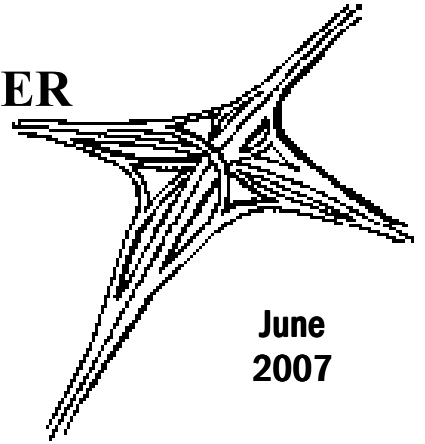




CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

A Christian Liberation Community
in the Episcopal Tradition

CROSSROADS



June
2007

36 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960 (973) 539-0703
www.redeemermorristown.org

NEVER SAY GOODBYE

By Sister Shane

I won't say goodbye. It's not time for goodbye yet. We have the summer, with earlier services, sweat, and lemonade. In the fall, I will say goodbye, or au revoir, because I will see you again.

First, let me explain why I must go. When I became one of the pastoral assistants, I had no plans beyond living my quiet life in the convent. People said I should be a priest, and I thought "no way!" Too much work, too much hassle. But the idea grew on me. Working at Redeemer showed me that I could do more than I thought, and that I wanted to – that I am called to. We formed a discernment group, and that group guided me through the process of thinking and praying, helping me to find the words for what I was feeling. I decided to start attending seminary, to see if I was up to the pace and the demands on my time. And the sense grew that I should follow that path.

Now comes the hard part. Part of the process toward ordination involves doing ministry in a parish other than the one you belong to. This makes sense, because the Diocese needs to know that candidates aren't just in love with their parish, but have a real call and capacity to care for a variety of people and communities. Priests are not meant to be priests for one church only, but for the whole Episcopal Church. So, in order to serve the wider church, I must leave you all.

I know that this is right, and that the requirement has wisdom in it, because I know how hard it is to leave. Redeemer is an amazing church, with gifts and love and joy spilling out into the world. You have loved me more than I can possibly love you back. You have been the real pastoral assistants, caring for me and for Phillip and this community. You have let me learn from you about caring, about courage, about faith.

Table of Contents

- 1 Never Say Goodbye
- 3 Search for Assistant Priest
- 3 Redeemer Kids Support Eric Johnson House
- 4 Did You Know
- 6 Calendar of Events
- 7 Men's Group Dinner
- 8 History Of Redeemer
- 11 Farewell



CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Mission Statement: *We experience God as Justice among all people and as wholeness within ourselves. Our mission is to seek justice and wholeness for this earth and all its inhabitants.*

Rector

The Rev. Phillip Dana Wilson

Pastoral Assistant

Sr. Shane Margaret, CSJB

Director of Sunday School

Robin Dexter-Meyer

Music Director/Organist

Wayne Burcham-Gulotta

Parish Administrator

Laurie Burkhardt

Office Assistant

George Jordan

Wardens

Gene Williams

Bill Primus

Sexton

Cesar Torres

Crossroads Editor

Edie Ewing

Crossroads Layout Editors

Donna & Jennifer Corrieri

Church of the Redeemer

36 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960

(973) 539-0703

Email: redeemer1@mindspring.com

Web: www.redeemermorristown.org

Sunday Worship

8:00 AM—Holy Eucharist Rite II

10:30 AM—Inclusive Language Rite

Summer Hours 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM

NEVER SAY GOODBYE *(Continued from page 1)*

You, not the “leaders,” not the vestry, are the Church of the Redeemer.

I know that some of you think something is broken here, because many people in leadership have left over the past few years. Let me say that my leaving is a sign of your success and health, not a sign of weakness. You gave me the courage to try my wings. You will find the courage to move into the future that awaits you. I love you all, and I know you will be fine.

As of this moment, I don't know where I'm going next year. I will be in the area, and I will find ways to sneak out and see you all. I will still be a member of the Church of the Redeemer, and I expect to get all the news. And I want my hugs!

THE SEARCH FOR AN ASSISTANT PRIEST

This is a quick update to let everyone know what is happening. Wayne Walton, Eileen Gerety and Lynda Wallace from Vestry along with Scott Wild, Dan LaPenta, Peter Arney, Jodie Caldwell, Phillip and I are all hard at work. We have been charged by the Vestry to create the job description, advertise the position, assess the applicants and make the recommendation as to whom to hire. The job description can be seen on our website and is posted on the Diocesan and National sites as well as distributed to Divinity Schools. We have received several applications so far and will soon begin the interviewing process with select candidates. We are committed to finding the right person for the job and thank you for your confidence, support and prayers as we take on this all-important assignment for the family.

In Peace,
Colleen Hintz
Search Committee Chair

REDEEMER KIDS SUPPORT ERIC JOHNSON HOUSE

by Rachel G.

Seven children from Redeemer were among the many people who walked in the Eric Johnson House AIDS walk on May 6, 2007. After church, we stampered into Phillip's office, hungry for pizza. While we ate, Phillip showed us a picture of Eric Johnson. A lot of the kids were very surprised to see that he died at such a young age.



After our pizza lunch, we went outside to register. All of the kids got a t-shirt and a lunchbox that held a water bottle and a chap stick. These helped everyone to know that we had raised money for the Eric Johnson House. Altogether, we raised over \$1100!

(continued on page 8)

Jim M. recently supervised the renovation of the Heath Village stage. To help celebrate the grand opening, a troop of twelve Redeemerites, under the direction of Jon D. and Wayne B., performed many of the numbers from our Cabaret. It was a big hit, and played to a packed house.

On Sunday, April 22 several members of the Altar Guild gathered at the home of Randy and Jerry (Altar Guild Ministry Heads) for a delicious meal and some socializing. Attendees also played a game called "Help Betty Find The Stain." Maggie J. was the winner of that game. Members also received a great photo magnet as a thank you for all their efforts. Fun was had by all!

Kerri M. received tenure in Mendham School District. She describes it as a miracle, as God moving mountains. She has moved to Flanders where she has found a small cottage for the boys and her.

Scott W. held his first performance of the new Youth Choir at the Celebrate Children's Service on May 20, 2007. This had been a dream of Scott's for a long time which he made come true. The Choir will appear again in the fall.

At the end of the Gay Pride Service on June 3rd, Phillip will have done 17 Civil Unions in Redeemer. They have been in services with 300 people, in a home with 15 and in the chapel with 5. Each one is a holy event in which Redeemer and Phillip feel honored to be a part.



Did you know that...



George J. received from the children in the Good Shepherd Home a piece of fur from the rabbit they named after him, Uncle George. They wanted to prove that Uncle George was still alive.



Carol K. is stepping down from leadership in the Hospitality Network. She, more than anyone, saved this ministry from dying a number of years. Hospitality Network provides temporary housing for families rendered homeless.

Lynda W., vestry person, and one of the original travelers to Cameroon from Redeemer last winter, is returning to the Good Shepherd Home to help in the planning for a new home for up to 100 children and in the filming of a fundraising documentary.

Maura B. is up to her elbows in work as part of the Habitat for Humanity Steering Committee. She bought 500 round rocks to be used in the dedication service on May 20th. Those at the service took the rocks and spelled out the words, "CONSTRUCT TOGETHER." Maura, thank you for your leadership.

Richard C. is the head usher and is looking for, more ushers to spread the duties of the ministry out over many people. It is a fun ministry and you would be in church anyway. Partners can do this together. Richard will also do training.

Quique M., son of Joan C. is graduating from high school this June and will be attending Rice University in Atlanta. Joan will be the bishop's chaplain when he comes to visit on



Did you know that...

on June 10th.

Victoria F. took over the leadership of the Work Day and had her first event in May. Much was done: windows washed, pews oiled and the basement cleaned out.



Edie and Bob E.'s daughter, Emily, graduated from Smith College in May. She majored in theater and is working backstage in the Maine State Musical Theater for the summer in charge of costumes.

Sr. Shane Margaret will begin Clinical Training in a hospital which is a necessary program for ordination. In this program she will be under supervision in hospital chaplaincy work. Sr. Shane will be with us at Redeemer throughout the summer. Then she must leave to do Supervised Field Ministry training in another parish. We will celebrate Sr. Shane on Sun Sept. 9th.

Art T. recently had knee surgery at Memorial Hospital and now is at home recovering well. He has to get those knees back in shape because he and Jean have more places around the world that they want to visit.

Matthew and Rachel G. and their parents helped out at the Far Hills Country Day School chili dinner recently, which was a

benefit for the Community Soup Kitchen. Debbie served chili and Matt worked the dishwashing machine. The event raised

\$4850 for CSK, which covered 10% of their current budget deficit. The school has held monthly cooking sessions for CSK and members of the school community will be working there on May 29th.

Madeleine L., a French major at Drew, recently returned from her junior year abroad, having spent the fall in London and the spring in Paris. Her sister Emilia is finishing up her freshman year at Kalamazoo College in Michigan. Both girls will work as counselors at Morristown-Beard day camp this summer.

Did you know that if you don't let the office know about a change of phone, e-mail or address, they will not be able to communicate with you.

Crossroads Takes the Summer Off



The next issue of Crossroads will be in September. But please don't forget to submit all your 'Did You Know 's' to the office or to Edie, the Crossroads editor, so we can share all the fun things we did over the summer. Any articles you feel inspired to write during the lazy, hazy days of summer can also be sent to Edie or the office. The next Crossroads deadline will be August 15th.





**CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
CALENDAR OF EVENTS—JUNE**



Sunday, June 3: Gay & Lesbian Pride Sunday and Civil Unions; 3:00 pm Confirmation at St. Peter's Livingston

Monday, June 4: 7:30 p.m. Men's Group in Parlor

Tuesday, June 5: 6:30 p.m. Zen Meditation in Upstairs Meeting Room

7:30 p.m. Ripple Group with Fairbairn Powers

Thursday, June 7: 7:30 p.m. Eric Johnson House Auction & Wine Tasting in Parish House

Sunday June 10: 10:30 a.m. Visit of Bishop Mark Beckwith to Redeemer
Last day of Sunday School

Monday, June 11: 7:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting in Parlor. Open to all.

Tuesday, June 12: 6:30 p.m. Zen Meditation in Upstairs Meeting Room

Thursday, June 14: 7:30 pm Healing Prayer Group in Phillip's office

Sunday June 17: SUMMER HOURS BEGIN AT REDEEMER: 8 AND 9:30 A.M.

Celebrating Men's Journeys at 9:30 am.

Sunday June 17 – Sunday June 24, 2007

Hospitality Network comes to Redeemer

Monday, June 18: Final Men's Group Dinner at a Restaurant

Tuesday, June 19: 6:30 p.m. Zen Meditation in Upstairs Meeting Room

Wednesday, June 20: 7:30 p.m. Worship Committee in Phillip's Office

Monday, June 25: Partners' Group. At George and Karen Ross' Home

Tuesday, June 26: 6:30 p.m. Zen Meditation in Upstairs Meeting Room

7:30 p.m. Ripple Group with Fairbairn Powers

Wednesday, June 27: 7:30 p.m. Women's Group in the Parlor



Don't forget to keep track of your summer happenings and news and save it for our next issue of Crossroads in September.

Have a terrific, safe and fun-filled summer!

MEN'S GROUP DINNER 2007

by Peter A.



On April 21, 2007 the auditorium of the Parish House was transformed, as it has been every year since the early 1990's, into an elegant dining room with linen table cloths, fine china, and silverware in preparation for an evening of fine dining, great fun and wonderful entertainment. The Annual Men's Group Dinner and Cabaret has become a real highlight of the Redeemer activities calendar. Each year, the members of the Men's Group organize, prepare and serve a 5 course gourmet meal for 150, including 120 guests and 30 men who work the event. Part of the tradition is to follow the meal with entertainment in the form of the Redeemer Cabaret.

A great deal of planning and preparation goes into this event. Both the dinner and the cabaret are carefully planned and, in the case of the cabaret, thoroughly rehearsed. First we decide on a theme and a menu. Then the search is on for recipes. From there, we generate shopping lists (with quantities to accommodate 150). The day before, several intrepid shoppers man their carts at Costco and generally purchase 4 carts full of groceries. We always have to make a side trip to Shop-Rite for additional items not available at Costco.

On Saturday morning, a set up crew arrives to set the 15 tables for guests as well as extra tables for the waiters and for serving. Meanwhile, starting at around 9:30, the crew of chefs arrives to begin the many jobs involved in preparing and cooking for 150. The chefs create courses of soup, salad, an intermezzo, and a main course with side vegetables. Our pastry chef, Phillip, prepares the dessert.

With the exception of one year when Bob K. took over, our head chef had always been Rob L., for whom cooking was a passion. Needless to say, we had some anxiety this year when we had to go without Rob. Our chefs and kitchen staff, however, led by Steve O. and Dan G. rose to the occasion and prepared a meal that would make Rob proud.

For me, the best part was that everyone, both guests and workers, seemed to really enjoy the evening and have fun. The guests raved about the food and appreciated the service. After dinner, the guests settled back and enjoyed the show which featured their Redeemer friends performing on stage, under the very capable direction of Jon D.

Although our primary goal for this event is always to entertain the Parish family, we also have proceeds which we contribute to the George Papps Organ Fund. This is a dedicated fund which supports the maintenance and restoration of our magnificent pipe organ. We have added an auction and raffle to the evening to boost the proceeds for the Organ Fund. Phillip and Wayne C. solicit donations of items for auction and help sell tickets for the raffle. We are happy to announce that our proceeds for this year total **\$4,698.**

We thank all of you for your on-going support for the Men's Dinner and Cabaret

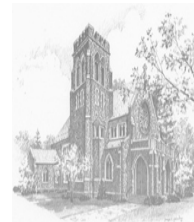
REDEEMER KIDS SUPPORT ERIC JOHNSON HOUSE *(continued from page 3)*

But, for me, walking was the best part. The trees were blooming with white and pink blossoms that blew in the wind. We walked by many beautiful old houses and many new ones, too. We took an extra stop at Phillip's house, and visited with Mary Jane , who used to be our Sunday School Director. Overall, the experience was just plain fun, while we raised money for a good cause. I think that everyone had just as good a time as I did, and, of course, I plan to walk again next year.

FAREWELL *(continued from page 10)*

In his book, “Faith-Forming Junior High Ministry: Beyond Pizza 101,” Drew Dyson, a United Methodist pastor, writes: “Junior highs need to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ, but more importantly, they need to experience unconditional love, encounter God through people and experiences, and engage their faith through action.”

I wish you the best in this season of growth and change. I wish you the patience and gentleness necessary to relax and continue accepting, respecting and loving each other. I want to thank everyone, young and old, who welcomed and supported me with love in this ministry. It has been a privilege and you are a blessing.



A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Redeemer is a Christian Liberation Community in the Episcopal Tradition.

1852: A group leaves St. Peter’s in Morristown to found the Church of the Redeemer. First wardens: William Duer, past president of Columbia College, NYC and Alfred Vail, assistant to Samuel F.B. Morse in the invention of the telegraph.

1853: First Redeemer church (wooden structure) built in Morristown

1885: Wooden church moved to present location on the main street.

1917: Stone church seating 400 built on site of old church.

1919-1952: “Golden years” of Redeemer under Fr. Thomas Attridge. Redeemer is one of largest parishes in the Diocese of Newark.

1926: Large matching stone Parish House built with full gym becoming a community center in Morristown.

1940: 1st AA Meeting to be held in a church hall in NJ, at Redeemer

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER *(continued from previous page)*

1960's: Civil Rights groups meet at Redeemer

1970's: Anti-Vietnam War groups meet at Redeemer.

1974: The Rev. Nancy Wittig, of the “Philadelphia Eleven” first woman to celebrate the Eucharist at Redeemer.

1985: Redeemer defines itself at the “Crossroads of Life and Death”

1987: Phillip Dana Wilson becomes 15th rector of Redeemer

1988: First annual Martin Luther King Sunday as major parish liberation celebration.

1990: Redeemer creates Creation Season for Oct. & Nov. Copied in other churches and dioceses

1990: Vestry and rector commitment to use of inclusive language in all worship at the larger second service of the day. Prayer Book at 8:00.

1991: First blessing of Same-Sex Union at Redeemer

1993: Redeemer rectory on church ground becomes an AIDS Residence.

1993: First annual Celebrating Women’s Journeys Sunday (on Mother’s Day) as major parish liberation celebration.

1993: First annual Gay/Lesbian Pride Sunday as major parish liberation celebration.

1994: Gay & straight members of Redeemer march in NYC Gay Pride Parade.

1994: First annual Recovery Sunday as major parish liberation celebration.

1994: Grape juice along with wine offered at communion.

1995: Creation of AIDS Chapel and Redeemer AIDS Quilt in the Church.

1996: Redeemer designated by the Diocese of Newark as Church of the Year.

1998: Parish has its first budget surplus in memory without going into endowment to meet operation costs

(continued on page 10)

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER *(continued from page 9)*

- 1999:** Vestry resolution supports the use of identical names for same and opposite sex commitment ceremonies: sacramental marriage, wedding, holy matrimony, etc.
- 1999:** Total of 25 Same-Sex commitment/ wedding ceremonies performed.
- 2001:** Reconciliation Season created from Martin Luther King Day in January to Absalom Jones Sunday in February.
- 2001:** Redeemer named as one of 300 outstanding Protestant parishes in USA by Paul Wilkes-Lily Foundation Study.
- 2001:** Lily DeYoung ordained priest at Redeemer
- 2002:** 150th Anniversary of founding of Church of the Redeemer.
- 2003:** Redeemer included as a chapter in A House of Prayer for All People by Sheryl A. Kujawa-Holbrook for its program of racial dialogue and healing.
- 2004:** Three month rector's sabbatical. The Rev. Dennie Bennett, priest-in-charge.
- 2004:** Sr. Shane Margaret becomes Pastoral Assistant.
- 2005:** Jazz Concert sponsored by Redeemer raises \$20,000 to aid Katrina flood victims.
- 2006:** Outreach Dream Team starts Environmental, Habitat for Humanity and Cameroon ministries.
- 2006:** Redeemer becomes an official Peace Site.
- 2006:** The Rev. Fairbairn Powers becomes Priest Associate at Redeemer.
- 2006:** B. Preston Root 100 years old and celebrated at Men's Group Dinner.
- 2007:** Seven members of Redeemer visit Good Shepherd Home in Cameroon and parish gives \$80,000 to support Water for Life project there.
- 2007:** Redeemer performs Civil Union of Cindy Meneghin and Maureen Kilian and many others.
- 2007:** Vestry begins to plan for transition as Phillip Wilson announces his retirement in a little over 2 years.

FAREWELL

By Robin D.

Sunday, June 10, is the last day of Sunday School. I'll leave my post as Youth Education Director at Redeemer at the end of June.

When I was a teenager, a friend and I took a yoga class at an adult school. My dad drove us there once a week; he was taking a different class. It was fun and easy for us to learn and hold the yoga poses. I admired the ease with which my friend stood on her head. It took me awhile to master that. Relaxation and meditation were easy, too.

Now I take a yoga class once a week at a studio near my house. I drive myself; so far, my husband has not taken up my invitation to join me. The poses are still fun but it takes patience for me to get a good, gentle stretch and more effort to hold it. I have more distractions, which makes clearing my mind for meditation more of an effort as well.

We begin our class by lying down and relaxing on our mats. Our teacher tells us to let go of the outside world and enter our inner world, becoming aware of our body and our mind. In whatever condition we find ourselves, even if we have tension or aches and pains, our teacher says to accept it all with unconditional love and respect.

In thoughtful Christian education circles over the years, the emphasis has shifted away from programming, toward people in relationship. A holistic Christian ministry bringing children, teenagers, families, and the whole congregation together is encouraged. Churches are finding ways to adapt worship to include families and kids of all ages. Intergenerational events bring everyone together to pray, to play, to learn and serve.

All this depends on relationships, and these relationships depend on love. The Hebrew word “chesed,” used to describe God's loving care, may be translated in English as “loving kindness.” It conveys loyalty, trust, truthfulness to one's own nature, love without sentimentality, and concern. (Education for Ministry, Year One, Hebrew Scriptures)

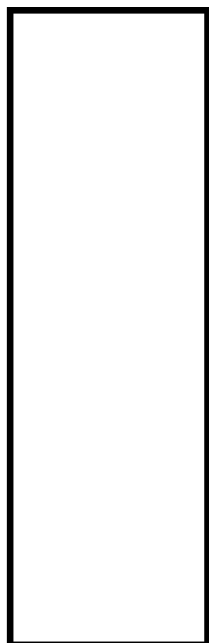
In “An Outline of the Faith” in the Book of Common Prayer, on page 849, we read: “What is the nature of God revealed in Jesus? God is love.”

(Continued on page 8)



Church of the Redeemer
36 South Street
Morristown, NJ 07960

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
MORRISTOWN, NJ
PERMIT NO 28



Things to Remember ...

- ✓ Sunday, June 10—Bishop Mark Beckwith visits
- ✓ Sunday, June 17—Summer Hours Begin—9:30 AM
- ✓ Monday, June 18—Final Men’s Group Meeting of the
year

