Touck

From the Pastor's Desk

"Go up and take possession of the land I have given you." But you rebelled against the command of the Lord your God. You did not trust Him or obey Him.
(Deuteronomy 9:23)

I left the conference feeling like I had been punched in the gut. I didn't know whether to celebrate because God had revealed something that was holding me back from His will or to mourn because that same revelation exposed my sin. Either way, I still can't escape the revelation even though time has now passed since the conference.

I was just finishing up a racial justice conference in Austin. The speaker was going to close his presentation by outlining practical steps churches could take to engage in racial justice. But at this point the speaker paused, forgot about the topic for a moment, and shared his heart. He told us if we really wanted to, we could probably brainstorm 7-10 good ideas in just a few moments. He continued by pointing out that in his experience, most churches don't fail in racial justice because of a lack of ideas. Instead, it was a lack of willingness to take bold steps. Rather than giving us ideas for next steps forward, he concluded the conference by warning us

not to let our "lack of ideas" become a convenient excuse to evade the fact that we are simply unwilling to obey the Lord.

As I said, it was a gut punch. The more I reflect on it, it's a gut punch that goes well beyond race relations. How often do "lack of ideas" or "lack of next steps" become a way to rationalize the feeling that deep down, we simply do not want

to obey the Lord?
As we reflect upon the Easter season and the power of the resurrection, I think this conference speaker has given us



all an important word. The difficulty in following Jesus is not from a lack of creativity. It is almost always an unwillingness to obey. And the joy of following (and seeing!) Jesus won't be found until we learn to trust and obey. Take some time this April to pray over your life in light of the resurrection. Is there a situation you face where you simply need a willing heart instead of one more idea?

Mark Mohrweis
 Mark@RedeemerECC.org

Meet Our Worship Team - Justin Kim

Share your brief testimony of how you came to the Lord and accepted Jesus Christ as your savior.

I met Him in my life (not in camp, etc.). Before I met Him I hated Christ because I thought He made me

to live Really Hard. (My dad is a pastor.) Especially my life course: what I really



wanted and what my dad wanted for me was totally different. During that fight I decided to kill myself. At that time, God said to me, "My precious Son, what are you doing now? I truly say I really love

you." After that I realized that He is The Real and The Eternity.

(Continued on page 2)

Justin Kim, continued

How did you get involved with music and what is your musical background?

I started music when I was in high school. I was a chief of a school orchestra. The root of that was my music teacher's recommendation. That background made me involved in the music.

What has God taught you about your ministry through music?

He always taught that I need to seek the Touch and Sound

of the Holy Sprit. But that's too hard so far, so I keep praying for that.

What are your top hobbies?

Hmm.... Definitely music!

Favorite music?

"Stone of Zion" sung by Naul.

What is God teaching you lately?

There is the God's timing.

Easter Brunch

Sunday, April 1, at 9:30 A.M. in Fellowship Hall

Easter is the most glorious of all days because Jesus is alive and death has been conquered! Jesus gives us hope of eternal life!

We invite you and your neighbors and friends to join us in celebration at a great Easter Brunch in Fellowship Hall!

If you would like to bring a dish or some goodies to share at this potluck, please do so; but either way, come to celebrate!

Can you help with brunch set-up or clean up? Contact Kathy Joiner at kjlnjj (at) yahoo.com.



Pray for Our Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee is a small group of Redeemer members who are tasked with finding the next generation of Council members for the June Congregational Meeting. The job requires a lot of prayer and a lot of persistence.

This year's committee consists of:

- Deb Christopher
- Melanie Johnson
- Tasha Moore
- Nicole Barnett
- Pastor Mark

Pray for this committee for the next two months, as it can be exciting, but also discouraging at the same time. Further, if you know someone who you think would be a good council member, don't hesitate to pass this name

along to the committee. You can pass the name on to Pastor Mark at mark@redeemerecc.org.



Page 2 THE MASTER'S TOUCH

OUTreach Ministries

It's almost time for the Sack Summer Hunger!



For the past two summers Redeemer has helped support Metrocrest Service's program by volunteering to pack the meal bags a few different times over the summer.

Volunteers help by preparing over 800 easy-to-prepare, kid-friendly meals and snacks for youngsters in the Carrollton area during the summer break. The program is designed to help feed children who qualify for free/reduced meals during the school year. Volunteer signups will start in May!

Contact Tasha Moore at tasha.lynn.moore (at) gmail.com.



Thank You!

A big thank you to all the helpers with the Easter Egg Hunt and Cookout! It's always a wonderful time sharing a meal and playing games together and watching all the little ones run around collecting eggs.

Thank you to everyone who helped by donating eggs, candy, baked goods, and helping at the event. We couldn't do it without you.

Contact Tasha Moore at tasha.lynn.moore (at) gmail.com.

Racial Reconciliation Discussion Group



Sunday, April 29 at 6:00-8:00 P.M. Potluck in Redeemer's Fellowship Hall

Who: Anyone who is seeking reconciliation, wholeness, justice, and peace through lesus Christ

What: People from any background gathering for a potluck dinner to talk about the racial issues that trouble the Church, our nation, and the world

When: The last Sunday of the month

Where: Alternating months between Redeemer ECC and Bethel Bible Fellowship For more information: Contact Pastor Dieula Previlon at Dieula@RedeemerECC.org.

Son Shine Project



Have you been looking for a way to encourage people? A way to say you are loved? The Son Shine Project might just be for you!

The Son Shine Project is a new outreach opportunity for members of the church to

become Encouragers and help stay connected to our youth who have gone off to college or are serving in the military, our ECC missionaries, and our shut-ins.

What are the expectations you ask?

Simple. Encouragers will be matched with a Redeemer loved one and each month you just send them your love, encouragement and prayers. This could be done with a card, a letter, a phone call, or a fun little surprise in the mail. What's important is that as a church we stay connected to those we don't see.

If you are interested in learning more or being an Encourager or know a person who needs encouragement please contact Tasha Moore at Tasha.lynn.moore (at) gmail.com.

APRIL 2018 Page 3

Redeemer Women Ministries



WOTEN IN CHRIST

All women, all ages, all stages, all woven together in Christ! Monday, April 9 at Noon

We're Making Purses for Haiti! Join us to help bless the women of Haiti. No sewing experience is needed. Questions? See Jan Erickson.

Bring a potluck dish and a friend!





Baby Shower for Carlisa Castle

Saturday, April 21, at 2:00 P.M.

Redeemer Women, you are invited to celebrate the upcoming birth of Baby Castle! Join us in Fellowship Hall as we shower Carlisa with love.

RSVP: Julie Persson at rjpersson (at) verizon.net Carlisa and Nick are registered at Target.



Bridal Shower for Heather Erickson

Saturday, April 28, at 2:00 P.M.

Redeemer Women, please join us in Redeemer's Fellowship Hall to support Heather and celebrate her upcoming marriage!

RSVP: Julie Persson at rjpersson (at) verizon.net

Heather and Marco are registered at Target and Bed, Bath, & Beyond.

Volunteer to Care for Our Grounds!

Mowing Teams

The mowing season will soon begin and we want to form teams to spend a couple hours mowing and tending our grounds. No prior experience is needed to volunteer and all equipment is provided.



Tending Flowerbeds

We want our flower beds looking pretty so that our neighbors will be blessed by our presence in the neighborhood! To do that we would like to create a team or two to pull weeds and tend our flower beds.

If you would like to be part of a team, please contact Denis Lemay at DenisLemay101 (at) gmail.com.

Volunteer Appreciation Night Photos

A big thanks to Stephen Brodie and Christa Watson for their photography work at Redeemer's Volunteer Appreciation Dinner! Go to the LINKS page at RedeemerECC.org to find these links to their photos:

Stephen Brodie's photos: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/cm12yl35a0pipbz/

AADgxmk-dz6cjRaQU173aGP a

Christa Watson's photos: https://drive.google.com/open?

id=1fKl3q5eNzzKjtWqhMRBB ktnAToTmpRl



Page 4 THE MASTER'S TOUCH

CREW Youth Group



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

All middle school & high school students are invited to join us! Contact Pastor Nick at Nick@RedeemerECC.org.

BAKED GOODS AUCTION

Sunday, April 15, at 12:05 P.M. in the church lobby Join us after church for our annual CREW Bake Auction! Come ready to bid on some phenomenal baked goods.

Do you bake?

We need baked goods to sell!! Email Joy if you can provide some goodies!! Joy.persson (at) gmail.com



CREW Volunteer Opportunity - Saturday, April 28th

We will be volunteering with Christian Community Action located in Carrollton, TX. We will be sorting donated goods, breaking down boxes, shelving product and possibly cleaning the warehouse area. For more information on CCA click the following link: ccahelps.org Drop off time & location: 11:30 AM @ 3050 N Josey Ln, Carrollton, TX 75007

Pick up time: 2:15 PM

Midsouth Covenant Summer CAMP! - August 5th-11th

If students are interested in going to camp this summer, PLEASE be sure to pay the \$50 deposit ASAP in order to reserve a spot! Also send in the application form. You can mail them directly or turn in to me to mail. Let me know if you have any questions! - Nick Castle: 682-597-8220

2018 Midsouth Covenant Camp - August 5-11

The Midsouth Camp will be at Frontier Camp in Grapeland, TX.

This seven-day camp ministry is for children entering grades 2-9. It also offers CILT leadership training for students entering grades 10-12.

This year's camp theme is:

"COLORS: The Story of Joseph -Family Matters."

Registration information is in the church lobby. Register soon,

because it is first come, first served...some ages and genders sold out last year. Watch the website for online registration: www.midsouthcov.org

Important dates:

May 19-20 = Counselor Training

June 1 = CILT applications & references due

June 15 = Early Registration camper deposit & forms due

July 15 = All registration paperwork due

August 5 = Camp check-in and all registration fees are due **Contact** Mary Ann at MaryAnne@RedeemerECC.org.



Camp Counselors:

Camp Director Dale "Munk" Lusk will once again lead our volunteer counselors and CILTs.

Applications are in the lobby and online at www.midsouthcov.org. Send them and two reference forms as soon as possible. Munk will be choosing counselors as soon as he starts receiving applications. It will be first-come

first-served, including requested age groups.

Camp training will be the weekend of May 19-20. If you are able to attend you will be put on the priority list for counselors. If you are unable to attend the training that weekend, please still apply. We will put you on a counselor waiting list, inform you if we will be needing your services as soon as possible, and let you know when and where a make-up training will take place.

Page 5 APRIL 2018

Hope for the Caregiver Conference

Saturday, April 14, at 9:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.

Location: Prestonwood Baptist Church

6801 W. Park Blvd. Plano, TX 75093

Cost: \$10 per family

Register: Go to prestonwood.org/caregiver.

Deadline: Register by Wednesday, April 11.

Breakout sessions include:

- Managing stress and fatigue, handling guilt and fear
- Medicare/Medicaid, Social Security, wills/trusts, longterm care, elder adult scams and financial abuse
- · Finding living and care options for your loved one
- · Caring for loved ones with special needs or disabilities
- Understanding Alzheimer's and dementia Meet local vendors related to these topics.

Hope for the Caregiver

Saturday, April 14 | 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.



Sponsored by: Prestonwood Baptist & Bent Tree For details, call: 972-820-5325

Midsouth Conference News

MERGE Ministries

The **2018 Midsouth mission trip to Guatemala** will be June 16-24, 2018 in order to avoid CHIC 2018 as much as possible. We are looking to register participants as soon as possible so we can make detailed plans for the trip. People interested in learning more can contact: Dale Lusk at (956) 458-9568 or dale.lusk@covchurch.org

CHIC 2018

July 15-20, 2018 at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, TN. The theme is "UNITE." This Covenant-wide once-every-three-year event for high schoolers will be life-changing. Go to the CHIC website for more information. Dale Lusk is our Midsouth CHIC Coordinator. www.midsouthcov.org/chic-midsouth-2018

New Celebrate Recovery Step Studies

Ladies, we are starting two new Step Study groups where we work through the principles and steps that help us find freedom in Christ. These groups will be open to new comers during the month of April:

The Journey Begins, Books 1-4 - Melanie Johnson will be leading this group on Tuesdays at 7:30 P.M.

The Journey Continues, Books 5-8 - This new step study is for those who have completed the first 4 books and want

to continue their practice of recovery. See Lyn Hall if you are interested in joining this group on Sundays at 9:30 A.M.

Men, if you are interested in doing a Step Study, see Steve Hall.

For details, email Steve and Lyn at RedeemerCR@gmail.com.



Save the Date: National Day of Prayer - Thursday, May 3



We encourage everyone to pray for our nation. There will be many prayer gatherings in our area. One will be at the Denton County Courthouse-on-the Square south lawn with live music starting at 11:15 a.m. and the main program beginning at Noon to 1 p.m. Also, one is usually at 12:00-12:30 p.m. at Carrollton City Hall flag poles (NE corner of Josey & Jackson). This year's theme is: Pray for America - UNITY "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." (Ephesians 4:3) Learn more at NationalDayofPrayer.org.

Page 6 THE MASTER'S TOUCH

Ongoing Ministries

Sundays at Redeemer

- Worship Service at 10:45 A.M. In the Sanctuary
- Adult Bible Study at 9:30 A.M. in Fellowship Hall The current study is *Immerse*:



The Bible Reading Experience. (Sorry, no childcare available at this time.) Contact Ron Persson at rjpersson (at) verizon.net.

- Prayer Ministry at 10:00 A.M. in the Prayer Room
 Do you need prayer? Do you want to pray for others,
 for Redeemer or our world? Please join us in the Prayer
 Room.
- · Children's Ministries
 - Nursery Care at 10:30 A.M.
 Infants from birth through age 1 are cared for in room 115 and toddlers in room 114. Also, a "Cry Room" is at the back of the sanctuary for parents with fussy babies.
 - Toddlers meet in room 114 at 10:30 A.M.
 - PreK—K meet at 10:30 A.M. in room 113.
 - Children's Church for Elementary ages:
 Grades 1-5 join their parents during the first part of the worship service at 10:45 A.M. Then, during the offertory, they are dismissed to room 109 for their own worship.

Celebrate Recovery

Every Thursday at Redeemer! Everyone is welcome to this place of fellowship & support! Join us for any of these activities:



- 6:15 P.M. Unwind from the day: Join us as we relax while eating dinner together in Fellowship Hall. (\$3 donation)
- **7:00 P.M. Worship God:** Join us in the sanctuary for music, teaching, inspiration, and testimony.
- 8:00 P.M. Share what's on your heart: We separate into men's and women's groups for Open Share time.
- 9:00 P.M. Café Kononia: Get to know and support one another (maybe look for an accountability partner or sponsor).

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

Contact: Steve or Lyn Hall at RedeemerCR@gmail.com.

Wednesdays At Redeemer

• Bible Study at 7-8:30 P.M. in Room 110

The current study is the book *Haggai*. Join us for this verse-byverse study led by Pastor Mark. Contact Mark for more information at Mark@RedeemerECC.org.



(Sorry, no nursery or toddle care at this time.)

• Kids Connect at 7-8:30 P.M. in Room 109

Kids Connect is a place where children K-5th 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. **Volunteer to help!** Contact Mary Anne Jensen at MaryAnne (at) RedeemerECC.org.

• ESL Classes at 7 P.M. in Fellowship Hall

We offer two classes: Basic Level for beginning non-English speaking students and Level 1 beginning class. Contact Dieula@RedeemerECC.org.



CREW Youth Group at 7 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.

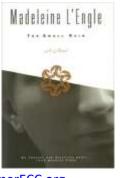
• Open Prayer at 7 P.M. in the Prayer Room

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.



Book Club

Sunday, April 15 at 7:00-9:00 P.M.
Book club discusses one book a month from a wide variety of genres, Christian and secular. We usually meet once a month on the third Sunday in Fellowship Hall. This month we will discuss *The Small Rain* by Madeleine L'Engle . Everyone is welcome! (Sorry, no childcare.)



For details, contact Lori at Lori@RedeemerECC.org.

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April Dates

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

Happy Birthday!

4/01 Luet	ta Milbrandt
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4/06 John Joiner

4/07 **Beverly Petty**

4/08 **Taylor Petty**

MaryRose Anderson 4/10

4/11 Jens Jensen

4/12 Mike Castelli

Darlene Clark 4/17

4/28 Annie Barnett

Alexi Duffin 4/28

Happy Anniversary!

4/04 Fresnel & Dieula Previlon

4/06 Jose Luis & Liliana Salazar

4/11 Joe & Ellie Wakeman

4/12 Dan & Ana Belville

4/18 Curt & Debbie Swindoll

4/21 Terry & Dee Yach

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



Harvest Community Garden NEWS! Plots Available

Our gardeners are busy planting for the spring and summer growing seasons. We still have 2 plots that are open for adoption.

Phase 2 Update:

We have begun the grading needed for building another 12 garden plots. We hope to finish Phase 2 this spring.

Volunteer Opportunities

We need help with plumbing/irrigation, building beds, soil installation, spreading of mulch in building Phase 2. Adopt the care of the xeriscape garden, asparagus plot, or blackberry plants.

Contacts & Information

Email Stan: grow@HarvestCommunitGarden.org On the web: www.HarvestCommunityGarden.org

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

Redeemer Covenant Church **Contributions Report**

Year-	to-Date	Contr	ibutior	าร
II Cai-	to-Date	COLL	IDULIOI	13

General		71,753.75
	eGiving	13,642.16
Crisis Relief		887.00
Missions		0.00
Facilities - Renovate/Rent		1,800.00
Designated		
	Hearts & Soles	20.00
	5.00	
Pastor Appreciation		0.00
	0.00	
	Youth Missions_	2,203.72

Total YTD Contributions

\$90,311.63

YTD General Budget \$85,673.08 YTD Actual \$78,388.65

YTD General Contributions Difference -\$7,284.43

\$15789 received 2017 Year-end in advance of 2018 contributions.

Giving Online

Go to RedeemerECC.org and click on Online Giving (at the top right of the page). There you will find:

- A link to your account to give online
- A link to set up an account for online giving Questions? Contact Financial Secretary Jayme Wright at JaymeLWright (at) yahoo.com.

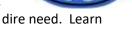
Penny Manna

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,





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.

THE MASTER'S TOUCH Page 8

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Easter Brunch 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Iglesia Emanuel 1-4pm	2	3 CR Step Study begins 7:30pm	7:00 p.m.: Bible study, CREW, Kids Connect, Prayer, ESL, Iglesia Emanuel	5 CR Dinner 6:15pm CR Main Mtg 7pm CR Open Share 8pm Café Koinonia 9pm	6 Midsouth Fa	7 amily Camp →
8 CR Step Study begins 9:30am Children's Worker Training 12:05pm Iglesia Emanuel 1- 4pm	9 Woven Potluck 12pm	10	7:00 p.m.: Bible study, CREW, Kids Connect, Prayer, ESL, Iglesia Emanuel	12 CR Dinner 6:15pm CR Main Mtg 7pm CR Open Share 8pm Café Koinonia 9pm	13 Haiti Trip Meeting	14 (Caregiver Conference @ Prestonwood Baptist 9am)
15 CREW Bake Auction 12:05pm Iglesia Emanuel 1- 4pm Book Club 7pm	16	17	7:00 p.m.: Bible study, CREW, Kids Connect, Prayer, ESL, Iglesia Emanuel	CR Dinner 6:15pm CR Main Mtg 7pm CR Open Share 8pm Café Koinonia 9pm	20 Midsouth A	21 Baby Shower 2pm
22 Iglesia Emanuel 1- 4pm	23	24	7:00 p.m.: Bible study, CREW, Kids Connect, Prayer, ESL, Iglesia Emanuel	26 CR Dinner 6:15pm CR Main Mtg 7pm CR Open Share 8pm Café Koinonia 9pm	27	28 Council meeting 9am CREW Volunteer at CCA 11:30am Bridal Shower 2pm
29 Iglesia Emanuel 1- 4pm Racial Reconciliation Group 6pm at Redeemer	30			PLAN AHEAD: May 3 National Day of May 19-20 Camp Cot July 15-20 Haiti Miss July 16-20 CHIC Cor August 5-11 Midsout	unselor Training ion Trip nference	PURPLE = Fellowship Hall RED = Sanctuary GREEN = CE Wing

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Redeemer

Evangelical Covenant Church



Contact Us

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

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.

New Sermon Series: Interrupted

Much of Jesus' ministry was done on a JOURNEY. The JOURNEY of life is where we find God. Based on the Gospel of Luke.

April 1 - Mark 16:1-8 "The Bewildering Resurrection"

April 8 - Luke 4:14-30 "Interrupted"

April 15 - Luke 4: 14-30 "To the Ones Who Say No"

April 22 - Luke 5: 1-11 "To the Ones Who Say Yes"

April 29 - Luke 7:18-35 "Betting on the Wrong Horse?"

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

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

Thursday: 9 AM — 4 PM

Friday: 9 AM — 4 PM (Lori's day off)

Saturday: Closed