

Agenda
Annual Parish Meeting

THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, GREENVILLE, SC

January 19, 2020

- I. Call to order; verify quorum
- II. Appoint Clerk
- III. (Review and accept minutes from prior year)
- IV. Introduce vestrypersons
- V. Elect Convention delegates and alternates
- VI. Reports: see packet
- VII. Budget presentation
- VIII. Commission and committee introductions/questions
- IX. General questions and answers
- X. Closing Prayer
- XI. Adjourn

2019 Report of services

In 2019 The Church of the Redeemer held:

I.	Sunday services of Holy Eucharist:	54
	a. Total attendance:	4,821
	b. Average Sunday attendance:	95
	c. Total attendance at other services:	1,398
II.	Weekday services of Holy Eucharist:	40
III.	Private services of Holy Eucharist:	108
IV.	Daily Offices services were held on a weekday:	2
V.	Weddings:	1
VI.	Burial Services:	5

In Christ, *Catherine*+

Diocesan Convention Delegates

Diocesan Convention is the legislative body of the diocese. Elected lay representatives from each congregation, all canonically resident clergy, and selected youth from around the diocese attend as delegates to the Convention.

During Convention each year, various diocesan officers are elected, and other key diocesan leadership positions are either elected or appointed. The Convention adopts the annual Statement of Mission (budget) and considers other matters related to the mission and operation of the diocese.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The Church of the Redeemer's delegates to the annual Convention of the Diocese of Upper South Carolina serve a two-year term. Volunteers are welcome!

Delegates:

Sr. Warden	Judy Planck (2020)
Jr. Warden	Jason Houston (2020)
Delegate	Phyllis Webb (2020)
Delegate	Scott Derrick (2020)
Alternate	Open (Will serve in 2020 and 2021)
Alternate	Open (Will serve in 2020 and 2021)

Rector's Report

The Church of the Redeemer joyfully announces ... that I would be the next rector of Redeemer. Our journey began well before this announcement, with prayer, the diligent work and discernment of the parish and search committee – and oh, there was joy and the presence of the Holy Spirit along the way. It is an honor and a blessing to be here.

September brought introductions to the parish, to individuals, groups, and more. Everything seemed like a new beginning, and it is. Everything that we do this year is a beginning as we learn about traditions, expectations and about one another. I ask you to join me in continuing to ask God to be present and to sanctify our life together, as God is indeed doing. We have twice-weekly worship, Christian Education for all ages, youth gatherings and community service, outreach into the wider community, ongoing fellowship and care giving, and taking care of the many details that enter into our common life. Our buildings and land need maintenance; our stewardship includes not only matters of money, but of new life in birth and death; coordinating and keeping appropriate levels of staff, volunteers and community support, and the overall caretaking of God's creation. The Church of the Redeemer is a busy, faith-filled congregation.

We wonder: what does God have in mind for this parish in this place and time? Part of the vestry's life is to ask this very question, and to approach it through the lens of Christian stewardship. Many, many healthy practices are in place for ongoing growth in leadership, spirituality, and membership in the name of Christ. A statistic that is both startling to the faithful and the cause of concern for congregations nationwide is that there has been a twenty-year increase in those who claim to have no religion. I find hope imbedded even in this seemingly dire statistic: most "nones" do believe in God, spiritual expression in some form, and in works of justice and care for others. Redeemer has much to offer to a world in need of hope, God, and care. We ask: God, what will you have us do?

In today's gospel, several disciples see Jesus and ask, "Where are you going?" Jesus' reply sounds simple: "Come and see." John writes that the disciples do go with Jesus, and they stay for the day – "it was about four o'clock in the afternoon." We, too, have the opportunity to invite potential or lapsed followers of Jesus and say, "Come and see;" stay with us awhile. The disciples' question, however, is not only about where Jesus is staying; it is deeper than that. "Where are you going?" is a question that includes "where are you living – what is your way of life and how do we find it?" The disciples are looking for a way of life that gives them meaning. Jesus' answer is not about eyesight but about spiritual insight. Jesus says "come and see what you are really looking for." No wonder the disciples stay for the day!

"Come and see – and stay awhile" is a good model for us. The search committee's "come and see" led to "come and see us" at Redeemer ... and here we are, living in faith and searching for spiritual insights, a deep and meaningful way of life. We find it together. We find it in bread, wine, worship, doing, being, and prayer. I am so very thankful to be here. Let's continue asking God what God will have us do, and respond to Jesus' answer: Come and see. Come and see what you are really looking for. And stay awhile, with Jesus.

In thankfulness and praise, Catherine+

Junior Warden's Report

Jason Houston

It is my pleasure to write this message as I continue to serve this church and its membership as Jr Warden and oversee the Buildings and Grounds. I am pleased to report that the status of both are good. Here are a few projects from this past year: one dead oak tree was removed at the parking lot, landscape placement for the pet cemetery went in, new roof gutters were installed outside the administration hall. Inside, decorative updates were made to the old vestry room, glass windows were added to classroom and choir room doors, administration hall office carpet was professionally cleaned, the Transept kitchen was updated and the former vestry meeting room received decorative updates. Much thanks to all of our church family and the many people that devote their time and talents to keeping The Church of the Redeemer a vibrant place to worship.

Respectfully,

Jason Houston

Other helpers: Robbie Hamilton, Ken Wood, Louise Heizer, June Moore, Annette Burdette, Elizabeth Koontz

2019 Church Improvements

Stephany Austell, Marsha Lightsey, Dot Sanders

This past year we continued to do repairs, clean up, and renovate areas of our church. Here is a list of our accomplishments.

VESTRY ROOM

Moved the Vestry meeting room to old nursery room. Adding tables, chairs, entertainment center, and hung pictures

NEW FIREPLACE ROOM

The room was painted. A new table was bought. We created a sitting area with leather chairs, area rug, end tables, and serving table. Major improvements made with the fireplace: Painted, mantel made, gas logs and line repaired, capped the chimney and hung pictures.

OTHER REPAIRS AND INSTALLATIONS:

- Educational Hall: windows added to all doors in compliance with Safe Church
- Vesting Room: painted, ceiling tile, baseboard and flooring repaired
- Office hallway bathroom: painted, new toilet and faucet
- Choir office: painted, new blinds. Also new blinds in choir practice room
- Odd jobs: repaired doors, installed locks and hardware, hung various pictures and bulletin boards, helped the rector set up her office.

2019 Christian Education Report

Lori Hawkins

Youth Christian Education is assessed each year to see how we can best meet the needs of the children that attend, and the number of volunteers we have. Since 2019, we have offered 3 classes: Sanctus (ages 4-12), Hands of God (grades 6-8), and The Dove's Nest (grades 9-12.) We had a total of 11 teachers serve monthly on a rotating schedule. Currently all classes run September- May. A BIG thank you to all the volunteers who dedicated their time to teach and guide our youngest members! It really does take a village.

While the Episcopal Church has no "set" curriculum that must be used for Christian education, we continue to find excellent resources. The Sanctus class used All-in-one Sunday School lessons for kids ages 4-12 by Lois Keffer. This book uses an active learning approach for combined ages. The Hands of God class used lessons from a book titled, What's Up? Discovering the Gospel, Jesus, and Who You REALLY Are by Deborah Harrell & Jack Klumpenhowe. In the Dove's Nest, Kathy Shugart had discussions on The Seven Feasts Of Israel, by Zola Levitt. Joe Butchko taught lessons by a Bible study called, Groove: Learn. Own. Engage. published by Youth Ministry Partners and Abingdon Press. It is a great benefit to be able to choose and try out what we think might work for the class size and ages of our youth.

In the fall, we held several intergenerational classes for the youth, received very well by the children and the teachers. During the combined classes, the youth worked on several outreach projects such as thankful harvest bags (popcorn with cards) that they gave out to the adult class. Local police dispatchers and firefighters working during the Christmas holiday received packages of church-baked and decorated cookies and our handmade Christmas cards. Our annual intergenerational Advent wreath activity was also church wide event.

Nursery (ages 4 and under) is offered every Sunday for the worship service and for those that attend adult classes and need childcare. Since 2019 we have had 4 on staff for nursery, maintaining guidelines for safe-church.

2019 Annual Report for EYC (Episcopal Youth Community)

Lori Hawkins and Joe Butchko

EYC is for youth in grades 6- 12. We have a very active youth group! EYC meets biweekly from 5-7pm; on average, 6 youth attend every gathering. EYC had many outreach projects: the Duck Derby, staffing the ARCUM pumpkin patch, and volunteering for movie night at the patch. They also volunteered at Project Host Soup Kitchen, cooking, serving, and cleaning up. They set out luminaries for the Christmas Eve services and cleaned up afterwards. They stuffed and hid hundreds of eggs for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. The youth also hosted the annual pancake supper and Cake Walk on Shrove Tuesday. EYC served in all aspects of the worship service on Youth Sunday, and they participate throughout the year in Sunday worship. They also played roles and led the congregation with the reading of The Passion on Palm Sunday. With the creation of the Pet Garden, George Poleski completed his Eagle Scout project.

There was a huge youth presence involving 2 large outreach activities: ARCUM Pumpkin Patch and Summer of Service (SOS). Middle and High School youth helped unload well over 1,000 pumpkins for the patch. The week of SOS, any young person that was available participated. There was also the chance for several events that were all about fun and fellowship such as: Seeing the movie “Overcomer,” visiting Denver Downs, the ski Trip, and testing their skills at The Escape Room in downtown Greenville.

Last, I wanted to mention the fact that 2019 ended the Vestry term for Joe Butchko. Joe took the charge in Christian Education all 3 years of his vestry term. He has been a huge support for me in my position of Director of Christian Education. He helped plan EYC event calendars, led the youth with the Duck Derby fundraiser, and helped set up and tear down movie night on the lawn. He takes charge of leading the youth with the luminaries and countless other tasks. If I ever had a question or concern, I could always rely on him to help us. Joe, thank you for giving your time, sharing your gifts, and showing your love to all the youth at Redeemer.

Financial Reports

Rebekah Webb

2019 Year-end financial reports follow this page.

Monthly bulletin insert to keep the congregation informed of our financial standing versus the budget.

SAMPLE:

Financial Corner		Through ____ 2020
Budget Income	\$	8,500
Actual Income	\$	9,000
Difference	\$	500
Faith Offering	\$	16,000
Intentional Giving - Faith	\$	1,250
Difference (Goal = 0)	\$	14,750
<i>Questions? Contact the treasurer or wardens.</i>		