

May 2007

Linking us with the ministries of our church

Men's Breakfast

Join 40 friends-in-the-making on Saturday, May 19, at 8:00 AM in the fellowship hall for home cooking, a few laughs, and first-hand testimonies of God's grace at work in His world. **Laci Kádár**, our featured speaker and newest Redeemer missionary, will give us a glimpse of his vision for future ministry in Hungary. **James Detrich** will encourage us by sharing his personal testimony. **Charlie Reibenstein** will orient us to service opportunities, both in the church family and in our community. And, YOU will bless others by being there and growing in Christ with them. You are an important part of our church's life and witness. Invite a friend, bring \$3 for each of you, and come hungry.

Graduates Dinner

Twelve of our high school graduates will be honored during the Graduation Celebration Sunday, May 13 from 7:30-9:15 PM in the sanctuary. Church family and friends are welcome to attend the service, which includes fun, music, slide show memories of each graduate and a special charge to the graduates by **Pastor Geiger**. The graduates are **Grant Bridgman, John Kelley, Joanna Martin, Jonathan Raikes, Andrew Ramler, Jeremy Reed, Brittany Rodgers, Michaela Ruffino, Saralynn Spears, Hailey Swearingen, Liesl Tanksley and Michael Wade**. This is a meaningful and memorable way to commemorate the milestone of high school graduation.

"Corrie ten Boom" at Redeemer May 6, 6 PM

Come and hear from this great heroine of the faith through the dramatic artistry of actress **Evelyn Hinds**. She is the founder of *Arts Touching Hearts*, a non-profit organization committed to expressing the message of God through the arts. Evelyn is also a spokesperson for the Corrie ten Boom House and Museum. She has performed her one-person dramatic presentation across the nation as well as internationally. For more than twenty years she has studied the life of Corrie ten Boom through her books, tapes and interviews with people who knew Corrie. Her passion is to keep alive the spiritual heritage of the Ten Boom Family. Corrie, along with other family members, hid many Jews in their home during the time of the Nazi Holocaust. Her remarkable life story is revisited and relived by Ms. Hinds. Her presentation grips the hearts and emotions of audiences of all ages. You will be blessed and challenged by her moving portrayal.



GriefShare Ministry Begins May 9, 6 PM

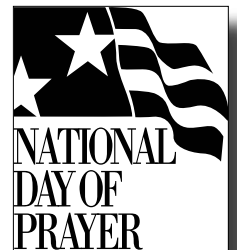
GriefShare is a weekly seminar and support group for all who are grieving the death of someone close to them or are experiencing a profound loss. It's a time to be around others who understand how you feel and the pain of your loss. Each GriefShare session includes a video seminar featuring top experts on grief and recovery subjects. After viewing the video you may participate in a small group discussion about what you have seen. You will also be able to interact with friends who have experienced a recent loss, learn from them, and share your own experiences. Our Redeemer GriefShare group is sponsored by people who understand what you are experiencing and want to offer you comfort and encouragement during this difficult time. Our group will be capably led by **Stu and Dorothy Howe**. When asked why he felt like this ministry suited his gifts, Stu remarked, "We're drawn to hurting people." This group is an excellent opportunity to heal and find encouragement after grief.



Redeemer Joins National Day of Prayer May 3

On Thursday, May 3, our church will join millions of Americans in a time of focused prayer for the world, our nation and its leaders, and our church. You may come to any or all of the designated prayer times in the fellowship hall. In the morning, we will meet from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. During the lunch hour, stop in anytime from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. Finally, we'll meet in the evening from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Feel free to come when you can and go when you need to leave. Within each hour you will pray

both in small groups and in silence. Material will be available to help guide us in our prayers. Even if you are not able to attend during one of the designated times, you are still encouraged to join us and believers throughout America as we obey Paul's words in Colossians 2:4, "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."



In a Word

Let's Imitate Christ

Don Geiger, Senior Pastor

In recent days we've all been shocked — stunned — at yet another senseless, murderous campus rampage that killed thirty-three students and faculty, including the assailant himself, and left another twenty-four wounded on the Virginia Tech campus. We pray for and grieve with broken-hearted families, friends, and classmates. We are moved by and admire the selfless courage of 76-year-old Holocaust survivor and faculty member, Professor Liviu Librescu, who used his body to block the door to his classroom, so his students could escape with their lives. He gave his life that they might live. We wonder what we might have done and pray that if the occasion arises, we will exhibit that same selfless courage. We are heartened to see the student body rally around the grieving and come together in mutual support of each other. We pray for fellow believers on campus and those otherwise connected with the university as they find opportunity to share the love of Jesus Christ in appropriate and effective ways. We wonder what might have been different had someone reached out to Cho Seung-Hui in a serious attempt to befriend him and share the love of Christ. Indeed, perhaps someone did.

Those of us old enough to remember are reminded all too vividly of the massacre on the U T Austin campus just 40 years ago, when a sniper murdered 16, shooting from atop the campus clock tower. Then we recall other fatal campus shootings — 32 separate instances in the United States just in the past ten years. The overwhelming majority of the assailants were teenage students, some as young as 11–14 years old.

Then come the questions. What, if anything, could have

been done to prevent these tragedies? Why does God allow them? Could he prevent them if he chooses? Does it mean our schools are no longer safe for our children and grandchildren? Has our country gone completely to the dogs? The philosophical among us push the question farther, asking why there must be *any* suffering, be it mayhem on a college campus, or disease and death that we *all* experience. Good questions, all, but there are no easy answers.

I am reminded of a saying (now hanging on my study wall) my college president, Dr. V. Raymond Edman, taught us many years ago: *Never doubt in the dark what God has shown you in the light.* Without attempting answers to these weighty questions in this brief space, I find it helpful to remember a few things God has shown us in his Word.

1. We live in a sinful, fallen world in which God allows us to make our own choices. From Cain's choice to murder his brother Abel, history is littered with horrific choices. The wages of sin are still sorrow, tragedy, and death, even in America.

2. God can and in his timing will put an end to all injustice and evil. Paradoxical as it may seem, it is God's patience, love, and grace that delay his return and final judgment, in order that more may hear the gospel, believe, and be saved. In answering scoffers' questions about God's role in the world, or lack thereof, Peter explained his seeming delay with these words: *God is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.* (2 Peter 3:9).

3. Twelve times in the Gospels we read that, when Jesus saw hurting, grieving, desperate people, he was moved with compassion. Inevitably, he reached out to love them and meet their needs. Then he would say to his disciples, *Follow me!* We don't have all the answers, or even most of them; but this most recent tragedy can be a reminder to us to be imitators of Christ in his compassion for hurting people.

In a word . . . let's imitate Christ!

Our Newest Missionaries: The Kádárs

Laci and Szandra arrived at Redeemer in late summer of 2003, plugged in, and have not stopped plugging away since. God has used the Kádárs in a myriad of powerful ways during their time with us, making their return to Hungary somewhat



saddening. But in truth, we are not *losing* the Kádárs, we are *sending* them! By God's grace and in His grand design, we will partner with them for years to come in reaching Eastern Europe and the world for Christ.

As they prepare to leave on May 31, they would especially appreciate **your prayer** in asking God to help them focus on the people He is sending them to reach instead of focusing on the "stuff" (boxes, tickets, schedules, etc.) needed to get them to those people. They would also appreciate **your presence**, as you are able, at the following events:

• **Reception on Saturday, May 12, from 3 to 5 PM:**

A western themed, come-and-go social will be held in their honor in the fellowship hall. No reservation is required.

• **Men's Breakfast on Saturday, May 19, from 8 to 9 AM:**

Laci will be the featured speaker at May's men's breakfast. (See page 1 sidebar for more details.)

• **Laci's Ordination on Sunday, May 20, from 6 to 7 PM:**

Assuming a favorable examination by his ordination council, Laci will be ordained for the gospel ministry at a special ceremony.

Through your prayers and presence this May, thank God for our newest missionary family: **Laci, Szandra, Fanni, and Luca Kádár.**

Getting to Know You: Joseph and Jenny Escobar

Tommie Loveless

“*Memories are made of this...*” would be a great theme song for this young and dedicated couple! They both tell how much their families mean to them, and how their parents influenced their lives and faith by being godly examples and giving them lots of love as they were growing up. **Jenny** shared, “My parents were always there for me and my sister. Our mom, **Frances Wallace**, read aloud to us every night of our lives until we moved from home. My dad, **Buddy**, taught me how to ride a bike, took us to the fair, and made up awesome stories to entertain us.

Joseph is the second-oldest in his family and was born in Dallas, as was Jenny. His parents are **Joe and Becky Escobar**, and he has four siblings. He told how hospitable his family is. “Anytime our family knew anyone who needed a place to stay, we opened our home. At one time there were thirteen people living in my parents’ trailer house. But it was always so much fun, and we loved it!” Joseph’s dad is a remodeler, and he took Joseph and his brothers to work with him and taught them how to work.

Joseph and Jenny met at a Redeemer Game Night, held at **Bob and Sharon Eppler’s** house. We “hit it off,” shared Jenny, “and we were friends for about a year. Then on Joseph’s birthday, he asked me for a date. We talked a long time that night, and I realized he had feelings for me other than friendship.” Jenny took three months to decide that she had feelings for him as well, and would like to date. *THE REST IS*



HISTORY...! They were married on October 7, 2006.

“Other than growing up in very similar backgrounds,” Joseph shared, “we both love our in-laws, and our families are very good friends. In fact, my grandmother taught Jenny’s mom in the second grade!”

Joseph and Jenny stay very busy. Jenny has owned her own housecleaning business for over nine years, and Joseph is working toward becoming a master plumber at TD Industries. He also owns an irrigation company, which God has blessed. They feel they have the gifts of helping others and of hospitality. Consequently, they are involved in several ministries at Redeemer, and after going to Hungary on a missions trip this summer, they hope to go on more short term missions in the future.

Favorite pastimes include camping, kayaking, cooking, watching movies, and spending time with family and friends. Jenny loves to read and draw. Some of her illustrations have been published. Joseph has a talent

for woodcarving, metal work, and cycling. He also has an interest in guns and hunting. Jenny says he would love to go hunting with guys from the church. Anyone interested?

Finally, Jenny concluded, “We feel incredibly blessed to have been brought together by God, and we are 100% committed to keeping our marriage strong in the Lord. We also are blessed to be a part of Redeemer Bible Church, where we have many wonderful friends. We love them all!”

April Highlights



April highlights included the Easter Eggstravaganza, the Cub Scout Campout, the Mother/Daughter Tea, and the dedication of **Luca Kádár**.



Summer Camps

Camp GAP (God's Awesome Promises) in Cedar Hill is available to current 2nd–6th graders June 18-22. This fun-packed overnight camping experience offers rock climbing, a zip line, water slides, themed nights, great music, plenty of active Bible teaching, a service project and much more. The theme is *"God is Always Present,"* based on Psalm 46:1. The cost is \$160. Contact the church office for more details.

Geiger Island Teen Guys Week in Tennessee is June 16-24, and is always a memorable, worthwhile experience. This week-long camping trip is available to any teenage guy who wants to be challenged and refreshed in every area of his life. Concrete, electronics, traffic and city life are replaced with skiing, tubing, wakeboarding, canoeing, swimming, singing, fellowship, devotionals, campfires and more on a beautiful island on a huge lake in a natural setting. **Tony Gomillion**

will be the speaker. The cost is a bargain at only \$250. Contact **Blake Barbre** for more information.



Missions Fundraisers

Our Garage Sale May 25 and 26, will help fund four Redeemer short term mission trips to Serbia, Hungary, and Guatemala. Your prayers, donated gently-used items, and volunteer help are needed, as preparations are made. There is still time to sift through your home for things like house wares, appliances, decorations, electronics, furniture, books, videos, tools, shoes and clothing. This is a win-win opportunity to help your brothers and sisters minister to the world, assist people who need a good bargain, and de-clutter your home of extra stuff. You may bring items to the Oasis before and after services on Sundays and Wednesdays, or during office hours. Large item pickup from homes is available by calling **Byron Donaho** at 972.270.0354. Volunteers willing to move, sort, price, or be available during the sale may call **Janet Ramler** at 972.476.9959. All proceeds from the sales will go to expenses for trips to Serbia, Hungary and Guatemala. With prayer for all aspects of this effort, consider how and when you might donate your gently-used treasures and time to make this fundraiser a true joy.

Kudos to Amy Oudin

Amy Oudin was honored at the Mother/Daughter Tea on April 22 for a notable accomplishment. She has memorized both the first 100 verses *and* the second 100 verses in our Bible memo-

rization program. The 100 verse club award is a vessel of honor, "to be so for the Lord." The 200 verse club award is a mirror, "to be a reflection of Christ."



Meeting Location:
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P.O. Box 570545
Dallas, TX 75357-0545

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Redeemer