



# Redeeming Features

VOLUME 32

Issue 05

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## Greetings from Rev. Kate Ekrem

Dear friends,

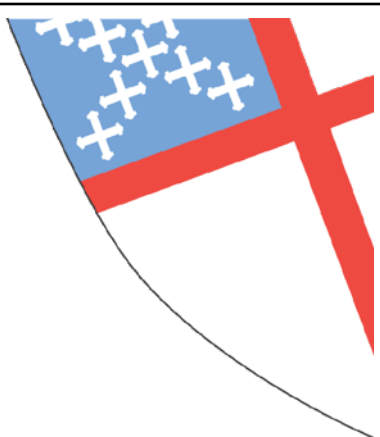
During the Easter season, many of our Sunday scripture readings talk about feasting, eating, and being fed. Jesus picnics with his disciples by the shores of Galilee. The resurrected Jesus is known to the disciples as he breaks bread at Emmaus. It seems to me at Redeemer we've been doing a lot of feasting, eating, and feeding. What a great thing to do during the Easter season!

First, there was the Patriot's Day Pancake Breakfast, when scores of you came to the church in the wee hours of the morning to flip pancakes as we participate in an event that makes Lexington such a wonderful community. What made it even better was that this year the Pancake Breakfast raised money for the LexFUN preschool scholarship program. We know from working with the families we serve through Lift Up Lexington (the interfaith effort to help families in transition placed at a hotel in Lexington), that very often not being able to afford child care is a big reason that some single parents end up homeless. If you can't pay for child care, you can't get to work and earn a paycheck. So this scholarship program, which has benefited some Lift Up Lexington families and others in need, is a real blessing. Thank you to all who made the Pancake Breakfast happen again this year! We fed our community in more than one way.

It's been exciting to see the relationships that are building in our Lexington interfaith community, through working together on the Interfaith Garden and through Lift Up Lexington. Those relationships are continuing to blossom in new ways.

*(continued, next page...)*

## Greetings (continued)



### Redeeming Features

*The monthly newsletter of  
Church of Our Redeemer,  
a member of the Episcopal  
Diocese of Massachusetts  
located in Lexington.*

Comments and  
contributions welcome at  
[RF@our-redeemer.net](mailto:RF@our-redeemer.net)

Deadline for the  
June 2015 issue is  
May 15.

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One new way that is sprouting up right now is the idea of a community supper for Lexington, much like the Open Table program in Concord and Community Table in Bedford. Last week Redeemer was proud to host the first roundtable discussion about this idea. Lexington leaders, including our selectmen and others, were invited to give their input and advice. Those who came included Charlotte Rodgers, Director of Human Services for the Town of Lexington, and State Representative Jay Kaufman, as well as members of many houses of worship in Lexington. We got great ideas and will continue the planning process with a meeting at Temple Isaiah on Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.

Lastly, we're going to have a chance to feast together at Redeemer on May 9<sup>th</sup>, when our J2A high school group hosts a pasta dinner and silent auction to raise funds for their pilgrimage this summer. We'll be entertained by Redeemer's "in-house band", Highway 49, and say a fond farewell to the Great Hall that has served us for over 50 years, just before renovations begin.

After the Resurrection, Jesus asked Peter to "feed my sheep." We seem to be living into that call at Redeemer! I hope everyone has a chance to come to the table and be fed, both physically and spiritually, this Easter season.

Peace,  
*Kate*

### NEW REDEEMING FEATURES EDITOR(S) NEEDED... EXCITING OPPORTUNITY!

**REDEEMING FEATURES** is in urgent need of a new editor or editors to take over layout duties starting with the July issue.



Are you a creative type? Are you looking for a new way to serve the Redeemer community? The work is easy AND fun and only requires a time commitment of only 2-3 hours per month.

Please contact James Surprenant at [jmsurprenant@gmail.com](mailto:jmsurprenant@gmail.com) to learn more about this exciting opportunity.

# Music News

by Dr. Bernadette Colley

Continuing the reminder ... We are still accepting responses to the question: ***What are the 10 hymns which "every Episcopalian should know?"*** We are interested to know **what you think about this question?** What would your "top-ten-must-know" hymns be? Take a hymnal home, spend some time with it, and return **your responses to Bernadette** and we'll let you know the results in an upcoming *Redeeming Features!*

Thanks to all musicians who made beautiful music throughout Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Your contributions are very much appreciated. Thanks also to the entire Redeemer community for welcoming (and feeding - especially Kathy Mockett!) the Esperanza Singers on Sunday April 12th. The girls enjoyed their time among us.

The 9th Annual Lexington Choral Festival, rescheduled from February, and held at Hancock Church on April 12th, was once again, a resounding success. The choirs just keep getting better and better!

In the midst of the craziness of moving this month, if you haven't already done so, please take a moment, in the privacy and quiet of your own personal space, to view the wonderful slide show that was shown during annual meeting, which will provide a serene and calm reminder of why we do what we do here in our beloved Redeemer community. You can view it as a movie, and enjoy reflecting on our Redeemer family, at: <http://youtu.be/TzIReWSUo1E>

## Mark your calendars!

Coming up this month and next ...

On **Sunday May 17th, Youth Sunday**, all service music will be chosen and planned by the youth of the parish, and the **Atrium Singers** will make their final presentation of the year before breaking for the summer.

On **Sunday June 7th, Music Sunday** as we offer appreciation for our Redeemer musicians of all ages, we celebrate God's gift of music with a Gospel flare. The adult choir is preparing selections from Robert Ray's Gospel Mass, **and our guests will be musicians from Boston's New England Gospel Ensemble.** <http://www.negospel.com/>

## DONATE FOOD STAPLES

*The May Foods  
of the Month are...*

**Canned fruit 15 oz and  
20-22 oz pineapple**

Please bring a donation with you to church this month.  
Bins are available in the side stairwell and by the office window.

Visit the website to learn more:  
[www.lexingtonfoodpantry.wordpress.com](http://www.lexingtonfoodpantry.wordpress.com)

*Thank you!*

## LEXINGTON INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS TO HELP MOVE

The Lexington Interfaith Food Pantry will be temporarily relocating to St. Brigid's Church this summer while our Great Hall is being renovated.

So that the food pantry will not have to close down and in order to save money by not hiring professional movers, we are looking for able-bodied volunteers to help move the food pantry to its temporary home on Saturday afternoon May 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday afternoon May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Also needed are pickup trucks, vans, SUVs.

## CAN YOU HELP?

Please contact Carolyn Wortman at [carolynwortman@verizon.net](mailto:carolynwortman@verizon.net) for more information or to volunteer!

# “Like Jesus”

*by Cara Kalf*

When I was in my early 20s, I sometimes wished children didn't have to come to church. I recognized that this was a distinctly uncharitable and unchristian attitude, but I found them distracting. They're just so noisy and fidgety! And while I never would have been hostile to a family with children if one had shown up on, say, Maundy Thursday—the opening of the Triduum service, the most holy three nights of the church year and my absolute favorite service of the year, a quiet and solemn night ... well, I would have at least thought, isn't it past their bedtime?

My daughter Linnea is now almost 2 ½ years old, and she loves church. It is the highlight of her week. I know that is because of the experience that is carefully created there—the people who love her, the opportunity to stand close to the altar during the Communion, the Soft Space where she can read and play when she needs to. And, yes, getting to wear her fancy black shoes.

Listening to Kate's Palm Sunday sermon about the physicality of the Triduum service, I was filled with a desire to bring Linnea and have her take part in the foot-washing. She has read the Bible story about Jesus washing the feet of his disciples. It would be something she could understand, even as a small child, and have a real part of, even as a small child. It was also a huge risk.

The last thing I wanted was to take away from the solemn and beautiful experience of the service for others. But when I told Linnea I would be going to church for an extra service, she said, “Nea church too?!” She started talking about it first thing Thursday morning.

But even a rookie like me recognizes that no amount of preparatory excitement promises good behavior at the event.

And we had just settled in from the opening hymn when 1-month-old Anneke started fussing, just as Linnea brought me a book from the shelf to read. Things were going to get ugly, quickly.

That was when Karen Schragle appeared and quietly sat down on the floor in front of the bookcase. Linnea went to her and sat in her lap, listened to story after story, through the readings and the sermon. I was able to quiet Anneke. Disaster temporarily averted.

Then came the moment I had been waiting for. As people lined up in the aisle, Linnea said, “Nea too?” She didn't know it was the foot washing, didn't know this was the reason I had brought her—she just knew everyone was going up, so she probably should, too.

At this point I began looking around for one of the girls' many “aunties,” of which they are blessed with many at the church. I realized with happiness that there were many families present whom I had known since arriving at the church that I was sure would hold Anneke if asked. As all of the aunties were in line to have their own feet washed, I passed her to “Uncle” Steve Burns as we came up the aisle. He took her without question and with a smile, as though this had been our plan all along.

“Nea shoes off too?” We took off her shoes. (“Socks too,” she instructed, in case I had missed that. She's a first-born.)

The line moves quite slowly, of course, and she did get fidgety. But holding her up to watch the proceedings in the front kept her returning to the focus of the evening. “Are they washing their friends' feet?” I would whisper.

“Yeah,” she would reply in wonder.

“Just like Jesus?”

“Yeah!”

## “Like Jesus”

When we finally reached the front of the line, Connie Parrish sat down in the chair and I knelt before her, Linnea in my lap. The acolyte passed the pitcher of water. I narrated quietly as we proceeded.

“First we pour the water.” Then I held Linnea’s hands and together, we washed Connie’s feet.

“Are we washing Ms. Connie’s feet, just like Jesus?” I asked her.

“Yeah!”

When we finished and dried Connie’s feet, I turned and knelt beside the chair, and again pulled Linnea onto my lap.

“The water will be a little bit cold,” I warned her. I could just imagine her shrieking and fussing. But as “Mr. Steve” poured the water over her little toes, she was as solemn as I’ve ever seen her. It was a beautiful moment.

Of course, by the time communion came, it was way past bedtime, and keeping her calm and quiet was growing increasingly difficult. She ended up needing to leave the altar because she was fussing. We returned to the Soft Space, but no sooner had we arrived, then she turned around and charged right back up the center aisle, black shoes CLOMP CLOMPING, arm up, pointing and saying, “Angel!”

When we got to the front, I realized she was saying, “Andrew!” As in, “There’s Reverend Andrew! That’s where I should be!”

I was torn at this point between feeling horribly guilty and embarrassed by her distracting behavior and being charmed that she had not wanted to miss the consecration.

After I received Communion, I gathered the girls up quickly to ensure that the solemn stripping of the altar at the end would be silent as it should be.

As we regrouped on the back stairs, Karen appeared to help us to our car. She said something like, “It’s great that you could come out for the service—I guess you knew you had back-up.” At Redeemer, we have always had back-up, when we knew we needed it and when we didn’t even know.

As I drove home, I thought wryly, I should write an apology to everyone who was at the service. So this is my note of apology—but also deep thanks. For a community that makes it possible to take part through its welcoming and caring, never judging and always helping. When Linnea was baptized, you promised to “do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ”... and you have.

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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Saturday May 9**

**J2A Silent Auction & Pasta Dinner with music from Highway 49**

On Saturday, May 9 the Journey to Adulthood program is hosting a special Dinner and Silent Auction to benefit their June pilgrimage to Acadia National Park.

With the impending renovations to the Great Hall, we hope that you will join us for this last bash in the venerable old parish hall, and enjoy a night of food, fun and music, all to help our youth take part in what promises to be a transformative journey.

Highway 49 will once again lend their musical talents to the evening, and there will be plenty of local treasures to bid on in the silent auction.





# The Early History of Church of Our Redeemer: Part Two

by Katharine A. Mockett

"I remember a big Christmas tree right in front of the pulpit, decorated with real candles", recalled Marcia Dane (1905 - 1997), a long time member of Redeemer. "My Dad brought in pails of water in case the tree caught fire. At the Christmas party, always in the afternoon, every child got a candy cane and a tangerine." These festivities most likely took place during the second decade of the 20th century.

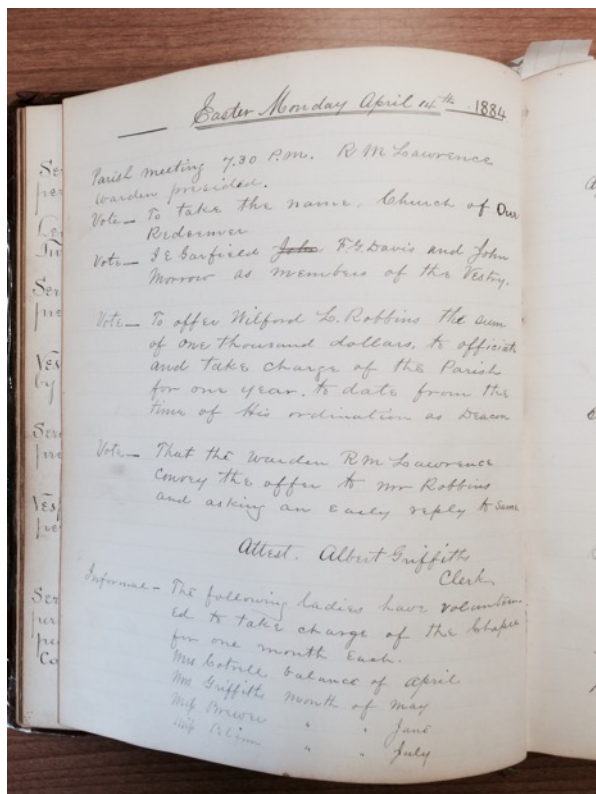
By this time the church building was about 25 years old. Enthusiasm, persistence and many contributions, both financial and time-wise, brought the church from a rented meeting room on Massachusetts Avenue to a beautiful building on the corner of Meriam Street and Oakland Street where the Greek Orthodox Church now stands.

Dr. Lawrence, who was Senior Warden in 1884, presided at a meeting on April 14 of that year. It was then that a vote was taken and approved to name the church in Lexington The Church of Our Redeemer. It was also voted that day to ask Rev.

Wilford L. Robbins to take charge of the parish for one year, with a salary of one thousand dollars. September 18 of the year 1884 Rev. Robbins presided at his first service.

As the congregation grew, a group of parishioners decided it was time to buy some land so that Redeemer could have its own building on its own land. On November 26, 1884, land was purchased at the corner of Oakland and Meriam Streets for a sum of \$500. The lot was 100 feet by 125. It was deeded to Dr. Lawrence who agreed to hold the land for the church until the church became an organized parish. On June 24, 1884, the land was conveyed to the Church of Our Redeemer.

The architectural firm E.A.P. Newcomb of Boston drew up the plans for the church, and on June 24, 1886, the congregation held its first service in the new church.



Notes from the Vestry meeting on April 14, 1884



Church of Our Redeemer Oakland and Meriam Streets undated  
Photo Courtesy of the Cary Memorial Library, Lexington, MA

While this article is focussed on the church from 1884 to the early 1900s, there are some other memories worth mentioning

## The Early History of Church of Our Redeemer: Part Two

Marcia Dane recalled that around 1912 on the opposite side of where we sat “sat a group of children brought in from the farms on the ‘barge’ (a horse-drawn bus).....the Vestry notes occasionally question whether the church should continue to pay for the barge, but they always did.”

A long term parishioner, Edith Carlson, celebrated her wedding day at Redeemer on October 5, 1947 at 8 PM. Her husband, Herb Carlson was 24 on that happy day and Edith was 23.



LEFT: Edith and Herb Carlson inside Church of Our Redeemer Oct 5, 1947

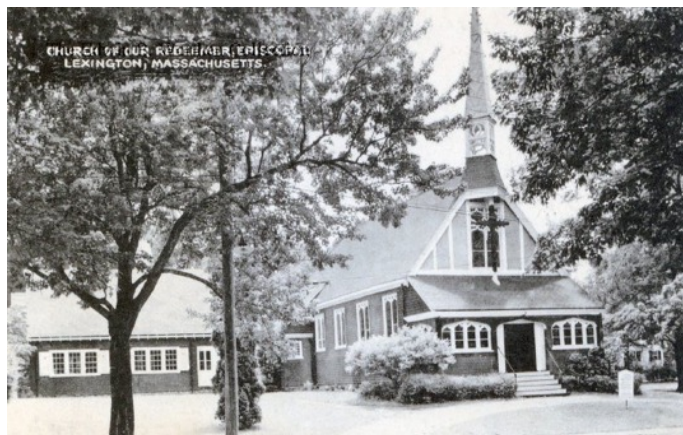
BELOW: Edith & Herb Carlson's wedding at Church of Our Redeemer, October 5, 1947



Her husband, Herb, one of the florists in town, found himself “going to church”, actually, 14 churches, every Saturday afternoon to deliver and set up all the flowers throughout Lexington for Sunday services.

One of the fund raisers Edith and Carl attended that parishioners enjoyed was an evening at Redeemer playing a card game called military whist. Card tables were set up in the Parish Hall and many parishioners attended these games.

She recalls that her children went to Sunday School in the basement of the church. The “floors” were dirt. Peg Wright adds that there was a granite ledge in the basement and that during Sunday School the kids would lean against the ledge. Apparently the parishioners had to clamber over this ledge if they used the basement entrance located on Oakland Street.



Church of Our Redeemer and Parish Hall, undated  
Photo Courtesy of Cary Memorial Library, Lexington, MA

Some residents of Lexington remember Hurricane Carol which blew through Lexington in 1954. Peter Lund was on Patriots Drive during the storm visiting friends. Redeemer's steeple blew off during this time and landed in quite an interesting position on the ground. Although Peter did not see the actual “landing”, he went out immediately after the hurricane and saw the steeple in the ground.

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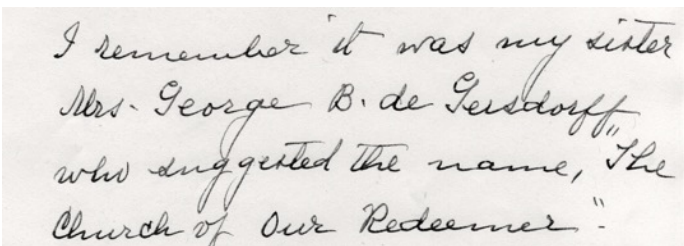


## The Early History of Church of Our Redeemer: Part Two



Church of Our Redeemer  
September, 1954 after Hurricane Carol  
Photo Courtesy of Cary Memorial Library, Lexington, MA

And now, the answer to the question about who named the church: Who? Dr. Lawrence? No. There is nothing in the Vestry notes about who suggested the name but a letter in our archives shows the person who came up with this name. Madeleine Lawrence (born in 1871) and her sister, Isabel, (born in 1873), were the daughters of Dr. Robert Lawrence and his wife, Katherine née Cleaveland. They were both active in the church. It was Isabel, the younger of the two, who at 11 years old, had the idea of naming the church according to the letter Madeleine Lawrence wrote in 1937.



Letter written on November 12 1937  
by Madeleine Lawrence to Mr. Miles

The title of the next and final article is “**Marcia Dane:** Her Gifts to Redeemer, Lexington and other Communities despite Significant Physical Challenges”.

## Giving Garden News

On Sunday, May 10, we will celebrate Rogation Sunday with a 9:30 worship service giving thanks for God's gifts in creation and praying to take good care of the world God has given us. We will also bless the Giving Garden as the garden beds get ready for the growing season, to grow food for our neighbors at the Lexington Food Pantry, and bless seeds and seedlings.

Please bring your own seeds or seedlings to church and we will give them a blessing before you take them home and plant them. Come and celebrate spring and the fruits of the earth!

Rogation Sunday is the day when the Church has traditionally offered prayer for God's blessings on the fruits of the earth and the labors of those who produce our food. The word “rogation” is from the Latin *rogare*, “to ask.” Historically, the Rogation Days (the three days before Ascension Day) were a period of fasting and abstinence, beseeching God's blessing on the crops for a bountiful harvest. Few of us today directly derive our livelihood from the production of food, yet it is good to be reminded of our dependence upon those who do and our responsibility for the environment.

A prayer for Rogation Day is found on page 258 in our prayerbook:

*Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth: We humbly pray that your gracious providence may give and preserve to our use the harvests of the land and of the seas, and may prosper all who labor to gather them, that we, who are constantly receiving good things from your hand, may always give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

We invite all members of the Redeemer Community to help tend the Giving Garden this year. It doesn't matter if you have a green thumb or not. Our master gardener, Donna Moultrup will provide the guidance you need - all you need to do is be willing to water the garden during a week of your choosing and then harvest the veggies for the Food Pantry on Friday. You can sign up for your week online here: [http://www.our-redeemer.net/church-life/volunteer-sign-up/?sheet\\_id=8](http://www.our-redeemer.net/church-life/volunteer-sign-up/?sheet_id=8)

Rogation Day information from: <http://stpaulsivy.org/did-you-know-series/did-you-know-rogation-sunday/>



# Vestry News

*by Sarah Conrad, Clerk of the Vestry*

April continued to be a busy time for those working to finalize the details to ensure our ability to move forward with the Great Hall renovation project. We are excited that everything came together in mid-April and the vestry authorized engaging in a contract with Bowdoin Construction for this project. The contract is now signed and work should begin in May!

The beginning of April included many moving pieces. With enhanced support from parishioners through increased pledges and accelerated payment plans, we were able to decrease the amount we needed to borrow by enough to take advantage of the more favorable loan options from the Diocese. In mid-April, the Diocese Loan and Standing Committees approved our loan request allowing us to move forward with the project.

In addition to our appreciation for the increased support from the full community, the vestry is extremely grateful for the incredibly hard work of the Building Committee, Finance Committee, and Realizing our Vision Team. The time and talent they have devoted to this project over the last year and, most specifically, over the last few months have been well above and beyond anything we could have expected. From those groups, we would like to give particular thanks to Christopher Huggins, Jim Neumann, Chris Needham, and George Murnaghan. Their leadership has been critical to allowing us to move forward with this exciting and important project.

In addition to our focus on the Great Hall, vestry members also are eager to renew our commitment to the liaison role for the various committees of our community. At our April meeting we discussed the role of the vestry liaison and assignments were made. As introduced by our senior warden, Ian Fox, we agreed that the duties of a vestry liaison include:

- Help each committee further the vision and growth of our church
- Support committee leaders, and ensure they are identifying and developing new leaders
- Encourage committees to listen, discern, and open themselves to the Spirit
- Help committees invite new participation and challenge their members to grow
- Help each committee discern how to change and expand their work to take advantage of the renovated Great Hall
- Help each committee communicate what they are doing
- Ultimately, expanding our sense of community and shared purpose

The assignments are as follows:

Stewardship – Karen Schragle & Bill Vogelee  
Worship & Music – Ian Fox  
Christian Formation – Ray Cantwell & Zach Stevens  
Property – Christopher Huggins  
Church Community – Julia Francis  
Communication – John Bernhard & Lee Noel Chase  
Mission – Sarah Conrad  
Finance – Russ Antonevich

Finally, at our April meeting Kate shared national church data on attendance and membership, trends, and analysis. This information provides strong context for the anticipated discussion at our May meeting about Redeemer's membership and pledge data. With the context of national trends and information about our own experience, we look forward to thinking about where we've been, where we are, and where we are going.

Please don't hesitate to follow up with any vestry member on questions you may have. We're very excited about all that's happening and would be more than happy to speak with you! Our next vestry meeting is on Wednesday, May 20.

# Property Committee News

*by Christopher Huggins, Property Committee Chair*

**Paving:** Good News! The Town of Lexington volunteered to patch the parking lot. It gives them an opportunity to use up blacktop at the end of the day. This will save us over \$1,200. We contacted Marc Valenti, Highway Superintendent for Lexington, to see if they can “help” with the catch basin and with resurfacing the entire parking lot sometime in the future. They are not allowed to be involved in private property construction to this degree. We have, therefore, signed a contract for a private contractor to rebuild our parking lot catch basin in the next several weeks.

**Tree Trimming:** Similarly, we reached out to the Lexington Public Ground’s Department to see if they think the trees along the parking lot belong to the town and would be willing to come in with a bucket truck to do trimming and selective removal of dead trees and trim back the branches that are overhanging the parking lot. They confirmed that the trees are on **our** property. So, a tree service came in on April 23 to do the trimming. It has been **many** years (never?) since any trimming has happened. There were many dead trees and branches. The Canadian Hemlocks at the rear right of the parking lot no longer allow light to flood the parking lot from the pole. This trimming should eliminate the complaints from those who felt it was too dark and unsafe at the back of our lot. (Unfortunately, the Hemlocks are dying from [Woolly Adelgid](#). These trees belong to our neighbors who gave us permission to trim them.) The three ornamental trees along the side of the church were trimmed as well as trees along the back left hand side of the rear parking lot. Things look a little bare back there now, but will fill in as spring growth appears.

**Note:** Feel free to take the cut wood home for your fireplace.

**Front left bush:** The bush to the left of the front steps of the church was damaged this winter breaking a major branch. This is leaving an unsightly gap. It may be that the damage has created a hole that may never “heal” and we need to think of replacing both bushes.

**Spring Clean-up:** took place on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. The main focus was spreading mulch around the gardens and bushes. A good time was had by all.

**Giving Garden Shepherds:** The **Redeemer Giving Garden** provides nutritious and delicious vegetables and herbs for our neighbors. Won’t you consider volunteering for a week of service watering, weeding and harvesting this year? This is a wonderful way for you and your family to learn more about gardening and relax in our bountiful vegetable garden.

**The Green Team (mowers):** We are looking to save the church precious resources by **cutting the lawn ourselves**, and we need your help. You can pick whatever day or time to mow to fit your schedule. Come home from work early and take a spin on the riding mower! You will be done before the sun sets. Training to use the mower is provided! The last several years Lance Conrad did most of the cutting. He could use your help, especially in the spring, at the end of August and beginning of September.

**Memorial and Labyrinth Garden Caretakers:** This is a new volunteer opportunity to weed and provide some TLC to both of these areas.

**Please sign up** for any of these volunteer opportunities by accessing the volunteer page of our website: <http://www.our-redeemer.net/church-life/volunteer-sign-up/>

# Building Committee/Construction Report

*by Christopher Huggins, Building Committee*

**Very Exciting News!** We signed the contract with Bowdoin Construction. This is a momentous event for our parish. Soon our Great Hall will look very “refreshed”. We will have a centrally located modern elevator and accessible bathrooms. The kitchen will have a new floor, a fresh coat of paint, and new stove(s) with additional counter space on either side.

We are all appreciative of all the hard work of our Finance Committee, and in particular ad hoc member Chris Needham for his many hours of financial analysis and his work with the Diocese to secure a bridge loan. We should also be very proud of how our community has stepped up with both additional pledges to help close the gap and acceleration of the pledges to reduce the loan. **Thank you and congratulations everyone. We did it together.**

**Plan for Construction:** The plan is to begin renovation on **Monday, May 11**. Assuming all goes well, we will have everything done by the end of August.

**Moving:** Between now and May 11<sup>th</sup>, we will need help with preparing our spaces for construction. (Please see the report from the Moving Committee.) As my wise and dear Mother used to say, “many hands make light work”. If we all pitch in, we can empty the Great Hall, lobby, kitchen, upstairs hallway, and move Lisa down the hallway for the summer. We only have until the end of Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup> to complete the moves.

**Relocation of Main Office:** Lisa’s office will be moved to Atrium III (between the choir room and Andrew’s office) by Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. (See sign up sheets to help please.)

## **Initial Construction Schedule and access:**

**Week of May 11-15: Demolition:** The first week Bowdoin begins demolition of the main office, Great Hall ceiling, and the lower level bathrooms. During the day that week one gains access to the offices through Lexington Playcare’s (LPC) playground entrance only.

**Week of May 18-22: Abatement Week:** Dec-Tam Environmental does asbestos removal. What will be removed? The licensed abatement experts will **remove the floor tiles** in the downstairs ladies room, side entrance stairs and landings, kitchen floor, downstairs lobby, upstairs hallway and under the carpet of the main office. Both upstairs and downstairs will become the “containment area” for these five days with no access by unauthorized personnel. We will be able to access the church every weekend. During the early weeks on weekdays we will have access to offices through LPC’s playground doors only.

**Week of May 25-28: More Demo:** Contractor begins to do demo of the lower lobby’s concrete floor to make room for the elevator. This lower level will be off limits all summer. Also this week, carpenters will begin to build the new wall for the main office. Lisa will be in her temporary office all summer.

## **What rooms and entrance are available to use and when?**

- **Main Side Entrance:** closed often in May and early June depending on when contractors are working on the elevator upstairs and rebuilding the main office.
- **LPC Entrance in the playground:** will become our main entrance for much of May and June especially during the day.
- **Meeting Room:** except for Abatement week, this room downstairs will be available every evening. During the daytime it should be available, but sometimes will be noisy.
- **Conference Room:** except for Abatement Week, this room will also be available. The first few weeks it may be noisy during the day. Available evenings, too.
- **Church:** available every Sunday and most of the week.
- **Kate’s Office:** accessible every week except during abatement May 18-22
- **Andrew’s office:** always accessible
- **Lisa’s Temporary office:** always accessible
- **Handley Library:** accessible increasingly as the summer goes on
- **Great Hall, Lower Level, Kitchen, Lower Bathrooms:** closed all summer

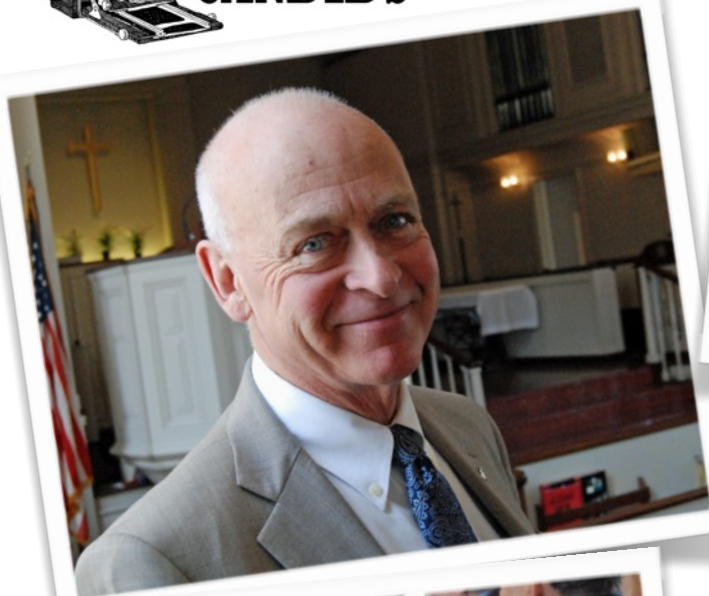
Signage and emails will be used to keep the parish informed.

Thanks for everyone’s support and patience. It’s a unique challenge to be doing so much construction in the center of our church. But, it won’t last for long!





## REDEEMER CANDIDS



**This Page:** Scenes from Easter Worship on April 5th.

**Opposite Page:** Scenes from the Annual Redeemer Patriots Day Pancake Breakfast on April 20th





## Ministry Opportunities

### Nepal Earthquake Response Fund

A 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck Nepal on the morning of April 25, causing severe damage and loss of life across the small nation.

Episcopal Relief and Development is already on the scene helping with relief efforts. This fund will help meet urgent needs such as food, clean water and shelter, as well as support for assessment and search and rescue teams in the initial phase of the disaster, through the ACT Alliance in Nepal and with ERD's partners in surrounding areas including northern India and southwest China. Following the initial relief phase, this fund will continue to support longer-term recovery efforts with local partners.

If you would like to give, you can learn more at: [www.episcopalrelief.org](http://www.episcopalrelief.org).

### Parent Support Group - Teens & Tweens

Could you use some support while navigating the waters of teen- and tween-dom?

Looking for a nonjudgmental opportunity to share your joys, fears, frustrations, and happiness whiling raising a teen or tween in today's culture?

**We would, too!**

Contact Paula Antonevich (pkantonevich@verizon.net) or Kate Ekrem (kate@our-redeemer.net) to let us know if you're interested.

Please complete the Doodle Poll online at <http://doodle.com/v7y98xsc9crrm65r> and we'll narrow down a mutually convenient time to meet.

We'll try to meet monthly, perhaps discuss a relevant article or book, and share!

### COFFEE HOUR HELP NEEDED FOR MAY



There is urgent need for assistance with coffee hour in May. Paula is unable to assume leadership for this ministry for May.

Please contact Paula or sign up online at: <http://vols.pt/j1RZad>

### Redeeming Knitters

The Redeeming knitters will not meet during the month of May.

Stay tuned for the June meeting dates.



### Altar Flower Donations



You can sign up online, <http://tinyurl.com/n57yew2> to donate altar flowers, or at the church on the sign-up sheets located in the hallway.

Please remember to drop-off or mail your \$45 check to the Church Office. The check is payable to Church of Our Redeemer.

If you have any questions, please call or email Lisa Bozkurtian, 781-862-6408 or [office@our-redeemer.net](mailto:office@our-redeemer.net).



# Calendar

MAY 2015		
SAT & SUN	2 & 3	INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY MOVING DAY
SUNDAY	3	8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:50 AM Adult Christian Formation - Exploring Worship
TUESDAY	5	9:30 AM Education for Ministry - Morning Group 7:30 PM Education for Ministry - Evening Group 7:30 PM Adult Choir Practice
SATURDAY	9	5:30 PM J2A Silent Auction & Pasta Dinner
SUNDAY	10	ROGATION SUNDAY
SUNDAY	10	8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II - Blessing of the 2015 Giving Garden 10:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:50 AM Adult Christian Formation - Exploring Worship 12:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting
TUESDAY	12	9:30 AM Education for Ministry - Morning Group 7:30 PM Education for Ministry - Evening Group 7:30 PM Adult Choir Practice
THURSDAY	14	ASCENSION DAY
SUNDAY	17	YOUTH SUNDAY
		8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:50 AM Adult Christian Formation
MONDAY	18	7:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting
TUESDAY	19	9:30 AM Education for Ministry - Morning Group 7:30 PM Education for Ministry - Evening Group 7:30 PM Adult Choir Practice
WEDNESDAY	20	6:30 PM Vestry Meeting
SUNDAY	24	PENTECOST
		8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:50 AM Giving Garden Planting Day 10:50 AM Adult Formation
MONDAY	25	MEMORIAL DAY - Church office closed 7:30 PM Mission Meeting
TUESDAY	26	9:30 AM Education for Ministry - Morning Group 7:30 PM Education for Ministry - Evening Group 7:30 PM Adult Choir Practice

When online, be sure to...



**VISIT** the Redeemer home page!  
<http://our-redeemer.net>



**LIKE** us on Facebook!  
<http://tinyurl.com/LexRedeemerFB>

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Church of Our Redeemer, are a warm and welcoming Christian community of faith and a parish of the Episcopal Church. As members of the worldwide community of Christians, we accept God's call to be Christ's living presence through the celebration of the Eucharist and the sharing of the Gospel.

With God's grace, we are dedicated to creating a community that listens to one another, that encourages strong leadership and participation among our members, and that fosters trust by recognizing each person's gifts.

We are committed to ministering to one another and to nurturing our spiritual growth so that we may go forth to serve Christ in Lexington and other communities in which we live and work.