

Royal Redeemer

DECEMBER 2011

Royal Redeemer Lutheran Church Volume 6 Issue 12

7127 Dutchland Parkway

Liberty Township, OH

Phone: 513-779-4740

Fax: 513-779-0597

www.royalredeemer.org

Connect † Grow † Serve



*2011 Christmas Season
at Royal Redeemer*

Preschool Christmas Program

4/5 Year Olds - Monday, December 12, 7:00pm

3 Year Olds - Tuesday, December 13, 7:00pm

Children's Christmas Pageant

Wednesday, December 14th, 7:00pm

"Don't Settle for the Wrapping"

Christmas Eve Worship

Saturday, December 24th

Children's Worship: 4:00pm

Family Candlelight Worship: 6:00pm

With Children's Message

Candlelight Worship: 8:00pm

Christmas Day Worship with communion

Sunday, December 25th 10:30am



DECEMBER CHALLENGE: SPREAD THE LIGHT

The wonder of Christmas isn't just for Christians; many people enjoy the beauty of the season and some become nostalgic around childhood memories of Christmas with loved ones.

Many say they would come to church if someone invited them.

During the month of December, every member of Royal Redeemer is encouraged to invite at least one other person to church.

To make this easier for you, we have provided doorhangers with Christmas worship information. These can be left on doors or used to personally invite someone. If each family does their part, 6,000 families in our community will receive an invitation to Royal Redeemer. If you have not yet distributed a packet of 100, this week will be an opportune time to catch those looking for a place to worship at Christmas. Doorhangers can be picked in up in the church narthex.

If you know of an individual or family that is new to the community, you may also choose to take a purple "welcome to the neighborhood" bag from the narthex, add a few inexpensive gifts, and deliver to that family as a personal welcome and invitation to your church.

Jesus came into a dark world to shine the light of God's love into our hearts. Today, YOU are His light to the world. In this opportune season, take time to reach out and make a lifetime impact in the heart of your friend or neighbor.

One with you in hope,

Pastor Joel

A Christmas Wish



*May
the warm,
guiding star
drive from your
life every shadow;
may the glad song of
angels find an echo in
your heart, may the spirit
of worship in the hearts of
the wise men, and the simple
faith of the shepherds be yours
as once more, you celebrate the
birthday
of the
King.*

First Sunday - Second Offering in December



Faith Alliance is a coalition of local Christian congregations and agencies collaborating to meet the needs of people in our community through food, clothing, shelter, employment and financial counseling. Royal Redeemer is a participating member.



Sermon Themes for December



December 3/4: Christmas Through Their Eyes - Elizabeth & Zechariah

December 10/11: Christmas Through Their Eyes - The Shepherds

December 17/18: Christmas Through Their Eyes - Mary & Joseph



More than 1.5 million families have attended *Financial Peace University* with amazing results. On average, these families paid off

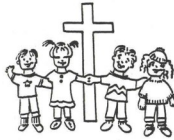
\$5,300 in debt and saved \$2,700 in just the first 90 days! Stop worrying about money, and start your journey to Financial Peace today.

Financial Peace University Begins

Monday, January 23

Sign Up in the Narthex

Mark Your Calendars!



Preschool Christmas Program
4/5 Year Olds - Monday, December 12, 7:00pm
3 Year Olds - Tuesday, December 13, 7:00pm



Children's Christmas Pageant
Wednesday, December 14
7:00pm



Christmas Eve Worship
4:00pm Family worship
6:00pm Candlelight worship & children's message
8:00pm Traditional candlelight worship



Christmas Day Worship
10:30am



Financial Peace University Begins
Monday, January 23
Sign Up in the Narthex



Staying Connected

November 2011

This summarizes the Board of Servant Leaders meeting that was held on Tuesday, November 15, 2011. Mike Grieff, Tim Kelker, Steve Midura, Jim Lundt, Becky Turner, Lora Hernandez and Pastor Anders were present.

Building.

The building committee is continuing to make great progress. Preliminary drawings and estimates have been provided by Todd Yoby, the project architect.

The proposal will include a variety of options for the congregation to choose from, all from a base layout. The base layout will include a new sanctuary that will almost double the worship space. It will also include increased square footage for classrooms (via sanctuary remodel) and new bathrooms. A new kitchen, coffee connections area, additional classroom space and nursery will also be options to choose from.

In general, the project will more than double the size of our current footprint, providing the necessary space for long term growth. Ground breaking is targeted for Spring, 2012 with completion in late 2012 / early 2013.

Initial financial analysis projects a yearly income increase ranging from \$40K to \$80K necessary to support the new facility, depending on final construction (options listed above) and financing (e.g. 20 vs. 30 year loan, amount of \$ down, etc...) decisions. For perspective, FY 2011 church income is approximately \$400,000. Thus, a 10% - 20% increase in revenue will be required to support the new facility going forward (fully loaded costs, but independent of any increase in staffing or ministry funds). This full \$40K - \$80K increase will need to be obtained by calendar year 2013, as 2012 will only incur a % of the costs during construction phase. We are targeting to secure at least 50% of the funding during this years' pledge campaign to give us the confidence we will have necessary income by 2013 when full year costs will be in effect.

Legacy Custom Builders is the exclusive builder working with the architect. The building team is doing due diligence to confirm Legacy as the firm of choice. This is expected to be completed in the coming weeks. Assuming success, the board will authorize ≈ \$6,500 to be transferred to the architect to begin detailed drawings to be completed in early 2012 (Jan/Feb). At this time updated, detailed financial options will also be available.

If everything remains on schedule, we will be conducting a “New Building Dialogue” in Jan / Feb 2012. The intent of this discussion will be for the building team and Board to obtain input from the congregation on both construction and financing options.

We will then conduct a congregational vote on building and financing options as soon as possible following final design and costing.

Staffing.

As most of you know, Pastor Anders has filled the position of Contemporary Music Coordinator. Please make sure you welcome Christopher McBride to our family.

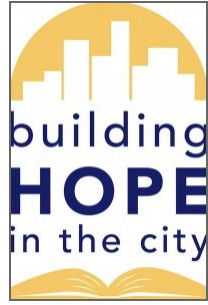
Pastor Joel has posted a job description for Children’s Ministry Director and is in the process of identifying potential candidates.

2012 Budget.

Pastor Joel is currently working with Len Schuster to construct the 2012 budget excluding the building. The preliminary budget will be reviewed with the board during the December monthly meeting. The 2012 budget will be presented to the congregation for vote at the January 29th congregational meeting.

Mike Grieff on behalf of the Board of Servant Leaders
Tim Kelker, Jim Lundt, Becky Turner, Lora Hernandez, Steve Midura,
Liz Potter, Pastor Joel, Pastor Anders

Happenings



- Building Hope in the City-Cincinnati is in need of volunteers with strong backs to pick up and drop off furniture to the needy in the inner city of Cincinnati. We will be renting a truck and picking up donated furniture and dropping off furniture to the needy on Saturday, Dec. 17th. We will meet in the parking lot of King of Kings Lutheran Church in Mason at 1pm on Saturday, Dec. 17th. We will then pick up furniture in the Mason and West Chester area and proceed to Over-the-Rhine to drop off furniture at various locations.
- We are also looking for anyone wanting to donate any furniture or household goods. We will pick up the furniture on Saturday, Dec. 17th.
- Building Hope in the City-Cincinnati will have its annual Fountain Square Outreach Event on Thursday, December 22nd from 3pm to 8pm. We are in need of volunteers to hand out hot chocolate and slices of pumpkin pie along with Building Hope in the City newsletters and signing people up for newsletter and email distribution.

If you are able to help please contact John Suguitan, at www.bhinc-cinci.org or 513-266-6379.



Vintage Royals

The Vintage Royals Christmas Party will be held at Bob and Glenda Donnellon's home on December 9 at 6:30pm. Appetizers, meat and drinks will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert. Also, there will be a white elephant gift exchange. Each person should bring a gift. Please R.S.V.P. to Glenda or Bob at 847-4434 by Dec. 8th.

Thank You



WOW! Royal Redeemer!

You really outdid yourselves. We delivered **199** shoeboxes to Operation Christmas Child. That's 199 children whose lives we will have touched this Christmas. I can't thank all of you enough.

Please keep the recipient of your shoebox even though you don't know who it is in your prayers this Christmas season.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

from the bottom of my heart.

Lynne Joehnk



Heartfelt Thank You

Our second Thanksgiving Food Drive was a huge success. With all the generous donations, we were able to feed twenty two families this year! Thank you to everyone who brought in food, gave monetary donations, and those who delivered and packed.

You might not know the families personally, but the change you can make with just this one meal, can be amazing!

**Thank
You**



In the preschool this past month, we had our Thanksgiving Feasts! And everyone had a great time and ate to our hearts content! What a wonderful time of year it is as we celebrate all that we have to be thankful for...families, friends, health, and most of all, God.

It is hard to believe that Christmas is right around the corner! This is such an exciting time of year and the children are at the heart of it. They love the Christmas lights, presents, Santa, Christmas trees, cookies, reindeer, candy and Baby Jesus' Birthday! While we remember all there is about Christmas, we really try to focus on the birth of Jesus and on the spirit of giving and we try to relate it all to something the children will understand. We do this by having a birthday party for Baby Jesus. We will have balloons, games, party favors, birthday cake and even presents!! Since we can not physically give Baby Jesus the presents, we explain to the children that we will bring presents to give to other babies who are in need of help and by helping others, we are showing our love for Jesus! On the day of the Parties, the children will bring in their new or gently used baby items and put them under our Christmas Tree in the Narthex and later the items will be taken to the Pregnancy Care Center in Middletown.

Our preschool children will be sharing the true spirit of Christmas with those in need!



Tis the Season . . . To Invite Someone to Royal Redeemer

The Holiday season leading up to Christmas and the period immediately following a move, represent the two times that people are most receptive to an invitation to church. As part of our Operation Invite program, Royal Redeemer has two ministries available now to assist with “inviting”.

- **Christmas Season Door Hanger Ministry . . .** Simply select from the display in the narthex and distribute a packet of 100 door hangers *anytime convenient for you* between now and December 18th. These preprinted door hangers with invitations are available through this Sunday at the display in the narthex and provide a simple and non-threatening way for all of us to reach out this Christmas season. If you already have signed out a packet of door hangers, please drop the completion card in the Operation Invite Box in the narthex after delivering them and *Thank You!*
- **Neighbor to Neighbor Ministry . . .** is a *new* segment of Operation Invite and is *available all year long for people moving into your neighborhood!* Look for the purple “Welcome to the Neighborhood Bags” on a hook above the counter in the narthex with guidelines posted above. These gift bags are for you to welcome a new resident as a gesture of friendship shortly after they move into your neighborhood. You can fill the purple gift bag with goodies of your choice – use your creativity (perhaps some small things useful to someone just moving in such as picture hanging hooks along with cookies or Banana bread etc.) Already included in each bag is a welcome letter from Pastor and a coupon for a Free Chick-fil-A sandwich.

May each of us become more outward focused in some way this season because sharing the gift of Christ is the greatest gift of all!



BLAZE High School Youth Ministry News

<http://www.royalredeemer.org/ministries/children/blaze>

Our high school teens are on fire for God! The new name of our Sunday evening gatherings is Teen Inferno. Congratulations to Brett Robinson for the winning submission.

In November, our BLAZE teens raked leaves for seniors in our community as part of the RASKALS program. We also joined a gathering of area youth groups, called UNIGHTED, at Centerpoint Church, with great music and an awesome message.

On Friday December 16, we'll (Christmas) party with the IGNITE Confirmation group at Run, Jump, and Play in Mason.

On Wednesday, December 28, we'll join with our college age youth in a wild scavenger hunt.

On Saturday January 28, we will head to Perfect North for a day of snow skiing.



Those serving at Royal Redeemer:

Acolytes:

Jayde Hoffmann / Andrew Brownley – December 4
Aaron Goetz / Katie Johnson – December 11
Jennifer Ellison / Heyle Krugler – December 18
Dylan Tesmer / Maddie Grieff – December 25

Readers:

Jill Wilkey / Marilyn Schaufert / Aline Hudson – December 3/4
____ / Steve Hill / Sharon Johnson – December 10/11
Diann Gaffrey / Alan Ellison / Dave Hoffmann – December 17/18

December 24

4:00pm

6:00pm

8:00pm

____ - December 25

Ushers:

Carl Kohs / Kevin Turain & Ed Grieff / Mike Hernandez & Brian Highland – December 3/4
Carl Kohs / Craig Spletzer & Ed Grieff / Arthur Radun & Jeff Hazel – December 10/11
____ / Ed Grieff & Bob Downey / Tim Potter & ____ - December 17/18

December 24

4:00pm

6:00pm

8:00pm

Ron Miller & Bob Downey – December 25

Greeters:

____ / Bill & Marilyn Schaufert / Marilyn Patschke – December 3/4
____ / Joe Rich / Jeff Porter – December 10/11
____ / Joe Rich / Glenda Donnellon – December 17/18

December 24

4:00pm

6:00pm

8:00pm

Marilyn Patschke – December 25

Welcome Center:

Colleen Anderson / ____ / Lora Hernandez - December 3/4
Colleen Anderson / Debby Hill / Angie Porter – December 10/11
Colleen Anderson / Laurel Smith-Fields / ____ - December 17/18

December 24

4:00pm The Anthony Family

6:00pm

8:00pm

____ - December 25

Communion Assistants:

December 4 @ 9:00am – Pastor Joel & Pastor Anders
December 10 @ 5:30pm – Mike Zerler
December 11 @ 10:30am – Mark McGrath & Bob Burgett
December 18 @ 9:00am – Pastor Joel & Pastor Anders
December 25 @ 10:30am – Marty Preede & Trent Meyers

If you would be able to fill any of the openings contact Jennifer Samson @ 779-4740 or Stacey Aten @ 779-6778



**Altar Flowers provided for the month of
December by:**

- Dave & Sharon Palm - December 3 / 4
 Mike & Eve Zerler - December 10/11
 Jeff & Diane Hazel - December 17/18
 Bob & Glenda Donnelleon - December 24/25

***Please check the flower calendar for open dates.**

**Monthly Stewardship Report
October, 2011**



Last Month (October, 2011)	
Average Weekly Worship Attendance	285
Building Fund Giving.....	\$3,284
Actual Offerings (General Operating Fund).....	\$32,360
Budgeted Offerings (General Operating Fund)...	\$36,311
Difference Actual vs. Budget (General Operating Fund)	(\$3,951)

Year to Date (October 31, 2011)	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Financial Summary (without preschool)	10/31/2011	10/31/2011	
Income.....	\$320,405	\$342,552	(\$22,147)
Expenses.....	<u>\$295,141</u>	<u>\$336,125</u>	<u>\$40,984</u>
Net Surplus (Deficit).....	\$25,264	\$6,427	\$18,837
Building Fund Balance	\$233,190		



Birthdays

Traci Anthony	December 2	Lisa Washburn	December 16
Danielle Peters	December 2	Mike Grieff	December 17
Daniel Washburn	December 2	Kristy Thomas	December 18
Angelica Bayer	December 3	Suzie Kopeck	December 18
Cassie Eppley	December 4	Sarah Shedlock	December 18
Jackie Schauer	December 5	Allie Deines	December 18
Nancy Midura	December 5	John Stegeman	December 19
Lucas Argo	December 5	Lori Granger	December 19
Nicholas Anthony	December 6	Diane Hazel	December 20
Marcie Thomas	December 7	Maddy Turain	December 21
Susan Kelker	December 7	Holly Cox	December 21
Kim Weaver	December 7	Michael Yon	December 21
Cansas Glancy	December 8	Logan Thomas	December 21
Caitlyn Doherty	December 9	Nancy Hoffmann	December 21
Chris Ritchie	December 10	Sydney Aten	December 22
Trent Meyers	December 10	Greg Card	December 22
Gene Howard	December 11	John Kopeck	December 24
Mike Zerler	December 11	Tawn Matthys	December 26
Linda Ellison	December 12	Emily Hudson	December 28
Shelby Longworth	December 12	Ian Blomquist	December 28
Jennifer Ellison	December 13	Jeff Porter	December 29
Scott Ellsworth	December 13	Allison Johnson	December 30
Olivia Hazel	December 15	Kevin Armstrong	December 31



Anniversaries

Rod & Missy Longworth	December 3	John & Airl Stegeman	December 28
Joel & Amy Hughes	December 16	Greg & Virginia Rumford	
Jacob & Amy Wieneke	December 20		December 29

*If your birthday or anniversary is missing please let the office know,
779-4740 or royalredmr@fuse.net - THANKS!