

# The Trumpet

Psalm 150:3a

Redeemer Presbyterian Church Newsletter

Editor: Linda Clark

February, 2007

## Member Spotlight: Brett & Carrie Bryner



This month we meet Brett & Carrie Bryner, who came to McKinney & Redeemer last summer from California. The Bryners share their home with two children, Ayden, 5 and Harrison, 1, & numerous stuffed animals.

Brett is employed in sales with Multiview. He also enjoys music, skateboarding, snowboarding, & relaxing either by playing guitar or with a book and a good beer. Carrie home-schools & also enjoys reading, making jewelry & other crafts, cooking and experimenting with new recipes.

Both Brett & Carrie attended school in Southern California. Brett reports that in sixth grade, he vowed to never go to college. He says after “barely graduating”, & “when my wife was about to graduate with her first Bachelors, I finally decided to get serious about school.” He worked full time & attended night school at Biola University full time to earn a BS in Organizational Development.

Carrie says she was an average student in high school, preferring the social scene to academics. However, while attending junior college, she began to enjoy learning and became more serious. After junior college she took a year off to marry Brett, then returned to Cal State (Fullerton) to pursue a BS in Child Development, with the intention to home-school future children, as she is now doing.

She continued at Cal State, earning an MA in Communicative Disorders.

Brett and Carrie met in high school when she was a sophomore and he a junior. Brett recalls mentioning to a friend that he would like to marry Carrie one day. The next year they had auto shop together, became friends, and began dating after Carrie graduated.

Growing up the oldest of 4 (and later 5 when his family adopted sister Grace), Brett lived in Miami, Houston, and finally California. Brett traces his first experiences with Christianity to his mom, who “worked hard witnessing to our family about being born again and what it means to be a Christian.” However, after his father died, the family began to fracture and Brett came to the point where he felt he had lost hope. At that time he began reading a Bible his mom had given him. Later he & Carrie began attending church together & during the next few years God saved him. While his family remains scattered, he believes each is Christian. He compares his family’s experience with faith to the sun “shining on us at different angles and at varying degrees throughout the day.”

Carrie grew up the second of two children in a nondenominational Christian family and was involved with many church activities. She cannot remember a time when she was not a Christian.

Carrie’s older brother Todd and his family became the link which brought the Bryners to McKinney. Carrie and Brett had visited North Dallas on a business trip and liked McKinney. As it happened, her brother accepted a job transfer and moved to McKinney, and Brett and Carrie were able to follow a year later, living just 4 houses down from Todd and his family. They look forward to Carrie’s parents also joining them here in McKinney after they retire in California.

### How is God working today?

**Brett** – “I am thankful that God has saved me and there was much to save me from. I am thankful God is still at work in me for there is much work to be done. I am glad we are here now, as God is healing my family, strengthening our spirits at Redeemer, providing us with new friends and a real sense of belonging. We are fortunate to live where we do and in a short period of time God has provided several promotions where I work. Above all, we have grown closer to each other and for the first time in a long time, we are hopeful.”

**Carrie**- “I am so thankful for all God has done for our family this last year. He has surrounded us with loving people, blessed us with a great church, and has been faithful to strengthen our relationship with Him.”

*Written by Caroline Ong*

## Report from the Session

No report given.

## February Birthdays



Ed Cox 2-1

Alex Dechert 2-2

Ashleigh Anderson 2-3

Curtis Blagburn 2-3

Micah Jerrell 2-4

Mary Jane Gilliam 2-6

Bob Burgess 2-7

Matt Lenhard 2-10

Machaela Page 2-12

Robert Burgess 2-14

Laura McDermott 2-17

Rowena Yates 2-18

Mason Hallmark 2-23

Geoff Dagley 2-24

LeeAnne Israelson 2-24

Diane Lopez 2-24

Chad Dechert 2-26



# Pastor's Column

## CONTENTMENT IS HIS GOAL

As noted the last couple of months, we are taking the next few months to look at biblical stewardship as the officers of the church call on us to take a look at our giving to the general fund of the church in support of her ministry, as well as present a plan to retire our debt on our new building over the next five years. Last month we looked at “Are we trustworthy?” and this month I want us to look at our contentment in God.

1 Timothy 6:6-10 (NIV): *But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.*

A few years ago Maranatha magazine carried this brief story: A millionaire indicted for serious crime was serving a long prison term. A friend visited him in prison. He found the felon sitting cross-legged, busily engaged in his work assignment, manipulating a large needle in the repair of burlap bags. His friend said “hello,” and asked, “sewing, eh?” “No,” came the grim reply, “reaping.”

It often makes sense to compare the experiences of life to a school. There are so many hard lessons, such as that learned by this millionaire felon. Apparently he had little grasp of the concept that “godliness with contentment is great gain.” Not being content with possessions that far exceeded food and clothing, he broke the law to enlarge the things in his life. Yet his reply to his friend indicated he had learned that his own errant actions had plunged his life into ruin. But God desires that we not have to descend to the lowest rungs on life’s ladder to learn these lessons. As the Master Schoolmaster of our lives, He warns us to guard ourselves from the love of money, and the disastrous consequences that follow. Contentment is His goal for us, a satisfaction with less of the earthly, so that we may have more of God’s bounty from above.

Consider these verses that remind us that we are not to love money but find contentment in the Savior:

**1 Timothy 6:9-10** - *People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.*

**Ecclesiastes 5:10** – *Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income.*

**Proverbs 28:20** – *A faithful man will be richly blessed, but one eager to get rich will not go unpunished.*

**1 John 2:15-16** – *Do not love the world or anything in the world.*

While money is a wonderful gift provided by God, He is especially clear in His cautions about our attitude towards money. Do not let it become an idol. We should not put our trust in it. The reckless pursuit of riches and self indulgence are sins.

Prayer – Heavenly Father, free my heart from the love of money and grant me godliness with contentment. Help me dedicate my life and goods for Your Kingdom. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

*Soli Deo Gloria!!*

Bryant

# Associate Pastor's Page

## What is Covenant Theology?

Covenant with Abraham continued

*Saints of Redeemer Presbyterian Church, if you recall, in our study of Covenant Theology, we looked at the continuity from the Abrahamic covenant that extends God's promise to Abraham and his eight-day-old son. We also looked at the New Testament which verifies that baptism replaces circumcision as the sacrament of the Covenant of Grace. Yet, even though the sign changes, the promise remains for God's people and their children, even in the New Testament.*

*Nevertheless, in a desire to be thorough, this month we are looking at two other possible objections raised against infant baptism, and the responses from Samuel Miller.*

### Objections Answered

2. A second objection often urged by our Baptist brethren, is drawn from what they insist is the *general law of positive institutions*. "In cases of moral duty," say they, "we are at liberty to argue from inference, from analogy, from implication; but in regard to positive institutions, our warrant must be direct and positive. Now, as we nowhere find in the New Testament any positive direction for baptizing infants, the general law, which must govern in all cases of positive institution, plainly forbids it. Here no inferential reasoning can be admitted."

This argument, I am persuaded, will not be regarded as forcible by any who examine it with attention and impartiality. The whole principle is unsound. The fact is, inferential reasoning may be, and is in many cases, quite as strong as any other. Besides, if it be contended, that in everything relating to positive institutes, we must have direct and positive precepts, the assumed principle will prove too much.

Upon this principle, females ought never to partake of the Lord's Supper; for we have no positive precept, and no explicit example in the New Testament to warrant them in doing so. And yet our Baptist brethren, forgetting their own principle, unite with all Christians who consider the sacramental supper as still obligatory on the church, in admitting females to its participation. This practice is, no doubt, perfectly right. It rests on the most solid inferential reasoning, which may be just as strong as any other, and which, in this case, cannot be gainsayed or resisted. But every time our Baptist brethren yield to this reasoning, and act accordingly, they desert their assumed principle.

3. A third objection frequently urged is, that if infant baptism had prevailed in the primitive church, *we might have expected to find in the New Testament history some examples of the children of professing Christians being baptized in their infancy*. Our Baptist brethren remind us that the New Testament history embraces a period of more than sixty years after the organization of the church, under the new economy. "Now," say they, "during this long period, if the principle and practice of infant baptism had been the law of the church, we must, in all probability, have found many instances recorded of the baptism of the children of persons already in the communion of the church. Whereas, in all that is distinctly recorded, or occasionally hinted at, concerning the churches of Jerusalem, Antioch, Corinth, Ephesus, Rome, Galatia, Colosse, etc., we find no mention made of such baptisms. We, therefore, conclude that none such occurred."

This objection, when examined, will be found, it is believed, to have quite as little weight as the preceding. The principal object of the New Testament history is to give an account of the progress of the gospel. Hence it was much more to the purpose of the sacred writers to inform us respecting the conversions to Christianity, from Judaism and paganism, than to dwell in detail on what occurred in the bosom of the church itself. Only enough is said on the latter subject to trace the disturbances which occurred in the churches to their proper

# ***Women In the Church***

**"O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together."**

Psalm 34:3 (NASB)

Don't forget about the two Bible Studies for women that began on January 22, which are described below and in which it is never too late to join. Both studies will require a small amount of weekly homework:

**Monday mornings at 9:30, at the church (there are 15 ladies participating!):**

Teacher: Cecilia Andis

Book: "Calm My Anxious Heart" by Linda Dillow, *"this book is filled with encouragement & practical help for overcoming anxiety, it includes a 12 week Bible study to help you discover what the Bible says about contentment & ways to apply it to your daily life."*

Cost: \$11.00

Begins: January 22nd for 12 weeks

Childcare is provided for a small fee

**Monday evenings at 7:30, at the Clarks (there are 10 ladies participating!):**

Teacher: Linda Clark

Book: "The Enemy Within" by Kris Lungaard, *"why do I keep on sinning? This book takes dead aim at the heart of ongoing sin. Drawing from two masterful works by John Owen. Kris Lungaard offers insight, encouragement and hope for overcoming the enemy (flesh) within."*

Cost: \$12.00

Begins: January 22nd for 13 weeks

No childcare provided

**Come join us in wonderful study, fellowship and spiritual growth. You will be blessed!**

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Dear Ladies,

We have our upcoming WIC Retreat and I am so very excited about it! I hope that you can come and join us for this special time together. We will be meeting at our Church on Friday evening and Saturday morning, March 2nd & 3rd. As our speakers, we are honored to have Carol Lenhard, Director of Hope Resource Center and Dr. Elizabeth Ritz, Biblical counselor.

During our retreat we will be working on a two service projects for HRCM, which will be a blessing for the women to whom they minister.

Our Spring Retreat is a wonderful opportunity to get to know your sisters at Redeemer better, enjoy good food and be encouraged to minister where the Lord has put you.

Please begin to pray for our speakers as well as for all of the details of the Retreat.

Our WIC theme verse is from Psalm 34:3, *"Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt His name together."* This is truly our desire.

Love In Christ,

Rebekah Lovelace, for all of the WIC Board

# *Pray for the Persecuted Church*

*"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. "(Romans 1:16)*

## **INDIA Pastor Attacked for Christmas and New Year Services - VOM Sources**

On January 7, 2007, Pastor Gabriel was attacked and beaten by Hindu extremists because he held Christmas and New Year services. The attackers were infuriated believers gathered to sing and pray to a "foreign God-Jesus." Pastor Gabriel sustained head injuries that have resulted in him losing his sight. Meanwhile, believers who were on their way to visit Pastor Gabriel in the hospital were involved in a car accident and incurred severe injuries. Pray God will heal Pastor Gabriel and those injured. Ask God to give believers in India boldness to continue serving Him in the midst of increasing persecution. **Psalm 103:3, Psalm 138:3**

## **VIETNAM Police arrest Pastor's family and demolish part of building - Compass Direct News**

On January 9, 2007, police raided Rev. Hong Quang's church and residence and arrested 17 people who were having a prayer meeting. While in custody, some believers were threatened, crudely grabbed, led by the hair, slapped on the face and beaten. Pray God's protection and courage for Christians in Vietnam. **Deuteronomy 31:6**

## **SUDAN Sudanese Police Deny New Year's Church Attack - Compass Direct News**

Sudanese police have denied attacking 800 Christians at a New Year's Eve service in Khartoum's Anglican cathedral. Six members of the congregation were injured after the police fired tear gas into the church. As a result of the attack, the sound system, pews, chairs and windows were damaged. Pray God will heal believers injured in the attack. Pray for protection and that publicity from the attack will cause Christians worldwide to lift the country of Sudan before God's throne. **Proverbs 2:8**

## **ROMANIA Controversial Religion Law Passed; legal challenges planned - Forum 18 News**

The Romanian President has approved a controversial new Religion Law which bans religious defamation and public offense to religious symbols. Christians in Romania are concerned the law will make it difficult for religious communities not currently recognized by the government to gain recognition. Christians and human rights activists are hoping to appeal this law. Pray God guides and protects Christians in Romania and grants them wisdom as they seek to appeal this new law. **Isaiah 59:11**

## **BANGLADESH VOM Workers Request Prayer - VOM Sources**

VOM workers in Bangladesh ask for prayer as Bangladesh has been plunged into political chaos. Elections scheduled for January 22 have been postponed and the president has stepped down as interim leader shortly after declaring a state of emergency following 10 weeks of street protests which killed 45 and injured hundreds. Bangladesh faces political instability. "There are now widespread fears that the political order could break down, leading to either a military government or yet more space for hardliner Islamist groups," a VOM source said. Pray for peace to prevail in Bangladesh and for God's protection upon believers in the midst of political chaos. **Isaiah 26:3**

[www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com)

[The Voice of the Martyrs official homepage](#)

[Learn about Christians who suffer for their faith around the world, and find out how you can stand with them.](#)

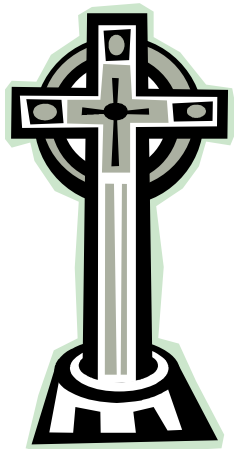
## Continued from Associate Pastor's Page 4

source, and to render intelligible and impressive the various precepts in relation to these matters which are recorded for the instruction of the people of God in all ages. Hence all the cases of baptism which are recorded, are cases in which it was administered to *converts from Judaism, or paganism, to Christianity*. To the best of my recollection, we have no example of a single baptism of any other kind. Now this, upon pædobaptist principles, is precisely what might have been expected. In giving a history of such churches, who would think of singling out cases of infant baptism? This is a matter so much of course, and of every day's occurrence, that it is in no respect a remarkable event, and, of course, could not be expected to be recorded as such. No wonder, then, that we find no instance of this kind specified in the annals of the apostolical church.

But this is not all. There is connected with this fact, a still more serious difficulty, which cannot fail of bearing with most unfriendly weight on the Baptist cause. Though it is not wonderful, for the reason just mentioned, that we read of no cases of infant baptism, among the Christian families of the apostolical age; yet, upon Baptist principles, it is much more difficult to be accounted for, that we find no example of persons born of Christian parents being baptized in adult age. Upon those principles, the children of professing Christians bear no relation to the church. They are as completely "without" (Eph. 2:12) as the children of pagans and Mohammedans, until by faith and repentance they are brought within the bond of the covenant. Their being converted and baptized, then, we might expect to be just as carefully noticed, and just as minutely detailed, as the conversion and baptism of the most complete "aliens from the commonwealth of Israel." Yet the fact is, that during the whole three score years after the ascension of Christ, which the New Testament history embraces, we have no hint of the baptism of any adult born of Christian parents. In my judgment this fact bears very strongly in favor of the pædobaptist cause.

*We will continue to examine further objections raised against infant baptism in next month's issue. While this may be slow going, I hope that it will confirm for us what Scripture teaches and why we baptize infants.*

*Rolf Meintjes*



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### **Redeemer Elders & Deacons:**

**Teaching Elder:**

**Pastor:**

**Bryant McGee**

*Worship*

**Associate Pastor:**

**Rolf Meintjes:**

*Youth & Family*

**Ruling Elders & their main  
Responsibilities:**

**Bill Caldwell:**

*Operations*

**Ross Earley:**

*Outreach*

**Ed Kaylor :**

*Clerk & Nurture*

**Tim Yates**

*Education*

**Deacons :**

Curtis Blagburn, Chairman

Anthony Broadfoot

Bob Burgess, Clerk

Mike Lovelace

Jared Page

Will Wende

**Check out some of the past  
Trumpets on our  
Church web page**

**At**

**[www.redeemer-mckinney.org](http://www.redeemer-mckinney.org)**

**And some other Web pages:**

**[www.northtexaspreswic.org](http://www.northtexaspreswic.org)**

**[www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com)**