

Communion to Shut-ins

The Lord's Table is a wonderful expression of a believer's worship, love and obedience. Jesus said we are to "Do this in remembrance of me." Because of illness and physical limitations, some within our church family have not been able to experience this soul-refreshing worship. If you are a shut-in or know someone who has been unable to participate in this ordinance, we would be happy to come to your/their home and serve communion. Please call the church office to set up this ministry.

Promotion Sunday, August 1

As children change classes, they make new friends and teachers are refreshed by the challenge of new students. On Sunday, August 1, all children and youth will be dropped off at their new classrooms. There will be a schedule of new classroom assignments posted in the children's hall. Regular participation in Sunday school is not only a great tool for your child to build a relationship with God, but a great place to forge friendships with people who hold the same values. Use that Sunday to start anew!

August Speakers

August 1: Don Geiger

August 8: Josh Bailey

Fall Mid-Week Electives

This Fall our mid-week program will offer two adult electives beginning September 8. **Dr. Roy Zuck** will be teaching a class on many of the recorded prayers in the Bible including the familiar prayers of Moses, Jesus, Paul and others. The study will carefully examine why they prayed, how they prayed, the benefits of their prayers to them and what we can learn from their experiences. We will also look at what hindered their prayers. This important study is one we can all benefit from. Jesus never taught his disciples to preach, but he did teach them how to pray. He did so because he wanted them to have power with God; then He knew they would have power with man.

The second elective will be a primer on medical ethics taught by **Pastor Hornok**.

Each of us faces a mind-numbing array of ethical challenges propelled by the advances in biotechnology. Many of these challenges involve life-and-death issues. Sadly, many Christians find themselves ill-equipped to sort out these issues by applying ethical reasoning and moral principles. For example: Who has the right to end life? With all the advances in technology; does the end justify the means? When should a patient be allowed to die? What standards will guide us? Where do we set the limits?

With all of these issues facing us, we need a map to help us through the maze of technology, morality and life and death decisions.

Each elective will begin at 6:45 PM with a prayer time followed by the teaching at 7:15 – 8:00 PM.

The Ball Brothers in Concert on August 29

Our summer concert series concludes at Redeemer on Sunday, August 29, at 6:00 PM with the Ball Brothers in concert. Throughout the summer series we have

enjoyed musical performances ranging from classical to patriotic to gospel jazz. The final concert features a versatile singing

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From the Pastor's Pen

Credibility

Doug Hornok, Senior Pastor

A few years back, *Better Homes and Gardens* published an in-magazine survey on spirituality. Since most *BH&G* surveys ask questions about potted plants, living room decor, and bathroom fixtures, a questionnaire on spirituality was a notable event in itself.

The intensity of response to the *BH&G* survey was impressive. More than 80,000 readers (out of a circulation of eight million) took the time to clip the survey from the magazine, fill it out, and mail it in. The editors, in commenting on the results, said that "perhaps the most consistently expressed sentiment was one thanking us for printing the survey, for acknowledging the spiritual side of our readers' lives."

Even more notable, however, were the results. Most respondents told the *BH&G* editors that they participated in organized religion. That finding is agreeable with other surveys such as Gallup Polls that consistently show over 65 percent of Americans belong to a church.

Yet many who responded felt that the religious organizations they belonged to fell short in meeting the spiritual needs of members. The good news: 59 percent thought organized religions are sensitive to the needs of today's families. The bad news: 35 percent thought they were not. One respondent's comments typified this group: "We are bothered by religious organizations that fail to recognize the real life needs of members."

As I read that statement, I had to ask myself "Are we truly meeting the needs of people in the church?" "Are we sensitive to their hurts, desires, what is lacking in their lives?" I believe we are — but as with anything — we can do better. It does require people taking advantages of the ministry opportuni-

ties that RBC offers — ABF's, Morning Worship, Women's Ministries, Men's Breakfasts, Small Groups, etc. Additionally, we have to live out what we believe.

Let me offer some practical suggestion that might help. **First, make God visible by the way you talk.** When you talk to people, do you let them know that God has added perspective to your disappointments, failures and set-backs? Do others know, by your talk, that God is at work in your successes and triumphs? Are you reluctant to talk about the difference God makes in your life?

Second, make God visible by the way you walk. Make the Christian lifestyle evident to all. This is not as difficult as it seems. Today you and I march to the beat of a different drummer. For example, the anti-Christians' sexual revolution has failed. AIDS, divorce and venereal disease have nailed tight the coffin lid on the lie that promiscuity is a victimless pleasure. It doesn't produce happiness; it produces sorrow and death. Following God's design is the only way to insure enjoyment.

Additionally, materialism as well does not produce happiness. Depression and despair are at all-time highs. In this atmosphere, you can change people's minds just by your determination to be happy with less, by grabbing a little less of this world's goods and having a little more joy. As you live your life, are you presenting Christianity as liberating and a life-style which brings joy or one which brings slavery and sorrow?

Finally, make Christian love practical. Secular historians from the first century write of their amazement over the Christians' love for one another. They even buried the dead bodies of non-Christians who otherwise would be left unattended. They were known for practical love.

Honestly now, are we making the same impression on people in our community? If the *Better Homes and Gardens* survey is right, we have what people want and need: reassurance that God can help us get through the challenges we face. Let's make certain others know of our unique lifestyle.

Children's Church and Oasis Renovations

Improvements in Children's Church Room

A team of 14 people labored and toiled on the children's church room for over 30 hours transforming a plain classroom into a medieval castle. One purpose of painting this room is to encourage children to attend church, by letting them learn about Jesus in a fun environment.

Thank you to all of our laborers! **Jennifer Smith, Bill Keene, Dave Higgins, Ashley Long, Raikes, Matthews, Rodgers, Reigers,** and more. Why not come by and see the transformation!

Oasis Renovation!

On Saturday, August 14 the young people of RBC will come together in hopes of renovating the Oasis — our youth

building. Our goal is to restore and maintain cleanliness and a place of worship, and to promote our biblical group image.

For this to happen we need your support! We are hoping for new paint, improved lighting, landscaping, redecorating, small stage construction, sound booth construction, a new podium built, and wall repair. We need ideas, creativity, supplies, and help with labor. Supply needs include primer and paint, paint

brushes, rollers, paint tape, drop sheets, buckets and rags, sheetrock patching supplies, sound booth and stage construction materials such as plywood, 2x4's, carpet, nails, screws, wood glue, and tools. If you have any ideas that you think will be helpful, or if you would like to donate any personal time, effort, or materials toward this effort, please call **Josh Reed** at the church office.



Getting to Know You: Ruth Lipscomb

Tommie Loveless

Ruth Lipscomb is a communicator! At church, in her work place, and even in emails, she boldly expresses her beliefs and delights in being “salt and light,” making every effort to obey God’s command found in Matthew 5:14-16!

Ruth was born in Mt. Vernon, Ohio, has three brothers, and lived in numerous states and Germany due to her dad being an Army career man. She attended Ohio State University, Northern Virginia Community College, and Georgia State University before moving to Texas from Atlanta, Georgia in 1978. Growing up in a military family and attending many different schools, it is no wonder that she never meets a stranger, and has successfully survived being a single parent, for twenty-five years. She raised three sons, Matthew, Michael, and Ward. Ruth remembered, “We enjoyed camping (until the boys discovered girls), and also baseball, soccer, and basketball.” She continued, “Now, I am blessed with three grandchildren, and also enjoy gardening, visiting friends, reading, and my home.” Ruth is currently working for a large law firm in Dallas as a legal secretary, which has been her profession for thirty years.

Ruth did not grow up in a Christian home. She shared, “I decided at nineteen that good people went to church and were baptized; so I chose a church and was baptized, not knowing a thing about Jesus Christ and God. But when my marriage fell apart, I began fervently searching for God, as I needed His



love, forgiveness and provision in a new and desperate way!” Ruth and her sons were led to Reinhardt Bible Church through a series of events, and it was there that she began to grow in strength and faith. Ruth shared, “During this difficult time, I learned, in Dr. Zuck’s class, to study scripture and pray. He told me, “God did not bring you this far to drop you.” I will never forget that encouraging truth!” Ruth also shared how other great men of faith, praying friends, the generosity and help of many who provided scholarships for camps, and helped during emergencies, clearly showed the love of Christ. She admits that her habit of early morning devotions began at Geiger Island, when she agreed to go and cook for the Youth Camp!

Ruth continued, “I learned that God is faithful to all generations, and as scriptures say, He is a father to the fatherless, and a husband to the

widows. If anyone wants to know if prayer works, if a life surrendered to God is blessed, and if God can be a best friend, all they need to do is look at what God has done in my challenging life.” Ruth, a charter member of Redeemer, enjoys helping with the children’s ministries, The Seekers Adult Bible Fellowship, and faithfully participates in the Sunday morning Prayer Group. Finally Ruth expressed her appreciation for Pastor Hornok’s solid teaching, and for the ongoing, loving and worshipful fellowship. Thanks Ruth for sharing and showing us God’s sustaining love. **We love you!**

Hawaiian Falls Family Day!

Come one, come all to Hawaiian Falls Family Day, Wednesday, August 11. Hawaiian Falls features a wave pool, water slides, a lazy river, fellowship, and relaxation. There is something for all ages. This year Redeemer reserved a pavilion so everyone can sit together. The park hours are 10:30 AM - 6:00 PM. Come when you are

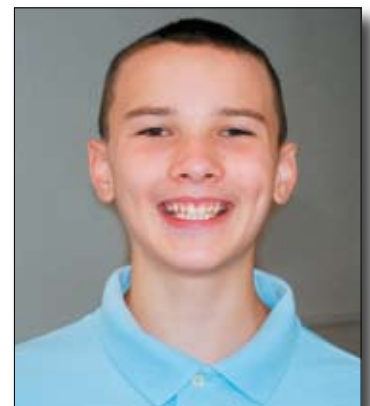
able and leave when you must! Tickets are \$10, 2 years and under are free. You must reserve and pay for your ticket with Redeemer to receive our special group rate price. Tickets will be available for purchase in the church lobby, Sunday August 1 and 8 or by calling the church. Check out Hawaiian Falls at: www.hfalls.com.



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

Kudos: Lane Cordy

Lane Cordy, one of Redeemer’s youth, was recognized by the United States Achievement Academy as a student of excellence in Mathematics. According to the Academy “this is a prestigious honor very few students can hope to attain. In fact, the Academy recognizes fewer than 10% of all American high school students.” We are proud of you Lane!



Welcome, New Member!



Dan Hibbs

July 18 Baptism

On July 18, we witnessed the baptism of **Johnny Burton, Sam Gray, and Tracy Gray.**



Ball Brothers in Concert

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group which has its roots in southern gospel. This group of brothers are young, exciting and love to have a good time doing what God has called them to do. This bond they enjoy is an integral part of their unique musical blend. Their youthful energy is apparent to all who meet them and audiences of all ages enjoy their exciting live performances. The Ball Brothers showcase a creative confidence and a rare, intuitive grasp of harmony. When they began singing with their family, these young brothers entered into a strong tradition of family harmony groups in gospel music. Now touring across the country full-time, they have made guest appearances with Ernie Haase and Signature Sound and on the extremely popular Gaither Homecoming Video Series. You will surely want to invite your friends and family to this uplifting and fun concert.

Voices of Micronesia

On July 11, we enjoyed a performance by students from Pacific Island University as they wrapped up their Voices of Micronesia USA Tour. Learn more about this ministry that Redeemer supports by visiting the "Missions" page of our Web site: www.redeemerbiblechurch.org.



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