

July 2009

Linking us with the ministries of our church

Evening Service and Ice Cream Social on Sunday, July 5 at 6 PM

Come Sunday night to our annual patriotic service at 6:00 PM, followed by an ice cream social in the Fellowship Hall. Familiar, upbeat music, songs and readings highlight our evening service. You will be blessed by the special music including a trio, solo, and choir. This year's celebration will also include a color guard from our Cub Scouts as well as a video reminding us of the blessing of living in our country. Bring your family for celebration and ice cream. You will be glad you came.

Summer Items for Prayer

VBS, July 13-17

Pray that our children and those from our surrounding neighborhoods will discover the vastness of God's love as they sing, play, create and explore God's word.

Throughout July

Let's be in prayer for Doug Hornok, our Senior Pastor Candidate during the candidating process this month.

Scout Camp, July 19-25

Pray for safety for our boys and their adult leaders.

HUNGARY, July 17-August 2

Two teams from Redeemer will travel to Hungary to work with Laci and Szandra Kadar at the Word of Life Camp. Pray for their effectiveness and safety as they teach English and coach baseball. Pray that many European youth will accept Jesus this summer. Those going include: Rick Wade, Janet Ramler, Debbie, Lauren, and Kristen Raikes, Charlie Reibenstein, Chris Newcomer, Saralynn Spears, and Heidi Regier.

Vacation Bible School 2009

All aboard for the *Land Down Under*, where the Boomerang Express takes a train ride across kangaroo country! As kids wind their way through Australia, they'll discover the vastness of God's love, and they'll learn that no matter where they go or what they do in life, it all comes back to Jesus. Kidaroos will glimpse the amazing scenery and unique country of Australia. As outback guides track with them each day following Peter's growing relationship with his Savior and Lord, kids will discover the amazing truth that Jesus Christ desires to have a unique and personal relationship with them! Children will learn to

- Follow Him
- Worship Him
- Confess Him
- Serve Him
- Obey Him

From 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM, kidaroos will crisscross Australia from *Worship Rally*

Central to the Bible Study Outback. Along the way they will visit *Missions Harbor*, *Crafts Crossing*, *Recreation Rock*, and the *G'Day Café*! Each of these Australian sites will be filled with adventure, as kids discover how important it is to have a relationship with God's Son through Lifeway's *Boomerang Express: Where it all comes back to Jesus*.

Your kids will love it, so sign up today for your ticket to board this train! Go to www.redeemerbiblechurch.org and register your child as a participant and yourself as a volunteer. We'll see you there July 13-17!



www.redeemerbiblechurch.org

West Dallas Outreach Report

It is a JOY to partner with West Dallas Community Church. For seven years now, Redeemer's youth have given six hours of their day for two weeks to show kids in the West Dallas neighborhood that God loves them. This year, our Lord paved the way for refugee kids from Africa to soak in that love. After our youth ride the bus to pick up the refugees, they join with volunteers from West Dallas and Bent Tree Bible Church to lead the children. Smiles cover kids' faces as they pile off buses to jump in inflatables, play basketball, sing songs, listen to stories about Jesus, and eat dinner. All of this topped off with a snow cone from our snow cone machine, new this year, complete with labels for the snow cones that read "God loves you - John 3:16."

Between 150-200 kids attend each day. After songs, stories, Scripture memory, and a gospel presentation by Aletha Wilson, our youth do follow-up counseling with the kids who want to invite Jesus into their hearts. Around 50 kids have received Jesus as their Savior after 1½ weeks. We are on the front lines of this exciting ministry, and we look forward to see how God moves in years ahead!



Web Extra: view more pictures at www.redeemerbiblechurch.org/link0709.html

In a Word

We're Blessed With Great Young People (And Leaders)!

Don Geiger, Senior Pastor

One of the many delights of our decade-long ministry at Redeemer has been the joy of watching Redeemer children and grandchildren grow and mature into young adulthood. How encouraging to see them discover their God-given gifts, talents, bents, then develop, enjoy, and use them for the glory of God and the benefit of others. We congratulate the young men and women shown below for their recent significant achievements. What's even better, these are representative of a host of their peers who are also making the most of their opportunities and are not only enjoying life, but also serving others in a myriad of ways. Some, such as the team of teens who helped in our West Dallas Outreach, are pictured in this LINK's **Web Extra** (go to www.redeemerbiblechurch.org/link0709.html). Others will be involved in our own VBS later this month.

There are many unsung heroes in this upbeat story of the children and youth of Redeemer. Our hat's off to you conscientious, godly parents, who lovingly and persistently *train your children in the way they should go*. And close behind, we gratefully acknowledge the all-important part so many more of you

have had and are having as you work with our children and youth: nursery workers, Sunday school teachers and helpers, youth leaders, behind-the-scenes support people who maintain sound systems, camping equipment, and so much more, and serve in countless other unknown-to-most-of-us ways, including the all-important ministries of prayer and faithful giving to the general fund! In short, every active member of the Redeemer family plays a vital role in ministry to our young. We owe a special debt of gratitude to our pastoral staff — **Blake, Kristen, Tony, and Josh**, all of whom go beyond the call of duty as they sacrificially invest in our young people. In fact, as I am writing this, Blake and Tony are skiing and swimming in the clear, clean water of Dale Hollow Lake with our teen boys on Geiger Island. Talk about sacrifice!

It may sound clichéd, but it is profoundly true: our children and young people are the future of the church. Not only our church, but Christ's church worldwide. Yesterday's Geiger Islanding Boy Scouts are today's Scout leaders, Sunday school teachers, and worship leaders. Just last Sunday, the Raikes brothers — **Stephen and Jonathan** — read the morning text with meaning and depth.

So kids, enjoy your childhood and youth. Be grateful for the above-average opportunities and blessings that are yours, and make the most of them. Go for it! Parents and all the rest of us, keep up the good work. Look for opportunities to nurture our youth, and encourage others to join you.

In a word, *we're blessed with great young people (and leaders)!*

Kudos

Ian, Hillary, and Susanna Bridgman (below) recently participated in a production of "Beauty and the Beast." Ian also performed, along with **Stephen Raikes**, in "West Side Story" (bottom left).



On June 9, **Braden Shaffer** and **Chad Geiger** were both recognized at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.



Ina McCormack has been named harpist for the 2009-2010 season of the Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra, taking the place of **Victoria Oakes**, who has just graduated from high school. She will also perform with the Wind Symphony when they need a harpist.



Getting to Know You: Robert and Connie Sherrill

Tommie Loveless

In 2003 on a stormy winter day, **Robert and Connie** ran into each other at a grocery store where neither one of them normally shopped! Connie shared: "My mom had recently passed away. I was lonely and had begun to realize how much I needed Christ in my daily walk. Robert and I had not seen each other in fifteen years when we met in the store that day. We both felt God's hand was in our meeting. We married one year later." Robert added: "Connie is a wonderful wife and mother, and a great inspiration to me."

"With our beautiful two-year-old daughter, **Sadie**, and three rescue dogs, our house is always full of love and activity." Connie related that she was the youngest of six children, which included a sibling who died at birth, and her oldest brother, Benny, who had

Down syndrome. Connie continued, "Throughout Benny's life, I saw an example of unconditional love. He was always happy, except when the Dallas Cowboys lost! When he was 16, he pretended to be my parents, flashing the porch light on and off, as I returned home from a first date! My mom was going through a difficult time and was rarely home. My dad spent most of the time in bed as a result of a broken back, but Benny was always there for me. Sadly, Benny died five days before Sadie was born."



In 1979, Connie attended a church camp, where she accepted Jesus as her Savior. She shared, "I began reading the Bible regularly, and I believe that my salvation decision and being in God's Word helped prepare me for my dad's suicide, which occurred when I was twelve." Robert remarked, "Connie's level of faith is amazing, even with the stress she experienced."

Robert grew up in Olney, Texas, where he was involved in the youth activities and choir at the First Baptist Church. He accepted Christ when he was eight years old. Robert, an only child, graduated from Midwestern State University with a degree in accounting. He is currently an audit manager for the American Heart Association. Connie was also in the financial industry for 20 years but is now a stay-at-home mom, and enjoys volunteering in the Redeemer nursery and at the White Rock Center of Hope. She is also secretary of the Lochwood Parents Association. Robert loves to fly fish and makes his own rods out of bamboo. He explained, "These rods are like the ones they used 70 years ago, and

it requires about 50 hours to make each one." He enjoys God's beautiful surroundings when fishing, and he agreed with a friend who said, "God doesn't put trout in ugly places!"

The Sherrills, wanting a smaller church closer to their home, came to Redeemer. They agree that the teaching and encouragement to memorize scripture has produced spiritual growth. Connie added, "The church body is filled with people who show Christ's love!" Thanks, Sherrills for becoming significant members of the Redeemer family.

Images From Our Tenth Anniversary Celebration



Picnic on the grounds with musical entertainment and bounce house



Sneak getaway for Don and Alice in George Carson's 1951 Ford Custom Convertible



Special music, and reviews by the pastoral staff



Reenactment of founding members' first meetings

The Importance of Camping

Every Christian camper knows that God's greatness is on full display in His magnificent outdoors. For a young person, camping teaches self-reliance, the necessity of hard work, the need to rise above difficult circumstances and obstacles, how to live simply, and the thrill of mastering new skills like cooking on an open



fire, pitching a tent, or learning to use the *J stroke* to propel and guide a canoe. The brilliant creativity of God's natural handiwork is best absorbed when one is away from electronics and busyness, where the stars, trees, water, rocks, and wildlife sing their chorus of praise to our awesome God. Remember to be grateful for God's amazing message of beauty and power in His creation.



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

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

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