



The Redeemer Review

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 1

January, 2016



Wesley Covenant Service

At the start of the first Sunday of the New Year, the people called Methodists are invited to join in a covenant service. It is a time to renew our promises with the membership commitments of *Prayer, Presence, Service, Gifts and Witness*. These are expressions of what we offer in response to what God is doing.

“What God offers is a loving relationship. The Covenant is not a contract in which God and human beings agree to provide particular goods and services for each other! It is not something that we have to do to create a relationship with God. God has freely and graciously already made it possible.” (Wesley Center)

The idea of covenant was basic to John Wesley’s understanding of discipleship and was a catalyst in the development of small groups (class meetings) and the growth of the Methodist movement. It was a movement first



before it evolved as an established church. It is all about staying in a relationship with God in the umbrella of grace.

Wesleyan Theological practices identified means of grace as expressions of *Piety* (fasting, prayer, reading the scripture, worship, healthy living, sharing the faith) and *Mercy* (visiting the sick, doing mission, acting justly, loving your neighbor, welcoming the stranger). Although it was conceived in the 1700’s, it resonates with our worldview as we begin the year 2016. God is doing a new thing in our own time.

The timing is always right. *January 3rd* is *Epiphany Sunday* or the Manifestation of Christ in the world through the visitation of the Three Wise Men in Bethlehem to honor Jesus Christ and the Baptism of Jesus by John in the Jordan River. In our faith and practice, the story is just unfolding. There is no second act.

(cont on pg 2)



(cont from pg 1)

There is only one continuous narrative.

I recall a time when I visited the Wesley Parsonage adjacent to the Wesley Church that he served. Symbols of the Word and Sacrament are in full view of the worshipping community there. In the basement, there was a church organ that his brother Charles Wesley used in many worship services including the many famous hymns that he composed. In the parlor of the parsonage, a prayer “closet” and across the street was the non-conformist cemetery (a term for any Protestant in England who did not conform to the ways and means of the Church of England). Did he write these prayers mindful of the many followers of Methodism buried nearby? His mother, Susana Wesley, who led the church, was also buried there as well as poets and other prominent writers. Surely, we are better off in the countless way the faithful witnesses have offered Christ.

The number one question of Wesley was, “Is it well with your soul?” Take time to reflect. Then Pray with Psalm 103 - “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name.” What a very good reference point to start off the New Year.

We are touched by grace, affirmed by His love and sent forth by God’s blessing. A beautiful ministry and partnership are renewed for the work of God ahead of us.

“We walk by faith, not by sight.” (2 Corinthians 5:7)

See you in the covenant place,

Rev. Romir R. Esguerra

Redeemer Review

Published Monthly by

Our Redeemer's

United Methodist Church

1600 W Schaumburg Road
Schaumburg IL 60194-3900

(847) 882-6116

email: Call for email address

Website: www.orumc.org

Worship Services:

9:00 and 10:30 am

Pastor:

Rev. Romir R. Esguerra

Church Secretary:

Donna Echtner

Director of Youth Ministries:

Marianne Rogenski

Editor:

Jerry Mc Daniel



United Methodist Women

by Mary Zalay

The United Methodist Women had a great 2015, thanks to the support of its members and the church community. In 2015 we had (2) Fundraisers that raised money for missions that we support locally, as well as around the world. The Rummage Sale event totaled \$3,290.71 and the Heavenly Treats sale totaled \$1,056.80. As a result we were able to fund numerous charitable groups with a total of \$5,200.00.

Here is a list of the groups that these funds support: Elgin District UMW Pledge (this goes to many worldwide United Methodist agencies), Heifer Project, Christian Corner Children's Center, Elgin Community Crisis Center, Habitat for Humanity, 30-hour Famine, Imagine No Malaria, Pastor's Discretionary Fund, Food Pantry, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Disaster Relief, as well as miscellaneous local UMW projects.

It was a fun year and we look forward to a great 2016. We will give you a preview of our 2016 event schedule in the February newsletter. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 1 @ 6:30 p.m.



UMW Heavenly Treats Sale



by Marianne Rogenski

Education News:

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Advent Festival and thanks to all of the families who came out—it was a wonderful night!

January 9—Movie Night is back from 5-8pm!

Come and see *Inside Out* and also enjoy dinner and games with friends! You can drop your child off or feel free to stay with us as we have a great night. Wear your PJs if you want and bring your blankets and pillows so you can get comfy!

Youth News:

January

- 3 NO YOUTH GROUP
- 10 Youth Group at ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 17 **Ski Trip at Wilmot**
- 24 Youth Group at ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 31 Youth Group at ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm

February

- 7 Youth Group at ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 14 Youth Group at ORUMC 6:30-8:30pm
- 21 **The Gathering** 6:30-8:30pm
Prince of Peace Lutheran
- 26-27 30 Hour Famine**
3pm Fri to 10pm Sat.
- 28 Famine Sunday 9 & 10:30am
NO YOUTH GROUP

Ski Trip

January 18 is our youth ski trip. We go to Wilmot Mountain for this and get great group rates—\$45 for ski rental and lift ticket, \$55 for snowboard rental and lift ticket, \$10 for helmet rental (highly recommended). Lessons included with all rentals.

We leave ORUMC at 8am and return around 6pm. Please let Marianne know by January 4 if you are going. Feel free to invite your friends! We will also need adults to go—you can ski or just enjoy the day in the lodge!

The Gathering

February 21 we go to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church to have youth group with other churches. This is a great night and our 3rd of the year. Please drop off and pick up at Prince of Peace.

30 Hour Famine

February 26-27 is our 30 Hour Famine. This is an event that we have done for several years here at ORUMC. Our youth go on a juice fast for 30 hours. They ask friends and family to sponsor them while they do this and all money goes to World Vision.

Students begin the fast on their own at 3pm on Friday, come to church at 6pm, have all kinds of fun and learn about hunger in the world and also do some Bible study, participate in service projects, and finally break the fast with a potluck on Saturday at 9pm.

This is always an incredibly meaningful

event for all of those involved. Please talk to Marianne soon if you are interested. You are encouraged to bring friends. Modified fasts can be arranged if a 30 hour juice fast is not possible.

We also need adult help with this! We will need adults there throughout the weekend, we will need drivers to outings, and we will need prayer partners. Please be on the lookout for the sign up sheet in the narthex this month.

We will also need donations of juice and water.

ASP (Appalachia Service Project) News:

If you are going on this trip—June 11-18—please attend the meeting on January 14, 7-8pm, at church.

If you have not yet let Marianne know that you are going on the trip, please do so! Also, if you have friends that you are inviting, that is great—but let Marianne know that also!



- 12/17 Olivia Adamitis
- 12/17 Owen Adamitis
- 12/21 Abby Hill
- 12/27 Dominic Gomes
- 1/31 Tyler Calderwood



Community Crisis Center

by Sally Donaldson

Now that winter is officially here, **Medicine Chest** items are greatly needed at the CCC. All items must be new, sealed and with current dates: non-alcohol cough syrup and non-asprin pain reliever (for adults and children), antacids. RID shampoo, anti-diarrhea medication, Orajel, Pedialyte, bandaids, antibiotic ointment, gauze, adhesive tape, disposable thermometers, peroxide, rubbing alcohol, and facial tissues

Toiletries: toothpaste and tooth brushes, bar soap, shampoo, conditioner

Winter Needs: coats(gently used or new) for women, men and children, hats, gloves, mittens, ice melt

Baby Needs: disposable diapers (larger sizes and pull ups), diaper wipes

Food/Snacks: Non-perishable canned and boxed goods, cereal, jelly, peanut butter

Shelter Needs: aluminum foil, plastic wrap, storage bags, ground coffee (regular and decaf), paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, kleenex, styrofoam cups, plastic ware, paper plates

Please leave all items for the Crisis Center in the CCC bins located in the closet left of the Information Desk, located in the Narthex.

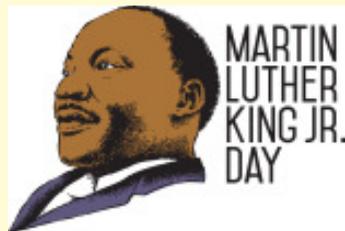
Thank you for your thoughtful and caring donations!



**Advent Festival - Kids Games and Crafts
Some Crafts Edible**



Decorating Sanctuary



**You're invited to Rev. Dr.
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
FAITH IN ACTION
ASSEMBLY**

Monday, January 18, 2016

by Jill Wood-Naatz

In the spirit of Dr. King, please join members of Our Redeemer's Faith in Action Team for a time of worship and action at this year's King Day assembly. Candidates for State's Attorney have been invited to share their stance on restorative justice. Elected officials will be asked to join us in our quest for economic justice, ending police brutality, creating opportunities for people with records, funding education, and preventing violence.

This year's assembly will be held at **First Baptist Congregational Church, 1613 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago from 9:30 am – 12:00 noon.** We will meet at church and car pool together to the assembly. You can get more information and sign up for this event in the narthex.

Your Faith in Action Team members are **Annette Brown, Jack Denny, Ellen Kobylewski, and Jill Wood-Naatz.** Supportive team members are **Jon Montgomery and Pastor Romir.**



Breakfast Meeting

Jan 9, 8:00 a.m.

Spaghetti Dinner Preparation

Feb 6, 8:00 a.m.

Spaghetti Dinner

Feb 7, 11:00 a.m.

All men of the church are invited to attend our regular breakfast meeting Jan 9 at 8:00 a.m.

Feb 6 at 8:00 a.m. we will be cooking world famous meatballs for our Super Bowl Sunday Spaghetti Dinner. Come Feb 7 starting at 11:00 a.m.

All members and friends are invited!

Are You Looking For A Way To Serve Our Redeemer's In 2016?

The Administrative Council is in need of a recording secretary to take minutes for its monthly meetings. Meetings are generally held on the third Thursday of the month from 7 to 9 PM. The role also allows the secretary to join in discussions and be a part of the council's decisions.

If you feel this is a gift, a talent that God has given you, please give prayerful consideration to serving in this important position.

Please contact the church office to express your interest.



Personal Notes



Our deepest sympathy to **Carl Jeziorski** and his family on the death of his brother, **Conrad Jeziorski**.

The congregation also extends deepest sympathy to **Jim Naatz** and his family on the death of Jim's sister, **Judith Ostling**.

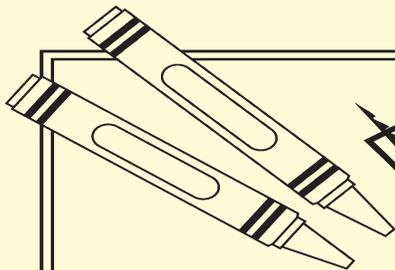


Thank you to the ***Our Redeemer's*** family for the prayers, calls, cards and visits during my recent illness.

I have no diagnosis yet but I am improving and having a lot of PT.

Cheers,

Carlene Thompson



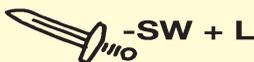
PUZZLE

LET THERE BE LIGHT

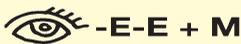
In a world of darkness, God guides us so we can walk in his ways.

Directions: Write the name of each picture, subtracting and adding letters as indicated. Then fill in the blanks to complete 2 Samuel 22:29, NIV.

“ Y O U , _____ , A R E



_____ ; T H E



_____ M Y



_____ D +  +  - T + S

I N T O _____ .”



2 SAMUEL 22:29, NIV

Answer: "You, LORD, are my lamp; the LORD turns my darkness into light." 2 Samuel 22:29, NIV

Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church

1600 W. Schaumburg Road
Schaumburg, IL 60194-3900

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 6
Schaumburg, IL 60194

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

JANUARY



Visit our web site: www.orumc.org