

November 2013

Linking us with the ministries of our church

## Parents Night Out

Parents Night Out will be held on Friday, Dec. 6, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. as children enjoy Christmas crafts, snacks, games and a birthday party for Jesus. Pizza will be provided for dinner. RSVP to Heidi Regier in the church office (214-340-3633).

## Merry Mugs & Muffins

Ladies, are you ready for warm fellowship, stirring music, inspirational words and steaming mugs of hot chocolate? Join us Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9:30-11 a.m., for our annual Merry Mugs and Muffins event. The theme is "Sharing Christmas Across the Generations," so invite your mothers, daughters, granddaughters and spiritual daughters to come with you. Tickets are only \$1. Child care will be provided.

## Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Encounters

Join Redeemer this Christmas season as we explore the common lives of real people and their interactions with their newborn savior, Jesus Christ.

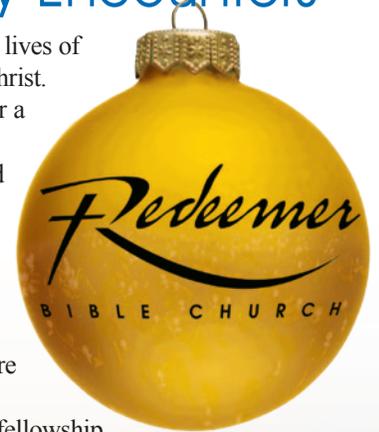
"They were just ordinary lives, much like yours and mine, but for a moment they interacted with the divine," said **Jeremy Miller**, worship intern. "On that evening many years ago, in a small town called Bethlehem, time seemed to stand still as the holy one became flesh and lived among ordinary people."

We will light the Advent candles over the course of several Sundays, illuminating the lives of those who first encountered the newborn King. Along the way, we will follow the stories of a hopeful young girl, a courageous carpenter and believing shepherds before exploring why Jesus really is the greatest gift given to humanity.

You won't want to miss the special services and times of festive fellowship during December. Our schedule will include:

- Dec. 1, 10:30 a.m. — Christmas Hope: Mary's Story
- Dec. 8, 10:30 a.m. — Christmas Courage: Joseph's Tale
- Dec. 15, 10:30 a.m. — Christmas Faith: The Shepherds' Quest
- Dec. 22, 10:30 a.m. — Christmas Love: The Greatest Gift of All
- Dec. 24, 6 p.m. — Christmas Eve candlelight service
- Dec. 29, 10:30 a.m. — Christmas reflections through scripture and carols

"Don't forget to invite your friends and loved ones to join you at church during the holidays," Jeremy said. "Who knows, your invitation could open the door for their first extraordinary encounter with Jesus."



## Christmas Giving Project

# Operation Christmas Child Shares Love of Christ

Redeemer is blessing children around the world this Christmas season by participating in Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Samaritan's Purse.

"This ministry is a powerful and tangible way to share the love of Jesus with boys and girls who need to hear the Good News," said **Heidi Regier**, Redeemer's director of Children's Ministries.

Operation Christmas Child has been having an impact on children around the globe since the project began 20 years ago. More than 100 million boys and girls in over 130 countries have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoebox gifts that are the hallmark of the ministry.

"Redeemer people committed to fill more than 50 boxes with gifts," Heidi said. "What a great testimony to the

generosity of our church. It is truly exciting to be a part of this meaningful project."

The integrity and experience of Samaritan's Purse ensures that gifts will be carefully delivered to children in need. The ministry works with churches and ministry partners to deliver the gifts and share the good news of Jesus Christ. Whether they are delivered to Africa, South America or Asia, the gifts will be carefully processed and delivered to those who need them most.

Redeemer's children's and youth ministries participated in the project, and ladies from Women's Fellowship donated money to help ship the boxes.

"Let's pray for the children receiving these gifts as each child hears about the Prince of Peace and His love for them," Heidi said.



## Teaching the True Meaning of Christmas to Teens Behind Bars

Some of the children and teens imprisoned at the Henry Wade Juvenile Detention Center in West Dallas have never heard the Christmas story. So **David Wisley** and the team members who minister with him at the center every week use the Advent season to teach them what Christmas is really about.

"There are young people there for crimes ranging from truancy to theft and murder, and we have the opportunity to tell them the true meaning of Christmas," he said. "It's a privilege to help them understand what Christmas is all about. God is in that place."

Being imprisoned during Christmas is a sobering experience, but the ministry team, other volunteers and staff members make it as festive as possible. Common areas are decorated. Small gifts that have been collected throughout the year are distributed on Christmas eve. They have a chance to open the gifts, which are then put away until they're released. Some parents visit their children at the center.

"It's a very somber place on Christmas morning," he said.

David has been involved in ministry at the center for 15 years, and his team today includes Redeemer members **Bill**

**Keene, Debbie Wayne and Gregg Potter**. Every Monday evening, they lead a Bible study for up to 75 young people. There's a time of singing, a lesson that presents basic Bible truths and the Gospel message, a memory verse, and a time of prayer. Teens earn a cookie for reciting verses, so the event has become known as the Cookie Church.

"I go down there every week because I like to tell people about Jesus," David said. "The times that someone accepts Jesus as savior is awesome. That's the touchdown."

*To learn how you can get involved in ministry at the center, contact David Wisley at 214-808-3563.*



David Wisley leads a team from Redeemer in sharing the Gospel with teens imprisoned at the Henry Wade Juvenile Detention Center in West Dallas.

# Getting to Know You: Jeremy, Anda & Josiah Miller

**Tommie Loveless**

*Jeremy Miller is Redeemer's worship intern. He and his wife, Anda, with their son, Josiah, began attending Redeemer soon after moving to the area this summer. Jeremy is a first-year student at Dallas Theological Seminary.*

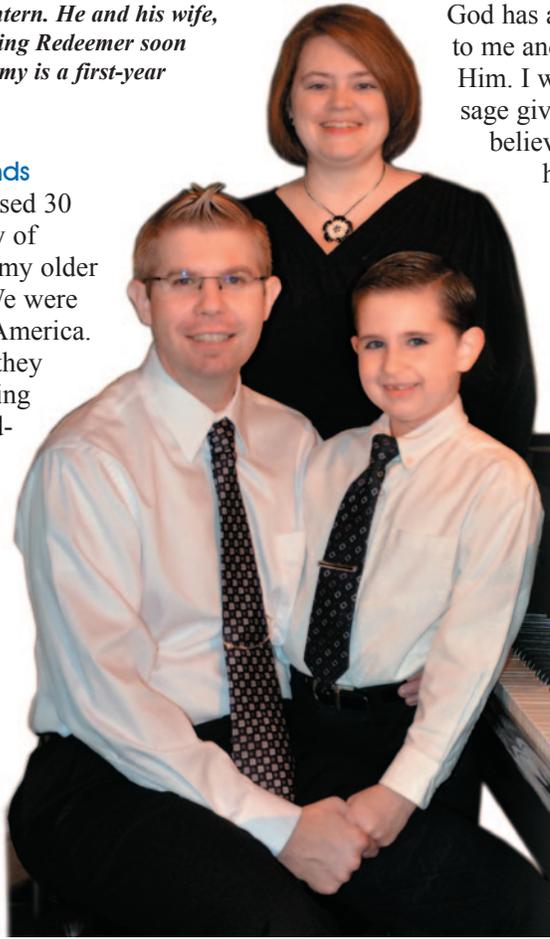
## Tell us about your family backgrounds

I was born in Pennsylvania and raised 30 minutes north, in the rural community of Halifax. I lived on a small farm with my older sister, younger brother and parents. We were active in 4-H and Future Farmers of America. Although out of my family's sphere, they gave me an opportunity to pursue acting throughout my formative years. I studied arts at Harrisburg Arts Magnet School and participated in many musical theater productions. Linus, in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, was my favorite role.

Anda was born in Ohio. She and her two sisters grew up in an Air Force family, which required moving to various locations.

## When did you become believers?

All three of us accepted Christ as our savior as children. I grew up in a Christian home and was involved in presenting special music selections during Sunday services.



God has always used music to further reveal Himself to me and make me aware of my need to rely fully on Him. I was 8 when I responded to the Gospel message given by a very musical family. Anda became a believer during a summer camp. Although our lives had not yet crossed and we were in different settings, God used ventriloquists acts, which gave the salvation message, to bring us both to Christ. We laughingly say, "God used two dummies to bring two dummies to Christ!" Josiah, our 8-year-old son, accepted Christ on New Year's Day, one day after turning 5 years old.

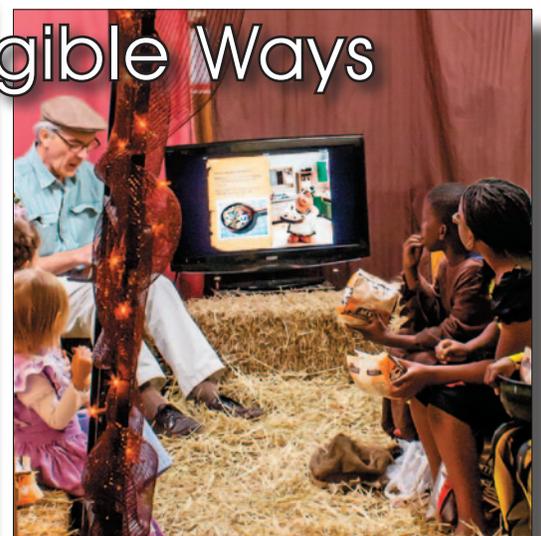
## What is your educational and career experience?

I am a Th.M. student at Dallas Theological Seminary. I previously earned a bachelor of science degree in Bible/Missions from Lancaster Bible College and a Master of Biblical Studies degree from Central Baptist Theological Seminary in Virginia Beach. Anda also graduated from Lancaster Bible College with a bachelor's degree in Bible/Christian

*Getting to Know the Millers continued on page 4...*



Three dozen of our men and Boy Scouts demonstrated their love for our children by moving a small mountain of fresh gravel and spreading it in the worn areas of the playground



Our Trunk or Treat event reached out to the community with creativity, such as Don Regier's Story Time booth, featuring the "Prodigal Pig."

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

# Welcome, New Members!



Sherry and Philip Burke



Gene and Joanne Shipp



Dorinda Tuerck

## *Continued from p3 Getting to Know the Millers*

Education. We met each other in the Lancaster library in 2000 while attending the college. Two years later, on Nov. 9, 2002, we married. We recently celebrated our eleventh anniversary.

I served as worship arts director at Word of Life Chapel, and was later ordained when I was youth pastor at Matamoras Community Church, both in Halifax, Penn. I also served as teacher and administer of Northern Dauphin Christian School in Pennsylvania. In 2007, the Lord led my family to Vienna, Austria, as missionary educators at the Vienna Christian School.

My ministry passion is to engage the broken-hearted through counseling and to encourage others to use their God-given talents through arts ministry.

## **As Redeemer's worship intern, please briefly share a few of your ideas and how you plan to serve in this area**

I am thankful to partner with Redeemer during this season of ministry. My primary responsibility is to lead from behind the scenes, and assist Pastor Mark in designing the five Christmas services this December. I desire to help members of the body use their gifts to tell the stories of ordinary lives that engaged in extraordinary encounters with the incarnate Christ — our Christmas theme. I look forward to employing the use of music and dramatic readings to help highlight the wonder of Christ's birth.

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

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

B I B L E C H U R C H  
*Redeemer*