

August/September 2009

Linking us with the ministries of our church

Fall Calendar

September

Sun, 20 **Super Sunday Salad Supper** (5:30 – 7:00 PM)

Sat, 26 *Men's Breakfast.* Guest speaker: Ken Hornok, brother of Senior Pastor, Douglas Hornok (8:00 – 9:30 AM)

Sun, 27 Installation Service for Senior Pastor, Douglas Hornok (10:30 – 11:30 AM)

October

Sat, 10 Volunteer Appreciation (Flagpole Hill, 4:30 – 7:30 PM)

Sun, 11 **Seasoned Saints Luncheon** (12:00 – 2:00 PM)

Thur, 15 **Seasoned Saints Game Day** (12:00 – 4:00 PM)

Fri, 23 - Sun, 25 *Men's Retreat* (Lake Bridgeport)

Sat, 31 Fall Bash at the Raikes Ranch (3:00 - 6:00 PM)

November

Fri, 6 *First Friday* (6:00 – 9:00 PM)

Fri, 20 Thanksgiving Banquet (Dallas First Assembly, 6:30 – 8:00 PM)

December

Sat, 5 **Santa's Day Out** (9:00 AM - 3:00 PM)

Merry Mugs and Muffins (9:30 – 11:30 AM)

Thur, 17 **Seasoned Saints Potluck** and Games (12:00 – 4:00 PM)

Thur, 24 *Christmas Eve Service* (6:00 – 7:00 PM)

Doug Hornok to Build on Redeemer's Strong Foundation

Doug Hornok, who began his tenure as Redeemer's senior pastor on September 1, says he will spend his first months at the church getting to know members and building strong relationships.

"Building relationships is critically important to me," said Doug, who will be formally installed as Redeemer's senior pastor at the morning worship service on September 27. "People want to know that their pastor loves them, that he cares for them and that he will minister to them when they have a need."

He intends to build on Redeemer's strong foundation and values, maintain the congregation's worship style, and strengthen its ministries. He also plans to increase the church's outreach through personal evangelism.

"We want to build on what's here. There are hundreds, if not thousands, of people within easy driving distance who would love to find a church like this," he said. "We just need to get the word out about Redeemer."

Doug and his wife, Connie, have relo-

cated to Dallas from Tulsa, Oklahoma where he served for 12 years as the central regional director for the Christian Medical and Dental Association, a ministry that serves healthcare professionals and students. He previously was a senior pastor at three churches. The Search Committee and the Elder Board both unanimously recommended him to fill the pulpit held for 10 years by founding

pastor **Don Geiger Sr.**, and he was called by the congregation in July with a 92 percent positive vote.

Doug, 56, is a 1979 graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary, where he earned a Master of Theology Degree with an emphasis in Bible exposition. His core values are:

- A personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- Modeling a Christ-centered marriage characterized by absolute purity and fidelity
- Mentoring his children and grandchildren
- Loyalty and conformity to God's Word in its proclamation and as a lifestyle
- Passionately sharing Jesus Christ with as many people as possible
- Building personally into the lives of young believers

"Redeemer is a great church built on a solid foundation, and we're excited that God has called us to serve the wonderful people here," Pastor Hornok said.



2 • THE LINK August/September 2009

From the Pastor's Pen

Doug Hornok, Senior Pastor

In his biography of General Douglas MacArthur, *Rendevous with History*, Major Courtney Whitney recounts an incident that occurred during the Korean War on the night preceding the Inchon landing. General MacArthur planned to encircle the North Korean forces that had driven south to Seoul and cut off their supply lines from the north. If successful, this strategy might not only accelerate a drive toward victory, but more important, save the lives of some 100,000 U.N. troops.

It was a daring scheme. While encircling the enemy force was not a new strategy, it had never before been accomplished by way of the sea. Furthermore, the peculiar tides and unfavorable terrain at Inchon made an amphibious landing of troops very dangerous. Yet that also contributed to MacArthur's decision to proceed; because of these impediments, the North Koreans would be caught unprepared for such a maneuver.

On the night before the landing, Courtney Whitney, who was aboard the flagship, Mount McKinley, with General MacArthur, retired early in anticipation of the action at dawn. He'd been asleep only a short time when he was summoned to MacArthur's cabin. He found the General in bathrobe and slippers pacing the floor. Whitney was told to be seated. MacArthur in a kind of self-debate talked as he walked the cabin, reviewing one by one the arguments against the proposed landing in the morning. MacArthur then countered with the reasons for the surprise assault.

Finally, at about 2:30 AM, he concluded that his decision was a sound one. "Thanks, Court," the General said to Whitney. "Thanks for listening to me. Now let's get some sleep."

Then Courtney Whitney added these words: General MacArthur "threw off his robe, climbed into his bed and reached to the table alongside to pick up his Bible." Why the Bible? Why not Virgil or Shakespeare or Bunyan or Keats or Tennyson or Hemingway?

Can anyone live day by day, year after year, by Virgil? Is there life and power and comfort of temporal or eternal value in *The Divine Comedy*? What poetry or novel, however great, will hold its freshness when read again and again or committed to memory?

The Bible, on the other hand, possesses the power of life. It gives us teaching for conviction, for restoration, and for education in righteousness. It reveals God in His fullness through Jesus Christ. It strengthens; it encourages; it comforts; it challenges. It's a lamp to the feet, a light on our pathway. Day by day, and decade after decade, it can be read over and over again until its words become a part of life itself. It never grows old or out of date.

As I begin my ministry with you, I want you to know that I am committed to the Bible. Redeemer is a *Bible* Church. And it will always be such as long as I pastor.

Let me challenge you, if you are not already, to be a disciplined reader of God's Word. Some suggestions might be helpful. **Be methodical** about your Bible reading. **Set aside a certain time** each day to read God's Word. Choose the time that best fits you and when your mind is alert and fresh. When the mind is fresh, you take in spiritual food that will give you strength for living. **Above all, read it, and read it daily.** Cultivating the habit of systematic Bible reading is essential for spiritual growth.

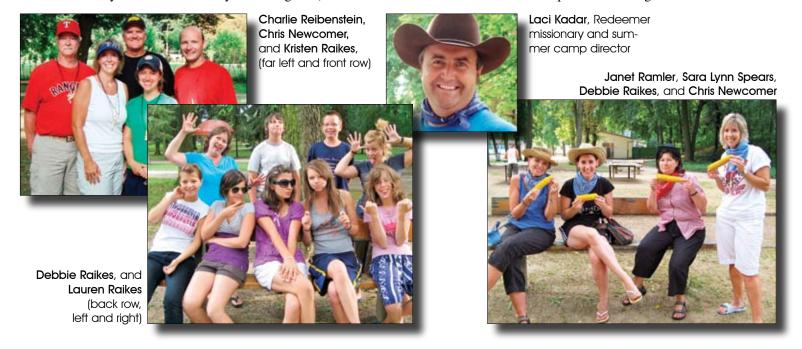
Look What God Did in Hungary!

"Now, more than ever, we are thankful for your dedication to Word of Life Hungary!" Those were the enthusiastic words of Director of Word of Life (WOL), Hungary, Alex Konia, as he reflected on financial pressures placed on Christian camps in Hungary by the global economic downturn.

During this time of testing, God sent nine members of the Redeemer family to WOL to not only teach English (**Rick**

Wade, Janet Ramler, Lauren and Debbie Raikes, Heidi Regier, and Sara Lynn Spears) and baseball (Charlie Reibenstein, Chris Newcomer, and Kristen Raikes), but also to share the good news of Jesus.

During Redeemer's two weeks at WOL hundreds of campers heard and experienced the Gospel. As God moved on their hearts, more than 40 students accepted Jesus' free gift of salvation.



August/September 2009 THE LINK • 3

Getting to Know You: Jerry and Cathleen Shipley

Tommie Loveless

Jerry was born in Garland and grew up with his mom, dad, and three sisters. Although Cathleen was born in Midland, Michigan, she has lived in Dallas for forty years. She has four sisters, two brothers, and a widowed mother. Cathleen shared, "It is good that Mom lives near us, especially several years ago when Jerry was able to save Mom's life!" Cathleen explained, "One evening Mom called because she was having trouble breathing. Jerry rushed over and when Mom did not respond to a knock on her door, he kicked the door down and found her passed out on the floor. He cleared her airways, and called the paramedics. She had collapsed due to congestive heart failure." Jerry and Cathleen feel she is alive today due to God's intervention and Jerry's life-saving skills, which

grew out of his dental training.

Jerry is currently practicing dentistry in north Dallas, and
Cathleen is an office manager for a dermatologist in the Presbyterian Hospital area. The Shipleys have two sons. Andrew (24) has a degree in biology from Southern Methodist University, recently completed emergency medical technician training, and plans to marry next June. Noah (22) attends The University of Dallas and is pursuing a degree in geo-sciences. Cathleen commented, "We are looking forward to seeing our sons raise godly families!"

Reflecting on his faith journey, Jerry shared, "I grew up in a Baptist church, accepting Christ at the age of ten. However, I strayed during my high school years." He continued, "When I was a student at Stephen F. Austin State University, a group of strong Christians drew me back to the faith." After growing up Catholic, Cathleen was led to the Lord in junior high by a classmate who shared that a person can go to heaven by simply believing in Jesus. Cathleen remembered,

hard road to heaven, and few would make it! When I found out how easy it was to know God, I accepted Jesus immediately. I began attending Casa Linda Presbyterian Church, with my father's stipulation that I would also attend the Catholic Church. So for several years I went to both churches every Sunday!" Cathleen continued growing in her faith during college at the University of North Texas and was very active in Intervarsity Christian Fellowship there. The summer before her junior year, Cathleen and some friends took a trip through Europe and even spent six weeks working on a kibbutz in Israel.

"I had always been taught that it was a long,

Jerry and Cathleen met through mutual friends, got married, and attended both Reinhardt and

Firewheel Bible Churches. However, they desired a more traditional style of worship, and God led them to Redeemer. Cathleen commented, "I treasure the memory of being baptized by **Don** and his helping me fulfill this important step of obedience."

Jerry and Cathleen enjoy gardening and remodeling their home. Jerry shared, "I supply the labor, and Cathleen is the designer. She is also in charge of quality control and the cleanup crew!" Cathleen's baking and Jerry's guitar playing are also favorite activities. Cathleen concluded, "We love our Adult Bible Fellowship class, The Seekers, and Jerry enjoys ushering. I have been blessed by helping clean on church work days."

Redeemer is thankful for the Shipleys, who are such great assets to our church family.

French Exchange Students VBS Report

Motivated by God's love for French teenagers, Milton and Patricia Bradley and Renee Bridgman placed 23 French teenagers in Christian homes for 3-week visits this summer. They worked through ORCA, an organization that helps teenage French students learn the English language and culture by living with American families. Patricia said, "It's an opportunity to be a foreign missionary at home." The Bridgman family has now hosted 18-year-old Segolene Rabel twice. Through their deepening friendship with the Bridgmans, Segolene and her family have been able to learn that Christianity is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The Barbres, Newcomers, and Oakeses were among the families who also hosted students, while David and Susan Millet again hosted ORCA chaperone, Serge Wulf. Thank you, hosts!

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

God's love was put on display during Redeemer's VBS week, July 13-17. The children included twenty-seven from outside our church family and twenty-four from within. Fifty Redeemer volunteers provided snacks, made decorations, did office work, taught, sang, built, organized, and more! Thank all of you who helped more than fifty children take a ride on the "Boomerang Express, where everything comes back to Jesus!"



Some Highlights of Summer '09



In July, we dedicated these tympani in honor of Brian Geiger.



Kristen Raikes and Dottie Bridgman enjoyed Redeemer's trip to Hawaiian Falls.

The Barbres say goodbye to their French student, 12 year-old Martin Thumerel (center), who stayed with them July 9-29.



Four Geiger granddaughters delighted the crowd at the Geiger Tribute with their own special versions of numbers from The Sound of Music.

One VBS highlight for the kids was a competition between the boys and girls to raise funds for a clean water project.

VBS volunteer Grant Bridgman found Zara Howard to be quite the little dancer!



demonstrated our love for Don and Alice.

Dallas, Texas • 214-340-3633

721 Easton Road Meeting Location:

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

снивсн Zedeemer