

January 2008

Linking us with the ministries of our church

Midweek Schedule Resumers January 9

- 5:30-6:30 PM Supper in the fellowship hall
- 6:00-8:30 PM Childcare (infants-5 yrs. old) in the children's wing
- 6:00-7:30 PM Girls of Grace (grades 7-12) in room 213
- 6:00-7:00 PM Handbells rehearsal in room 214
- 6:00-6:45 PM Kids Jubilee Choir rehearsal (K-grade 6) in room 212
- 6:15-7:30 PM Boy Scout Troop 48 (grades 6-12) in the Oasis
- 6:30-7:30 PM GriefShare (Begins Feb. 6) in room 102
- 6:45-8:00 PM Cub Scout Pack 48 (K-grade 5) in the Cub House
- 6:45-8:00 PM Pioneer Girls (K-grade 6) in room 212
- 7:00-8:30 PM Adult choir rehearsal in choir room
- 7:00-8:00 PM *A Closer Walk* course in room 120
- 7:00-8:00 PM Prayer Meeting in room 105
- 7:45-8:45 PM Youth Midweek in the Oasis
- 9:00-11:00 PM Coffee House (grade 12 and College & Career) in the Oasis

Sam Rotman in Concert at Redeemer



Redeemer will host concert pianist, Sam Rotman, on Wednesday, January 23, at 7 PM. Mr. Rotman is a graduate of the Juilliard School of Music in New York City and has performed over 1800 concerts in 57 countries. Mr. Rotman's presentation is a

unique blend of beautifully played classical music and dynamic testimony of his faith in Jesus Christ. Not just for music lovers, this concert will encourage your faith and lift your spirits. Mr. Rotman is dedicated to challenging believers to use whatever gifts they have been given to glorify God. Plan to attend this remarkable evening. The admission is free and there will be a missions offering taken. For more information, please call the church office (214-340-3633).

Annual Meeting January 27

Members of Redeemer should plan to attend the annual congregational business meeting at 6:00 PM on Sunday, January 27. Regular attenders are also invited. At 5:00 we'll enjoy hamburgers with all the fixins', prepared and served by our men's fellowship.

The meeting will include a review of the

year 2007; a look at the year ahead; consideration of the 2008 budget; and the election of two elders, four deacons, two nominating committee members, and two finance committee members. See page 4 for information about the nominees.

Pick up your annual report on January 20.



In a Word

Here's to a great 2008!

Don Geiger, Senior Pastor

I love the new year! The holiday season, with all its excitement, celebration, activity, stress, and for some, disappointment and loneliness, is finally over; and so is the year just past, with all its surprises, joys, sorrows, setbacks, failures and successes. Finally, there's time to take a deep breath, relax, reflect on the year just past, and perhaps make a resolution or two (or three) for the year ahead.

It is both wise and biblical to take time to remember: *Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is none else (Isa 46:9). Call to remembrance the former days (Hebrews 10:32).* As we think through 2007, let's remember and savor the good times, joys, achievements, and triumphs. That exercise will surely evoke bright ideas for the year ahead. Jot them down and include them in your plans for a great 2008.

On the flip side let's take courage and note the things we know we need to change. It could be a bad habit we have fallen into or a good one we've neglected to nurture. Perhaps it's a relationship that needs repair, or some weight we need to lose. Could it be we need to be

more regular in our Bible reading and prayer? And who doesn't need to make better use of his or her time? A word of caution:

don't let this exercise discourage or defeat you. Rather, make it a positive next step toward a great 2008.

God's Word concerning the life changes we need to make is both clear and encouraging. The changes to which God calls us are to be gradual, continual, and enabled by the Holy Spirit. *Be (continuously) getting transformed by the renewing of your minds (Romans 12:1). Work out your salvation, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to do his good pleasure (Philippians 2:13). Live by the Spirit and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:16).* Let's not tackle all our needed changes at once; rather, pick the one or two at the top of that list, set specific goals, make a realistic plan, keep a record of your progress, find an accountability partner, then doggedly persist.

Finally, here is one for us all: *Take time for the important things in life*, as expressed in this anonymous poem that I have kept in my calendar for years, that I read regularly, and that when I am wise, I heed.

In a word, have a great 2008!

Take time to think,
It is the source of power.
Take time to play,
It is the secret of perpetual youth.
Take time to read,
It is the fountain of wisdom
Take time to pray,
It is the greatest power on earth.
Take time to be friendly,
It is the road to happiness.
Take time to laugh,
It is the music of the soul.
Take time to give,
It is too short a day to be selfish.
Take time to work,
It is the price of success.
Take time to do nothing,
It slows the pace of life.
Take time to love and be loved,
It is a God-given privilege.

Cameron Shaffer Achieves Rank of Eagle Scout

Cameron Shaffer has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout and was honored at the Eagle Scout Court of Honor and reception on Tuesday, December 18. Cameron and a group of scouts and leaders repainted our parking lot lines last fall to complete his Eagle project. Cameron was also honored for being the first scout



from Troop 48 to complete the God and Country Award. To obtain the award, he completed written Bible studies on the life of the Apostle Paul, a three-month Bible reading plan, and five

service projects. His favorite memories from scouting have been the monthly campouts and introducing a new group game during troop meetings. Congratulations, Cameron!

Our New Midweek Elective

On Wednesday evening, January 9, 2008, a band of intrepid explorers will embark on a bold adventure to walk closer with God. In our next midweek elective, *A Closer Walk*, **Tony Gomillion** will lead the exploration of topics including our Triune God's ministry in your daily life; what it means for you to "walk in" and "be filled by" the Spirit; how various denominations view Christian maturity; and God's grace through spiritual disciplines. At the end of this 18-week study, you will better understand what it means to "walk in the Spirit" and have confidence that your decisions are in the will of God. He will bless you—no matter your age or stage (new or mature believer)—for seeking a more intimate walk with Him. The study will be held on Wednesday evenings, beginning January 9, 2008, in room 120 from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. Pray. Invite a friend. And, get going on your closer walk!

Getting to Know You: The McCormack Family

Tommy Loveless

'Tis the season when Christians around the world are celebrating the miracle birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **John and Jerri Lynn, and Ina McCormack** love to share their faith and testify to the miracles that Jesus has performed in their lives. Jerri Lynn remembered, "In March, 1949, along with my parents, Bob and Ina Brown, I visited the little white church in Casa Linda known as Reinhardt Bible Church. Tom Roth was the interim pastor, and my first Sunday School teachers were Maybelle Roth and Gladys Phillips. I received Jesus as my personal Savior during Vacation Bible School as they sang "Onward Christian Soldiers!" Jerri Lynn continued to be surrounded by godly saints, including **Mrs. Geraldine Walvoord**, from whom she took piano lessons. She grew up in the Casa Linda area and went to Eastfield College to study deaf education and to learn sign language.

John was born in Chicago, Illinois, and moved to Dallas in 1980. He and Jerri Lynn were married at Reinhardt Bible Church on February 1, 1986. **Don Geiger** was the pastor, and their three children were there with them. Two decades later, the children are all



grown, married, and caring for their own families.

In 1998 John and Jerri Lynn adopted a 21-month old girl from Wuhan, China. Jerri Lynn continued, "Ina is such a blessing to all of her friends and family. She is musically talented and began taking piano lessons when she was 3 ½ years old. However, now she is playing the harp and loves it! She has been called Redeemer's first harpist, and she looks forward to playing for her church. She is also home schooled and loves her animals, which include two golden retrievers and two birds!"

Both John and Jerri Lynn are thankful for the blessing of celebrating Bob and Ina Brown's 71st wedding anniversary last May. They are so happy to observe the unconditional love that her parents have for each other. They are also grateful that her parents adopted her and encouraged Jerri Lynn and John to do the same with Ina.

John served on the Missions Leadership Team at Redeemer for four years and on the Board of Elders as well. Jerri Lynn has sung in the choir.

Thank you, John and Jerri Lynn, for your servant hearts and your faithfulness.

Volunteer Training

On Sunday, January 13, Redeemer will have a training session for children and youth workers to re-energize you for the new year as well as refresh your memories on Redeemer's policies and procedures. During this time you will receive fresh new ideas for working with students, hear what is in store for your program this coming year, and have the opportunity to give input as to what you would like to see happen with youth and children in 2008. Lunch will be provided in the fellowship hall and child care will be available. We will be finished by 3 PM. If you work with children and/or youth we strongly encourage you to attend. You will be glad you did.

The Link is Redeemer Bible Church's monthly newsletter, produced by the pastoral staff, Brad Hepp (layout), and various contributors.

We Are Grateful for Your Service

Retiring officers, thank you for your faithful and excellent service. God has mightily used your ministries to point us and others to Christ.

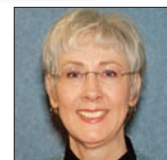
Ninva Barkham
nominating
committee,
3 years



Kent Barnard
deacon
chairman,
8 years



Jerry Loveless
elder and elder vice-
chairman, 8 years



Sonja Rose
nominating com-
mittee, 3 years



Cathy Williams
finance commit-
tee, 3 years

Nominees to Be Voted on at Annual Meeting

In preparation for our annual business meeting on January 27, here are the nominations for your consideration for 2008:



David Higgins—Elder

- self-employed paint and wallpaper contractor (36 years)
- met wife, **Nancy**, as teachers at Dallas Christian Academy in 1962; married 41 years
- 4 adult sons (all still in Texas) and 7 grandchildren
- active in Koinonia Fellowship; has led a care group for 4 years; elder responsible for benevolence ministry



Charlie Reibenstein—Deacon

- self-employed, registered architect (23 years)
- met wife, **Janet**, at a hamburger joint during a dart tournament; married 31 years
- 3 adult boys and 4 grandchildren
- serves as Koinonia Fellowship Leader, Men's Ministry Coordinator, midweek meal chef



Paul Ramler—Elder

- hospice chaplain with Visiting Nurse Association (23 years)
- met wife, **Janet**, at Biola College in California; married 29 years
- 3 college-age sons
- served as Troop 48 Scoutmaster; Missions Leadership Team chairman for last year and a half



Brad Hepp—Nominating Committee

- computer graphics and print production (18 years)
- met wife, Susan, in singles class at Reinhardt Bible Church; married 16 years
- two sons by adoption
- served on Redeemer's first elder board and continues to minister through communications, photography, print design and Web site maintenance



Karen Kennedy—Deacon

- independent property & casualty insurance agent (6 years)
- met husband, **Bill**, through mutual friends; married 35 years
- 2 children by birth, 2 by marriage; expecting first grandchild this month!

- second deacon term; responsible for Wednesday night meals, Sunday morning coffee, greeting ministry and small group ministry



Karen Shoholm—Nominating Committee

- proofreader and editor at SMU (2 ½ years; 14 years in profession)
- grew up near Chicago and moved to Dallas in 1989; extended family lives in Houston
- serves as a greeter



Jerry Piering—Deacon

- self-employed carpet and upholstery cleaner (5 years)
- met **Julie** during college in San Marcos, Texas, through a common friend
- 3 grown children and two grandchildren; all live near Garland, Texas
- serves on men's ministry leadership team, in usher ministry, and as midweek meal and men's breakfast chef



John Rack—Finance Committee

- residential property manager (35 years)
- met wife, **Charlane**, at a home Bible study; married 30 years
- one college-age daughter and one adult daughter from previous marriage
- teaches Discipleship Fellowship and care group; serves as Chairman of Finance Committee



Bob Porterfield—Deacon

- physical campus and human resources for CAM International (7+ years)
- met wife, **Shirley**, in singles group of First Baptist Church, Dallas; married 40 years this March
- one adult daughter who lives in Las Colinas
- active in Berean ABF and with Seasoned Saints' luncheons



Jonathan Tarry—Finance Committee

- payroll analyst for Southwest Airlines (3 years)
- met wife, **Kellie**, at Casa View Baptist; married 11 years
- serves at midweek meals and helped build the new BBQ pit

Dallas, Texas • 214-340-3633
721 Easton Road
Meeting Location:

P.O. Box 570545
Dallas, TX 75357-0545

B I B L E C H U R C H
Redeemer