Church of the Redeemer
201 South Wilbur Avenue
Sayre, Pennsylvania 18840

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February 2014

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Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

To Live-To Follow-To Share God

201 South Wilbur Ave. Sayre, PA 18840

570-888-2270

www.redeemersayre.org

Parish office email: credeemer2@stny.rr.com

To contact Fr. Glenn for emergencies: 607-226-6882

To contact Emily Cole with information for the newsletter: emilycole09@gmail.com

Worship at Redeemer

Saturday at 5:15 pm, Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Sunday at 8 am, Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Sunday at 10:30 am, Choral Eucharist, Rite II
Wednesdays at 12:05am in the Church

Other Sunday Ministries at Redeemer

Sunday School for children begins at 9:30am downstairs.
Please join us for coffee hour following the 10:30 service.
Youth Group for teenagers meets Sundays from 5 to 7pm

2014 FEBRUARY						
SUNDAY	**MONDAY**	**TUESDAY**	**WEDNESDAY**	**THURSDAY**	**FRIDAY**	**SATURDAY**
						1 **Souper Bowl of Caring** **5:15pm-HE Rite 2**
2 Epiphany 4 **Souper Bowl Sunday** **8am-HE Rite 1** **9:30am-Sunday School** **10:30am-HE Rite 2** **11:30am-Coffee Hour** **5-7pm-Youth Group**	**3** **9:30am-SWSB (Hall)** **7pm-Sons of Joseph (parlor)**	**4** **5pm-WOWS (Hall)** **6pm-St. Mary's**	**5** **9:30am-SWSB (Hall)** **12:05pm-HE (Parlor)** **6:30pm-Boy Scouts (Hall)**	**6** **6pm – Worship Comm.** **7pm-Choir Practice (Parlor)**	**7**	**8** **5:15pm-HE Rite 2**
9 Epiphany 5 **Scout Sunday** **8am-HE Rite 1** **9:30am-Sunday School** **10:30am-He Rite 2** **11:30am-Coffee Hour** **5-7pm-Youth Group**	**10** **9:30am-SWSB (Hall)**	**11** **5pm-WOWS (HALL)**	**12** **9:30AM-SWSB (Hall)** **11am-Sayre House** **12:05pm-HE (Parlor)** **6:30pm-Boyscouts (Hall)**	**13** **7pm-Choir Practice (Parlor)** **7pm-Bridge Meeting (Hall)**	**14** **Happy Valentines Day**	**15** **5:15pm-HE Rite 2**
16 Epiphany 6 **8am-HE Rite 1** **9:30am-Sunday School** **10:30am-HE Rite 2** **11:30 am-Coffee Hour** **5-7pm-Youth Group**	**17** **9:30am-SWSB (Hall)**	**18** **5pm-WOWS (Hall)** **6:30pm-Vestry (Parlor)**	**19** **9:30am-SWSB (Hall)** **12:05pm-HE (Parlor)** **6:30pm-Boy Scouts (Hall)**	**20** **7pm-Choir Practice (Parlor)**	**21**	**22** **11am-6pm Parish Hall reserved for fundraiser for cancer patient.** **5:15pm-HE Rite 2**
23 Epiphany 7 **8am-HE Rite 1** **9:30am-Sunday School** **10:30am-HE Rite 2** **11:30am-Coffee Hour** **5-7pm-Youth Group**	**24** **9:30am-SWSB (Hall)**	**25** **5pm-WOWS (Hall)**	**26** **9:30am-SWSB (Hall)** **12:05pm-HE (Parlor)** **6:30pm-Boy Scouts (Hall)**	**27** **4-6pm-Community Supper (Hall)** **7pm-Choir Practice (Hall)**	**28**	**1** **10am – Special Diocesan Convention (Bethlehem)** ***No Saturday night service tonight***

News Letter Deadline Feb. 23/Valley Food Pantry First Weekend of the Month

FEBRUARY NEWS

Church of the Redeemer

February 2014

Helping People With Heat

We have seen many people who are having a hard time with fuel oil in this cold weather. The minimum delivery of fuel oil is 100 gallons, which costs a little over $400. That kind of cost simply overwhelms budgets who are close to the edge anyway, working for low wages. This is particularly difficult for single parents, and even two income households with children. The Bridge can help once within a 7 year period, and the PA heating assistance program helps with $200 a year. If you would like to make a contribution to help with this need, you can make out a check to Redeemer and just put "heat" on the memo and it can go to Fr. Glenn's discretionary fund to help those who come into the office having difficulty. Some folks may remember that the discretionary funds are funded by interest income for three specific endowments. Last year these endowments produced $395 every 3 months, and $310 of the $395 total amount can only be used for parishioners of Redeemer.

New Vestry

At the Annual Meeting held on Sunday, January 26th, we had three people elected to Vestry to each serve a three year term. Those elected were Tracy Schamel (who will continue as Junior Warden), Loyd Moreno and Amy Murrelle. In addition to these three, it was announced that the Vestry appointed Rick Rhodes to fill the one year unexpired term of Joanne Lumley who resigned since she is living part of the year in Maryland with her daughter. Erin Wayman, who also ran for Vestry, will likely be the person appointed by the Vestry if there is a vacancy during the year. For her last year on the Vestry, Gretchen Rentschler, accepted the position of Senior Warden. Thanks to all who ran for Vestry, who offer their time to this important ministry of administration of our Parish! Thanks also to those who are going off the Vestry, Bruce Carpenter, who served as an excellent Senior Warden for several years, and Margaret Cole who finished her second term on the Vestry. The Annual Meeting also elected Tricia Schamel as Clerk of the Vestry for another year and Chuck Preston as the Treasurer.

Here is a full list of Vestry in 2014:
Gretchen Rentschler, Senior Warden, Tracy Schamel, Junior Warden, Tricia Schamel, Clerk of the Vestry, Chuck Preston, Treasurer, Loyd Mareno, Amy Murrelle, Linda Murrelle, Alice Bennett, Terri House, Jackie Luther, and Rick Rhodes

February Birthdays

Charles Lattimer	1
Keith Carpenter	3
Amber Ochab	3
Debbie Johnson	3
John Clare	4
David Maffei	4
Robert Davies	4
Aaron Dickson	9
James McPherson	11
Joyce Springer	11
Jeffrey Watson	11
Margaret Cole	12
Tyler Rhodes	12
Dan Wayman	14
Maria Elliot	14
Linda Dix	17
Lauren McCutcheon	17
Celia Watkins	19
Kay Lattimer	19
Doreen Marshall	20
Sherry Gabauer	20
Michael Gaieski	22
Laurie Gleockner	23
JoAnn Lumley	26
Mitzi Mohn	26
Seth Murrelle	26
Aimee Marshall	26
Raymond Pennoyer	29

February Anniversaries

Richard & Gwen Lacey	26
John & Tricia Johnson	28

From the Priest-in-Charge

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The scriptures a few weeks ago told the story about the call of Peter and Andrew (at least Matthew's rendition of the story). It is a story about two brothers who make a dramatic change in their lives, leaving their fishing business, risking it all to go with Jesus to catch people. Calls happen in all our lives in many different ways. Sometimes calls happen when we hear a dynamic teacher who hits a chord in us and we follow their path. Calls happen when we follow an inner desire to go into an occupation or to form a relationship with someone. Still other times, change occurs in our life or in our world that we have little or no control over (like health issues, job layoffs, or things that happen in our families), and we go looking for God's call to help us to move forward, admitting we don't have the power in ourselves to help ourselves against such uncontrollable circumstances.

What a story for Redeemer at this point in its 167 year history. This Parish is at a point where it is being called to look at how to do ministry now and how we wish to do ministry in the future. Perhaps it came as a surprise to some that in the Diocese of Bethlehem, only 38% of parishes were full time, 25% of its parishes were part time, and 37% of its parishes only used supply clergy. This is also a national trend, not only for the Episcopal Church, but for other denominations as well. The traditional one Priest/one Parish model of doing ministry in the Church is no longer the norm. So Redeemer is unusual in continuing to do ministry the way we have done ministry for as long as anyone can remember, employing a full time seminarian trained Priest.

There is a cost to doing ministry this way. It usually takes an average of 150-170 people in the pews on a Sunday to generate enough income to pay a full time Priest (currently we average about 74 on Sunday). We have paid for a full time Priest style of ministry for the past 20 years by drawing from the principal of our endowments to cover deficit budgets. At our current rate of usage we have about 10 years left in these endowments. **So, is God calling us to do ministry in a different way?** Just like Peter and Andrew, are we being called to follow Jesus into an uncertain future, living in faith in a new way? ***How do we discern an answer to such a question?***

To go in a different direction in ministry than what we have always known is not only very difficult, it also doesn't happen overnight. (Just think of hard it is and how long it takes to change something in your personal life.) It takes a preparation, starting with forethought, discernment and conversation. What is God calling this Parish to be in the future is a question that is before us, so we don't come to a point in 10 years when we have no further endowment on which to draw, and have no choice but to take draconian measures to even keep the doors open.

It was asked point blank at the Annual Meeting, what ministry options are there other than a full time Priest? Actually, if that is the direction we choose to go, there are quite a few and more being invented all the time. Some churches combine with other churches of the same denomination (like the Presbyterian churches are doing in the valley). There are other churches who share a pastor with another local church of a different denomination. Some churches hire a bi-vocational priest who has a part time or full time job outside of religious work. In these solutions the Priest is not expected to do all the things a full time residential priest would do.

There are still other scenarios. Some churches hire a retired Priest or a part time Priest, and some just have supply priests to do a service on Sundays (this is what Athens and Waverly do currently). There are many more models of ministry as well and more being developed all the time.

Some Parishes participate in "total ministry", where lay people are raised up and trained to take care of many of the tasks normally done by a residential Priest. For instance, a person in the congregation is raised up and trained to take care of Parish administrative tasks, another person is licensed by the Bishop to preach, another person is

From the Priest-in-Charge (cont)

trained to do pastoral calling and crisis management, another may be trained to be a worship leader. In this concept of "total ministry" these people work as a "ministry team" in conjunction with a Priest (who is often either a circuit rider or part time) and are under the supervision of the Vestry.

Of course, one of the options is also maintaining a full time residential priest. To do this, we need to be talking about issues surrounding current church ministry and growth. We begin by asking questions like:

- How does Redeemer engage with the needs of the community around it? Another way of asking this question is, what further ministries can be done to fill some of the gaps which people have in their lives?
- How does the valley see this parish and what it does? What image is Redeemer portraying to the valley and is that the image it wishes to portray?
- How do we attract people to join in the ministry we are doing? Also, what is our process for introducing and involving new people in the Parish?

The Vestry has a lot on its plate. It will be making decisions about the future of the Parish. The Vestry should not be working in a vacuum. These conversation need to be had around the congregation, so the Vestry can make informed decisions and then relate those decisions to be discussed in the larger Parish community.

While we are doing this work, we also will be continuing in the ministry we already have going. Shortly, there will be information coming out about preparations for the 2nd annual Parish Faire in early June. **There is a place for every person to be involved**, regardless of age or physical abilities of disabilities! There are ongoing projects around the building, such as the abatement of mold in the Chapel in the undercroft. We are continuing to try and finish up raising the last $2800 to repay the endowment that we borrowed for the roof repairs done last Summer. We are also working on the repairs done by the frozen pipe which caused the flooding of the back hallway and into the undercroft several week ago, which fortunately is mostly covered by insurance.

This is an active church, with opportunities for everyone's gifts to be used and appreciated! If you have thoughts about any of these areas of conversation, please contact a member of the vestry or Fr. Glenn and let your voice be heard. We are all searching and as the scriptures encourages us: *seek and ye shall find*! God is always there to open a new door. It is almost like God is waiting for us to arrive!

In His hands,

Fr. Glenn+

A Note of Thanks

I want to say a huge thank you to all who supported the Angel Tree this year. In total we helped make a brighter Christmas for ten children. Your generosity and thoughtfulness are truly amazing. Again, thank you so much.

Tricia Schamel

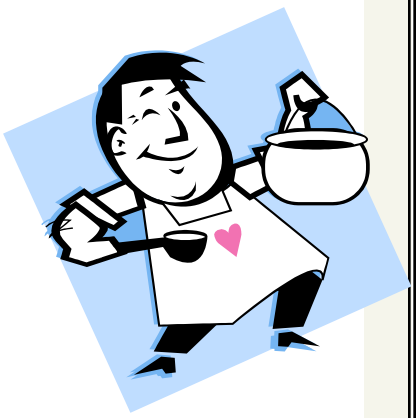
It is that time of year again! Troop 4019 is gearing up for their rummage sale here at the church. We will start setting up Wednesday, March 5th. The Scouts will have a sleep over in the church on Friday March 7th,so they are all up, ready, and accounted for at the actual sale on March 8th. from 8 am 'til 2pm. The bag sale is at 1 pm. We are thankful to have the Redeemer family to let us use your beautiful church for this fundraiser. Come by and see what kinds of treasures we are able to acquire.

Thank you.

Maria Layton

The Souper Bowl is Back!

The weekend of February 1&2, all of our services will again partake in Souper Bowl Sunday. All donations will be given to our own E&R Committee to battle hunger in our own community. If donating by check, please make it out to the E&R Committee and not to Church of the Redeemer.



Frozen Pipe causes cancelled service on January 5th

The faithful who attended the 8:00am service on January 5th found it rather chilly. As they patiently went through the liturgy, listening to the sermon, and receiving communion still wearing coats and gloves, they knew it seemed cold, but didn't realize that it was only 48 degrees! What troopers those 8 o'clockers are! After the 8am service we noticed the heating units in the church were not putting out heat as they normally do, so we began to investigate.

It was Gretchen Rentschler who walked into the small room off the church leading to the back hallway and ran into a solid wall of steam. A pipe going to the small heater in that room had frozen in the sub zero temperatures and broken and was pouring water which ran down the steps and over the ledge of the floor saturating the ceiling and walls in the hallway leading to the undercroft, leaving a large puddle of water in front of the chapel downstairs.

The wardens and John Paul, along with several parishioners went into motion. A plumber came and shut down the water to fix the pipe. The electricity to the area was turned off since water was pouring over some electrical panels. People notified parishioners that the 10:30 service would be cancelled before they came out into the bitter cold. After taking pictures of all the damage for the insurance company, we began to clean things up. Everyone pitched in and even had an impromptu lunch after they were done. *Thank all those who helped so much!!!*

The estimates we have so far to repair the damage are over $8,400. It's a good thing we have insurance! Paying a $1,000 deductible is much better than paying the whole repair bill!

The heater in question had to be replaced as well as the pipes that froze. The boilers now even have antifreeze added to their water, to prevent any future occurrence. The rest of the repairs are moving forward. Everyone noted, it could have been much worse and much more expensive if we had not discovered it when we did. **Special thanks to all those who helped with the cleanup! Special thanks to Tracy Schamel and Bruce Carpenter, our excellent Wardens!!!!**

SUPER BOWL SOUP & CHILI SALE

WHAT: Super Bowl Soup & Chili Sale – Take out only

WHEN: February 2, 2014

WHERE: Church of the Redeemer
201 S. Wibur Ave.
Sayre, Pa

Menu: Chili
Soup: Vegetable Beef
Cabbage & Hamburger
Family Dinner Chicken Soup

Cost:

Chili	$3 per serving	$5 per pint
Soup	$3 per serving	$5 per pint

Pick Up: Sunday, February 2nd 10:30 AM – 2:00 PM
Pick Ups Also Available Saturday, February 1st 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Deliveries available upon request.

Phone orders: 570-888-1850 or 570-888-2270

Orders and money need to be turned in by Thursday, January 30th

Checks are to be made payable to the Church of the Redeemer.

Proceeds of this sale are for the youth activities of the church.

For information: 570-888-1850

Redeemer Voices

For the second installment of Redeemer's Voices, we had the privilege of visiting with Loyd, Daye, and Katie Moreno.

Loyd was born in Grants, NM, and after many moves, he and his family finally settled in Sayre when he was in 7th grade. He met Daye Pierce, who moved to Sayre when she was 5, at a school dance when they were both 13. They began dating in their mid-teens, and were married in 2003 at the Church of the Redeemer in the Chapel of the Holy Innocents. Daye, a cradle Episcopalian, had been a member of Redeemer since moving to the valley. Loyd had been raised Baptist and, after attending many denominations, found himself coming to Redeemer in 2000. After their wedding, they were both confirmed together in the church in 2005.

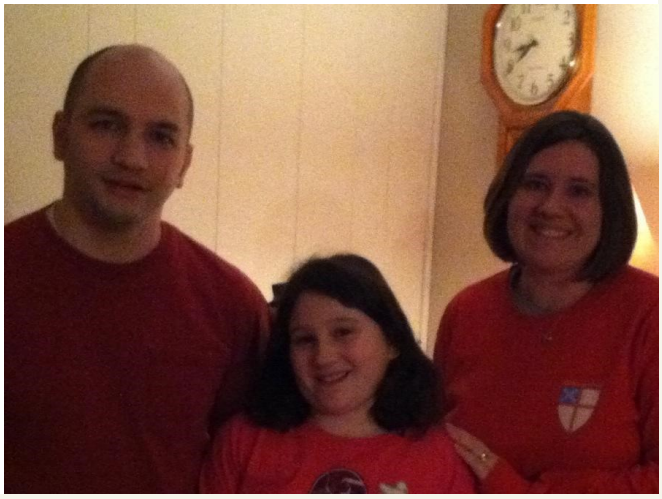
Their daughter Katie was born in 2004, and attends Snyder Elementary School in Sayre. She is in the 4th grade and loves math. She says she's glad her dad is good at math, because he helps her out. She attends Sunday School, and enjoys it very much. She participated in our Epiphany Play this year and had a great time in the process! One of Katie's favorite memories in the church is doing a scripture reading at a Christmas Service.

Loyd works for Guthrie as a regional Ophthalmology supervisor in Corning, Bath, and Big Flats, after earning his Bachelors of English at Mansfield University. Daye, attended Penn College and earned a degree in Early Childhood Development, and is now doing great things at the Sayre Library!

When asked of their favorite memories of the church, they both agreed that their wedding and the baptism of their daughter would top the list. They also fondly recall attending a church dinner on their anniversary, when candles were placed on their table in celebration of their day.

Loyd and Daye spoke about the strengths of our congregation, saying that the sense of family is a great asset to the church. They both appreciate the outreach that is done and the feeling of community within the church. The building itself, they say, is beautiful, peaceful, and feels like home. Daye recalls the church being a consoler when her father passed away, and a rock during hard times. Loyd believes that his faith is at the center of all that he is, a Father, a Son, a Husband, etc, and the church is the physical manifestation of his faith. He appreciates the freedom in the Episcopal church, to have his own thoughts and to share his opinions. Both he and Daye also love the predictability of the Episcopal service, and the fact that wherever you travel, with the Book of Common Prayer, it feels like home.

The discussion of Redeemer's strengths led to the vision of our future. On their wish list is fuller pews and financial stability. They also appreciate the sense of emotional and spiritual stability that is gained from having a full time rector. They want Katie to be an active member in youth group, and when the time comes, eventually marry in the church. They want to continue having events such as the Street Faire, and Daye would love to see more potluck dinners, and maybe even a women's Bible study group.



I find it fitting to end on this note; Daye finds herself very blessed to be walking in faith with such good people, and that we have it in us to do great things at Redeemer. We happen to agree with you Daye!! Blessings to everyone.

Until next time,

Margaret and Emily Cole

Online Course by Michael Curry

Get online and join us! **From January 27 through February 3**, the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina, will teach **The Big Class** and everyone from across the nation is invited to attend. This is a program of ChurchNext, a platform which a few of our members are already enrolled in, taking a class with Fr. Glenn as moderator. The course by Bishop Curry will expand on *Crazy Christians: A Call to Follow Jesus* , a book based on a widely acclaimed sermon the Bishop preached at the 2012 National Convention entitled, "We Need Some Crazy Christians." Bishop Curry will moderate the course and answer online questions during the week of **The Big Class**. The overall course will take 45 minutes to watch online, but doesn't need to be watched all in one sitting. Each participant can view the course at any time that is convenient on their own computer.

If you wish to sign up for the course, please contact Fr. Glenn or simply go on the link: **https://www.churchnext.tv/school/catalog/course/how-to-be-a-crazy-christian-with-michael-curry/8188/register/** Registration for this course is free. We will be getting together to discuss this material on **Sunday, February 16th at 9:15am in the Parlor.** If you need further information, please contact Fr. Glenn at credeemer@stny.rr.com or 570-888-2270. See you in class!

Saint Mary's Guild Pot Luck

The February 4th meeting of St. Mary's Guild will be a pot luck dinner at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share and your table setting. We will meet upstairs in the church parlor. Following a short business meeting our program will be a presentation by Sayre High School forensic students. Sally Hickey, their advisor, will describe the upcoming competitions. All are welcome to join us. And don't forget those pennies!

The next Newsletter Deadline will be Sunday, February 23rd.