

The Trumpet

Psalms 150:3a

Redeemer Presbyterian Church Newsletter

Editor: Linda Clark

April, 2007

Member Spotlight: Steve & Kim Harriss



New members Steve and Kim Harriss and their 7-year old daughter Paige make their home in Craig Ranch very close to the church. Also, sharing their home is Patton, an old English Sheep Dog.

Steve works in commercial real estate research with Cushman and Wakefield of Texas. Kim at the moment is a music teacher at Grace Presbyterian Day School, but beginning in September, she will be teaching the four year olds at Redeemer's Mother's Day Out program. Paige attends school at Ogle Elementary in Craig Ranch. Patton, we may assume, spends his days in various doggy pursuits.

Steve enjoys watching and playing sports (more watching than playing), and participating in the Men's Bible Study. Kim enjoys gardening, music, and taking care of Steve and Paige. Both rank reading the Bible as an important for their growth both individually and as a family and both enjoy going camping.

Kim is native to this area, born and raised in

Dallas as the youngest of three sisters, whose father was a Defense Attorney. Steve was born in New Orleans, but raised in Plano. He is the oldest of three, with a younger brother and sister. Kim graduated from Stephen F. Austin and Steve from the University of Texas at Arlington.

They met at a restaurant while out with mutual friends. Kim sparked some conversation at the table by asking everyone how they would change in their attitude toward her if she won the Publishers Clearing House Sweepstakes. The question went around the table and Steve was the last to answer. He said, "Well, I think I would ask you to marry me." Obviously something happened, since they began dating and never looked back.

Both Steve and Kim were raised in the church, but did not truly believe and accept Christ until Paige was born. Steve credits studying the Bible with a friend at work leading him to know he needed Christ. He brought home a 1 year Bible, which Kim began to read and God

used it to bring her into the family as well. As they looked for a gospel teaching church, they found Trinity PCA in Plano and really enjoyed sitting under Pastor John McCracken. Then when they moved to Craig Ranch, they decided to join Redeemer, so Paige would be going to church with kids from her neighborhood and school. Steve and Kim feel strongly about "raising Paige in an environment where she will not know a day without Christ, if it is God's will."

How is God working in each of your lives today?

"God moved us to Craig Ranch and we feel very strongly that God brought us to Redeemer. We are very excited about getting involved in the many ministries at Redeemer. Three to four nights a week, we have worship where we sing a song, read a story in Paige's Bible and pray. Our God has made us realize that He is in control and we should just follow His plan for our lives."

Report from the Session

The Session normally meets in the Church Library/Conference room on the third Tuesday of the each month at 7:00pm.

Report from the Session:

January 2007:

- Accepted for membership the Israelson's. They will stand before the congregation at a date to be determined.
- Accepted for membership Justin Heuss. He will stand before the congregation at a date to be determined.
- Set interview for the Kunzman's
- Renewed health insurance for pastoral staff
- Approved puppet ministry for children's worship
- Received update from Deacon Page on the playground
- Elders had a prayer of Thanksgiving as RE Clark rotated off the Session and prayers of Praise for RE Earley coming onto the Session for his future service
- Elected RE Kaylor and RE Earley as commissioners to the next NT Presbytery in Waco on Feb 2-3, 2007

February 2007:

- RE Kaylor appointed as delegate to General Assembly in Memphis TN, June 13-15, 2007
- RE Yates is beginning work on cataloging the books in the Library and selecting books for inclusion.
- Preliminary work is beginning to possibly begin an ESL class in the fall of 2007
- TE McGee was elected at the last North Texas Presbytery in Waco on Feb 2-3, 2007 as the Moderator of the Presbytery for 2007 and the first meeting in 2008.
- Next meeting, March 20, 2007 will be a joint Diaconate/Session meeting.

Elder Ed Kaylor
Clerk of Session

April Birthdays



Caleb

Rogers 4-2

Berry Burgess 4-3

Mary Margaret Earley 4-4

Kylie Hallmark 4-4

David DeKnight 4-5

Claire Keller 4-5

Anna Magnuson 4-5

Angela Nessel 4-13

Taryn Yates 4-15

Jennifer Hatfield 4-16

Emily 4-17

Michael Lovelace 4-21

Diane Hanley 4-24

Nancy Kerr 4-25

Allen Keller 4-28



Pastor's Column

“COSTLY GIVING”

For the past few months, I have been writing about biblical stewardship as the officers of the church call on us to take a look at our personal giving. We are about to enter the budget process again in preparation for our next general fund (July 1-June 30 fiscal year), as well as our continued desire to retire our debt on our new building with the “Five in Five” campaign. Last month we looked at the type of giver God loves and this month I want us to look at the cost of faithful giving.

2 Samuel 24:24 (NIV): *But the king replied to Araunah, "No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen and paid fifty shekels of silver for them.*

Years ago the ship The Express of Ireland sank. Many passengers drowned, among them, 129 Salvation Army Officers. When their bodies were discovered later, not one of them had on a lifebelt. Survivors told how these servants of God reacted to the news that not enough life preservers were on board to go around. They bravely gave theirs to other passengers whom they felt might not be ready to meet the Lord. They willingly sacrificed that others might live. In their supreme act they illustrated what all sacrifice contains, something that is costly.

David understood this concept. When one of his subjects was willing to give to King David threshing floor oxen, that David might build an altar to the Lord and offer burnt offerings, David refused. He was not ungrateful. Rather he was utterly conscious that his gift to God would mean nothing, if it cost him nothing. And because David loved God, he wanted to give in a truly meaningful way. But this principle is eternal in its essence. God himself demonstrated the costliness of giving through the sacrifice of His Son for our salvation. The gift of eternal life, freely given to us, was of infinite cost to our heavenly Father. And this is the pattern presented to us, as we pursue the purpose of God building His ministry through the RPC family.

Consider these verses that remind us how we are to give:

Leviticus 27:30 – "A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.

Numbers 18:26 – "Speak to the Levites and say to them: 'When you receive from the Israelites the tithe I give you as your inheritance, you must present a tenth of that tithe as the LORD's offering.

Deuteronomy 16:17 – Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the LORD your God has blessed you.

2 Corinthians 9:7-8 – Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

Malachi 3:8-10 - "Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse-- the whole nation of you-- because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.

PRAYER: O God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, teach me what sacrifice is. Enable me to live and give sacrificially. Help me to identify with, and to emulate, those like David who loved You truly with their lives and with their earthly possessions. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Soli Deo Gloria!!

Bryant

Women In the Church

“O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.”

Psalm 34:3 (NASB)

Marthas and Marys

([J. C. Ryle](#), Mary & Martha, Luke 10:38-42)

Observe how different the characters and personalities of true Christians may be. The two sisters of whom we read in this passage were faithful disciples. Both had believed. Both had been converted. Both had honored Christ when few gave Him honor. Both loved Jesus, and Jesus loved both of them. Yet they were evidently women of very different character.

Martha was active, stirring, and impulsive, feeling strongly, and speaking out all she felt.

Mary was quiet, still, and contemplative, feeling deeply, but saying less than she felt.

Martha, when Jesus came to her house, rejoiced to see Him, and busied herself with preparing a suitable refreshment.

Mary, also, rejoiced to see Him, but her first thought was to sit at His feet and hear His word.

Grace reigned in both hearts, but each showed the effects of grace in different ways.

We shall find it very useful to ourselves to remember this lesson. We must not expect all believers in Christ to be exactly like one another. We must not set down others as having no grace, because their experience does not entirely tally with our own.

The **sheep** in the Lord's flock have each their own peculiarities.

The **trees** in the Lord's garden are not all precisely alike.

All true servants of God agree in the principal things of religion. All are led by one Spirit. All feel their sins, and all trust in Christ. All repent, all believe, and all are holy.

But in *minor* matters, they often differ widely.

Let no one despise another on this account.

There will be **Marthas** and there will be **Marys** in the Church, until the Lord comes again.

It is my pleasure to serve with all the Marthas and Marys at Redeemer and to thank you all for all the hard work you do to make the Women In the Church organization run so smoothly.

We are truly Glorifying and magnifying the Lord together!

Linda Clark
WIC President

Pray for the Persecuted Church

INDIA Pastors Attacked and Arrested, One Held Hostage – VOM Sources

- **BANGALORE** - On March 16, 2007 Pastor John Selvan and Brother Vijay were attacked by more than 30 Hindu extremists when they were returning home from conducting prayer meetings in Bhelhalli, Bangalore. "When they were returning home, they were suddenly stopped by more than 30 Hindu extremists. They severely beat the men with sticks, axes and other weapons. The extremists are still holding Brother Vijay, the motorbike and their cell phones," reported The Voice of the Martyrs contacts working in India. The Hindu extremists are demanding Pastor Selvan bring the senior pastor of the church to them or "face serious consequences." Pray for the safety of Vijay and for Christians in India who continuously face difficult and dangerous situations.
- **MADHYA PRADESH** – On March 16, 2007, two Christian evangelists, Pastor Juan Singh Sesobia and Brother Thogabai from Forba in the Khargon District of Madhya Pradesh, were arrested. A case has been filed against them under Provision 295A, which constitutes their being charged with, "Deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs." This article is punishable by imprisonment of up to three years. Pray for God's protection for these two brothers and ask Him to comfort their families. Pray their arrest will result in more souls coming to the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Psalms 32:7, Proverbs 2: 7-8

INDONESIA UPDATE - Islamic Extremists Sentenced in Killing Christian School Girls – Associated Press

On March 21, 2007 three Islamic militants were found guilty of decapitating three Christian school girls and dumping their bloodied heads in nearby villages. According to Associated Press reports published in Indonesia, the Islamic militants were sentenced to between 14 and 20 years for the killings of Theresia Morangke and Yarni Sambue, both 15, and 17-year-old Alfita Poliwo. Hasanuddin was sentenced to 20 years for masterminding the 2005 attack, while his co-conspirators, Lilik Purnomo and Irwanto Irano, each received 14 years. A fourth girl in the attack, Noviana Malewa, then 15, received serious injuries to her face and neck, but survived. After the attack, Noviana suffered damaged nerves, a dislocated lower jaw and loosened teeth. VOMedical provided reconstructive surgery to repair nerve damage and reduce scarring. Pray God continues to heal Noviana's emotional and mental scars. Pray for Christians in Indonesia who face great persecution because of their faith in Jesus Christ. **Psalm 108:4, John 16: 33**

CHINA Pastor Released from Prison, Wife Arrested – VOM Sources/ China Aid Association

On March 16, 2007 Pastor Don Quanyu was released from prison after serving ten days of administrative detention in the Wancheng Detention Center in Nanyang, Henan. Dong was arrested with 36 other Christian leaders but was the only one sentenced in connection with the "illegal gathering". Three days after Dong's release his wife, Li Huage, was arrested and sentenced to 10 days detention for allegedly "disturbing public order." Li was arrested at the office of the Wancheng District Public Security Bureau as she was seeking the return of her cell phone, computer and Bibles which were confiscated during a raid of her home. Pray for the safety of this family and for God to comfort them during this trying time. Ask God to protect Christians in China who face great persecution. **Psalms 5: 11-12**

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.](#)

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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

And some other Web pages:

www.northtexaspreswic.org

www.persecution.com