

Vacation Bible School

Pack your bags and hop on board the Boomerang Express where it all comes back to Jesus. Prepare to trek through the Land Down Under and discover how it all comes back to Jesus when you... follow Him, worship Him, confess Him, serve Him, and obey Him. Beginning with Peter's first introduction to Jesus, kids will follow Peter's growing relationship with his Savior and Lord. It takes lots of working hands and smiling faces to make VBS a success. We need Bible teachers, sport instructors, craft people, snack chefs, mission guides, worship leaders, a decoration crew, and a promotional team. We also need several watchful eyes, listening ears, and helping hands. If you're interested in volunteering for Boomerang Express, call or email **Kristen Raikes**, and we'll get you a boarding pass. Mark your calendar for July 13-17 for a summer adventure in Australia. Good 'aye!

Family Fun on a Budget

Fort Worth Botanic Garden
3220 Botanic Garden Blvd. Fort Worth
Admission is Free.
Hours: dawn to dusk. (817)871-7686.

Fort Worth Stockyards
183 & 287 in Fort Worth
Admission is Free.
Hours: vary day to day.

Dallas Nature Center
7171 Mountain Creek Pkwy, Dallas.
Admission: small donation
Hours: Sunrise to Sunset.

Hawaiian Falls Family Day with Redeemer Bible Church August 12
4550 N Garland Ave, Garland
Admission is half price.
Call **Kristen Raikes** for details.

On May 31, Redeemer Celebrates 10 Years of God's Faithfulness

"This is a time to remember the greatness of the Lord, he has so faithfully led us as promised in his Word." These hymn lyrics written by Brian Jeffery Leech accurately characterize our gratefulness to God for the last ten years at Redeemer. We'll celebrate and commemorate what God has done through Redeemer Bible Church.

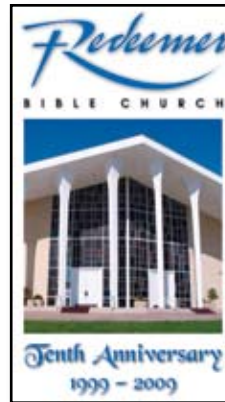
Morning Worship, 10:30 AM

We'll begin our celebration in joyful praise for God's generous provision, and we'll look ahead and recommit ourselves to continue to serve him. We'll hear a timely message from God's word and lift our praise in prayer, Scripture, and song. Speaking of music, our celebration will include our favorite songs and anthems. In short, our morning worship at Redeemer will be the perfect way to begin our anniversary celebration.

Dinner on the Grounds, 5:00 PM

We'll gather again for a tasty barbeque dinner. This catered meal will include all the fix-ins for only three dollars a person. Tickets will be available beginning Sunday, May 10, so be

sure to get yours early. Not only will we share a great meal, but your family will enjoy outside activities as well. Children can swing and slide at our playground and jump in a bounce house. Adults can play or sit in the shade and enjoy one another. Live outdoor music will help energize the hour. The outdoor activities will begin at 4:00, and the meal will start at 5:00.



Evening Celebration/ Dessert Fellowship, 6:00 PM

Our evening celebration will include a John Sparks video that tells the Redeemer story. A creative reenactment will show us how it all began. Each of our pastors will briefly highlight what God has done in building up our church. God's rich blessings will be on display in our musical celebration reminiscent of our Gospel sings. We'll hear from our choir, an energized men's quartet, a children's choir and more. A chocolate dessert in the fellowship hall will provide a delicious finale to a rich day. Come be a part as we remember what God has done these last ten years. It will be the perfect way to begin the next ten as well.

Men's Retreat in Two Weeks

Acts 7 tells us that moments before his martyrdom Stephen defended God's character, power, and covenant faithfulness through the life of the patriarch Joseph. Amazing. Men, would you like to be the type of guy others use to defend God's character? If so, you are not alone.

In two weeks (Friday, May 15 – Sunday, May 17), men like you will gather at Lake Bridgeport to kick up their feet, take a breather from city life, deepen friendships,

and be changed by God's Word. One night is \$55, two nights are \$85, and the event is open to those outside our church. If you need help with the cost or you need a ride to/from the lake let one of the pastors know.

If you have any doubts about the retreat being worth your while, speak to someone who's been before. And if you have any questions, stop by the sign-up table in the lobby after church on Sunday. Hope to see you at Bridgeport!

In a Word

Can it really be ten years?

Don Geiger, Senior Pastor

In reminiscing we sometimes say, “It seems like just yesterday when . . .” Well, it doesn’t actually seem like yesterday when twenty-five of us met at the Casa Linda Cafeteria on May 22, 1999, to talk about starting a church in the White Rock area. But neither does it seem like ten years! The old saying is true: *Time flies when we’re having fun!* Time has flown, at least for me; but *fun* doesn’t begin to describe our life together in the Redeemer family these ten years. There have been fun and lots of laughter along the way; but, far deeper and more durable, there has been *joy*. Joy has characterized our times of jubilation and celebration as well as the ordinary dailiness of life. Joy has often been a quiet, calming presence in times of grief, loss, and perplexity. The words *fun and joy* got me thinking about other words that might describe our adventure together this past decade — *love, kindness, faithfulness* came to mind. My little list began to look a lot like another list I’d known and admired all my life. You guessed it — the fruit of the Spirit as found in Galatians 5:22.

We all know we’re far from being the perfect church, and there are times aplenty when we miss the mark and must cry out for forgiveness and seek reconciliation. But I was struck by the degree to which these attributes we know as the fruit of the Spirit describe our life together, assuring us that the Spirit is at work in our hearts. As we review a few of these Christlike character qualities, think of friends in the Redeemer family who personify and live them; reflect on the

blessing they bring to us all. Then let’s renew our commitment to grow in these graces. The fruit of the Spirit is....

Love, evident everywhere we turn, beginning with the loving care of our infants and small children in our spotless, attractive nursery and class rooms. Those rooms themselves give silent testimony to the loving care of those who faithfully prepare and enhance them. For that matter, the entire property shines in silent testimony to such loving attention.

Joy. The joy of worship, the joy of genuine friendships, of doing something truly worthwhile together with those who share with us the conviction that God has called us to do it. *For the joy of the Lord is your strength!*

Peace. *Peace with God* through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. *The peace of God* enjoyed by those whose heart is right both with God and with our brothers and sisters in Christ. The peace of knowing we have a sheltering family, of knowing that we *are* family.

Space doesn’t allow elaboration of the final six, but you get the idea. Please take time to think of and thank God for those you know who demonstrate these qualities that bless us all and make life so rich at Redeemer. **Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-control.**

For these reasons and many more, I eagerly anticipate our joyful celebration on May 31 of ten years as the Redeemer church family. And you may be sure it will be fun as well!

In a word . . . it’s been ten great years!

Summer Missions and Garage Sale

“Let the people praise you, O God. Let all the peoples praise you!” Jesus, our Savior and Lord, has called us to take the good news into all the world and to make disciples of the nations so that all peoples will praise him. What an awesome call and high privilege it is to share in this work, and what a blessing it is to be part of a church that is deeply committed to this mission. This summer Redeemer will be sending two teams to Hungary to work with **Laci and Szandra Kádar** at the Word of Life Camp. They will be **teaching English (July 17 – Aug 2), coaching baseball (July 24 – Aug 2)**, and at all times sharing the love of Christ in its many forms. Upon his return last year, our lead baseball coach, **Charlie Reibenstein**, said, “There is nothing like the joy you feel when you see one of the kids you have worked with share his testimony about receiving Christ!” Let’s join Charlie and others in praying that many more European children will accept Jesus’ life-changing love-offer this summer.

In addition to praying for these teams, you can help them pay for their trips by supporting our **annual garage sale on June 5 and 6**. The garage sale is our church’s primary

funding source for summer missions. So please start sifting 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! **Item drop-off begins Sunday, May 24**, at the “Cubhouse” (the stand-alone building next to the fenced-in parking area). If you have larger items that need to be collected — working refrigerators, couches, tool benches, tables, etc. — please contact the garage sale coordinator, **Janet Ramler**, at 972-742-7618, and she will coordinate a pick-up. You may also contact Janet if you would like to help sort donations, set up, or run the garage sale. We need help, and a few hours from many people will make a big job easy and fun.

God will bless and use any contribution you make — praying, donating, serving, or going. May our hearts’ song and prayer continue to be: “Let the people praise you, O God. Let all the peoples praise you!”

Getting to Know You: Andy Reibenstein

Tommie Loveless

Andy Reibenstein was born and raised in Dallas and is the son of **Charlie and Janet Reibenstein**, who are also Redeemer members. In his own words: "I grew up in a Christian home with very loving parents and two brothers, Clay and Mike." Andy graduated from Bishop Lynch High School and traveled to Tahlequah, Oklahoma, where he earned a Computer Science Degree from Northwestern State University. After graduation he returned to Dallas and accepted a position as a computer programmer/web developer for UniFocus, a small company in Carrollton. He explained, "I manage a team that designs surveys for hotels, restaurants, schools, and clubs across the world. Basically, we make sure that solicited opinions go from bubbles on a card (or clicks on a webpage) to reports for clients to see and better understand how their customers liked their experience, or how staffs enjoy their jobs."



of Christ." He went on to say, "I have experienced an incredible amount of growth at Redeemer. I shared with **Pastor Geiger** that when I started attending with my parents, after turning my life around, I could feel happiness and a joy at this church. It's been amazing to see how that feeling hasn't let me down at all. I have had nothing but wonderful experiences, and I love being involved as much as I am." Andy has led a Wednesday night class called "Midweek Refresher," which examines and discusses Pastor Geiger's Sunday morning messages. He also enjoys being a member of "The Seekers" Adult Bible Fellowship, where he occasionally teaches in **Tony Gomillion's** absence. In 2005, Andy and his dad traveled to Hungary, teaching baseball and playing soccer with the children attending Word of Life summer camps. Andy continues to enjoy playing indoor soccer with a number of his Redeemer friends.

Andy is single and has lived in "Uptown," just north of the Arts District, since January 2008. Andy's spiritual growth has been his main focus for the past few years. He said, "I did my own thing until midway through college, when a Christian friend asked me if I really practiced what I believed. From that point on I realized that being a Christian could be just a label, unless one defines his heart and life as a true follower

As a friendly word of encouragement and exhortation, Andy said: "I want to encourage anyone who has even a hint of a desire to lead, or to be a part of 'Redeemer-behind-the-scenes,' to do so. I am confident you will experience the grace of God and the same love and support of the Redeemer body, as I have." Thanks, Andy, for your encouragement and example to all of us!

Scenes From the 2009 Eggstravaganza



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

Welcome New Members!



Eric & Ashley Ward with Joshua

Tax and Giving Tip

Did you know? Have you heard? Contributions can be made from your IRA directly to the church without taking it as income to yourself and paying income tax on it. This can be a favorable tax break you might want to consider for the year 2009. For more information call Finance Committee Chairman **Arch Oldham** (972-698-7595).



Arch Oldham

Pioneer Girls Retreat

Fifteen Pioneer Girls and leaders set out on a Pioneer Girls weekend retreat to Lake Bridgeport on April 17. **Patti Pedigo** graciously offered her beautiful lake house for this adventure. The girls followed **Nicole Nogueira's** lead in searching the rocky shore for snails and shells and feeding the ducks.

The lesson of the evening was how to build a proper campfire. The reward — roasted marshmallows, campfire songs, and a skit by **Kristen Raikes** about the Prodigal Son.

At the first hint of dawn all the girls and leaders were up to explore the land and make a banana boat breakfast supervised by **Stephanie**



Robinson, before turning their attention to **Melissa Gomillion's** creative devotional on Psalm 23. After a scavenger hunt and more fire-building practice, **Gail Rodgers** taught everyone how to make homemade pizzas over a fire. The meal concluded with a campfire-baked cobbler that **Renee Bridgman** rescued from the fire after a slight mishap. 😊

The girls ended the trip by navigating through a treasure hunt to earn their orienteering badge. Overall, the girls had a great time earning more badges, becoming better friends, and learning more of God's great love for them.

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

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

BIBLE CHURCH
First