

November 2009

Linking us with the ministries of our church

Saturday, December 5

*Merry Mugs and
Muffins, 9:30-11:30 am*

Our Women's Ministry excitedly welcomes all interested ladies to this unique annual Christmas celebration. This is a sweet time of refreshing fellowship at which you will be blessed through other ladies, warm drinks, and a delicious assortment of homemade muffins. Then sit back, relax, and be encouraged through special music and a guest speaker. Bring a friend, your favorite Christmas mug, and \$1 for each ticket. Contact **Charlane Rack** if you would like to bring muffins or have questions.

*Santa's Day Out,
9:00 am - 3:00 pm*

Parents, here is your chance to get all that last-minute shopping done while your kids enjoy a day of Christmas festivities celebrating Jesus' birth and life with friends. Children through fifth grade are invited to this special event — a day full of holiday games, Christmas crafts, a seasonal movie on the big screen, a birthday party for Jesus, and festive snacks. There is no cost, but donations are appreciated. Come when you can and leave when you must. Bring a jacket and a sack lunch for your child. Please RSVP to **Kristen Raikes** by Sunday, November 29 to ensure your child has a spot.

Thanksgiving Banquet on Friday, Nov. 20

Our eleventh-annual Thanksgiving banquet will be held on Friday, November 20 from 6:30 – 8:15 PM at the Dallas First Assembly of God Church on Northwest Highway (between Lake Highlands and Jupiter Road). This uplifting evening will include a meal, warm fellowship, a variety of music and singing, and a few testimonies about things God has accomplished in the lives of Redeemer's own. To help us adequately prepare, remember to purchase your tickets either this Sunday (11/8) or next Sunday (11/15). Cost for the banquet is \$9.00 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 through the pastors for those with special need. Enhance your family's holiday celebration by celebrating God's goodness with the Redeemer family at this year's Thanksgiving banquet. See you there!

Christmas Child Boxes Due Nov. 16

Please pick up an instructional brochure in one of our lobbies. The brochure outlines how to pack this treasure for a young boy or girl. You can also find instructions via the Operation Christmas Child link on our church's website: www.redeembiblechurch.org.

Scouts Serving God and Country

Troop 4:8 had the privilege of conducting a flag ceremony before a speech by Governor Rick Perry in Rockwall, September 17. The scouts and their leaders met privately with Governor Perry afterward. He took several minutes to challenge the group of 10 boys to commit to earning the rank of Eagle Scout. It was an opportunity that the troop will always remember. Looking sharp and attentive, the boys represented Redeemer and their troop with commendable maturity, dignity, and friendliness. Way to go, boys!



From the Pastor's Pen

Doug Hornok, Senior Pastor

Survivor Eva Hart remembers the night. On April 15, 1912, she was a passenger on board the Titanic during its maiden voyage. Shortly before midnight the passenger ship struck an iceberg tearing a 300 foot gash in her starboard side. Some two hours and forty minutes later the Titanic plunged 12,000 feet to the Atlantic floor. "I saw all the horror of its sinking and I heard, even more dreadful, the cries of drowning people."

The seemingly invincible ship was equipped with only twenty lifeboats and rafts — too few for a ship the size of the Titanic. But the even greater tragedy is that many of these boats were launched only partially filled. Most of the passengers ended up struggling in the icy seas while those in the boats waited a safe distance away.

Lifeboat No.14 rowed back to the scene after the "unsinkable" ship slipped from sight at 2:20 AM. Alone, it chased cries in the darkness, seeking and saving a few precious lives. Incredibly, no other lifeboat joined it. While a few lifeboats were overloaded, most were not. Fearing desperate swimmers would cling to and swamp their boats, many of those who had been saved rowed their half-filled boats aimlessly in the darkness, hearing the cries of the lost yet doing nothing.

Jesus Christ said, "I came to seek and to save the lost." He has commissioned us to do the same. Our task as a church and as individuals is to "rescue the perishing, care for the dying." Tragically, our boat is not even half full (and will never be full) and yet many of us act as if it were. While people drown in the treacherous waters around us, we are tempted to stay

dry and make certain no one rocks the boat. Yet, the boat is not ours, and our safety came at the expense of the One who trumped fear with love — and saved us.

Fear often keeps us from taking action. Fear of rejection by those we are trying to help. Fear that those we try to help will think us odd or strange. Fear that once newcomers come on board our ship, in time we will no longer have control. All of these issues can be overcome by our love for the Lord Jesus Christ and for those whom Christ Himself loves.

During the coming months, we as a church family will have many ways to reach out to people through special events and activities. Thanksgiving, Christmas, and small group gatherings are wonderful opportunities to let people know we love and care for them. Additionally, in January we are going to be having a special weekend called "Operation Friendship" with evangelist Larry Moyer.

Tragically, some within our "life boat" will behave as if our boat is full and we can take on no more. While never verbalizing such a position some will act as if our boat will capsize and we all perish if others are invited to our church. "Ridiculous!" you say? How many people who are perishing have you invited on board? We always appreciate people from other evangelical churches in our community coming to our special events, but aren't they already in a lifeboat? During these upcoming ministry events, join me in making a special effort to invite those in, who (as yet) are without the Savior. Even if they refuse, you will at least have made the effort.

To prepare for our outreach emphasis, RBC is making available Larry Moyer's book, *31 Days with the Master Fisherman*, to be used for your November devotions. Hopefully, you've picked up your copy and are using it. If not, let us know and we will be happy to secure one for you.

Redeemer's Newest Missionaries, The Pikmans

Meet our newest missionaries, the **Pikmans**.

Vladimir Pikman was born to an educated Jewish family in Kiev, Ukraine. Although his family neither knew the Messiah nor took God seriously, deep inside Vladimir believed God was alive and had a plan for his life. Convinced true happiness for a Jew could only be found by living in Israel, Vladimir moved there only to discover that the happiness he sought did not come. In his disappointment and confusion, Vladimir reached out to God by sticking a note in the Western ("Wailing") Wall, asking God for guidance and direction. When Vladimir returned home to Kiev in 1992, he met a group of believers who shared the truth that Jesus was the Messiah and challenged him to study the scriptures. As a result of this study, Vladimir accepted Jesus as his personal Savior and devoted his life to serving the Lord through Jewish evangelism.

Vladimir and his wife, **Inna**, both graduated from Dallas Theological Seminary: Vladimir with a Master of

Theology and Inna with a Masters in Biblical Linguistics. Currently Vladimir and Inna are pursuing doctoral degrees in Germany. A gifted musician and vocalist, Inna serves as a worship leader in Berlin's Messianic congregation and has recorded several albums. She also teaches biblical Hebrew and Greek at the Messianic Institute of Berlin.

The Pikmans have two daughters, **Elishevah** (8) and **Shoshannah** (6). Vladimir and Inna are encouraged that Russian Jews are immigrating to Germany in great numbers, providing many new opportunities to share the gospel. Please pray God would grant the wisdom, courage, and strength needed for the Pikmans to accomplish His will in their many ministries. Also please seek God's favor in Vladimir and Inna's parents coming to know Jesus as their Messiah.

The Redeemer family is profoundly blessed to partner with the Pikman family in making Jesus, the true Messiah, known in Germany and beyond.



Learn more at www.chosenpeople.com/main/page/vladimir_and_inna_pikman.html

Getting to Know You: Herb and Millie Cavender

Tommie Loveless

Herb Cavender was born in Midlothian, Texas. He, his brother, sister, and parents moved to the Garland area when he was fourteen. Reflecting on those days, Herb said, "For many years my dad and I worked on a large farm, located on Centerville and Barnes Bridge, until the farm sold in 1950." Herb told about meeting **Millie** during those years, as her family lived in the neighboring farm. Millie commented, "He used to come and see my brothers, but he didn't even act interested in me at all!" She continued, "My father passed away when I was eighteen months old, therefore, my three brothers, sister, and I grew up in a single-parent home. Our mom was a wonderful Christian lady, who gave us much love. We didn't have many material things, and we all worked hard to make a living. We moved to the Reinhardt area of Dallas when I was very young."

Herb and Millie actually started dating the summer of 1947, marrying on December, 18, 1948. They feel very blessed to have celebrated 61 years together and are "still going!" Millie shared, "We have four children, who chose wonderful spouses. They have given us eleven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and one more due in April!" You may have guessed it from their faithful Wednesday night meal help: the Cavenders love to cook. Herb remarked, "Millie cooks on the inside and I cook on the outside! We also enjoy gardening and good times with our family."



After giving up farming, Herb served with the Dallas Police Department for 20 years. While there He received an Associates Degree in Police Science from Central Texas College. In 1970 he accepted a position with The University of Texas System Police in Austin, TX. He worked with the University Police until his disability retirement in 1988. Herb explained: "A doctor in Austin told me I only had a year to live, unless I had a heart transplant! We moved back to Dallas for a second opinion and to pray and wait to see if things would change. The verdict, however, was the same, and our miracle came in the way of a heart transplant on February 18, 1990." Millie added: "We had twenty-nine

churches praying, and that proves what prayer can do!" Herb commented, "We claimed Ezekiel 36:25-26 and are so thankful God has kept my new heart working for over 20 years now!" Herb and Millie also experienced sad times. Millie's mother was killed in an automobile accident while returning home from Reinhardt Bible Church in 1954, where Millie had accepted Christ at age 12. Herb trusted Jesus as his Savior at a little country church when he was eleven.

Herb and Millie joined Redeemer in 2005. Millie commented: "It is great to belong to a more traditional church. We enjoy the Berean Class and the solid preaching. We are looking forward to getting to know and serve with **Doug and Connie.**"

Thanks, Cavenders, you are a blessing to Redeemer!

Plugging Into Church and Ministry

Would you say that you are "plugged in" at Redeemer? Do you look forward to attending and participating in our activities? Do you refer to Redeemer as "my church" or just "church"? Do people know when you are away and call to check up on you? Do you feel like you are making a difference in others' lives in/through this church? These are just a few questions that begin to provide insight into whether each of us is plugged into the Redeemer church family and (more importantly) the Church's mission of making disciples from all nations. Are **you** plugged in?

Steps are being taken behind the scenes right now to improve our organization and our focus concerning assimilation: helping all who come get better connected with God, His people, and meaningful service. In January 2010 we will become more intentional in maintaining contact with new folks, regular attenders, and members. Some practical ways you can begin helping ...

1) Pray God will bring new folks to the church family. 2) Invite others to attend church with you. 3) If at church you see someone

you don't know (even if you think you should), smile and say something like, "Good to see you today." 4) Wear a name tag. 5) If you're able, park farther away from the entrances and sit toward the middle of the row during ABF and worship times. Are you willing to help new folks get plugged in?

If you've been here a while and sense that there could/should be more to your church experience, perhaps the Lord is nudging you to take that next step and serve. God has blessed you so He can use you. He drives this home in 1 Peter 4:10: "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." You have a special part to play in the kingdom of God and the life of our church. In the next few months we will also begin making contact with those who have been here for a while and may not have found their ministry "fit." Are you ready to get plugged into meaningful ministry?

Whether you are an active member or recent visitor, we want you here if God wants you here. We are excited about how He intends to use you. We look forward to more folks getting plugged in!

Recent Redeemer Highlights



photo by Liesl Tankley

Doug Hornok attempting to perform his first "baptism" of fellow pastors at Redeemer. Victims Josh and Tony did experience full immersion in the "dunk-a-pastor" tank at the 2009 Volunteer Appreciation Picnic at Flagpole Hill.



On Saturday, October 31, kids and their parents dressed up in wacky costumes for the first Fall Festival at the Raikes' Ranch.



For the second year in a row, Ashley Long won recognition for her artistic skill at the State Fair of Texas. This year it was second place for art in the Junior Section.



P.O. Box 570545
Dallas, TX 75357-0545
Meeting Location:
721 Easton Road
Dallas, Texas • 214-340-3633