



Church of Our Redeemer
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Redeeming Features

Volume 29

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Greetings from Rev. Andrew Goldhor

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Dear Church of Our Redeemer,

It is with great anticipation and excitement that I join the parish staff and have started to meet the Church of Our Redeemer. I am thrilled and honored to be called to Redeemer, and I thank the search committee and Rev. Kate for the opportunity. I look forward to getting to know many more of you, and to our ministry together.

On Saturday June 22 I was ordained to the transitional diaconate at our cathedral in Boston. Along with six other deacons, and one priest, I was brought into a new role in the wider church. That day was remarkable, and I felt a profound sense of joy, grounded in the conviction that I am where God has called me to be.

One of the things that struck me in the ordination service was Bishop Shaw's meditation on the Holy Spirit. Bishop Tom pointed to some ways the Spirit is manifested in our lives as followers of Christ. One of the most important ways we share in the life of God is through our relationships, with Jesus and with one another. Bishop Tom took time during the service to thank all those who supported the people being ordained, and it was a powerful reminder of the rich and complex web of relationships that form us as Christians. The people who helped me articulate my call, and who shaped my identity are friends and family, young and old, living and dead, Christians and Jews and atheists. Some of them were in the pews that day: my parents, my sister, aunt and cousins, friends from my childhood in Belmont and college in Colorado, mentors from churches in Winchester and Harlem, and of course my fiancée, Jack. In all these relationships the Holy Spirit has moved and continues to do so. I believe this will ring true for many of you.

As I begin a new chapter in my life as a member of the Redeemer family, I will be seeking to live into the language of the Prayer Book which explains that the role of the deacon is one of "a special ministry of servant-hood directly under



Greetings from Andrew (cont'd)

the Bishop. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are to serve all people, particularly the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely." In our worship, mission work, Christian formation and our relationships, I hope that we can all share in the holy work of noticing what God is doing in our world. When we take time to look, we can expect to see Jesus Christ acting in our midst!

Peace,

Andrew

PS. God willing and the people consenting, I will be ordained to the Priesthood on Saturday January 4, 2014 at St. Paul's Cathedral in Boston. You are invited! Please mark your calendars.

Summer Home Worship: Informal, intergenerational fellowship

Please join us this summer for home worship to be held every Wednesday, July 10 - August 21. The evenings begin with potluck dinner at 6:30 and worship at 7:45. All are welcome.

Date	Host	Address	Type
10 July	The Murnaghans	34 Wachusett Drive Lexington	Clergy led Worship
17 July	Ann De Bord Smith & Evan Smith	16 Dewey Road Lexington	Clergy led Worship
24 July	Peg Wright	53 Hancock Street Lexington	Clergy led Worship
31 July	James Surprentant & Ellen Cosgrove	26 Page Road Bedford	Clergy led Worship
7 Aug.	The Conrads	276 Cedar Street Lexington	Clergy led Worship
14 Aug.	The Ekrems	The Rectory 12 White Pine Lane	Clergy led Worship
21 Aug.	Karen Schragle	663 Lowell St., #38 Lexington	Clergy led Worship

Attend when you can, bring a dish to share. If you're able, please contact the host to let them know you'll be coming. Look for details in the weekly announcements. Questions? Please contact Karen Schragle, karen@waylandtravel.com, or Paula Antonevich, 781-674-2795 or paulaandruss@verizon.net



Mission News

Redeemer in Honduras – A big thank you from the El Hogar volunteers

Redeemer's 8th El Hogar volunteer team went to the farm in Honduras July 12-26, taking with them all your gifts, prayers, love, and support. Many thanks!



Please be sure to check out their blog: <http://our-redeemer-honduras.blogspot.com/>

We look forward to hearing more about their experience this fall!

Keep Esperanza in mind when you're "back to school" shopping!

A new school year is right around the corner! For the upcoming year, Redeemer, once again, will support Esperanza Academy's students through an in-gathering of supplies. Look for a list of supplies on Esperanza's wish list in the narthex, on the website and in the e-announcements through August.

Esperanza Academy is a tuition-free independent middle school in the Episcopal tradition that welcomes girls of diverse faiths, races and cultures from Lawrence, Massachusetts. The school inspires students to become active learners and responsible global citizens. Esperanza empowers and prepares students to meet challenges with courage, integrity and respect.

Thank you for making a difference for these girls!

Summer and hunger

Summer can be a difficult and uncertain time for families and individuals who rely on support to meet their daily nutritional needs, as school is out and charitable giving is generally down. It also can be a very busy time for food banks. Please check the e-announcements for the Food Pantry's "Food of the Month" and give when you can.

Our partner, The Grow Clinic at Boston Medical Center, also appreciates any support that can be provided in the summer.



2013 All Parish Fall Weekend "Sharing Our Gifts" September 27 – 29

This year will mark Redeemer's 10th annual parish weekend at the Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center in Greenfield, NH. EVERYONE in the parish is invited to join us!

The weekend will include outdoor and indoor worship, singing and s'mores by the campfire, crafts, walks in the woods, canoeing and ropes course, and a Saturday morning program. This year's theme is "Sharing Our Gifts".

The center is an hour and a half north of Lexington on a beautiful lake in New Hampshire, with facilities that range from the rustic (cabins for 10) to comfortable, motel-style lodge rooms for 1 or 2 adults with cots for small children.

Scholarship assistance is available by seeing a member of the clergy. And just as cost should not be an impediment to anyone who would like to attend, neither should age! Every year we've had someone under 6 months and someone over 85. Finally, if you cannot commit to an overnight but want to join in for Saturday's activities, that's also an option. Please pick up a registration form at the church office, download from the web (see our home page) or sign up online: http://bit.ly/parish_weekend_2013



All Parish Fall Weekend: registration deadline approaching!

Don't miss out on the fun and fellowship and always-surprising events that are part of a weekend away together with other parishioners! We are looking forward to many repeat attendees and would love to have some more "first-timers"! **The deadline for registration is August 1st**, but we have some flexibility if you contact us now!

We are looking forward to beginning to plan the program and events surrounding the theme "Sharing Our Gifts". If you have an idea that might incorporate that theme into our worship, our Saturday morning small and large group activities, children's activities, or our Saturday evening activities, please let us know. We have some ideas, but welcome all suggestions! - **Janet Kern 781 861-7102 and Connie Parrish 781 863-5825.**



Easy Summer-time Recipes

Tex-Mex Salad *recipe courtesy of The Food Network*

Directions

Whisk 2 tablespoons whole-grain mustard, 1 tablespoon lime juice, 1 teaspoon red wine vinegar, 3 tablespoons olive oil, and salt; add 1/4 cup chopped cilantro. Grill 4 ears corn; cut off the kernels and toss with 1 can drained black beans, 1 diced red bell pepper, 4 sliced radishes and 3 chopped scallions. Toss with the dressing; season with salt and pepper.



Serves: 4

Fresh Peach Cake *recipe courtesy of Barefoot Contessa*

Ingredients

- 1/4 pound (1 stick) unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 2 extra-large eggs, at room temperature
- 1 cup sour cream, at room temperature
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda

- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

- 3 large ripe peaches, peeled, pitted and sliced
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans



Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Grease a 9-inch-square baking pan. In the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, beat the butter and 1 cup of the sugar for 3 to 5 minutes on medium-high speed, until light and fluffy. With the mixer on low, add the eggs, one at a time, then the sour cream and vanilla, and mix until the batter is smooth. In a separate bowl, sift together the flour, baking soda, baking powder and salt. With the mixer on low, slowly add the dry ingredients to the batter and mix just until combined. In a small bowl, combine the remaining 1/2 cup sugar and the cinnamon.

Spread half of the batter evenly in the pan. Top with half of the peaches, then sprinkle with two-thirds of the sugar mixture. Spread the remaining batter on top, arrange the remaining peaches on top and sprinkle with the remaining sugar mixture and the pecans.

Bake for 45 to 55 minutes, until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Serve warm or at room temperature.



Looking For Some True Nonbelievers

Bill Fortier

I haven't written in a while, Redeemer peeps, but I just finished slogging through a great book on ethics, neuroscience and social psychology, **The Self Beyond Beyond Itself**, by Heidi Ravven, a terrific philosopher who pulls together a whole bunch of different strands to think about ethics. Heidi takes the reader on a tour through science and philosophy and then offers a way to think about ethics, a way that lines up with the experimental evidence. Unfortunately, this tour took four hundred pages and I'm still panting from the exercise. If I fall down and get very still, dial 911. Heidi helps us to see that ethical living involves much more than (1) **thinking correct thoughts** and (2) **making correct choices**: this is standard **American model** it crumbles like a muffin under the weight of the research.

The experimental evidence **overwhelmingly** shows that morals and virtues **don't** follow the line from **right thoughts to right action** at all. Not a bit. Ethical people emerge from ethical settings and habitual ethical practices: **active, group habits work in tandem with active, individual habits**. Here's one more reason why Redeemer rocks guys: we've got good habits here.

But before we all congratulate ourselves here and go back to the crossword puzzle, Ravven spells out just how susceptible folks are to their social surroundings and the bosses in or midst: Nazi Germany wasn't an accident folks, but rather an example of a quiet choreography of authority-and-obedience, producing an entire demonic culture, a satanic state. Not a few bad apples, but a **bad barrel** made from **bad-leader-apples** in cahoots with **bad-follower-apples**. No culture or subculture is immune from this creep towards bad barrel-hood. This includes our beloved church and our beloved country. So what's a sheep to do here? What's our barrel prevention plan, folks?

First, we need **unedited speech when we talk with the bosses, speech that isn't sanitized or watered down, speech that puts the evidence on the table loud and clear** -- we need free-speaking, skeptical and disbelieving folks as well as free-speaking and skeptical 'devil's advocates'.

I know it's a lousy and provocative term for Jesus' followers --the devil word -- but we need skilled and persuasive contrarians and naysayers, in the service of human dignity and rights as well as ethical actions. Our church parade needs lots of rain. Maybe we could re-imagine baptism as our commitment to raining on our comfortable and habitual group parades. Bring on the rain!

This makes church much less comfortable, but way safer to its visitors and members as well as truer to its missions. **Second**, we need **outside oversight**. Insiders cannot escape the **diluting and corrupting** gravitational pull of the group. We've all drunk the cool-ade. Insiders water down the unpleasant truths.

Think about the mixture of water and wine at communion: we're always watering down the truth, including the truth of Jesus and the truths that come from Jesus, all of us. The research is crystal clear: **insiders are always compromised in some ways and they -- and we -- just can't help it**. I think this challenges us to rethink **epi-skopos: oversight or supervision**. So we're the Episcopal church, a church dedicated to oversight, to monitoring.

We Episcopalians kept the traditional Christian practice of grooming and promoting careful and ambitious insiders to be our supervisors, aka bishops or overseers. We've also crept back to the practice of draping our overseers in medieval regalia, with tall hats and shepherd's staffs.



Our medieval, colonial and Victorian ancestors would not have been amused, one little bit by the way. Richard Hooker would be aghast! Both Episcopalians and Lutherans have rejoined the medieval carnival, to quote pope Francis, who's quite a bit of fresh air in my estimation. So our grand-poo-has try to be supernormal stimuli, shiny-stuff the clergy-class and the institution-class -- of all-stripes -- get hooked on and can't get shake loose from. What's the big deal Bill, you big-traditional-buzzkill and church-fashion-flop?

Well speech gets over-edited or watered down because the bishop-class and priest-class become authorities-and-followers and we become followers too, not of **Jesus**, but of flawed guys and gals who want to keep comfortable and who want to be obeyed. The cycle of obedience-and-authority always casts a heavy shadow and someone-and-some-truth always get squished. Stanley Migram's research and Philip Zimbardo's research have survived the test and re-tests over time. Truth and personhood always get compromised, stunted and squished in the **authority-obedience-cycle**, a very dangerous duet. By the way, did you know that Kate and Andrew made solemn promises to obey the bishop? We didn't promise this folks, so let's make sure to help them out and say things they could never get away with.

One more thing: since we're beginning to plan for a new bishop, following Tom Shaw's retirement, let's think about more **outside oversight**. That's my take on Episcopal planning. I'm not sure what I'm looking for in the next bishop though, other than a woman. I'll keep thinking though.

Let's get back to Ravven and the research: outsiders and nonmembers rescue communities and cultures from their dark shadows. The church has taught **outside the church there is no salvation** since the third century when Cyprian first ginned up this lousy idea. I think this idea is exactly wrong. Very old pedigree, a long line of wrong.

It is precisely and exactly the **nonbelievers and outsiders** who save the church from itself, over and over again. **Epi-skopos**, oversight or supervision, along with the rescue accomplished, is actually performed by external audit, whether we audit our monies, our internal politics or our group habits. This includes **our thought and speech habits: the stuff we think and say, even write**. This means you get to push back on each every little thing I say and write: very-fallible-theologian-in-residence-here.

This fall, I'm beginning **EFM** or **Education for Ministry**. I'm looking forward to it, precisely because I'm very introverted and hate small groups. They fit like a noose to me. I need the correction of outsiders and their feedback though, even though I don't take naturally to it: groups bristle and irritate, but I need the steel brush treatment in Jesus School. I hope though we have nonbelievers, nonChristians in our small EFM groups to free up our speaking and listening. I also hope we have a nonChristian and nonEpiscopalian ombudsmen-women, even members, poking their indifferent and adversarial noses in our business, our books and practices. We need other-religious, non-religious and atheist inspection and oversight as **empowered inspectors and overseers, Episkopoi with voice and teeth**. The more oversight and looking around the better, from all sides.

Let me throw one theological bone for consideration: the science shows us that **true correction and supervision come from outside of our groups, and from outside our private thoughts. Correction, rescue and penetrating truth transcend or go beyond our comfort zones and control zones. The outsider is a perfect and provocative way to picture God in our midst: God is the corrective and rescuing outsider. Dear Jesus, pester us with meddling outsiders who stick their nose in all our business and we'll do our very best, Lord Jesus, to see that it's your nose behind all the nuisance. Amen.**



Calendar

July	Date	Event Details
Wednesday	10, 17, 24, 31	6:30 pm - Summer Home Worship
Sunday	14	8:00am - Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30am - Holy Eucharist, Rite II 12noon - Executive Committee meeting
Tuesday	16	7:30pm - Vestry meeting
Thursday	18	7:30pm - Creation Care Team meeting
Sunday	21	8:00am - Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30am - Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Monday	22	1:30pm - Cook for Bristol Lodge 7:30pm - Mission Committee meeting
Thursday	25	4:00pm - Warden meeting
Sunday	28	8:00am - Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30am - Holy Eucharist, Rite II
August	Date	Event Details
Saturday	3	9:00am - Liturgy Team meeting
Sunday	4	8:00am - Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30am - Holy Eucharist, Rite II 12:00 noon - Executive Committee meeting
Monday	5	7:30pm - Property Committee meeting 7:30pm - Church Community meeting
Tuesday	6	7:30pm - Stewardship Committee meeting
Wednesday	7, 14, 21	6:30pm - Summer Home Worship
Sunday	11	8:00am - Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30am - Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Tuesday	13	7:30pm - Vestry meeting
Sunday	18	8:00am - Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30am - Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Monday	19	7:30pm - Finance Committee meeting
Sunday	25	8:00am - Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30am - Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Monday	26	1:30pm - Cook for Bristol Lodge 7:30pm - Mission Committee meeting

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 the September Redeeming Features submissions is August 15.