



The Redeemer Review

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 12

December, 2009

**Pastor's
Corner**

Christmas: Longing to Belong

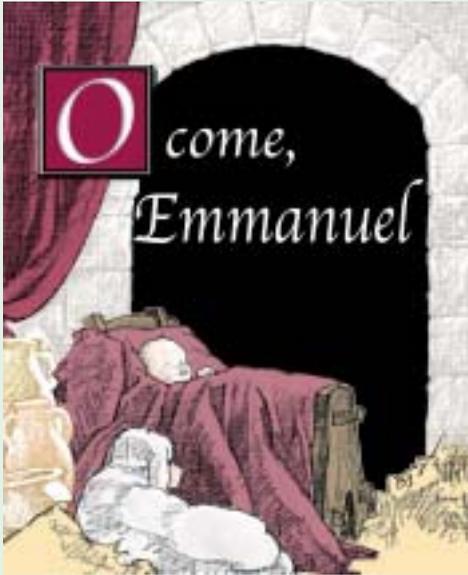
In our North American culture the season of Christmas has been a time to think of home. In a number of secular songs, the idea of being “home for the holidays” is a powerful image. It communicates being in a place where we feel safe, with those we love and with those who love us.

All of us know that homes are different. We also know we cannot always be at home for Christmas. Yet when we, as followers of Jesus Christ, think of “our faith home”, it is not always where we live, or where we were born. Our Christmas story tells us that Jesus was born in a manger in a stable for animals (a barn if you will). It tells us that he and his family were forced to move because of King Herod, who wanted to take his life.

I’m guessing he didn’t have much “nostalgia” for his birth place. Yet where ever Jesus went, he communicated a sense of loving and belonging, and continued to emphasize that amazing love of God for each of us. Jesus carried that wonderful sense of “home” with him as he showed and demonstrated the kind of love we all want in our homes.

During our advent season (preparation time for Christmas) we will be focusing on not just being at home for Christmas, but “feeling at home for Christmas”. In other words, feeling the amazing love of God that we know in Jesus Christ. Please make it a point to join us for worship during this time of preparation for Christmas.

(cont on pg 2)



(cont. from pg 1)

Advent Worship Schedule

November 29

Lighting the candle of Hope
Sermon: "On the Road Again"

December 6

Lighting the candle of Love
Sermon: "Time to Value Relationships"
Dan Meyer, Lay Speaker

December 13

Lighting the candle of Joy
Sunday School Program
Sermon: "Were you born in a Barn:
Absolutely!"

December 20

Lighting the candle of Peace
Sermon: "Lose the Mask"

December 24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (all 3 services)

5:00 p.m. Children's Service

7:30 p.m. Traditional Service (with
Choir)

11:00 p.m. Service of Meditation &
Reflection (communion)

I am looking forward to being with each of you during our Advent season. I pray that we each will find ourselves lifted in ways of love, and find a safe place of grace in the coming of the Christ Child.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Bill

Redeemer Review

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Our Redeemer's

United Methodist Church

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Worship Services at 9:00 and 10:30 am

Pastor:

Rev. Bill Shaw

Church Secretary:

Donna Echnert

Director of Youth Ministries:

Marianne Rogenski

Co-Editors:

Jim Cottrell & Jerry Mc Daniel



Unfiltered @ 633

Christmas is a busy time for all of us. Yet I believe it is extremely important to take time and be in worship during this holy season. If Sunday morning is difficult for you, please join us at our **Sunday evening "Unfiltered Service" at 6:33 p.m.** The schedule for our evening service is below.

November 29

Sermon: "On the Road Again"

Pastor Bill speaking

December 6

Sermon: "Were You Born in a Barn"

Marianne Rogenski speaking

December 13

No 633 service. We will all meet at **4:00 p.m.** for our Musical Vespers Service.

There will be a special message:

"God Unfiltered"

December 20

Sermon: "Lose the Mask"

Ian Shaw speaking

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Bill



Sunday, December 13, 4:00 p.m.

The music groups of *Our Redeemer's* will share a Christmas Vespers service on Sunday, December 13 at 4:00 p.m.

Please join us in celebrating through music this special time of year.



Church Christmas Caroling

Saturday, December 19, 3:00 p.m.

Join us at the church at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 19 for Christmas caroling. We will visit Friendship Village as well as other locations throughout the Schaumburg area, and then return to church for hot chocolate and a potluck dinner. We'll provide sloppy joes and hot dogs, but would welcome buns, chips, side dishes or desserts.

If you know someone who could use a visit from our carolers, or if you have any questions, please contact **Gwyn Greenwalt** at ggreenwalt1@att.net or 847-884-1392.



Youth News

by Marianne Rogenski



Confirmation:

Sunday, December 6

Class 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 10

Parent/student meeting 5:30-6:15 p.m.

Class 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Sr. High

Sunday, December 6

Service Project at church 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 10

Youth Group @ Starbucks 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Unfiltered @ 633

Don't forget that there is Unfiltered @ 633 on November 29, December 6, and December 20. Our Advent series is Christmas at Home: Longing to Belong.

There will be no Unfiltered @ 633 on December 13 or December 27.

Youth Ski Trip

January 15-17

We are going to participate in a ski trip at Wesley Woods this year that is open to all students in grades 7 through 12. We will be going January 15-17, 2010. The cost for this trip is \$120.00 per person. This includes a snack on Friday night, breakfast and dinner on Saturday, 2 nights' lodging, ski lift ticket and ski equipment rental, and a concert at Wesley Woods on Saturday night.

We will leave ORUMC on Friday night at 5:30 p.m. (please eat dinner before you come) and return on Sunday sometime in the morning. I will provide a list of things to bring when the time is closer.

I need to know who will be going and have **money in hand by December 10**. If you would like to go, but money is an issue, please let me know as soon as possible so that we can work something out.

We do need drivers and chaperones, so parents, if you are available and willing please let me know! The students are encouraged to bring friends! You do not need to ski to chaperone—and the rate is reduced if you choose this option.

Looking ahead: 30-Hour Famine

We will again be participating in World Vision's 30-Hour Famine this year. The dates are February 19-20 with Famine Sunday being February 21.

This is an event open to all Jr. and Sr. High students and their friends. It is a 30-hour juice fast. Participants can only have 100% fruit juice and water. The students come to the church for the majority of this time for fun, games, fellowship, Bible study, and to learn more about world hunger.

This is always an amazing weekend for the participants and also for the adults that help. The fundraising packets are already at church so please contact Marianne if you are interested.



Matthew Young	12/5
Meghan Lowry	12/6
Blake Breda	12/7
Emily Meyer	12/7
Joseph Dombek	12/8
Chalisa Kulprathipanja	12/14
Abigail Hill	12/21
Jill Murphy	12/22
Dominic Gomes	12/27
Brendan Gorvett	12/27
Eric Theile	12/27
Nick Pope	12/29



Sunday School Christmas Program

Sunday, December 13, 9:00 a.m.

Our Christmas program will be on Sunday, December 13 at the 9:00 a.m. service. The Sunday school children, Cherub Choir and Joyful Noise have all been practicing hard to bring you a festive production of "The Tree".

We hope to see you there. A reminder to all parents: there will be a brief rehearsal on Saturday, December 12. Timing to follow.



Blood Drive

*Thursday, December 3,
3:00 to 8:30 p.m.*

Our Redeemer's will host the Schaumburg area blood drive on Thursday, December 3 from 3:00 to 8:30 p.m.



Holiday Mail for Heroes

Note the dates!

In this season of hope and giving, the American Red Cross and Pitney Bowes, Inc. have joined forces to invite Americans to “send a touch of home” to United States service members and veterans across the country and abroad.

Today over 1.4 million men and women serve in the U.S. armed forces and over 24 million veterans have served in the past. The holiday season is the perfect time to honor and extend a warm holiday greeting to those who’ve served and continue to do so.

There is an extensive process to ensure all cards sent to our service members are safe and arrive in time for the holidays. Holiday cards will be collected through a unique P.O. Box address from Monday, November 2 through Monday, December 7.

First, cards from across the nation **must** be sent to this address:

Holiday Mail for Heroes

P.O. Box 5456

Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456

Every card received will be screened for hazardous materials by Pitney Bowes and distributed to participating Red Cross chapters nationwide. Once the cards arrive at the Red Cross chapters, they are sorted and reviewed by volunteers who then distribute them to service members, their families and veterans in communities across the country.

Please don’t forget to follow these guidelines while preparing your holiday greetings!

Do...

- Sign all cards
- Entitle cards “Dear Service Member, Family or Veteran”
- Limit cards to 15 per person or 50 for school class or business group
- Bundle groups of cards in single, large envelopes

Don’t...

- Send letters
- Include personal information such as home or email addresses
- Use glitter – excessive amounts can aggravate health issues of wounded recipients
- Include inserts of any kind as they must be removed in the screening process

Operation Airlift Thanks

Thank you for donating many items to VFW 5151 for the Operation Airlift packages. As always, Our Redeemer's members have been generous in their giving. It is so important to remember and support our American soldiers. May we all pray for peace and their safe return.

Betty and Fred Miller



Prayer Squares

The Prayer Shawl committee has delivered 975 Prayer Squares to Operation Support Our Troops Illinois. A very big thank you to **Cheryl St. Phillips** and her mother **Dawn**. Together they have crocheted more than 652 Prayer Squares. These caring women have spent many hours behind their needles as well as the money for supplies.

Thank you to Cheryl, Dawn, and the members of *Our Redeemer's* who are committed to sending prayers to our soldiers. If you would like to know how you can further help, check out the website for Operation Support Our Troops <http://www.osotil.org/howtohelpdropoffloc.html>.



**United
Methodist
Women**
*Saturday,
December 12,
9:00 a.m.*

The UMW would like to thank all those who so generously donated items for the Disaster Relief Kits that we put together at our November meeting.

The UMW will also be meeting at *Our Redeemer's* on Saturday, December 12 at 9:00 a.m. for a Christmas celebration, ornament exchange, and a delicious breakfast. All ladies are welcome so please come and help us celebrate this wonderful time of year.



Mom's Night Out
Thursday, Dec 10, 7:00 p.m.

All moms are invited to join in an evening out without cooking. Come to The Melting Pot at 225 W. Golf Road in Schaumburg on Thursday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Contact **Annette Brown** for reservations at 847-882-8629 or 847-341-8445 or email her at Annetteb421@sbcglobal.net.

VBS needs YOU!

The Education Committee is looking for a volunteer (or two) to be the Organizers for Vacation Bible School this summer.

Here are the Top 10 Reasons why you should volunteer for this rewarding position:

#10 - You've been waiting for an opening in this position for years.

#9 - You need a reason to get out of the house frequently over the summer.

#8 - You need to brush-up on Bible stories.

#7 - You get to pick the week that works best with your schedule.

#6 - You like to delegate, delegate, delegate.

#5 - You can take pride in seeing all the smiling faces of the children in our community.

#4 - You want to 'give back' to Our Redeemer's

#3 - You get to work with amazing people from our church.

#2 - You want to make an important difference in the lives of our youth.

And the #1 reason you should volunteer to organize VBS is...

WE REALLY NEED YOU!

If you are interested in this position, please call or e-mail **Lisa Dierbach** at ldierbach@kraft.com or Donna in the office at donna@orumc.org.

Crop for a Cause: Making MS a Memory

by Laura Machonis

Tickets are now on sale for the Fourth Annual Crop for a Cause: Making MS a Memory Event, Saturday, March 6, at **Our Redeemer's**. The event benefits the National Multiple Sclerosis Society; the only voluntary health organization dedicated to the prevention, treatment, alleviation, and cure of MS.

Tickets are going fast. Get yours today as there are a limited number available and this event has sold out in the past. Registration fee includes table space to scrapbook, a goodie bag, and a chance to win a door prize. Dinner and snacks are also provided. The registration information and forms are at www.cropforacause.com.

If you are not a scrapbooker there will also be a silent auction with over 100 items including leisure items, restaurant certificates, sporting event tickets, gift certificates, and a seven-day condo rental in Maui. All items are generously donated.

If you are interested in attending, volunteering or donating, please contact **Laura Machonis** at info@cropforacause.com or visit www.cropforacause.com.

We are also looking for sponsors for the food and table rental fee. If you or someone you know works for a company that may be interested in helping, please let me know!



Community Crisis Center

CCC still needs Christmas gifts for children: dolls, puzzles, games, action figures, trucks and cars. Nothing violent will be accepted.

New or gently used coats, gloves, mittens, and hats are needed. Please leave them in the church office with Donna.

New, sealed and current dated items are needed for the medicine chest: non-alcohol cough syrup and non-aspirin pain relievers (for adults and children). Also, antacids, RID shampoo, diarrhea medication, Pedialyte, Orajel, band-aids, antibiotic ointment, disposable thermometers and facial tissues.



Scrapbook Club

Friday, Dec 11, 6:30 p.m.

Due to the Christmas holiday we will be meeting on Friday, December 11 from 6:30-11:00 p.m. instead of the December 18.

We are asking all club members to bring in items to donate to the food pantry this month. If you have any questions contact **Laura Machonis**, 630-736-9573.

UMM District

Advent Breakfast

Woodstock First UMC

Saturday, Dec 12, 8:00 a.m.

ORUMC UMM December Meeting Cancelled

All men of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to the United Methodist Men's Elgin District Advent Breakfast on Saturday, December 12 at 8:00 a.m. at First UMC in Woodstock. We will meet at 7:00 a.m. at *Our Redeemer's* and carpool to Woodstock. The church is located 201 W. South St. in Woodstock.

The meeting will begin with breakfast and a brief business meeting followed by our worship service at 9:00 a.m. The worship service will be lead by Dr. Norval Brown.

The *Our Redeemer's* December UMM meeting is cancelled. Our next breakfast meeting and Bible study will be January 9.

Spanish Speaking Faith Community

At the November Charge Conference a proposal was discussed related to *Our Redeemer's* supporting the possible establishment of a Spanish Speaking Faith Community in the Schaumburg area.

Our Elgin District Superintendent, Rev. **Oscar Carrasco**, will attend our next Ad Council meeting on January 14 at 7:15 p.m. to further discuss the proposal. All are invited to attend.

Open Mic Night

by Gwyn Greenwalt

Thanks to everyone who came out for our Open Mic Night on November 19. We celebrated a wonderful night of talent with family friends.

Special thanks to everyone who helped with set up, clean up and behind the scenes operations that made the night a huge success!





Milliken Chamber Chorale January 11

ORUMC is pleased to present the Milliken Chamber Chorale in concert on Monday, January 11. Two of our very own, **Daniel Shaw** and **David Zemke**, sing with this outstanding choral group. So, mark you calendar now to attend this special event.

We will need to provide housing and an evening meal for this 54-member group. Watch for more details in the January newsletter and Sunday bulletins.

Greetings from the Rickleffs

Several friends have visited Fred (former ORUMC pastor) and Doris Rickleff this fall and bring greetings from them to all their friends at *Our Redeemer's*. They continue to be active in their Stoughton church and Fred continues his carving hobby. He showed his latest project, a carving of da Vinci's painting *The Last Supper*. Fred said he worked on the carving for 9 months, but da Vinci took several years to complete the painting.

If you wish to send greetings to Fred and Doris, their address is: 1000 Ridge St, Apt 3A, Stoughton, WI 53589.





Personal Notes



Baptisms

Jackson Robert Marmorstone, son of **Bart** and **Lauri Marmorstone** was baptized on November 8.

Anniversary

Congratulations to **Fred** and **Betty Miller** in celebration of their 43rd wedding anniversary.

Love To All from the Philippines

Richard Vales reports that after much delay due to flooding, the post office has finally delivered the check with the \$1,767 proceeds from the movie memorabilia sale. He is looking forward to buying and distributing food to the hungry people as soon as possible. We can look forward to pictures of Richard packaging and delivering food.

Richard says "I cannot thank the church (enough)....for helping me feed the hungry.....Again thank you so much and tell everyone we love you all."

Love in Christ,
Rev. Richard



I would like to thank the ladies for the food and many rides to my outpatient therapy after having my knee replacement. So many, many thanks to **Sherrie, Peggy, Carlene, Jill, Carolyn, Sally, Bev** and **Nancy**.

I could not have done it without your help.

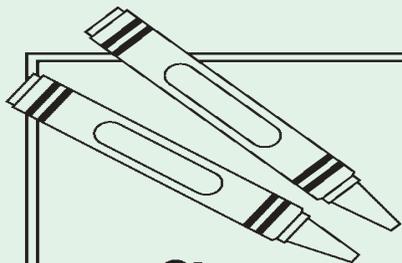
Thank you so much.
Mary Blackburn

Our Food Pantry Thanks You!

Our Redeemer's has received a wonderful and very generous Thanksgiving gift from the T.O.P.S. ladies who meet here every Thursday morning.

Thank you so much for the Jewel gift cards for our neighbors and friends who use our Church Pantry.

We really appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity!

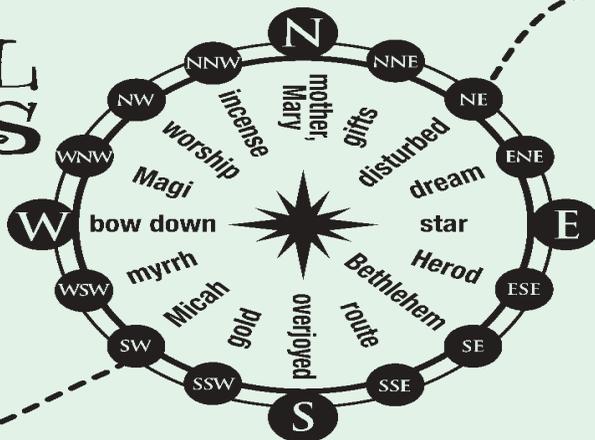


Just for

KIDS

SPECIAL VISITORS

Matthew 2 tells of visitors who traveled to worship Jesus. Read that story, or see if you can answer the questions below from memory. Use the compass guide to fill in the correct answers.



1. Who was king during the time of Jesus' birth? _____ (ESE)
2. Who came from the East to worship the one born king of the Jews? _____ (WNW)
3. How was King Herod feeling about Jesus' birth? _____ (NE)
4. Which prophet did the chief priests and teachers of the law quote when King Herod asked where the Christ would be born? _____ (SW)
5. In what city would Christ be born? _____ (SE)
6. King Herod lied to the wise men and told them to search and report back so he, too, could do what to Christ? _____ (NW)
7. What did the Magi see in the east and follow to find Jesus? _____ (E)
8. When the star stopped, how did the Magi feel? _____ (S)
9. Who else did the Magi see with Jesus? His _____ (N)
10. What did the Magi do first before they worshiped the child? _____ (W)
11. Name the three treasures the Magi brought for Jesus. _____ (SSW)
_____ (NNW) _____ (WSW)
12. These three treasures were all brought for Jesus as ... _____ (NNE)
13. What warned the Magi not to return to Herod? A _____ (ENE)
14. The Magi had to return to their country by another _____ (SSE)

Answers: 1. Herod, 2. Magi, 3. disturbed, 4. Micah, 5. Bethlehem, 6. worship, 7. star, 8. overjoyed, 9. mother, Mary, 10. bow down, 11. gold, incense, myrrh, 12. gifts, 13. dream, 14. route

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