

# Redeemer Review

## The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

### June, 2008

#### From our Interim Vicar:

Dear Friends,

On Saturday May 3, I met with the Bishop's Committee to lead a retreat for them at St. Stephen's, Belvedere. We gathered to use the Appreciative Inquiry process to interview each other to learn what we value about the Redeemer community and discover what are the dreams for the future of Redeemer. Appreciative Inquiry is, to quote Jane Magruder Watkins, "an articulated theory that reinforces the habit of mind that moves through the world in a generative frame, seeking and finding images of the possible, rather than scenes of disaster and despair."

Most of the day we spent working with images of the possible and acknowledging the blessings of the Redeemer community. The Bishop's Committee discovered the Redeemer Community Positive Core Values:

- 1). Inclusive/Accepting --- Whoever you are, and wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.
- 2). Committed to serving youth and children.
- 3). Warm, welcoming and caring community.

The thoughts, ideas and goals that we gathered during the day will be helpful information to weave into the parish profile which is a necessary part of the search process for a permanent vicar. It was a productive day that was spent with fellowship, prayer and hard work. Thank you to the members of the Bishop's Committee.

On Saturday May 10, there was a Special Convention of the Diocese of California at Grace Cathedral. Our delegates, Liesje Blank, Jon Nakamura and Paula Zand joined me in representing Church of the Redeemer that day. Please read Jon's notes further along in this newsletter. Of special note, Bishop Marc's "Beloved Community" vision, after much work on the part of numerous people over the past year, commits the diocese to:

Embodied Justice, intentionally working against racism and sexism; standing in solidarity with the poor and marginalized; and caring for God's creation with reverence.

Church Vitality, encouraging evangelism, growth, new expressions of church; adopting missional practices of worship and outreach; collaboration between congregations; and expressing creativity and joy in the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Rooted Spirituality, through vital education and renewal ministries, communities of Christian discipleship, and formation in the Episcopal tradition with informed respect for other traditions.

Organizational Development, emphasizing transparency and accountability for all diocesan leaders and structures; leadership that encompasses all orders, sorts and conditions; improving communication throughout the diocese; and revitalizing deaneries.

Inclusive Community, incorporating all people without regard to race, class, gender or sexual orientation; including meaningful participation of all ages—children, youth and elders; and being attentive to the prophetic voices among us.

A primary goal of the Beloved Visioning Process is collaborating with neighboring congregations and the community to embody the diocesan vision. How will Redeemer collaborate with the neighboring congregations in Marin County and the community of San Rafael? I think that this is an important question to consider as we move through the year together.

Blessings!

Father Mark

## Senior Warden's Letter

### A FUN/FUNDRAISING EVENING!

Father Mark, Sally and Joe Garbarino, and Nick and I attended the Redeemer Preschool auction at the San Rafael Community Center on the 17th of May. It was an event full of wonderful opportunities, superb food, wine and great music. John Chung produced some fantastic varieties of bbq'd meat.

It was a great opportunity to meet up with some of the staff and parents of our preschool - and a delightful evening of meeting new members of our community. As one who had chaired the very first auction to support the school, my comment is: Wow, this organization has come a long way!!!

### FUTURE FUNDRAISING

We are currently exploring joining with the Preschool for an event for the end of July - a yard sale. So keep those oldies, but goodies that you really don't need. (Be honest, don't we really ALL have too much "stuff"?)

Stay tuned, more details to follow.

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Join Bishop Marc Andrus and Bishop William Swing to formally dedicate the new William and Mary Swing Hospitality Pavillion at the Bishop's Ranch. This will be a very special day for the people of our Diocese.

The program will begin at the Swing Pavillion with the dedication Service. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy with friends on the lawns of the Ranch. Afternoon activities will include tours of the new facility and the Ranch, entertainment, and special activities for children.

Many of you know that I am passionate about Bishop's Ranch! It is an incredible resource of our diocese. Rolling hills, wonderful hiking, a tree house, labyrinth, swimming pool, chapel, as well as accommodations of various kinds for just under 100 visitors.

Our Redeemer Women's Spirituality group has held a couple of retreats here, and in past years the Bishop's Committee has held its annual retreat

weekend at the Ranch.

There is more information farther along in the newsletter.

### The Rev. Jack Schanhaar

Our beloved former priest died on Sunday, May 18. A memorial service for him will be at Redeemer on Sunday, June 15th at 3 p.m. Father Jack was "Priest in Charge" at Redeemer for over ten years.

Father Jack joined us at a pivotal time, shortly after Rev. Buzz Nern left us.

Without Jack's willingness to encourage us to try new ways of being "church":

we would not have sold the mansion  
we would not have taken over the preschool business and built a building to house it -  
this represented a major investment in the children and families of our community

He nurtured us when appropriate and challenged us to extend ourselves and broaden our mission to the community.

Three of Father Jack's best friends are planning the service: The Rev's Dorothy Jones, Jim Brown and Zoila Schoenbrun. All of these friends shared pilgrimages with Father Jack. We give thanks to all of them and also to Joan Westmoreland who ministered so faithfully to Jack in his last years, taking communion to and visiting with him every week.

We will have a reception in the church following the service. We will need donations of finger food.

Also, please send me names of past parishioners and others whom we should notify - I appreciate your corporate memory!

In love and gratitude for a life well lived and a peaceful end,

Sue Clark, Sr. Warden  
454-4115  
[sueclarkca@aol.com](mailto:sueclarkca@aol.com)

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If nothing ever changed, there'd be no butterflies.



### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Victor Chiarolla
- 1 Bob Burton
- 2 Haley Skubecz
- 2 Ligia Atkinson
- 4 Brad Kennison
- 5 Daniella Lituanio
- 6 John Oranje
- 10 Jonathan Oranje
- 12 Mira Samson
- 12 Elliott Blank
- 14 Cody Blank
- 20 Reggie Luiz
- 21 Sydney Kennedy
- 24 Scott Smilie
- 28 Lesley Anderson
- 29 Betty Lituanio
- 30 Samantha Tuttle



Congratulations to all our young people who are graduating this year!

From 5th Grade: Meg Nakamura, Katie Clark, Nick Duro and Haley Skubecz.

8th Grade: Stevie Burton, Griffin English, Casey Jereb, Sierra Kennison and Ali Thomason.

High School: Cody Blank, Katie Fox, Mike Providenza and Meredith Sherrill.

(\*\*If any names were left off this list, please contact me, and I'll be certain to include them in next month's newsletter. – Cathy Kirk: 457-3841)

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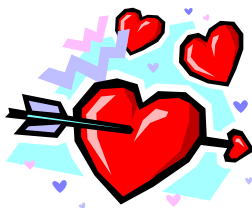
### WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S BOOKCLUB

The hostess provides drinks and dessert. Attendees should bring a sandwich and RSVP to the hostess each month.

June 11<sup>th</sup>: *The Reluctant Tuscan*, by Phil Duran; at Ann Zolezzi's home (454-4337) at noon.

July 9<sup>th</sup>: Book TBA; at Sue Clark's home (454-4115) at noon.

August 13<sup>th</sup>: *Water for Elephants*, by Sara Gruen; at Betty Baird's home (457-8543) at noon.



### JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 Eric & Kim Johnson 1995
- 16 Bob Burton/Billie Barbash 1985
- 20 Bud & Cindy Smith 1964
- 25 Brad & Stephanie Kennison 1988
- 28 Larry & JoAnn Reisinger 1965
- 28 Ken & Norma Powers 1998

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Music and Liturgy Committee Seeks Members

The Reverend Canon Michael Barlowe from the Diocesan Office of Missions has recommended that we, as a community, take a look at the worship services that are offered on Sunday mornings at the Church of the Redeemer.

I have decided that the best way to approach this task is to form a Music and Liturgy Committee at Redeemer. We will look at the way we worship on Sunday mornings at both services. The group will explore different styles of music that would be suitable for both of our Sunday morning services. The members of the committee will be encouraged to visit other parishes in Marin and the Bay Area on Sunday mornings with a special focus on those that offer Family Services/Kid's Church Services. During the visit, members should take note of all the different aspects of the service. After they make their visit, they will report back to the larger group. On the visit to other parishes, it would also be helpful to notice how the community welcomes and greets newcomers and attend their coffee hour after the service.

The group will present a forum to the Redeemer community in early fall about Music and Liturgy with an open discussion. Everyone is welcome to join this new group at the Church of the Redeemer.

The first meeting will be on Monday June 16, 2008 at 7:00 pm in the church.

Please contact me and let me know if you would like to join this exciting new group.

Father Mark, at email: [nrudyak2000@comcast.net](mailto:nrudyak2000@comcast.net) or (415) 456-0508.



### The Bishop's Ranch County Fair and Diocesan Picnic

Come for an exciting day in the county with Bishop Marc Andrus and retired Bishop William Swing to dedicate the William and Mary Swing Hospitality Pavilion, an environmentally friendly, straw-bale building. **Bring a picnic lunch** to enjoy on the grounds, along with

- organic pie contest with samples for the crowd
- organic Straus Family Creamery ice cream
- Cajun/Zydeco dance band
- carriage and pony rides
- petting zoo
- animal exhibits
- fun games
- paper hat making and face painting
- land conservation and animal rescue booths
- organic local garden produce for sale
- Bishop's Ranch cookbooks for sale

If you would like to enter and donate a home baked organic pie, contact Bridget Gleason, [bridget.gleason@comcast.net](mailto:bridget.gleason@comcast.net). Bridget will provide you with contest details and an entry form. [Click to download bulletin inserts for congregations.](#)

*When:* July 5, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

*Where:* [The Bishop's Ranch](#), Healdsburg

*Contact:* Sarah McGowan, 707.433.2440x105

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### **Ever Constant**

Nothing around us is constant. The stock markets go up and down; natural resources alternate between abundance and scarcity; people move between happiness and sadness. If we fluctuate with those scenes we are unable to be constant internally. But when we turn to the One who is permanently radiating virtues, we receive power and become unshakeable. God offers all His potential to us. He is ever constant in being the light that never fades. (Anon.)

## FROM JON NAKAMURA

On May 10, Reverend Mark, Liesje Blank, Paula Zand and I had the privilege of representing Church of the Redeemer at the California Diocese Special Convention held at Grace Cathedral. The purpose of the Special Convention was (1) to receive the report resulting from the “Beloved Community” Visioning Process, (2) to consider and vote on amendments to the Canons of the Diocese regarding the governance of the diocese, and (3) to consider and vote on such resolutions as may be necessary to implement the changes in governance.

Bishop Marc Hadley Andrus’s “Beloved Community” vision was the result of a thoughtful process that reviewed the priorities of the diocese. Over the course of 10 months, about 800 people took part in a series of events designed to elicit a diocesan vision for the Beloved Community in the Diocese of California. In addition, there were a number of formal and informal gatherings - ranging from colleague groups to vestries to diocesan ministry teams - in which people gathered to reflect on the same questions of values and hopes. At each of these gatherings, participants have listened and responded to an address from Bishop Marc and engaged in conversation in small groups, and - in most cases - shared creative arts and worship as well. These efforts resulted in a resolution to receive the report and commit the Diocese to take efforts to Embodied Justice; enhance Church Vitality; develop Rooted Spirituality; improve Organizational Development and develop an Inclusive Community.

The amendments to the Canons of the Diocese regarding the governance of the Diocese were the results of studies, outreach to the member Deaneries and Churches and the recommendations by Diocesan committees. The amendments, which can be found online at [www.diocal.org](http://www.diocal.org) under the Special Convention tab, were designed to enhance the efficiency of the governance of the Diocese. The amendments were adopted.

I would be happy to respond to questions about the Special Convention, please contact me by email: [nakamura.jon@comcast.net](mailto:nakamura.jon@comcast.net) or by phone 459.4525.

Regards,

Jon Nakamura, Convention and Deanery Delegate

## FROM THE DIOCESE

### Travel Insurance

If you are one of the one-in-two Episcopalians who do not have a valid will or trust, please read on.

Without a valid will or trust:

- A California probate judge will decide who gets your assets, including your minor children, if any.
- Your “natural heirs” as determined by the probate code will inherit your estate.
- Your children may receive an untimely inheritance they cannot yet manage.
- Your church or other favored charities or friends will receive nothing.
- Your estate may be subject to unnecessary estate and income taxes

However, with a will or trust:

- Your wishes regarding distribution of your estate will prevail.
- You may specify guardians for your minor children
- You may provide for timed, rational distribution to children.
- Taxes may be avoided.
- You may remember your church and other charities close to your heart.

Despite common presumption, not having a will or trust will not prevent you from dying, and having a will or trust will not make your death more likely or advance the day. “Be Prepared” is the scout motto—and also the admonition our Savior. “The duty of all persons to make wills” is noted in The Book of Common Prayer on page 445.

What is the next step? Identify and call an estate planning attorney. For a referral, call (415) 869-7812 or see “Making a Will” at [www.EpiscopalGift.org](http://www.EpiscopalGift.org). Estate planning attorneys regularly make appointments at local parishes and charge only \$75 for a simple will.

June is the month that attorneys seem to write the most wills. “Why is that?” I asked. “Because people tend to travel in the summer,” I was told. Make sure you have your travel insurance. Don’t leave home without it. For God’s sake and your family’s sake, too.

The Rev. Richard L. Schaper, CFP®  
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