

"Serving on a church committee may not sound like a spiritual-growth opportunity, but it is.

Certainly meetings can be long. Assignments can be difficult. Feelings can be hurt.

But...the Gospel gets carried out in the real world— and a church committee is as real as it gets."

(Louis Towson, The Effective Church Committee, 1999)

Acolytes

The Acolyte team is part of the Redeemer Ministry of Worship. The Acolytes assist in worship by carrying the processional cross(es), lighting candles, holding the Gospel book, holding candles or "torches", assisting our clergy with set up and clean up at the altar, swinging a thurible or carrying the incense boat, and many other tasks as seen fit by our clergy staff. The goals are to build on their Atrium liturgical learnings by actively participating in services throughout the year, gain confidence in their abilities and build relationships with their teammates. All folks 18 and younger can join the team.

Leader: John A. Wright, Jr. wrightjrja@verizon.net

Members: Jake Conrad, Janie Conrad, Ben Malcolm Fox, Rory Fox, Ben Friesner, Caroline Jacoby, Hannah Jacoby, Linnea Kalf, Luke Ong-Brown, Nate Voss, Jack Williams, Nate Williams, Ashley Wright, John Wright, Lindsey Wright, Grace Yung, and Luke Yung.

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild's ministry is to care for the altar, vessels, and linens of the parish. Members of the Altar Guild prepare the sanctuary for celebration of the Eucharist, clean up after services, and decorate the altar for special events during the church year. Their work is essential to offering worship that is beautiful, reverent, and accessible to all.

Co-Chairs: Debbie LeBlanc and Connie Parrish ydleb@comcast.net connie.parrish@verizon.net

Members: Sandy Anagostakis, Valerie Clausen, Debbie LeBlanc, Ginny Neumann, and Connie Parrish

Atrium Singers

The Atrium Singers is comprised of all children enrolled in the Atrium II & III classes (grades 1-5). We meet on the Sundays when Atrium takes place for 20 minutes as part of the Atrium Christian education program. Children also have the opportunity to sing as a group at various times throughout the year.

Directed by: Dr. Bernadette Colley musicdirector@ourredeemerlexington.org

Choir

The Adult Choir welcomes all who like to sing, at all skill levels and in many musical styles. We currently meet on Sundays from 12:00-1:30 PM in the church.

Directed by: Dr. Bernadette Colley musicdirector@ourredeemerlexington.org

Members: Sandy Anagnostakis, Erica Brotschi, Karen Daniels, Murray Daniels, Marie Efromson, Sean Fullerton, Tony Johnson, Linda Kukolich, Adele Purvis, Regina Rockefeller, Marcia Skiff-Doan, Sam Stevens, Cathy VandenHeuvel, and Mary Ann Ziegler.

Christian Formation for Children and Youth

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is our primary Christian Formation for children ages 3-12. The model is based upon Montessori principles, allowing children to encounter God through tactile play (called "work" in the Atrium), prayer, and age-appropriate Bible stories. The youngest children begin with Jesus and the image of the Good Shepherd, as we encourage them to fall in love with God.

Catechists: Peter Koso, Linda Kukolich, and Lori Wright

Assistant: Evelyn Hausslein

Rite 13 and J2A

Journey to Adulthood takes place in two separate two-year cohorts. The Rite 13 group (6-7th graders) focuses on building community and recognizing the gift of adulthood, marked by a Rite 13 Ceremony which takes place on a Sunday morning during the 9:30 service. After those two years together, they move to J2A, which is geared towards building on this experience and putting into practice the skills of adulthood. The group plans a culminating Pilgrimage at the end of the second year. Following this, they are encouraged to take part in a yearlong Confirmation Class and then are invited, if they choose, to be confirmed by one of our bishops. Fall 2022 was the start of the two-year cohorts, so fall of 2024 will be our next Confirmation Class.

Leaders:

Rite 13: Erica Brotschi and Mtr. Emily García

J2A: Helene Sullas-Huggins and TBD

Confirmation: Mtr. Emily García & Omar De Paolis

Mtr. Emily García assistantrector@ourredeemerlexington.org

Counters

The Counters ensure that parishioner gifts to Our Redeemer are received carefully and accurately. It is important that every contribution and payment to the church is credited correctly, and for the purpose intended by the donor/payer.

Leader: Alix Fox

alixobrien@hotmail.com

Counters: Susan Burkhardt, Alix Fox, Dabbie Harter, and Ellen Weene

Deanery

The Diocese of Massachusetts is divided into twelve regional deaneries. We are part of the Alewife Deanery, which includes Lexington, Bedford, Burlington, Belmont, Waltham, and parts of Cambridge. Our deanery representatives represent Redeemer at the quarterly Deanery Assemblies where the 15 churches in our deanery come together to share ideas, offer mutual support, and to learn what's going on in the larger diocese. All are welcome to attend Deanery Assemblies. Our deanery reps are also our elected representatives to the annual Diocesan Convention, which is the legislative session of our diocese.

Deanery Representatives: Sarah Klein, Connie Parrish, and Mike Webb

EfM Groups

EfM (Education for Ministry) at the Church of Our Redeemer, Lexington meets 9:30 AM-12:00 noon on Tuesdays by Zoom from the first week in September through the third week of May. EfM is a nationwide program in Practical Theology with its headquarters at the University of the South in Sewanee, TN.

EfM is based in a set of 5 core principles that support us and form us in the various ministries to which we are called: Living in Community, Regular Prayer and Worship, Theological Reflection, Study of the Christian Tradition, and Vocational Discernment. Participants may sign up for 1-4 years. The course of study concentrations are: Year 1: Old Testament, Year 2: New Testament, Year 3: History of Christianity, and Year 4: Theology and must be taken in that sequence. Tuition is paid by participants with some financial support from our Diocese. A few scholarships may be available. Enrollment is accepted from inside and outside of Redeemer. Each EfM seminar is limited to no fewer than six and no more than twelve participants in any given program year.

In order to continue in EfM after graduating from the four-year program, one may become a mentor. Mentors are required to train and then renew training every 18 months.

Mentor: M. J. Fietze mjruns@comcast.net

Finance/Investment Committee

Redeemer's Finance Committee meets once a month, usually the Sunday before Vestry meetings each month, and our main activities include reviewing the prior month's financial report for presentation to Vestry. We review income and expense at a detailed level, provide input to other committees and budget managers to try to keep the Church on track with the budget, and recommend Vestry action where necessary. We also review and prepare revisions to financial policies, and beginning as early as August, we prepare a first draft of budget projections for the following year, and continuing through January we support Vestry's budget deliberations, maintain detailed historical budget performance data, make income and expense projections, and provide budget recommendations for Vestry consideration. We produce minutes each month, and also support an Investment Sub-Committee that meets each quarter to monitor our investment funds, their performance, and allocations among asset classes – and also make recommendations to Vestry when change is needed.

Chair: Ian Fox ifox@alumni.upenn.edu

Members: John Bernhard, Winthrop Brown, Sarah Conrad, Ian Fox, Tony Johnson, George Murnaghan, Sam Stevens, and Bill Vogele

Liturgy Team

The purpose of the Liturgy Team is to provide lay liturgical support for worship at Redeemer. The members share the responsibility for all the liturgical functions, which include preparation of the altar, greeting, read scripture lessons, collecting the offering, leading the Prayers of the People and offering the chalice at communion. Aside from these duties, being part of the Liturgy Team builds community and fellowship within our community. Everyone is invited to participate.

Chair: Bob Powers

powersbob@hotmail.com

Members: John Bernhard, Cassie & Randy Bowlby, Cathy Burns, Judi Dimicelli, Bethany & Richard Friesner, Jeanne Jacoby, Deb Jacoby-Twigg, Linda Kukolich, Debbie LeBlanc, Kathy Mockett, Connie Parrish, Jackie Potdevin, Karen Schragle, and Sam Stevens

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is elected by the Vestry and consists of five members and one alternate member. The Committee is charged with nominating the Church's Officers (Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Clerk, and Treasurer), Vestry and Deanery representatives for election at the Church's next Annual Meeting.

2022 Members: John Bernhard, Susan Burkhardt, Haynes Porter, Karen Schragle, and Dan Voss

Parish Retreat

The Parish Retreat Leaders coordinate the All-Parish Retreat weekend, usually held in the fall at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center. The duties include creating promotional materials, encouraging attendance, managing the finances, overseeing the contract with the camp, generating information and forms, planning formal programs and recreational and social activities, assigning rooms and cabins, recruiting help from the attendees and reporting back to the parish after the event.

Contact: rector@ourredeemerlexington.org

Pastoral Care Team

Pastoral Care Team supports our home bound parishioners and anyone in need of spiritual care and support with physical and/or prayer presence, reminding them they continue to be vital members of the Redeemer community.

Contact: rector@ourredeemerlexington.org

Members: Cassie Bowlby, Mary Ann Burnside, Evelyn Hausslein, Bill Vogele, and the Clergy

Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee is responsible for defining and administering the personnel policies for the Church. We maintain the Personnel Handbook and make recommendations on salary, benefits, and other matters, in accordance with Diocesan guidelines. We assist the Rector on questions of staff performance, job duties, and goals. We work with payroll services to ensure that salary and benefit payments are managed in an effective and timely manner. We support the vestry by making an annual recommendation on the Personnel budget, and by providing forecasts on future Personnel costs.

Chair: Ian Fox

ifox@alumni.upenn.edu

Members: Ian Fox, Jim Neumann, and the Wardens

Property Committee

Responsible for overseeing the maintenance and repair of the church and rectory including annual capital projects. The committee greatly appreciates the participation of parishioners who help accomplish the many money-saving needs and goals.

Chair: Christopher Huggins christohug@gmail.com

Members: Randy Bowlby, Steve Burns, Bruce Francis, Bill Vogele, John Wright, the Parish Administrator, and the Sexton

Racial Equity Action Group

REAG's mission is to educate the parish about racial justice, share opportunities for getting involved, and coordinate our racial justice work. Currently team members are working with the Lexington Police Department to improve policing practices, and facilitating the townwide Dismantling Racism in our Town group.

Co-chairs: John Bernhard, Endy Chiakpo, and Peter Jacoby jhbernhard2@gmail.com endychia@gmail.com pjacoby@gmail.com

Regathering Team

The Regathering Team recommends appropriate guidelines to the Vestry for church gatherings during the pandemic in response to state and diocesan guidelines and other metrics.

Chair: Dr. Erica Brotschi eranbro@gmail.com

Members: Cassie Bowlby, Erica Brotschi, Murray Daniels, Richard Friesner, Christopher Huggins, and the Clergy

Social Action Committee

In mission we seek to be Christ's heart and hands in the world in partnership with people, organizations and other religious communities. The Mission Committee meets monthly to discuss mission ministry priorities, sharing mission opportunities with the parish community, and provide support to mission ministry leaders.

Chair: Sarah Conrad sconrad75@gmail.com

Members: John Bernhard and Sarah Conrad (Grow Clinic); Erica Brotschi (St. Christopher's Mission, Navajoland); Susan Burkhardt (Redeeming Knitters); Steve Burns (Habitat for Humanity); Ingrid Klimoff and Ashley Rooney (LexRAP); George Murnaghan and John Bernhard (LexEat); Mia Ong (Esperanza); Regina Rockefeller (Bristol Lodge); Sam Stevens and Hao Doan (Patriot's Day breakfast); Donna Bradley, Jim Bradley Cathy Burns, Evelyn Hausslein, and Calie Koso

Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee organizes the annual fall campaign, including mailings, inviting testimonials and following up with members. Throughout the year the Committee develops new projects (such as the Legacy Society) and helps promote the idea of stewardship as an expression of our faith.

Co-Chairs: Connie Parrish and Bill Vogele connie.parrish@verizon.net vogelewi@gmail.com

Members: Randy Bowlby and Winthrop Brown

Technical Team (Service Livestreaming)

The Tech Team operates the camera and computers for our online worship service. Typically, there are two team members each Sunday: one in the balcony as the camera operator, and the other making sure the live stream gets from Facebook to our web page.

Members: Randy Bowlby, Murray Daniels, Ian Fox, Charles Hornig, and Bill Vogele

Vestry

The Vestry is responsible for the fiduciary and legal leadership of the parish, per our bylaws and the diocesan canons. Vestry meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM. Vestry meetings are open to all who wish to attend.

Wardens: Murray Daniels and Sarah Conrad murray.daniels@gmail.com sconrad75@gmail.com

Treasurer: Winthrop Brown

treasurer@ourredeemerlexington.org

Clerk: Cathy Burns hcburns5@gmail.com

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee advises the rector on how to improve and enhance the worship life of the parish, in keeping with our Episcopal tradition and Redeemer values of intergenerational, mission-oriented, quality worship that is reverent without being uptight.

Contact: rector@ourredeemerlexington.org

The committee includes the leaders of the altar guild, liturgy team, acolytes, and choir as well as members-at- large. Current members are: Bernadette Colley, Murray Daniels, Charles Hornig, Cara Kalf, Katharine Mockett, Connie Parrish, Bob Powers, Mary Ucci, and John Wright

Youth Group (High School) (Sunday Night)

The goal of youth group is to provide time for high school students of the parish to gather on a weekly basis. Youth group members cook dinner together, participate in mission activities, plan worship activities, or just go and have fun together.

Adult Leaders: Cathy Burns and Steve Burns hcburns5@gmail.com a65corvair@verizon.net