



CHURCH *of the*  
**REDEEMER**  
*Chestnut Hill*

## Strategic Ministries Update

**January 2021**

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### Looking Ahead to 2021

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The end of year typically brings respite from the grind of typical daily schedules and pressures to complete tasks piling up from work or home. This year was different. The 2020 holiday season coincided with a roll back of the plan to reopen parts of our economy as COVID cases surged again and with it continued challenges for the most impacted communities. Our parish response was strong. Parishioners and clergy worked tirelessly to develop and carry out a Winter Wonderland celebration that brought together youth from our outreach partner, SSYP, and families of the Redeemer, FUEL continued to deliver food to families in need during the holiday season, and the Virtual Christmas Market was executed flawlessly by our partners in CSL. Finally, a record \$32,000 was raised in the Redeemer Christmas Offering to fund the RUMI fund. An absolutely amazing response by the Redeemer community! The RUMI (Rent, Utilities, and Mortgage Initiative) fund is a new SMC idea to provide families a bridge to a brighter future with our partners at Epiphany and St. Stephens. The Strategic Ministries Committee (SMC) wants to thank everyone involved and give the parish a big virtual hug! Thank you!

As Co-Chairs of the SMC, we continue to look strategically ahead to the future. Over the past months and weeks, we've worked on two important initiatives. First, and most importantly, the **SMC is prepared to begin considering new initiatives from the parish.** A "New Initiative Form" can be located under "Serve

Community Outside the Church” once you log into the Redeemer website. The New Initiative page includes the Strategic Ministries Mission Statement and Grant Criteria. Alternatively, you can email the SMC directly at [SMC@redeemerchestnuthill.org](mailto:SMC@redeemerchestnuthill.org).

In addition, the **SMC portion of the Redeemer website is now fully operable**. From your Redeemer homepage under “Serve Community Outside the Church” you can find comprehensive information on SMC.

The challenges of 2020 kept SMC busy, but we are delighted with the many ways in which we were able to support our mission partners and the communities they serve. We are eager to see what new opportunities arise in 2021 to assist our neighbors. As Rev. Mike reminded us on Sunday, God is already at work in the least likely of places. Let us go and join in his work — making God’s invisible love visible.

Gratefully yours,

Debby & Aaron



Aaron Dunn  
Strategic Ministries  
Co-Chair



Debby Mills  
Strategic Ministries  
Co-Chair

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## Contributing Your Time, Talents & Treasure

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FUEL is dependent on the goodwill and support of so many in the Redeemer parish. Please consider volunteering in some capacity!

**Sorting, Packing, & Driving for FUEL -- Sign Up [HERE](#)** to help out. *(Please note this is Sign Up, not Sign Up Genius.)* All work is done wearing masks and maintaining social distancing.

**Shopping and donating food and/or gift cards to FUEL -- [Click HERE](#)** for the listing of items FUEL packs for families in Newton, Epiphany & SSYP.

FUEL is a mission initiative founded, funded, and executed solely by Church of the Redeemer. If you are interested in helping out or want to learn more, please contact our fearless leader [Velura Perry](#).

**ALL HELP IS WELCOME!!**



Common Cathedral serves as an important community for people experiencing homelessness, and for faith communities who want to be in supportive relationship with un-housed individuals and their friends.

Common Cathedral is an outdoor church and street ministry with chronically homeless Bostonians at its center. Outdoor worship is the heart of common cathedral.

**And on other days, please help make sandwiches for common cathedral!**

**Grab and Go sandwich making:** Families, singles and couples are invited to make 20-40 individually wrapped sandwiches, pack juice boxes and fresh fruit for common cathedral. Redeemer parishioners can make them in the safety of their home and reach out to Deborah Tamulis or Amy Weed to coordinate safe delivery to Common Cathedral. Here is the [Sign Up Genius Link](#) to choose your day! Please email [the office](#) to set up a pick up time for your delivery. Thank you!





The St Stephen's Youth Program Winter Celebration on December 23, 2020 was an amazing virtual event with 58 people from St. Stephens and Redeemer attending. Each child received a Wonderland Goodie Bag filled with crafts, books and cookies. During the zoom event the kids played bingo together and made a snow

globe. As Liz Steinhauser wrote in an email " Thank you so much for the wonderful holiday party yesterday. So many people laughed, smiled, and had joy!" In order for this celebration to happen Redeemer owes a huge thank you to the following people:

### **Winter Wonderland Party Organizers**

Emily Garcia, Barrie Rose, Megan Sampson, Deborah Tamulis, Maisie Pollard, Lucia Dolan, Amy Luster, Leslie Williams

### **Winter Wonderland Assembly and Delivery**

Megan Sampson, Tish Mead, Sarah Allen, Phoebe & Logan Green, Nola Kopfer, Christina Wood, Ellie Baker, Charlotte & Serena Pollard, Charlotte Luster, Christa (Middle schooler), Tom & Duncan Pyle, Inger Karlsson, Sarah & Katie McEachern, Julia & Caroline & Vivienne Woodard, Leo Tamulis, Vicki Corrs

### **Cookie Bakers**

Meredith Dunn, Serena and Charlotte Pollard, Wendy Murphy, Tish Mead, Sarah McEachern, Nanette Chandler, Lisa Thors, Christina Wood, Ellie Baker, Ryan Sylvia, Zibby Pyle, Phyllis Thompson, Judy Oulund, Liz Bride, Gray Hughes, Starr Peteet, Nola Kopfer, Cara Morvan, Jean Fisher, Sylvia Martin, Britt Lee, Melissa Lyons, Vivienne Woodard, Melissa Yanagi

### **Holiday Hot Chocolate and Churro Food Truck**



Four Redeemer families provided a hot chocolate and churro truck for St. Stephen's Youth in mid-December that was enjoyed by kids and teens alike.

### **Drop-in Zoom Joint Prayer Tuesdays and Thursdays**

Please join us as we pray for St. Stephen's Youth Programs! Drop in any Tuesday or Thursday for ten minutes at noon to pray together with parishioners from St. Stephen's and Redeemer. Contact Leslie Williams with questions, or for the zoom link! [Leswill@gmail.com](mailto:Leswill@gmail.com) or 617-312-6299.

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## Mission Partner Updates

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# Epiphany

### **Epiphany Virtual Gala April 30, 2021**

Please join Epiphany on April 30, 2021 for Epiphany's Annual Virtual Gala. Plan on attending an uplifting evening of inspiring stories from our community, musical performances, and fun! Please support the students, families, and graduates of Epiphany School by becoming a sponsor of our 2021 Spring Gala: IMPACT! [Click here](#) to learn more.

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### **MLK Season of Action**

In partnership with the Blackstone School community of teachers, staff, and families, SSYP is expanding our MLK Day of Action into an MLK Season of Action. During January and February, there will be learning events, service opportunities, and organizing actions nearly every week.

Our theme for this Season of Action is the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s quote, "Justice is indivisible." Our goals include engaging Blackstone families, primarily, with community members and neighbors supporting them and leaning into the true vision and

current legacy of MLK and building the beloved community.

You can read more at [SSYP's BLOG](#).

Learn more about [SSYP HERE](#), or speak to Lucia Dolan or Maisie Pollard co-leaders of the SMC Youth & Education advisory committee.



### **Winter Walk to raise funds for the homeless**

The winter walk is happening again this year. You can walk anytime from now until February 7th. And on February 7th there will be an official fun virtual event.

This year common cathedral is a **chosen partner**. This means anything that is raised up to 10k will be matched and given to common cathedral. For example, if you walk and raise \$100, common cathedral will receive \$200. AMAZING!

Once you register you will have access to great podcasts focused on people's stories of homelessness. So you can listen to an inspiring podcast and walk for 2 miles whenever it works for you.

Join the *common cathedral* team by clicking here:

<https://www.classy.org/team/322742>

Or make your own team by clicking here:

<https://www.winterwalkboston.org>



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