

September 2013

Linking us with the ministries of our church

Fall Midweek Programs

Tuesday 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Women's Fellowship

Wednesday 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Fellowship and Meal (5:30-6:30 p.m.)

Adults: Bible Study (6:30-8 p.m.)
Women's Fellowship (6:30-8 p.m.)
Handbells (6:30-7 p.m.)
Choir (7-8 p.m.)

Children: Chimes (6:15-6:30 p.m.)
Children's Clubs (6:30-8 p.m.)

Youth: Youth (5:30-7 p.m.)
Boy Scouts (7-8 p.m.)

Women's Fellowship Groups Dig Into God's Word

Join one or both of our Women's Fellowship groups this fall to dig into God's Word and discover truths to help you live a life that pleases Him.

Women meeting on Tuesday morning will mine nuggets of wisdom from the book of Proverbs. Women meeting on Wednesday evening will participate in a DVD study by Lysa TerKeurst called *Unglued*. Lysa will provide practical instruction from God's Word to help us make wise decisions in the midst of emotional turmoil. Both groups will connect and encourage one another through small group discussion, fellowship and prayer.

Tuesday Women's Fellowship meets in Room 120, 9:30-11 a.m. through Nov. 20.

Wednesday Women's Fellowship meets in Room 113, 6:30-8 p.m. The six-week study, *Unglued*, began Sept. 18.

Worshipful, fun day sets the pace for the fall

Redeemer kicked off fall programs

on Sept. 8 with a great day of worship, fun and community focus that included an after-church picnic and a generous contribution to White Rock Center of Hope.

"Back-to-Church Sunday was a worshipful, encouraging, energetic day that set the tone for the year," Senior Pastor **Mark Fortney** said. "The people of Redeemer once again demonstrated their generosity by providing significant support to the White Rock Center of Hope."

As part of a recent sermon series that included a look at the Parable of the Talents, the church distributed \$5 to many Redeemer people, who each invested the money in arts and crafts that they then sold to raise money for the center. The creative projects ranged from cakes to portraits. Together, the congregation donated more than \$4,200 to the center.

Back to Church Sunday included:

- Kickoff of a new sermon series about the Prodigal Son.
- A worship service that included the Grace Notes Handbell Choir, the Sanctuary Choir and a men's quartet.
- Sunday school promotions for children and youth.
- An after-church picnic featuring the Texas Zydeco band led by our own **Dennis Cavalier**.



We donated more than \$4,200 to White Rock Center of Hope

- Presentation of the raised funds to Ted Beechler, executive director of the White Rock Center of Hope.

"We're looking forward to a great fall," Mark said. "Our church is committed to glorifying God, building up each other in love and reaching out to unbelievers to win them to Christ. Programs at Redeemer are aligned to help us with that mission."



Dennis Cavalier's Texas Zydeco band helped us celebrate the beginning of this new year

From the Pastor's Pen

Odds and Ends

Mark Fortney, Senior Pastor

Lisa and I are finally beginning to catch our breath after a very eventful summer. As we take stock of where we've been and where we are now, we're struck by the love and encouragement we've received from the body of Redeemer. You guys have made a potentially stressful transition enjoyable! And even as our boys go off to college and our family gets a little smaller, we feel that our family has actually grown with the addition of our new friends at Redeemer.

Speaking of our RBC family, **thanks to everyone who helped make the Back-to-Church picnic a big success!** Your hard work and dedication resulted in a great shared experience for our church family. And how cool is it that **we got to raise more than \$4,200 for the White Rock Center of Hope?**

In the Parable of the Talents, Jesus praised the stewards that doubled the funds entrusted to them. Well, we went a step further and actually quadrupled our initial investment as a result of your hard work and creativity. Thanks for using your talents to be a blessing to those in our community who are going through difficult times.

Finally, I wanted to update you on the progress we're making in **hiring our next Student Ministries leader**. We had over a dozen qualified men apply for the job and have narrowed our list down to two gifted and godly men. Please be in prayer for the leadership of RBC, the students and their parents as we select RBC's next youth director. We hope to bring this newest member of the staff onboard early in October.

Wednesday-evening study focuses on discipleship

Sten-Erik Armitage and his family — wife, Lisa, and daughters Kristina Emma and Anja — recently began attending Redeemer. Sten-Erik is director of Spiritual Formation at Dallas Seminary, where he helps students think Christianly about their faith, ministry and lives. He also is pursuing a doctorate in theological studies from the University of St. Andrews. Sten-Erik will teach a Wednesday evening Bible study at Redeemer through the fall. The study — In Pursuit: Discipleship in the Gospels — begins each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All ages are welcome and childcare is available.

First, please tell us a little about your family.

My wife, **Lisa**, is a true "renaissance woman." She is an amazing cook, a talented carpenter, a creative problem-solver, a homesteader, but most significantly, my best friend and greatest supporter.

Kristina, my 15 year old, is a talented artist. She is currently enrolled in the International Baccalaureate Program at Garland High School (gig 'em, Owls!) with an emphasis in art and film.

Emma, my 13 year old, has an amazing singing voice and a heart for missions. For many years now she has had her heart set on pursuing some form of medical training to equip her to serve orphans in Uganda. Emma is homeschooled and is in the eighth grade.

Anja, my 12 year old, always keeps us on our toes. Over the past three years we've been on an emotional rollercoaster with some significant health concerns regarding Anja.

Through that continuing experience we are seeing strength of character and natural leadership abilities emerge from Anja. She, too, is homeschooled and is in the sixth grade.

What are your ministry passions?

A devotion to the study of the nature of God as revealed through Scripture, history and creation. Trinitarianism is not an esoteric theological construct, but the bedrock of our faith.



Sten-Erik Armitage teaching Wednesday evening study

Every doctrine hinges on the fact that the God we worship and serve is triune.

As an outflow of that conviction, my passion is to serve the church through study and scholarship geared toward helping people to think Christianly about their faith and the truths of Scripture. The pursuit of right thinking and understanding about God (as far as is possible with our limited understanding) is in and of itself virtuous!

What does it mean to help people think Christianly about their faith, ministry and lives?

We have a reason for the hope within. I fear that we are sending our young people out into the world without a sure foundation.

If we don't equip those within the church to think Christianly about their faith, the first articulate college professor that argues compellingly against the truths of Scripture could derail someone's commitment to the church and the faith!

By addressing the hard questions and demonstrating that we do indeed possess a reasonable faith grounded in the very real nature of our God, we might (with the help of the Spirit) equip those within the church to stand firm against the attacks of a world that rejects the truth of Christianity.

When we pursue an ever-deepening relationship with our God through study in community, our lives will be marked by the God we serve. Endeavoring to think rightly about our creator is not an academic exercise. It was the Lord Jesus Christ's aim during His time on earth to glorify the Father and to make Him known by everything He said and everything He did.

As we seek to know the Father, we will begin to look more like our savior. Our lives will be lived in a way that glorifies the Father, as we too make Him known by our words and our

Children's Ministry unveils new curriculum, upgraded Castle Room to help teach God's Truth

The Children's Ministry is introducing a new curriculum for Children's Church that will take our kids through a chronological timeline from Genesis to Revelation over the course of three years.

"The Gospel Project for Kids, from Lifeway Publishers, will bring Bible events to life through video, music and more to help kids connect biblical events to God's plan for redemption through Christ," Children's Ministry Director **Heidi Regier** said. "It will walk them through the whole Bible as they've never seen it!"

In addition to the new curriculum, the Children's Ministry has been blessed with new media equipment in the Castle Room to help teachers communicate God's truth each Sunday.

"This equipment is a wonderful addition to the Children's Ministry that will help us communicate biblical truths with creativity and energy," Heidi said. "A special thanks goes out to those who helped install so many great additions to the Castle Room."

The castle theme will be used each week to remind the children about the armor of God found in Ephesians 6. The children will be reminded and encouraged to put on the armor of God as they learn to walk in His ways.

Kingdom Kids meets each Sunday during the worship service in the Castle Room (upstairs in the education wing, Room 212). It is designed for children from 4 years old through second grade.

Be a Buddy in Boys Brigade!

If you have a heart for mentoring boys in the faith, join us on Wednesday evenings for Boys Brigade. Your role will be to pair up with a boy to accompany him through the activities that the group is doing. No lesson planning is required. You will meet a need and make an impact on a young life. Contact **Allen Sandlin** or **Heidi Regier** at 214-340-3633 for more information.



At the first Boys Brigade meeting, Don Regier demonstrated how he uses clay figures and 3-D images to illustrate character qualities. Each boy was assisted in molding a clay figure of his own.



Volunteering as a Boys Brigade Buddy requires little more than love and patience.

Officer protects parking lot on Sunday mornings

The Deacon Board has hired an off-duty police officer on a trial basis to be stationed in the parking lot each Sunday morning. This precaution will give our campus the presence of an officer and enable our volunteer security team to patrol the inside of our building and operate our people-moving cart to transport people from their cars to the building.



Our security team now includes an off-duty police officer.

Redeemer Men are gathering

The men of Redeemer Bible Church are gathering to answer the call to pursue courageous biblical manhood. “If you’re a man at Redeemer Bible Church, get prepared,” Connections Pastor **Bert Howard** said. “Be ready to join us. We’re going to be acting like men — we’re stepping up!” Curious? Watch the bulletin for details.



Trunk or Treat: Oct. 31

Redeemer again will welcome the community to our campus during the church-wide Trunk or Treat event on Oct. 31.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for our congregation to reach out to our neighbors,” Children’s Ministry Director **Heidi Regier** said. “We expect hundreds of children and their parents to visit us for an evening of fun.”

Trunk or Treat is a chance to meet families out for traditional trick-or-treat activities on Oct. 31. Individuals, families, Adult Bible Fellowships and small groups are encouraged to decorate a car for the evening.

“Plan a theme and an activity for your car ahead of time, and be ready to welcome lots of visitors,” Heidi said. “There are plenty of ways to help make this event successful — donate candy ahead of time, help decorate and set up the parking lot, host a car, and welcome visitors. And, of course, we’ll need lots of help cleaning up afterwards.”

Those planning to participate on Oct. 31 should arrive by 5:30 p.m. and be ready to welcome visitors by 6 p.m.

...Wednesday Evening Study continued from p2

works! Through the work of the Spirit, we can strive to make Christ the core of our identity. And by doing so, every other aspect of our lives will be made that much richer because we are living for Christ!

Give us an overview of your Wednesday-evening Bible study.

These first several weeks will be spent in a study of how Jesus defined and modeled discipleship during His earthly ministry. All too often we start our study of discipleship with the Great Commission of Matthew 28 and then move into Acts and the Epistles. The reality is that our savior taught and modeled what it meant to be a disciple throughout the gospels! We will study His teachings and see how we might commit to a life of Christ-like discipleship, empowered by the Spirit, for the glory of the Father.

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

P.O. Box 570545
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