

November 2006

Linking us with the ministries of our church

Operation Christmas Child

Since 1993 Operation Christmas Child has delivered shoe box gifts to children in over 120 countries. Your gifts tangibly demonstrate God's love to families in difficult circumstances, and prepare hearts to hear the Good News. As the gifts are distributed, national Christians offer colorful storybooks about Jesus to minister to children in their own language. Area churches provide follow-up through additional Bible study materials. Operation Christmas Child makes a great family project, and here's how you can join us in exciting, hands-on, global missions. It's important to complete each step.

1. Find an empty standard size shoebox. Wrapping is suggested, but not required.

2. Choose, mark, and cut out the appropriate label from the brochure (available in church lobbies) and tape it on top of your box.

3. Pack your box first with prayer. Then include such items as small toys, school supplies, hygiene items, small books, and candy. You'll be amazed at how much can fit in one shoebox! Do not include used/damaged items, war-related items, chocolate, food, liquids, lotions, medicine, vitamins, breakable items or aerosol cans.

4. Use the envelope attached to the brochure to include a \$7 check. Make checks payable to Samaritan's Purse and write on the memo line "Operation Christmas Child." Place the envelope on top of gift items inside the box. Place a rubber band around your box and lid.

5. Drop off your shoe box gift at our collection center inside the main church lobby.

One Member's Lists of Thanks-Giving

Day One • Thanksgiving Month

- 1 Gracious giving in so many forms
- 2 Roadway lane reflectors
- 3 A reliable elevator for the mobility impaired
- 4 Birth & life in a country like ours
- 5 Location of Redeemer in the White Rock Community

Day Two • Thanksgiving Month

- 1 A growing number of younger families at Redeemer
- 2 A Beethoven Symphony
- 3 A beautifully landscaped church property
- 4 Pictures of grandchildren
- 5 Wise and humble leadership

Day Three • Thanksgiving Month

- 1 Stoplights and Cell Phones
- 2 Clean drinking water
- 3 A church that sings hymns
- 4 Doctors
- 5 Baby sitters

Day Four • Thanksgiving Month

- 1 Friends who call
- 2 Pastor Geiger's preaching ministry characterized by a personal love for Scripture
- 3 Alarm clocks
- 4 Youth Sunday

Day Five • Thanksgiving Month

- 1 Smiling greeters on Sunday morning
- 2 Homework
- 3 The ability to read
- 4 A church nursery that's clean, con



Thanksgiving Banquet

It's hard to believe that this year marks our eighth annual Redeemer Bible Church Thanksgiving Banquet! This night has always been a warm and refreshing time of praise, being together and thankfulness. Again this year, we'll be treated to delicious food and fellowship along with lively music and uplifting singing reflecting our thanks. The banquet, catered by Central Market,

will take place at the First Assembly of God on Northwest Highway. Tickets are on sale now at church. The cost is \$8.50 each for the first four members of your family. After that, tickets are only \$5.00 for each additional person in the household. The deadline for purchasing your tickets is November 12. Don't miss this annual highlight in the life of our church.

In a Word

Count your many blessings, name them one by one!

Don Geiger, Senior Pastor

At the conclusion of a speech enumerating some of the blessings we take for granted and comparing the quality of life we enjoy today as contrasted with previous generations, Sir John Templeton concluded with these words: "If you do not fall down on your knees each day with overwhelming gratitude for your blessings — your multiplying multitudes of blessings — then you have not yet seen the big picture." Although we all would agree with Sir Templeton, still we need the reminder that our Thanksgiving season affords us. We need to pause and, in the words of the old gospel song, *count our many blessings, naming them one by one*. As Martin Luther once wryly observed, "The greater God's blessings, the less we are thankful." A starving person appreciates a piece of stale bread more than we a bountiful meal. An impoverished Sudanese child cherishes a Christmas Child shoe box stuffed with soap, underwear, toothbrush, other necessities we take for granted, and a toy or two more than we a stack of gifts we do not need.

This Thanksgiving let's turn Luther's observation on its head, making it read, "The greater God's blessings, the more we are thankful." To that end let's declare November *Thanksgiving Month*. As we read our Bibles each day this month, let's keep a running list of things for which we are grateful, adding at least five each day. Use the list on page one to prime your pump. Begin with the obvious, include the innumerable things we take for granted, and don't forget the ones I

call "blessings in brown paper bags," such as these from Nancie Carmody's list:

- The taxes I pay because it means that I'm employed.
- All the complaining I hear about our government because it means we have freedom of speech.
- The lady behind me in church who sings off key because it means that I can hear.
- The piles of laundry and ironing because it means my loved ones are nearby.
- A lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning and gutters that need fixing because it means I have a home.
- My huge heating bill because it means I am warm.
- The alarm that goes off in the early morning hours because it means I am alive.

You get the idea. As a teenager, Barbara Ann Kipler began keeping a list of things for which she was grateful. It soon became second nature. Twenty years and dozens of notebooks later, her list was published as a book: *14,000 Things to Be Happy About*. High on my long list of blessing will be the Redeemer family in general and you in particular. As we celebrate this Thanksgiving month, listing our boundless blessings, we will indeed be surprised by what the Lord has done and is doing.

It's time to act. *Follow your good impulse* and *Predecide* that you will make that thanksgiving list. Find that paper and begin today. It will change your life.

In a word . . . *count your many blessings!*

God's Work in the World: Getting the Big Picture

Miro Cizmanski

This month Miro will visit Redeemer for the first time. In 2005 Redeemer began supporting **Miro and Milotka Cizmanski**, who minister in their native countries of Serbia and Montenegro. The Cizmanskis serve with Yugoslavian Evangelistic Society in a variety of ways, including preaching, teaching, translating, and mobilizing volunteers. Miro's Redeemer schedule will give us a variety of ways to get to know and love this vibrant young man.



Sunday, November 12

- 9:15 Combined ABFs in the sanctuary
- 10:30 Interview in the worship service
- 11:00 Children's church
- 12:00 Lunch at Casa Linda Cafeteria

Wednesday, November 15

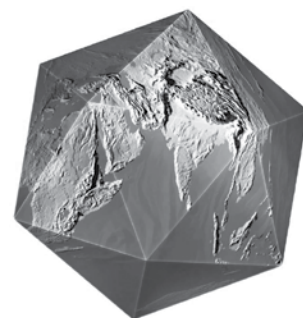
- 7:00 Prayer meeting
- 8:00 Youth meeting in the Oasis

Friday, November 17

- 6:30 Thanksgiving banquet

Perspectives on the World Christian Movement

This comprehensive course will give you a strategic overview of what God is doing in our world today. You will gain a fresh understanding of the "news behind the news" and will learn how you can find your place of effective service, using your own experiences, gifts, and abilities. *Perspectives* begins January 15, so sign up soon. Learn more by picking up a brochure in our lobby or by visiting our website: www.redeemberbiblechurch.org.



Getting to Know You: David and Joan Chapman

Tommie Loveless

Joan Chapman was born and raised in the small rural Missouri town of Mountain View, located in the Ozarks. She remembers that her family lived in a huge rambling house, in which her father's medical practice was also located. Joan continued, "My dad is one of a dying breed, as he is an old-fashioned country doctor who has done about everything there is to do in medicine. As a physician's assistant, my mom assisted him for 46 years before she died in 1998." Joan explained that the educational system in Missouri wasn't very good at that time, so it was a rite of passage to go away for high school. After her first year at Hampden DuBose Academy in Florida, she transferred to Ben Lippen School in Asheville, North Carolina, and graduated in the fall of 1980.

David Chapman was born in Shashamane, Ethiopia, as the third child of medical missionaries. When the Chapmans came back to the states, they settled in the small mountainous western North Carolina town of Banner Elk. David, for his high school years, enrolled in Ben Lippen, where he and Joan met. He explained, "We sat across the aisle from each other in geometry. She struggled with math, but I was quite good and enjoyed telling her so!" In spite of that dubious beginning, they became friends and remained so throughout school, graduating and going their separate ways. During the next 13 years, David enlisted in the Army and also received a degree in history from Bob Jones University, while Joan graduated with a pre-medical major from Wesleyan University in Indiana. One year later, she



also completed a degree in medical technology and now works full-time in the central lab at Parkland Hospital. David is a 2003 Dallas Theological Seminary graduate, with a Master of Arts in Biblical Studies, realizing one of his most important life goals.

In July 1999, David called Joan, who had moved back home to Missouri to help her dad. He asked if he could come for her birthday. By the time those three days were over, God had convinced Joan that David would be her future husband, and after 20 years of knowing each other, they were married at Scofield church in

Dallas on July 29, 2000. God has blessed them with two precious children, **Rachel** and **Christopher**. David and Joan are gifted musicians who not only sing in the Redeemer choir and special groups, but David is also a soloist for the chapel services at the VA Hospital. Joan plays the flute with the Flutes of the Spirit flute choir, which ministers to churches in the local area. Joan commented, "For fun we sing with the Dallas Symphony Chorus, which performs at the Meyerson Performance Hall several times a year." She concluded, "Needless to say, music is our life!" David added, "We thank God every day for our Redeemer family. We came to Redeemer in September of 2000 on the recommendation of my sister and brother-in-law, **Priscilla and Mark Young**, who were married by **Pastor Geiger** at Reinhardt Bible Church. It has been a joy for us to be in this dynamic church."

Thank you, Chapmans, for all of your faithful ministries at Redeemer and elsewhere.

Goodbye for Now...

Charter members **Earl and Carolyn Spagh** have relocated to the Go Ye Village in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

After faithfully serving and leading the Redeemer



family in numerous capacities for six years, **Jim and Patricia Harder** have relocated to Aledo, TX following Jim's retirement from Garland Power & Light.



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

Congratulations!



Laci Kadar recently received the Nathan D. Maier Memorial Award at the Dallas Theological Seminary, which annually recognizes one student for his scholarship and servant-leadership.

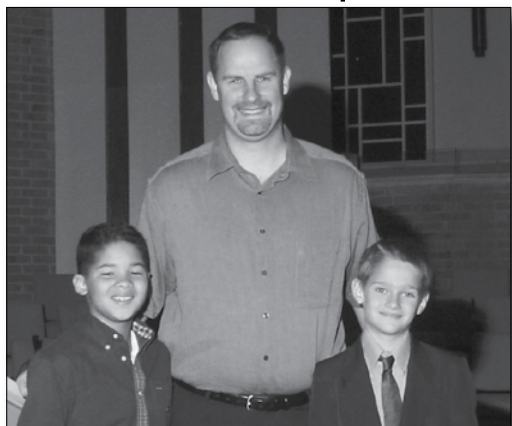


Joseph Escobar and Jenny Wallace were married on October 7, 2006.



Kristen Raikes was named 2006 Homecoming Queen at John Brown University.

October Baptisms



October 22 (l to r): Sam Nalley, Josh Oswald
(baptized by Youth Pastor Blake Barbre)

Welcome New Members!



Jeane Olson



Jonathan Raikes



Stephen Raikes

Behind the Curtain

God is using **Ed and Shannon Smith's** quiet and passionate ministry to put the Bread of Life into the hands of many who are hungry for the gospel. This faithful father-daughter team touches many in our church family (and those we touch) through gospel tracts.

"Easy" and "powerful" are two words Ed repeats when describing their tract ministry. *Easy* ... Ed and Shannon check the racks regularly to ensure they are fully stocked. When a group of tracts grows thin, Shannon looks through a catalogue and recommends resources to her dad that appeal to a variety of ages and interests. They then narrow the options and make selections. Ed orders the tracts, which are delivered to the church. The Smiths then stock the racks with new and inviting tracts. *Powerful* ... God then multiplies their investment of time and effort in the lives of dozens upon dozens from our church family, who then share with hundreds of folks outside our church.



Ed adds that the tract ministry itself is relatively easy and very powerful. "Lots of folks are like me — not comfortable preaching on the street corner. But even I can hand someone a piece of paper that has God's Word on it. If that person throws it away, there are those who have trusted Christ after reading a tract they found in the garbage. Isn't that amazing? This ministry is great." Shannon agrees and finds particular satisfaction in

thinking of specific nonbelievers in her life, while selecting tracts for the church. She has enjoyed her tract ministry so much that she plans to place a third rack in our youth building, the Oasis.

This out-of-the-limelight team enables each of us to share Christ with bill collectors, postal carriers, neighbors, family members, waiters, and more. Ed and Shannon, thank you for ministering to us so that we can minister to others. You *and* your tracts are powerful reminders of God's heart for others.

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

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

BIBLE CHURCH
Redeemer