

Touck e Master

From the Pastor's Desk

A good person leaves an inheritance for their children's children, but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous. Proverbs 13:22

The day is finally here. After some 25 years of paying the monthly mortgage bill, Redeemer will be completely debt free this month. What was a \$600,000 mortgage balance as recent as 2014 is now off our books today. We are certainly excited around here. And, if you are reading this before December 4th, it's not too late to join us for our mortgage burning ceremony during the Advent Dinner.

What does the future hold? When thinking about the future, I believe it is important to both celebrate and keep perspective. With that in mind, I want to share with you what I believe WILL happen one year from now (December, 2017) and what MAY happen 10 years from now (December 2026).

I am confident enough in human nature to predict that in December 2017 our church WILL be arguing about money, or lack thereof. This is not because of anything in Redeemer's budget or history. It is simply because human nature is such that there is NEVER

enough money, even with a mortgage paid off. The truth is, the only way for our money worries to go away – either in our personal lives or at Redeemer – is not to have more money, but to make sure that Jesus Christ is always more important than the amount of money we hold.

But I am optimistic about another date too. That date is December 2026: 10 years from now. I believe by listening



to the Holy Spirit and by obeying God, we can use what money would have gone to the mortgage for the ministries He has called us to. Whether that is an up-to-date facility, a generous heart for missions, or an investment in the community, we can leave a legacy for the next generation. The gift of paying off the mortgage wasn't because we believed it would solve all financial woes. Rather, the gift of the mortgage being gone is like Proverbs 13 says – to make sure the next generation will be blessed.

Mark Mohrweis
 Mark@RedeemerECC.org

Council Corner—Warren Leonhardi

I grew up in Birmingham, Alabama and moved to Lewisville when I was 15. I graduated from Lewisville High School and went to Northlake Community College for a couple of years. After that I transferred to UTA and

studied architecture, although I would ultimately get my degree in business. I own the Chick-fil-A in The Colony. I have for 10 years now (which is a bit ironic because when I was looking for my first



job at 15 I said I would never work fast food). I'm a pretty laid back person with a passion for cars, design, and movies.

I met my wife Sarah in high school (first girlfriend... aww). We've been married for over 13 years now – no

kids, but we've got a basset named Lexi. We both went to First Baptist Church in Lewisville (I grew up in a Baptist church) during our high school/college years,

Warren Leonhardi, continued

even teaching 7th and 8th graders once we got married. After many years there, we felt led to Irving Bible Church. Through IBC, we got heavily involved in a Haitian ministry called Hosean International Ministries (HIM). We took many mission trips to Haiti, Sarah served as the stateside admin, and I served on the Board. Our involvement with HIM is what sparked our relationship with the Previlons. Sarah and I first started visiting Redeemer about 2 years ago. We wanted to find a smaller church and Frez (BB) and Dieula had a lot of wonderful things to say about Redeemer. The hospitality of the congregation and the preaching really impressed us and we became members at the beginning of 2016. Since then I've been able to get engaged in the church in several ways. I lead a men's small group that meets on Wednesday mornings. Having a group of guys to hold me accountable and grow with is something I've always needed in my walk. More recently,

I've joined the Facilities Committee at Redeemer. Since I enjoy design, I'm excited to be part of the team thinking through what the facilities could be like in the future. The biggest role I've gotten into at Redeemer, however, is Missions Chair on the Council. I stepped into the role this summer, and I've spent the last several months learning the ins-and-outs of Redeemer missions and talking about future direction. The vision for the missions department is: To demonstrate God's love for others and share the gospel by serving and walking alongside our neighbors, our nation, and our world. Through missions, we want to focus on developing, sending, and supporting servant leaders, being ambassadors of social justice and reconciliation, and caring for the sick and the poor. I'm excited about the future of Redeemer missions and look forward to bringing this vision to life.

- Warren Leonhardi wsleonhardi (at) verizon.net

The Advent Wreath Tradition

The season of Advent takes place during the four Sundays prior to Christmas. Advent means "arrival of a notable person or event" and we use the season of Advent to prepare ourselves for Christ's birth. We have many traditions and many activities to help us do that: singing Christmas carols, decorating the church, joyful activities together like the Advent Dinner, a Christmas play, ornament exchange, and so

on. Our prayer is that we do not get wrapped up in the activities and lose the spiritual importance of the season. To help us focus our hearts, each worship service we will light a new candle in the Advent Wreath, symbolizing hope, peace, joy, and love. Then on December 25th (or at our Christmas Eve service), we light the Christ Candle symbolizing the birth of Christ, the Light of the World and the Prince of Peace. We will also have a series of Advent prayers on the back of the Sunday bulletins to help us prepare our hearts for the coming of our King!



Why the purple and pink candles? Early in the history of the church, Lent was set aside as a season of fasting and prayer to remember the crucifixion of Jesus. The traditional color of Lenten banners was a deep purple, signifying royalty, repentance, and suffering. Churches lit seven candles, one for each week of the solemn season. To signify the promise of hope and joy of Christ's coming

resurrection, on the third Sunday of Lent, the church was encouraged not to fast, but to feast, and the priests wore pink vestments as a reminder of the coming joy. When the season of Advent was instituted, the church viewed it as a mini-Lent, a time for reflection and repentance (thus the purple). So the first four candles of Lent were adopted and the third candle of Advent was pink in honor of the Lenten tradition of coming joy. Each candle was named in anticipation for all that Christ's coming would bring: hope, peace, joy, and love.

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Advent Dinnes

\$6 adults · \$3 children age 5-11 (Children under age 5 Free)

Sunday, December 4, at 5:30 P.M.

Join us for an evening of fun entertainment, fellowship, and great food (catered meat and potluck side dishes and desserts). This is a great time to bring anyone who you want to get to know Redeemer better.

Help Needed:

Setup: We will need lots of help after the worship service on Sunday, to move chairs, set up the tables, and do some decorating.

Food: Help prepare and serve food and drinks.

Clean up: We will need lots of help cleaning up.

Contact Sheryl Smith at

sherylsmith123 (at) verizon.net.



never walk in parkness but will have the Dahi of Die" John 6-12

Entertainment:

Redeemer members and friends take the stage to entertain and spread holiday cheer after dinner!

Do you want to share your talents and be part of the evening's entertainment?

Sign up with Cassie Watson at Cassiewatson_music@yahoo.com

Special Days This Holiday Season

Children's Musical

Sunday, December 11, at 10:45 A.M.



Redeemer's children will present *Not the Chamber of Commerce*.

Parents, please note:

- •Rehearsal: December 4, 10:45 A.M.
- •Rehearsal: December 10, at 9:30 A.M. in the sanctuary Feel free to stay and help!
- •Sunday, December 11: Go to the sanctuary for practice at 9:30 A.M.

Birthday Party for Jesus - after our part in the worship service on the 11th - Please let Heather Erickson know if you can help with treats, supplies, crowd control, etc. Bumfuddled (at) yahoo.com.

Christmas Eve Service

Saturday, December 24, 6:00 P.M. & 11:00 P.M.



Everyone is invited to join us in celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ at this worship service of readings, Christmas carols, and candles. In order to accommodate various needs and traditions, we have two time options for the Christmas Eve service:

- 6:00 P.M. "family friendly" time
- 11:00 P.M. "midnight" service

Christmas Worship Service

Sunday, December 25, 10:45 A.M.

Yes, we will have a worship service on Christmas day! Please join us as we worship our Savior. Nursery and



Children's Church will be available, as usual. There will be no other activities (no Bible study, no brunch, etc.)

New Years Day

Sunday, January 1, 2017, 10:45 A.M.

Please join us as we worship our Savior and pray for the coming year. Nursery and Children's Church will be available, as usual. There will be no other activities (no Bible study, no brunch, etc.)

Wednesday Activities Break

December 21 and 28

Our Wednesday evening activities will take a break for the holidays. Bible study, ESL, Kids Connect and open prayer will resume meeting on Wednesday, January 4.

Church Office Will be Closed

December 16 and December 26 - 30

Mark will take December 15-16 and 26-30 off. Lori will take December 21-22 and 26-30 off.

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Angel Tree Outreach

December 4 - December 23

What is Angel Tree?

It is a program of Prison Fellowship to provide a pathway toward redemption, reconciliation, and restoration of children and families affected by crime. Angel Tree

I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 25:36

Christmas works to connect parents in prison with their children through the delivery of Christmas gifts given on the parent's behalf. It is an opportunity to begin a relationship with a local family that has been broken

by crime, leaving a child without a parent at Christmas.

How does it work?

Incarcerated parents who wish to participate in the program personally fill out an application for their child and select the general type of gift they would like their child to receive. Those names and gift suggestions are forwarded to Redeemer and are hung on the Angel Tree that will be in the lobby on Sunday, December 4.

Making a difference in the life of a local family will be as easy as 1-2-3:

- 1. Church members select a child's name from the Angel Tree in Redeemer's lobby.
- 2. Members will then contact the child's caregiver and confirm their participation in the program and that the gift selected would be a good gift for the child.

3. Members purchase new toys (costing \$20-\$25), wrap, and deliver presents with a loving message from the incarcerated parent between December 19-24.

How can I be involved, besides buying a gift?

We would like to have volunteers to help with:

- · Contacting and confirming participation of the families
- Helping create Angel Tree Tags
- Driving to deliver gifts for members who are unable to deliver the gift's themselves
- Registration Table: Help match church members with
- Pray for the families who will be touched by this ministry.

How can I learn more?

Direct questions to Pastor Dieula at DeiulaPrevilon@gmail.com.

Learn more about Prison Fellowship on the web at: www.prisonfellowship.org.



Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

Hebrews 13:3

In Memoriam: **Adeline Raudabaugh**



Long time Redeemer member Adeline Raudabaugh went home to be with her Lord on Monday, October 31. We will remember her sweet, thoughtful spirit and all that she added to our lives. We grieve with her family and friends. The memorial service will be Monday, December 11, at 3:30 P.M.

Your prayers for the family are greatly appreciated. Cards to the family may be sent to:

736 Meadowlark Lane

Coppell, TX 75019

Thank You So Much!!! -from our staff

Dear Redeemer,

We want to thank everyone in the congregation so much for the financial gift we all received as part of Pastor Appreciation month in October.

It is a privilege and a joy to serve this congregation. Your encouragement and support means so much to us. Thank you all!!!

Love,

Mark, Dieula, Nick, Cassie, and Lori

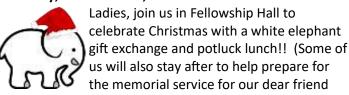
THE MASTER'S TOUCH

News & Information

WOTEN IN CHRIST

All women...All ages...All phases...All woven together in Christ!

Monday, December 12, at Noon



Adeline Raudabaugh, who started our luncheons.)
Contact Sheryl Smith at SherylSmith123 (at) verizon.net.

Book Club

Sunday, January 15 at 7-9:00 P.M.

We are taking a break in December. The book for January is *The Road to Character* by David Brooks. For details, contact Lori Vriend at Lori@RedeemerECC.org.

Penny Manna

A simple way to bless those in need!



- 1) Collect all those unwanted coins
- 2) Place them in the Penny Manna Jar in the church lobby.

All donations go to Covenant World Relief (CWR) to help provide water, food, jobs, and shelter to people in dire

need. Learn more at www.covchurch.org/cwr.

Redeemer's Denomination



Redeemer is a member of The Evangelical Covenant Church (ECC). To learn about our denomination, what we believe, our college and seminary, and various Covenant ministries, departments, and activities, visit our

webpage www.covchurch.org. You can also find the ECC on facebook at www.facebook.com/#!/covchurch.

Find Us on Facebook

Redeemer: www.facebook.com/#!/redeemercarrollton Redeemer Men's Ministry: www.facebook.com/#!/ groups/177117385741727/

Redeemer Women's Fellowship Marys and Marthas: www.facebook.com/#!/groups/226778084046250/ Redeemer CREW:

www.facebook.com/#!/groups/157436294355726/

Small Groups

Redeemer's vision is to walk alongside one another as we

seek healing and wholeness in Christ.

One of our goals is to form small groups where people can truly get to know and support one another in a safe and honest setting. We have several small groups going already, and would like to help form more. If you are interested in being a part of a small group, contact Pastor Mark at Mark@RedeemerECC.org.



COMING IN JANUARY:

Photo Directory Update

Watch the January bulletin inserts for your opportunity to update your contact information for the church directory and sign up to receive emails, news, prayer requests, etc. Plan to send Lori a current photo of you/your family to Lori@RedeemerECC.org. (Christmas photos work!)

Missionary Visit

Sunday, January 22, 10:45 a.m.

Our Covenant missionaries to refugees, Steve and Barbara Swanson will visit with us and update us on their ministry.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 29, 12 P.M.

Immediately following church worship service

- Vote on the 2017 budget
- · Approve the Nominating Committee
- Hear updates from ministry leaders
- · Receive a new church directory



Contacts & Information:

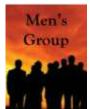
Email Stan: grow@HarvestCommunitGarden.org
On the web: www.HarvestCommunityGarden.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pages/Harvest-Community-Garden/211811232239434

Call Lori at the church: 972-466-0054.

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Wednesdays At Redeemer

Men's Small Group



6:30 - 7:30 A.M.

All men are welcome to join us for study

and support.

Location: Fellowship Hall A **Leader:** Warren Leonhardi

Contact: wsleonhardi (at) Verizon.net

Kids Connect!

7:00-8:30 P.M. For Elementary Students Kids Connect is a place where children can connect



with God, adults, each other, and the rest of the world through:

- Getting help with homework and reading
- Listening to Bible stories
- · Engaging in fun activities

Kids Connect allows parents from ESL,

Bible study, Redeemer's open prayer time, and Iglesia Emanuel's prayer group to fully focus on their Wednesday night activities. Contact Mary Anne: MaryAnne@RedeemerECC.org

Wednesday Bible Study

7:00 - 8:30 P.M.

Everyone is welcome! Leader: Pastor Mark Current study: Job

Location: We meet in room 110 in the CE wing.

Teaching Beginning English

7:00-8:30 P.M.

Two class levels:

 Basic Beginning English—meets in Fellowship Hall A



•Level 1 Beginning English—meets in Fellowship Hall B

We have 2-3 teachers/assistants per class so students receive a lot of one-on-one and small group attention.

Contact Pastor Dieula at Dieula@RedeemerECC.org.

Note for the Holidays:

Our Wednesday evening activities will take a break for the holidays on **December 21 and 28**.

They will resume on Wednesday, January 4, 2017.



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CREW Youth Group

CREW Youth Group Meets Every Sunday at 5:30-7:15 P.M.



All 6th – 12th grade students are invited to join us for youth group on Sunday evenings in the CREW room

at Redeemer! We play games, participate in creative projects, serve others in the community, and explore what it means to be a Christ-follower in our world through important Biblical and topical studies. You don't want to miss out! If anyone needs a ride to CREW please see Pastor Nick immediately after morning worship or contact him at 682-597-8220.

NO CREW These Dates:

Sunday December 4 - Join us at the Advent dinner! **Sunday December 25 – MERRY CHRISTMAS!** Sunday, January 1, 2017 - Happy New Year!

Contact the Youth Leaders

Pastor Nick: Nick@RedeemerECC.org Joy Persson: joy.persson (at) gmail.com Jake Petty: craftsman4christ (at) yahoo.com Kimmy Petty: Kimberly.petty28 (at) gmail.com

CREW Skate Date!

Saturday, December 10, 12:00 P.M.

CREW will be going roller skating! Friends and family are welcome to join us! We will meet there at noon and plan to stay there until 2:00 P.M.

Location:

Interskate Roller Rink 1408 S. Business Hwy. 121 Lewisville, TX 75067

I am asking that we all meet at Interskate Roller Rink in

Lewisville, TX at 12:00 P.M.

If there are any parents who cannot bring their children that day, please let me know well in advance so we can make transportation arrangements for them.

Pricing Info: Admission \$6 + \$4 Skate Rental.

Students may also want to bring extra money for concessions.

Parents: You are more than welcome to stay and skate with us! Parents who are dropping their children off, please be sure to return by 1:45 P.M. so we can be sure to head out by 2:00 P.M.

If you plan to attend, please be sure to let me know! Thanks, Pastor Nick 682-597-8220

Check Request Deadline

Thursday, December 15

In order to close out our books, get a proper financial report, and help our budget committee, we need to have all check requests and reimbursement requests for 2016 turned in no later than December 15.

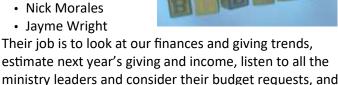
- Fill out a Cash Disbursement Request Form (found in the office) and attach your receipt and any documentation you have. (Be sure to keep a copy.)
- Turn it in to the appropriate Council Member or Staff Person (not the Church Treasurer)
- · Requests must designate which budget "bucket" it should fall under.
- A Council Member must sign off on all disbursement requests and turn them in no later than Thursday, December 15.
- Allow several weeks for check reimbursement.

2017 Budget Committee

Please pray for Redeemer's Council and the Budget Committee this month as they look at our finances and work on a budget for 2017.

This year's Budget Committee is these people:

- Deb Christopher
- Gaylon Hull
- · Denis Lemay
- Mark Mohrweis
- Nick Morales
- Jayme Wright



estimate next year's giving and income, listen to all the ministry leaders and consider their budget requests, and propose a budget to the Council.

Then, at the January 29 congregational meeting, the Council will propose the new budget for congregational approval.

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N.	Dog	ember Dates				
	Please jo peopl					
	н					
•	12/01	Bethany Milbrandt				
	12/02	Carolann Duffin				
	12/04	Mark Mohrweis	9 6			
	12/05	Rhonda Tan				
	12/06	Cali Basnett				
91	12/07	Claude Judd				
	12/13	Matt Bass				
	12/13	Amos Burdett				
	12/16	Elly Joiner				
	12/17	Janet Brode	-			
10	12/18	Jose Luis Salazar	T.			
	12/23	Kimberly Hull				
7	12/24	Joshua Seeley	4			
V	12/29	Stephanie Johnson				
	Нар					
*		eremy & Jennifer Burdett				
	•	1att & Patti Bass				
1	-	teve & Michaelle Schwarz				
		lvis & Eunice Obinma	- 0			
	12/28 Ja	ake & Kimmy Petty				
	-	not have your special day,				
	please let us know					
10	so we	can add you to the list.				

Redeemer Covenant Church Contributions Report							
Month:	NOVEMBER						
Monthly Contributions:							
General	20,572.00						
eGiving	TBD						
Crisis Relief	460.00						
Missions	0.00						
Facilities - Renovate	185.00						
Designated							
Total Monthly Contributions	\$21,217.00						
Year-to-Date Contributions:	_						
General	329,113.07						
eGiving	31,676.25						
Crisis Relief	5,603.00						
Missions	545.00						
Facilities - Renovate	14,331.00						
Designated							
Hearts & Soles	.,0.0.00						
Penny Manna							
Pastor Appreciation							
Mortgage Fund							
Worship							
2016 VBS Missions							
2015 VBS Missions (Cleared)							
Youth Missions	0,000.00						
Youth Paintball (Cleared)							
Total YTD Contributions	\$394,591.52						
YTD General Budget	\$320,815.38						
Wk General Budget Contributions	\$7,638.46						
Wk General Actual Contributions	\$8,590.22						
Wk General Contributions Difference	\$951.76						

As of 11/13/2016

Sundays at Redeemer

Adult Study at 9:30 A.M.

Join us in Fellowship Hall A as we study the whole New Testament. For more information, see Jan Erickson, Megan Hull, or Ron Persson (Rjpersson (at) verizon.net) Visit CovChurch.org/CBE facebook.com/MakeAndDeepen (Sorry there is no childcare available at this time.)

Prayer at 10:00 A.M.

Join us in the Prayer Room for a half hour of prayer. Contact: Elvis Obinma or Shari Sparks

Worship Service at 10:45 A.M.

Children's Ministry at 10:45 A.M.

Nursery Care:

Infants are in rooms 115; 2-year-olds are in room 114.

Children's Church:

Three- & Four-Year-Olds are in room 113 Elementary Students begin in the Sanctuary for the first half of the worship service and go to room 109 during the sermon.

CREW Youth Group at 5:30 P.M.

Middle and high school students meet in room 108.

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December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
PURPLE = Fellowship Hall RED = Sanctuary GREEN = CE Wing	PLAN AHEAD: January 1—New Year Service January 12—Women Woven in Christ January 22—Missionary visit: Swansons January 29—Congregational meeting			1 Council/Staff Meeting 7pm Celebrate Recovery • Dinner 6 pm • Meeting 7 pm • Share Groups 8 pm • Café Koinonia 9 pm	2	3
4 Advent Dinner & Mortgage Burning 5:30pm	5 (Sanctuary carpets cleaned)	6	7 Men's Small Group 6:30am 7-8:30pm: ESL, Prayer, Bible Study, Kids Connect, Iglesia Emanuel	8 Celebrate Recovery • Dinner 6 pm • Meeting 7 pm • Share Groups 8 pm • Café Koinonia 9 pm	9	10 Children's program practice 9:30am CREW Skate Date 12pm
Children's Christmas Program 10:45am ESL Appreciation Lunch 12pm CREW 5:30pm Book Club party 5:30pm	12 Women Woven in Christ potluck 12pm Memorial service for Adeline Raudabaugh 3:30pm	13	14 Men's Small Group 6:30am 7-8:30pm: ESL, Prayer, Bible Study, Kids Connect, Iglesia Emanuel	15 Deadline for check requests. Celebrate Recovery • Dinner 6 pm • Meeting 7 pm • Share Groups 8 pm • Café Koinonia 9 pm	16 Office closed	17
18 CREW 5:30pm	19	20	21 Men's Small Group 6:30am No activities	22 Celebrate Recovery Dinner 6 pm Meeting 7 pm Share Groups 8 pm Café Koinonia 9 pm	23	24 Christmas Eve Services 6pm & 11pm
25 Christmas service 10:45am	26 Office closed	27 Office closed	28 Office closed No activities	29 Office closed Celebrate Recovery Dinner 6 pm Meeting 7 pm Share Groups 8 pm Café Koinonia 9 pm	30 Office closed	31
		Mark's & Lori's vaca	ations			

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Redeemer

Evangelical Covenant Church



Contact Us

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FAX 972-323-1413

RedeemerECC@gmail.com

Senior Pastor – Mark Mohrweis

Mark@RedeemerECC.org

Associate Pastor – Dieula Previlon

Dieula@RedeemerECC.org

Music Leader – Cassie Watson

CassieWatson music@yahoo.com

Office Administrator - Lori Vriend

Lori@RedeemerECC.org

Youth Pastor – Nick Castle

Nick@RedeemerECC.org

We are on the web!

WWW. RedeemerECC.org

www.facebook.com/redeemercarrollton

Redeemer is a member of
The Evangelical Covenant Church
www.covchurch.org

Redeemer Covenant Church

Our vision is to be
a multi-ethnic community
that is committed to
walking alongside
anyone seeking healing or
wholeness in Christ.

Worship at Redeemer

Worship Services

Please join us in worshipping our Lord on Sundays at 10:45 A.M.

"Always Winter, Never Christmas"

This year's Advent sermon series will follow the lectionary texts from Isaiah. The theme is looking at Christ's birth from the perspective of those who waited for Him (as opposed to us today who have seen His arrival.)

December 4 – Isaiah 11:1-10 "Winter is Planting Season"

December 11 – Isaiah 35:1-10 "Who Wants a New Driveway for Christmas?"

December 18 - Isaiah 7:10-16 "God With Us"

December 25 – Luke 2:1-20 "Wait, We Have Church Today?"

Master's Touch Submissions

To submit information or an article, e-mail it to Lori at Lori@RedeemerECC.org.

Submissions are due no later than the 20th of the month in order to be considered for publication in the following month's newsletter.

Submissions will be reviewed by RCC leadership for approval and are subject to editing.

Office Hours

Monday: 9 AM — 4 PM (Pastor Mark's day off)

Tuesday: 9 AM — 4 PM (Staff meetings 2 — 3 PM)

Wednesday: 9 AM — 4 PM

Thursday: 9 AM — 4 PM

Friday: 9 ам — **4** рм

(Lori's day off)

Saturday: Closed