

July 2010

Linking us with the ministries of our church

Patriotic Service and Ice Cream Social July 4, 6pm

Our annual Patriotic Celebration this year will include readings, music, and even a short video highlighting those who have served and serve our country in the military. Also included in the evening celebration will be a short program our Redeemer Choir has prepared singing selections from Robert Ray's *Gospel Mass*. This work features authentic jazz and gospel music and is performed each year by choirs and ensembles throughout the world. Following the program we'll once again enjoy a delicious and refreshing ice cream social in the fellowship hall. The evening will conclude in plenty of time for you to see the local fireworks displays throughout the city of Dallas.

August 1: Promotion Sunday

Sunday, August 1 begins a new adventure for our children and youth. On this day they will be promoted to their new Sunday school classroom. The new classes will give you a chance to meet your new teachers and new friends. We look forward to seeing you there!

Evening of Straight Talk

Christians know that the Bible has the answers to all the important questions of life. But some questions are frankly tougher than others. As such, direct answers are harder to find! What's more, some questions are so tough that many leaders and preachers steer clear of them. To complicate the matter, some issues are best discussed separately among men or among women. Add to that the matter of being mature enough to talk about an issue, make some topics seemingly "too hot to handle." And yet, if ever there was a time when men need to hear some "straight talk" on the issue of purity, it is now. On Wednesday, July 7 at 7:00 PM, Henry Rogers will do just that. Henry J. Rogers is the Corporate Chaplain



for Interstate Batteries in Dallas, Texas. He is the author or co-author of four books including, *The Silent War: Ministering to Those Trapped in the Deception of Pornography*.

Henry has been on TV and radio discussing the pornography problem in America with Beverly LaHaye, Kay Arthur, Dr. Richard Land, Kerby Anderson and many others. He and his wife Kathy live in Garland, Texas and have four adult children and two grandchildren. A dinner of grilled hamburgers will be served at 5:30-6:15 PM (\$3) with the program beginning at 7:00 PM. Because of the nature of the topic, this program is for men only, ages 15 or older.

Adventure Club (VBS)

If you like playing in water on a hot summer day... meeting new friends... listening to amazing Bible stories... then this is the club for you! During *Adventure Club* we will have fun water games and tell incredible Bible stories to children from the CEF illustrated book, *One Way*. We'll journey across the ocean as Word of Life graduate Cody will share interactively each day about being a missionary. Every day the children will hide God's Word in their hearts, learn new songs to sing, and work on an art project to take home.

Adventure Club will take place in a Redeemer host home, Thursday, July 22, through Saturday, July 24 from 9:30 AM -

11:30 AM. The final day will take place Sunday morning, July 25, 9:15 - 11:45 at RBC. Afterwards, the children and their families are invited to a celebration party to enjoy hot pizza, Blue Bell ice cream sundaes, a picture slide show, and a performance by the children.

Children age four (as of August) through fourth grade (completed) are invited to join us! Signups will begin in July. All children who invite a friend to come to Adventure Club with them will receive a prize. A grand prize will go towards the child who brings the most friends!

Thank you to the many who have volunteered already! We hope to see even more!



From the Pastor's Pen

Funerals — Are They Important?

Doug Hornok, Senior Pastor

In my years in Pastoral ministry I've visited the hospital and homes of those who are dying. Later, I've stood at the caskets and graveside with family and friends as they grieve the loss of a loved one. I've looked at the pictures that reflected happier moments and listened as precious memories were related of the one who's now in the presence of the Lord. Time will ease the pain and grief the family now feels, but the void created by the loss of loved ones can never again be filled.

This raises a few questions: Are funerals important? Are they really necessary? If the person is with the Lord are we not simply going through a ritual that serves no purpose other than the conventional and commercial?

To the question of the importance of funerals, I give a resounding YES! The scriptures are full of examples of God's people gathering together to express their grief and good-byes to those whom God had called to Himself.

When Jacob died, there was the final scene in which he blessed each of his sons, then drew up his feet into the bed, breathed his last, and was "gathered to his people." Then Joseph threw himself on his father's body, wept over him, kissed him and commanded that he be embalmed. From there the Egyptians went through the customary seventy days of mourning. Finally, Joseph carried the body to Canaan, accompanied by a huge retinue of servants, elders, relatives, friends, chariots, and horsemen, where even more days were spent in "a very great and sorrowful lamentation."

When Moses died, God buried him, but the people of Israel wept for him thirty days. Stephen was the first martyr, stoned to death, and it says, "*devout men buried Stephen and made great lamentation over him.*" It was right and proper that a man killed for his Christian witness should be buried by those who shared his faith — devout men. It was right and proper that they should grieve greatly, that they should grieve together, and that they should grieve "over him," which I take to mean literally over the grave.

Funerals are important in that they give the living a chance to say good-bye to the body you loved and in your heart and mind resign them to the grave to await the resurrection. Additionally, they give both family and friends a chance to be reminded that to be absent from these bodies is to be present with the Lord. Finally, they give loved ones a chance to express their grief together. Funerals mean nothing to the dead, but they are crucially important for the living. Don't make light of that.

At a funeral, we as Christians are reminded both in word and song that we do not "*grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again; and so it will be for those who died as Christians; God will bring them to life with Jesus, and we who are left alive shall join them, caught up in clouds to meet the Lord in the air*" (1 Thess. 4:13-14 NEB).

Funerals need to be celebrations in the presence of the mortal remains, visible signs of those glorious invisible realities which we believe with all our hearts.

I appeal to each of you who might be "getting on in years" to write out your wishes as to your funeral. Choose the hymns to be sung, the scripture to be read, participants and program. Realize that people need this time to help them ease their grief and hurt.

Redeemer Missions Supports Training Nationals

Redeemer is committed to fulfilling the Great Commission of making disciples of all nations. An effective ways to accomplish this is to train national leaders who can serve as pastors, teachers and evangelists. Redeemer is privileged to partner with four institutions that helps train such leaders.

● **Asian Christian Academy** provides post-graduate theological training and Christian education in the Indian context. The ministry programs seek to prepare men for a ministry of Bible exposition as pastors, teachers and leaders.

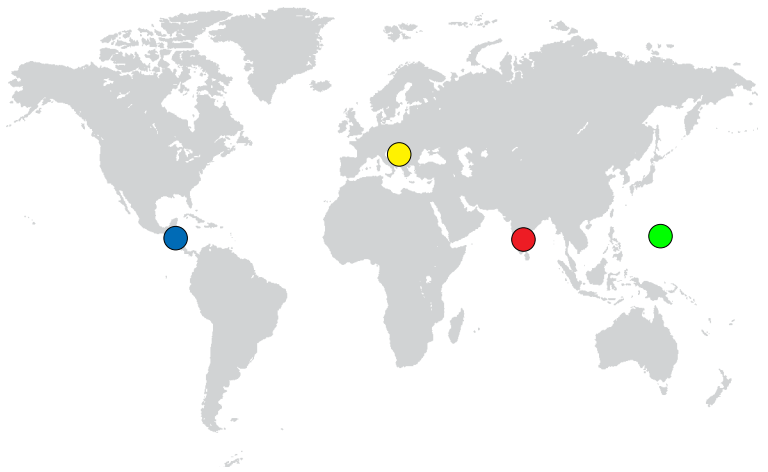
● **Pacific Island University** provides accessible, transformational and quality Christian higher education that prepares men and women to serve Jesus Christ throughout Guam, Micronesia and the Pacific Region.

● **Word of Life Bible Institute in Hungary** helps men and women develop the strong biblical foundation necessary to be godly servant leaders in the Christian community throughout Europe.

● **Central American Theological Seminary (SETECA) in Guatemala** offers a biblically solid and spiritually dynamic theological education to Spanish-speaking men and women who are preparing for a lifetime of ministry. Graduates come from more than 20 countries and serve in almost 30 countries around the world

We thank God for the work of these schools. On the weekend of July 11th a group of students from Pacific Island University

will be visiting Redeemer where you will have an opportunity to hear more about their ministry. If you would like to house some students for that weekend please contact the church office.



Pray for Summer Missions

Please be praying for our Summer Missions trips to Guatemala (6/26-7/3) and Hungary (7/30-8/15). Updates will be available at our Web site.

Getting to Know You: Scott and Cindy Elder

Tommie Loveless

“Faith, Family, and Fitness”...have permeated the lives of Scott and Cindy Elder!

Scott was born in Miami, Florida. His mother is the Senior Vice President of Wachovia, and his father, a former Vietnam fighter pilot, became the Airport Director of Miami International. **Cindy Elder** was born in Sherman, TX, to Peggy and Ronald Neal; her dad was one of thirteen children! Cindy shared, “My mom and dad were high school sweethearts, and were married for thirty-seven years. My dad passed away fifteen years ago.”

Cindy went to K-12 grades in Bells, TX. She remembered: “There were only 32 students in the whole school, and my mother was the only substitute teacher! But I loved it, and during my senior year, I also attended Grayson County Jr. College. After graduation I pursued a degree in Physical & Recreational Therapy, at Texas Woman’s University.”

Scott graduated from high school in New Orleans, Louisiana, and attended Oklahoma State University, on a full football scholarship. In 2002, he was selected as a free agent punter, by the Green Bay Packers. Scott shared, “I was introduced to Christ by my ‘deep snapper,’ at the University, and his dad lead the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Their faith and actions showed me Christ. However, I believe I hit my limit of spiritual growth, and had even started regressing, before I met Cindy.”

While taking several classes at Denton Bible Church, Cindy realized the true Grace God has to offer.” Scott met Cindy after moving to Dallas. Both were trainers at Park Cities Personal Training, where Cindy introduced Scott to a therapy focusing on Neuromuscular Re-Education, (NRE). Cindy shared, “Our dating centered around caring for my mom, who was slightly disabled, after a 2004 car accident. We married in April of 2005, and in 2006 we started our own

rehabilitation company, Elite Alignment. In 2008, we also started an NRE Software Company.”

Cindy was an experiential therapist, and a recreational therapist at the Reba McEntire Center, and Baylor and Medical City hospitals. Later, she worked with East West Ministry and Medical Missions, traveling to India, China, and Nepal, before embarking on her current mission, as a stay at home mom.

The Elders have two sons, Joshua, born 2/29/06, and Jacob, born 7/16/08. Scott related, “Josh loves fishing. He recently caught a 3 foot grey-reef shark, at the beach! He also loves music, and has taken violin lessons for two years. Jake likes anything physical, football, baseball, and both love animals.”

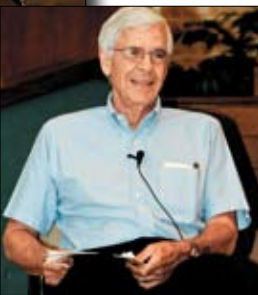
Cindy continued, “Our goal is to raise our children to know and love God, and we want to start a Christian hunt, adventure camp, specializing in special needs.” Scott stated, “I believe marriage and parenthood is the greatest challenge and growing experience anyone can have. When you look into the eyes of a child, realizing his love, you see the true face and heart of God.” The

Elders enjoy involvement in children’s ministries, and helping with Redeemer

projects. **Thanks, Elders.... Your faith, your love for family, and your pursuit of fitness, greatly encourage us.**



Scenes from the Gomillions’ Farewell on June 6



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

Kudos: Kevin Ramler



Kevin Ramler, a recent graduate of Sul Ross State University, received the Sul Ross Fine Arts and Communication Outstanding Art student award. In his most recent exhibition on ceramics at Sul Ross Kevin comments, "In my work I

attempt to bridge the gap between the traditional and contemporary. I am inspired by traditional forms and primitive firing techniques, but I attempt to translate these ancient forms and surfaces into an original and modern aesthetic." This fall Kevin will begin pursuit of a masters degree in Fine arts at Texas A&M in Corpus Christi. We are proud of you Kevin!



Welcome New Member!



Josh Reed



Camp Eagle

For the first time EVER, our youth group is going to Camp Eagle (www.camp-eagle.org) from August 1 through August 4.

Camp Eagle is a place for both fun and deep spiritual growth and renewal. Camp Eagle is known for their zip line, natural rock climbing, rappelling site, group initiatives and games, and so much more. A windmill set on the highest peak of the Camp Eagle property symbolizes the exhilaration of the outdoors, which is a big part of life at camp.

Camp Eagle is open to all Jr. High and High



School aged youth, and will be \$300/student. There are also opportunities to pay for all or a portion of camp through fund raisers that are done with the youth group. If you are interested in joining the youth as a leader, please call **Josh Reed** at the church. You can also check out Camp Eagle videos featuring past staff such as Josh Reed, **Kristen Raikes**, and others from our church family on the youth page of our church Web site.

We hope you can join us!

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

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

