

August 2012

Linking us with the ministries of our church

Surf & Swim Set for August 9

Join us Thursday, Aug. 9, for a day of fun at Surf and Swim in Garland. The park is open from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets are \$7 per adult and \$5 per child. Redeemer will pay for the children. Children 2 and under get in free. Contact Heidi Regier, director of Children's Ministries, to sign-up and to get the details. Visit www.surfandswim.org for more information about the park.

Pioneer Clubs Program to Meet Wednesday Evenings

Wednesday evening programs for children will offer weekly Bible study, meaningful Scripture memory and plenty of fun activities. The Pioneer Clubs Discovery program will be held for boys and girls 4 years old through first grade. Pioneer Girls will be held for girls in second through fifth grade. Both groups will meet from 6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Redeemer beginning on Sept. 12. The registration fee is \$20 per child, and a family rate is available. Contact Heidi Regier, director of Children's Ministries, for more information or to register your child.

August 26 is Promotion Sunday

Children and young people will be promoted to their next class or grade level on Sunday, Aug. 26.

Two Teams Reach Hungarian Young People for Christ

Redeemer sent two teams this year to work at the Word of Life camp in Hungary. The camp, which is located about an hour's drive from Budapest, uses sports and language instruction to reach Hungarian young people with the love and good news of Jesus Christ. More than 1,000 children registered for camp this summer. Many responded to the gospel.

The first team, which left Dallas on July 22 and spent two weeks at the camp, was comprised of **John and Barbara Arms**,

Janet Ramler and Michael Wade. The second team left a week later and included **Homer and Anita Corley, Tom and Chris**

Two Teams Reach Hungarian... continued on page 4



VBS Report

Vacation Bible School was a resounding success this year. About 50 children filled the Fellowship Hall and children's wing at the church as they played games, sang, ate snacks, made fun crafts and heard about Jesus. Two children accepted Christ as their savior.

"We had a great turnout!" said **Heidi Regier**, director of Children's Ministries. "Redeemer is blessed with many caring

individuals who helped VBS run smoothly. If you volunteered to spend time with the kids, donated craft supplies or contributed funds for VBS — **Thank You!**"



Sowing Gospel Seeds with Teaching and Cookies

Youssef Sleiman, Guest Contributor

The inmates at Henry Wade Juvenile Detention Center have nicknamed their Monday volunteer ministry “the cookie church.”

Boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 17 — awaiting sentencing or in drug rehab — choose to attend the Children’s Home Bible Clubs ministry from 6:30–8 p.m. on Monday nights. The ministry is led by Redeemer member **David Wisley** and also includes volunteers **Bonnie Reese, Bill Keene, Debra Wayne, Edward Matthews, Paul Chacko** and **Gregg Potter**. Together, they lead 24 inmates in singing Gospel songs, teach a Bible lesson, work on Scripture memorization and share cookies. Sometimes, the inmates ask for prayer or write out prayer requests that go out to believers and churches.

Baked by anonymous donors at Redeemer, the cookies may have given the team their nickname — but they’re also a reminder of how the Lord has provided for this ministry. The Children’s Home Bible Clubs, started by Kate Oliver Millet more than 70 years ago, has evolved over the years from a Vacation Bible School program to a traveling Bible class to the jail ministry it is today.



David and his mother, **Mary Cathryn Wisley**, both serve as directors of CHBC, teaching from flannel graph and coordinating trips to the detention center. While flannel graph may be a common thing to Sunday school graduates, it’s a novelty for many inmates. For some, David said, it’s “so old it’s new.” The ministry brings the inmates something they would not have gotten otherwise, whether it’s cookies, prayer time — or the Gospel.

David, an engineering firm’s production manager, describes himself as the unlikeliest of teachers. He avoided oral reports in school and went through speech class several times. While the Lord has given him more public-speaking experience than most, the Lord has also given him a far greater gift: leading these youth to the Lord and seeing them grow in Christ. In a few cases, the boys have contacted David after they’ve gone home, and he’s been able to pray with them over the phone or meet them and their families.

“The Lord has led me to this work. My heart is there. It’s seeing people’s lives change and their interest in God’s Word grow,” David said.

Every part of the ministry matters — even the cookies. Sometimes, the anonymous bakers write Bible verses or encouragement on the cookies’ wrappings. David said the inmates cannot believe volunteers would take the time to hand-wrap cookies. It’s a real ministry to them — just as real as the tracts, calendars printed by Millet the Printer and even the requested Bibles.

If you have an interest in ministering at the detention center or baking cookies, email David at david@bibleguys.com.

Missionary Spotlight: Nathan and Emily Ramler

*Nathan Ramler joined Redeemer as a young man with his parents, **Paul and Janet Ramler**, and his two brothers. He and **Emily** met as students at Wheaton College and married in 2009. They have one son, 2-year-old **Josiah**.*

Nathan and Emily moved to Bogota, Colombia in 2011 as missionaries supported through First Love International. Nathan joined the faculty at El Camino Academy, a private Christian school that serves missionary families, Colombian students and international students. They returned to Redeemer on July 8 on their way back to Bogota for another school year.



Q: What are your responsibilities at the school?

A: Nathan — This last year I taught ninth- and tenth-grade Bible classes, world geography and drama. This next year, I’ll teach ninth-, tenth-, eleventh- and twelfth-grade Bible and lead the student discipleship team. We train students to make disciples of other students. I’m also the class adviser for the students who were freshmen last year. I’m the small-group leader for the guys in this class. I’ll work with this same group of students each year until they graduate.

Q: What do you love the most about your first year?

A: Nathan — I really love the focus on discipleship. It’s been a wonderful experience to be with people who have that kind of vision for the ministry. The people of the school are also a blessing.

Emily — I really love the community — going out and getting groceries and going to individual shops where I can build relationships with people. We met one guy named Rico, who sells tamales on the street. I pass him on the street every day. He wants to learn English. I felt that God wanted us to invite him to our house, so he came for dinner. He’s interested in the

Missionary Spotlight continued on page 4

Getting to Know You: Mike and Monte Howard

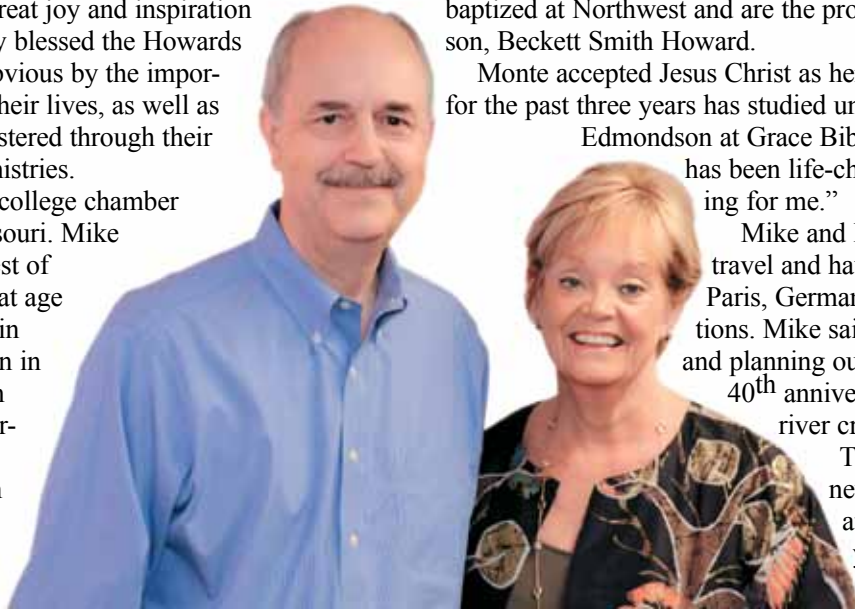
Tommie Loveless

God's gift of music gives great joy and inspiration to many, and He has especially blessed the Howards with this lovely gift. This is obvious by the important part music has played in their lives, as well as to all to whom they have ministered through their singing and various music ministries.

Mike and Monte met in a college chamber choir at the University of Missouri. Mike was born in Missouri, the oldest of three children, and was saved at age 14 at the First Baptist Church in Lee's Summit. Monte was born in Kansas City. Her sister lives in Dallas with her family. Her parents also live here.

Mike and Monte married in 1973, after Mike completed two years in the Army. He became a chiropractor and they moved to Dallas, following Monte's parents. She attended the Conservatory of Music in Kansas City and earned her master's degree in music education at Southern Methodist University. She began her teaching career at Skyline High School and recently retired after nine years of private voice teaching at Scofield Christian School.

"I have directed several church choirs, including West Shore Presbyterian, Ridgewood Park United Methodist and Northwest Bible Church," Monte said. They attended Northwest Bible Church for 22 years, where they were involved in every aspect of the music ministry. Their son, Samuel, and his wife, Jessica, were



baptized at Northwest and are the proud parents of a 2-year-old son, Beckett Smith Howard.

Monte accepted Jesus Christ as her savior at the age of 35, and for the past three years has studied under Bible teacher Sandy Edmondson at Grace Bible Church. Monte said, "It has been life-changing and heart-transforming for me."

Mike and Monte enjoy international travel and have visited Italy, London, Paris, Germany, Austria and other locations. Mike said, "My hobby is researching and planning our trips. Next year, for our 40th anniversary, we are going on a river cruise in the South of France."

The Howards are two of our newest members, but they have attended Redeemer for over a year, after coming to a funeral at the church. Mike said,

"As we left to go home, we talked about what a lovely service it had been." They decided to visit the next Sunday, and have been coming ever since.

"We so enjoy the overwhelmingly friendly spirit and fellowship at Redeemer," Monte said. "Also, we are pleased to see old friends here, such as our past neighbors, the Flemings, the Bridgmans, and others, including Beth Winterbauer, who took care of my mother for a number of years."

Mike and Monte, we are thrilled and thankful that you are worshipping with us, and we look forward to serving and singing with you!

Sandlin-Hall Wedding

Congratulations to Allen and Kim Sandlin, who were married at Redeemer on Saturday, July 21. Their officiating pastor was Mark Jones, the worship pastor at Trinity Bible Church in Richardson.



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

Women's Fellowship Kicks Off September 16

The fall Women's Fellowship program will begin on

September 16 with guest speaker **Dawn Waters Baker**, an artist who finds great joy giving art talks to small groups. In her presentation, she touches on the quiet realizations that come through her brushes and pencils as she learns to catch glimpses of truth, goodness and beauty. Her art is collected by businesses, organizations and private individuals. The event begins at 6 p.m. on Sept. 16. Look for opportunities to register soon.

The Tuesday Women's Fellowship program will begin at 9:30 a.m. on **September 18** with guest speaker **Eva Bleeker**. She serves as the women's ministries pastor at Skillman Bible Church in Dallas, works as a chaplain for Baylor University Medical Center and serves as a facilitator for the Sacred Vocation Program at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital of Houston. She is a graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary and lives in the Dallas area with her husband, Josh, and pit bull, Ransom Ruth.

The Wednesday evening Women's Fellowship program will begin October 3.



New Members



Lewis and Betty Henderson

Redeemer Babies

Jeremiah and Ellie Bakk, along with their daughters Josie and Lucy, welcomed baby Whitaker John Bakk July 21, 2012 (9lbs 6oz; 22 in)



Sheryl and Nick Sears, along with their first son, Wyatt, welcomed baby Tyler Dalton Sears June 26, 2012 (7lbs 11 oz; 22 in)



Missionary Spotlight continued from page 2

church and reading his Bible. We're hoping and praying that relationship becomes more fruitful in the future.

Q: How can we pray for you?

A: Nathan — These are our top-five prayer requests. We call them our “factors,” but without any vowels:

- **Family:** We want our family to be strong — especially spiritually — as a model for other families. There are a lot of broken families in Colombia.
- **Closer with God:** This is the foundation for all of our ministries.
- **Teaching:** I want to grow as a teacher since I'm still pretty new at this.
- **Relationships:** We want to keep building relationships in our community.
- **Small group:** God has put on my heart a burden to lead a small group for adults through our church or with a men's group at school.

Two Teams Reach Hungarian... continued from page 1

Newcomer, and **Charlie and Janet Reibenstein**. The camp director is **Laci Kadar**, a missionary who is supported by Redeemer.

“It is a great privilege for us to be a part of what God is doing in Hungary,” said Janet, who led the teams. “Our desire was that God would use us to effectively communicate his love to the young people. Many who already knew Christ grew deeper in their walk with him and many others accepted Christ as their savior this summer.”

You can see reports from the teams on the Redeemer 2012 Missions Blog at

<http://hungary2012.redeemerbiblechurch.org>

Meeting Location:
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