

January 2020

Happy New Year  
...2020...

# The Master's Touch

REDEEMER EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

## From the Pastor's Desk

*When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under... (Matthew 2:16)*

It would be wise of Redeemer to not let me plan the children's Christmas pageant. There are multiple reasons why I would not be qualified to do so, but one in particular stands out as we wrap up December and begin a new year: I have issues with the content of the pageant. All of the Christmas plays I have been to have neglected a key "Christmas" story. That story is when Mary & Joseph must flee to Egypt due to Herod's rage. In his paranoiac jealousy, Herod has the boys of Bethlehem killed. It is commonly called the "Massacre of the Innocents."

I have never seen it enacted in a children's play. And the logic is sound. Can anyone imagine the following announcement at church: "For this year's Christmas pageant supplies, we will need two sheep costumes and 36 bottles of ketchup for the fake blood!"?

Every year there is that one Sunday which comes after Christmas but before the new year begins in which this story is told. As we start to spend our gift cards and finish the leftover desserts, we are separated from the mourning and devastation of innocent children killed by a jealous

madman. How did the moms and dads feel? Did they blame Herod? Or maybe they blamed the foreigners (Magi) who disturbed their uneasy truce with Herod? Did they harbor resentment toward Mary & Joseph, whose child was protected? Would they be aghast at the way we celebrate the events today that triggered their heartbreak?

I do not have good answers to the Massacre of the Innocents. All I have settled on is that Jesus' introduction to the world was disruptive. His birth is not a nice, genteel, Christmas pageant, suitable for all ages. Jesus' life may (should?) make for me some enemies of this world. His life may stoke some of my own insecurities and jealousies which I'd rather see ignored. The Massacre of the Innocents teaches me that I must be prepared for my world to be disrupted by Jesus' life.

I will not take charge of the children's Christmas pageant, so don't worry! But let me ask you this: What if Jesus' introduction to our world is good, but not peaceful? What if Jesus' work in my life in 2020 will be good but not peaceful? How will I respond? I think asking that question is what makes this neglected story so important.

- Mark Mohrweis

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

## Congregational Meeting

**Sunday, January 26, 12 P.M.**

**Everyone is welcome!**

Please plan to stay after worship for our annual meeting. You don't have to be a member of Redeemer to come listen!

**At this meeting you will:**

- Hear updates on



Redeemer's mission and ministries

- Receive 2019 ministry reports
- Get the updated Redeemer photo directory

**Redeemer members are needed to:**

- Vote on the 2020 budget
- Approve new church members and a new Nominating Committee for June Council members

**Please make it a priority to join us!**

# KEEPING THE DREAM ALIVE

## Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

REDEEMER  
COVENANT CHURCH  
Carrollton



REDEEMERECC.ORG

### Carrollton's MLK Parade is Saturday, January 18, 2020

March with us! Meet at church at 8:30 A.M.

The parade will start on Rainwater Lane (behind Carrollton City Hall) and proceed West to Josey Lane; South on Josey to Keller Springs; East on Keller Springs to Kelly Blvd.; South on Kelly Blvd. to Ted Polk Middle School at 2001 Kelly Blvd.

There will be a program at Polk following the parade at 11:30 A.M.

Learn more at <http://carrolltonmlkparade.com/>.

Contact Megan Edge if you would like to go, learn more, or carpool. [megan.edge26@gmail.com](mailto:megan.edge26@gmail.com)

<https://www.cityofcarrollton.com/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/34648/1273?npage=8&seldept=37&toggle=allupcoming>

## We Need Your Contact Information!

**In case of emergency:** We want to email you to let you know if there is an emergency closure.

### Email Group Lists:

We will update our mailing lists:

- Prayer Partners: Get special prayer requests via email
- Weekly News Updates
- *The Master's Touch*: Get our monthly newsletter via email each month
- Care Calendar: Help with meals and special needs when someone is sick, grieving, or has a new baby.



### Photo Directory:

We will update the photo directory in the next two weeks to make it available at the Annual Meeting on January 26. Let us know what information you want included and give us a photo to include. Email [lori@redeemerecc.org](mailto:lori@redeemerecc.org) before

January 20. NOTE: If there is any information you do *not* want in the church directory, please make a note for Lori.

### To recap, please give us:

- Your **home address**
  - Your **phone numbers**
  - Your **email address**
  - A **photo** for the directory
  - Instructions as to which **email lists** should include you
  - **Birth date & Anniversary**
- Please fill out the form in the bulletin on Sunday and put it in the offering basket or in the church office.

OR, you can email Lori at the church office: [Lori@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Lori@RedeemerECC.org).



## Pray for Our Pastoral Staff Search!

Our congregation made the decision in October to hire one full-time associate pastor to serve in our Discipleship department. It will primarily emphasize youth ministry but also provide leadership in some much-needed administrative tasks within Discipleship ministries.

We covet your prayers for this search! We advertised the job in December and have been collecting resumes.



Interviews will begin in early 2020 with the hope (but no guarantees) of a candidate by the spring of 2020.

Please pray that God would guide the search committee, the candidates, and the church Council as we seek His will.

Watch for next steps in the process. Questions? Contact Pastor Mark at

[Mark@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Mark@RedeemerECC.org) or Council Chair Tasha Moore at [Tasha.Lynn.Moore@gmail.com](mailto:Tasha.Lynn.Moore@gmail.com).

## Praying with Each Other

### Prayer Meeting

**Sundays at 10:00-10:30 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.)



### Prayer Requests

**Sunday's Welcome Pads**—We type up the prayer requests written in the Prayer Pads and print them for those who pray in the Prayer Room on Wednesdays.

**Email Requests**—Requests and praises emailed to the church or to [Lori@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Lori@RedeemerECC.org) are forwarded to our prayer partners via email and added to the Wednesday prayer list.

### The Prayer Room is Open

**Sundays at 9 A.M. to Noon**

**Wednesdays 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 prayer room.

**Call Us**—Call the church (972-466-0054) if you have a confidential or urgent prayer request. Our pastors and staff will be happy to pray with you.

**Healing Prayer**—We believe God can heal bodies, relationships, spirits, and minds. If you would like prayer: call the church office or come to prayer on Sunday morning.

## Scholarship Committee!



**Please pray** for the scholarship committee as they look for this year's special recipient of our \$1000 endowed scholarship. Also pray for the students that will apply. They must be a senior at a Carrollton school and meet the criteria set for our scholarship. Questions? Contact

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

## 2020 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 2020.

This year's Budget Committee is: Randy Clark, Gaylon Hull, Mark Mohrweis, Warren Leonhardi, Jake Petty, and Deb Christopher.



They will propose a budget to the Council and then to the membership to vote on at the annual meeting.



# Wednesday Evenings at Redeemer - Join Us!

## Bible Study



Beginning January 8 at 7:00 -8:30 P.M. in Room 110  
Pastor Mark is leading a verse-by-verse study of Revelation. Everyone is welcome to join us on Wednesday evenings! Contact Pastor Mark at

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

## Open Prayer

Beginning January 8  
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.



## CREW Youth Group



Beginning January 8  
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 at [Joy.Persson \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:Joy.Persson@gmail.com).

## 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.



## GIFTS

God's  
Girls  
In  
Faith  
Together  
Selflessly



A discipleship group for girls in 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades.

Will meet on 1/21 & 1/28  
6:15-7:15 P.M.

Led by Megan Hull and usually meets at

Julie Persson's home.  
[rjpersson \(at\) Verizon.net](mailto:rjpersson@verizon.net)

## Thank you!

### FOR ADVENT DINNER



Thank you to the untold number of people who helped with the Advent Dinner by getting the word out, selling tickets, moving furniture, decorating tables, providing food, entertaining us, running the sound, cleaning up, and in so many other ways!

A special thanks to Sheryl Smith who coordinated everything.

- Lyn Hall [Lyn@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Lyn@RedeemerECC.org)



Mondays & Wednesdays  
6:00-8:30 P.M.  
in Fellowship Hall

We have two beginning level English classes: Basic and High Beginning. Both classes have 24 students from all over the world. **Want to help?** Many of our students come straight from work and are hungry. We need donations of snacks! Contact [Lori@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Lori@RedeemerECC.org)

## Penny Manna

### Help us bless those in need!

Collect 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](http://covchurch.org/relief)).



# Movie Night at Redeemer: “Captive”

Saturday, January 25 at 6:00 P.M.



Celebrate Recovery invites you to join us for a movie!  
“Captive” is based on a true story.  
Questions? Contact Steve or Lyn Hall. RedeemerCR@gmail.com

## 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.



## Meet People and Form Friendships

### Men's Breakfast

The 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday  
of the Month  
at 8:30-10 A.M.



Men, join us in Fellowship Hall for breakfast, fellowship, and prayer.

Invite a friend, co-worker, 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, January 13  
12:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Bring a potluck dish to share and a friend!  
Contact [SherylSmith123 \(at\) Verizon.net](mailto:SherylSmith123@Verizon.net)

## Redeemer's Book Club

**NEXT BOOK DISCUSSION:**  
**Sunday, January 19 at 6:30 p.m.**

***All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr**

Redeemer's Book Club meets to discuss one book a month from a wide variety of genres, fiction, non-fiction, secular, Christian, classics, contemporary, etc.

Join us once in a while or every month! Invite your non-church friends, too!

Questions? Contact Lori Vriend at [Lori@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:Lori@RedeemerECC.org).



## Sundays at Redeemer - Worship Service at 10:45 A.M.

### Nursery Care

**10:30 A.M. - noon** - Infants from birth to age 2 are cared for in room 115 and toddlers in room 114.

### Adult Bible Study

#### **NEW SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY!!**

**Beginning Sunday, January 5, 9:30 A.M.**

Join us for a new study of the book of **Acts** using *ACTS - Seeing God's Power in Action* by Phyllis J. Le Peau.

(Sorry, no childcare provided.)

Contact Ron and Julie at [rjpersson \(at\) Verizon.net](mailto:rjpersson@Verizon.net)

### Children's Church

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

**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. Then, during the offertory, they are dismissed to room 109 for their own worship time.

Contact [MaryRose@RedeemerECC.org](mailto:MaryRose@RedeemerECC.org)



# Harvest Community Garden

## Everyone is invited to: Harvest Garden's 2020 Membership Meeting

Saturday, January 25, at 9:00 A.M.

### Join us in Fellowship Hall

- Come learn about how the Garden works.
- Get updates on our progress in building Phase 2 and find out what is next.
- Learn about organic gardening and what grows in Texas this time of year.
- Sign up to rent a plot (4'x20') or half a plot (4'x10').

Volunteers & curious people are always welcome!

**Adopt a plot!** We currently have several plots available for adoption, but these openings won't last long! Plots are only \$40 for the year (20' x 4') or \$20 for a half plot (10' x 4')

**Grow organic vegetables!** Don't know how to garden organically and grow your own veggies? We'll help you learn.

**Help the community!** We donate half our produce to the CCA food pantry.

**Make new friends!** Come meet some nice people. And don't forget the **exercise and fresh air!**

### Contact us:

On the web: [www.HarvestCommunityGarden.org](http://www.HarvestCommunityGarden.org)

Email Stan: [grow@HarvestCommunitGarden.org](mailto:grow@HarvestCommunitGarden.org)

Call the church: 972-466-0054

Find us on Facebook.



# January Dates

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

## Happy Birthday!

1/08	Niam Sachdev
1/10	Victory Obinma
1/11	Ava Moore
1/14	Nancy Donley
1/14	David Petty
1/16	Luisa Salazar
1/16	Adam Thweatt
1/17	Cora Mohrweis
1/17	Mike Schimelpfenig
1/24	McKenna Moore
1/30	Lyn Hall
1/31	Presley Hitzeman

## Happy Anniversary!

1/14	Steve & Julie Walker
1/21	Eddie & Duana David
1/23	Jerry & Erica Jaime

If we do not have your special day, please let us know.

# Redeemer Covenant Church Contributions Report

Monthly As Of: 11/30/19

## General

General - (Less eGiving)	19,923.00
eGiving	11,149.28
<b>Total Monthly General</b>	<b>31,072.28</b>
Facilities (Less Rent)	96.06
Rent	800.00
<b>Total Monthly Facilities</b>	<b>896.06</b>

## Designated

Back to School	19.94
Benevolence/Crisis Relief	149.95
Church Mission Trip	49.70
<b>Total Monthly Designated</b>	<b>219.59</b>

**Total Monthly Contributions (Less Rent)** \$31,387.93

**Total Monthly General Contributions** \$31,072.28

**Budgeted General Contributions** \$31,869.86

**Difference** **-\$797.58**

**-3%**

## Year-to-Date Contributions:

### General

General - Excluding eGiving	243,833.97
eGiving	67,830.34
<b>YTD Total General Contributions</b>	<b>\$311,664.31</b>

### Facilities

Facilities (Less Rent)	979.97
Rent	8,400.00
<b>YTD Total Facilities</b>	<b>9,379.97</b>

### Designated

Youth Missions	4,323.91
Penny Manna	62.06
Back to School	1,693.96
Pastor Appreciation	2,535.00
Benevolence/Crisis Relief	2,789.00
Church Mission Trip	626.66
CR/Evangelism	50.00
<b>YTD Total Designated</b>	<b>12,030.59</b>

**Total YTD Contributions (Less Rent)** \$324,674.87

**YTD Actual General Contributions** \$311,664.31

**YTD Budgeted General Contributions** \$354,817.81

Add: \$20,000 January 2019 gift \$20,000.00

**Difference** **-\$23,153.50**

**% Difference** **-7%**

## Find Us on Facebook

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

Redeemer Women's Fellowship:  
[www.facebook.com/#!/roups/226778084046250/](http://www.facebook.com/#!/roups/226778084046250/)

Redeemer CREW:  
[www.facebook.com/#!/groups/157436294355726/](http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/157436294355726/)



## Redeemer's Website

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

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

## 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 [www.covchurch.org](http://www.covchurch.org) or find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/#!/covchurch](http://www.facebook.com/#!/covchurch).



## Online eGiving

Go to [www.RedeemerECC.org](http://www.RedeemerECC.org) and click on the ONLINE GIVING tab to find a link to give or to set up your online giving account. Questions? Contact Randy at [Randolph.Clark55 \(at\) yahoo.com](mailto:Randolph.Clark55@yahoo.com).



# January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
PURPLE = Fellowship Hall RED = Sanctuary GREEN = CE Wing PINK = Whole Church ORANGE = Office BLUE = Prayer Room BROWN = Sanctuary Annex			1 <b>New Year's Day</b> Office closed.	2 Office closed  Celebrate Recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dinner 6:15 pm</li> <li>• Meeting 7 pm</li> <li>• Share Groups 8 pm</li> <li>• Café Koinonia 9 pm</li> </ul>	3	4 <b>Men's Breakfast</b>  Taking Down the Greens 9am
5	6 Epiphany  ESL 6-8:30pm	7 Council Meeting 7pm	8 ESL 6-8:3pm  7pm: Bible Study, Prayer, CREW, RECC Kids Connect, Iglesia Emanuel	9 Celebrate Recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dinner 6:15 pm</li> <li>• Meeting 7 pm</li> <li>• Share Groups 8 pm</li> <li>• Café Koinonia 9 pm</li> </ul>	10	11 <b>(ESL Teachers' Inservice)</b>
12 CE Meeting 8am	13 Women Woven in Christ 12pm  ESL 6-8:30pm	14	15 ESL 6-8:3pm  7pm: Bible Study, Prayer, CREW, RECC Kids Connect, Iglesia Emanuel	16 Celebrate Recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dinner 6:15 pm</li> <li>• Meeting 7 pm</li> <li>• Share Groups 8 pm</li> <li>• Café Koinonia 9 pm</li> </ul>	17	18 MLK Parade 8:30am
19 Book Club 6:30pm	20 MLK Day No ESL	21 GIFTS	22 ESL 6-8:3pm  7pm: Bible Study, Prayer, CREW, RECC Kids Connect, Iglesia Emanuel	23 Celebrate Recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dinner 6:15 pm</li> <li>• Meeting 7 pm</li> <li>• Share Groups 8 pm</li> <li>• Café Koinonia 9 pm</li> </ul>	24	25 Harvest Community Garden Meeting 9am  CR Movie Night 6pm
26 Congregational Meeting 12pm	27 ESL 6-8:30pm	28 GIFTS	329 ESL 6-8:3pm  7pm: Bible Study, Prayer, CREW, RECC Kids Connect, Iglesia Emanuel	30 Celebrate Recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dinner 6:15 pm</li> <li>• Meeting 7 pm</li> <li>• Share Groups 8 pm</li> <li>• Café Koinonia 9 pm</li> </ul>	31	PLAN AHEAD: February 26 - Ash Wednesday Service March 9-13 - Spring Break

# 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 Leader – Joy Persson**

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

Find us  
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.

### Year-long Theme

“Keep ‘Christ’ in ‘Christian’”

### January Sermon Series

Our Church Vision

**January 5** - Acts 6:1-7 “A Multi-Ethnic Community Committed...”

**January 12** - 2 Kings 2:1-15 “Walking Alongside Anyone”

**January 19** - Acts 16:11-40 “Anyone Seeking Healing or Wholeness”

**January 26** - Mark 7:24-30 “Keep Christ in Christian”

### 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**