

# 'ROUND REDEEMER

Redeemer's Mission: *Leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus and the community of faith, offering hope, help and healing in His name.*

Redeemer's Vision: *Connecting to God, connecting to people, connecting to life!*

January 2009

## **Sundays @ Redeemer**

Band-Led Service - 8:30 am  
Organ-Led Service - 10 am  
Adult Bible Study – 8:30 am  
Sunday30 (children) – 8:30 am

**Reverend Dr. Harold S. Draeger**  
*Lead Pastor*

Reverend Robert E. Wobrock  
*Minister of Visitation*

Eric Robinson  
*Outreach Pastor*

Reverend Dr. John P. Uhlig  
*Pastor Emeritus*

Mr. Michael J. Mancini  
*School Principal*

## **Redeemer Ministries**

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
468 Grand Street  
Redwood City CA 94062-2062

Church Office 650.366.5892  
Church FAX 650.366.5898  
www.redeemerministries.org  
redeemer@redeemerministries.org

School Office 650.366.3466  
School FAX 650.366.5897  
www.redeemer-school.org  
golsen@redeemer-school.org

God, bless the reader of this newsletter ...  
may it lift up and edify ... strengthen and  
encourage ... challenge and make us  
dedicated ... to His Kingdom! In His Name,  
Amen!

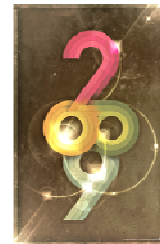
*From Pastor Hal*

## **WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2009**

As we move from the Christmas holiday into the New Year there is a mood of uncertainty. There are hopeful expectations for some as a new president takes over the executive leadership of our nation. For too many there is the expectation of financial hard times because of layoffs, the mortgage meltdown, and the volatile stock market. For some the issues of uncertainty are about the direction of relationships. For others it is concern over health. For others it is about selecting colleges and universities. When it is all considered, there can be much anxiety because we really don't know what to expect in 2009. And how is that unlike any other change of calendar year?

There are a few constants. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever, the Bible tells us. God's promises are secure – all of them because they are grounded in the death and resurrection of His Son. The God who clothed Himself in our skin and who took on Himself the unrighteousness of each one of us and every other human to populate the planet and who won for us a garment of righteousness is the God who never changes. He is the God who is always with us. He is the God who comes to us clothed in bread and wine in the Sacrament of His Grace, Holy Communion. From Baptism He has made us His dwelling place. He speaks words of encouragement (and even correction) to us in the pages of His book. Those are some of the constants – the “never changes.”

It is this expectation, that God will bring blessing through whatever that future holds, that will enable us to have a truly blessed new year called A.D. 2009. This is no different from any other period in history – whether B.C. or A.D. or last year. We can expect that God will be with us and grow us toward greater maturity in Christ. We can expect that He will use us to tell His story to those whose lives have a hole in them – one that only our Lord can fill. We can expect that he will meet us in Word and Sacrament. We can expect a truly blessed new year, no matter what happens.



## **TO LOOK AHEAD – FIRST LOOK UP**

That's what we need to do as we come to the end of a year and enter a new year. LOOK UP! This new year which beckons us seems to be quite different - full of uncertainties and questions. Many people are fearful. What lies ahead? Will we again see prosperity, or, will we enter a period of recession?

Here is a passage which can help us. In 1 Chron. 18:13 we read. "The Lord helped David wherever he went." As one looks at the chapter one sees just how the Lord helped his servant, David. In verse one David defeats the Philistine, with divine help. In verse two he routs Moab and the Moabites, again with help from above. In verse three he extends his kingdom all the way to the Euphrates River - because the Lord was with him. In verse five it was the Syrians. Now comes verse thirteen, "The Lord helped David wherever he went."

That is a good guiding passage for us to claim as we enter this New Year, 2009. The Lord will help us wherever we go. I firmly believe this.

That is His promise. He helped David; He will certainly help us. There may be rough times but the Lord will be right there, guiding us and directing us, sustaining and upholding us. Only a few of us remember the great depression years. We hope such are not in store for us. We shall pray very fervently that our leaders find ways to lead us through the months ahead. But one thing is for sure, the Lord will help us as He helped David.

Read Isaiah 49:15: "Can a woman forget her nursing child and have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, BUT I WILL NOT FORGET YOU. Behold I have inscribed you on the palms of my hand."

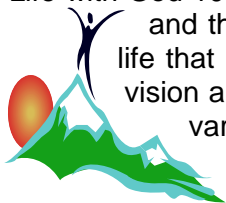
So we move ahead with confidence - a confidence which comes from the promises of our Lord. His promises are sure! I firmly trust Him.

## **CHURCH HEALTH CENTER LAUNCHES "HOPE & HEALING" WEBSITE**

Do you believe that faith and health are connected? The Church Health Center in Memphis, Tennessee, recently launched a new website and its mission is to illuminate this connection. There is a growing movement to engage faith communities in the importance of caring for the body God has given us. Visit [www.hopeandhealing.org](http://www.hopeandhealing.org) for resources to put this belief into action in your life, your congregation and your community.

## **LIFE WITH GOD 101 LAUNCHES THIS MONTH**

Life with God 101 class is designed to answer questions about life with the God Who made us, and then made us His own. Through Him, He keeps us growing and experiencing a life that is abundant. This class allows you opportunity to become acquainted with the vision and values of the Lutheran community facilitated by Pastor Hal. He addresses a variety of topics and answers many of your common questions. The class also provides a basis for deciding if you want to become a member of Redeemer in a formal way. This 16-week semester launches during Wednesday, February 4, 7:00pm-8:30pm. Call the church office to register, 366-5892.



**Transfers:** Eleanor and David Haas (baptized children) to King of Kings Lutheran Church (LCMS) of Mason, Ohio (parents: Brian Haas and Julie Albright)

**Death:** Janet Pierce (former member, daughter of Max & Chris Gerfen and mother of Jennifer, Stephanie and Sarah and had relocated in Arizona). Donations in her memory can be made to "Redeemer."

## **MATINEE FOR KIDS**

Saturday, January 10 – 3:00pm-6:00pm – Event Center

Theme: Dr. Seuss

Free to those kids who are accompanied by an adult. \$10 suggested donation per child for those dropped off. Theatre treats provided.

## **2009 FLOWER CHART**

The flower chart (for altar arrangements) is available on the closet door in the foyer of the worship center. You may share in the joy of giving to God and your congregation by providing these beautiful flowers for our altar.



**Please note:** chose your Sundays during the year and remember that there are a maximum of two (2) people/families for each Sunday.

When you receive notification of your upcoming Sunday, you may write down “in honor of or in memory of.” Return the letter with \$25.00 in the offering or to the church office. The worship folder will reflect your sentiment on that Sunday. The flowers are then available (leave the container and liner

at church) for you to take home after the second service ends. Granara’s Flowers in San Carlos is the shop providing the arrangements. The cyclamens of Advent may be taken home after Advent.

## **SHARING THE VISION – FORWARD IN MISSION**

After an eight-week period of information and inspiration to raise funds to pay the mortgage on the Education Center and to build-out the old classroom building into an administrative center and to remodel areas in the Event Center for child care rooms for nursing children and for toddlers as well as returning the Holy Grounds Café, we have reached one goal – the mortgage bridge. Now we have the funds to enable us to increase the school enrollment over the next three years to generate sufficient monthly revenues to sustain the mortgage payments. Thanks go to *Brian McCollum* for serving as Campaign Chair. He had a great support team which included the prayer Event Coordinators, *Vince and Adeline Barbara*. Serving as Small Group Hosts were *Jeff and Becky Berry*, *Andy and Amy Kelm*, and *Brad and Wendy Kinstler*. *Wendy Kinstler* put together a great Special Event on Commitment Sunday with the help of a wonderful team. Numerous callers volunteered to contact people by phone to remind them of events and to encourage folks to submit their pledge cards. All the graphic art for printed material was done by *Bernie Wong*. *Judy Buchan* served as editor. What a great bunch of volunteers, without whom we could not have been successful!!

For the Commitment Sunday Service, *Redeemer School students* brought special vocal and hand bell music. Celebration Choir and *The Redeemer Praise Band* provided music. Many commented on what a great worship experience it was.

We celebrate the grace of God in moving our community of faith to \$425,000 for the Sharing the Faith – *Forward in Mission*.

Thanks be to God for the great resources he has brought to Redeemer. What a team!!



# CONGREGATION ELECTS NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND EXTENDS CALL



In the Congregational Meeting in December, Bill Morris was re-elected President of the Board of Directors. New members elected to the Board are Frances Schreiner and Chuck Hansen. They make a great addition to the leadership team. The congregation also voted to extend a Divine Call to Eric Robinson to officially serve as Pastor of Outreach following the completion of his internship at Redeemer. The Call would be extended to him officially in April at the St. Louis Seminary's Call Night. He would likely be ordained and installed as Associate Pastor in June.

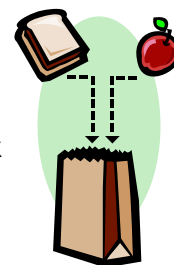
COMING SOON – REGISTRATIONS FOR REDEEMER'S SUMMER CAMPS!!

## BAGS OF LOVE

**Saturday, January 17, 8:15am** - - - help make PB&J sandwiches and pack bags in the Event Center before heading to SF to distribute food and friendship and prayer to the under-resourced folks in the Seneca Hotel.

*Please consider this ministry as part of a way to serve God through serving others.* Contacts: Glenn Hessler, [ghessler@comcast.net](mailto:ghessler@comcast.net) or 364-2739 and Paul Soule, [1pau5@sbcglobal.net](mailto:1pau5@sbcglobal.net) or 364-0952.

*Additionally, it costs over \$200.00 per month to pay for supplies...if you would like to contribute make note on your check: **BAGS OF LOVE**. Also donations of creamy peanut butter and strawberry jam are accepted.*



## Super Bowl Breakfast – January 31 in Redeemer Event Center

Coming by simulcast to Redeemer members and friends on Saturday, January 31, is breakfast with a bonus! The special programming event is hosted by three-time Super Bowl Champion Brent Jones and features the inspiring faith testimonies of **Bart Starr, Tony Dungy, Anthony Munoz** and **Derrick Brooks!** In addition --

- Hear from players on both 2009 Super Bowl teams.
- Enjoy a great tradition of breakfast and fellowship.
- See the prestigious **Bart Starr Award** presentation.

FREE tickets will be available at Redeemer the Sundays before the event. It will be a time of great inspiration and fellowship. Why not bring your friends as your guests? You and they will be encouraged.

Here is the URL for sending invitations to your neighbors and friends.

The time is 7:15am -9:00am, Saturday, January 31. FREE.

Go to the link below and follow instructions remembering to include as the place: "Redeemer, 468 Grand St. @ Harrison, Redwood City":

[http://www.ccn.tv/superbowl2009/images\\_downloads/evt\\_31jan09\\_email.htm](http://www.ccn.tv/superbowl2009/images_downloads/evt_31jan09_email.htm)



## ***Stephen Ministry***

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*Stressed? Grieving? Feeling "low"? Please consider accepting a Stephen Minister (this is a non-cost ministry of Redeemer) to walk with you through the many challenges in your life offering hope, help and healing through our Life-Giving God.*

### **Redeemer's Stephen Minister Leadership Team:**

*Pastor Draeger, Stephen Minister, Teaching & Supervision Leader, 650-366-5892 x20*

*Karen Kneeder, Stephen Minister, Leader and Referrals Coordinator, 650.366.5892 x16 or via e-mail, [karenk@redeemerministries.org](mailto:karenk@redeemerministries.org).*

*From Helen Botnarescue, ministry group member*

## ***LIFE ENRICHMENT***



*Life Enrichment Ministry shares freely the wisdom given freely that is ours through faith in Jesus Christ our Lord, to the end that all might have fellowship and hope in this life and in that which is yet to come.*

Eight from the Life Enrichment group enjoyed a late afternoon/early evening concert last month at First Lutheran Church, Palo Alto. The Soli Dei Gloria singers presented the premier of an oratorio, "Mixed Blessings", based on the Christmas story but including several modern, humorous touches. Afterwards several of us went to Carpaccio in Menlo Park and enjoyed a fantastically delicious Italian dinner.

The December 13 Life Enrichment luncheon was attended by approximately 40 people. We all thoroughly enjoyed Chef Christine Leslie's vegetarian lasagna and piano playing by Lionel Sequeira as entertainment. Pastor Wobrock also entertained us with his usual pithy and humorous comments.

This month the luncheon will start as usual at 11:00am with remarks from Pastor Wobrock. Tentatively scheduled is chef *Bob Stanghellini* and he is sure to prepare a delicious luncheon. Although entertainment is not as yet set, you can be sure it'll be interesting whether it's a speaker or a musical group.

In February *Karl and Denise Maier* are the guest chefs (remember the delicious pork tenderloin they last prepared for us?)...more about that next month.

Sign-up on the sheet in the Event Center or phone the church office 366-5892

## ***2009 OFFERING ENVELOPES***

Located in the Event Center are the 2009 offering envelope packs. Please pick yours up and if you don't find your box there...please check with Karen know in the church office. Please remember to use 2009 and not any of your leftover 2008 envelopes because it is likely that your number has changed!



# REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL

*We Exist to Build a New Generation of Christian Leaders  
Prepared to Thrive in a Rapidly Changing World*

## A New Year of Change!

January 1, 2009! WOW! Another year has come and gone and a new one begins. As we complete the Christmas season, and begin the routine tasks of everyday life, let us not forget this past Christmas Season and the real reason we celebrate! This is also a time when we all reflect on the past year and set goals or should I say "resolutions" that we want to accomplish in the "New Year".

As we begin the "New Year" I look toward the future vision and continued growth of Redeemer School. God has blessed our ministries for the past 52 years and He continues to bless and show His love TODAY!

We have already begun our family recruiting efforts for next school year. We purchased an advertisement in the "Bay Area Parent Magazine." This ad will run for the month of January. Our Open Houses and Tour Days run throughout the month.

We could use **YOUR** help! Make it a part of your "resolution" to hand a flyer to a friend and tell them about Redeemer. Together we can make a difference in a child and their family's life.

You are all very special to our community and WE thank our great God each day for your love and commitment to Redeemer Lutheran School.

## IN THE NEWS!

Each year, the teachers commit to having their classes perform community service locally and globally. The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade's efforts

caught the eye of media. KGO and KTSF interviewed both Ms. Kinstler, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher, and her class. They were involved in the "Blue Planet Run" to help build wells in Tanzania. Here are two emails we received.

*"From all of us at Blue Planet Run, you are our heroes! You did an amazing job and are the top fundraisers for the 30-Mile Challenge! We hope to hear some news from Tanzania, as they are already preparing to build the wells. We will be sending a final email announcing the winners and we still have the electronic scrapbook to share! You should be very proud of your accomplishments. Imagine if every 3<sup>rd</sup> grader did what you did - KID POWER!!" On behalf of the Blue Planet Run, thank you for supporting this year's global community service project.*

*Miss Kinstler and the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders ran/walked/cycled/scootered an impressive 596 miles and raised an amazing \$2,277.00! That was enough money to build the wells in Tanzania that will allow three schools' worth of children to attend their classes instead of spending their time hiking long distances to obtain water from contaminated water supplies. That is enough to provide a whopping 75 people a lifetime of fresh drinking water!!!! GREAT WORK! And being on TV is just icing on the cake. :) God is good. All the time!*

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**Kindergarten** The kindergarten class raised money for Heifer International which is a nonprofit charitable organization based in Little Rock, Arkansas, dedicated to relieving global hunger and poverty. It provides gifts of livestock as well as education in sustainable agriculture, to financially disadvantaged families around the world. Heifer International is dedicated to providing permanent freedom from hunger by giving families livestock and training so that they "could be spared the indignity of depending on others to feed their children." The basic philosophy of Heifer International was based on the proverb, "Give a man a fish; you have fed him for today. Teach a man to fish; you have fed him for a lifetime." Well the kindergarten kids did not give fish but they raised enough money (over \$300) to provide 1 pig, 3 rabbits, 4 chicks and a bumblebee hive to families in need all over the world. We had a great time supporting this organization. It was a wonderful experience.

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade** In the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter the 4<sup>th</sup> graders collected over 40 Halloween costumes for The Shelter Network. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, they purchased Christmas gifts for a needy family through the organization Helping Hands.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade** Besides doing all of the campus paper recycling, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be starting a new recycling project on January 6 to collect all old athletic shoes. The shoes will be ground into spongy playground surface material with a collection goal of 100 pairs. Also, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade co-sponsored with the 1<sup>st</sup> grade buddy class a collection of clothes, diapers and food for a needy family in Redwood City for Christmas. Earlier in the year, they collected spare change to help sponsor children in Africa.

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade** The student council collected over \$2000 for the "Olevolos Project," an orphanage in the Olevolos village in Tanzania, Africa with a mission for "enabling children to grow up in a safe, secure and supporting environment and encouraging them to become active and contributing members of their local and global communities". They also collected over 2000 cans of food for Second Harvest Food Bank. The 6-8<sup>th</sup> graders will be going to the SF food bank this month or next to help package food boxes.

I am so proud of the staff and teachers at RLS for their continued effort in teaching students about caring for others. I believe we are making a difference in many lives and modeling the great love Christ showed us!

May our Great and Awesome God bless each of you this *New Year* to come.

**Ephesians 2:21-22** *In Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit.*

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Jan 5 ~ School Resumes**

**Tour Dates ~ Thursdays in January (8, 15, 22, 29) 9:00am-10:00am**

**Jan 8-10 ~ Mission Peak Basketball Tournament (Fremont)**

**Jan 19 ~ No School (Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday)**

**Jan 21 ~ Open House (6:30pm-8:30pm)**

**Jan 22 ~ End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter (12:30 Dismissal)**

**Jan 23 ~ No School (Parent/Teacher Conferences)**

**Jan 24 ~ Open House (10:00am-12:00noon)**

**Jan 27 ~ Spelling Bee (1:30pm)**

From Helen Botnarescue, President

## *Lutheran Women in Mission*

*Lutheran Women in Mission affirm, encourage, and enable women,  
in relationship with the Triune God, to use their gifts in ministry to people of the world.*

The Christmas Tea on December 11 was a great success. Approximately 25 people attended and thoroughly enjoyed the 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade musical, "Backstage at the Inn ... God Made a Way in a Manger." The sandwiches and cookies were tasty and also enjoyed by all.

Remember, there is no meeting in January. We are pleased to announce that *Etta Hansen* will be our guest speaker at the February 12 meeting. Those of us who have heard Etta speak before know that she'll prepare a most thoughtful and interesting Bible study.

News from the CNH District shows that the first six of the Mission Grants have already been funded, and it looks like we'll successfully fund all of the requested grants before the next biennial ends. God has blessed us in so many ways!

Those of us who might want to see and hear inspirational and humorous speaker Jan Struck in 2009 should mark our calendars now. Jan will be the speaker at the Region IV (Zones 4, 6, & 19) Conference November 7, 2009, at Town and Country Lutheran Church in Sacramento. Jan's topic will be "His Hope." Registration forms will be available in February. We'll remind everybody as more is known.

And an advance notice: The 2010 LWML Convention -- "Know the Hope - Jesus Christ" -- will be held in Region III (the San Francisco Bay Area) in April 2010. Our local Convention Chairpersons, Linda Bradley and Marcia Houseworth, will soon be asking us to join "the team". Planning always starts early as you may remember...

Coming on September 18-20, 2009 will be the annual Women's Retreat in Santa Cruz. Barbara Carr, Vice President of Christian Life, writes that 2009 will be the last year when we'll meet in Santa Cruz. So that, starting in 2010, we may be more centrally located within the entire district.

### January 2009

Saturday 3 January, 8:30am: Women's Bible Breakfast, Baker's Square -- **cancelled**

Monday 5 January, 10:00am: LWIM Board Meeting, Room 2 -- **cancelled**

Thursday 8 January, 1:00pm: **NO LWIM MEETING**

### February 2009

Monday 2 February, 10:00am: LWIM Board Meeting, Room 2

Saturday 7 February, 8:30am: Women's Bible Breakfast, Baker's Square

Thursday 12 February, 1:00pm: LWIM Meeting, Room 2

Bible Study Leader: Etta Hansen

### March 2009

Monday 2 March, 10:00am: LWIM Board Meeting if needed, Room 2

Saturday 7 March, 8:30am: Women's Bible Breakfast, Baker's Square

Thursday 12 March, 1:00pm: **NO LWIM MEETING**

## **FOOD DRIVE CONTINUES**

Even though we have moved into a new year ... there are still those who are "food insecure." Keep these items in mind when you do your grocery shopping: Flour, corn meal, rice, pasta, salt, pepper, white and brown sugar, tuna, spam, canned sardines, soup, beans (canned and packaged), vegetables & fruit in cans, condensed milk, powdered milk, bottled or canned fruit juices, toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex – place your donations in the large basket beside the information table at the entrance to the Event Center. Idea: when a store offers 2 for 1 ... donate the one you got free!







