

September 2019



REDEEMER EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

The Master's Touch

From the Pastor's Desk

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts." - Isaiah 55:8-9

About a year ago, a story from a podcast grabbed my attention. The story was of a native Alaskan boy who was able to overcome generational trauma and poverty, eventually being the first in his family to go college. Initially the podcast seemed like a typical feel-good story of perseverance. But the story had a twist: When things in the boy's life improved materially (better school, better home, stable environment etc.) his grades and his behavior got worse.

After being asked to leave his prestigious school ("Not college material" they said), his turnaround began when a new teacher noticed the boy had gifts, but they were not in your "typical" school subjects. He wasn't lazy. He went hunting every morning before school. He struggled with creative writing but was an incredible oral storyteller. His giftedness really came out as he learned how to advocate for other native Alaskan youth with experiences like his. By tapping into these atypical interests, the new (less prestigious!) school set the boy on the path to success. His grades, behavior, and prospects improved.

In the year since I heard that podcast, I've

thought off and on about what criteria we use to grade things. When did we decide that a written story was more important than an oral story? Or that handwriting is more important than hunting (or farming!)? And I had to take it a step further: Are there spiritual gifts and qualities which we are neglecting because they do not fit into our typical "spiritual" categories? I think the answer to that question is yes.

This fall the sermons will come from Revelation chapters 2 and 3. These chapters are the letters Jesus Christ writes to the 7 churches in Asia Minor. As we go through these letters, I think you'll see as I do that Christ "grades" our spiritual lives very differently than we have been taught to imagine. Could it be that you have some atypical spiritual gifts that are not being seen? Could "Christ's Report Card" list some subjects that you hadn't thought about before? God's ways are not our ways. In this back-to-school season it's worth pondering that maybe His grades are not our grades either.

- Mark Mohrweis

Mark@RedeemerECC.org



Council Corner

Redeemer Council's regular business meetings are now held on the first *Tuesday* of the month at 7:00-8:30 P.M. in Fellowship Hall.

Council also meets fairly regularly for strategic planning, a retreat, special issues, or just to be social and get to know each other better.

Please pray for their next retreat: a strategic planning meeting that will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 20-21. Please pray regularly for all our leadership and their families! Your prayers are greatly appreciated! Our current Council members are listed on the following page (page 2).

Council Corner (continued from page 1)

Executive Board

- Also serves as the Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC)

Chair: Tasha Moore

Vice Chair: Elvis Obinma

Treasurer: Gaylon Hull

Financial Secretary: Randy Clark

Secretary: Ron Persson

Committee Chairs

Discipleship: MaryRose Ratcliff

Evangelism/Outreach: Megan Hull

Fellowship: Lyn Hall

Missions: Warren Leonhardi

Property: Luis Salazar

Worship: Joy Persson

**The 1st
5:30 p.m.**

Family Fun Night

Featuring Two Movies

**Hot Dogs and
Popcorn will
be served**

or bring your own meal

**Finding Nemo
&
Akeelah and the Bee**

**Bring blankets,
chairs, bean
bags if you like**

Contact: Pastor Mark

A Labor Day Prayer

My God, Father and Savior, since You have commanded us to work in order to meet our needs, sanctify our labor that it may bring nourishment to our souls as well as to our bodies.

Make us constantly aware that our efforts are worthless unless guided by Your light and by Your hand.

Make us faithful to the particular tasks for which You have bestowed upon us the necessary gifts, taking from us any envy or jealousy at the vocations of others.

Give us a good heart to supply the needs of the poor, saving us from any desire to exalt ourselves over those who receive our bounty.

And if You should call us into greater poverty than we humanly desire, save us from any spirit of defiance or resentment, but rather let us graciously and humbly receive the bounty of others.

Above all, may every temporal grace be matched by spiritual grace, that in both body and soul we may live to Your glory.

- By John Calvin



Mandatory!
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY MEETING
 For All Leaders & Volunteers!

Sunday, September 22, after worship
Fellowship Hall @ 12:15 -1:15 pm

This is a once a year training for all volunteers working with children under 18 years old.

- Connect with other workers
- Get familiar with our policies and guidelines
- Lunch will be served

This training is required for all child workers. So, if you cannot make it to this meeting, please contact MaryRose at MaryRose@RedeemerECC.org.



Coming This Fall:
Be The Bridge

(Time & place to be determined.)

The Racial Reconciliation Group will no longer be having its ongoing monthly meetings this fall. Instead, we will do something new: an 8-week commitment to weekly meetings using *Be the Bridge* curriculum to guide us as we seek God's heart for unity in a racially divided society.

Watch for details to come!
 Contact:

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

Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration!

Redeemer ECC

&

Iglesia Emanuel

will hold a joint celebration in worship and a meal!

Sunday, September 29

10:45 A.M.

Location:

Redeemer's Sanctuary

Tentative Schedule:

10:45 a.m.—Shorter worship service

11:45 a.m.—Lunch together

1:00 p.m.—Clean up

1:30 p.m.—Iglesia Emanuel's worship

Lunch:

We will eat a potluck lunch together.

Watch for a signup sheet in the church lobby so we can plan well.

Everyone is invited!

NEW: Fall Festival!

Saturday, October 19 *Save the Date!*
3:00-5:00 P.M.

This year, we have decided to take a leap of Faith and try something new at Redeemer. While we have loved hosting a Trunk-or-Treat these past several years, we would like to try something new for 2019.

Since Halloween is on a Thursday this year, and Celebrate Recovery meets on Thursday nights, we thought this change will give us an opportunity to try a new type of outreach. We hope everyone still participates and invites friends and neighbors to join us.

We will have community resources, such as the Library, CR, and others, host tables of information. We are also going to have fun activities for the whole family to participate in, such as face-painting and crafts.

Watch for more information/sign-ups in the weeks to come, and please contact Megan Edge ([megan.edge26 \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:megan.edge26@gmail.com)) for any questions.

TIME TO MARK YOUR
CALENDARS FOR:

**REDEEMER
ECC'S 1ST
FALL
FESTIVAL**

Saturday October 19, 2019
3-5 PM

*Community
Resources*

Kids' Crafts

*Face
Painting*

CANDY!!!!

Fellowship Ministries

Men's Breakfast



The 1st Saturday of the Month - September 7, at 8:30-10:00 A.M.

Men, join us in Fellowship Hall for breakfast, fellowship, and prayer. Invite a friend or neighbor. Bring your sons or father. Come make some new friends. Let's walk alongside each other as we follow Christ!

Contact Steve Hall at [StevenRileyHall \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:StevenRileyHall@gmail.com).

WOMEN IN CHRIST

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

Potluck Lunch

Monday, September 9

Begins with prayer at Noon

**Come for the
fellowship.
Bring a potluck
dish to share.
Bring a friend!**

Contact
sherylsmith123 (at)
verizon.net



Ladies' Game Night!

Save the Date: October 11th!

6:30 P.M. in Fellowship Hall

Bring a game, a snack, & a friend!

Redeemer's Book Club

**The 3rd Sunday of the Month
September 15, at 6:30-8:30 P.M.**

Book Club meets in Fellowship Hall to discuss one book a month from a wide variety of genres. Join us once in a while or every month! Invite your non-church friends, too!

Questions? Contact Lori Vriend at Lori@RedeemerECC.org.

NEXT BOOK DISCUSSION:

***On Hitler's Mountain: Overcoming the Legacy of a Nazi Childhood*
by Irmgard A. Hunt**





NEW! beginning September 4: *Revelation*

Bible Study for Adults

*Deepen your faith, get to know God better,
understand more of the Bible, develop friendships
that help you grow!*

Wednesdays at 7—8:30 P.M.

Join us for a verse-by-verse study of the book of **Revelation** led by Pastor Mark.

We are meeting in room 110 of the Christian Education Wing.

Contact Pastor Mark at Mark@RedeemerECC.org.

Note to Parents: We are sorry, there is currently no childcare or class for younger children at this time. However, there is CREW youth group for 6th-12th graders on Wednesdays at 7 P.M.

Harvest Community Garden

Harvest Community Garden is building Phase 2 and making improvements!

We hope to have the 12 new plots ready for Fall Planting!

We still have compost to add to the plots, mulch to finish the walkways, and a fence to build. We also plan to level the shed, put in flagstones, and create a sitting area.

Stop by on a Saturday morning to learn more! ... We'll even put you to work, if you want!

Learn more: Call Lori at 972-466-0054

www.HarvestCommunityGarden.org

www.facebook.com/Harvest-Community-Garden-211811232239434/



GIFTS

God's
Girls
In
Faith
Together
Selflessly



A discipleship group
for girls in
4th & 5th grades.

Meets on
most Tuesdays
6:15-7:15 p.m.

Led by
Megan Hull
and meets at
Julie Persson's home.

[rjpersson \(at\) Verizon.net](mailto:rjpersson@verizon.net)

Our Denomination

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

www.covchurch.org or find us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/#!/covchurch.



Sundays at Redeemer

Worship Service at 10:45 A.M.

Nursery Care at 10:30 to Noon



Infants from birth to age 2 are cared for in room 115 and toddlers in room 114. There is also a "Cry Room" at the back of the sanctuary for parents with fussy babies.

Children's Church

We provide age-appropriate opportunities for children to learn and have fun during the worship service.

The toddlers meet at 10:30 A.M. to noon in room 114.

Preschool—Kindergarten meet from 10:30 A.M. to noon in room 113.

Grades 1-5 join their parents during the first part of the worship service at 10:45 A.M. During the offertory, they are dismissed to room 109 for their own worship time.

Adult Bible Study at 9:30 A.M.

Want to learn about prayer? Wish you could go deeper in your prayer life? Join us in Fellowship Hall (A) as we study Kay Arthur's *Lord Teach Me to Pray*. For more information, contact Ron and Julie at [rjpersson \(at\) Verizon.net](mailto:rjpersson@verizon.net) (Sorry, no childcare provided at this time.)



Sunday Morning Prayer at 10:00 a.m.

Come pray with us for whatever is on your heart! Want healing? Concerned about something? Join us in praying for the church, each other, and our community. We meet in the Prayer Room to pray as the Spirit leads. (Sorry, no childcare provided at this time.)



Wednesday Evenings at Redeemer

Bible Study on Revelation

7:00-8:30 P.M. in Fellowship Hall



Pastor Mark is leading a verse-by-verse study of the book of Hebrews. Everyone is welcome to join us on Wednesday evenings! Contact Pastor Mark at

Mark@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 Joy Persson at

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

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.



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.



ESL Classes

Meet Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:00-8:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Contact Dieual@RedeemerECC.org.



Celebrate Recovery (CR)

Join us every Thursday at Redeemer!

All are welcome to this place of fellowship and support!

Join us for any or all of these activities:

6:15 P.M. - **Unwind & Eat:** Join us as we relax and eat dinner together. We usually have a home-cooked meal.

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:** Men and women meet separately in smaller rooms for Open Share time.

9:00 P.M. - **Café Koinonia:** Have a cup of coffee and a snack, look for an accountability partner, or just get to know people.

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

Everyone is welcome!

Volunteers needed.

To learn more or volunteer to help,
contact Steve or Lyn Hall at
RedeemerCR@gmail.com.



Penny Manna



Help us bless those in need! Let God take what is considered worthless and magnify it for His Glory!

Collect those unwanted pennies and coins and place them in the Penny Manna jar located in the church lobby.

All donations are sent to Covenant World Relief (covchurch.org/relief).



Update on Pill Bottles for Ecuador

We collected about 300 pill bottles to send to Joel and Kim Delp in Ecuador.

A mission group from Church of the Good Shepherd Evangelical Covenant in Joliet, IL (led by Kristin Baly) left for Ecuador the first week of August. They were kind enough to deliver the bottles for us.

Thank you to everyone that participated!

- Sheryl Smith

[SherylSmith123 \(at\) Verizon.net](mailto:SherylSmith123@Verizon.net)



Curious about Membership?

Contact Pastor Mark about joining a class this fall.

972-466-0054

Mark@RedeemerECC.org

Support ESL as We Start Our 6th Year!

This year is Redeemer's second year partnering with Denton ISD's Adult Education & Literacy program. The goal is not only to help adults learn English, but also to encourage them towards higher education, vocational training, or obtaining a job that provides a livable wage. **Our classes are a small step on our students' pathway to a better life!**



Denton ISD

- Hires and trains teachers and teacher aides
- Registers adult students for classes
- Provide materials for teachers and students
- (Learn more at www.dentonisd.org/adulted)

Redeemer

- Provides classroom space
- Provides volunteers
- Recruits people to apply for teaching and teacher aide positions
- Spreads the word to prospective students

ESL Registration

All students must register in person with Denton ISD. They must call the Denton ISD AEL Office to schedule an appointment: 940-369-0400.

NOTE: Redeemer CANNOT do registration.

2019-2020 ESL School Year

Classes will be held twice a week on **Mondays and Wednesdays** at **6:00-8:30 P.M.**

We follow the Denton ISD school holiday schedule: **September 4, 2019 through May 20, 2020.**

Pray:

- For this partnership with Denton ISD
- That God will open our eyes even more to the needs of our community and that we will know how to be of help and support to those in need
- That we stay in close proximity to those in need so we can accomplish our Father's mission
- For our students to persevere, overcome obstacles to their learning, and to feel the love of Christ through our teachers and aides
- For God's wisdom for our teachers and aides to know how best to meet the needs of our students



Volunteer:

- Be a helper in the classroom.
- Provide snacks for classes—many students come directly from work!
- Help set up classrooms or put away materials after class.
- Spread the word! Put up signs in local businesses and apartment complexes.
- Commit for a month or a year...just let us know.

Contact

Lori@RedeemerECC.org

September's Dates

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

Happy Birthday!

9/3	Elvis Obinma
9/5	Sheri Sparks
9/6	Tom Muncy
9/8	Jim Muncy
9/9	Jade Fritz
9/10	Trinity Page
9/14	Becky Lamb
9/14	Fausto Ordonez
9/20	Solomon Page
9/20	Mike Smith
9/22	Willie Peterson
9/25	Terry Dryden
9/27	Ella Flynn
9/29	Patty Bass
9/29	Courtnei Hitzeman
9/30	Reynel Previlon

Happy Anniversary!

9/4	Scott & Barb Taylor
9/14	Joe & Sherry Thweatt
9/29	Julio & Charissa Rosario

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

Find Us on Facebook

Redeemer: www.facebook.com/#!/redeemercarrollton

Redeemer Women's Fellowship:
www.facebook.com/#!/groups/226778084046250/

Redeemer CREW:
www.facebook.com/#!/groups/157436294355726/



Redeemer's Website

www.RedeemerECC.org

Listen to sermon podcasts, learn about our ministries, see our calendar, give online, and much more!

Redeemer Covenant Church Contributions Report

Monthly As Of: 07/31/19

General	
General - (Less eGiving)	26,780.00
eGiving	4,915.64
Total Monthly General	31,695.64
Facilities (Less Rent)	200.00
Rent	800.00
Total Monthly Facilities	1,000.00
Designated	
Youth Missions	0.00
Penny Manna	0.00
Hearts & Soles	0.00
Pastor Appreciation	0.00
Benevolence/Crisis Relief	390.00
Church Mission Trip	0.00
Total Monthly Designated	390.00
Total Monthly Contributions (Less Rent)	\$32,285.64
Total Monthly General Contributions	\$31,695.64
Budgeted General Contributions	\$32,932.19
Difference	-\$1,236.55

Year-to-Date Contributions:

General	
General - Excluding eGiving	139,496.94
eGiving	49,252.65
YTD Total General Contributions	\$188,749.59
Facilities	
Facilities (Less Rent)	792.14
Rent	5,800.00
YTD Total Facilities	6,592.14
Designated	
Youth Missions	4,323.91
Penny Manna	57.06
Hearts & Soles	114.19
Pastor Appreciation	0.00
Benevolence/Crisis Relief	1,969.21
Church-wide Mission Trip	348.70
YTD Total Designated	6,813.07
Total YTD Contributions (Less Rent)	\$196,354.80
YTD Actual General Contributions	\$188,749.59
YTD Budgeted General Contributions	\$225,213.70
Difference	-\$36,464.11

Make Contributions Online:

Visit www.RedeemerECC.org and click on the Online Giving tab.

September 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Bible Study 9:30am Prayer 10am Worship 10:45 am Movie Night 5:30p.m.	2 Labor Day Office closed	3 Council Meeting 7pm	4 Begin ESL 6-8:30pm 7-8:30pm: NEW Bible Study CREW Open Prayer Iglesia Emanuel	5 Celebrate Recovery • Dinner 6:15 pm • Meeting 7 pm • Share Groups 8 pm • Café Koinonia 9 pm	6	7 Men's Breakfast 8:30am CREW Meeting 12:30pm
8 Bible Study 9:30am Prayer 10am Worship 10:45 am (Dale Lusk speaking)	9 <i>Women Woven in Christ</i> Potluck 12pm ESL 6-8:30pm	10 GIFTS 6:15pm	11 ESL 6-8:30pm 7-8:30pm: Bible Study, CREW Open Prayer Iglesia Emanuel	12 Celebrate Recovery • Dinner 6:15 pm • Meeting 7 pm • Share Groups 8 pm • Café Koinonia 9 pm	13	14
15 Bible Study 9:30am Prayer 10am Worship 10:45 am Book Club 6:30pm	16 ESL 6-8:30pm	17 GIFTS 6:15pm	18 ESL 6-8:30pm 7-8:30pm: Bible Study, CREW Open Prayer Iglesia Emanuel	19 Celebrate Recovery • Dinner 6:15 pm • Meeting 7 pm • Share Groups 8 pm • Café Koinonia 9 pm	20 Council/Staff Retreat 7-9pm	21 Council/Staff Retreat 9am
22 Bible Study 9:30am Prayer 10am Worship 10:45 am Children's Ministry Policy Meeting 12pm	23 ESL 6-8:30pm	24 GIFTS 6:15pm	25 ESL 6-8:30pm 7-8:30pm: Bible Study, CREW Open Prayer Iglesia Emanuel	26 Celebrate Recovery • Dinner 6:15 pm • Meeting 7 pm • Share Groups 8 pm • Café Koinonia 9 pm	27	28
29 Bible Study 9:30am Prayer 10am Hispanic Heritage Celebration 10:45am	30 ESL 6-8:30pm	27 GIFTS 6:15pm	28 ESL 6-8:30pm 7-8:30pm: Bible Study CREW Open Prayer Iglesia Emanuel	29 Celebrate Recovery • Dinner 6:15 pm • Meeting 7 pm • Share Groups 8 pm • Café Koinonia 9 pm	PURPLE = Fellowship Hall RED = Sanctuary GREEN = CE Wing PINK = Whole Church ORANGE = Office BLUE = Prayer Room BROWN = Sanctuary Annex	SAVE THE DATE 10/5 Men's Breakfast 10/11 Ladies' Game Night 10/19 Fall Festival 10/20 Book Club

Redeemer

Evangelical Covenant Church



Contact Us

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Info@RedeemerECC.org

Senior Pastor – Mark Mohrweis

Mark@RedeemerECC.org

Associate Pastor – Dieula Previlon

Dieula@RedeemerECC.org

Office Administrator – Lori Vriend

Lori@RedeemerECC.org

Music Leader – Cassie Watson

CassieWatson_music@yahoo.com

Youth Leader – Joy Persson

Joy.Persson@gmail.com

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.

Fall Sermon Series

“Christ’s Report Card”

The 7 Churches of Revelation (Plus a Few Extras!)

A “Back to School” themed sermon series using the 7 churches in Revelation 2-3. Christ grades His churches (and people) very differently than we do.

9/1 – Revelation 2:8-11 “Christ’s Report Card: Suffering (Smyrna)”

9/8 – Dale Lusk preaching

9/15 – Revelation 2:12-17 “Christ’s Report Card: Truth (Pergamum)”

9/22 – Revelation 2:18-28 “Christ’s Report Card: Holiness (Thyatira)”

9/29 - Hispanic Heritage Month

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 meeting 2 — 3 PM)

Thursday: 9 AM — 4 PM

Friday: 9 AM — 4 PM
(Lori’s day off)

Saturday: Closed