

October 2017



REDEEMER EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

# The Master's Touch

## From the Pastor's Desk

*So that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.*  
(1 Corinthians 2:5)

Our current sermon series is "The Flip Side of the Coin: Living Life Beyond Money." The sermons stem from a financial gift we received earlier this year. You will not hurt my feelings if you find the current sermon series confusing. Usually, when we talk about money, we talk about how we spend our money. There is nothing wrong with doing that. But for Christians, it is just as important to talk about how we are affected by money. That can be difficult because it requires us to focus on both big picture vision and abstract concepts (such as habits or values), instead of concrete questions like "How much should go toward X ministry?" It means reflecting on our attitudes and pre-conceptions regarding money and the direction of the church

So why preach a sermon series that is confusing to everyone, even the pastor? Because we still need to hear it. Maybe a good way to put it is the way my theology professor put it: We are always God's instrument and His object. We are His instrument – which means He is using us

for His Kingdom. But we are also His object, meaning He is transforming us as we are serving Him. With that in mind, we ask ourselves: How will Redeemer grow closer to God through this financial gift?

This final section of this sermon series is on mind-set. According to the Bible, we will not be sharing the gospel if we utilize this financial gift solely based upon human wisdom. There must be an element of God's power in it as well. Whoever gave this money made a sacrificial and courageous choice. Can we equal that sacrifice and courage in our response? I don't know the answer to that, but I would like to start talking about it with our sermon series – even if it is confusing!

- Mark Mohrweis  
[Mark@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Mark@RedeemerECC.org)



## Council Corner - Facilities Chair

Hello everyone. I'm Chuck Dietrick. My wife (for almost 40 years), Lori, and I are relative newcomers to Redeemer. We've been members for a little over two years. Our roots are in the Midwest, having lived in Omaha, Nebraska and moving to McKinney, TX in 1993. We lived in Kennedale, TX as well, and moved to Carrollton 4 years ago. I have an Architecture degree from University of



Nebraska, and have been a licensed Architect since 1988. Many of those years were spent designing and building churches. Lori and I have two sons and two grandchildren. We have been walking with Jesus for about 10 years, having come to our faith a little later in life. Better late than never! My life verse is Jeremiah 29:11. God does have great plans - for all of us.

(Continued on p. 2)

## Council Corner (continued)

My position is Council Chair for Facilities. I am responsible for creating and maintaining a nurturing, safe, and welcoming environment to support our ministries. Before becoming Facilities Chair, I was the chairperson for the 3F committee, created to study our facilities and make recommendations for repair and improvements to our church. The result is a plan which I now have the privilege of carrying out. Little did I know. Church facilities, even of a modest size, are complex and require a lot of attention. I look forward to the challenge. Changes and improvements are already starting to happen. My goal is a church building that we can be proud of and that helps our ministries be all they can be. I don't ever want our facilities to hold us back!

Redeemer is a wonderful place to worship God and learn about Jesus and His ministry. The best part of Redeemer is the people! Such big hearts. We have always felt welcome and want others to feel the same way. There are many opportunities to serve, which is what we love to do. We dream of the day that Redeemer grows and we see many young families join us in worshiping God. We believe that day is not far away. I plan to do everything I can to provide a place that people of all ages are welcome, comfortable, and safe. Thanks for placing your confidence in me!

- Chuck Dietrick  
[Bonkersbass \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:Bonkersbass@gmail.com)

## Trunk or Treat – Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

**TRUNK or TREAT is from 6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.**

**SET-UP starts at 4:30 P.M.**

Redeemer's parking lot will be transformed with decorated vehicles, folks in costumes, free treats, and lots of fun. This is a wonderful opportunity to go beyond the church walls and meet and greet our neighbors while also providing a safe place for the children in our community to go trick-or-treating.

### We need VOLUNTEERS!!!

- Build and supervise the campfire
- Help with S'mores and hot chocolate
- Designing our photo booth and taking pictures
- Decorated vehicles filled with treats – *please have your cars parked and trunks open by 6:15 P.M.*
- Supervise the cake walk
- Help with traffic control and parking
- Be a smiling face to welcome and talk with our guests



### ITEMS Needed

- Baked goodies for the cake walk – *deliver by 6:00 P.M. on the 31<sup>st</sup>*
- Bags of candy – *drop off in the red bin in the lobby*

**We need everyone's help to make Trunk or Treat successful!!!**

**Look for the volunteer sign-up in the lobby.**

For details or questions please contact Tasha Moore at [tasha.lynn.moore \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:tasha.lynn.moore@gmail.com).

## Potential Member Class Dates

**Sundays at 9:30 A.M. - October 22, October 29, and November 5**

**\*\*Please note: these dates may change.**

Are you a Redeemer attender who is interested in church membership?

We ask prospective members to join us for an informational class about Redeemer and the Evangelical Covenant Church.

Then we welcome new members at a Congregational Meeting. The next meeting is coming up in January, so we want to hold a class soon.

**Interested? Please contact Pastor Mark at [Mark@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Mark@RedeemerECC.org)**



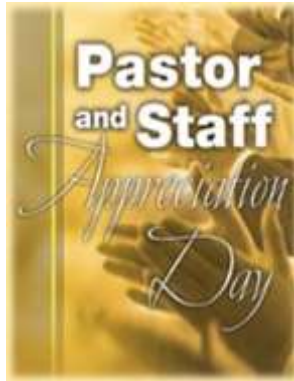
## We are Thankful for Our Pastors and Staff!

October is officially **Pastor Appreciation Month**, a time when we at Redeemer like to make an extra effort to let our pastors and staff know how much we appreciate them. We are blessed with committed, talented leaders; we don't want to take them for granted!

They are:

- Pastor Mark Mohrweis
- Associate Pastor Dieula Previlon
- Youth Pastor Nick Castle
- Music Director Cassie Watson
- Office Administrator Lori Vriend

You might consider sending each of them a personal note, card, or email expressing your appreciation. It would be good, too, if we could all commit to praying more often



for our pastors and staff in October. You'll also find special envelopes in the Sunday bulletins during October to collect monetary donations to show our thanks. (Make checks out to Redeemer Covenant Church and write "pastor appreciation" on the memo line.) God has blessed Redeemer beyond measure with Mark, Dieula, Nick, Cassie, and Lori. They joyfully pour themselves into serving the Redeemer family, well beyond what is expected and well beyond what they are paid for.

Please pray about what you can do to show your thanks!

— Mike Castelli, Council Chair

[fmcastelli \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:fmcastelli@gmail.com)

## Wednesday Evenings at Redeemer - Join Us!

Wednesday evenings are packed with lots of activity at Redeemer. Join us for some fun, inspiration, and learning!

### Fall Bible Study



**7:00-8:30 P.M. in Room 110**  
Pastor Mark is leading a verse-by-verse study of the book of Esther. Everyone is welcome to join us on Wednesdays evenings!

Contact Pastor Mark at [Mark@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Mark@RedeemerECC.org).

### Open Prayer



**7:00-8:30 P.M.**

The prayer room is open for anyone who would like to gather to pray. A prayer guide with the congregation's prayer requests is available in the church office.

### Kids Connect

**7:00-8:30 P.M. in Room 109**

Kids Connect is a place where children K-5<sup>th</sup> can connect with God, adults, each other, and the rest of the world through getting help with homework and reading, listening to Bible stories, and engaging in fun activities.



**Kids Connect**

**Volunteer to help!** Contact Mary

Anne Jensen at [MaryAnne \(at\) RedeemerECC.org](mailto:MaryAnne (at) RedeemerECC.org).

### ESL Classes

**7:00 P.M. in Fellowship Hall**

We offer two classes: Basic Level for beginning non-English speaking students and Level 1 beginning class. Contact [Dieul@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Dieul@RedeemerECC.org).



### CREW Youth Group

**7:00-8:30 P.M. in Room 108**

Redeemer CREW (Christians Reaching Everywhere Worldwide) is our youth program for middle school and high school students. Contact Pastor Nick at [Nick@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Nick@RedeemerECC.org).



### Iglesia Emanuel

**7:00-8:30 P.M. in the Sanctuary**

Iglesia Emanuel is a Spanish speaking church that rents Redeemer's building on Wednesday evenings for Bible study and on Sunday afternoons at 1:00 for worship. [www.facebook.com/emanuelinternacional](http://www.facebook.com/emanuelinternacional)



# Building Koinonia



**WOMEN in CHRIST**  
All women...All ages...All phases...All woven together in Christ!

**Potluck Lunch: October 9**  
Begins with prayer at Noon  
In Redeemer's Fellowship Hall

Bring a potluck dish to share, a smile, and a friend.

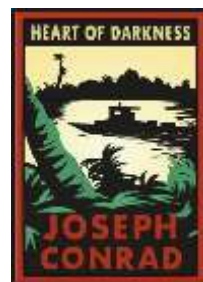
Contact SherylSmith123 (at) Verizon.net

## Book Club

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

Our Book Club meets in Fellowship Hall to discuss one book a month from a wide variety of genres, Christian and secular.

This month we will discuss the dark classic *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad.



**Warning:** this book contains many of the attitudes of Nineteenth Century European Imperialism and uses the deeply offensive language that was common to the time.

For details about book club, contact Lori Vriend at [Lori@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Lori@RedeemerECC.org).



## Come Hang Out with Us!

(Dinner with a Twist)

We are looking for a few people to host a handful of people in their home for an informal dinner...no other purpose than to get to know each other.

Contact Pastor Mark if you are willing.

[Mark@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Mark@RedeemerECC.org)

Then watch for signup sheets in the lobby to join with others for a relaxing time of fellowship outside of church.

*Ladies'*  
**GAME NIGHT**

Bring a  
Snack to  
Share

**Friday, October 20**

**6:30 – 9:30 p.m.**

*Fellowship Hall*

Questions? Contact Kathy Joiner



## Fall Gardeners' Meeting

**October 21, 8:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**

Come learn about fall/winter gardening in Texas, and hear about plans to build Phase 2 of the garden!

**Questions about the garden?** Contact Lori Vriend at 972-466-0054 or [Lori@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Lori@RedeemerECC.org).

**Find us on Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Harvest-Community-Garden/211811232239434>

## Ongoing Ministries - Join us!

### Racial Reconciliation Discussion Group

The Racial Reconciliation Discussion Group usually gathers the last Sunday of the month for a potluck dinner and conversation about the racial issues that plague our society today and how the Christian community can work toward reconciliation and healing in Jesus Christ. However, our next meeting will be:

**Sunday, November 5, at 6:00-8:00 P.M.**

**At Bethel Bible Fellowship**

1944 E Hebron Pkwy, Carrollton, TX 75007

Contact Pastor Dieula at [Dieula@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Dieula@RedeemerECC.org).

**Did you miss the August Discussion Panel?**

Watch it online: Find it on the "Links" page at [www.RedeemerECC.org](http://www.RedeemerECC.org).

### Praying Together

**Sundays at 10:00 A.M.**

Do you need prayer? Do you want to pray for others, for Redeemer, or our world? Please join us in the Prayer Room.

**Wednesdays at 7:00 P.M.**

The Prayer Room is open for people to gather to pray. Prayer sheets with the congregation's prayer requests are available in the church office.

### Celebrate Recovery

**Every Thursday at Redeemer!**  
**Everyone is welcome to this place of fellowship and support!**

**Join us for any of these activities:**

- 6:15 P.M. - Unwind from the day: Join us as we relax by eating dinner together. We usually have a home-cooked meal (donation of \$3).
- 7:00 P.M. - Worship God: Join us for music, teaching, inspiration, and testimony in the sanctuary.
- 8:00 P.M. - Share what is on your heart: We meet in men's and women's groups for Open Share time.

**Come walk alongside us as we seek healing and wholeness in Jesus Christ!**

## Redeemer Covenant Church Contributions Report

As of: 9/03/2017

### Monthly Contributions:

|                                    |                  |                    |
|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| General                            |                  | 29,535.75          |
|                                    | eGiving          | 6,834.26           |
| Crisis Relief                      |                  | 301.00             |
| Missions                           |                  | 0.00               |
| Facilities - Rent                  |                  | 800.00             |
| Designated                         |                  |                    |
|                                    | Hearts & Soles   | 870.00             |
|                                    | VBS Missions     | 204.00             |
|                                    | Penny Manna      | 29.00              |
|                                    | Hurricane Harvey | 560.00             |
| <b>Total Monthly Contributions</b> |                  | <b>\$39,134.01</b> |

### Year-to-Date Contributions:

|                                |                     |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| General                        |                     | 216,673.58          |
|                                | eGiving             | 49,637.95           |
| Crisis Relief                  |                     | 3,752.00            |
| Missions                       |                     | 15.00               |
| Facilities - Renovate/Rent     |                     | 8,375.00            |
| Designated                     |                     |                     |
|                                | Hearts & Soles      | 1,050.00            |
|                                | Penny Manna         | 349.09              |
|                                | Pastor Appreciation | 0.00                |
|                                | VBS Missions        | 679.00              |
|                                | Youth Missions      | 3,722.00            |
| <b>Total YTD Contributions</b> |                     | <b>\$284,253.62</b> |

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| <b>YTD General Budget</b>                   | \$288,792.00 |
| <b>YTD Actual</b>                           | \$266,311.53 |
| <b>YTD General Contributions Difference</b> | -\$22,480.47 |



We have begun a Weekly News Update via email. Its purpose to send 2-3 news updates or reminders of upcoming ministry events.

If you are on our newsletter mailing list, you were automatically added to the weekly newsletter mailing list. Weekly Updates also posts to our Facebook page.

You can manage your subscription to the Weekly Update at the bottom of the email: change your email, opt out, etc.

If you want to change your email subscription to this monthly email, please notify Lori Vriend at [Lori@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Lori@RedeemerECC.org).

## October Dates

*Please join us in praying for these people on their special day:*

### Happy Birthday!

|       |                      |
|-------|----------------------|
| 10/06 | Lane Cormier         |
| 10/09 | Shayla Holub         |
| 10/09 | Joe Wakeman          |
| 10/12 | Jeremy Morales       |
| 10/13 | Betsy Flynn          |
| 10/13 | Tasha Moore          |
| 10/14 | Michael Erickson     |
| 10/14 | Kathy Joiner         |
| 10/14 | Steve Walker         |
| 10/15 | Dee Page             |
| 10/15 | Duana David          |
| 10/15 | Amelia Wright        |
| 10/17 | Krystyn David        |
| 10/17 | Jake Petty           |
| 10/17 | Sheryl Smith         |
| 10/18 | Sean Flynn           |
| 10/21 | Jeremy Burdett       |
| 10/26 | Sharla Schimelpfenig |
| 10/27 | Heather Erickson     |
| 10/29 | Melanie Johnson      |
| 10/31 | Alyssa Petty         |

### Happy Anniversary!

|       |                        |
|-------|------------------------|
| 10/15 | Terry & Michele Dryden |
| 10/16 | Jim & Donna Hoisington |

*If we do not have your special day, please let us know so we can add you to the list.*

## 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.



## Our Denomination

Redeemer is a member of The Evangelical Covenant Church (ECC). Visit the webpage [www.covchurch.org](http://www.covchurch.org).



## Find Us on Facebook

**Redeemer:** [www.facebook.com/#!/redeemercarrollton](https://www.facebook.com/#!/redeemercarrollton)  
**Redeemer Women's Fellowship:** [www.facebook.com/#!/groups/226778084046250/](https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/226778084046250/)

# Getting to Know the ECC—Midsouth Conference News



## 2017 MidSouth Family Camp

November 3—5, 2017

Friday, 7:00 P.M.—Sunday, 11:00 A.M.

Plan now to join us this fall at Frontier Camp in the piney woods of east Texas for another great MidSouth Family Camp.

It will start Friday evening and conclude Sunday at noon.

This year we are again delighted to welcome Doug Stevens as our Guest Speaker. Doug is a Covenant pastor, author, coach, national speaker and mission leader.

Information and registration can be found online at [www.midsouthcov.org](http://www.midsouthcov.org).

Brochures are on the Info Wall in Redeemer's lobby.



## MidSouth Conference's Hurricane Harvey Update

The national news cycle may have shifted, but the relief and recovery from Hurricane Harvey continues throughout the city of Houston and along the Texas Gulf Coast.

Because of the urgency of the flood damage, this relief/recovery effort is basically going on around the clock. Our Houston Covenant churches are providing heroic leadership throughout the city. Every ECC church is caring for their own congregations and reaching out to the suffering in their city. Our pastors are leading the way.

Thankfully, reinforcements are on the way. People from Crossroads Covenant Church in Woodbury, MN, have been "mucking" homes in the Houston area. Dale Lusk and his Merge Ministries team have been working day and night to coordinate teams and get them connected with each of our Houston ECC churches so they can plunge into the ongoing work of hurricane recovery. We've had mission team visits from Covenant churches in Woodbury, MN; Clay Center, KS; McPherson, KS; Portland, OR; West Hills, OR; Rolling Hills, CA; San Rafael, CA; Kansas City.

We are full of gratitude for the financial generosity of our

Covenant friends from around the country and the world. We are using our eight Houston Covenant churches as the gateways to get almost immediate help to the immediate needs that people are facing because of flood damage.

As the Recovery Phase begins, our great need is people or teams who have expertise in building. Dale Lusk and the Merge Team continue to provide exceptional logistical leadership for the growing number of visiting Covenant mission teams coming to Houston. Cecilia Williams and the ECC *Love Mercy Do Justice* team are also providing generous expertise and funding.

The damages and disruption from Hurricane Harvey are immense. Recovery will take months, even years. Texans are resilient. So are Covenanters. Thanks again for your shared partnership as we help a great city rebuild. Please keep praying for our Houston ECC churches and pastors. They are heroes on our behalf.

- Adapted from the *MidSouth Update September 2017* email newsletter. Email: [office@midsouthcov.org](mailto:office@midsouthcov.org)



# October 2017

| Sun   | Mon                     | Tue  | Wed  | Thu  | Fri  | Sat  |
|---|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1   | 2                       | 3  | 4<br>7-8:30 pm: Fall Bible Study begins, Prayer, CREW, ESL, Kids Connect, Iglesia Emanuel  | 5<br>Council meeting 7p.m.<br><b>Celebrate Recovery</b><br>• Dinner 6:15 pm<br>• Meeting 7 pm<br>• Share Groups 8 pm<br>• Café Koinonia 9  | 6  | 7  |
| 8 Brief Financial Update after the worship service<br><br>Iglesia Emanuel 1-4pm           | 9 Women's Luncheon 12pm | 10 PRC meeting 7pm                                     | 11<br>7-8:30 pm: Fall Bible Study begins, Prayer, CREW, ESL, Kids Connect, Iglesia Emanuel | 12<br><b>Celebrate Recovery</b><br>• Dinner 6:15 pm<br>• Meeting 7 pm<br>• Share Groups 8 pm<br>• Café Koinonia 9 pm   | 13   | 14   |
| 15<br>Book Club<br><br>Iglesia Emanuel 1-4pm  | 16                      | 17   | 18<br>7-8:30 pm: Fall Bible Study begins, Prayer, CREW, ESL, Kids Connect, Iglesia Emanuel | 19<br><b>Celebrate Recovery</b><br>• Dinner 6:15 pm<br>• Meeting 7 pm<br>• Share Groups 8 pm<br>• Café Koinonia 9 pm   | 20<br>Ladies' Game Night 6:30-9:30pm   | 21 Harvest Community Garden Meeting 8:00am |
| 22<br>Membership Class? 9:30am<br>Iglesia Emanuel 1-4pm                                   | 23                      | 24   | 25<br>7-8:30 pm: Prayer, Bible Study, CREW, Kids Connect, ESL, Iglesia Emanuel             | 26<br><b>Celebrate Recovery</b><br>• Dinner 6:15 pm<br>• Meeting 7 pm<br>• Share Groups 8 pm<br>• Café Koinonia 9 pm   | 27   | 28<br>CREW 12-4:00pm                       |
| ← Midsouth Pastors' Retreat →   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |
| 29<br>Membership Class? 9:30am<br>CREW Candied Apples Fundraiser<br>Iglesia Emanuel 1-4pm | 30                      | 31 Trunk or Treat 6:30-8:30pm (Setup begins at 4:30pm) |  | <b>PURPLE = Fellowship Hall</b><br><b>RED = Sanctuary</b><br><b>GREEN = CE Wing</b><br><b>PINK = Whole Church</b><br><b>ORANGE = Office</b><br><b>BLUE = Prayer Room</b><br><b>BROWN = Sanctuary Annex</b> | <b>PLAN AHEAD:</b><br>11/3-5 Midsouth Family Camp<br>11/5 Daylight Saving Time ends<br>11/5 Membership class?<br>11/5 Racial Reconciliation Group meets at Bethel Bible Fellowship<br>11/19 Thanksgiving Service & Feast<br>11/22 NO Wednesday activities<br>12/3 Advent Dinner<br>12/10 Children's Christmas Program<br>12/27 NO Wednesday activities |  |



# Redeemer

Evangelical Covenant Church



## Contact Us

1518 East Frankford Road  
Carrollton, TX 75007  
972-466-0054

FAX 972-323-1413

[Info@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Info@RedeemerECC.org)

**Senior Pastor – Mark Mohrweis**

[Mark@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Mark@RedeemerECC.org)

**Associate Pastor – Dieula Previlon**

[Dieula@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Dieula@RedeemerECC.org)

**Music Leader – Cassie Watson**

[CassieWatson\\_music@yahoo.com](mailto:CassieWatson_music@yahoo.com)

**Office Administrator – Lori Vriend**

[Lori@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Lori@RedeemerECC.org)

**Youth Pastor – Nick Castle**

[Nick@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Nick@RedeemerECC.org)

We are  
on the web!

[WWW.RedeemerECC.org](http://WWW.RedeemerECC.org)

[www.facebook.com/redeemercarrollton](http://www.facebook.com/redeemercarrollton)

Redeemer is a member of  
The Evangelical Covenant Church  
[www.covchurch.org](http://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.

### Fall Sermon Series: “The Flip Side of the Coin”

Sometimes we use money excuses to cover up the real reasons we are holding back. What are some of the non-financial issues at Redeemer that came to light from the \$350,000 donation?

**October 1** - John 15: 5-8 "The Buck Stops Here: Discipling the Next Generation with Authenticity & Transparency"

**October 8** - Mark 10:35-41 "36-32"

**October 15** - Luke 16:1-12 "Skate to Where the Puck is Going"

**October 22** - Matthew 14:22-33 "Life Begins Where Your Comfort Zone Ends"

**October 29** - Matthew 17:24-27 "You've Got Great Bulletin Form!"

### Master's Touch Submissions

To submit information or an article, e-mail it to Lori at [Lori@RedeemerECC.org](mailto: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**

**Wednesday: 9 AM — 4 PM**  
(Staff meeting 2 — 3 PM)

**Thursday: 9 AM — 4 PM**

**Friday: 9 AM — 4 PM**  
(Lori's day off)

**Saturday: Closed**