

'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!*

August 2009

Sundays @ Redeemer

Band-Led Service - 8:45 am

Sunday30 (children) – 8:45 am

Adult Bible Study – 9:00 am

Organ-Led Service – 10:30 am

Sunday messages podcast:

www.redeemerministries.org/podcast/

Reverend Dr. Harold S. Draeger
Lead Pastor

Eric Robinson
Outreach Pastor

Reverend Robert E. Wobrock
Visitation Pastor

Reverend Dr. John P. Uhlig
Pastor Emeritus

Mr. Michael J. Mancini
School Principal

Redeemer Ministries

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*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 Hal Draeger, Lead Pastor

“Time Out”

There are very few sports that don't allow for a “time out” – boxing and horseracing are a couple. But even those allow for scheduling in some down time. Summer is that for many of us... a time to pull back the throttle on some of our busy-ness; a time to refresh ourselves; a time to re-fuel ourselves; a time to re-connect with family and friends...something that is energizing. It is much quieter around Redeemer these days.

All that reminds me of the rhythm of life from the time of creation. Even the God who never slumbers or sleeps rested. He even set apart the 7th day as a time of rest – not so much for Himself but as a model for us. He mandated a Sabbath rest in the 10 Commandments for the benefit of His people (Jesus said that the Sabbath was made for man not man for the Sabbath). I hope your time of rest and recreation this summer has been a time of renewal and re-creation. I hope you have had more time to connect with your family and friends. More importantly, I hope you have had more time to be with the God who created and redeemed you; maybe it was more time to reflect on spiritual things; maybe it was more time to read the Scriptures and/or to read a spiritually strengthening book; maybe it was worshipping as a family in another community while you were away on vacation or for the weekends.



Those “time outs” afford connection time and time for reflection, reorientation and re-fueling. Our Sunday messages for August (already underway in July) focus on *Refueled for Living*. The learning points come from a guy named James, who wrote a little book tucked away in the last part of the New Testament.

When you are in town, I hope you make every effort to take a spiritual “Time Out” on the weekends to join us as we get pumped-up to really live. In cycling, we are encouraged to “Eat before you are hungry and drink before you are thirsty.” Refueling with food and energy drinks is important to ride strong and long. Jesus says that those who come to Him as the Bread of Life and those who drink from Him will be satisfied. I

encourage you to take the weekly time outs that will truly

refuel and refresh the deepest parts of your life.

From Eric Robinson, Outreach Pastor

BY A THREAD



I'm a little bewildered at the moment, as I was reminded of life's little rule a few hours ago. I had just finished doing some work on my bike, and to make sure everything was in working order after taking it apart, I hopped on to ride about three blocks. I debated for a moment if I should grab my helmet and then decided it was the responsible thing to do, so I strapped it on and went down the street.

Everything was correctly pieced back together and my bike felt a little smoother than normal – a sign that I was successful in my tinkering – and after being in the saddle for about 2 minutes, I turned into my driveway. As I turned, a car pulled out from the curb and didn't see me. I instinctively squeezed my brakes hard, too hard, and flew over the handlebars landing squarely on my head and left shoulder. This was all *literally* a few feet from my driveway – and I wasn't even going for a ride!

A few X-Rays later, it was determined that there was nothing broken in my shoulder, though it did sustain a lot of "soft-tissue" damage...whatever that means. I can't move it very well at the moment. But as I was thinking about the accident and how I landed, I realized that if I hadn't thought to put my helmet on, Redeemer likely would need to start the search for another Associate pastor. I hit the ground directly on my head and shoulder.

This all reminds me that life is quite absurd and includes odd events like flipping over one's handle bars because a car doesn't see you a few feet from your own driveway. I wasn't even on a real bike ride! But then it also reminds me that life, in its absurdity, hangs by a thread. God clearly kept me safe, because there were a few possible scenarios that ended with me dead or permanently injured.

I think that tension between absurdity and frailty haunts the writer of Ecclesiastes, as well as everyone else who has received little reminders that life hangs by a thread. Ecclesiastes, of course, is one of my favorite books in the Biblical Narrative for that reason. And what does it conclude? Live your life, follow God, enjoy the few days he has given us.

So may you live in the Grace of Jesus, enjoy the absurdity of life, and live in the security that when your thread is cut, God will catch you.

LIFE'S HEALING CHOICES 8-WEEK SERIES BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 27

Through weekend *services*, small *group* studies, and reading a chapter of the *devotional book* each day, our entire church family will focus on the same spiritual themes for the same period of time. 😊 Imagine for a moment the impact on our church when each person lives out the principles they will read about. 😊 This impact grows as those individuals live in powerful community with their small group, and reaches its peak when those small groups come together to experience the power of the principles as an entire congregation! We call



this the Power of Alignment. This concentrated time of alignment (maybe even recalibration) will bear lasting, eternal fruit in all levels of our church. The basic resource will be Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, with special attention to the Beatitudes. Groups will be available for sign up in early September and will be offered at different times throughout the week as well as on Sunday Morning. Let's grow, together!!

From John Uhlig, Pastor Emeritus

HE CHARTS THE COURSE OF MY LIFE

Psalm 139:16

That is true! Very true! The Lord has charted the course of my life - the minor events - the major events - the successes - the days - and months - and years! He charts it all for me - and for you. This the 139th Psalm reveals to us. Here it is, "Thine eyes have seen my unformed substance; and in Thy book they were all written, the days that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them."

Before I was formed in the womb, my Lord God had me in His plans. Awesome! We are very special, are we not? The Lord planned my being, my life, my existence, my life! "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is too high, I cannot attain to it." (Psalm 139:6) Go back to verse 16, "And in Thy book they were all written, the days that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them." God charted all the details of my life - the days, the years, the decades - and He did all this before I even existed, and He wrote them all in His book! Hard to grasp, isn't it? And also very hard to believe! But there it is in Psalm 139:16.

Our God is an awesome God, far above anything that we can comprehend. "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is too high; I cannot attain to it." (Psalm 139:6).

When we are young we are oblivious of these fantastic truths. We just make our plans, and get our education, and find our job, and fill our niche in life, pretty much thinking that we are at the rudder steering our ship of life. But then we get older, and older, and finally we are at retirement age, and we may get still older. It is THEN that we look back upon the days, and months, and the years of our life - and - we discover this truth of Psalm 139:16 - that the Lord planned it all. We look back and we see that the LORD WAS AT THE RUDDER steering the course - all the time. My but that is a good feeling - the Lord charted the course of my life, and He still is. Note also that He has led us directly to the cross of Calvary and to the open grave on Easter morning and gave us the wonderful gift of our faith in Jesus.



Read it again in your Bibles and mark it well - Psalm 139:16, "Thine eyes have seen my unformed substance, and in Thy book they were all written, the days that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them, "I think you will agree with me in saying, "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, it is too high; I cannot attain to it." (Psalm 139:6)



NEW MEMBERS *formally brought into membership, June 28*

Jon Bock Michelle Mandolfo Ken Paxton Florence Walker

BAPTISM

Alia Bock

DEATH

Evangeline Vickery

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK (IHN)

On Redeemer campus July 26 to August 8

For the last week of July and the first week in August (6:00pm – 7:00am) ... you will notice tents in Fellowship Hall and folks spending the night. There are still areas in which you might want to help (cooking, preparing takeout meals, spending the night, playing with the children). Coordinating the volunteers:



Donna Beaman (368-4034) and Ruth Finkelstein (574-3460). They'd love to hear from you!

- **eScrip benefits Redeemer School:** every time you shop at Safeway, Macy's, Round Table, other fine retailers, and online stores, these merchants donate up to 10% to Redeemer. You sign up once and never have to write a check. It's automatic and doesn't stop during the summer. If you're not yet enrolled, it takes less than 5 minutes to sign up online at www.escrip.com
Group Name: Redeemer Lutheran School, Group ID: 137104928
- **Prayer Requests for the Prayer Chain:** Write your prayer requests on the back of the attendance slips during worship or phone the church office: 366-5892 x16.
- **Flower arrangements for the Altar:** Sign up on bulletin board in the worship center foyer. Please specify if the bouquet is in honor or memory of someone or for a special occasion. Two per Sunday limit.
- **Still Collecting this Summer:** General Mills Box Tops (Labels for Education), used Print Cartridges, Campbell's Soup Labels (UPC code), Pop Pull Tops from aluminum cans, strawberry baskets (empty of course), Food Basket items (non-perishable groceries) benefit Second Harvest, Food Basket monies (made out to Redeemer) benefit Salvation Army, eyeglasses and cases.
Collection area: entrance to Fellowship Hall.
- **While you are on vacation:** Wrapped soap, unused hair shampoos and conditioners (the small sized ones you find in hotel rooms) and devotional booklets like "Portals of Prayer" all benefiting "Bags of Love." Collection area: entrance to Fellowship Hall.
- **Worship Folders:** Worship folders from the church/s you visit while out of town. Pastors and secretaries like to look at what other churches are doing. Please bring to the church office or place in offering marked with "Office."
- **Target RED Card:** Sign up for a Target Visa card online <http://target.com> and enter Target School ID: 3565 - - - thus designating Redeemer as your school of choice. When using your Target Visa card 1% of your purchases go to our school!
- **"Green" Redeemer Bags:** (\$5) Good for packing groceries (\$1 - World Vision)
- **Redeemer H₂O Bottles:** available for \$5.00 (with one buck for World Vision)



LIFE WITH GOD 101

(Receive a basic overview of Christian faith and deepen your walk with God)

Get all your questions answered about 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 16-week semester is launching next month! It is held on Thursday evenings, 7:00-8:30pm in Conference Room 1. No fee for the classes. Launch date: September 3 – Registration: 366-5892 x11.

MAPLE STREET MISSION AUGUST



On Saturday, August 8, a group of volunteers prepare (usually at Redeemer kitchen except for the desserts that are homemade) and transport food to the Maple Street Mission (1580 Maple St., Ste A, RWC) and serve and visit with the folks.

If you would like to cook, bake, serve or all three...contact Sharron Miller, 364-3124 or lolbiker@comcast.net

To learn more about the Shelter: <http://www.shelternetwork.org/maple.html>

REDEEMER PRIDE DAY

Come help spruce up Redeemer campus!



- Fellowship Hall and the Education Building
- Saturday, August 22, 8:00am-2:00pm (lunch provided)
- Painting - Stucco - Repair
- Bring your drop cloth, buckets, cleaning supplies, paint brushes (paint provided)
- If you would like to help coordinate ... please contact Pastor Hal (366-5892 x20).

From Bob Wobrock, Pastor of Visitation

LIFE ENRICHMENT

God enables us through Life Enrichment Ministry to enhance our latter years by sharing with others our Christian love and fellowship.

We welcome two new members to the board: *Virginia Nelson* and *Barbara Schroeder-Gregoire* who are replacing two dear gals, Helen Botnarescue, (moved to Oregon) and Fran Rothe (moving to Modesto).



The New Year's theme "A SENIOR MOMENT" will kick off the first luncheon, Saturday, September 12, 11:00am in Fellowship Hall. This will also be a special event involving about a dozen little children, a clown/magician, a brief Bible introduction and a special luncheon with these little children in mind.

You will not want to miss this exciting event that recalls in the lives of each of us – especially those who are older among us – A SENIOR MOMENT that involves clowns and magicians.

Please **mark** your calendars right now – before you have a different senior moment and forget! (Grandparent's Day is Sunday, September 13.)



Lutheran Social Services OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
Celebrating 125 years of Social Ministry
Presents...
GARRISON KEILLOR
LIVE IN CONCERT!!!
7:00 PM, Tuesday, September 22, 2009
MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM, SACRAMENTO

Garrison Keillor is a radio host and world-renowned author of "Prairie Home Companion"

In celebration of Lutheran Social Services' 125th anniversary, this event is being held to bring the community together and to raise funds for the services provided to former

foster youth, families and vulnerable individuals. LSS serves over 2,500 people a month in supported housing programs and money management services throughout Northern California. **Tickets are available** . . . from the Sacramento Convention Center, 1301 L Street, Sacramento, 800.225.2277 or online at www.tickets.com. Tickets may be subject to applicable convenience fees. For additional information, call Susan Hill at 925.825.1060x17, shill@lssnorcal.org.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL

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

FREEDOM

As July passes I can't help but look back at the celebration of another birthday in our country's history. Incredible! How 233 years of freedom can at times be taken for granted. We live in such a wonderful place where we can express our 1st Amendment rights of Freedom of Speech, Religion, Petition and Assembly. The Wonderful truth is that 2000 years ago we were given the ultimate freedom. It came not on Saturday July 4th but on a Friday, on a hill called Calvary. As Pastor Hal and Pastor Eric's past sermon series stated we live today with the greatest freedom given in the history of the world. Christ gave his life and rose again so that we may all live in freedom from sin. Now that's worth having a celebration!

A LOOK AHEAD

August will be a very exciting time at Redeemer. We are in the process of ordering new curriculum materials as we continue to keep current with other schools and our California State standards. This is also the time of year when teachers begin their home visits, parents finish up with vacation schedules and students begin the task of purchasing school supplies. The 2009/2010 school year looks to be one of excitement and challenges.

As our State continues to struggle with budgetary cuts and individuals are losing jobs, we continue to remind each other that God is in control. This can be difficult when we feel we are all alone. We are cautiously optimistic as God continues to send prospective families to our school. Our staff is excited and looking forward to the New Year and the many opportunities it will bring. In May we were concerned that our enrollment wouldn't reach 160. As of this issue we are planning on starting the year close to 175 students. PRAISE GOD!

Our school continues to receive positive acclamations throughout the community. Our current parents continue to tell others of the great things that are happening at RLS!

Through the years we have seen that **word of mouth** is the best marketing program we have.

We pray that the Lord continues to work with our governmental leaders both National and State. We pray He touches all the families I have met and will be meeting, and that He leads them to our school and church ministries.

As we look toward the upcoming months, I would like to remind each of you, as I am reminded of God's promise through the following well-known story...*Footprints in the Sand*:

One night a man had a dream that he was walking along the beach with the Lord. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life, for each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand, one belonging to him the other to the Lord. When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there were only one set of prints. He also noticed that it happened only at the lowest and saddest times in his life. This really bothered him and he questioned the Lord about it, "Lord you said that once I chose to follow you, you would walk with me at all times. But I noticed that in my most troublesome times it was then I only saw one set of footprints. I do not understand why you would leave me when I needed you most?" The Lord replied, "My precious child, I love you and would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering when you saw only one set of footprints it was then that I carried you."

-Mary Stevenson

We look forward to a new year and know that our awesome God will continue to carry us at all times. I look forward to serving Christ and all of you.

God's Blessings to you and your family as you finish up your summer vacations.

PASS IT ON

Please "Pass It On" ... the school phone number **(650) 366-3466** and website: www.redeemer-school.org to anyone who might be interested in a quality Christian education.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me. We are very blessed to have congregational members, and parents such as you and we look forward to giving our children not only a quality education, but also the Christian values and morals that will allow them to succeed in this forever changing society.

Redeemer Lutheran Ministries is An Acts 2 Church:

Connecting People to Jesus and Helping Them Grow Spiritually

From Mardell Rogers, LWIM Member

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.

⇒ Redeemer Lutheran Women in Mission will not have a monthly meeting in **August**.



More than 3300 ladies and some men attended the LWML Convention (Look to the Hills & God Reigns) in the Rose City, Portland, Oregon, June 5-28. 16 ladies from Zone 8 attended. God Reigns as Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier

⇒ The National LWIM mission goal climbs higher! There is an increase of \$135,000.00 above the previous goal. That means the 2009-2011 mission goal is \$17,825,000.00. First two projects:

- Defray costs of shipping quilts by Lutheran World Relief - \$80,000.00
- Concordia Seminary, St. Louis Food Bank relocation - \$50,000.00

The June Ice Cream Social at Redeemer was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Calendaring Events:

August

Monday, August 10 – 10:00am Board Meeting (Classroom #2)

Saturday, August 15 – 10:00am Zone 8 Executive Board Meeting (CR-1)

September

Friday-Sunday, September 11-13, Cowboy's Rest, Region V Fall Retreat, Jiggs, NV

⇒ **Friday-Sunday, September 18-20**, at Villa del Mar, Santa Cruz. Bible Study leader is Rev. Herb Burch. Theme: *"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgive each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."* The ingathering is for "Above the Line", a residential, educational, and therapeutic program for 'at risk' girls. Flyers and registration forms are on the Information Table at the entrance to Fellowship Hall.

Friday-Sunday, September 25-27, Silver Spur, Zone 3 Fall Retreat, Silver Spur Christian Camp Group, Tuolumne CA

October

⇒ **Saturday, October 17, Zone 8 Fall Rally, Redeemer**

November

Saturday, November 7, Women's Conference, Town & Country Lutheran Church, Sacramento CA. with the Young Women's Brainstorming Session following conference. Flyers are on the Fellowship Hall Information Table.

January, 2010

Friday-Sunday, January 22-24, Winter Retreat, Region VI, Camp Mokuleia, Oahu HI

April and May, 2010

⇒ **Friday-Sunday, April 30-May 2, CNH LWIM Convention, Wyndham Hotel, San Jose**

REDEEMER HOSTS COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Come meet the Redwood City Council Candidates ...
Sunday, September 17, 6:30pm-9:00pm in Fellowship Hall.

TEAM IN TRAINING



Three Redeemerites, *Eric and Katy Robinson, and Tiffany Ladoski* are participating in the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's "Team in Training" Triathlon at Pacific Grove, September 12. More info: <http://www.tricalifornia.com/index.cfm/PG2009-main.htm>

They are training to participate in a 1.5k Swim, 40k Bike, and 10k Run. *Katy and Tiffany* have committed to raise at least \$3300 each for the "Team in Training" program. Over 75% of the money they raise will go directly to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society to be spent on patient literature, drug research, and many other areas to help those affected by blood disorders. The drug that is sustaining Eric, Gleevec, was funded by Team in Training participants from past events.



Please encourage them as they continue training for this event!

Contribution sites: http://pages.teamintraining.org/sj/pactri09/krobinson_LTN4 and <http://pages.teamintraining.org/sj/pactri09/tladoski>.



WAVES TO WINE CYCLING FUNDRAISER

Once again *Pastor Hal, Sharron Miller, John Dumanske* and others from the Redeemer community will be riding from San Francisco to Rohnert Park along the beautiful Pacific Coast to raise awareness and funds for treatment of Multiple Sclerosis. Those who would like to provide financial support may do so at the following link and then click on one of the riders from Redeemer to donate:

http://main.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR/Bike/CANBikeEvents?pg=team&fr_id=10611&team_id=142216

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE PLANNED

Children's Ministries is organizing a special event for Saturday, October 3, in Fellowship Hall. If you know of anyone who would like to participate (vendors and home businesses) please encourage them to fill out the survey at the link below:

<http://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?key=rpBoTJbzu0E3Ub6NqTBR3SA&hl=en>



Benefit: *the various programs that Children's Ministries support*

One of these two contact gals will be in touch:

Pamela Estes 650-780-9727 pkestes@rcn.com

Stephanie McCollum 650-364-1319 or stephanoli@yahoo.com