

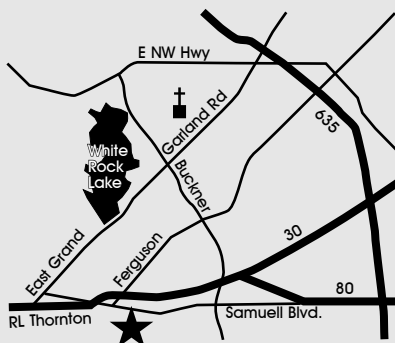
December 2010

Linking us with the ministries of our church

Caroling and Cookie Outreach: Wednesday, December 15

Pioneer Girls, Boy Scouts, Jr. and Sr. High, children, (and parents!) are encouraged to observe an annual Redeemer tradition by helping serve elderly members of our community at the Buckner Retirement Village on Wednesday, December 15. Parents, children, and students should arrive at the facility (4800 Samuell Blvd.; Dallas, TX 75228) at 5:45 PM. Each family represented should also bring two dozen Christmas-themed, homemade (not store-bought) cookies or brownies to share with Buckner residents. After caroling and cookie sharing, our team will meet in Buckner's main assembly room from 7:15-7:45 PM to enjoy some hot chocolate and the remaining cookies. [If you arrive later than 6:00 PM call **Michael Breznau** (810.338.7064) or **Kristen Raikes** (972.965.0984) to join the carolers.] We hope you can join us for a meaningful night of service to those who need a special reminder of Christ's love at this time of year.

www.bucknerretirement.org/dallas-directions.shtml (include the hyphen)



Buckner Retirement Village
4800 Samuell Blvd.
(about halfway between
Ferguson Road and Jim Miller)

Christmas at Redeemer

We plan to celebrate our Lord in joyful, Christmas worship each Sunday this month as we sing carols, hear from our choir and ensembles, and are transformed by God's word. Here are some highlights:

Combined Christmas Concert, Sunday December 5, 6 PM

Join us at Scofield Memorial Church for a concert featuring the combined choirs, orchestra, ensembles, and scripture readers from our two churches. If you need a ride, please contact the church office.

Guest Guitarist on Wednesday, December 8, 7 PM

Guitarist, Keith Cooper, will be in concert at Redeemer on Wednesday, December 8. Keith is a very entertaining guitarist and will present an hour-long concert beginning at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary. Search for him on youtube.com and view some performances.

Christmas Eve Service, December 24, 6 PM

One of Redeemer's annual highlights, our Christmas Eve service, will be a thoughtful flow of Scripture, carols, uplifting music, and a special Christmas message from **Pastor Hornok**. We'll wrap up the service and prepare for Christmas morning by singing *Silent Night* and watching the Christ candle's flame slowly fill our sanctuary. Begin or continue a meaningful family

tradition by participating in this service with your friends and loved ones.

Angel Tree

The Angel Tree program serves inmates during Christmas using churches like ours to give gifts to the children on behalf of their parents. Here's how you can get involved in Angel Tree this month. **Give a gift.** If you were not able to attend our Angel Tree Sunday last week or would like to purchase a gift, contact us at the church office. **Attend a wrapping party.** We need some help wrapping those presents. Contact us if you are interested. **Participate in a home delivery.** Bring presents to the homes of children and share the gospel. You will be blessed and a blessing. **Help with our Angel Tree Christmas party.** Decorate, welcome, cook, donate, or attend this joyful afternoon as we pass out the gifts and bring the hope of the gospel to our Angel Tree families. **Follow up.** The wonderful aspect of the ministry is the opportunity to maintain contact with these families year-round.

Joined Harmony

A Joined Christmas Concert Featuring
the Worship and Music Ministries of

Redeemer Bible Church &
Scofield Memorial Church

Sunday, December 5, 6 PM
Scofield Memorial Church



From the Pastor's Pen

The Indescribable Gift

Doug Hornok, Senior Pastor

There are several reasons why you or I might not be able to describe a Christmas gift. It may be that we are so overcome with emotion that “words fail us.” Or we might be unable to identify the gift. We might open it and say, “It’s beautiful, just what I always wanted. Uh—what is it?” Or we might care so little for a gift that we might not even bother to describe it.

What can possibly make a gift indescribable? Since all human presents are describable, it is clear that the only thing that can make a gift *indescribable* is that it is more than human. It has to have something of God mixed with it. That is precisely what Paul was thinking of when he penned the words found in 2 Corinthians 9:15. In the context, Paul had been thinking of human gifts: the gifts of the Corinthians to the poor in Jerusalem. But the subject of giving had turned his mind to God and the gift of Christ to his people, which is the greatest of all possible gifts. Having made reference to this special blessing, Paul says, “*Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!*”

Why is the gift of God beyond description? First, the nature of the gift itself. The gift is Christ. So, in order to describe fully this gift, we must be able to describe who Jesus is and what he has done for us, which we cannot do. Jesus described himself as being one with God the Father, and the Scripture everywhere testifies to that fact. His names Jesus (Jehovah saves) and Immanuel (God with us) affirm that Jesus is God. Because Jesus is God, and God is indescribable, we cannot describe the gift. But the gift consists also of what he has done for us. Jesus came to provide salvation for us by his sacrifice on the cross, and we cannot adequately describe that. God has given us words and terms by which to understand it. We have words

like sacrifice, atonement, propitiation and reconciliation. But how Jesus achieved the work of reconciliation by dying for us remains an indescribable mystery.

The gift is also indescribable because of the grace by which it is given. Most of our gifts have nothing to do with grace. We give to others because they’re in our family or are our friends. Rarely do we give to our enemies. Yet God’s gift was granted to those who are in sin and have risen up against God and declared war against the Almighty. God’s actions go beyond the limits of human speech. God’s gift at Christmas is not given to a selected few; it cries out, “Joy to the world!”

The third reason why the gift is “indescribable” is the effects it produces. The gift accomplishes forgiveness of sins; being justified before the bar of God’s justice; being adopted into God’s family; as God’s children we are God’s heirs; the gift of the Holy Spirit who unites us to Christ forever; divine peace which goes beyond circumstances and is beyond any poor human efforts to describe; finally, we have a home in heaven prepared for us by Christ.

As Christmas approaches we thank God for His gift and speak to others. In the Christmas story nearly everyone spoke to others about God’s gift. The wise men said, “*We have seen his star in the east and have come to worship him*” (Matthew 2:2). The shepherds “*spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child*” (Luke 2:17). Simeon “*praised God*” (Luke 2:28). Anna, the prophetess, “*gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem*” (Luke 2:38). This Christmas, let’s declare the message!

“A Ready Defense” January 12 - March 9

Ken Ham and Britt Beemer in their book, *Already Gone: Why your kids will quit the Church and What You Can Do to Stop It*, make this profound statement: “If we teach our children (or anyone) to take God’s Word as written concerning the Resurrection, the miracles of Jesus, and the account of Jonah and the great fish that swallowed him but then tell them we don’t need to take Genesis as written but can reinterpret it on the basis of the world’s teaching about millions of years and evolution — we have unlocked a door ... to undermine biblical authority. We are really saying, “We want you to take God’s Word as written according to literature and language in certain places — but not here at the beginning of Genesis.” According to surveys of thousands of young people, this disconnect is at the heart of young people’s lack of confidence in churches. Ham and Beemer write: “Churches that defend God’s Word and live by God’s Word can once again become ‘the real deal’ to the generation of young adults that has left and the next generation that is teetering on the edge.” Is there a solution? A new series for Junior High to Adults on Wednesday nights, beginning January 12, entitled “A Ready Defense” will provide those answers.

Join in Praying for Youth

The Scriptures are filled with numerous examples of how God chose young men and women to accomplish great works of faith for His glory. Youth like Josiah and Timothy, and Esther and Mary, stepped forward with great faith. As a result, our Lord used them to complete tasks which appeared impossible: restore a nation to God, pastor a rapidly growing church, save Israel from destruction, and even bring the Incarnate Son into the world!

Our God works mightily through young men and women. For this reason, we believe He will utilize our youth to accomplish for the Gospel’s sake what may appear as impossible. During Sunday fellowship in the month of November we studied what it means to “Run with Faith,” and on Wednesdays enjoyed thoughtful times of testimony and worship. This year’s service at the Thanksgiving Banquet and the afterglow party were also a blast. Upcoming events include: the Christmas Discipleship Retreat on the weekend of Dec. 10-12, and outreach at the Buckner Retirement Village on Dec. 15. Please join us in prayer as we expectantly look forward to what God has in store for the awesome youth of Redeemer!

*In Christ Alone,
Michael J. Breznau
Interim Youth Pastor*

Getting to Know You: Charles and Beth Brant

Tommie Loveless

"...Children are a gift of the Lord."
 Psalms 127: 3. This scriptural truth is taking on a new and exciting meaning to **Charles and Beth Brant**, as they are expecting their first child! They elaborated: "We are looking forward to meeting our new baby! Beth continued, "We are so thrilled, it's hard to wait, but we have decided not to know until delivery if the baby is a girl or boy. Either way, it will be the first grandbaby for our parents ... and sure to be spoiled rotten!" Charles commented, "Sydney and Bradley, our two beagles, continually present new challenges, but we are sure they are helping us prepare for parenthood!" Beth, her younger sister, and half brother, were born and raised in Garland, Texas. Charles was born in Arkansas City, Kansas. He commented: "My brother and I enjoyed growing up in this small town of 12,000 people, which is near the Oklahoma border, and was a starting point for the Oklahoma Land Run!"

Charles graduated in May, 2003, from Oklahoma State University, with a Bachelors of Architecture, while Beth graduated from Texas A&M University, with a Bachelor of Environmental Design, in 2002, and a Master of Architecture in 2004. Both are registered Architects in the state of Texas. Charles attributed his interest in architecture to playing with blocks and Lincoln Logs; and attributed his degree to, "a good work ethic, and a good amount of stubbornness!" He added, "Now, I do a lot of paper work and answer contractor questions, while wishing I was still playing with Lincoln Logs!" Beth knew she wanted to be an architect since the 6th grade! During college, Charles and



Beth met at an architectural competition in Dallas, which began a 2-1/2 year, long-distance relationship. They were wed in April, 2006. The Brants love to travel. They have visited twelve different countries, including Germany, where they attended The World Cup on their honeymoon!

Although Beth knew the Lord at age twelve, she revealed, "When I was at A&M, I began to fully realize how much Jesus' sacrifice should sway me to follow and obey Him, and I did! So when Charles drove six hours to see me baptized, it really meant a lot!" Charles related that he grew up in a religious, but not a spiritual

home. Although he knew Christ as a young boy, his faith became strong and matured, when he was in high school. He shared, "I formed life-long friends with members of my youth group, and we all grew in Christ and developed our spiritual lives, by learning and teaching others."

The Brants visited Redeemer in 2006, when Charles was playing soccer with **Josh Bailey**. They enjoyed getting to know **Tony and Melissa Gomillion**, through pre-marital counseling, and joined the church shortly after they married. They commented, "We love the friendly people and atmosphere at Redeemer, and we enjoy watching the Toddlers once a month" They are also members of The Seekers Adult Bible Fellowship.

Charles and Beth, our church family is very blessed to have young and dedicated couples like you!

Memories of Redeemer's Annual Thanksgiving Banquet



On November 19, we gathered to offer thanks to God for this past year. This twelfth annual Thanksgiving banquet featured food catered by Central Market and served by our youth and Boy Scouts. We were also blessed by testimonies and uplifting music.



November Baptisms



On November 21, we rejoiced with Larry Foster as he baptised his grankids:

(front, l-r)
Mary Margaret Roberts,
Madeline Leigh Roberts,
Caroline Lillie Malone,

(back, l-r)
Haleigh Lynn Roberts,
and Patrick Lawrence
(Foster) Malone, III.

Pioneer Girls' Princess Party



Last month, Pioneer Girls learned about Queen Esther and experienced her life through a "Princess Night" party.

RBC Getting a "Facelift"

God's provision of the RBC campus on the corner of Lake Highlands and Easton Road is nothing short of a miracle. Many of you remember the hard work of getting the building ready to move in as new carpet and tile was laid, new lighting installed, fresh paint and thousands of man hours cleaning the building. We have a wonderful facility that requires continued care. Two recent projects that are improving our appearance is the new carpet and tile in the front hallways and foyer, and a fresh coat of paint to the exterior of the building. With the wonderful weather, the



painting is progressing quickly. The exterior painting consists of scraping, power washing, repairing the surfaces to be painted, followed by the application of an undercoat and two coats of very high quality paint that should last for many years. Both of these projects have been funded by special gifts given to the church designated for these projects. God told Samuel that He looks at the heart and man looks on the outside

(1 Sam 16:7). These two projects greatly enhance our facility's appearance and will let everyone who drives by know that we care about where we worship. We thank God for the generosity of those who gave and are confident that God will also work in the heart of others to give.

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

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

BIBLE CHURCH
Redeemer