

# CHURCH *of the* REDEEMER

— 2022 —  
ANNUAL REPORT





THE REVEREND  
CHARLESTON D. WILSON  
RECTOR

*Dear Redeemer Family,*

Do you have a favorite Bible verse? When asked that question, many people are quick to say St. John 3:16 is their favorite verse. Most likely, you are already thinking about the words of this familiar verse—“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

In John 3:16, Jesus boils it all down, giving us the one and only thing required to bring change to our lives now and forever: belief. Interestingly, Jesus is never once on record as claiming anything else is needed. By believing, we open the door to new life, the forgiveness of our sins, and an eternal relationship with the Father through the Son in the power of the Holy Spirit. This is both the core and crowning proclamation of the Bible and the Apostolic Church, and this is what we refer to as the gospel—*the good news!*

Yet, almost every time I turn around, I discover an abiding temptation to add something to the gospel, making the good news about belief plus something else. Often I hear the gospel presented as belief plus effort—you know, calling for enough moral elbow grease to have a relationship with God and wind up in heaven. The trouble, however, is that nobody has ever entered heaven because of his or her goodness

or effort! Isn't it tragically ironic on a grand scale that the one thing required for relationship with God—belief—is the hardest thing for you and me to accept?!

Everything Church of the Redeemer undertook in 2022 was intentionally created to help us, and those beyond our walls, believe that Jesus is Lord, and, in the words of St. John once again, “that in believing to have life through his name” (John 20:31). Inside this report, you can learn a few specific ways this took shape. I think you will be encouraged. The Lord's work is always encouraging.

In 2023, the mission of the parish remains unchanged and lies in the simple, yet profound proclamation of the gospel: that Jesus is Lord, the Messiah. If we stick to this with renewed energy and are not distracted by the whims and wishes of the world around us, we will make new Christians and make all Christians new. I hope and pray you are as excited as I am about this holy endeavor.

*Your servant,*

The Reverend Charleston D. Wilson

THE REVEREND  
MICHAEL W. HURST  
SENIOR ASSISTANT  
RECTOR



In August 2022, Gilda and I entered a season of thankfulness. We had spent the last 12 years in Texas where we were received and welcomed. As we closed the door on that chapter of our ministry, we opened the door to adventure in a new town and a new worshipping community. Many of you ask how we like living in Sarasota. I can report that we are enjoying our time living downtown. However, the town is second to our reception at Redeemer.

As the new guy, I have new eyes and a new perspective on the inside happenings at Redeemer. I am happy to report that joining the team at Church of the Redeemer has been wonderful. Gilda and I have felt warmly welcomed from the very start. The parishioners and staff have been accommodating, invitational, and open. The clergy have been eager to help me acclimate to Redeemer's way of doing liturgy. And Fr. Charleston and Malacy have helped make the transition from Texas to Florida a pure joy! From Gilda and from me, thank you!

My job title, Senior Assistant Rector, has several hats associated with it. A few of those hats I wear are liturgy planning and scheduling, training oversight, and scheduling those who serve during worship. I also join the clergy in preaching, celebrating, teaching, and pastoral care. Further, I help with staff management and human resources. I am happy to report that all is well in all the aforementioned areas.

In the coming months, we plan to add more structure to our employee management. I hope to work with a human resources specialist to produce an Employee Handbook to clarify roles and guide our employees on policies and procedures around the campus. I also will continue to update the liturgical planning documents available on the Redeemer website that detail our practices for various services.

As a Redeemer priest, I have enjoyed my involvement in the community. Recently I was asked to bless the fleet at Bird Key Yacht Club. My plan is to continue to deepen and strengthen the bonds we currently share and to build new friendships throughout the Sarasota community.

Fr. Charleston has been generous in giving me space to learn the "system" at Redeemer, and now I feel prepared and ready to step fully into the role of Senior Assistant Rector. I will support our Rector in any way needed, work to grow the parish, and help make new Christians and all Christians new.

Thank you, Redeemer. Gilda and I look forward to many years of shared ministry with you.

*~The Reverend Michael W. Hurst*

## CLERGY REPORTS

### Priest Associate for Christian Formation & Outreach

*The Reverend  
David M. Svibel*



#### What did your ministry focus on in 2022?

Christian formation and outreach were the primary focus of my ministry in 2022. This included planning classes, scheduling priests for all masses, bringing in guest speakers, and serving on Redeemer's Mission & Outreach Committee. I also participated in the ministry all priests share: worship, preaching, teaching, outreach, visiting the sick, caring for the less fortunate, comforting the grieving, and most importantly, prayer.

#### What were your ministry's biggest successes in 2022?

We saw increased in-person attendance at formation classes held during the week and on Sundays. Another wonderful success was participating in the Mission & Outreach Committee of the Vestry, which awarded many grants and donated thousands of hours on behalf of Redeemer to charities locally and abroad.

#### What are your goals for 2023?

I have the same goal every year: to continue to preach the gospel in word and sacrament and to witness to those who haven't heard the name of Jesus and those who need to be reminded (which is everybody!).



### Priest Associate for Hispanic Ministry

*The Reverend  
Mario Castro*

#### What did your ministry focus on in 2022? What are your 2023 goals?

Our goals for 2023 are the same as they were in 2022: To increase the number of parishioners attending the mass in Spanish that is held at Redeemer on Sundays at 1 p.m. We also want to help all family members currently attending Redeemer grow in their faith. Just like Redeemer's tagline says, we will continue to focus on making new Christians and making all Christians new.

#### What were your ministry's biggest successes in 2022?

We hosted wonderful events, including a Lord of the Miracles procession, a Virgin of Guadalupe celebration, and a large event for families. These gatherings brought our parishioners together for both faith and fellowship.



### Priest Associate for Pastoral Care

*The Reverend  
Ralph W. Strohm*

#### What did your ministry focus on in 2022?

In 2022, we had a three-fold focus. First, which is ongoing, was getting to know our homebound or limited-mobility parishioners. There are new people to meet and changing health conditions for those already involved. Second, we focused on recruiting and scheduling Lay Eucharistic Visitors. Third, we worked to expand the meaning of "pastoral care" in the minds of our parishioners. Pastoral care is more than visiting the homebound. It includes the provision of spiritual advice and support, education, counseling, medical care, and assistance in times of need.

#### What were your ministry's biggest successes in 2022?

We have been successful again in 2022 in recruiting several new Lay Eucharistic Visitors. These volunteers take the Blessed Sacrament to those who do not have the ability to attend one of our masses in person.

#### What are your goals for 2023?

We will continue to revise and develop resources available for Lay Eucharistic Visitors to use when they do home visits. We also plan to increase our identification of parishioners who may need pastoral care.



# STAFF REPORTS

## Organist-Choirmaster

*Sam Nelson*

### **What did your ministry focus on in 2022?**

One of our goals for 2022 was to focus our resources on special music for masses and feast days rather than on extracurricular concerts. We also continued to rebuild our Royal School of Church Music program for students in first through twelfth grades, a process that will take several years to come to fruition. Plus, we made more of an effort to include living composers and diverse composers in our services and programming, which will continue to be a focus.

### **What were your ministry's biggest successes in 2022?**

A large step toward offering additional special music on feast days was our All Souls' Day mass, which featured a requiem setting by Redeemer parishioner and choir member Cynthia Roberts-Greene. Our adult choir sang this requiem with accompaniment by a chamber orchestra.

We added over 50 new anthems to our monumental choral library in 2022. The choir offered 41 of these new anthems during Sunday masses and Evensong.

The choir stepped into doing more outreach activities, including Christmas caroling at a local senior living facility.

Five adults joined the choir, and additional members continue to come back and sing as they feel able and safe to do so.

### **What are your goals for 2023?**

Our biggest goal for 2023 will be increasing the number of people in both our adult choir and Royal School of Church Music choirs to pre-pandemic numbers and beyond. We will also continue to beef up the special music on our principal feast days. Plans are in the works to offer additional special services, such as Tenebrae during Holy Week, a service that includes the use of 15 lighted candles that are individually extinguished as each psalm is completed.

## Welcome Coordinator

*Anne Ayres*

### **What did your ministry focus on in 2022?**

The Welcome Ministry at Redeemer was born in 2022! We focused immediately on making our visitors feel special and our new members feel welcome. We did this by establishing a Welcome Team Ministry, made up of parishioners who share this vision and have the gift of hospitality.

### **What were your ministry's biggest successes in 2022?**

In 2022, 172 new members joined Redeemer!

Fr. Charleston Wilson reached out to visitors, and I followed up to answer questions and to see if they would like to join our parish family.

We established Welcome Receptions three times a year to welcome our newest members. These events took place at the rectory. Our new members enjoyed getting to know each other better and getting to know Redeemer's clergy and staff.

We created Redeemer 101, a class for new members. It is now offered three times a year. This class helps new members get to know each other and begin making friendships, learn about Redeemer's history in Sarasota, discover their spiritual gifts, and learn how they can get plugged in at Redeemer.

We started Coffee & Connect gatherings, a time for new members to attend a mid-week 10 a.m. mass at Redeemer followed by coffee and chatting with other new members, clergy, and staff.

Our Welcome Team Ministry grew to over 30 parishioners. These volunteers help with the Welcome Table on the front lawn on Sunday mornings, the red welcome cart on the veranda on Sunday mornings, and events throughout the year for new members. Look for the yellow name tags they wear that represent the light of Christ shining in and through them!

### **What are your goals for 2023?**

We will refine the programs we put into place in 2022. We pray that many more people will join Redeemer to worship our living God!



# STAFF REPORTS

## Director of Children's Christian Formation

*Jacki Boedecker*

### **What did your ministry focus on in 2022?**

Our goal is always, with God's grace, to build deeper faith, solid foundations and community, and stronger families. We provide many ways to welcome children and families into parish life.

### **What were your ministry's biggest successes in 2022?**

The excitement about our children's Christian formation programs is contagious! In addition to weekly Sunday School at the 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Sunday masses, our entire nursery suite reopened in 2022 along with a new Mother's Lounge for nursing moms. Nursery Greeters now welcome families on Sunday mornings before the 9 a.m. mass. Our 1 p.m. Sunday School classes enjoy refreshed, dedicated classrooms. Our formation volunteers, including Sunday School teachers, Nursery Greeters, LOGOs volunteers, Just Do It volunteers, and Vacation Bible School volunteers enthusiastically participated in 2022 in our largest numbers ever.

In addition to all of our established special events, our Holy Week Tableaus, which involve all of our Sunday School classes, were presented for the first time as part of the Palm Sunday 9 a.m. mass. Splash Back to Sunday School and Movie on the Lawn were also hits! Summer Sunday Specials, our summer formation offering, resumed during July for kindergarten through twelfth graders. Vacation Bible School had record numbers of students, youth aides, and adult volunteers. LOGOS and Just Do It, our Wednesday evening programming for K-5th graders, welcomed many new families and volunteers.

### **What are your goals for 2023?**

Our prayer is that many lives—children and their families—will be completely transformed by the grace of God in this parish church.

## Youth Minister

*Jackie Overton*

### **What did your ministry focus on in 2022?**

Youth ministry at Redeemer took things back to the "CORE" with a focus on four areas:

**Community** — Creating safe and welcoming spaces for young people to explore their faith and support one another in their walk with Christ  
**Outreach** — Working together to bring the gospel into the world through our words and actions with local outreach and mission work  
**Reflection** — Spending time together weekly in study, prayer, and worship  
**Evangelism** — Reaching out to the community to invite others into a relationship with Jesus and the church

### **What were your ministry's biggest successes in 2022?**

- We opened the Babcock Youth Center, a beautiful new space dedicated to youth. The Center has become a popular place for our young people who are eager to spend more time at church. They come in before programming to study and stay later for deeper discussions.
- We doubled the number of young people participating in youth ministry at Redeemer.
- Our young people stretched beyond their comfort zones on summer mission trips.
- Our young people continued to develop leadership skills, including dreaming up Redeemer's Serve on Saturday service projects and exploring ways to lead youth ministry events.

### **What are your goals for 2023?**

- We will continue to reinvent and reenergize youth ministry programming with young people taking a central role in leadership.
- We will increase adult-to-youth mentorship through new programs and partnerships.
- We will prepare our young people for life after high school with events such as the College Chapel Crawl, a tour of Episcopal chapels at Florida universities.



## STAFF REPORTS

### Office Manager & Director of Event Services

*Suzi Terres*

#### What did your ministry focus on in 2022?

I supported ministries, activities, and parish-wide events and handled administrative and staffing functions for the church. My role is similar to a concierge, helping outside groups, Redeemer ministries, parishioners, and staff have the best experience possible during classes, events, and activities on campus.

#### What were your ministry's biggest successes in 2022?

Parishioners at Redeemer like to have fun! We came together for several wonderful events, such as a farewell brunch for our previous Associate Rector Fr. Chris Wood, Shrove Tuesday's Jazz and Jambalaya, Fourth of July fireworks, receptions after special services, and an evening to get to know the bishop candidates (to name a few).

We hired a sexton and two bookkeepers who are experts in church accounting: Sandra Figueroa and Debbie Pfender. They have made a big difference at Redeemer already.

#### What are your goals for 2023?

We will continue to come together for events throughout the year and celebrate being brothers and sisters in Christ. We also plan to become more involved in the community. In February 2023, for instance, we host Night to Shine, a prom for people with special needs.

### Director of Communications

*Grier Ferguson*

#### What did your ministry focus on in 2022?

We released timely communication about parish news and events in a variety of formats, including announcements, eblasts, social media posts, newsletters, website updates, and more. We hired a part-time Communications & Digital Ministry Assistant, Lana Mullen, who has done a fantastic job.

#### What were your ministry's biggest successes in 2022?

We worked with Redeemer parishioners who generously shared their talents, including Michael Hales, who took stunning photographs of the campus that we use in print and online; Harriett Hritz, who designed a new logo for the Redeemer Gift & Book Shop; and Charlotte Staub Thomas, who drew the beautiful illustration for our 2022 Christmas card. We redesigned and developed new content for *In the Beginning*, our monthly newsletter that is mailed to parishioners. We collaborated with the Welcome Coordinator to share info about new members. We created new print pieces, including a visitor card, bookmarks, brochures, flyers, posters, and more.

#### What are your goals for 2023?

- Develop new video content specifically for online audiences
- Refresh the Redeemer website so it's easier to navigate and better highlights the parish's main attributes
- Create a line of Redeemer products that allow parishioners to show off their love of the church and evangelize, all at once!

### Facilities Manager

*Steve Wernet*

#### What did your ministry focus on in 2022?

We finalized the installation of security gates in the courtyard, researched vendors to install lighting in the nave, remodeled a room for the Redeemer Archives, and trained a new Sexton.

#### What were your ministry's biggest successes in 2022?

We finished remodeling an upstairs room that will serve as dedicated space for the Redeemer Archives. We also completed the courtyard security gate project, which has increased the safety of our parishioners and guests.

#### What are your goals for 2023?

Managing the installation of new, improved lighting in the church; replacing an old fire panel with a new, upgraded panel; and determining the best way to keep the grass in the courtyard looking its best. We also have many projects in the works to enhance the life of our aging campus.



# HIGHLIGHTS



**2,900**  
**TOTAL MEMBERS**



**172**  
**NEW MEMBERS**  
*Record new membership  
for second year straight*



**28**  
**BAPTISMS**



**\$500,000**  
**DONATED TO NONPROFITS**



**40**  
**CONFIRMATIONS**



**600**  
**SERVICES HELD**



**8**  
**WEDDINGS**

All figures approximate

*Audited financial results will be made available immediately after the parish audit. The 2021 audit is available online.*



**338**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**STUDENTS**



**41,299**  
**YOUTUBE VIEWS**



**57**  
**YOUTH WHO**  
**PARTICIPATED IN**  
**MISSION TRIPS**



**37,136**  
**FACEBOOK LIKES,**  
**COMMENTS & SHARES**



**40**  
**CHOIR MEMBERS**



**125,801**  
**WEBSITE PAGE VIEWS**

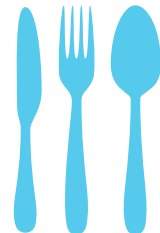
## **ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS**



**Reopening of Redeemer**  
**Gift & Book Shop in a**  
**new, larger space**



**Babcock Youth Center**  
**completed, a new dedicated**  
**space for youth on campus**



**Gillespie Hall**  
**kitchen renovated**  
**and expanded**











## CLERGY

The Rev. Charleston D. Wilson, Rector  
The Rev. Michael W. Hurst, Senior Assistant Rector  
The Rev. David M. Svihel, Priest Associate for Christian Formation & Outreach  
The Rev. Mario Castro, Priest Associate for Hispanic Ministry  
The Rev. Ralph W. Strohm, Priest Associate for Pastoral Care

## 2023 STAFF

Anne Ayres, Welcome Coordinator  
Jacki Boedecker, Director of Children's Christian Formation  
Daniel Cartlidge, Associate Choirmaster and Contemporary Music Director  
Hanane El Qamari, Sexton  
Grier Ferguson, Director of Communications  
Sandra Figueroa, Bookkeeper  
Spenser Glenn, Sexton  
Diane Knox, Receptionist  
Danielle Mathews, Receptionist  
Lana Mullen, Communications & Digital Ministry Assistant  
Lorraine Murphy, Receptionist  
Sam Nelson, Organist-Choirmaster  
Jackie Overton, Youth Minister  
Bill Pettey, Sexton  
Debbie Pfender, Bookkeeper  
Suzi Terres, Office Manager & Director of Event Services  
Angela Ward, Registrar & Assistant to the Clergy  
Sara Borerro, Nursery Coordinator  
Steve Wernet, Facilities Manager

## 2022 VESTRY

Kathryn Hollingsworth, Senior Warden  
Brigham Clegg, Junior Warden  
Ken Bailey  
Patti Donnelly  
Antonio Leal  
Christine Lindsay  
Stephen Long  
Meredith Piazza  
Richard Scantlebury  
Susie Shugg  
Douglas Spangler  
Marsha Thompson



## CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

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Sarasota, Florida

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