

'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!*

July 2008

Redeemer Ministries

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

Sundays @ Redeemer

Band-Led Service - 8:30 am
Organ-Led Service – 10:00 am
Adult Bible Study – 8:30 am
Sunday30 (children) – 8:30 am

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

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

God, please 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

Lead Pastor Ha Draeger shares with us

WELCOME ROBINSONS!

We were privileged last month to commission Eric Robinson as Pastor of Outreach while serving Redeemer as pastoral intern.

Eric has come for one year as a mission-track intern serving under my leadership while remaining a student at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. After his one-year internship (also known as "vicarage") Redeemer will have the opportunity to ordain Eric and extend a Divine Call right here to continue his work among us.

His task is to reach people who are not connected to Jesus and His church. His primary focus is those between 14 and 34. Because of his outreach focus, he will spend most of his time developing relationships with people outside of the Redeemer community.

His training at the seminary was targeted to reach this group. His home church in the greater Houston area (Crosspoint, Katy, TX) has also been a resource in fueling his passion to reach those who are not intimately connected to Jesus.

Katy, who has recently completed her first Triathlon, will be looking for work in the fashion design industry. Both have a passion for creative worship experiences. They will be living in Redwood City. Pastor Eric will have his office in the administrative center (and Starbucks, and other places on the streets of the Mid-Peninsula).

Thanks to all for making their arrival so welcoming – with personal greetings and with gifts of love that make setting up their household in Redwood City smoother. Thanks also to our District President, Dr. Robert Newton for the message from God's Holy Word he delivered in Eric's commissioning service.

Dr. Hal Draeger
Senior Minister

Eric Robinson
Pastor of Outreach

Rev. Bob Wobrock
*Visitation Pastor to
the Homebound*

OUTREACH

When I walked into my new office for the first time, I found a binder with several pads of paper, some pens and pencils, a stapler, and a few other necessary office supplies. To be honest, I was pretty excited about them and quickly put much of it to use. By taking care of the small details such as office supplies, I really felt welcome and encouraged by Redeemer as I began the first day of my new career.

While I was more than thrilled by what I found in my office last month, at the "Open House," Redeemer blew us away with generosity. Native San Francisco (and surrounding Bay Area) products, gift cards, and a larger-than-life donation left me pretty speechless. I think I mentioned feeling overwhelmed

(in a good way), and that continues to be the case. You have not only shown generosity to a new family that has come to serve with you, but you have also demonstrated that you truly care about God's mission and work in the Bay Area.

BUSINESSWARE COMMERCIAL PHOTO



Jesus told his disciples that people will know they belong to Him by their love, and I'd say that the same thing applies to Redeemer Lutheran in Redwood City. We are excited to be here, and we can't wait to begin ministry in this community as well as the rest of the Peninsula. So thank you again for your warm welcome and generosity, and although I will still struggle to remember names and faces for awhile, know that I already love this community very much and am excited to get settled in.

Congratulations to **Pastor John Uhlig** who was presented with an Honorary Degree of Divinity from the California Graduate School of Theology in a ceremony on May 17, 2008 in La Habra, California.

He was honored for his work in furthering Christ's Church through Bible studies, preaching, and his incredible gift of caring for and strengthening God's people. He continues in his passion for sharing God's love and message of hope, all this at 94 years young!!

Please see the photos on the kiosk in the Event Center.

FIRST BIKE TO CHURCH SUNDAY WELL RECEIVED



On May 18 people of Redeemer rode bikes to church in order to participate in the "Bike to Work Week". About 20 people biked and parked in the courtyard area with supervised bike parking (thanks to Adam and Clayton Duval for providing a secure area for bikes). Lycra Jerseys were the *attire du jour*.

IS YOUR CUP HALF FULL – OR – HALF EMPTY?

This is a story about Jacob, ancient patriarch of the Old Testament, father of twelve sons, one of whom was Joseph. Joseph after many years of slavery and hardship, had become prime minister of Egypt, next in rank to the then Pharaoh. The story in its entirety is recorded in Genesis chapters 40 to 50. They make excellent reading and could be used profitably as a devotional.



Joseph had brought the entire family from Canaan to Egypt to be able to provide for them during a seven year famine. When they arrived Joseph introduced his father to the great Pharaoh. In answer to Pharaoh's question, "How many years have you lived?" (Genesis 47:8) Jacob probably showed his age. Jacob gives this response, "The years of my sojourning are 130. Few and unpleasant have been the years of my life, nor have they attained the years that my fathers lived" (Genesis 48:9). He lived another 17 years in Egypt in affluence under the care of his son, Joseph.

You would agree that his short response to the Pharaoh was rather negative, to say the least. There is no denying that Jacob's life was filled with troubles and sorrows. His twin brother, Esau, hated him and for a long time sought to murder him. He was forced by this danger to leave his home at a youthful age, to live with his uncle Laban and his family. He worked for Laban for many years. He was led to believe that his dear son, Joseph, had been killed by a wild beast and never got over his mourning for him. Ten of his sons were not as respectful and helpful as they should have been. His dearest wife, Rachel, died in giving birth to Benjamin. His had indeed been a most difficult and unhappy life. No doubt about it. But should he have allowed himself to succumb to pessimism as is reflected in his answer to the Pharaoh?

Many people, like Jacob, struggle through life oppressed by daily problems, even in affluent America, the land of the free. Their attitude toward life is the same as Jacob's, "Few and unpleasant have been the years of my life." Many of us have had our share of troubles, or are even now experiencing them. But should we allow ourselves to succumb to pessimism, the "my cup is half empty" attitude, instead of "my cup is half FULL"

God does provide for us a recipe for coping with life. Indeed he does. Romans 8:28: "We know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God." Psalm 50:15: "Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver thee; and thou shalt glorify me." Philippians 4:4: "Rejoice IN THE LORD always; again I say, rejoice!" Psalm 51:12: "Restore unto me the JOY of Thy salvation." Matthew 28:20: "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Isaiah 46:4: "Even to your old age, I shall be the same; and even to your graying years I shall bear you." Isaiah 40:31: "Those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings as eagles; they will run and not get tired; they will walk and not become weary."

As the Lord speaks to us we CAN regain a faith-attitude which says, "My cup is half FULL, not half EMPTY." Here's how. (1) Listen to the Lord as He speaks to you in these passages, and take Him by the hand. (2) As He speaks to you in these words, listen, and then talk to Him in faith. (3) Read your Bible daily and mark every passage where Jesus speaks to you and your situation. (4) Try singing the well known hymn, "Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care, precious Savior, still our Refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer."

Your cup will no longer be half empty, but it will be filled with His presence, His power, His love, and His forgiveness.



RWANDA WELL PROJECT

Thanks to the efforts of the children of Sunday30 over the past year and a half, \$3000 is being sent to build a well in Rwanda. With \$1, \$5, \$10 and loads of change the kids have made their goal. Way to go, Kids!!!!

DRIVING ON THE SAFE SIDE

Are you always rushing from one appointment to the next? Are you adding more hours to your day by taking hours from your sleep time? Thank goodness for all of those weekend summer parties, right? Unfortunately, all of this rushing around, loss of sleep and opportunities to drink alcohol spell danger on the road. According to the Fatality Analysis Reporting System Encyclopedia, there were 42,642 traffic fatalities in 2006 alone. Many crashes occur because of aggressive driving, drowsy driving and drunk driving. Take a look at the following information from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to do your part in making the roads safer especially during these summer months. (<http://www.fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/main/index.aspx>)

Aggressive Driving

- ★ Above all—allow extra time for yourself so you don't become aggressive on the road. Your "time-savers" could be disastrous for you and others!
- ★ Don't be distracted by cell phones, makeup application, drinking or eating while driving.
- ★ Calm down. Drive the speed limit. Don't run red lights, tailgate, or make frequent lane changes.

Try This...

- ★ Listen to your favorite radio station for relaxation
- ★ Take public transportation if driving is too stressful for you

Drowsy Driving

Risk Factors:

- ★ Loss of sleep
- ★ Driving between midnight and 6 a.m. or in the mid-afternoon hours
- ★ Driving a substantial amount during the year or each day
- ★ Driving for long periods of time without a break
- ★ Driving while on sedating medications
- ★ Having an untreated or unrecognized sleep disorder like sleep apnea syndrome
- ★ Consuming alcohol

Prevention...

- ★ Sleep!
- ★ Don't drive if you've or had even small amounts of alcohol when you are sleepy
- ★ Limit driving between midnight and 6:00am

What if I'm already in the car?

If you are driving and get sleepy:

- ★ Stop driving or change drivers if possible

Two short-term remedies:

- ★ Take a short 15-20 minute nap
- ★ Drink caffeine equivalent to two cups of coffee (Opening a window or listening to music have not been proven effective)

DRUNK DRIVING

It is difficult to judge your own Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) or alcohol impairment—especially when impaired by alcohol! The signs of alcohol impairment differ by individual. Even small amounts of alcohol can impair your driving ability. In every state it is illegal to drive with a BAC of .08 or higher and you can still be arrested with a lower BAC if the enforcement officer has probable cause. *Plan ahead ... if you are going to drink, do not drive rely on a designated driver!*



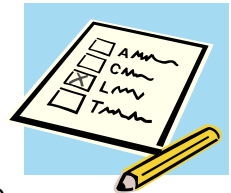
10 SIMPLE WAYS TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION AT THE OFFICE

Did you know that Redeemer has formed "Green Team" of Redeemer two members of which are Adam and Clayton Duval! Here are a few great tips for how to be more green in your office - thanks to San Mateo County Health Department!

1. Set your printer's default setting to 'double sided'
2. Set your computer to stand-by settings
3. Take alternative transportation to work - bike, take the train, carpool, or walk
4. Plug your electronics into a power strip
5. Bring your own coffee mug and water bottle (to reduce paper and water consumption-extra dish washing at work)
6. Encourage your employer to buy energy-star appliances and copy/fax machines
7. Replace incandescent desk bulbs with energy-efficiency fluorescent ones
8. Take the stairs
9. Buy/use supplies made out of post-consumer recycled content
10. Recycle paper, newspaper, cardboard boxes, beverage containers, print cartridges, electronics, batteries, etc.

CONGREGATION PASSES IMPORTANT RESOLUTIONS

The June 8 Congregational Assembly approved a new budget for Fiscal Year 2008-09 that shows a significant deficit. It also passed a resolution to extend the *Sharing the Vision – It's Happening* campaign for another three years with STV-3. We hope to be able to raise \$1 million dollars over three years in order to build out the Old Classrooms into the permanent Administrative Center at a current cost of \$351,000. The third campaign would give time for the enrollments in the School to grow to a place that will enable Redeemer to cover the mortgage payments. The campaign would take a substantial bite out of the projected budget.



ATTENTION VACATIONERS AND BUSINESS TRAVELERS!

If your travels include hotel stays, please remember to bring the travel size toiletries provided to you in your room for the benefit of the residents of the Seneca Hotel. They are included in the Bags of Love which we distribute at the hotel. Bring them to the box provided on the table in the entrance to the Event Center marked "Toiletries." The residents are very appreciative of these items...*just another small way in which we show our caring for others.*

CHIEF'S AWARD WINNER: JIM GORDON

Jim was honored at the Redwood City (PAL) Police Activities League 2008 Annual Award Dinner ... He started coaching with PAL over 8 years ago with a combo basketball team that included Redeemer Lutheran School. Jim came on the PAL Board of Directors with a strong commitment to making a brighter future for generations of youth in Redwood City and has never strayed from that goal. He has touched many young people and made a difference in their lives. (*edited from the dinner booklet*)

Stephen Ministry

One-on-One Caregiving



Feeling down? Lonely? Stressed? Discouraged? Unsupported? ... you would benefit from the care, shoring up, and encouragement of a Redeemer Stephen Minister. It's free. It's confidential (a safe person for you to confide in) while you continue to be strengthened by God. To find out more, contact one of our Stephen Leaders:

- **Pastor Draeger**, Stephen Minister, Teaching & Supervision Leader, 366-5892 x 20
- **Karen Kneedler**, Stephen Minister, Leader & Referrals Coordinator, 366-5892 x 16 or via e-mail, karenk@redeemerministries.org.

WE REMEMBER THOSE IN THE SERVICE

Eddie Brugato James Brassill *(if there are others, please let the office know)*



MARRIED

Mark Weiss & Gayle Osnes

BAPTISM

Anthony Muckel

NEW MEMBERS

Stephanie Morey (Transfer), Anthony Muckel, Manfred Ohm, Cindy Shah (Transfer), Bob & Michele Stanghellini and children Sara and Zachary

SUNDAY30 SCHEDULE OF MISSIONARY VISITORS

Our missionary guests during Sunday30 (Sunday School ½ hour during the 8:30am worship service):

Becky Berry & Wendy Kinstler: July 13 – Peru, South America

Chris & Ben Justice: July 20 – Mexico

Helen Botnarescue: July 27 – Vietnam, Southeast Asia

Children aged 3 years old through 5th graders participate in Sunday30. All come to the band-led worship and are excused to the Event Center after the children's message delivered by Pastor Hal.

REDEEMER WATER BOTTLES

Let's not continue to throw our personal water bottles into the landfill...you can continue to collect them for the Duval boys' efforts in supporting Multiple Sclerosis Research...but now

...Redeemer has designed (thank you Bernie Wooster-Wong) a water bottle for your use day-after-day as you exercise, go to sporting events, cycle, etc.

Cost: \$5.00 each (20% benefiting the Rwanda Well Project).

Buy some for yourself and your family and then some more for friends.

Available: Worship Center Foyer and Church Office.

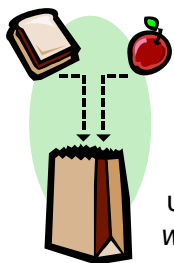


JULY 20-27 REDEEMER ASSISTS WITH INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK (IHN)

Redeemer members will have an opportunity to serve families who are in need of temporary shelter. We have partnered with IHN over the last few years and this month we will join the team of volunteers with overnight support, Sunday, July 20 – Sunday, July 27.

What does this mean? For one week, our Event Center will be accessible only to the IHN families and staff. On Sunday afternoon, large tents will be set up in the Event Center - one tent per family. The families will arrive around 5:00pm for dinner and their evening accommodations. Around 7:00am each day they will be picked up for their daily activities at the IHN day center, and will return again that evening. The tents will be packed up and transported to the next facility to house the families on the following Sunday afternoon.

Volunteers will be needed to assist the support personnel and to help the families to be as comfortable as possible. Plan now to be a part of this hands-on ministry to families, who temporarily need housing, support and help from a caring community. When you receive a call, please *volunteer* joyfully for this opportunity to help, or contact Ruth Finkelstein through the church office if you can assist or need information on what support is necessary.



BAGS OF LOVE

Saturday, July 19, 8:15am

Help make PB&J sandwiches and pack bags in the Event Center of Redeemer before heading to San Francisco 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.* Questions: 366-5892.

Ministry Leader Helen Botnarescue writes

LIFE ENRICHMENT



God will enable us through the Life Enrichment Ministry to enhance our latter years by sharing with others our Christian love and fellowship not only in this life but for that which is yet to come.

Don't forget our annual **barbecue, July 19, 12:00noon**. Guest chefs will be *Donna and Rick Beaman*. Hamburgers with every topping imaginable, potato salad, heavenly baked beans, ice cream for dessert—who could ask for more?!! *Pastor Bob* will have his usual humorous comments to enlighten us plus the reminder that next year's theme will be "**Agging Faithfully**".

Remember: there's no luncheon in August, but do remember that **September 11** will start off the 2008-2009 year with our usual great chefs and meals together with interesting entertainment, sometimes serious, sometimes toe-tapping.

President Helen Botnarescue writes

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.*

At the LWIM Board meeting June 2, your Board decided that starting in the Fall all LWIM meetings should start at 1:00pm in classroom 2 (two doors down from the church office). After that we had a long discussion about the fact that attendance at meetings has significantly dropped lately for a variety of reasons, including illness, death, and members choosing not to drive any longer. Even calling members to remind them of meetings has not always proved effective. So the Board has recommended that we meet only every other month starting in October. Then we'll continue in December (with our annual Christmas Tea), February, April, and hold our annual Ice Cream Social in June. We are hopeful that reducing the number of meetings will encourage more members to attend. We may begin a telephone tree to remind members about upcoming meetings and topics. The day will remain the second Thursday of the month.

The Ice Cream Social at Redeemer's Event Center was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by those present.

Don't forget in July that the Zone 8 Summer Retreat is coming unfortunately on the same day as the Life Enrichment annual barbecue. Maybe some of us will go to Bethany for a short while for the Retreat and then come to the barbecue...who knows?

Here's the calendar of events:

- Sat., 19 July, 9:30am-3:00pm Zone 8 Summer Retreat at Bethany Lutheran Church, Menlo Park
Topic: "Always Changing, Always the Same"
Bible Study Leader: Pastor Coyne
B.Y.O.B. & L. (bring your own Bible and lunch)
- Mon., 4 August, 10:00am LWIM Board Meeting, Classroom 2 (as needed)
- Fri.-Sun., 5-7 September CNH LWML Fall Weekend Retreat at Villa del Mar, Santa Cruz
Topic: "Discovering the Holy Spirit...
Going on a Quest in the Old Testament"
Bible verse: "The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives life"
(Job 33:4) Bible Study Leader: Gayle Wilson, Prince of Peace, Fremont
Registration deadline: August 5, materials on the table at entrance to Event Center
- Mon., 8 September, 10:00am LWIM Board meeting, Classroom 2 (as needed)

First meeting of the Women's breakfast group for the 2008-2009 year:
Saturday, October 4, 8:30am, Baker's Square, Redwood City

First LWIM meeting of the 2008-2009 year:
Thursday, October 9, 2008 at 1:00pm in Classroom #2



DINING FOR DOLLARS

FRESH CHOICE – Tuesday, July 15

FRESH CHOICE – Tuesday, August 19

11:00am-9:00pm lunch or dinner/benefit 15% of your bill to RLS

http://www.freshchoice.com/flyers/redwoodcity_rls7-15.pdf

http://www.freshchoice.com/flyers/redwoodcity_rls8-19.pdf