

June 2011

Linking us with the ministries of our church

*Summer Sermon Series:
Profiles in Courage*

- June 5** The Courage to Forgive: Joseph (and Communion)
- June 12** The Courage to Answer God's Call: Jeremiah
- June 19** The courage to Learn from our Fathers — Josh Bailey Preaching
- June 26** The Courage to Stand Alone: Elijah

Parents' Night Out

PNO allows parents to drop off their children at the church (infants through grade 5) from 6-9 PM on Friday evening, so they can go shopping, have dinner together, go for a walk or simply enjoy the time alone. The children are provided a time of instruction and fun in a safe, secure and structured environment. The next PNO will be Friday, June 3. Please call **Heidi** at the church at extension 205 or at 469-600-4522 to sign up your children!

Troop 4:8 Summer Camp

RBC Troop 4:8 is fortunate to be one of the first groups attending Trevor Rees-Jones Camp in Athens, Texas since its total renovation last year (Old "Camp Cherokee")! Just a few of the activities that will be offered this year (June 12-18) are swimming, horseback riding, archery, shooting sports, fishing, wilderness survival, cycling...even golf! Besides a week of camping in the Piney Woods with friends, there will be lots of other fun activities for the boys. Be sure and let others know of the fantastic Scout program offered here at RBC.

Redeemer is Blessed by a Seamless Transition in Children's Ministries

Through the influence of a missionary couple to the Fiji Islands while serving at Camp Eagle, a missions course her freshman year at John Brown University, and spending four months in primitive living in the Fiji Islands, **Kristen Raikes** is now answering God's call on her life to serve as a career missionary with OMF International in Thailand. Her three years at RBC as Director of Children's Ministries have pre-

pared her for this step of faith. Kristen said, "Working with children teaches you how to be cross-cultural. Children do not learn the same way adults do. There is a bridge that needs to be made between my culture and theirs to begin teaching the Bible in an effective way." She also added, "Through watching and being served by the dear people of Redeemer, I have learned more about caring for people and serving the body than anywhere else."

Taking Kristen's place is someone equally gifted, trained and eager to serve the children of RBC — **Heidi Regier**. Heidi said "I started to work with children when I was about 10 years old because my mother did child care at home. Ever since, God has brought



Heidi Regier (right) has taken the post of Director of Children's Ministries as outgoing director, Kristen Raikes (left), departs for the mission field.

children into my life and I want to be faithful in reaching them for Him." Her vision for children is simple: "I hope that the children of Redeemer will continue to trust Jesus as their Savior at a young age, walk daily in obedience to Him, worship Him with their daily choices and actions, grow in their knowledge of God through His Word, apply His Word to their lives, and

learn the joy of serving others." Because Heidi is new and has just assumed this role, some of the plans for the summer are still taking shape. She said, "The summer events that are taking shape will hopefully include a Mother's Morning Out, some Parents' Nights Out, a VBS in July, (more info to follow!), and our annual Hawaiian Falls Family Day!" Heidi added, "I feel both humbled and honored to be given the opportunity to serve at a place as special as Redeemer."

On Sunday, June 12, RBC will be having a special commissioning and farewell service for Kristen. Her departure date for Singapore is June 26. Let's keep both Heidi and Kristen in our prayers as each of them has answered God's call upon their lives!

From the Pastor's Pen

Learning from the news

Doug Hornok, Senior Pastor

As I write this, there are two major scandals that have made international headlines. The first concerns Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the head of the International Monetary Fund and a French presidential candidate. He was arrested for allegedly assaulting a hotel maid in New York City. Then the former governor of California and actor Arnold Schwarzenegger admitted to fathering a child out of wedlock 14 years ago. Neither of these men is a professing Christian, but their behavior and these tragic scandals reveal a few important reminders for us all.

First, sin does not go away as we get older. Temptations or ungodly patterns will not disappear when we hit a certain age. Strauss-Kahn is 62; Schwarzenegger is almost 64. Sinful habits do not disappear when the AARP card arrives in the mail. It is a battle we fight till our last breath.

Second, sin is a daily battle. Both of them claim their behaviors were consensual between adults, but even still, I'm sure each would love to be able to hit the rewind button and relive that fateful day. We must be constantly on guard because our enemy is constantly on the prowl. (1 Peter 5:8). Satan's goal is to defeat, destroy and bring reproach upon our Savior.

Third, sin is always destructive. Strauss-Kahn lost his job as arguably one of the most powerful men in the world as he was

in charge of the International Monetary Fund; a huge lead in the polls as a candidate for President of France has disappeared; and his reputation is shattered. Schwarzenegger lost his 25 years of marriage, the respect of his 4 children, any future in public life and perhaps millions of dollars in endorsements. The Apostle Paul asks, *"What fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death."* (Rom 6:21). Additionally, there is always the collateral damage done to the innocent. Imagine for a moment the shame and disgrace inflicted upon their innocent families.

Fourth, this can be a moment of grace for both men. As mentioned, I do not believe these men are believers, but if these scandals bring them to the end of themselves, they will be ready to call out to the God who *"justifies the ungodly."* (Rom 3:5). When you and I fail miserably, it is a reminder that we are great sinners who need a great Savior. When we sin, we find a God who is willing to forgive the humble confessing sinner.

Fifth, we must deal with sin inside, where it starts. Any solution that stops short of changing the heart is no solution at all. These men began to sin before they took action. Jesus said, *"I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart"* (Matt. 5:28). We must continually *"guard our hearts"* (Prov. 4:23).

What should we do? Realize that each and every one of us is capable of falling into scandalous sin and remain diligent. In the mean time, let's pray for Dominique Strauss-Kahn and Arnold Schwarzenegger. And for ourselves and others within the RBC family.

Congratulations, Graduates!



Cole McCullar
(High School)



Jana Newcomer
(High School)



Max Perry
(High School)



Shannon Smith
(High School)



Jonathan Taylor
(High School)



Laura Martin
(College)



Three in the Shaffer family! (l to r): Braden (College),
Regan (High School), Cameron (College)

Michael Breznau
(Seminary, ThM)



Jason Pedigo
(College)

Samuel Ekwue
(Seminary, PhD)



Getting to Know You: Saralynn Spears

Tommie Loveless

Among the loveliest blessings, when we gather to worship at Redeemer, are the beautiful hymns and music we sing and hear! And one of the most talented saints, who contributes greatly with her gift of song, is **Saralynn Spears**. Saralynn and her two brothers were born and raised in East Dallas, where her mom and dad still live today. She commented: "I grew up in Christian schools, and the Homeschooling community. I started taking dual credit classes, at Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD), when I was in the 11th grade." Saralynn will earn an associate degree from DCCCD after completing a couple of additional classes. She explained, "I had to drop classes when both of my grandmothers passed away within three months of each other. I was very close to my grandmother Anne, who lived here in Dallas, and she died unexpectedly." She stated that she is saving her money, before completing these classes, in order to finish her schooling without incurring any debt. She also desires to learn Hebrew and Greek, and is considering attending Criswell Bible College to realize this goal. Saralynn is presently growing a housekeeping business, works with childcare at a Dallas Community church, helps clean Redeemer on weekends, and baby sits! Along with obtaining further education, Saralynn wants to pursue her love for photography. She relayed, "I would like to have my own business within a couple of years, or at least have an internship with an established professional." Continuing to share her



hopes and dreams, she stated, "If the Lord leads, perhaps I could use my photography on the mission field, as a humanitarian photographer."

Finally, she told how someday, she hopes to be a wife and mother, saying, "I do love homemaking, and I want to learn to sew, make my own clothes, and quilt. I am waiting on the Lord to guide me in that area, as well as with other talents and interests He has given me." When asked if she is planning on a professional singing career, she stated, "I have considered it, and it may be a road which the Lord leads me down, but right now, it is not my career choice."

Saralynn accepted Christ at age six, and has a passion for learning Biblical truths, and a thirst for understanding God's Word. "However," she admitted, "I've always had an inquisitive personality, and as a teenager, my independent thoughts turned more to an attitude of mild rebelliousness! But God convicted my heart, and spared me of many consequences – God has dealt with me very graciously!" Saralynn is thankful for her loving Christian parents, and for many godly influences, from which she has gleaned wisdom. She then concluded, "I have been humbled, and now I am looking upon life from a more appropriate vantage point – *my life is not my own, it is for His glory!*" Saralynn, you certainly do bring glory to God with your desire to know, please, and serve Him. **And thank you for blessing everyone with your beautifully angelic voice. Your Redeemer family is very proud of you!**

Photos From our Recent Workday and Auction



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

May Baptisms



On May 8, we witnessed the baptism of Hunter Matthews and Thomas Barbre.

Summer Reading Club

The Redeemer library's summer reading club is almost here! This year's theme is Stepping Stones and is based on Ephesians 5:15, *"Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise."*

The dates for the reading club are June 5 through July 24. This reading club is open to all ages from the read-to-Me's up through adults. As in the past there will be prizes. Additional information is available in the library. Be sure and drop by for all the details.

Summer Concert Series Continues at Redeemer

Last month, we welcomed bluegrass and gospel group, The Downing Family. This month we have two excellent and enriching concert events. First, come hear our own **Ina McCormack** as she presents an hour-long harp concert

Youth Summer Plans



Junior and Senior High students, **summer is upon us!** Not only do the summer months promise scorching temperatures and saturating rainstorms, but they also signal the beginning of an exciting season of connecting with God and with other students. We have some **really** fun things planned — you won't want to miss them! Keep your eye out for Student ministry-specific flyers in the Sunday bulletins and be sure to check "Redeemer Bible Church Youth Group" on Facebook for all the information on what we are doing together!

I am looking forward to a great summer with you as we play and have fun together, and as we learn more about ourselves, our God and our identity in Christ! Is there anything better than summer? I don't think so! Let's do it!

followed by a reception **on Saturday, June 4 at 2:00 PM.** Ina is preparing for a summer engagement with Interlochen Center for the Arts as a recipient of the Emerson Scholarship. In addition to her regular participation at RBC, Ina has been asked to be the Principal Harpist for the 2011-2012 Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra. This will be Ina's third year with the GDYO.

Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, June 15 at 7:00 PM.** We'll welcome back to Redeemer **Sam Rotman**, concert pianist and follower of Jesus. Mr. Rotman received his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Juilliard School in New York City. While a student, he was the recipient of nine awards in the form of grants, scholarships, and prizes. Subsequently, he has been among the winners in five piano competitions, both in the United States and Europe. More impressive, he has a dynamic testimony of faith in Christ to share with us.

For more information please visit the following Web page:
<http://www.redeemerbiblechurch.org/ministries/worshipmusic/2011-summer-concert-series/>

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

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

B I B L E C H U R C H

 Redeemer