

Vacation Bible School '09

Prepare to trek through the Land Down Under and discover how it all comes back to Jesus when you... follow Him, worship Him, confess Him, serve Him, and obey Him. Beginning with Peter's first introduction to Jesus, kids will follow Peter's growing relationship with his Savior and Lord. If you're interested in volunteering or sending your child to Boomerang Express, call or email **Kristen Raikes** and we'll get you a boarding pass. You can also learn more and sign up by following the prominent link off Redeemer's Web site: www.redeemerbiblechurch.org. Mark your calendar for July 13-17 for a summer adventure in Australia. Good 'aye!

Patriotic Service and Ice Cream Social on Sunday, July 5 at 6 pm

Mark your calendars for our annual patriotic service at 6:00 pm, followed by an ice cream social in the fellowship hall. Familiar upbeat music, songs and readings highlight our evening service. You will be blessed by the special music including a quartet, brass, and choir. This year's celebration will also include our Boy Scouts as well as a few other surprises. Bring your family for celebration and ice cream. You will be glad you came.

Treat Yourself to Trek 113!

A summer favorite for toddlers to "Seasoned Saints," Redeemer's reading program invites you to experience a personalized reading adventure

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Developing Godly Men With Sterling Character and the Skills to Lead

Fewer than 5 percent of all Scouts earn the highest achievement in Scouting, the rank of Eagle Scout. Among many requirements, it involves earning at least 21 merit badges, demonstrating Scout Spirit, sacrifice, leadership, and completing an extensive service project. **Max Hardesty** earned Eagle Scout in 1948 and says the accomplishment is, "A high point in my life. It shows any prospective employer that the applicant can enter into a job and complete it." Six boys from Troop 48 recently earned the honored rank of Eagle Scout: **Matthew Daffron, Chad Geiger, Jared Hatley, Cole McCullar, Braden Shaffer,** and **Reid Tarpley**. These fine young men bring the troop total since 2005 to 18 Eagle Scouts! Four more Scouts are on track to becoming Eagle Scouts in 2009.

Gordon Robinson and **David Tatom** are Troop 48 Scoutmasters. Gordon is a private development coordinator for the City of Dallas, and has been involved in scouting at Redeemer for over 4 years. He enjoys coin collecting, metal detecting, woodworking, and hunting arrowheads with his son, **David**. "The outdoor aspect of scouting teaches boys responsibility and gives them access to different possibilities in life. I appreciate the fact that the Boy Scouts require the boys to honor God." David Tatom is a Tactical Officer in the City of Carrollton Police Department, and is a charter member of Redeemer. David was on



(Left to Right) Jared Hatley, Cole McCullar, and Matthew Daffron were recently recognized at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. **Chad Geiger** and **Braden Shaffer** will be recognized for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout in a Court of Honor in June, to be pictured in the July Link.



New Scoutmasters **David Tatom** and **Gordon Robinson** present advancement badges to boys in Troop 48 during a recent Court of Honor.

the steering committee that formed Troop 48 in 2002. A consummate outdoorsman, David enjoys taking his son **Nathaniel** sailing, hunting, canoeing, rock climbing, rappelling, and backpacking. The Scouts love hearing David tell a campfire story, or receiving his instruction in one of the seemingly thousands of outdoor skills he has mastered. Together, David and Gordon are continuing Redeemer's history of developing self-sufficient, Christ-like young men through the scouting program.

In a Word

It's good to remember

Don Geiger, Senior Pastor

We have just celebrated our tenth anniversary as a church. What a time of joyful remembrance of God's good hand of blessing, his unfailing guidance, his abundant provision, as well as his unfailing grace and comfort in our times of grief and loss. It's good to reflect, to savor the memories of God's past provision and blessing. In fact, it's downright biblical! Here are a few of Moses' final words to the Israelites as they verged on the promised land: *Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way . . . be careful you do not forget.* Hebrews 10:32 – *Remember those earlier days...*

In preparation for our celebration and this *In a Word*, I browsed my file of LINKS. Our very first LINK headlined our *First Anniversary Celebration!* "Please bring a main dish and either a vegetable or salad to feed your family plus two other people." Aren't you ladies glad we catered our tenth? That first edition welcomed the arrival of **Josh and Emily Bailey**. **Tony Gomillion** would join the team a few months later. **Blake Barbre** was already on board, as was **Carolyn Owens**, who began producing bulletins and letters almost from week one! **Kristen Raikes** and her family were also early members, but at age 15, Kristen was still a little young to be our Director of Children's ministries! Who'd have thought? **Eunice Tavaglione** and **Buddy Wallace** joined the team in 2002, shortly after we acquired our present property. **Alice** and I regularly and enthusiastically thank God for these gifted men and women, who contribute so much to make Redeemer what it is. I'm sure you do as well.

Leafing through the LINKS reminded me that many of the ministries that help make Redeemer what it is were begun in our earliest months, before we had a place to call our own and our resources were few. Our beginnings were small but sturdy. For instance, we began with one Adult Bible Fellowship, soon to grow to two, three, now seven. Thanks to some of you creative and talented leaders, our earliest children and youth ministries flourished in spite of limited resources.

I was reminded that for our first baptism the First Assembly of God graciously lent us their sanctuary. How's that for foreshadowing? I had forgotten that **Bethany Gomillion** was the first baby dedicated at Redeemer. Geiger Island trips began that first year, as did our women's and men's ministries.

Our special services that mean so much to us — Christmas Eve and Good Friday — were begun in our first year, and early on they too were celebrated in the borrowed sanctuary that is now our own.

Our earliest missions investments included Asian Christian Academy in India with **Joy and Leela George**, and Word of Life Hungary with **Dave and Karen James**. Missions trips to Guatemala and Hungary soon followed, and a steadily growing missions ministry now includes nine missionary families in eight countries.

Local outreach began with tutoring in neighborhood schools, then grew to include the White Rock Center of Hope, Boy Scouts, Pioneer Girls, and Girls of Grace, and a vital ministry in juvenile detention centers.

My LINK stroll stirred memories of Operation Christmas Child, VBS, teens serving in west Dallas, volunteer appreciation picnics, and Thanksgiving banquets. But the Behind-the-Curtain and Getting-to-Know-You profiles affirmed to me that with all our many blessings, you the Redeemer family are the greatest blessing. You are what make our fellowship what it is.

In a word . . . *it's good to remember!*

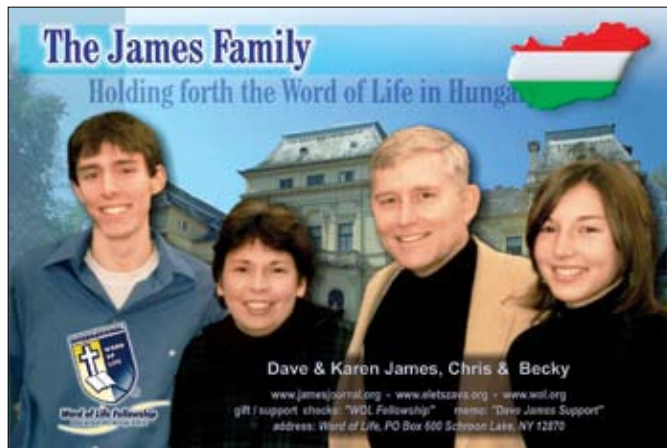
Hungary . . . Garage Sale & James Family

As you read this, our church campus is likely buzzing with activity. Redeemer's annual garage sale – June 5 and 6 – is underway! How about scooting on down to the church to do some treasure hunting or find a way to lend a hand? If you aren't able or inclined, would you say a prayer for God's blessing on the sale? Proceeds will benefit our summer missions team and the Word of Life Camp in Hungary.

Our missionaries **Dave and Karen James** have faithfully ministered in Hungary for the past 16 years, and it has been Redeemer's privilege to partner with the Jameses for about half of those years. Dave has served as both the Associate Director of Word of Life Hungary and the director of its Bible school, while Karen served as home-school teacher, hostess, counselor, and more. Sensing God's leading in a new ministry direction, the Jameses departed Word of Life Hungary in January 2009 and are now living in Chattanooga, TN.

While daughter Becky completes her high school junior year through home-schooling and son Chris wraps up his second year of Bible School in Hungary, Dave, Karen, and others have launched the "Alliance for Biblical Integrity" (ABI). This parachurch ministry is aimed at establishing a network of like-minded churches, educational institutions, missions organizations and individual Christian leaders who will work together to respond to relevant world issues from a truly biblical perspective. (Read more at www.biblicalintegrity.org.)

The Redeemer family is grateful for our partnership with the James family in fulfilling God's "Great Commission" among the youth of Europe. The James' transition to ABI means that Redeemer will no longer support them each month as "field missionaries," but they will forever be a part of our extended church family. We pray and will wait with anticipation for God's blessing on their family and new ministries.



Getting to Know You: Jim and Ann Fleming

Tommie Loveless

Ann Fleming's family moved from Buffalo, New York, to Fairfield, Iowa, when she was two years old. There she and her younger brother enjoyed what could be described as an ideal childhood. Ann remembered, "We spent the cold evenings playing many games, and we had fun playing with our friends in the neighborhood." She continued, "We loved to hike in the woods, walk along the small creeks, and check out the apples in the orchard at the near-by college campus. Years later, when Ann was fifteen, her mom died. Ann related, "Because of my mom's death, I was afraid of God. Many years later, God would change my fear into a believing faith, at which time God welcomed me into His family. What a great blessing!"

Jim Fleming was born in Seminole, Oklahoma; but he and his family moved frequently, causing him to attend eight different schools before he graduated from Oklahoma State University. Jim lettered in basketball and track at the university, and admitted that being an athlete helped him to be accepted in the many schools he attended! After Ann graduated from the University of Iowa, she went to work for IBM. It was there that she fell in love with "a handsome salesman named Jim Fleming!" She told how they met in January, 1963, became engaged in May, married in August, and moved to Dallas a couple of months before John F. Kennedy was assassinated.



She exclaimed, "What an exciting year that was, and what a way to begin our life in Texas!"

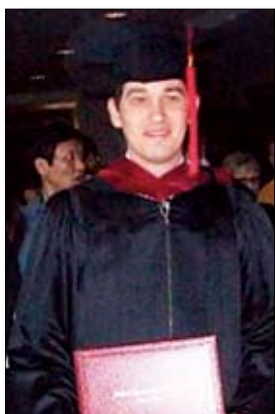
Jim and Ann have two married daughters who live in Georgia and Minnesota. They also are the proud grandparents of four delightful grandchildren. Then there's Wesley, the cat their daughter left with them. Jim commented, "Ann, Wesley, and I are growing old together, and having a great time doing so!"

The Flemings testify to God's faithfulness in their lives, particularly during the '70s and '80s, when Ann's step-mother died; and her dad, as well as Jim's mom, developed Alzheimer's. At the same time, their daughter was suffering from severe depression, and they realized Jim's colon cancer had metastasized. Amid these tragic events and other changes, Ann confirmed, "God proved His love over and over. He showed us how He goes through life with us, not against us. He was with us every step of the way."

Jim and Ann were members of and served at Fellowship Bible Church before coming to Redeemer. Ann joyously added: "That is where I accepted Christ as my Savior."

Jim concluded: "When we came to Redeemer, we knew it was an answer to our prayers. The love and care, worship and praise, meaningful music, and wonderful teaching have blessed both of us. Jim and Ann serve as greeters and in other men's and women's ministries. We are very thankful that they are such a significant part of the Redeemer family."

Congratulations, Graduates!



James Detrich (Dallas Theological Seminary, Master of Theology)



Nathan Ramler (Wheaton College, double-major, B.A. in Christian Ed. and Ministry, and Theology)



High School Graduates:

Top l-r: **Courtney Long, Wesley Geiger, David Wolfe, Braden Shaffer, Ian Bridgman**

Bottom l-r: **Leanna Rodgers, Reid Tarpley, Chad Geiger, Victoria Oakes, Rebekah Scott**

Scenes From Workday '09



Seasoned Saints Luncheon, Sunday June 28

If you are fifty-five or older, you are invited to take part in the many activities of the Seasoned Saints. Perhaps you are new to the church. Attending an event is a great way to get connected at Redeemer, lift your spirit, and put a smile on your face. Join us for our next lunch on Sunday, June 28, in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service. We'll enjoy a tasty barbeque lunch and fun entertainment as well as a door prize, jokes and more. The cost is \$7. Watch the bulletin for more information and signup.

Treat Yourself to Trek 113!

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starting June 7. Through August 2 at Redeemer's library, you can earn weekly prizes as well as entries toward September's grand prize drawing. First, pick the reading level that fits best: read-to-me/early reader, junior/young teen, older teen/adult, or listeners to audio media. Then, let the reading and listening fill your summer with points, places, and people you'll not want to miss.

For further details, come to the Redeemer library on the lower level of the educational wing: Sunday mornings from 8:45 – 10:30 AM, and after the morning service.

This year's Trek 113 theme fittingly follows the familiar verse from the recent I Peter sermon series: *Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed* (I Peter 1:13).

Redeemer Teen Students in School Play

Charles Oakes and **Alicyn Anthony** are two of our Redeemer youth who attend Lakewood Presbyterian School. They both had parts in the school's recent spring musical, "Into the Woods."



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