



# News from The Redeemer

Episcopal Church of

CHRISTMAS AND  
DECEMBER 28, 2025

## NEW & NOTEWORTHY

### From the Rector

In Matthew's account of Jesus' birth, he includes the appearance of a star in the night sky that led the wisemen to the place where Jesus was. The story usually culminates with our focus on their presentation of gifts, things brought for a king. What is less imagined, is the star's signifying that Jesus' birth had cosmic significance. Stars were considered eternal in their constancy. And so this star made Jesus' birth timeless; he somehow, mysteriously, transcended the noise of all the crowded busyness that surrounded him.

Imagine a night sky without stars. The darkness would be consuming and we'd be left without direction. Spend a few moments, late in the night, to appreciate the stars anew. Who could we be without them?

The same holds for the Gospel. Imagine life spent without a deep and full sense of grace and joy, of empathy and communion and promise. Imagine everything coming to nothing. Compare this with all things being brought to their fulfillment in God's eternity. Imagine that light.

The church is meant to be a constant witness to this brightness. It is meant to illumine all that is beautiful and good and true and timeless, and, in the most important of ways, it is meant to transcend the noise that so surrounds us now, so that we can find our way from conflict to peace. This witness is what we, at The Redeemer, embody and practice not just at a holiday but throughout the year and across generations. Imagine a world without churches. Who would we be without them?

### Churchyard Lanterns

Every year the Redeemer Youth Group (RYG) places lanterns on graves throughout the churchyard. It is a precious exercise in remembering the deep and abiding history of our church and community, here and across the world. It also gives us an opportunity to appreciate that even death cannot divide us from God's love or from one another. As we celebrate this Christmas, we do it with all those who came before us; with the hope of reunion and the promise of the resurrection. As you make your way to and from church on Christmas Eve we hope you will pause, as we did, and take in the lights of those who now shine elsewhere.

### Call for Four New Vestry Members

Did you know that we will be electing 4 new members of Vestry at our 175th Annual Meeting next February? We are looking for individuals who are:

- confirmed and pledging members of The Redeemer;
- clear-minded with definite ideas about our Church's mission and history;
- greater community and service-oriented;
- comfortable being both constructive and unifying during discussions;
- at ease with financial discussions and administrative planning

Please contact Tiffany O'Neill at 610.349.3259 (text or call) if you have questions. It's so rewarding and is an excellent time in our Church's history to become involved! We are taking nominations through January 16.

### Sunday, December 28

*The First Sunday after Christmas of Advent*

8:00am	Spoken Holy Eucharist Rite I.....	Church
9:15am	Nursery .....	Rm 208
9:30am	Holy Eucharist Rite II.....	Church + Livestream
4:00pm	RYG .....	Masterman Hall

## Outstanding Balances

Remember that our fiscal year is the calendar year. If you have an amount due on your 2025 pledge, it will help us if you can satisfy it by December 31. View all the giving options online at: [www.TheRedeemer.org/give](http://www.TheRedeemer.org/give). Thank you!



**Christmastide Choral Evensong**  
 First Sunday, January 4 at 5:00pm  
 Sung by the Chancel Choir

Robert Lehman's *Christmas Vesper Responsory*  
 Joanna Forbes-L'Estragne *Preces and Responses*  
 Evening Service of William Harris  
 Harold Darke's *In the bleak midwinter*

The Redeemer

These first and third Sunday Choral Evensongs are becoming increasingly popular. The adult choirs sing on the first and Choristers lead the service on the third. Please join us and invite a friend. And, if you missed the report from our choirs' pilgrimage to Canterbury last summer, visit [www.TheRedeemer.org/Canterbury](http://www.TheRedeemer.org/Canterbury).

## Livestream Operators Needed

Livestreaming has become a significant outreach tool for us and enables us to keep in touch with shutin parishioners. The system is quite easy to operate and we would love to add to the ranks of operators. The easiest way to train is to shadow someone on a Sunday morning. Please contact Eric Rabe ([eric.rabe@verizon.net](mailto:eric.rabe@verizon.net)) to register your interest and to see who is scheduled in the coming weeks to arrange for training.

## RYG Square Dance - SAVE THE DATE

The Redeemer Youth Group is once again hosting a five piece band and caller for our Square Dance on January 24. We hope to raise funds for our trip to DC over President's day weekend to serve the people of our Nations Capital. We will be partnering with many DC organizations that help to combat poverty and food insecurity, and we hope to also explore many iconic National Monuments in and around the city. This fundraiser is a wonderful opportunity for the teenagers of this community to cook for and serve others as a team. It is also a truly magical evening in the deep winter that brings people together of all generations to break bread and dance and be joyful. We hope that you can join us. Please find the invitation from a link on [www.TheRedeemer.org/RSVP](http://www.TheRedeemer.org/RSVP).

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

### Merry Meals

Thank you to all who participated in our annual endeavor to provide Christmas meals by filling and returning a bag of groceries. After adding a ham or turkey, cesar salad kit and navel oranges we collected and distributed 110 bags. Thank you as well to the volunteers who helped to deliver the bags.

### Family Promise Thanks

Our sincere thanks to all the volunteers who helped to make our Family Promise guests welcomed and well-cared-for.

## DID YOU KNOW

Did you know, The Redeemer welcomes all who want to worship in this sacred space? If you think of The Redeemer as your church, let us know by submitting a Stewardship pledge for 2026. Submitting a pledge, or one time gift to Stewardship 2026, will let us know your intentions, broaden our base, and sustain the financial health for the future. The Redeemer's ministries, grounds, buildings, programs, community outreach and activities were made possible by the generations that came before, and we are now stewards of the future.



Pledge



Venmo

## OUR SINCERE THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY PLEDGED

Paul & Mary Adkins  
Richard & Kris Aldridge  
Charlie Alexander  
James & Julia Alexandre  
Meredith & Hobie Antik  
Walter & Arden Armstrong  
Stephen Baker & Leslie Somers  
John & Carolyn Bartholdson  
Peter & Clare Bastian  
Glenn Beamer  
Jeffrey Bell  
Tom & Carolyn Bennett  
Sandra Berwind  
Georgia Biezup  
Barbara Billings  
Diana Bittel  
John & Lisa Black  
Charlie & Susan Bloom  
Loretta Blume  
Fred & Becky Brackett  
Ronde Bradley  
Priscilla Bradshaw  
Jamie & Joan Bromley  
Rick & Phyllis Brown  
Bob & Nancy Bruechert  
Jim & Lin Buck  
Andrew & Karen Bucklee  
Christian & Alice Bullitt  
Lee Buttz & Min Hwa Kupfer  
Bobbie Cameron  
Drew & Babs Camerota  
Dick & Lisa Carr  
Lynne Chapman  
Sam Chew  
Chris & Kate Chojnacki  
Blake & Julie Christoph  
Peter & Kimberly Clement  
Joanne Conrad  
Dick & Ottilie Conway  
Peter & Elisabeth Cooke, Jr.  
David Copas & Jennifer Vollmer Copas  
Ted & Polly Cox  
Jim & Betsy Crowell  
Stephen & Margaret Dana  
Chris & Betsy D'Angelo  
Rick & Rita Davis  
Bob & Lisa Davis  
Gary Davis  
Jack & Judy Dawson  
Rod Day  
Darrell & Julia DeMoss  
Sue Denious  
Gloria dePasquale  
Patrick & Suzie Devine  
Sophie Donaghy  
John & Melissa Donnelly  
Rod & Carol Donnelly  
Joe & Elizabeth Dougherty  
Rad & Susannah Edmunds  
Hank & Martha Mel Edmunds  
Joe Elefritz  
Michael Erdman  
Bill & Katharine Eyre, Jr.  
Norma Fabian  
Kitty Farnham  
John & Evelyn Fell  
Philip & Suzanne Fisher  
Gordon & Patricia Fowler  
Phyllis French  
Ken Garner & Bob Mikrut  
C. Meade Geisel  
Tom & Anna Gerrity  
Gay Gervin  
Stephen Ciottoni & Emily Gibb Ciottoni  
Laura Graham  
Al & Sallie Greenough  
Grant Griffiths & Raffaella Lo Castro  
Bill Gross & Jan Clarke  
Peter Grove & Nancy Greene  
Jim & Barbara Haley  
Pam Hamilton  
Peter & Alta Hamilton  
Greg & Lorrie Harper  
Carol Harris

Nancy Harris  
Bill Hartz & Cynthia Cericola-Hartz  
Joan Harvey  
Jane Hastings  
Leo & Stacey Helmers  
Margaret Helminska  
Christine Henisee  
John Herzog  
Bob & Barbara Hobbs  
Brian & Jeanne Holeman  
James & Mia Holman  
Bessy Hopkins  
Mary Hopkins  
Sandra Hudson  
Sally Jannetta  
Steve & Nadia Jannetta  
Wilson Jeffreys  
Phil & Meghan Jodz  
David & Joanna Johnson  
Karl & Sheryl Johnson  
Jo Ann Jones  
Jim Jordan & Vanessa Lai  
Bobby & Katharine Joyce  
David & Kathy Justi  
Gordie & Janice Keen  
Susan Keith  
Jim Kelleher & Rik Morris  
Cecy Keller  
Eric Keuffel & Meena Thayu  
Jenny Kirkpatrick  
Hope Knight  
Patrick & Libbie Knott  
Brian Kunz & Corinne Wilkinson  
Anthony & Judy Lame  
Giorgio Lauri  
Kevin Leahy & Devika Singh  
John & Melanie LeBoeuf  
Steve & Debbie Lee  
Timothy & Lauren Leithead  
Barb Linder  
John & Elaine Lisle  
Kyle & Marlies Lissack  
Stephen LoCastro & Laurie MacKenzie  
Joanie Mackie  
Mackie & Charlotte MacLean  
Michael Malloy & Lauren Wilkinson  
Charlie & Ann Marshall  
Craig & Celia Martin  
Andrew & Cheryl Masterman  
Josselyn McAdam  
Jim & Louise McCabe  
Tony & Binney McCague  
Brook & Connie McCann  
Don & Carolyn McCulloch  
James & Kristin McGinley  
Rodger & Lauren McKinney  
Lisa McLean  
Sandra McLean  
Pamela McMullin  
Fran Merritt  
Charles & Ellen Merwin  
Harry & Rachel Miller  
Scott & Sarah Miller  
Daniel & Jill Miller  
Sam & Carolyn Morris  
Rob & Janie Morris  
Perc & Sally Moser  
Rich Myers & Erin Langan  
Ted & Carol Neilson  
Lathrop & Lorna Nelson  
Ryan & Rebecca Northington  
Francesca Northrup  
Brian & Tiffany O'Neill  
Jeremy O'Neill  
Frank & Mary Ellen Partel  
Lanny & Ann Patten  
Mark Patten  
Roz Pendergast  
John Pickering  
Sky & Nancy Post  
Margot Powell  
Laura Powell  
Caroline Pozos  
Andrew Pozos

Patricia Pruett  
Dee Pugh  
Alfy & Kathleen Putnam  
Luisa and Eric Rabe  
Doug & Lisa Raymond  
Tom & Josephine Rees  
Michael & Elizabeth Reese  
Paul Reyfman & Christine Chan  
Jay & Gretchen Riley  
Philip & Sandy Ringo  
Herb Rorer  
Arden Saligman  
Suzanna Saunders  
Karl Schoettle  
Nancy Schriber  
Sue Schultz  
Ken & Amanda Schwenke  
Presley Schwinn  
Jason & Jenni Scoggin  
Zach & Nicky Scott  
Jonathan & Camille Scott  
David & Diane Senior  
Andrew & Edward Senn  
Win & Cannie Shafer  
Nancy Sharp  
Charlie Sihio & Emily Snell  
Dan & Patty Slack  
Polk & Nancy Smartt  
Hank & June Smith  
Steve Snell  
Karen Snell  
Mimi Snyder  
Carol Soltis  
Thorne & Marby Sparkman  
David & Michele Spence  
Tad Sperry & Ellen Harvey  
Blair Stambaugh  
George Steele & Kathy High  
Tracy & Kevin Steele  
Bonnie Steele  
Scott & Alexis Stephan  
Cindy Stephan  
Steve & Bebe Strawbridge  
Ann Strong  
Connie Stuckert  
John & Amy Susanin  
Bill & Leslie Susskind  
David Tachna & Catherine Carruthers  
Sonya Thomas  
Radclyffe & Maria Thompson  
James & Susan Treadway  
Christopher & Danielle Trucksess  
Mike Tyler  
Rick Vance & Rhonda Wilson  
Peter Vanderveen & Trish Bennett  
Jacques & Stephanie Vaulain  
Jamen Voss & Michael Fradley  
John & Karen Wallingford  
James & Ellen Wang  
Skip Ward  
Cameron & Cathy Warner  
Joan Warren  
Joel & Phyllis Wasley  
Frank & Margaret Welsh  
Richard & Pat Wesley  
Daniel Wesley  
Brad & Elaine Whitman  
Margie Widmann  
Dixie Wigton  
Pam Wilford  
Thomas & Kathleen Wilkinson, Jr.  
Lindsey Wilkinson  
Julie Williams  
Zachary & Becky Winfield  
Alan Wood & Hilarie Johnston  
David & Ginger Woods  
Sook Hee Yoo  
Chris Zafiriou & Jessica Harper

**Pledge Stats**  
12-22-25  
**24 Pledges**  
**\$1,072,245.52**  
**8.8% increase**

## CONTACT US

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Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania 19010  
610-525-2486  
www.TheRedeemer.org  
Emergency after hours: 610-526-0487

## CLERGY

**The Rev. Peter T. Vanderveen**  
Rector  
pvanderveen@theredeemer.org, ext. 17

**The Rev. Jo Ann B. Jones**  
Associate Rector  
jjones@theredeemer.org, ext. 16

**The Rev. Jeremy R. O'Neill**  
Associate Rector  
joneill@theredeemer.org, ext. 13

## VESTRY

**Charles Merwin** Rector's Warden ★  
**John Black** Accounting Warden ★

**Jim Jordan**  
**Hope Knight**  
**Cheryl Masterman**  
**Tiffany O'Neill** ★  
**Lisa Raymond** ★  
**Win Shafer**  
**Joe Spadaro**  
**Danielle Trucksess**  
**Daniel Wesley**  
**David Woods**

★Executive Committee

## STAFF

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**Paulo Reyes**  
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**Andrew Senn**  
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The Mission of the Church of the Redeemer is to celebrate the love of God in Jesus Christ. As an open and welcoming Episcopal community, we worship, learn and grow together, supporting each other and our world through the generous and creative use of God's gifts.

## NEW TO THIS COMMUNITY?

**We're glad you're here!** We'd like to get to know you. Please sign the guest book on the podium in the Church entrance way or fill out one of the cards in the pew. We will be in touch.

**Many of us here today were not raised in The Episcopal Church,** but have found in this parish a source of spiritual growth. If you might like to join this congregation or come seeking prayer or guidance, please speak to one of the clergy or call the office at 610-525-2486 or complete an online form here.



**For young children,** we offer a worship tote bag filled with materials meant to enhance their sense of worship and help them process new prayers, scriptures and hymns. Pick one up in the narthex.

**Restrooms** are located through the large wooden door halfway down the left side aisle. Baby changing stations are in the handicap restroom off the left side aisle and in the hallway restroom behind the high altar.

### Wi-Fi Access

Choose: **COTR-Congregation**  
Password: **Redeemer1881**

**Best sources for information** on all our ministries are on our: website (www.TheRedeemer.org), Facebook page (RedeemerBrynMawr), Instagram (theredeemerpa).

**Submission guidelines and a submission form** for The News can be found at www.TheRedeemer.org/the\_news.

## ASK AN USHER

- For hearing assistance devices
- For a card to drop in the offering plate if you give online

## THIS WEEK AT THE REDEEMER

### Monday, December 29

*The Holy Innocents*

8:00pm NA.....Masterman Hall

### Tuesday, December 30

9:00pm Compline ..... via Zoom

### Wednesday, December 31

*Frances Joseph Gaudet, Educator & Social Reformer*

PARISH OFFICES CLOSED

### Thursday, January 1

*The Holy Name*

PARISH OFFICES CLOSED

7:00pm Alocoholics Anonymous .....Masterman Hall

9:00pm Compline ..... via Zoom

### Friday, January 2

9:00am Flower Guild (Friday or Saturday).....Church

### Saturday, January 3

9:00am Flower Guild (Friday or Saturday).....Church

10:00am Louis Page Funeral .....Church

6:15pm Swing Dance (building use) .....Burns Hall

### Sunday, January 4

*The Second Sunday after Christmas of Advent*

8:00am Spoken Holy Eucharist Rite I..... Church

9:15am Nursery ..... Rm 208

9:30am Holy Eucharist Rite II ..... Church + Livestream

10:40am Coffee Hour ..... Burns Hall

10:45am Church School ..... Second Floor Classrooms

10:45am Confirmation Class.....Hospitality Ste.

4:00pm RYG ..... Masterman Hall

5:00pm Choral Evensong .....Church

6:00pm Choir Dinner .....Burns Hall

*Up-to-date calendar always available on [www.TheRedeemer.org/calendar](http://www.TheRedeemer.org/calendar)  
All Zoom meeting links are there as well.*

## WAYS TO GIVE

If you're giving cash, check, or offering envelopes,  
please drop them in the offering plates at the back of the church.



Via Text



Via Venmo



Via PayPal



All Options

Please be aware of email scams. Staff members will NEVER request gift cards.  
Check the FROM address. If it is not from a @theredeemer.org address, DELETE IT.



## IN OUR PRAYERS

### • For those who are sick or in need:

Annie	Lisa	Andreas Pas
Steve LoCastro	Carol	William
Jill Whitney	Cannie	Doris
John Pantalo	Malcolm	Camille Scott
Jane	Pam Daley	Tom Gerrity
Kristen	Bob Hobbs	Chris McCleary
Rhonda	Megan	Fran Northrup
Jay & Martha	Jill	Monica Hackett

- For those fleeing from devastation in their countries of origin.
- For the victims of violence in this country and throughout the world, especially Ukraine and the Middle East.
- For our Montgomery County neighbors who are homeless and have lost their safety nets, especially our Family Promise of the Main Line guests.
- For those who have died, and the victims of gun violence throughout this country.

If you know a parishioner who needs pastoral care or could use a visit, please contact Peter Vanderveen-pvanderveen@theredeemer.org or ext. 17, Jo Ann Jones-jjones@theredeemer.org or ext. 16, or any member of the Pastoral Care Committee.

To add names or thanksgivings to the prayer list, use the online form at: [www.The-Redeemer.org/pastoral\\_care](http://www.The-Redeemer.org/pastoral_care) or contact Jo Ann Jones; [jjones@theredeemer.org](mailto:jjones@theredeemer.org)

## CHURCH SCHOOL AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

### Nursery Care and Preschool - Rm 208 (ages 3 to PreK)

9:15am-11:00am

### Church School 10:45am - Second Floor Classrooms

Church school class for pre-k through grades 5 will resume on Sunday, January 4. We look forward to our next semester.

### Confirmation Class

*staff contact [joneill@theredeemer.org](mailto:joneill@theredeemer.org)*

### Hospitality Suite

Students from the Redeemer Confirmation Class will be confirmed at Episcopal Academy on January 31st at 10am. We hope you can join us as we celebrate these young people renewing their commitment to Christ and this church.

**The Redeemer Youth Group** RYG, has had a busy fall! RYG meets every Sunday from 4-6 pm in the Parish house and has grown into a very sizable group representing over a dozen schools from the Main Line and surrounding areas. We have a strong leadership team committed to helping this diverse collection of kids as they navigate the tricky years of high school. RYG hopes to cultivate a “third” space, away from home and school, where kids can do the work of truly discerning what kind of person they want to become, as well as beginning to consider the role that faith and community can play in contributing to the development of our best selves. Once a month we go down to the Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia and serve the community of St. Francis Inn. This has become a highly competitive group to get into and so we have added 6 more Sundays for the remainder of the school year. Additionally last year the kids requested a morning Bible study. Bible Breakfast meets every Thursday morning from 7:15-8am. Some mornings we are standing room only in the Library and are considering moving into a larger space. This January we will have our annual fundraising square dance to raise funds for our trip to DC to serve the urban community of our nations capitol. This event is entirely produced by our teenagers. They cook, they serve, they dance! It is a wonderful opportunity for the kids to come together as a team as we prepare for our trip over Presidents Day Weekend. It is also a wonderful opportunity for them to serve our Redeemer community as it has served them so well over the years. Please find the invitation here in The News and come witness for yourselves the transformation of our Burns Hall into a festive Country Square Dance. It has been over a decade since I have been involved in the Redeemer Youth Group. This population continues to amaze me, truly. Not only are they remarkably smart and motivated young adults, but they are loving, compassionate and committed to using their bodies, their minds, and their lives to make their communities and this world a better place. Christmas for many is a time of hope, and every year I am astounded at the hope and gratitude I feel for this population as they clamor for roles in the Pageant, get themselves to Bible Breakfast during peak academic stress, and consider why the birth of this baby Jesus changed the world. I believe teenagers are the gateway to the next chapter of our story, and in a season of great darkness I believe they are our light.