

March 2008

Linking us with the ministries of our church

Set Your Clock Forward



Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 9 at 2AM. Set your clocks forward one hour Saturday night.

CPR/First Aid/AED

Everybody knows that *Be Prepared* is the time-honored motto of the Boy Scouts, but because safety is a top priority at Redeemer, it characterizes all that we do in our ministries – with children, youth, and adults. Ten of our leaders just renewed their Red Cross CPR/AED (defibrillator) training. On Saturday, April 19, we are offering yet another CPR/First Aid/AED course, primarily for those who work with our children and youth. While the course is limited in size, there is still room for a few more. It will be taught by our own **Lauren Raikes**, a certified Red Cross instructor. This training is valuable, not only to protect those who participate in church activities, but to provide potentially life-saving assistance wherever we are. If you are interested in taking this course, please contact Lauren at 214-340-3633.

Eggstravaganza

Redeemer's annual Eggstravaganza will be held at the home of **Jim and Debbie Raikes** March 22 from 2–5 PM. Please register on Sunday or call the church if you plan to attend.

Holy Week — Celebrating our Shepherd

Our communion worship service on March 2 launches an exceptional month of praise and special events at Redeemer designed to remind us of our Lord's unique life, death and resurrection. **Pastor Geiger** will begin a series of shepherd-themed messages culminating in our resurrection celebration. This month also has a distinct missions emphasis. We'll be hearing from some of our missionaries across the world — literally.

March 9

Our missionary friend, Pat Cate will be here in the ABF hour to talk about opportunities for ministry among Muslims. During the worship service we will "visit" with **Laci Kadar**, our missionary to Word of Life Hungary. Laci will report from Hungary, and we'll broadcast the video call in the sanctuary.

Palm Sunday, March 16

Palm Sunday is missions Sunday. Mike Latsko, a Dallas Seminary graduate, will be our guest preacher. Several mission-focused electives during the ABF hour will be

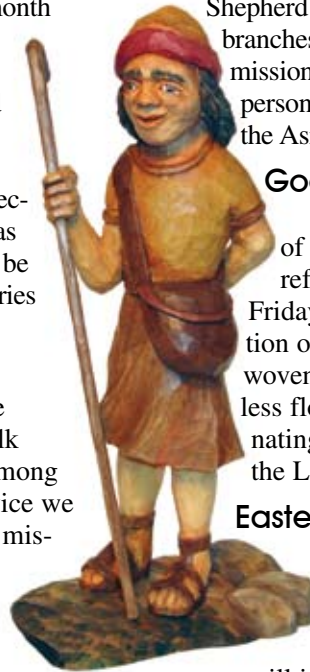
available to you. Our worship will honor our Shepherd with instruments, children, palm branches and flags. **Joy George**, our missionary to India, will also be here in person to update us about the work at the Asian Christian Academy.

Good Friday, March 21

Our focus shifts to the sacrifice of our Savior during our quiet, reflective, and moving Good Friday service at 7:00 PM. A selection of hymns, songs and scripture woven together will provide a seamless flow of reverent worship culminating in a meaningful celebration of the Lord's Table.

Easter Sunday, March 23

We'll herald our Lord's glorious resurrection on Sunday, March 23 at 10:30 AM. This triumphant commemoration will include great hymns, songs, brass, and choir anthems proclaiming Christ's victory and declaring his power. Pastor Geiger will extol our Savior and Shepherd through the preaching. Don't miss this inspiring month at Redeemer.



College & Career, a Growing Passion

Joe Howard

God is at work among our college & career group, stoking the fires of their love for Him and others. Last month God fanned those flames through the *Passion Conference*, a local gathering of more than 6,000 college students at Grand Prairie's Nokia Theater. Attending from Redeemer were **Meredith Anthony**,

Hillary Bridgman, Jason Pedigo, Jonathan Raikes, Stephen Raikes, Andy Reibenstein, Liesl Tanksley, and leaders, **Joe Howard** and **Danny Smith**. The conference was filled with uplifting singing

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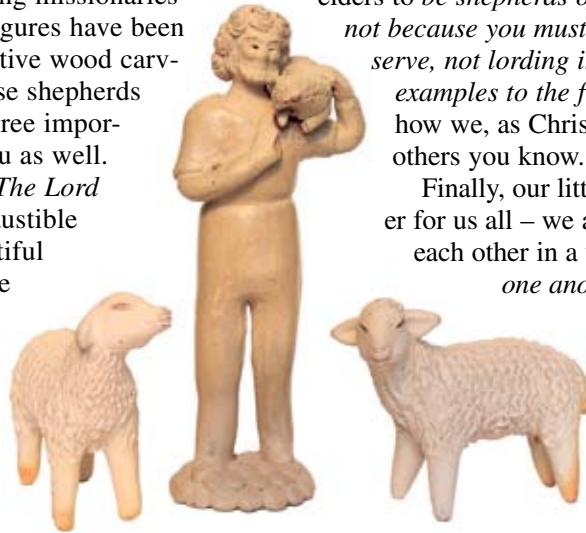
In a Word

You can be a shepherd!

Don Geiger, Senior Pastor

For many years these clay figures of two sheep with their shepherd carrying the lamb have adorned my desk. Crafted by Guatemalan Indians, they were given to me by our good friends **Stan and Barbara Orth**, life-long missionaries to Guatemala. More recently the clay figures have been joined by **Ray North's** delightfully creative wood carving, pictured on page one. Together, these shepherds and sheep serve as daily reminders of three important realities. I trust they will remind you as well. First and foremost, they remind us that *The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want*. Inexhaustible in its depth, that greatest and most beautiful of all Psalms, 23, goes on to describe the Shepherd's manifold provisions of our every need: rest and refreshment (v.2); restoration and guidance (v. 3); courage and protection (v.4); preservation, healing, and joy (v.5); goodness and mercy in this life and an eternity with the Lord (v.6).

This month in our worship services, in anticipation of commemorating and celebrating our Lord's death and resurrection, we will explore the meaning and depth of our Lord's statement in John 10:11 — *I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep*. I'm calling it *The Good Shepherd Series*. To gain the most from our study and worship, I urge you — dare you — to read or quote



Psalm 23 each day in March and also read the Gospel of John, following our March reading guide. By month's end Psalm 23 will take on new meaning and will be forever and unforgettably ours. (I know: darers go first! Feel free to ask me along the way whether I'm following my own suggestion.)

Second, my little desk-top treasures also remind me that I too am called to be a shepherd. Actually, the word pastor means shepherd. We pastors, elders, ABF leaders, and others in similar positions take this calling and responsibility seriously and prayerfully. We conscientiously seek to obey Peter's charge to elders to *be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, not because you must, but because you are willing, eager to serve, not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock (1 Peter 5:2ff)* Please let us know how we, as Christ's undershepherds, may serve you or others you know.

Finally, our little shepherds hold just one more reminder for us all — we are all called to be shepherds, caring for each other in a wide variety of ways. A few of the many *one anothers* of the Bible suggest some of those ways: be kind to one another, forgive, greet, love, in honor prefer, bear one another's burdens. We will explore this grand truth further in April, when in our worship services we will study the greatest how-to-live-the-Christian-life chapter of them all. Which chapter do you think it is?

It takes two metaphors to describe who we are and how we relate to both the Good Shepherd and to each other. Like sheep we follow the shepherd and trust him for all that is promised in our psalm of the month. Like shepherds we care for each other and those whom God sends our way.

In a word . . . we can be both sheep and shepherd!

Josh Bailey Ordained

How fitting it was that **Josh Bailey**, our worship leader, was ordained to the gospel ministry during a music-filled, God-exalting Sunday morning worship service on February 24. Participating in this service were Josh's father, Dr. Mark Bailey, Bill Bryan, **Larry Foster**, **Don Geiger**, **Tony Gomillion**, Dr. Reg Grant, **Stu Howe**, and Redeemer elders. Josh trusted Jesus as his Savior at age four, graduated from the Moody Bible Institute with a Bachelor of Music degree (sacred music emphasis), received a Master of Theology degree (media arts emphasis) from Dallas Seminary, and has creatively and carefully led our worship for 8 years. God has clearly set Josh apart to build up His Church, as evidenced by his unfaltering faith in

Christ, steadfast devotion to his family, thorough examination by a 6-man council of Redeemer elders and ordained ministers, and eager service of God's people through his many gifts. We



are privileged to serve with and be led by this godly man, whom we encourage (in the vein of 1 Timothy 4:14) not to neglect his gifts and calling, confirmed with the laying on of hands.

Dr. Waters' New Ministry

A man of wide experience and many gifts, our own **Dr. Larry Waters** has been appointed as Professor of Bible Exposition at Dallas Seminary, where he and other faculty members are training gifted men and women for worldwide gospel ministry. We are grateful to the Waters for their faithful ministries, serving us here and representing us abroad. In addition to Larry's new appointment, he and **Mary** will continue to serve as missionaries with Biblical Education by Extension (BEE) representing the Philippines, where they served as church planters and educators for twenty-seven years. Larry will also continue writing curriculum for BEE's Internet Biblical Seminary. Even though the Waters will no longer receive support as Redeemer missionaries, we will continue our prayerful and enthusiastic encouragement of their ministries both here and abroad. Congratulations, Larry and Mary!



Getting to Know You: Jerry and Julie Piering

Tommie Loveless

Jerry and Julie Piering both grew up in Dallas, graduated from Hillcrest High School and attended Southwest Texas State University (now, Texas State University). However, their paths did not cross until college, when Julie needed a ride home to Dallas. She had her dad's gasoline credit card, but no car! A mutual friend told Jerry about it, as Jerry had a car, but very little money for gas. It was a perfect match! Four years later, Jerry and Julie said, "I do." Julie remembered, "It was a very joyous and happy occasion, even though my father asked for his credit card back!" Julie later graduated from Texas Women's University, in Denton, with an Elementary Education Degree. She teaches second grade at Sewell Elementary in Sachse (Garland ISD), where she has taught since the school opened nearly twenty years ago. Jerry then told of her love for reading. "Julie loves mysteries, such as the Agatha Christie books, but mostly reads Christian authors such as Charles Stanley, Robert Jeffress, James Dobson, John Walvoord and others. She also loves animals. Right now she has an old grey cat, Mattie, and a portly poodle named Penny! Over the years she has raised numerous dogs, cats, rabbits, hamsters, gerbils, mice, lizards and turtles!"



Jerry grew up in a large family; he was the sixth of nine children! They lived near Preston Road and LBJ Freeway. He attended Catholic schools until the ninth grade, when he

convinced his dad that he wanted to attend Hillcrest High School. He currently owns Texas Complete Carpet Care, and he also enjoys cooking, golf, family, friends and church. He shared: "I have volunteered for the past 18 years as a Boy and Cub Scout leader. I have had the privilege to pin the Eagle badge on 40 boys!"

"When we married, we began searching for a church where we could both worship and serve. We settled in at Scofield Memorial Church. Jerry's first Sunday school class was taught by a Dallas Theological Seminary professor, and everyone in there were students, future missionaries, teachers, preachers, and authors (such as Charles Dyer). Jerry had many questions, but they were answered by one of the men. This is where he accepted Jesus as his Savior." In their 34 years of marriage God has blessed them with three children, who are grown and starting their own careers and families. They have two grandchildren, **Regan** and **Blaine**.

The Pierings feel very blessed to be a part of Redeemer. Julie continued, "We enjoy the many opportunities we have to serve, whether it be greeting, ushering, cooking Wednesday night meals, or growing in the Word through Pastor Geiger's sermons, Dr. Zuck's lessons, or Tony Gomillion's Wednesday night classes. Redeemer also feels blessed and thankful to have the Pierings as members of our church."

Scouting Report

Boy Scout Troop 48 and Cub Pack 4:8 collected cans of food from Redeemer and its surrounding neighborhoods to benefit the needy during the annual Scouting For Food service project February 9 and 16. White Rock Center of Hope gratefully received over 25,000 cans of food from area scouts to be distributed to the poor through the center's food pantry. On January 26, Troop 4:8 hosted 150 area scouts and leaders who worked on merit badges at the annual White Rock Advance-oree at Redeemer.



Gordon Robinson and his son **David** (pictured below) are one of the many father-son teams building pinewood derby cars to be raced at the Pack 4:8 Pinewood Derby on March 29. Gordon is building a new 30-foot, 4-lane track to be used for many years of memory-making fun. Cubs experience the satisfaction of personally completing their own woodcraft project while doing their best in friendly competition.



January Baptisms

January 13 (photo on left):
Susanna Bridgman and
Nathan Gomillion

January 27 (photo on right):
Susan Millet and Nikki Geiger



College & Career...

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led by the likes of Chris Tomlin, David Crowder Band, & Dallas' own Kristian Stanfill. Louie Giglio, *Passion's* founder and visionary, inspired everyone through Christ-exalting messages on the primacy of God's glory and how He is glorified most in our suffering. Pastor and gifted speaker Francis Chan memorably reinforced the Holy Spirit's powerful and transforming work through God's Word and our privilege of pursuing God in all things, little and big.

So what made *Passion* such a life-impacting event for Redeemer's attendees? Plenty. Reflecting on the event, Andy Reibenstein said, "Whether we were singing at the top of our voices — leaving us no breath — or silently pouring our hearts out in prayer for ministries all over the world, the Lord was our focus and His renown was our goal." Weeks after the conference, Danny Smith, leader of the College & Career ABF, is still moved by one of the songs (and themes) of this year's conference called "*God of this City*." The song's chorus says,

"Greater things are yet to come, and greater things are still to be done in this city." Reaching this city has become our ABF's vision as we seek God's glory through evangelism, discipleship, service, and community. May God draw us even nearer to Him as a result of this conference so we might glorify Him in our lives, His Church, on campuses, in our city, and to the uttermost parts of the earth!



Joanna, and their children Zara and Daniel as part of the Redeemer family.

Joe Howard actively ministers at Redeemer, primarily serving our church family through the college & career group, our midweek coffee house, and the audio/visual team. Mentored by Josh Bailey, Joe is completing a media arts internship in pursuit of his Master of Theology degree at Dallas Seminary. We are blessed to have Joe,

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

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

BIBLE CHURCH
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