



The Redeemer Review

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 12

December, 2017



Dec 24 & 31
One Worship Service
@10:00 a.m.



Advent 2017 is upon us and it begins with our Advent Festival on Saturday, *December 2nd*. Join us in preparing the church for the Sundays in Advent. We will be trying something new this year. Every Sunday, our confirmation families will be rebuilding the creche by adding the different manger characters: Joseph, Angels, Shepherds, Mary and the Three Kings. *Jesus* remains the focus in the manger, the *Word* became flesh.

St. Francis of Assisi, began the Christmas tradition of nativity scenes in 1223 because he wanted the people to gain a fresh sense of wonder. Up to that time, people celebrated Christmas primarily by going to Mass and hear the story in a language that most ordinary folks did not understand: Latin.

This presented Francis an opportunity to tell the story in a different way. He borrowed

some animals and straw to set up a scene to represent Jesus Christ's birth in Bethlehem. It was set up in a cave. There were different characters playing respective roles. It was related that actual local shepherds were tending their flock in the nearby field. Francis told the story of the first Christmas and the importance of placing their faith in Christ. It is all about God coming down to offer salvation.

On Christmas Day the message remains the same—the joy of Christ in our midst. Silence is often interpreted as a protest against oppression and control. In contrast, to shout for joy is to express happiness and release from the daily grind especially when faced with difficult challenges. In the Bible, *Jubilee* is sometimes used to express this hope but its meaning can be traced to this longing for hope. Jubilee is also associated with a certain

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Redeemer Review

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email: Call for email address

Website: www.orumc.org

**Worship Services:
9:00 and 10:30 am**

Pastor:

Rev. Romir R. Esguerra

**Church Secretary:
Donna Echtner**

**Director of Youth Ministries:
Marianne Rogenski**

Editor:

Jerry Mc Daniel

(cont from pg 1)

number of years. The people of Israel have been waiting for this Messiah to come. And the Messiah came and became the light of the world.

The Christmas Hymn says it all:

Joy to the world!

The Lord is come;

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare him room,

And heaven and nature sing.

Let us give joy a chance to create space in our lives. We come to receive what is given. There is plenty given and it is given so that you and I may receive. We have a wonderful story to tell and it begins in the simple manger.

Join us for our worship services in Advent. Check our calendar or Facebook for our special Music Sunday on ***December 17.***

Our family Christmas Eve Service is ***December 24 at 5:00p.m., and Service with Communion at 10:00 p.m.***

Merry Christmas and A Blessed Season.

Rev. Romir R. Esguerra



Community Crisis Center

by Sally Donaldson

Annual Coat Give Away

Gently used heavy winter coats for all members of a family as well as hats, gloves, mittens, scarves and boots are needed for the **Annual Coat Give Away**. They cannot use lightweight or spring items, sweatshirts or long trench coats. The Give Away ends in February.

Toiletries:

Nail clippers and emery boards.

Medicine Chest Items:

All items must be new, sealed and with current dates.

Non-alcohol cough syrup and non-aspirin pain reliever (for adults and children), antacids, RID shampoo, anti-diarrhea medications, Orajel, Pedialyte, band-aids, antibiotic ointment, gauze, adhesive tape, disposable thermometers, peroxide, rubbing alcohol, facial tissues

CCC Food Pantry:

Canned fruit, canned meat meals, beef stew, chili, etc. Also needed are cereal/oatmeal, jelly, peanut butter, mac and cheese, pork and beans, powdered milk, saltine crackers, soups, spaghetti and marinara sauce, spaghetti type canned items, tuna, hand can openers

Please place your donations in the CCC bins located in the closet left of the Information Desk, located in the Narthex.

Thank you so much for your wonderful donations and continued support.



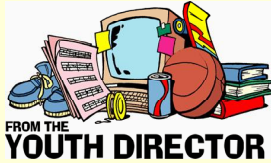
Give the Gift of Heifer for Christmas

For over a decade, Heifer (www.heifer.org) has been a giving opportunity at **Our Redeemer's**. Children and adults alike participate, whether it is through the Fill-the-Ark banks the children use to collect coins or by purchasing an animal to give to a family in need.

As part of your Christmas this year, please consider the purchase of a Heifer animal. A donation in someone's name also makes a good Christmas gift.

Several Sundays in December after each service, we will be promoting Heifer in the Narthex for those interested in supporting the cause and sharing the gift. Contact **Jon Montgomery** for more information.

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by Marianne Rogenski

Kids Hope News:

ORUMC currently has 5 people who go to Blackwell Elementary School each week for 45 minutes to mentor a student. This is a wonderful opportunity to give to our community. If you are interested, please contact Marianne.

Education News:

Thank you to all that make Sunday School possible each week!

We will not have Sunday School on December 24 or December 31. There are busy bags available outside of the sanctuary for anyone that wants one during a worship service!

Youth News:

December

- 3 Youth group at ORUMC 5:30-7:30pm
- 10 Youth Christmas party! 5:30-7:30pm

After the Christmas party we will take a break from youth group until January!

Appalachia Service Project (ASP) News:

Our team will be in Kentucky this year from June 9 to 16.

This is an amazing summer mission trip for youth that have completed 8th grade through

high school. If you are interested in the trip please contact Marianne.

We will have an info meeting in January. Look at email and the church bulletin for exact date.



December:

- 1 **Mekenna Thomas**
- 12 **Eric Cristobal**
- 17 **Olivia Adamitis**
- 17 **Owen Adamitis**
- 21 **Abby Hill**
- 27 **Dominic Gomes**

Advent Festival December 2 3:00-5:00 pm

We need **you** to prepare our church for **Advent and Christmas!** That means decorating the sanctuary and the narthex with the traditional symbols of this holy time.

We will decorate between 3:00 and 5:00 to be followed by singing some Christmas carols and a potluck.

There will be children's activities in Wesley Hall during this time. If you are unable to stay for the potluck dinner, you may still come and help us decorate.

Hope to see you there!!

Let's Connect

The Connect Committee would like to connect with all our ORUMC members and friends, but we need your help in doing so.

First of all, if you have moved, changed phone numbers or e-mail addresses, please get this information to Donna in the church office. This is the only way we can keep updated records.

Secondly, we need accurate attendance information. We are keeping track of attendance with the church's new software. However, for the information to be correct, we need the following to be done. When signing the attendance pad on Sunday mornings, please be sure the date and service time is filled in on the top of the sheet. When you are signing names, please be sure to **include first names** of all in attendance, not just a last name followed by family (You can also use this opportunity to give the church your new address, phone number and/or e-mail address.)

We really appreciate your help with the above matters. Hopefully this will help make a great connection among members and friends. Thank you.

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@10:00 a.m.**

Gifts from the Heart

by Carol Hollingsworth

On behalf of ChildServ and the children, I would like to thank the generosity of the 57 individuals and families who sponsored 87 children for our Gifts from the Heart program. It is always so heartwarming to see the response from our congregation for these children, who otherwise, would not have quite as bright a Christmas.

Please remember to return the unwrapped gifts to church on Sunday, Dec. 3 and follow the packing instructions provided on your information sheet.



UMM Holiday Snax

The United Methodist Men are taking orders for their Holiday Snax.

They will make their "Killer Garlic Pretzels" and "Puppy Chow". (it's really tasty stuff for people) for delivery in church December 10 and 17.

Check out a sample and place an order.

United Methodist Women

The UMW wants to thank everyone who participated in our Heavenly Treats sale on Sunday, November 19.

We are thankful to all of the bakers, organizers, workers and those that made purchases. We know that these treats made a lot of people happy at Thanksgiving.

Please mark your calendars for our final UMW event of 2017 on Tuesday, December 5. Also, take a peek at a couple of 2018 events already scheduled.

We look forward to seeing you and know that you will experience Friendship, Fellowship and Fun!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, @6:30 p.m.-

Holiday Potluck Dinner & Business Meeting

Program: Holiday Fun / 2017 Allocations & 2018 Budget. Bring a dish to share, as well as a White Elephant gift to exchange.

2018 United Methodist Women- Future Event Schedule

TUESDAY, MARCH 6 @ 6:30 p.m.

Spring Potluck Dinner & Business Meeting / Program: TBD

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MAY 4 & 5

Mark your calendar for the **UMW Retreat at Wesley Woods**



UMW Heavenly Treats Sale



Personal Notes



Congratulations to

Ashley and Jeremie Lukowicz ó they are proud parents of a baby girl born on Novmeber 11. Her name is **Autumn Cheryl Lukowicz** and her proud grandparents are **Craig and Shelley Lukowicz**.



Our Deepest Sympathy to:

Fred and Betty Miller and family on the death of Fred's brother, **Charles Miller**.

Rev. Fred Rickleff and family on the death of his wife, **Doris Rickleff**. Fred and Doris served *Our Redeemer's* from 1977 to 1987.

Fred's address is:

Rev. Fred Rickleff
400 N. Morris, Street #325
Stoughton, WI 53589.

Please keep these families in your prayers.

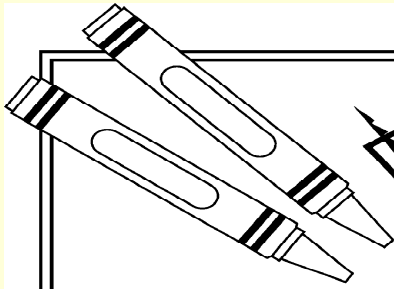


Nov 19 Birthday Cake

Stewardship

It's not too late. If you wish to make a commitment for 2018, please turn in a pledge card before the December 19 Charge Conference.

**All Church
Charge Conference
Tuesday, December 19, 7:00 p.m.
ALL ARE INVITED.**



PUZZLE

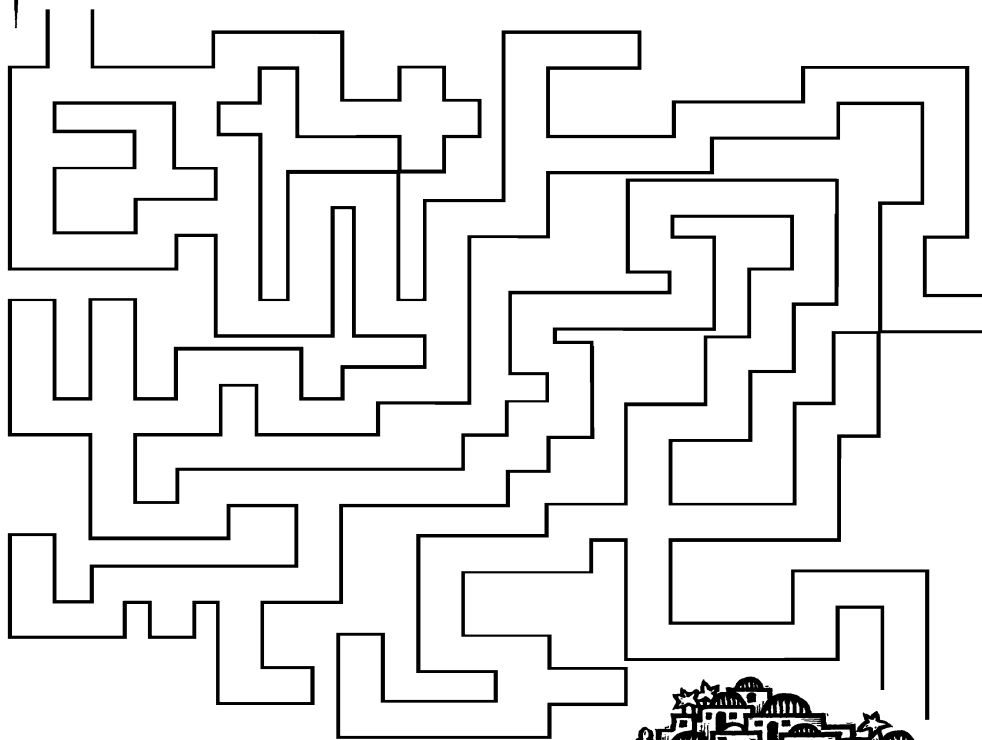
JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

In the Christmas story in Luke 2, an angel tells some shepherds to go see baby Jesus in Bethlehem.



START

Directions: Follow the maze to arrive in Bethlehem.



BETHLEHEM





CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



It is a time of preparation as we get ready to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child. At ***Our Redeemer's*** one of the ways we do this is by decorating the church with beautiful Christmas Poinsettias.

What a more wonderful way to celebrate new life than with a marvelous display of color. These flowers will be displayed in the sanctuary in honor of the baby Jesus, who was born to save us all. We invite all who love to celebrate Christmas with the beauty of flowers to join in the celebration of our savior's birthday.

Here at ***Our Redeemer's*** we purchase flowers and then lend our flowers to the church until after Christmas when they may be taken home. It is easy as the church does all the work for you. The florist has changed vendors for their flowers and assured us that they will be a higher quality than last year. The flowers will be ordered, arranged and then made them available for you to take home after Christmas.

To participate, you may order a white, pink or red poinsettia. Please fill in the order form below and place with your payment in the offering plate or in the beautifully decorated special basket located in the narthex. The price of this year's flowers are \$10.00.

Friday, December 15, is the absolute deadline for placing your order. Please order early so that the florist may save us their very best selection and also ensure we receive just what we order.

Name _____ Phone _____

Choose White (\$) _____ Pink (\$) _____ Red (\$) _____

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church

1600 W. Schaumburg Road
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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