



Easter Offering 2012

The Children's Programs of the Church of the Advent, Medfield



Dear Friends at the Redeemer;

You will recall that the Reverend Marc Eames, in his time with us, led the way in building a remarkable ministry to our children and families. His willingness to do anything, from dressing in a bunny suit to creating pyrotechnic displays, in order to make real the love of Jesus and the faithfulness of God to our young people is still bearing fruit among us.

Marc is now trying to build a similar ministry in Medfield at the Church of the Advent. This is a parish with little history of children's ministry, few resources and wonderful potential.

At the recommendation of the Mission and Outreach Committee, the Vestry has designated the Easter offering for children's ministries at the Church of the Advent. Marc has graciously written the piece that follows to describe their hopes and plans.

We couldn't be more proud of Marc, and now we rejoice in this beginning of a partnership with his new parish for the sake of the Gospel. I hope you will join Betsy and me in contributing to this wonderful work in celebration of Our Lord's Resurrection.

Faithfully your Rector,

(The Reverend) Dorsey McConnell



Dear Friends in Christ,

From the days of Paul, churches have assisted each other with prayers, guidance, and whatever resources they could spare to help their fellow Christians. The Church of the Redeemer has generously given resources to help fledgling programs in Uganda and the South End to become mighty endeavors that help hundreds of people.

This year's Easter Offering is a little different. In a certain sense, it is much less grand in its aspirations. We do not have child soldiers here in Medfield and crime is low. Many strong churches in the Boston area are doing well. However, as you travel further away, there are many other churches that are struggling to keep their doors open. Some have already closed.

What we need to do in places like The Church of the Advent is to rebuild our ministries after years of decline. Children's programming of the quality that is found at the Redeemer does not exist in or near Medfield. It is my deepest prayer that the Episcopal Church may reestablish itself in places like Medfield, beginning with children's programming.

The following are projects that we are planning:

Nursery upgrade

Nursery care is critical. Babies and toddlers certainly deserve toys and books that can stimulate the imagination and form them in the Christian faith. Many of the toys that we have are from previous generations.

Children's Chapel

Elementary school years are a critical time for a Christian's formation. Soon after I arrived at the Redeemer, we were able to begin a Children's Chapel program that began before the principle service. I would like to start that in Medfield in the fall. Unfortunately, we don't have a dedicated children's chapel space. However, I am sure that with a few resources we could create something that would be a warm, welcoming place where children could gather to learn about Christ, pray, and sing.



Begin a Children's Choir

We will also be looking to start a children's choir. The Children's Choir at the Redeemer is the finest that I have ever encountered. Not only are they learning to sing, but they lead the congregation to a deeper place of prayer. In May, Mary and the Redeemer's children's choir will be coming out to Medfield to lead us in worship and inspire us to reach for our own dreams. I am very proud of the Redeemer's children for the way that they lead.

Growing the many struggling churches in the more distant suburbs will not happen overnight, but with a lot of prayer, and with the help of the Church of the Redeemer both as a model of excellence in formation and generosity of spirit, we will all witness abundant blessings.

Yours in Christ,

Marc Eames, Rector of Church of the Advent, Medfield

Redeemer Holy Week 2012 SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Palm Sunday April 1st	8:00 am Holy Eucharist
	10:00 am Holy Eucharist
Maundy Thursday April 5th	6:30 pm Supper
	7:30 pm Maundy Thursday Liturgy with Foot Washing & Stripping of the Altar
Good Friday April 6th	12:00 noon Good Friday Liturgy
	5:00 pm Children's Liturgy
Easter Sunday April 8th	9:00 am Family Eucharist
	11:00 am Festal Eucharist