

# Redeemer Review

Volume 8 No. 4

April 2008

## Garrison Keillor's Take on Episcopalians (He's Not That Far Off Is He!)

We make fun of Episcopalians for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their lack of speed and also for their secret fondness for macaroni and cheese. But nobody sings like them. If you were to ask an audience in Des Moines, a relatively Episcopalianless place, to sing along on the chorus of "Michael Row the Boat Ashore," they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their underwear. But if you do this among Episcopalians, they'd smile and row that boat ashore and up on the beach! . . . And down the road!

Many Episcopalians are bred from childhood to sing in four-part harmony, a talent that comes from sitting on the lap of someone singing alto or tenor or bass and hearing the harmonic intervals by putting your little head against that person's rib cage. It's natural for Episcopalians to sing in harmony. We are too modest to be soloists, too worldly to sing in unison. When you're singing in the key of C and you slide into the A7th and D7th chords, all two hundred of you, it's an emotionally fulfilling moment. By our joining in harmony, we somehow promise that we will not forsake each other.

I do believe this, people: Episcopalians, who love to sing in four-part harmony are the sort of people you could call up when you're in deep distress. If you are dying, they will comfort you. If you are lonely, they'll talk to you. And if you are hungry, they'll give you tuna salad!

Episcopalians believe in prayer, but would practically die if asked to pray out loud. Episcopalians like to sing, except when confronted with a new hymn or a hymn with more than four stanzas.

Episcopalians believe their rectors will visit them in the hospital, even if they don't notify them that they are there.

Episcopalians believe in miracles and even expect miracles, especially during their stewardship visitation programs or when passing the plate.

Episcopalians feel that applauding for their children's choirs will not make the kids too proud and conceited.

Episcopalians think that the Bible forbids them from crossing the aisle while passing the peace.

Episcopalians drink coffee as if it were the Third Sacrament.

Episcopalians feel guilty for not staying to clean up after their own wedding reception in the Fellowship Hall.

Episcopalians are willing to pay up to one dollar for a meal at church.

Episcopalians still serve Jell-O in the proper liturgical color of the season and

Episcopalians believe that it is OK to poke fun at themselves and never take themselves too seriously.

And finally, you know you are an Episcopalian when:

- It's 100 degrees, with 90% humidity, and you still have coffee after the service.
- You hear something really funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can.
- Donuts are a line item in the church budget, just like coffee.
- When you watch a Star Wars movie and they say, "May the Force be with you." And you respond, "and also with you."
- And lastly, it takes ten minutes to say good-bye.

## Special Offering Envelope

On April 20, you will note in your pledge envelope packet a Special Offering envelope for Building Maintenance/Repairs. We have been blessed with one of the most beautiful churches in the area. With that blessing comes the responsibility of maintenance and upkeep in order to ensure that our church is in good repair and usable for many generations to come. The Vestry and the Building Preservation Committee have identified some major projects which are needed over the coming years including a new heating system, re-pointing the stone exterior, updating the carillon, and stained glass window preservation to name a few. Please keep these projects in mind as you make your donation and rest assured that these monies will be used wisely to help maintain our beautiful building for the enjoyment of many.



## Thank You to Lauri

Please join us for Coffee Hour on April 13 after the 10:30 a.m. service. We will have a special gathering to thank the Rev. Lauri Kerr for all her hard work, support and care over the past 15 months while we have been without a Rector. Lauri's hard work (along with others) has helped to hold us together and keep us on our spiritual path.

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

## Worship Committee Meeting

The Worship Committee meeting for April has been changed from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> - still at 5:00 p.m.

## Charitable Donations

A note from the Finance Committee about charitable donations.

You're required by the IRS to have documentation for *all* charitable cash contributions, no matter how tiny, if you want to deduct them. That includes a bank record, such as a canceled check or bank statement showing the name of the charity, the date and amount - or a detailed written receipt. This new requirement could affect many people long accustomed to deducting whatever they dropped into the collection plate each week during religious services. Redeemer has an accounting system that records all contributions to the parish. A quarterly report is mailed to every contributor making use of the offering envelopes. Cash dropped in the offering plate can not be identified and recorded in your report.

## Welcome to the Rev. Andrea Baldyga

A luncheon to welcome the Rev. Andrea Baldyga as our priest-in-charge will be held on Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, following the 10:30 a.m. service. As a note, we are combining all services into one that weekend (the 5:15 p.m. Saturday and the 8:00 a.m. Sunday services will not be held). All members of the congregation are invited. Those planning to attend are asked to sign up on the sign up sheet which is in the church or phone the church office (888-2270) to have your name added to the list. The deadline to sign up is April 15<sup>th</sup> but you are welcome to attend even if you did not sign up. Maggie Greenwood is coordinating the luncheon and will be contacting people to help.

## Youth Group Gift Shop

The Youth Group Gift Shop is open before and after each church service. Sales benefit the Youth Group who operates it for the 10:30 service. For the 5:15 or 8:00 services Deacon Hazel Hunt will open the shop and take sales upon request. The Gift Shop is located next to the church office.

## Spring Grounds Clean Up

On Saturday, May 3 starting at 9:00 a.m. we will hold the annual Spring grounds clean up. We do have some help this year in the form of the Scouts . . . but there is plenty of weeding and cleaning to be done so our grounds are spruced up and looking good and many hands are needed. Won't you please see if you can help for 1 or 2 or more hours for this important project.



*To Live – To Follow – To Share God*

# A P R I L T I D B I T S

## Birthdays

Natalie Piper	1
Zachary Murrelle	3
Joan Eike	4
Nichole Nichols	4
Marvis Wilcox	5
Jean Babcock	6
Luke Rae	8
Janice Watson	9
Cassidy Shadduck	9
Mazlin VanDuzer	10
Duane Wilcox	13
Erica Cole	14
Linda Hobbie	15
Brooke Sullivan	15
Chris Bennett	16
Robert Crowley	16
Marcie Garrity	17
Sidney Ranck, Jr.	17
Diane Nobles	18
Eric Watson	19
Tyler Shadduck	20
Joyce Brennan	21
Tracy McCutcheon	21
Joan Slaght	22
Mary Brougham	22
David O'Dell	24
Grace Vertuli	26
Linda Henry	27
Martha Pierce	27
Kannon VanDuzer	27
Michael Vertuli	29
Lisa Cole	29

## Anniversaries

Jamie & Missy VanDuzer	7
Larry & Ellen Croft	16
Scott & Carrie Jenkins	17
Dan & Michael Ann Wayman	22

## Thank you from Lauri & Hazel

We would like to thank everyone in the Parish for their help and support over the past year. We truly appreciate all the cooperation and assistance we have received from everyone while we covered duties during the absence of a full time clergy.

Lauri Kerr  
Hazel Hunt

## Calendar of Special Upcoming Events

April	1	7:00 pm	St. Mary's Guild - Carantouan Greenway Speaker
	13	11:30 am	Coffee Hour - Thank you to Lauri
	20	10:30 am	<b>Only service of the weekend</b>
		11:30 am	Welcome Luncheon for Mother Andrea
	27	3:00 pm	Concert - Music for Two Pianos
May	3	9:00 am	Spring Grounds Clean Up
	6	6:30 pm	St. Mary's Guild - Mother/Daughter/Friend Banquet
	8	9:00 am	Set up for Rummage Sale
	9	9 am - 4 pm	Rummage Sale
	10	9 am - 12 noon	Rummage Sale
	14	7:30 am	ECW Annual Meeting - Kirby House
	17	9:30 am - 1:30 pm	Under One Roof Evangelism - Montrose
	31		Safeguarding God's Children - Towanda

### Coordinator is Needed

A coordinator for the Ushers and Greeters is needed to help this vital ministry run smoothly. It is important that Ushers and Greeters be scheduled timely and informed of special upcoming events. It is helpful and necessary for visitors who come to our beautiful church to be assisted and welcomed to our parish by this able group of people. Please call the church office if you are willing to undertake this important position.

### Thank You from the Nichols Family

Thank you to all you wonderful people at the Redeemer for the many cards, food, phone calls, visits and flowers given to Fred and me and the rest of our family at the loss of our son. It was most difficult to lose our first born child. I realize that most of you did not know Dale so let me tell you a little about him. He was very gifted as an artist, in his ability to make friends easily and had a terrific "gift of gab". He loved to cook and bake and would bring his specialties for us to enjoy. The very last thing he made was a banana bread. He lacked enough flour so substituted pancake flour, and forgot to add baking powder. To make it edible, he suggested heating it on the stove with plenty of butter! He was such a delight and he will be missed.

Again, Thank You.  
Fred and Evie

*To Live - To Follow - To Share God*

### St. Mary's Guild for April

The April business meeting will be held on Tuesday April 1 at 7:00 p.m. At 7:30 p.m. our guest speaker John Palmer will give an informative talk on Carantouan Greenway Foundation. If you need a ride call the Church Office and arrangements will be made. Don't forget your pennies!

### Evangelism -- Under One Roof

On Saturday, May 17 at St. Paul's in Montrose, local northern tier parishes will be meeting with Fr. Andrew Gerns for a day-long workshop on Evangelism. This session starts at 9:30 a.m. and ends at 1:30 p.m. and is being run in cooperation with the Diocesan Commission on Evangelism. If you are interested in attending this session, please call the office. You do not have to serve on Vestry to attend. This workshop is available to all who are interested. Please call the office to sign up.

### Safeguarding God's Children

The "Safeguarding God's Children" program will be offered on May 31 in Towanda. Those individuals who need to complete the Safeguarding God's Children requirements should sign up by calling the Church Office 888-2270.

## Donations for Paint Needed

The Vestry is in the process of approving the refurbishing/painting of the kitchen. We thank everyone for their contributions to the paint/refurbish budget last year; however, we used all those contributions on paint and improvements over this past year. We will need to purchase more paint and supplies for refurbishing the kitchen area. We are again asking our congregation to open their hearts and contribute whatever they can afford to help us purchase these supplies. Your check to Church of the Redeemer could be sent to or dropped off at the church office or placed in the collection plate. Be sure to note it is for "painting."



### **Prayer for the World**

***Let the rain come and wash away the ancient grudges, the bitter hatreds held and nurtured over generations. Let the rain wash away the memory of the hurt, the neglect. Let the sun come out and fill the sky with rainbows. Let the warmth of the sun heal us wherever we are broken. Let it burn away the fog so that we can see each other clearly. So that we can see beyond labels, beyond accents, gender or skin color. Let the warmth and brightness of the sun melt our selfishness, so that we can share the joys and feel the sorrows of our neighbors. And let the light of the sun be so strong that we will see all people as our neighbors. Let the earth, nourished by rain, bring forth flowers to surround us with beauty. And let the mountains teach our hearts to reach upward to heaven.***

**Amen**

**Rabbi Harold S Kushner**

## St. Mary's Guild Upcoming Events

St. Mary's Guild has several upcoming events which will be held at the church:

1. Our Mother/Daughter/Friend Banquet will be held Tuesday, May 6 at 6:30 p.m. Menu and dinner cost will be in our church bulletins this coming month. Sign up sheets will be sent up in the church office.
2. Our Spring Rummage Sale will be held on Friday, May 9 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. And on Saturday, May 10 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. with a Bag Sale from 11:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Set up day will be Thursday, May 9 starting at 9:00 a.m.. Sign up sheets will be in the church and church office.

The Mother/Daughter/Friend Banquet is always an enjoyable evening. We have the nicest people in the valley come, we have good food and we have good entertainment. Can't beat that and the price is right!

Concerning the Rummage Sale -- As you all know, this project brings in over \$2,000 a year to help our church. I also know that this project cannot be done without the help of everyone who is able to volunteer to set up, work and clean up.

Please mark your calendars for these two important events.

### **Editor's Note**

Deadline for the May newsletter is Friday, April 18 at 12 noon. Please deliver articles as follows:

Email to: [thouse2@stny.rr.com](mailto:thouse2@stny.rr.com)

Or mail to: 807 N Elmer Ave.

Sayre, PA 18840

Or phone: (570) 888-4216

## Vestry Highlights for February

**Budget/Finance Committee:** Joan Burrows, treasurer, reported that the Finance Committee would meet on Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 a.m. service at the church.

**Audit:** Each vestry member received a copy of the 2005 audit. Finance Committee members will review the problems to correct on the 2005 audit as presented by auditor. This will be done at the February 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of Finance Committee.

**Church School/Youth:** Margaret Cole reported that the Sunday School children will sing at the 10:30 a.m. service Easter Sunday. As for the Youth Group they will once again present a service during Holy Week, Wednesday evening. Five (5) Redeemer youth went to the Episcopal Church in Troy, PA to worship on Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. The Diocesan Missioner for Youth, the Rev. Demery Bader-Saye was visiting to meet with the Northern Tier youth. Margaret Cole accompanied the group as advisor. On April 25<sup>th</sup> nine (9) members of Redeemer youth will be going to Christophany. The cost is \$100.00 per youth. Vestry agreed to fund \$450.00 (\$50.00 per youth) plus gas mileage for the driver so our youth could attend.

**Discretionary Funds:** General Fund - Jim Nobles reported there had been no activity so the balance was the same as last month - \$774.79. He stated he would like the fund audited by the finance committee at the time he turns it over to Mother Andrea.

Guthrie Myers Fund - In the absence of the Rev. Hazel Hunt Jim Nobles reported that the most recent bank statement showed a balance of \$751.51.

**Property:** The date of May 3 was set for annual spring clean up on the lawn and landscaping. The Boy Scout troop has agreed to help.

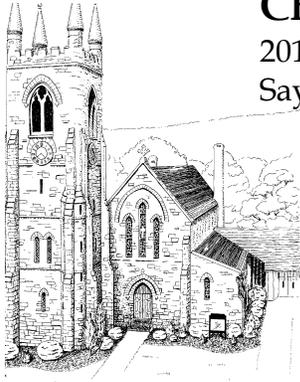
The Preservation Committee met on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Members are: Ted Burrows, Bruce Carpenter, Rick Rhodes, Wally Haggerty and Jim Nobles. After reviewing the information from Bero Associates of Rochester, NY and Crawford and Stearns of Syracuse, NY the committee decided to work with Crawford and Stearns for a Preservation and Design of our historic building. The cost is \$1,500.00 for a walk through with imminent needs, \$3,500.00 for a complete overview of our interior and exterior property. The long version of \$3,500.00 will help the vestry prioritize the list of what must be done first to protect our beautiful church. Vestry agreed to have a total report completed by Crawford and Stearns. Mr. Randy Crawford will come in April to do the assessment.

It was noted that the All Saints Chapel in the basement of the church where Sunday School meets for weekly service has never had heat. Vestry decided to contract with Patton's Plumbing will connect a heat run to the aging boiler for a cost of \$1885.00.

An energy audit of our building needs to be done. Rick Rhodes will contact Penelec to see if they will do it.

## ECW Spring Meeting - May 14

The ECW Annual Meeting will be held on May 14 at Kirby House. Bishop Paul will preside and preach at Eucharist. Jo Trepagnier will make a presentation on the mission trip she, Father Earl Trygar and Char Horst made to Kajo Keji. Once again, Vickie Stewart will drive to Kirby House for this meeting. We will leave from the church parking lot at 7:30 a.m. Please consider joining us for this special meeting with Bishop Paul. Call the Church Office if you plan to attend.



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

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**Welcome to  
Mother Andrea  
Baldyga  
April 20  
10:30 a.m. Eucharist  
11:30 a.m. Luncheon**

*To Live – To Follow – To Share God*