



The Redeemer Review

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 2

February, 2014



"To remember is the beginning of redemption." -Holocaust Memorial

Remembering is essential to our sense of identity. Our deepest emotions are intimately linked with how we remember and what we recall. This is why the literal loss of memory by persons in the grip of disease or struck by physical accident has such tragic dimensions. Disoriented stares from those we love, who cannot remember their own names or their relationships to persons, places, and events, are profoundly disturbing. We rightly fear the severe loss of personal memory. With such loss the world shrinks and changes. It is frightening to think of becoming a prisoner in one's own immediate experience. It is equally disturbing to think of such imprisonment without disease or accident. This is not only a matter of individual physiological deterioration but a social and cultural reality.

Without the capacity to remember, we lack a sense of narrative about our lives and our world. It is true that all human remembering in the ordinary situations of our lives involves a selecting out of the whole experienced past. What we remember may be distorted and warped by our present desires, driving passions, or compulsions. This must be admitted at the outset. The ordinary sense of "remembering the past," whether individually or collectively, is a function of our present state of mind and soul as well as a construction of the deeper aspects of our imagination. Recall your own experience: how different is your description of the details of the accident from that of the person driving the other car.

Our memories can be misleading, even deceitful at times. There are questions here quite beyond our immediate focus. Whose remembering is to be trusted, and why? Can we

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correct misremembering, and how? Does not all memory involve more than the simple recall of what has been personally “experienced?” For ***Our Redeemer's*** “Jubilee” celebration of our 50th anniversary in 2014, such questions must be kept on hold, I think, since we are trying to remember the 50 years of God’s ministry at ***Our Redeemer's***.

Do you remember the first love you experienced that made you stay with ***Our Redeemer's***? How do you want to have others feel that love you experienced for having them growing together with you in faith at ***Our Redeemer's***? These are the questions we will ask ourselves throughout the “Jubilee” year 2014 at ***Our Redeemer's***.

Like remembering the past is important, the forms of remembering are essential to Christian spirituality that involves precisely a critical “call to remembrance.” The 50th Anniversary Celebration Taskforce Team [*Bruce Bedingfield, June Guthrie, Judy Wilson, Joan McCoy, Mary Zalay, John & Edie Machonis, Jerry McDaniel, Pastor Sunny Ahn*] has prepared many different forms of remembering the past at ***Our Redeemer's***. Please speak to the taskforce team members to find out about the celebrations and be ready to support and participate in many forms of remembering God’s blessings at ***Our Redeemer's***!

Ribbit!

~Pastor Sunny

Finance Update

The Finance Committee worked with the committees, ministries, and Administrative Council of *Our Redeemer's* to come up with a budget for 2014. It was a difficult task to balance the needs of our congregation, the desire for growth, and the realities of our financial resources.

We have faithfully paid our apportionments to the district for at least ten years, and have proudly received the designation of Rainbow Covenant by giving a bit extra for designated missions. *Our Redeemer's* has a good reputation within our district for being faithful stewards of our resources and supporting the overall work of the United Methodist Church through our apportionments.

We are in challenging times, as many are in this economy. Our pledged total is down compared to last year, even though many individuals increased their pledges. As a result, our expected income does not add up to enough to cover all our expenses. Each committee has done a good job holding down expenses. We made the tough decision to cut apportionments almost totally, and to hold off again on adding the associate pastor that Staff Parish has on its wish list. We will also probably need to draw against savings. The good news is that we have no mortgages, and we were also able to put some money aside during good times that serves us well now. The total expected income for 2014 is approximately \$306 thousand, and with these changes, expenses are estimated at \$323 thousand, leaving a shortfall of about \$17 thousand.

This year we also expect to have a major expense when we replace our (very) old roof. You may have noticed buckets on rainy days to catch the drips. Trustees are working hard on this process, and Finance is looking into loans.

What can you do? Be faithful with the financial pledge you have already made. If you have not made a pledge, consider making one. As we celebrate in this year of Jubilee, remember how far we have come as a church family. Join in, and help us be the best church we can be, looking to make disciples for Christ and a home for those seeking one.

All Are Welcome

The Ad Council meets every third Thursday at 6:30 p.m to discuss the business of the church. Committee representatives are requested to attend and report on their activities, but all members of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to attend.

From the Office

Please pick up your giving envelopes for 2014 in the Narthex and help us save on postage. If you do not have envelopes, and would like a box, please contact **Donna**, our secretary, 847-882-6116.

Please pick up your financial statement and check for Christmas cards in the Narthex.



Youth News

by Marianne Rogenski

Youth Group Schedule

- Feb 2 Both worship services**
 Souper Bowl of Caring
11:00am-1:30 p.m.
 Super Bowl Spaghetti Dinner
 NO Youth Group
- Feb 9 6:30-8:30pm**
 Youth Group at ORUMC
- Feb 16 6:30-8:30pm**
 Youth Group at ORUMC
- Feb 21-22**
 30 Hour Famine at ORUMC
- Feb 23 Both services**
 Famine Sunday
 NO YOUTH GROUP

30 Hour Famine

—an amazing experience:

The Jr. and Sr. High will again be participating in World Vision’s 30 Hour Famine. This is a weekend event in which the youth go on a 30 hour juice fast while learning about the hungry in the world, doing Bible study together, and having fun at the church. There is also a service project that they do. If you are interested in participating please see Marianne for a consent form. The participants ask for sponsorships and all money benefits World Vision.

Appalachia Service Project

Our next meeting is March 19, 2014, 7-8:15pm. Please come if you plan on going on the trip. The trip is June 14-21. There are still spots available on the team—especially for youth! If you know someone who would like to go please have them contact Marianne. If you are going on the trip and have not yet paid, please get that in to Marianne or make arrangements with her soon.

Souper Bowl of Caring

The Souper Bowl of Caring on February 2 is a nationwide event that ORUMC has participated in for several years. On that Sunday all are asked to bring cans of soup with a \$1 bill wrapped around each can.

The food will benefit the ORUMC food pantry and the money will benefit the ORUMC pastor’s discretionary fund. Thank you for helping to support these causes which ultimately benefit our local community.



Karen Greenwalt	2/3
Ellen Swartz	2/11
Michael Hernandez	2/20
Caitlin Wilkes	2/21
Justin Edwards	2/26
Kelsey Lukowicz	2/29



Education News

by Marianne Rogenski

Grow, Proclaim, Serve...One Room Sunday School

Our one room Sunday School has been wonderful. Thank you to the teachers, assistants, and youth helpers for continuing to serve the children of ORUMC!

Parents—On February 2 the Children's Choirs are singing so all children will begin in the sanctuary and go to Wesley Hall with the teachers after they sing.

30 Hour Famine—

On February 21-22 the youth (7th-12th graders) will be participating in World Vision's 30 Hour Famine. They will go on a juice and water fast for 30 hours while learning about hunger and poverty in the world. They will also be playing games and having lots of fun with one another. The Sunday school will be helping with a visual for that event on February 9 and 16—this is an exciting way for those children to be involved in this amazing event. Also, on February 23 we will have Famine Sunday—the youth will be talking about the famine and the weekend and what they learned. The Sunday School children are invited to go to that service. There will be no Sunday School on February 23.

Do you have an idea for family outings or events?

The education committee would love to hear any ideas or suggestions you may have! Please talk to Marianne.

Kickoff 2014!

On January 4 several Sunday School kids came to this event and we had a BLAST! Thank you to all who made it possible. A special thanks to **Melissa Bland** for all of her leadership and cooking and to **Jane Jesudoss**, the education committee chair, for coming to help that night.





ORUMC 50th Anniversary

Did You Know

by Judy Wilson

Not long after the new church building was finished, we decided that we had enough Jr High students to begin a youth group. Our youth were scattered among the many area schools during the week and we wanted them to become friends. Volunteer parents spoke up and the group was started as mainly a social group with fun, food and prayer.

The sanctuary was, at that time, a sanctuary AND a multi-purpose room. The floor was cement with no carpet or tile on it and we sat for our worship services on metal folding chairs. Many times those chairs were taken down for activities at the church and the Youth Group loved that cement floor.

We were able to roller skate, play broom hockey (with cloth balls of course) and just have lots of space for all our activities. We sure didn't have to worry about damaging that floor. Good times were had by all—and many of those youth families still have ties to *Our Redeemer's*.

When enough money was raised for flooring, the Youth Group was sad to see “our space” go.

Twenty First Annual Meals for Millions Lenten Program

Meals for Millions is a mission project for the United Methodist Men, sponsored by the Society of St. Andrew. UMM has provided literally millions of meals of potatoes and other food to the hungry through fund raising activities.

The funds are used to salvage and transport food (especially potatoes), that is perfectly good to eat but which are not suitable for use by processing plants due to size or shape.

All members and friends of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to join the Society of St Andrew in a program of spiritual reflection and action to fight hunger during Lent. During last year's Lenten season, *Our Redeemer's* raised \$600.00. Since 1994 *Our Redeemer's* has raised over \$27,000.

This year's Lenten devotion entitled “Create in Me a Clean Heart” can help you grow spiritually and provide an opportunity to feed the hungry. Money saved from “giving up something” during Lent will go to the Society of St. Andrew to provide food for the hungry.

The Lenten devotion program will begin Ash Wednesday, March 5 and will conclude with a Good Friday Fast on April 18.

Please sign up in the Narthex beginning Sunday, February 16.

Prayer Shawl Committee

by Mary Knoppel

The Prayer Shawl committee has been an ongoing ministry for ORUMC since 2006. We are a small but dedicated group and get so much satisfaction from doing this very important ministry.

This year we have presented 51 shawls. Of this total 23 have been given to individuals, 5 were given to families that were helped at ASP, 6 were given to families by the hurricane Sandy mission team, and 17 were taken to Alexian Brothers Medical Center to be used by the chaplains in the emergency department.

We also used 2 baptismal blankets this year. Each shawl costs between \$10 & \$20 to make, depending on the sale price of yarn. We have been fortunate to have some funding from the pastor's discretionary fund and UMW. We spent close to \$500 on yarn last year. If anyone would like to make a donation to help us in the purchase of yarn it, would be greatly appreciated. The shawls are available for anyone to present, not just committee members. If you have a need for a shawl for a friend or family member, just give me a call.

I would like to share a couple of thank you notes that we received:

I was recently in the ER dept. at Alexian Brothers and was given a prayer blanket made by your hands. It was so appreciated and will treasure it always.

To all the wonderful members of the prayer shawl ministry of United Methodist Church. I have never felt so honored and so special as I did the day I was given this beautiful prayer shawl. I am still fighting my battle with bone infection, fractures, etc. and am currently residing at the Oakton Pavilion. Here they are able to give me the IV antibiotics, the wound dressings and take care of my needs because I am still not able to walk, but given time I have faith it will all work out for the best. I trust in God's infinite wisdom and love to see me though. Thank You to everyone in the ministry that made me feel so blessed. I just hug my shawl around me and feel your prayers, concern and positive energy. With sincere gratitude. May God bless you all in Jesus name.



Super Bowl Spaghetti Dinner February 2, 11:00 am-1:30 pm

All members and friends are invited to come and enjoy our world-famous meatballs and spaghetti February 2 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m..

From the Staff Parish Relations Committee

The following was presented to the congregation January 19 by Jon Montgomery, co-chair along with Jeff Greenwalt, of the Staff Parish Relations Committee.

As was shared last month, Pastor Sunny will be looking to relocate to California, with a transition to a new pastor being final by July 2014. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Oscar Carrasco, attended our Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting this past week to share with us how this process takes place.

In our denomination, the bishop appoints the new pastor, but does so after much prayer and discussion with our District Superintendent and the conference cabinet.

We were happy to hear that they are well aware of our church's history, present status and vision for the future. In fact, they collect such materials annually and use this information to make the best appointment possible.

It is our committee's responsibility to assist the outgoing and incoming pastor and our church with this process of transition.

Since this process started two months ago, we were told by Rev Carrasco that the process of identifying the new pastor is already under way and could happen at any time in the near future.

When that occurs, SPRC would represent the church in meeting the new pastor. We'd like to invite all who represent the church

to be a small part of this process. So we welcome you to share with SPRC any questions you might like us to include, when the time comes for SPRC to meet a new pastor.

You can email questions to Jon Montgomery, jonmontgomery1@gmail.com, or Jeff Greenwalt, jgreenwalt@thermohvac.com. We will do our best to include as many questions as we can when the time comes.

Staff-Parish's goal today was mainly to inform you of the process, SPRC's role and how we can all prayerfully prepare.

Adult Summer Mission Trip

Adult Mission Sunday will be held on **March 9** at both services. This is a great time to come and hear/see just what goes on on those mission trips! We are excited to share our experience with the congregation and hopefully it will entice a few of you to join us this summer. If you are interested, or know someone that has been considering going on this trip...please invite them to come to one of our services that day. I will have forms to pass out at that time and there will be many people there to answer your questions.

Here is important information you will need if you are thinking of going with us...

Dates are: July 19-26

Destination: Seaside Heights, NJ ~ Hurricane Sandy Relief on the Jersey shore

We have 30 spots reserved

The cost will be \$150 for 18-24 year olds and \$200 for 25 year olds and older. This pays for pretty much everything for the week. It includes meals on the road, mission t-shirt, lodging and food for the week, and part or all of a 'field trip' during our leisure time (TBD).

I will ask for your verbal and financial commitment NO LATER than SUNDAY JUNE 1. On that day we will have an organizational meeting after church to talk about logistics, collect full/final payment, get t-shirt sizes, collect forms, decide about 'field trip' location, find out who is driving, etc.

If you can not travel with us, but would like to help...

Your financial donation pays for the gas and tolls for our vehicles and your prayers keep us safe. Thanks!

We would also like to help out the tornado victims in Washington, IL as we learn what they need. Information for those opportunities will be announced in church as we hear about them. We will be looking for small groups of volunteers to go for as long as they can (long weekend, overnight, whatever works for you) to help in their rebuilding process.

Hope to see you all on March 9! You can contact me through church e-mail or call: 847-843-0283

Sincerely,
Mary Balk



New Jersey Trip 2013



Community Crisis Center

The Community Crisis Center is in need of cold weather and personal items:

- New sweat suits and /or pajamas for women and children
- New slippers for women and children
- Ice-melt for sidewalks and parking lot
- Shampoo, hair brushes, combs
- Blistek, Chap-stick

The Crisis Center food pantry is always in need of;

- Canned fruit
- Canned meat meals (beef stew, chili, ravioli, etc)
- Cereal
- Peanut butter, jelly
- Mac & cheese
- Pork & beans
- Powdered milk,
- Saltine crackers
- Soups

Please place your items in the CCC bin located in the closet, left of the desk in the Narthex.

Thank you so much for your generosity!

Personal Notes



Dear Our Redeemers UMC Members:

On behalf of Hanover Township Welfare Services, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of groceries. Your contribution makes it possible for us to keep the shelves of our Food Pantry stocked in these hard economic times.

Our Food Pantry has expanded to help more than 800 families every month. Keeping our shelves full is always a struggle, and is only possible because of thoughtful contributions from people like you.

This year, we hope to keep the Food Pantry well stocked, and help as many struggling families as we can. As you know, the cost of feeding a family does not go away. We hope for your continued support in the future.

Once again, thank you again for your generous donation.

Sincerely,
Brian P. McGuire
Supervisor



PUZZLE

God's Love

We can't measure God's love for us. It starts before we're born and continues for eternity.

Directions: Down the left-hand column, spell out the name of each number. Then write the circled letters on the blank lines in the right-hand column. Read the words on the right, from top to bottom, to see what Psalm 33:22 (NIV) says about God's love.

20	_____○	"M a _____
4	○ ○ ○ ○	y _____
99	○ ○ _____ - ○ ○ _____	u _ f a _ l _ _ _ g
7	_____ ○ ○ _____	l o _____
1	_____ ○ _____	b _____
28	_____ ○ _____ - _____ ○ _____ ○	_____ h
60	○ _____	u _____,
40	_____ ○ ○ _____	L _ _ _ d,
70	_____ ○ ○ ○ ○ _____	_____
6	○ _____	a _____
12	_____ ○ _____ ○	_____
64	_____ - _____ ○ _____	p _ _ t
14	_____ ○ ○ ○ ○ _____	_____
81	_____ ○ _____ - _____ ○ _____	_____ p _____
9	_____ ○ ○ _____	_____
24	_____ ○ _____ - _____ ○ ○ _____	_____ ."

PSALM 33:22, NIV

Twenty "May
 Four your
 Ninety-nine unfailing
 Seven love
 One be
 Twenty-eight with

Sixty us,
 Forty Lord,
 Seventy even
 Six as
 Twelve we
 Sixty-four put

Fourteen our
 Eighty-one hope
 Nine in
 Twenty-four you"

Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church

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