

November 2007

Linking us with the ministries of our church

## Daylight Saving Ends



## Musical Merry Mugs and Muffins Melodies

Merry Mugs and Muffins has become a Christmas tradition at Redeemer. Once again Women's Fellowship begins Redeemer's Christmas season with a special program of musical melodies by Redeemer musicians and with delicious muffins and hot drinks made by our favorite cooks. Buy your ticket in advance for \$1.00 and join the **December 1** celebration in the fellowship hall.

## Santa's Day Off

Parents, you can get all that last-minute shopping done while your kids enjoy a day of Christmas festivities with their friends. Children through sixth grade are invited to Santa's Day Off – a day full of holiday games, Christmas crafts, a seasonal movie on the big screen, and even a birthday party for Jesus, complete with cake and party favors. There is no cost. Donations will be accepted, and please send a sack lunch with your child. Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 1, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Come when you can and leave when you must, but sign up by Wednesday, November 28, to ensure a spot for your child.

## Thanksgiving at Redeemer — Remembering God's Blessings

Our ninth annual Thanksgiving Banquet will be held on Friday, November 16 at 6:30 PM at the Dallas First Assembly of God Church on Northwest Highway between Lake Highlands Road and Jupiter. This uplifting evening will include a meal, warm fellowship, toe-tapping music and singing. Attending the annual banquet is a perfect way to celebrate Thanksgiving with your family and



your church family. Tickets to the banquet are available now at \$8.50 per person for the first four members of the family and \$5.00 for each additional person in the same household. Complimentary tickets are available according to need. Tickets may be purchased before the ABF hour and after the worship service. The deadline for purchasing your tickets is November 11. See you there!

## Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes Due November 11

Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has shared the Good News of God's love with hurting children through the simplest of gifts — shoe boxes! Filled with school supplies, toys, and personal items that you lovingly pack, these boxes help introduce children to Jesus Christ. Local believers follow up with evangelistic programs, and many precious boys and girls later receive Jesus as their Savior. National collection week for 2007 begins on November 12 so the final day you can



bring your packed shoe boxes is Sunday, November 11. Just bring the box to the collection area in the lobby. If you would like to participate in this project, please pick up a brochure, available in the lobby, which outlines the steps for packing this treasure for a young boy or girl. Remember to include your \$7.00 donation inside the shoe box. You can also visit our church's website, [www.redeemberbiblechurch.org](http://www.redeemberbiblechurch.org), and link to the Operation Christmas Child page.

## Reaching Out to Make a Difference

### Sandy Sparks

What happens when a child comes to school without shoes, or can't see the board because there is no money for glasses? To whom can a child read when there is no adult available? That's where Redeemer comes in.

Redeemer's Outreach Team, working with Reilly Elementary School's PTA, administers a fund to help with uniforms, shoes, school supplies, and glasses for students in need. In addition, several Redeemer

folks are now volunteering to tutor and listen to students read. It takes as little as 30 minutes a week, but it can make a big difference in the life of a child.



Folks like **Ray Crelia** and **J. Lon Kimbrell** know first hand what a blessing it can be. It's an opportunity to serve the Lord by touching lives in our community.

Interested? Just follow your good impulse and call **John** or **Sandy Sparks** (214-503-0485) for more details.

## In a Word

### Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart!

Don Geiger, Senior Pastor

In many ways, fall is my favorite season. The days are clear and cool — some mornings are actually crisp. I call it “The best of Texas!” With summer past and the kids back in school, the solid, dependable, daily routines seem to make life more predictable and productive. And the greatest holidays of the year lie just ahead — Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s. It’s almost biblical: three great celebrations so tightly grouped. Actually, God gave the Jews two sets of three celebrations — one set in the spring, the other in the fall.

Of the three celebrations we’re about to enjoy, Thanksgiving is my favorite. It is the least commercialized, and it is all about giving and not getting. It’s about gratitude. It’s about family and friends. It’s about recalling and reflecting on the blessings God has lavished on us. It’s about a church banquet where many of these blessings converge. Okay, it’s also about autumn leaves, turkey and dressing, homemade rolls, three kinds of pies, and football. (And how about those Cowboys?).

But first things first. Thanksgiving is about giving thanks. So here’s a suggestion or two that may help make this

Thanksgiving the best ever. From now till Thanksgiving:

- Daily pray George Herbert’s prayer, *Thou who hast given me so much, give me one more thing — a grateful heart.*
- Read a Psalm of praise and gratitude each day. Start with 103, *Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.* Other great Psalms of gratitude include 16, 18, 34, 139, 145, to name a few.
- Begin a list of things for which you are grateful. Keep it in your Bible and make it part of your daily devotions. Psalm 103 provides us with a great starter list, but don’t forget the “little things” we usually take for granted. It occurred to one lady, while brushing her teeth, that she had never thanked God for her toothbrush, or, for that matter, her teeth. And how about the water that flows so dependably from our faucets?
- And while we’re thanking God for his goodness, let’s also thank the people who enrich our lives with their love and their investment in us. A note or call to someone now in your life or from your past — perhaps a teacher or friend — will bless you both.

Even in our times of difficulty, pain, and uncertainty, an attitude of gratitude is both appropriate and biblical. *Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus (1 Thess 5:18).*

In a word, let’s all give thanks with a grateful heart!

## Growth of Cub Pack 48 a Blessing and Opportunity

The addition of 30 new Cub Scouts from Highland Meadows Elementary School and Martha Turner Reilly Elementary School has been a blessing and an opportunity for Cub Pack 48. Many hours of work and prayer are involved in developing opportunities for boys in our community to find new friendships with Redeemer boys and leaders, and most important, a new or growing friendship with God through Christ. At the beginning the Lord provided **Jonathan Baker**, our missionary to Mexico, to help bridge the language barrier with several Spanish-speaking parents.

For six weeks Cubmaster **Allen Sandlin** and a committed group of leaders integrated the new boys into the group. From the beginning our goal was to direct the boys to be unified in purpose,

and to convey the fact that they care about them and their families. Each new boy received a new handbook and T-shirt. The entire pack wore the T-shirts until the new boys received their official uniforms for the Court of Honor on October 17. Proudly donning their new uniforms, every Cub Scout was recognized for accomplishing achievements such as fishing or mathematics awards. The group stays busy playing games and relays, learning the basics of Cub Scouting, and enjoying a relationship with God, emphasized during the weekly devotional. Friendships with new families are being formed and strengthened. The attitudes of the boys and their families have made the effort a true delight.

The boys enjoyed frenetic and friendly competition at Laser

Quest in September and had a great time on their first campout October 13-14 at Cooper Lake State Park. Most of the new boys and their families had never camped or fished before the trip. It was a great first camping trip experience. Our leaders were impressed with the thoughtfulness and helpfulness of the parents, who jumped right in to help serve. The group looks forward to enjoying a pancake breakfast in the fellowship hall, followed by a trip to Samuell Farm on Saturday, November 10.





# Getting to Know You: The Burrows Family

## Tommie Loveless

Redeemer Bible Church is thankful for the Burrows family! **Gene and Verena** and their two daughters, **Nicola and Stephanie**, are one of our “resident international families!”

Verena attended grade school and high school in Stuttgart, Germany, where she was born, and both girls are dual nationals — American and German — and lived for a time in Germany, after graduating from their Dallas high school. Nicola, now a 22-year-old senior at Stephen F. Austin in Nacogdoches (her Dad’s Alma Mater), and Stephanie, a 19-year-old freshman at Texas Women’s University in Denton, are looking to the future. Nicola will graduate next spring, and plans to be a middle school math teacher.

Gene and Verena attended Capernwray Bible School in the United Kingdom, where they met. Verena added, “I decided to go there, based on a suggestion by my Bible study teacher in Germany. He was also the one who led me to the Lord.” Gene and Verena both grew up under the direction of believing parents, and Gene became a Christian at a very early age. Gene continued, “We have been blessed with wise, godly parents, friends and mentors. I think Verena has been the strongest spiritual influence in my life, along with gifted Bible teachers and parents.” Verena related that her time in London, England, where she trained to be

a nurse and midwife, and the exposure to and involvement in several different ministries, were her most spiritually molding times.

Verena continued, “We have no pets! Gene is the closest thing the family has to one, since he spends so much time in the dog house!” By the way, congratulations to Gene and Verena, who will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary next year. Gene commented, “We are provisional empty nesters. We like to read, enjoy concerts, museums and a movie when we have the time!”

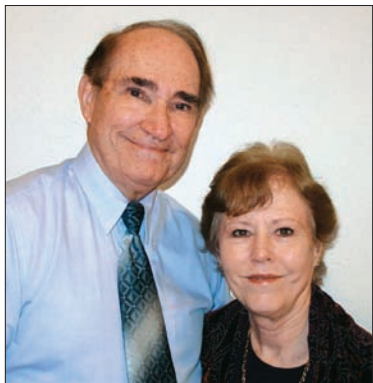


For the past 16 years, Gene has worked as a software engineer for Computer Associates. Before that, he spent five years driving an 18-wheeler. For the past ten years he has also volunteered in the ministries at the Henry Wade Juvenile Justice Center. Verena was a stay-at-home mom until the girls became older; then she began to work at Scofield Church as a teacher’s aid. She earned her Certified Medical Assistant Certificate at Richland College and is now working full time for a local ear, nose and throat doctor. She has also been volunteering as a hospice nurse for the past three years. **Thanks, Burrows family, for being an important part of the Redeemer family. You are appreciated and loved!**

## More Images From Our Growing Cub Scout Program



## Welcome New Members!



Milton and Patricia Bradley



Steve and Carolyn Cobb



## Kudos to Bobbie Sewall

She co-authored, *Torch*, an inspirational book of stories from cancer survivors. Bobbie was one of several writers to detail her diagnosis, treatment and recovery. Way to go, Bobbie!

## Behind the Curtain

You may not know it, but God regularly uses **Fran Fletcher** to tune your heart to sing His praise. Psalm 50, verse 2, says, “*perfect in beauty, God shines forth.*” So, as the Redeemer family gathers weekly to worship our beautiful God, the loveliness of our worship setting helps to usher us into His presence. With this in mind, and in partnership with other selfless, behind-the-scenes ministers, Fran Fletcher uses her interior decorating ministry to serve you and glorify God.

Did you notice that the floral decorations in the lobbies and various church rooms (including the sanctuary) recently shifted from summer’s bright yellows and pinks to fall’s lovely browns and oranges? If you did, you may have wondered who is responsible. Fran. Perhaps you snuck a peek at or sat a spell in our inviting and richly-decorated “nook” across from the back of the sanctuary. Who



do you think was primarily responsible for helping our church family find that perfect balance of color, style, comfort and stewardship? You guessed it: Fran. And, when you soon see Christmas banners in the sanctuary, Easter lilies at a doorway, fresh flowers at the pulpit, or a newly-decorated college&career room, you would be wise to guess that God has graced us with a touch of beauty through Fran.

Fran Fletcher is yet another gifted Redeemer member who humbly and passionately applies her unique gifts to serve God and His people. Fran, thank you for reminding us of God’s worship-worthy beauty. Indeed, He is worthy to receive our praise.

Jerry Kerns — “The whole person, with all his senses, with both mind and body, needs to be involved in genuine worship.”

Meeting Location:  
721 Easton Road  
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P.O. Box 570545  
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