

Join me this week in welcoming the Rev. Michelle White to Redeemer. Rev. White is a retired Priest in this Diocese who has graciously agreed to join us two Sundays a month going forward. You are in for a great treat as she is known for her preaching!

As we anticipate next week's service and meal afterwards, I find a great connection to the chasuble you will see worn this week. It tells the story of the cycle of life. In the beginning, there is a single strand that stops before it barely starts. Next, come two strands growing together with the tendrils reaching out and offering support... or holding on for dear life. Finally, as the leaves come into fullness, three strands grow over the shoulder and we see fruit growing. One of the strands stops in fullness of life while the other two continue. Eventually, the leaves turn brown and the fruit withers on the vine and, as you return to the front of the chasuble, the single holey (holy) leaf falls to bring nourishment to the life that will come again.



This is our story, your story, Redeemer's story! Can you find yourself/Redeemer on the vine? Are you the tendrils offering support? Those hanging on? The strand going boldly off on its own? The one bearing fruit? Are you the holy leaf? As I look at it, Redeemer is all of the above. Sometimes she holds on, sometimes she offers support, sometimes she's off and running and other times she hangs out with the group. What I do know, is that Redeemer is always the holy leaf guiding us into the future and bringing us new life.

Please plan on joining us after service for food and fellowship on September 20<sup>th</sup> as, together, we learn about where Redeemer will take us. The following questions will be at each table. If you are unable to join us, please return your responses to either the office or [clhintz@aol.com](mailto:clhintz@aol.com) so your voice can be heard.

**What about our worship excites you?**

**Challenges you?**

**Opens your eyes and hearts?**

**Can you name any specifics...**

**Is there one liturgical season and/or one special service that stands out for you? If so, how and why?**

**Is there anything you would change about our worship?**

**As we move into the future, what do you see as the needs of the community that Redeemer can engage in?**

**Are there groups in need of space?**

**How might we utilize our location to the advantage of the community?**

**Might we broaden our relationship with the Egan House, Zen Bowl or other existing ministries?**

**Given the changing times and declining attendance in many churches how might Redeemer address that?**

Additionally, the Vestry will ask everyone to please let us know which of the four ministry skills you see as most important for our new Priest to possess. It is a form provided by "The Vocation Hub Ministry" of the National Church and is attached for those wanting to look at it prior to the meeting. If you are unable to attend, please take the time to complete it so we can get everyone's input... *please!*

Colleen Hintz for the Vestry