

Drawing near to God to make and equip disciples and to live as faithful followers of Christ.

SEPTEMBER 2020

#### THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

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### From The Rector

### "On this rock I will build my church."

These words have stayed with me since we heard them in the gospel of Matthew a few weeks ago. The gospel of Matthew is the only gospel in which the Greek word "*ekklasia*" appears.



It means, roughly, "called out," and in ancient Greece referred to a political assembly of citizens. Matthew uses a word familiar to his audience and appropriates it to the followers of Jesus – those being called out of the ways of the world to follow the way of Christ. Ekklesia. What а powerful word for us! We are the ekklesia, the church, those called out to follow Jesus Christ through all time. We remember that Jesus changed the apostle Simon's name to Peter, petra, meaning rock, and Peter became an early leader of the church.

Peter seems an unlikely leader. After words of loyalty in Jerusalem, "Even if I must die with you [Jesus], I will not deny you" (Matt 26.35), Peter denies Jesus three times that night. This is Jesus' rock? I sometimes think that Peter said out loud the things that the rest of the disciples wanted to say or ask. Peter's outright denial of Jesus did not matter at all. "On this rock I will build my church."

In these lengthening days of pandemic, I wonder if you feel like an unlikely ... leader, follower, parent, beloved child ... follower of Jesus. But God looks at us and sees the rock on which God's church is built, even now. God does not ask us if we are strong enough, loyal or powerful enough; God gathers us up and asks us if we know what Love looks like. We are enough in Christ and through Christ to show the world what Love looks like.

We are strong enough, no matter how we might be feeling about life in a pandemic. The *ekklesia* is still standing. Love another, standing on the ultimate rock who is Jesus the Christ.

> In peace, Catherine+

# Rev. Catherine Tatem

### **Vestry Meeting Minutes**

The minutes for the monthly Vestry meeting can be found posted on the bulletin board outside the office.

### **Seize The Day!**

Can that be our battle cry for today, tomorrow and all our tomorrows to come? The saying "Carpe Diem" encourages one to make the most of the 'now' and not worry about the future, so it doesn't fit us, does it? Not when used in its usual sense, but ironically, practicing Christians can seize the day and not fear tomorrow too! We are promised everlasting hope for tomorrow by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Read some examples of 'seizing the day' going on at busy Redeemer in this edition of 'Echoes'. Like to join in or find out more about participating in some of these goings-on? Contact the author of any of the articles via 'phone, text or e-mail or contact me or let Rev. Catherine know. Carpe Diem, all!

The virus has forced changes most of us thought we'd never experience, but it has also stimulated us to come up with creative ways to carry on:

- Bishop Waldo's special committee has used current, updated SCDHEC statistics to provide updated safe practice guidelines to be followed during our worship indoors or outside. There is good reason to expect a gradual increase in the number of worshipers allowed indoors and outdoors is in the making! Specifics coming shortly...
- Reverend Catherine has set a high self-starter bar to match for us during these challenging times! Haven't our Wednesday and Sunday inside and outside Services been great to experience? At the same time, Rev. Catherine has polished her skills at using Zoom and also Sue has expanded her talents to be a good videographer!

And how about the Service set-up skills our various members have demonstrated? Too many to name, but they have been terrific!

- Our Vestry Commissions continue to be busy at Redeemer seeking innovative ways to carry out their responsibilities...see what's going on in this issue of 'Echoes'. Our monthly Vestry meetings using Zoom haven't missed a beat either. Our sessions well-organized, effective and are enlightening primarily due to Reverend Catherine's efforts. We've found that taking a few minutes early in our meetings to meditate about a passage of Scripture, then discuss it, builds understanding, a sense of looking through others' eyes and good fellowship!
- Thanks to the tireless efforts of our excellent church staff and the large number of you who continue to volunteer your time and talent in a variety of ways, Redeemer remains strong, alive and ever-moving forward.
- September has always been a sort of rallying month at Redeemer when we shake off the summertime diversions and renew our commitment with fresh enthusiasm and action. This year will be the same, starting with the kick-off of a unique Stewardship Campaign already in the making. In addition, we should begin thinking about stepping up as candidates for nomination to serve on the Vestry. To experience that service alongside Reverend Catherine is something you will enjoy and benefit personally from far more than you realized at the outset.
- Thanks to an anonymous donor, you will soon see a sizeable, new Episcopal flag mounted on the large monumental sign in

Redeemer's front yard. Passers-by will note this eye-catching, colorful flag that will identify who we are as an alive, active and inviting church congregation to visit.

Its going to be a great time to be at Redeemer and I look forward to sharing it with you!

> -Bill Heizer Senior Warden

### Music

#### WELCOME BACK BOB!!!!

It is so wonderful to have music at our outdoor worship with Bob Powell at the keyboard. Bob has been playing a prelude, postlude, and communion music to aid our worship. Having music during worship adds so much to our prayers!

We give thanks for his recovery from heart surgery and return to Redeemer.

### **Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee will meet via Zoom on **MONDAY**, September 14, 2020, the second Monday of the month

| <b>Financial Corner</b>    | throu | gh July 31, 2020 |
|----------------------------|-------|------------------|
| Budget Income              | \$    | 154,476          |
| Actual Income              | \$    | 145,292          |
| Difference                 | \$    | (9,184)          |
|                            |       |                  |
| Faith Offering Goal        | \$    | 16,000           |
| Intentional Giving - Faith | \$    | 5,250            |
| Difference (Goal = 0)      | \$    | (10,750)         |
|                            | •     |                  |

Questions? Contact the treasurer or wardens.

Be sure to use **AMAZON SMILE** and let Redeemer benefit from your online purchases. Use this link to register: <u>Smile.Amazon.com/ch/57-0347692</u> And Support Redeemer as your charity of choice!



Greenville, S.C. 29605 864.277.4562

Sue Bannio, Parish Administrator Lori Hawkins, Christian Ed Director Sue Bannio, Bookkeeper Gabriel Santamaria, Sexton

### Vestry Members

### Rev. Catherine Tatem ~ Rector

Bill Heizer (2021) - Senior Warden Jason Houston (2020) - Junior Warden Annette Burdette (2022) - Worship Dinah Johnson (2021) - Pastoral Care Robin Mill (2022) - Outreach & ARCUM Jason Houston (2020)-Buildings & Grounds Rebekah Webb (2021) -Finance Daniel McCullough (2022) - Communications Katie Broderick (2020) - Christian Ed Debbie Bauer (2020) - Stewardship Greg Brown (2022) - Membership Bill Heizer (2021) - Fellowship Judy Planck (2020) Rebekah Webb - Treasurer rwebb5476@gmail.com Stephany Austell Clerk

The Vestry meets the third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Minutes are posted on the bulletin board outside the Parish Administrator's office.

### Echoes

Is a monthly newsletter of The Church of the Redeemer, Deadline for submissions is the 22nd of each month. Submit written info to the church office, email to Sue Bannio – parishadmin@corgsc.org

### Worship Update

### September 2020

The Church of the Redeemer and all of the churches in the Diocese of Upper South Carolina continue to work closely with the Diocese and the Task Force on guidelines for worship during this time. Newly revised guidelines may be found on the diocesan website at: edusc.org.

In addition, Redeemer's vestry is working with the specifics, which include room capacity, ventilation, and percent of positive coronavirus tests in SC in order for us to outline indoor worship and gathering options. We hope to have a local mid-September update, but do not expect large inside gatherings any time soon. We are fortunate to have temperate weather that gives us a chance to gather. The parishes in many Episcopal dioceses are just now beginning to meet, inside or outside.

Be thankful in all things. Pray for all communities of worship who share our deep longing to be together and who are learning to be the church in ever-new ways.

FAITH.FILLED

# Garth

As the pandemic has kept people at home to work on long overdue projects, the Garth has been getting some much needed attention as well. Most of the work has been in the form of frequent mowing, fertilizing, weeding, removing the fallen leaves from many years past, trimming and edging, pruning and the never ending process of picking up sticks. A huge thanks to Rick Hankinson and Jack Blackburn for their continued help in maintaining the Garth's beauty.

With much of this work bringing the Garth back to its steady-state of beauty, we can turn our attention to larger projects such as spreading a fresh layer of mulch throughout the flower beds and replacing the existing wooden fence, more information to come.

Lastly, a reminder to all, that the Garth is not only an area to find peace and serenity, but it is also a reverent space where many of our beloved past members have been laid to rest. There are currently 31 Redeemer Family Members interred there with an additional 35 spaces reserved. Please talk to Mother Catherine or Sue Bannio if you would like to reserve a space.

-Daniel McCullough

"They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life."

GEMEROSITY

#### 1 Timothy 6:18-19 NRSVA

The Stewardship Commission continues to encourage reflection on giving as we are moving toward the 2020 Annual Pledge program – Faith Filled Generosity. Someone will reach out soon asking you to share your story of faithful stewardship. Want to know more about Faith Filled Generosity? Visit <u>www.tens.org</u> (The Episcopal Network of Stewardship).

Use the log in: **1Peter** with the password: **Four:10**. The official Stewardship Kick Off is **SEPTEMBER 20** with virtual and traditional surprises – like pledge cards with a twist!! Look for Stewardship information and updates in Echoes and the bulletin.

### **Pleasant Valley**

With the help of Leadership Greenville, the teen center at Pleasant Valley Connection has been completely renovated. The participants in Summer Camp helped paint the mural on the side of the building.



Parking lot worship? A bit reluctant at first, I have to say that I've truly enjoyed the outdoor morning service, and I would strongly encourage others who haven't yet experienced it to check it out. Fortunately, the weather has been cool and pleasurable. After many family church Sundays on the couch, being able to attend actual service, and have communion with our church family has been a welcoming change.

If others are like us, we had adjusted to a call to worship on our back porch or around kitchen the table as the new Regardless of how long social norm. distancing is required, my hope and prayer is that there will never be a substitute for gathering church to worship at together. We are better together. God made us for "community" with each other...to learn from each other, to enjoy each other, and to worship together.

-Jason Houston

# Worship

During the summer months Sunday worship is taking place outside in God's natural setting with plenty of fresh air, shade, and adequate spacing. Instead of using a building we are using nature as our worship space. This is a nurturing and comforting solution to being as safe as possible in the current situation. Celebrating outside brings us out of our heads and back into the real world.

-Annette Burdette



# Membership

The Membership committee/commission is presently planning to connect with each one of our congregation over the next couple of months to see how they are doing and let them know that The Church of the Redeemer cares about them.

The Membership committee will specifically organize, oversee the implementation, and reporting on the status of the event and feedback that we receive from our parishioners.

-Greg Brown



# **Christian Education**

I hope September finds everyone well and full of hope and possibilities! Before I write for Echoes each month, I usually look back at what I wrote the previous year. I have found that it is a nice reminder to look back and see what was going on and what we were looking forward to in the season ahead.

Well, things look a little different than they did this time last year, wouldn't you say?

If any of us would have known what lay ahead what could we have possibly thought? Would we have even believed something so crazy could happen? To tell our year ago self that it would become normal to wear a mask daily; that it might get to the point that we would even pick out cute colorful masks to match our outfit. That you would feel like you just hit the jackpot if you're lucky enough to stumble upon a container of Clorox wipes. I mean is Lysol spray anywhere out there to be found?? To know that there would be a time where church buildings would be closed on Sunday mornings...what the heck?

Last year in my writing I asked us all to have a renewed excitement of sharing and showing our faith to others. I said how beautiful the church building was and what a special place it was to be on Sunday mornings. A lot has changed in a year...

How many of us have lost our excitement or questioned our faith? I know I certainly have. I have mourned for what is no longer for the time being. No longer can we go up to someone we haven't seen in a while and give them a hug. No longer do we go out to our favorite restaurant without the thought of, is it safe to sit in the dining room? If you are a parent or teacher who would have imagined you would have to make the decision of in person or virtual school? The list could go on and on of so many things most of us took for granted. Many of those things have now become what we dream of for the day that we have our normal back!

Looking back, I also wrote that church is who we are and that we are called to be the hands and feet of the church. I wrote that to Be the church, was such a wonderful way to show our neighbor how much Jesus loves us all!

It does make me chuckle to think back of saying what a beautiful church we have, and now we are sitting in the parking lot! I know Jesus must laugh at us when we think we have it all figured out.

A lot has changed in a year...

I know we have all had to change and adapt to so much. I also know that some things have not changed, or just maybe, they are even better than before!

We are in the parking lot at church, and it is a beautiful place to be! The hands and feet

### Youth Christian Education

Our plan is to resume classes for the youth on September 20. We will meet outside with the youth as long as the weather permits. As you know, dates and events are subject to change due to covid. I am looking forward to being outside with the kids and spending time together to catch up with everyone.

Stay tuned for more details!

#### of the church build a beautiful altar and sanctuary each week for all who want to join us and praise His name. The hands and feet offer a chair to a stranger that walks up the driveway because some words of a sermon might have been heard and got their attention. Maybe someone is sitting nearby, unseen by us, and they are hearing words that they have not heard from a book they have not opened since they were a young child sitting in church. Maybe beautiful music is drowning out a motorcycle passing by and a familiar hymn takes them back to a much happier time. Maybe someone sitting in a chair, in the parking lot, instead of our beautiful building with all the intricate stained glass, is becoming more aware of all God's tiny miracles and marvels that are so easily forgotten when we have our normal busy life and schedules. Birds singing, leaves changing from green to bright orange, a warm breeze, and the shade of a beautiful grand oak tree. I think through all this chaos and uncertainty, maybe Jesus has got us right where he wants us, and it is where our hands and feet need to be.

The next season ahead at Redeemer will surely come with its own set of challenges and new ways to do things. Jesus is still working on all of us and thank Heaven for that!

God's Peace,

Lori

Lori Hawkins Ihredeemer@gmail.com

864-360-5845



# Samaritan Honse

We are collecting **Canned Fruit** for Samaritan House this month. Your generosity in providing food for others is greatly appreciated!!! Thank you!

# **Bible Study**

### Join us in September for our on-line bible study!

It has been going great and you can join anytime!

We will Zoom together on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month starting at 6:30pm for Evening prayer.

Bible study will immediately follow.

We are reading the books of the Apocrypha.

Our next meeting is on September 2. Read chapters 10-19 of the Book of Wisdom/ Solomon and join us for a wonderful discussion.

To receive the zoom link email Rev. Catherine Tatem: revctatem@gmail.com



Have you considered automating your pledge payments to Redeemer?

Many banks and credit unions will set up a scheduled payment directly to the church. You may already have other bills set up this way.

You will write fewer checks, always be up to date on your pledge, and Redeemer will have a consistent budget with which to pay our ongoing bills. Be sure that your bank includes your envelope number or last name on the check in the memo line so it can be properly accounted for by our book keeper.

Set your payment up through online banking or contact your bank for more information.

#### ECHOE S

## **Fellowship Committee**

The Fellowship Committee provided bottles of iced water to all following the first two outdoor Sunday Services, then added bottles of iced coffee at the third and fourth outdoor Sunday Services. The iced coffee has been growing in popularity, though iced water is still the top choice by far!



The Committee has agreed that offering a virtual craft project to members of Redeemer would be fun to try on a trial basis. It plans to take advantage of Zoom to show those who sign up how to make a beautiful fall wreath to hang on your front door. Final details are being worked out now, but the plan is to hold the class late this month. Be watching for registration specifics shortly!

-Louise Heizer



# **Outdoor Worship**



Join us in the parking lot for Outdoor Holy Eucharist Service on Sunday at 9:00am.

No Signup needed





#### ECHOES

### **Ukraine Connection**

August 20, 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Greetings in Christ's name from Ukraine. It has been several weeks since I have communicated with you, but I do feel your prayers for me and that is what I depend on to spread the love of Jesus Christ in and around Uzhgorod, the city in Ukraine I now call home.

In previous letters I have focused on several areas of ministry where thanks to your help and assistance, you make it possible for me to help the forgotten, the poor and the oppressed in Ukraine. The quarantine is still in effect here, but it looks considerably different than it does in the States. For example, my team leader would not allow me to go into the Roma camps for several months because of the high infection rate of the COVID-19 virus. I am happy to report that now I am able to go back into the camps, mainly centering on going to the Roma churches and home groups, which allows me to get back with the families and others with whom I have built a relationship.

Being a foreigner, it has not been easy to build relationships, but the Roma people now see that my only "agenda" is to bring to them and show to them the love of Jesus.

I have mentioned previously that I partner with a Ukrainian missionary named Timea, and during the time we were not allowed to go into the camps, we concentrated on the very poor Ukrainian families in the city and in the surrounding villages. With your support many of these families now have chickens for eggs and goats for milk. Originally I brought up the idea of a building farm somewhere outside the city where with my donor's assistance I would start raising livestock for these families and live at the farm myself. My Team leader, Doug Landro, wrote up a business plan and looked into the feasibility of starting the farm.

Our research revealed, however, that it would have to be a massive industrial style farm and we would not be able to breakeven, so instead, we have started to form a co-op with the existing families to whom we have given chickens and goats. I will explain this idea in more detail as our thinking progresses.

Another area of ministry I am involved with and have submitted to my host organization, One Collective, is to begin to raise funds for building a Technical Construction School that will train Roma and Ukrainian young people in plumbing and carpentry skills. The doors that God opens for us to walk through are amazing, but we know we have to listen and accept God's timing and direction.

This brings me to the last topic I want to share with you; it is one I have to do daily and that job is prayer. I personally come home after being with the poorest and most desperate people needing the basics like food, water — and some don't even have electricity and feel powerless and overwhelmed. Perhaps you have had similar feelings and experiences in your own lives and can identify with what these people are going through. The first thing God tells us to do is bring what we have to His table. He is waiting for us to call on Him. As a follower of Jesus our first option is to pray. He is always there and never changes. He is the same yesterday, today and will be the same tomorrow. Let us put our full trust and faith in Him.

Thanks,

Gary Powell



#### The Church of the Redeemer

#### ECHOE S

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| September Readings |                 |                      |                     |                  |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Date               | 1 st Reading    | Psalms               | 2nd Reading         | Gospel           |
| Sep 5              | Exodus 12:1-14  | Psalm 149            | Romans 13:8-14      | Matthew 18:15-20 |
| Sep 12             | Exodus 14:19-31 | Psalm 114            | Romans 14:1~12      | Matthew 18:21-35 |
| Sep 19             | Exodus 16:2-15  | Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 | Philippians 1:21-30 | Matthew 20:1-16  |
| Sep 26             | Exodus 17:1-7   | Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16  | Philippians 2:1-13  | Matthew 21:23-32 |

If you're not currently getting our emails please call or email the church office to give us your email address.

If you don't have email or are not online call to let us know to mail the information to you and confirm your mailing address.

parishadmin@corgsc.org or 864.277.4562

Sue Bannio Parish Administrator



# September Birthdays & Anniversaries



1 Jerry Houston

#### 2 Earlene & Ken Nall

- 3 Jackson Plante
- 6 Paulette Carpenter
- 9 Bryan Christie
- 9 Frank Russo
- 9 Riley Hawkins
- 9 Charlie Zacher
- 10 Sandra Brown

- 12 Jack Jackson
- 13 Malain Houston
- 15 John Warren

#### 16 Kathy & Larry Shugart

- 16 Jan Connors
- 16 Sue Skardon
- 17 Hooper Skardon
- 18 Michael Reardon
- 20 Sadie Butchko
- 21 Jane Bouton

- 21 Robin Mill
- 22 Jim Brooks
- 23 Bill Johnson
- 25 Raina Harwood
- 25 Bill Lee
- 25 Courtney Papadopoulos
- 27 Kathryn Ethridge
- 28 Katie & Larry Broderick
- 30 Lauren Broderick

We apologize if your birthday or anniversary does not appear. Please notify parishadmin@corscg.org to update our records.

# September

# 2020

| Sun   | Mon  | Tue                          | Wed   | Thu | Fri                    | Sat                             |
|---|--|------------------------------|---|-----|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sept  | embe   |                              | 2<br>9:30am<br>Morning Prayer<br>12 pm AA<br>(Purser Hall)  | 3   | 4<br>OFFICE<br>CLOSED  | 5<br>11 am AA<br>(Purser Hall)  |
| 6<br>9:00am Outdoor<br>Worship with Holy<br>Eucharist   | 7<br>OFFICE<br>CLOSED<br><b>LABOR</b><br>DAY | 8                            | 9<br>9:30am<br>Morning Prayer<br>12 pm AA<br>(Purser Hall)  | 10  | 11<br>OFFICE<br>CLOSED | 12<br>11 am AA<br>(Purser Hall) |
| 13<br>9:00am Outdoor<br>Worship with Holy<br>Eucharist  | 14<br>Finance<br>Meeting<br>(zoom)           | 15                           | 16<br>9:30am<br>Morning Prayer<br>12 pm AA<br>(Purser Hall) | 17  | 18<br>OFFICE<br>CLOSED | 19<br>11 am AA<br>(Purser Hall) |
| 20<br>9:00am Outdoor<br>Worship with Holy<br>Eucharist<br>Christian Education<br>Stewardship Kickoff! | 21<br>Vestry<br>Meeting<br>(zoom)            | 22<br>First Day of<br>Autumn | 23<br>9:30am<br>Morning Prayer<br>12 pm AA<br>(Purser Hall) | 24  | 25<br>OFFICE<br>CLOSED | 26<br>11 am AA<br>(Purser Hall) |
| 27<br>9:00am Outdoor<br>Worship with Holy<br>Eucharist  | 28   | 29                           | 30<br>9:30am<br>Morning Prayer<br>12 pm AA<br>(Purser Hall) | 30  |                        |                                 |

| Lector Schedule |         |                           |                   |  |
|-----------------|---------|---------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Date            | Time    | Worship Leader I          | Worship Leader II |  |
| 6-Sep           | 9:00 AM | Bill Heizer               | Judy Planck       |  |
| 13-Sep          | 9:00 AM | Betty Boesch              | Katie Houston     |  |
| 20-Sep          | 9:00 AM | Rick Hankinson Robin Mill |                   |  |
| 27-Sep          | 9:00 AM | Joe Butchko               | Phyllis Webb      |  |

TREMBLE, O EARTH, AT THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD, AT THE PRESENCE OF THE GOD OF JACOB, PSALMS 114:7

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The Church of the Redeemer



The Church of the Redeemer 120 Mauldin Road Greenville, SC 29605 864.277.4562 Parish Office: parishadmin@corgsc.org

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