it would cost less than \$.04 per sheet.

The Youth Group will be opening a Gift Shop. There are a number of items of merchandise which have been ordered and received. These items are stored in the library and will be sold after services. Further announcements are forthcoming.

CHRISTIANS

By Maya Angelou

When I say . . . "I am a Christian"
I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin."
I'm whispering "I was lost
Now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say . . . "I am a Christian"
I don't speak of this with pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble
And need Christ to be my guide.

When I say . . . "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak
And need His strength to carry on.

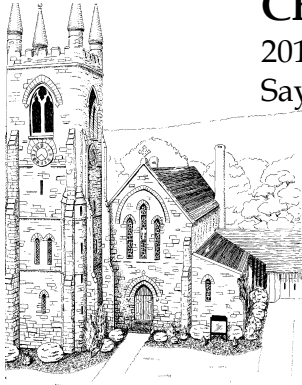
When I say . . . "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed
And need God to clean my mess.

When I say . . . "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect,
My flaws are far too visible
But, God believes I am worth it.

When I say . . . "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain.
I have my share of heartaches
So I call upon His name.

When I say . . . "I am a Christian"
I'm not holier than thou,
I'm just a simple sinner
Who received God's good grace, somehow!





Church of the Redeemer
201 South Wilbur Avenue
Sayre, Pennsylvania 18840

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FEBRUARY 2008

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Ash Wednesday Services

February 6, 2008

12:05 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

To Live – To Follow – To Share God