



Church of Our Redeemer
6 Meriam Street
Lexington, MA 02420
781-862-6408
www.our-redeemer.net

October 2011

Redeeming Features

Volume 27

Issue 10

Staff

Priest in Charge: The Rev. Kate Ekrem
Asst. Priest: The Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons
Music Director: Dr. Bernadette Colley
Administrator/RF Editor: Lisa Thistle
Sexton: Roy McHoul

2011 Vestry

Sr. Warden: Connie Parrish
Jr. Warden: George Murnaghan
Treasurer: Frank Kern
Clerk: Paula Antonevich

Vestry Members

Bob Bettacchi Anna Kern
Emily Charlton Sandy Keshishian
Susan Emanuel Peter Lund
Ian Fox James Surprenant

Inside this issue:

Greetings from Kate	1
Season of Creation	3
PIC Discernment Process	4
Primer on Pledging	6
Mission News	8
Rummage Sale	11
Nursery	11
Adult Christian Formation	12
Children & Youth Formation	13
Baptism	13
Celtic Sunday	14
Eucharistic Visitors Training	14
Music News	14
October Calendar	16



Greetings from Rev. Kate Ekrem

Dear friends,

Did you know the official name of Redeemer is “The Episcopal Church of Our Redeemer”? We are Episcopalians, and “Episcopal” is one of the five core values of our strategic plan. But what does it mean to us to be Episcopalian? In some ways that seems like a no-brainer, but it does mean that we “do church” in a certain way, and with certain assumptions, whether stated or unstated. To say we are Episcopalian means that some things are more important to us than they might be to other Christians.

It means we’re part of something bigger than our Redeemer Community. We’re part of The Episcopal Church, which is part of the world-wide Anglican Communion, the family of churches that all trace their heritage to the Church of England. Saying we’re Episcopalian means this heritage, this tradition, is important to us.

Being part of something bigger also means we’re not just a lone (congregationally-based) church. We join with our deanery and with our whole diocese for mission activities, youth ministries, the Barbara Harris Camp, and many other things. We have a larger community to support us in times of crisis and celebration.

It means worship is very important. For most of us, being Episcopalian is probably about worship. We come to an Episcopal church because we know the worship will be rooted in the *Book of Common Prayer*, relevant to our lives as well as reminding us of God’s



Greetings from Kate (continued)

transcendence. Others might find it ritualistic; however, ritual reminds us that worship is not about us but about something bigger than us, and keeps us (rooted in the midst of our ever-changing world.) We worship not just with words but with sounds, smells, taste and touch, and the sacramental symbols of water, wine, bread, oil and fire are powerful reminders of God's presence with us.

Being Episcopal means the Eucharist is very significant to us, as an outward and visible sign of God's presence with us. We celebrate it every week to remember that we are part of God's ongoing story of salvation.

It means we claim to be both protestant and catholic. We value the sacraments and ancient traditions of Christianity, and also value the centrality of scripture and each person being able to interpret the Bible for her or himself.

Maybe there is something in this list that you connect to, that is a reason why you attend an Episcopal church. I'd love to hear more of what you think about what it means for "Episcopal" to be a core value for Redeemer.

Some of our Episcopal customs may be unfamiliar to newcomers, but interestingly most of our newcomers come from other Episcopal churches, or from the Roman Catholic church with a very similar liturgy. While, like any group, we can run the risk of being insular (for example, Episcopospeak terms like warden or rector or sacristy or chalice bearer that often need to be translated for non-Episcopal friends), I think the Episcopal church has a lot to offer the world today. We've somehow found a balance (perhaps a precarious one at times) between holding on to what is most true and meaningful in the ancient Christian tradition, while at the same time applying those ancient values to our real lives in an ever-changing world. I like to think that our theology and our worship is neither watered-down nor dusty. What do you think?



Kate



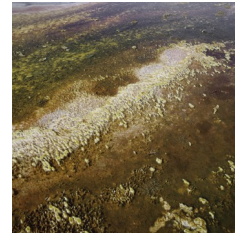
Season of Creation

Our bishops have declared October 2 to November 2 as the “Creation Care Season.” They recommend that churches use the new lectionary for the Season of Creation, which focuses on celebrating and respecting God’s natural creation. Our bishops also encourage us to consider our stewardship of creation and ethical responsibility to take care of God’s world.

Why a new season of the church year? In the seasons of Advent, Epiphany, Lent and Easter we celebrate the life of Christ. In the season of Pentecost we celebrate the Holy Spirit. Now, in the season of Creation, we have an opportunity to celebrate God, the Creator. Creation has always been the focus of the Season after Pentecost (or Ordinary Time, as it used to be called) so it is especially appropriate in this last part of the Season after Pentecost to focus on creation.

The Season of Creation lectionary assigns readings for each Sunday, on a three-year cycle, that relate to our theology of creation. Each Sunday focuses on a different theme. The themes for this year (Year A) are:

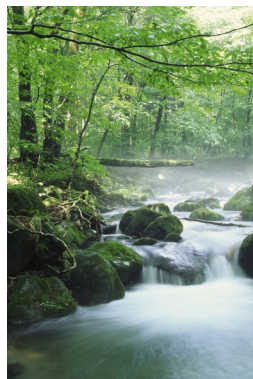
- October 9 1st Sunday in Creation – Forest
- October 16 2nd Sunday in Creation – Land
- October 23 3rd Sunday in Creation – Wilderness
- October 30 4th Sunday in Creation – River



The goal of the Season of Creation is to celebrate Earth as a sacred planet filled with God’s vibrant presence, unite with all creation in praising the God of creation, confess our sins against creation and empathize with a groaning creation, embrace our kin in creation as our extended family, proclaim the good news that the risen Jesus is the cosmic Christ who fills and renews all creation and go forth on a mission to be partners with Christ in the healing of creation (from “A Charter for the Season of Creation,” <http://seasonofcreation.com/>). You can learn more about the Season of Creation online at <http://seasonofcreation.com/>.

At Redeemer we will celebrate the Season of Creation this year with worship focused on themes of creation spirituality, including a special Celtic service on October 16. In addition, our Adult Christian Formation in October will focus on the Season of Creation. Come join us to celebrate God’s good creation and how we can be faithful stewards of it!

In faith,
Kate (kate@our-redeemer.net)
Sabeth (sabeth@our-redeemer.net)



Priest-in-Charge Discernment Process Begins

With Vestry's approval of the Priest-in-Charge Discernment committee at the September 21 meeting and the blessing of the committee members on Sunday, September 25, the formal portion of the Priest-in-Charge Discernment Process has begun. Throughout the process there will be additional announcements from the lectern, in the weekly announcements and in Redeeming Features, as well as the bulletin board in the Narthex. With these media, we will share as much about the process as we are able.

Priest-in-Charge Overview

As you may know, the tenure of a Priest-in-Charge proscribed by the Diocese is three years. The first two years are intended to help the congregation "find its footing" and to hold conversations to shape the type of parish it wishes to become.

The work undertaken by the Strategic Planning Group and the subsequent document, *the Strategic Plan*, identified and affirmed what you – our parish community – believe to be the most important part of our experience at Redeemer.

The themes that came out of the Strategic Planning process are Worship, Christian Formation, and Mission, with the overarching theme of Sustainability. These themes and the supporting goals and action steps created by Vestry and other lay leadership provide a solid vision for Redeemer's future.

During these two years, Kate has been providing us with her leadership, spiritual guidance and pastoral gifts. At the same time, she has also been conducting her own discernment and consideration about a rectorship at Redeemer, and what it would mean to her own spiritual and professional growth.

The last year of the Priest-in-Charge tenure - which we have just begun - is the time to have an honest, prayerful conversation about the future needs of and leadership for Redeemer.

Priest-in-Charge Discernment Committee

To have that conversation, a Priest-in-Charge Discernment committee has been established. In selecting the committee, Vestry came up with a list of qualities that were desirable to have on the committee, and after that, came up with a list of names and suggestions for the committee, in light of those attributes.

We had each Vestry member indicate preferences individually and confidentially, then used the tally of votes to order our requests to individuals to join the committee. We then made calls to people to fill out the committee. Not everyone asked was able to say yes, so we went down the list until we had a full roster of 3 from Vestry and 4 not on Vestry.



The members are: Bob Bettacchi, George Murnaghan, Randy Bowlby, Mary Ucci, Tom Pryce-Digby, Peter Koso, and Paula Antonevich (Chair).

Process

Over the next 3 – 4 months, in a very deliberate and meaningful way, with the guidance of a facilitator who has been assigned by the Diocese, Kate will articulate which ministries are most important to her as a Rector. Simultaneously, the Priest-in-Charge (PIC) Discernment Committee will engage in conversation about what ministries are most important to the congregation's future. The Strategic Plan will be the framework that guides PIC Discernment Committee when determining those ministries.

The PIC Discernment Committee and Kate will meet to see if there is agreement or not, or if any compromises are desired.

After that, the Committee and Kate will separately determine what talents, gifts and skills are *needed* from the rector and from the congregation to meet the goals set for these identified ministries as well as whether each believes that Kate and that we, the congregation, possess necessary talents, skills and gifts.

And then, once again, the Committee and Kate will meet determine if there is agreement or not. The Vestry will be informed and will meet to determine the next course of action – either to call Kate as the Rector, or to initiate a Search Process.

Dependent upon the meeting schedule, the expectation is that the PIC Discernment Committee and Kate will reach a decision before the end of 2011.

Support for the Process

The Vestry, the PIC Discernment Committee, Kate, and diocesan leadership know that this may feel like an anxious time – the uncertainty, wanting to know more, and wanting the process to move along quickly. Please take comfort in: the tried and true process outlined by the diocese; the wisdom and guidance provided by our assigned facilitator, Phil Whitbeck; and the gifts and talents of the Committee and Kate.

We ask for your prayers and encouragement and, as mentioned, we will keep you informed as we are able to the progress of the process.

Respectfully submitted by,
Paula Antonevich
Chair, Priest-in-Charge Discernment Committee



A PRIMER ON PLEDGING

Where does the church's money come from?

It comes from you. Unlike other denominations, we receive no financial support from outside the parish (for example, from the diocese). We receive some rental income from the onsite daycare and for the use of the church steeple for cell phone antennas, but more than 70% of our budget is funded by donations from parishioners.

What is the church's income used for?

A majority of our general operating budget goes to salaries for Kate, Sabeth, Bernadette, and Lisa, as well as the upkeep of the church building. The church's budget is presented each year at the Annual Meeting of all members in January. If you'd like a copy of the church budget, just ask any member of the Stewardship or Finance Committee, or call the church office.

What is a pledge?

A pledge is a commitment to donate a certain amount of money to Church of Our Redeemer during a calendar year. You can make a pledge by filling out a pledge card with the amount of money you intend to donate on a weekly, monthly or annual basis, or by emailing Lisa, the church administrator, at office@our-redeemer.net, or our treasurer Frank Kern at frank@mackhillfarm.org with your name and the amount you would like to pledge.

A pledge is not a legally binding commitment. You may change your pledge at any time. It is your decision. However, almost everyone honors the pledge that they've made for the year. If you need to change your pledge, just let our treasurer, Frank Kern, know.

So what are those envelopes?

Traditionally, many churches have provided envelopes to enclose contributions. The envelopes allow parishioners to submit cash and have the cash tracked to count towards your annual pledge and for tax purposes. Since many people simply make their pledge with checks, envelopes are not always used, because the checks typically provide the information needed to track pledges. If a parishioner intends to pay a pledge with cash, using an envelope is necessary to track who the pledge came from (please write your pledge number on each envelope). Others simply prefer to use the envelope to enclose the payment, whether check or cash. Receipts for pledges are mailed quarterly, and all pledge donations are tax deductible.

Does everybody pledge?

About 60% of Redeemer households currently pledge, and others give without pledging. The Stewardship Committee's goal is always to increase the number of pledging commitments. A contribution is required by national church bylaws to be a voting member of the Annual Meeting. However, even a contribution of a dollar per year fulfills this requirement.



A PRIMER ON PLEDGING (Contd)

How much do they pledge?

The amount of your pledge is very much a personal decision. While our average pledge is about \$2,900, our median pledge is \$2,000. It would appear that many individuals and families pledge about 1-2% of annual income. The stewardship committee asks parishioners to try proportional giving, and that parishioners consider pledging a minimum of 3% of annual income towards Redeemer's operating budget, (i.e. exclusive of any other donations toward worthy causes taken at Redeemer).

Why pledge? Why not just put something in the plate?

Pledging changes your relationship to Redeemer by making you a committed contributor to its operational budget. Many parishioners describe pledging as a joyful and fulfilling experience of commitment. On a practical level, a pledge helps you plan your budget (and helps us plan ours). Also, by pledging, you know how much you can give, and a pledge is a helpful reminder of what you've offered to give back to God.

From an administrative perspective, pledging is important for planning the church budget. At the end of the pledge drive in November, our Finance Committee makes up the budget for the next year based on how much money we expect members to donate. If you don't pledge, we are not able to include your donation in the budget and don't know how much money the church will have for salaries and other expenses. This makes it very difficult to plan and be responsible stewards of our church's finances.

So how do I decide how much to give? How much does the church need?

The church's annual operating budget is about **\$470,000** per year. However, for many people, the church's needs are not really the issue when deciding how much to give. Of course the church can use every dollar, and the more that is donated, the more we can grow our ministry, the more we are able to help out other charities, etc.

The point of pledging is not that the church needs to get the money, but that we need to give it. A pledge is a spiritual reminder that all we have comes from God and that spiritual health comes from sharing what we have with others. How much you need to give is a very individual issue. The Bible suggests giving 10% of your income to charity, and many people find that stretching to that level gives them a whole new perspective on money, trust, and God, and great sense of freedom and joy.

We strongly urge that you give proportionally – a percentage of your income, whether it is 1% or 10%. Sit down with your household budget and your income statement and see what would work for your household. Perhaps start with 3% with the goal of raising the percentage slightly each year. You may even choose to give 3% to the church and 2% to other charities you wish to support. Try it and notice the difference it makes in your life!



Thank-you from Redeemer's Ministries

by Sarah Conrad

Although the slower (or at least different!) pace of the summer seems long behind us, we hope you are still feeling renewed, refreshed, and energized to continue our participation as a community to support those in need.

Our community has contributed greatly to others, and the recipients have asked that we share their thanks with you.

From The Grow Clinic for Children:

"Your generosity will help many hungry families get through the summer months when their struggles increase because the older children are not getting school meals."

"It means so much to have the Church of Our Redeemer committed to some of the most vulnerable children in Boston."

If you would like to learn more about the Grow Clinic, you may listen to or read these recent news reports.

<http://www.wbur.org/2011/07/28/ma-food-stamps>

http://www.boston.com/lifestyle/health/articles/2011/07/28/ranks_of_hungry_children_swell_worrying_doctors/

From El Hogar Ministries, Inc. (www.elhogar.com)

"The children of El Hogar are very moved by the kindness of supporters who live so far away from them, yet extend this kindness across the distance. Knowing that someone cares builds self-respect, love and hope in our boys and girls."

Read about Redeemer in Honduras!

<http://www.wickedlocal.com/lexington/features/x1252549636/Lexington-church-group-volunteers-in-Honduras#axzz1XhGkANhn>

From Esperanza Academy (www.EsperanzaAcademy.org)

"I am so pleased that Church of our Redeemer is part of our Esperanza story of hope....Thank you for generously supporting our girls' dreams!"

A poem of thanks from an Esperanza student

Butterflies

colorful beautiful

fluttering, growing, flying

flutters here and there

delicate

About the Author, Victoria

"I am a sixth grader at a school named Esperanza Academy and I enjoy making people happy. I also like butterflies because of their colorful wings and their delicate flutter."



Thank-you from Redeemer's Ministries (cont'd)

From Habitat for Humanity

"Your prayers and thoughtfulness are greatly appreciated and we are thankful that you care enough to support our mission....Your gift helps us with three exciting projects under way in Lawrence right now: transforming the former St. Patrick Convent on Parker Street into 10 affordable homes, the construction of a single family home on Champlain Avenue, and rehabilitating a home on Railroad Street."



Cathy Burns goes one-on-one during English class at El Hogar



Church of Our Redeemer member Steve Burns shares his laptop with students of El Hogar

Mission

Habitat for Humanity Work Day

The Church of Our Redeemer has secured Saturday October 15th as a work day in Lawrence, MA. If you have interest in volunteering, please contact Steve Burns at 978-663-5022 or email at A65CORVAIR@VERIZON.NET. You must be 18 to participate in the Habitat work day.



El Hogar walk/bike-a-thon

Sunday Oct 23, 2011

**Support Team Redeemer at the
El Hogar Annual Walk/bike-a-thon**

**We are joining with Boston area churches to walk or ride from Winchester Common,
starting at 2 p.m.**

You can sign up online to sponsor Team Redeemer or to join the team:

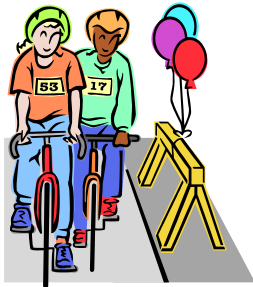
Go to www.elhogar.com, click on "Boston Area Walk-a-thon"

For more information: Jessie Maeck 781-863-8053 or jmaeck@aol.com

What is El Hogar, and how is Redeemer involved?

El Hogar Ministries, a joint project of the Episcopal Churches of the United States and Honduras, provides education to 250 poverty-stricken boys and girls at three different schools in Honduras. Redeemer has sent 6 volunteer work to El Hogar since 2006. Several parishioners directly sponsor at the schools; Redeemer is currently sponsoring 2 young men Agricultural School through the Mission Committee.

teams
students
at the



Relinquished Riches/aka Rummage Sale

Some folks say riches; some say rummage. We say fun.

Friday, October 28, 7-8:30 pm. Come join the Redeemer community, have a glass of wine or apple cider, and check out those bargains.

Saturday, October 29, 9 am-1pm. Tell your friends and neighbors for all our profits go to the Capital Fund to beautify the church exterior.

Meanwhile, set aside those never-used wedding presents, your left over yarn, sports equipment, tools, toys, linens, household items (no clothing or electronics) to contribute the week of October 24. If you would like to come help sort, bring your willing hands and a lunch on Friday Oct. 28, from 9am-2pm. If you would like to captain a table on Saturday, Oct. 29, 9am-1pm, please contact Ashley Rooney, earooney@rcn.com or Claudia Cooper Cooper.claudia.g@gmail.com for more information.

Nursery News

Nursery care is available for infants and toddlers (through age 4) from **8:30am-12noon** so that parents can attend worship, Adult Christian Formation and fellowship time.

Our nursery care givers are paid, trained and experienced with young children. They are CPR and First Aid certified, CORI-checked, and Safe Church trained.

We ask parents to provide all needed diapering supplies, food and beverages for their own child(ren) in containers clearly marked with your child(ren)'s name(s).



Did you know you can download your registration forms.

Registration forms are required for every child participating in our Nursery. The Nursery page on our website has this year's forms in PDF format. You can bring them to church already filled out.

Questions?

Please contact the Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons (sabeth@our-redeemer.net)



Adult Christian Formation aka Adult Forum

Our Adult Christian Formation programs inform us about issues and concerns in our lives, our community and the world, AND help us consider how we respond to those issues and concerns as faith-filled Christians.

Adult Christian Formation meets Sundays from 10:50-11:50am, in the Great Hall or the Meeting Room on the lower level. We invite ages 13-113 to join us. Bring your coffee and a friend!

October 2: *Church as Community*

Is church a specific place where individuals gather once a week to sing a few songs and listen to someone talk about God, or does church refer to the people themselves, who share a common mission in the world? How might our everyday lives be different if we view church as a family loving each other and living and sharing all of life together?

Stewards of Creation series

In keeping with our Season of Creation this fall, we will spend the remainder of October examining the questions of: How do we know God through Creation, and particularly through the part of creation we're focusing on that week? What is the role of that part of creation in scripture and theology? What does it mean to be good stewards of God's creation? Led by the Adult Christian Formation committee and other guests. Please come explore these questions with us.

October 9: *Stewards of Creation – Forest*

October 16: *Stewards of Creation – Land*

October 23: *Stewards of Creation – Wilderness*

October 30: *Stewards of Creation – River*

The Adult Christian Formation Committee is beginning to think about an Advent series. If you have input about Adult Christian Formation topics or themes, please contact a member of the Committee (James Surprenant, Melissa Morgan, Ian Fox, Susan Burkhardt, Sabeth Fitzgibbons).

Contact Person: The Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons (sabeth@our-redeemer.net)

Enneagram Spirituality Workshop

Saturday, October 22 ~ 9:30am-4:00pm; St Paul's Cathedral, 138 Tremont St, Boston
\$25 per person; Bring a bag lunch, beverages provided

Are you interested in:

- * knowing how your personality connects with your spirituality?
- * discerning your particular style of paying attention?
- * looking at spiritual differences between you and your significant other?
- * finding more grace in your life?
- * laughing at your sins?

Join us for a day of learning and laughter.

Questions/Registration: Lyn Brakeman or Dick Simeone 617-354-1481 or email

lgb3888@earthlink.net or rjs4166@earthlink.net



Christian Formation – Children and Youth

Christian Formation News

Christian Formation for ages 3 through 12th grade is held on Sundays from 10:50-11:50am. Nursery care is available for infants and toddlers (through age 4) from 8:30am-12noon so that parents can attend worship, Adult Christian Formation and fellowship time.

Sunday Evening Youth Group meets in the Great Hall from 5:30-7:15pm. Youth in grades 8-12 are invited to join us for fellowship as we prepare and eat dinner together.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

**** We have Sunday School/Atrium every Sunday unless otherwise noted! ****

October 2 **No Sunday Morning Christian Formation / No Sunday Evening Youth Group**

October 9 **No Sunday Evening Youth Group**

October 16, 23, 30 All Christian Formation classes meet on regular schedule

Registration forms

Registration forms are required for every child participating in our programs. Necessary forms, as well as a current schedule, can be downloaded on the Children or Youth page (as is appropriate for your child) at <http://www.our-redeemer.net>.

Questions?

Age 3-5th grade – Evelyn Hausslein (ehausslein@rcn.com / 781-861-0378)

6th – 12th grade – the Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons (sabeth@our-redeemer.net)

Youth Group – Cathy Burns (hcburns@verizon.net / 978-663-5022)

Thinking about Baptism?

Baptism is sacrament by which we enter the family of God, adopted through the grace of holy water and the Holy Spirit. The next date for baptisms is November 6, when we celebrate the Feast of All Saints. If you desire to be baptized, or desire baptism for your child, please contact one of the clergy (781-862-6408, kate@our-redeemer.net or sabeth@our-redeemer.net) about the process for preparing for baptism.



Eucharistic Visitor Training

Redeemer will host a diocesan Eucharistic Visitor Training on Saturday, October 22, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., This course meets the diocesan training requirements for licensing as a Eucharistic Visitor. If you have been considering being even an occasional part of our pastoral care team, bringing Communion, prayer shawls, and cheer to homebound and ill members of our parish, please consider attending. The trainings are full of spiritual nourishment and useful ideas for caring for our community. See Kate to register; the registration deadline is October 15.



Celtic Sunday October 16

O Son of God, change my heart,
Your spirit composes the songs of the birds and buzz of the bees.
I ask of you only one more miracle:
Beautify my soul.

— Traditional Celtic Prayer

Celtic Christianity, which traces its roots to St. Patrick, c 432, is a rich spiritual tradition. It emphasizes contemplation, prayer, intellectual study, poetry, and God's presence in the beauty of nature. We will have an experience of Celtic spirituality and music on Sunday, October 16th.

The Celtic music group, Fellswater, will be providing music for worship along with the adult and children's choirs. We'll sing hymns from Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and Brittany (France), some new and some familiar.

Our worship will follow the normal Sunday Eucharist structure, but with prayers taken from several ancient and modern Celtic sources.

Come and enjoy this special worship service.



Music News....

HEARTFELT THANKS AND APPRECIATION to all singers who joined us for Mary Bailey's memorial service in September. The professional guest musicians and over fifty singers who had played and sung alongside Mary during her lifetime honored her with glorious music making!

ADULT FORUM for September 18th focused on *Spirituality and Music - the Personal and Communal*. Using Bill Henderson's *Simple Gifts - Great Hymns: One Man's Search for Grace* (New York: Free Press) as a guiding narrative, sixteen of us explored together how personally provocative musical experiences might shape musical preferences in communal expressions of faith in worship. Bernadette may repeat the session in the spring for those of you who couldn't attend, so stay tuned!



Music News (cont'd)

The choir season is off to a good start. We welcome Fred Bailey and Lori Martell to our group. More **NEW MEMBERS** are always needed, and encouraged to join us - either just for feast days, or on a regular basis, so just show up sometime! For anyone who likes to sing:

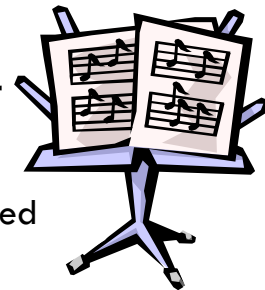
ADULT choir rehearses WEDNESDAY evenings 7:30-9:00, and SUNDAY mornings 8:30-9:15 (CHILD CARE PROVIDED). Please contact Bernadette at berncolley@gmail.com if you have any questions, or just show up!

YOUTH choir Wednesday afternoon rehearsals have been temporarily suspended. Instead, church youth will sing in the context of Atrium classes on a regular basis and, on a voluntary basis, have the opportunity to sing in worship services about every 4-6 weeks. We are trying this new arrangement both to get more children in the parish singing on a regular basis, and to give opportunity to children who can't make it to a Wednesday afternoon rehearsal. More information regarding Sunday singing dates will be sent directly to parents, but parents can contact Bernadette at berncolley@gmail.com with any questions.

REDEEMER ROSTER is an open and ongoing invitation to parishoners to add your musical talents to our data base of diverse musical talents and offerings. Whether you play an instrument (all varieties welcomed), or sing a special genre or style, please let Bernadette know if you're interested in contributing your talents some Sunday morning.

DON'T MISS "SPECIAL SERVICE SUNDAY" on October 16th, when we launch the first of the Worship Committee's initiative of experimental and themed worship services. We celebrate Celtic spirituality in conjunction with Season of Creation with guest musicians **Fellswater**, Boston's Celtic music ensemble (www.fellswater.com). Fellswater performs traditional and modern music from Scotland, Ireland, Brittany and Canada on various combinations of whistles, Irish flute, bouzouki, guitar, mandolin, violin, small pipes and border pipes. The group's name is derived from the Middlesex Fells reservation, which is located near rehearsal sessions, and its members are: Matthew Phelps on Hamish Moore smallpipes, Sarah MacConduibh on whistle and flute, Jim MacConduibh on guitar and mandolin, and Elizabeth Ketudat on fiddle. Fellswater will provide instrumental selections for prelude, offertory, and postlude, and embellish hymn and anthem accompaniments throughout the service.

Looking further ahead - another Special Music date to note is our annual **Advent Lessons and Carols procession on Sunday December 4th at 4:00**. Our choir will join with guest Early Music ensemble **"Renaissonics"** of Cambridge to present traditional and renaissance music of the Advent Season. Guest singers are welcome, and encouraged to join us.



Finally, we still have not found a home for the **Extra Piano** downstairs. It's yours for the taking, so please contact Lisa Thistle if you, or anyone you know, are interested!!



Calendar

October	Date	Event Details
Saturday	1	Parish Retreat
Sunday	2	8:00 am - Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:30 am - Holy Eucharist Rite II No Christian Formation for children and youth 10:50 am - Adult Christian Formation: Church as Community
Monday	3	7:30 pm - Property Committee meeting
Tuesdays	4, 11, 18, 25	7:00 pm - EfM Class
Tuesday	4	7:30 pm - Stewardship Committee meeting
Wednesday	5	7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	9	8:00 am - Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:30 am - Holy Eucharist Rite II (Season of Creation, Forest) 10:45 am - Christian Formation for children and youth 10:50 am - Adult Christian Formation: Stewards of Creation-Forest 5:30 pm - Family Circle Potluck
Wednesday	12	7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	16	8:00 am - Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:30 am - Holy Eucharist Rite II (Season of Creation, Land) Celtic Service 10:45 am - Christian Formation for children and youth 10:50 am - Adult Christian Formation: Stewards of Creation-Land
Monday	17	7:30 pm - Finance Committee meeting
Wednesday	19	7:30 pm - Vestry meeting 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	23	8:00 am - Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:30 am - Holy Eucharist Rite II (Season of Creation, Wilderness) 10:45 am - Christian Formation for children and youth 10:50 am - Adult Christian Formation: Stewards of Creation-Wilderness 12:00 noon - Worship Committee meeting 2:00 pm - El Hogar Walk/Bike-a-thon
Monday	24	1:30 pm - Cook for Bristol Lodge 7:30 pm - Mission Committee meeting
Wednesday	26	7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal
Friday	28	7:00 pm - Relinquished Riches and Rummage Preview
Saturday	29	9:00 am - Parish Rummage Sale
Sunday	30	8:00 am - Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:30 am - Holy Eucharist Rite II (Season of Creation, River) 10:50 am - Adult Formation: Stewards of Creation-River

Please send all announcements by email to office@our-redeemer.net or for those without email, call or send to the church office, with "RF" clearly marked.

The **monthly deadline** for all Redeeming Features submissions is the **15th of the Month**.