

The Trumpet Psalm 150:3a

Editor Linda Clark
Writer Caroline Ong

Member Spotlight: The Kerr Family

Walter and Nancy Kerr had worked alongside each other for a couple of years at Ligonier Ministries in Orlando, FL with no thoughts of getting together. Apparently they were the only ones without that thought, as after they were engaged, friends told them they wondered why it took them so long to get together. However, when it did finally occur to Walter that Nancy was "the one", he wasted no time voicing his intentions: "I don't want to date you; I'll be courting you." Now in McKinney, the Kerr family includes Davis, who is 5 1/2 and in kindergarten; along with five grown children (all out of state) and four grandchildren.

Walter is a native Texan, born and raised in Tyler. He grew up with five sisters (no doubt the key to his straightforward discussion with Nancy!) under the teaching of his father, a Methodist pastor. At the age of 13 he realized the personal reality of Christ while watching a Billy Graham rally at home. Later, Walter attended the Uni-

versity of Texas and earned a degree in accounting and later became a CPA. A job move brought the Kerrs to McKinney from Orlando in 2006 while a subsequent job change by God's grace has allowed them to stay.

Meanwhile, Nancy was growing up in New Jersey with two brothers and a sister. While she grew up in the church, the gospel did not take root until she was attending Key Biscayne Presbyterian church in Miami. It was there she was born again. Nancy earned a degree in Elementary Education from U. Mass (including one year in Hawaii) and later did post-graduate work in Marketing and worked as a marketing VP. Nancy now is a stay-at-home mom, cheering on Davis as he tells stories, dances, plays soccer, draws, and builds with anything not too heavy to move.

How is God working today? He commands our lives. Daily we are convicted of our disobedience,

which would be devastatingly painful if not for the grace we have in Christ. We sense that we have a good purpose and something unique to offer our church, community, extended family and awesome little boy, who is, indeed, an unexpected and very wonderful blessing from God. We're so grateful that God has led us to Redeemer, brought new friends into our lives, and even given us some hefty challenges. Our path is not a straight but a winding one bordered by thick stands of rose bushes. We can't always predict or plan what we think should be around the next bend. So we pray He will be the lamp unto our feet and that we'll have the faith to walk on the lighted path, endure any rough pebbles, pot holes, or rocks, dance when He lets soft rose petals cushion our walk, and stay out of the thorny bushes. Importantly, we see Him working in Davis' heart, and what better proof and joy of how He is working in our lives!



WALTER, DAVIS AND
NANCY KERR

Pray for the Persecuted Church

CHINA

House Church Leaders Simultaneously Sentenced to Labor Camp - China Aid Association (CAA) reports 21 senior house church leaders were recently simultaneously sentenced to a labor camp by the Linyi City Re-education Through Labor Commission. According to CAA, "The leaders were detained on December 7, 2007 when they gath-

ered for leadership training with 249 other leaders in Hedong district, Linyi city, Shandong province. After paying fines and finishing detention ranging from a few days to a few weeks, 249 leaders were released. The 21 most senior leaders were sentenced to three years to one year and three months." The Public Security Bureau has accused and labeled the house church leaders as "evil cult" members.

Of the 21 leaders sent to the labor camp, 12 are men and four are women. Pray for these believers and their families during this difficult time. Ask God to protect and encourage them. Pray they will be a good witness of Christ's love to other prisoners and their captors.

Psalm 27:1

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WHY WE WORSHIP THE WAY WE DO (Amen and Confession of Faith)



**Bryant McGee,
Senior Pastor**

We continue our series this month with a look at the various elements of our worship services so we understand why we do what we do. We have reviewed the Call to Worship, Passing of the Peace, Hymn of Adoration, and Prayer of Adoration, and now this month we look at the corporate amen and confession of faith.

Often times you will hear one of your pastors say, "And all God's people said," as we call on the body to unite their voice with 'amen.' 'Amen' comes from the Hebrew word which literally means 'firm.' In Scripture it means 'truthful' or 'so be it.' Sometimes 'amen' is used to describe the character of God as we find in Isaiah 65:16 ("the God of amen") and it is used in connection to Jesus as well as we find in Revelation 3:14 ("the amen, the faithful and true witness"). As a response to the faithfulness of God, the worshipper in the OT would accept oaths or agree with the prayers of the priest by saying

'amen.' That practice continued through the synagogue worship and into the NT. Paul said it was important to pray in a known tongue in worship so that the congregation could say 'amen' at the end (1 Cor 14:16). This practiced continued throughout church history but seemed to disappear only within the last century. Jerome, an early church father, said the corporate 'amen' was so loud it sounded like a clap of thunder. We make the voiced prayer our own as we unite our voices with the corporate 'amen' as we also remind ourselves to whom it is we pray – "the amen, the faithful and true witness" who will hear and answer our prayers.

From the prayer of adoration which concludes with the 'amen,' we often times remain standing and confess our faith, or as we title it in our bulletin, we 'affirm our common faith'. OT worshippers knew the power of a corporate confession as well each time they recited the *Shema* ("Hear, O Israel, the Lord our

God the Lord is one" Dt 6:4-9; 11:13-21; Num 15:37-41). There are several examples of corporate confessions in the NT as well especially like the ones we find in 1 Cor 15:3-4; Col 1:15-20; and Phil 2:1-12. As the church grew and encountered attacks on its core doctrines, it wrote creeds and hymns to establish what we believe. The Apostles Creed, The Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed are all called 'ecumenical creeds' because each of them is a statement that every Christian, regardless of denomination, should be able to confess. As we state our faith together, we declare it to Christ who is our commander as his and our cosmic enemies listen in. This is why we ought to recite it "like we mean it." We also unite our voices with the saints and martyrs of the faith who suffered as they stood firm on the words we confess and passed them down to us. Our faith has stood the test of time and torture, so let us recite it boldly and with gratitude.

Report from the Session

The Session met on February 12, 2008. Most items on the agenda were tabled as we received a report from Stewart Teasley, Chairman of the Building Committee. The report consisted of additional information and timelines.

The Session voted to allow the architect to begin the Design Development drawings for Phase 2 which take on average 3 months to complete. These drawings are also needed to be given to builders to provide cost estimates. Once the final decision is made on

what part of Phase 2 to conduct the drawings will already be in the pipeline.

An additional Session meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2008 to continue planning, discussion and strategy for the upcoming "**Growing by Grace**" campaign and the kickoff on March 30, 2008. More information will be provided in upcoming weeks.

The Presbyterian Church in America is holding its annual General Assembly at the Hyatt-Regency in Dallas,

Texas on June 10-12, 2008. All members may attend the evening worship services and the General Assembly meetings.

Only elected commissioners from each church are allowed to vote on issues before this court.

For more information contact the church office.

Submitted by
Ed Kaylor
Clerk

**Ed Kaylor,
Clerk of the
Session**

Pray for the Persecuted Church continued from page 1

SRI LANKA Pastor Killed, Wife in Seriously Injured in Attack - National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka

On February 17, Pastor Neil Edirisinghe, of the House Church Foundation, was gunned down by two assailants outside his home in Ampara, Sri Lanka. According to a report by the National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka (NCEASL), "Pastor Edirisinghe was engaged in the Lord's ministry in Ampara for many years. The attackers also shot his wife in the stomach. At last report, she was in the hospital in critical condition. Their two-year-old son who received a minor injury in the attack is also suffering from trauma." NCEASL added the motive for the attacks was believed to be in response to Pastor Edirisinghe's ministry. Voice of the Martyrs is assisting the family during this difficult time. Pray for peace and comfort for Pastor Edirisinghe's family. Pray for a speedy recovery for his wife and child and for them to rely on the great Comforter, the Holy Spirit.

Isaiah 40:31, Psalm 107:2

GAZA YMCA Library Bombed - VOM Sources

On February 16, unidentified assailants bombed the library of the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) compound in the Shajaiyeh neighborhood of Gaza city. According to VOM sources, shortly after midnight, at least 12 gunmen entered the YMCA compound and kidnapped two guards at gunpoint after asking them why they worked for "infidels." The men stormed the building and detonated two homemade explosive devices inside the library. All 8,000 books in the library were destroyed and the floor, walls and ceiling were damaged. The attackers stole computers and other equipment from other YMCA offices. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack. However, sources in Gaza reportedly believe that the perpetrators were Muslim militants acting in response to the reproduction of cartoons "ridiculing" Muhammad in a number of Danish newspapers last week. Praise God no one was injured in this attack. Ask God to protect and give wisdom to believers in Gaza. Pray the attackers will come into contact with the grace and love of Jesus Christ. **Joshua 1:9**

ETHIOPIA Christian Couple Beaten and Chased From Mosque - VOM Sources

On February 10, Muslim Christian converts, Jemmal Abdo and his wife, were beaten and chased out from a mosque where they both worked in the capital city of Addis Ababa. According to The Voice of the Martyrs contacts, "Jemmal and his wife accepted Christ two months ago. Soon after their conversion Jemmal's friend saw him talking with Christians and told the imam of the mosque. Jemmal and his wife were interrogated in the mosque during a meeting called by Muslim leaders in an attempt to persuade the couple to recant their faith. The couple refused to do so, even after the leaders offered them higher positions and salaries if they denied Christ. The couple was beaten and dragged out of the mosque." Jemmal and his wife were able to flee to a new location for safety. Pray for the speedy recovery for Jemmal and his wife, who were injured in the attack. Ask God to strengthen them and provide for them as they stand strong in their new found faith in Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 54:17



Pray for strength and boldness for our brothers and sisters, who suffer for their faith.



www.persecution.com

Redeemer Day School

Spring time is near and Redeemer Day School is looking forward to a wonderful Spring season.

Since Easter is early this year, we will be celebrating our Easter parties on March 13th. We will be having our big Easter egg hunt and the children are looking forward to this event.

Spring break for RDS will be the following week of March 17th-21st.

All the RDS teachers will be telling the story of Jesus and what Easter means the entire month of March. Along with learning about Easter, RDS will also be introducing academic learning, as well as learning to count to 10 in Spanish, learning the shape oval like an Easter egg and the nursery rhyme Humpty Dumpty.

RDS looks forward to introducing new and exciting learning experiences weekly

and the teachers work and prepare daily for these activities.

Registration for RDS is still in process and now open to the public. Please try to reserve your child's spot quickly for ages 18 months to 5 years, as spaces are already filling up.

Please email me for any information at s.phillips75@yahoo.com.

Shelli Phillips, Director



**Shelli Phillips,
Redeemer Day
School Director**

Hospitality: I Peter 4:1-11



Rolf Meintjes,
Associate Pastor

As your pastor, one of my constant concerns and prayers is for us as a body to determine ways in which we can continue to deepen our relationships and love for one another. Elder Yates has been instrumental in helping to shape this thought process in my own mind, by questioning our current understanding of fellowship. True fellowship consists of a deep rooted and honest relationship, over friendship. It consists of a desire to encourage one another with the Word of God, and to be willing to honestly confess our sins to one another. This notion of true fellowship (*koinonia*) is replete in Scripture, yet it is incredibly difficult to achieve this level of intimacy in our transient fast paced culture. Does Redeemer Presbyterian Church have any hope in overcoming these cultural obstacles that seem insurmountable? Absolutely! Scripture presents several approaches to our lives that result in deep rooted fellowship, while simultaneously avoiding the extremes that Christian history (asceticism/monasticism, gnosticism, antinomianism...) is saturated with.

This is exactly the reason why the previous articles on Family Worship were written. Family Worship is a lost art, that our culture is robbing from the church. We at Redeemer need to reconsider and reinstate such a critical practice in our homes. It does require discipline, but we're not talking about any radi-

cal extremism; rather, we are simply trying to recover a consistent love and growth in understanding of the deep truths of God in our homes which will inevitably grow us as a church.

A second example, and where we will begin to focus our attention for the next few months, is on another practice that we seem to have lost sight of in a current context – hospitality. Peter addresses this concept toward the end of his first letter. Having reminded his audience that they are “a royal priesthood” and a “holy nation”, he goes on to instruct them on how such an amazing truth should shape their lives. After addressing submission to authorities and the marriage relationship, Peter expounds in chapter four upon living out the Christian faith. “The gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.” This verse reminds us of the tension that we are fighting against, to live in the world but not of the world. Peter then explains, the ways in which this truly takes place is, “Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.” And what is the first example of how we ought to truly love one another? “Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.” Its striking isn't it? After hearing the command to love one another earnestly, you would expect to hear him say lots of things be-

sides hospitality, such as forgive one another, pray for one another... Granted we are called to do those things, but in the context of this passage Peter tells us to love one another earnestly be showing hospitality. How sincerely have you considered hospitality as a vital part of the church body? Nevertheless, Peter is decisively clear. If we are truly loving one another, we would be having one another in our homes!

One final application has to be made. First, Peter begins the section of chapter four by reminding us that Christ suffered, and often times that is what will be required of the Christian as well. Then, in verse 9, he commands to show hospitality “without grumbling.” In other words, Peter tells us that this will be counter-cultural, good for the church, AND difficult to pull off. We are busy, and after a long day at work, chasing after the kids, traveling... the last thing we want to do is show hospitality. Yet, that's exactly why he reminded us of Christ's suffering. Christ sacrificed for the life of the body. Christ was tired, bruised, beaten and finally put to death for the sake of the church. Is it really asking to much to have good friends over for a time of hospitality and possibly even true fellowship? I think that we would all be amazed at the joy it produces despite its difficulty, in similar fashion to the sweetness of having fellowship with Christ as a result of his suffering.

From the Church Office



Amy Vender
Administrative Assistant

Greetings from the Church Office: “Who is that person over there?”; “I can't remember what her name is?”; “Do they have children?” Are these comments or thoughts similar to ones you experience on any given Sunday? Redeemer is blessed to have many new faces but it can be frustrating when your trying to learn names and match faces to names.

We have a couple of solutions. Redeemer provides clip-on name badges that you can request

and leave on the Name Tag bulletin board across from the kitchen. This is very helpful in learning names and it is also helpful to guests who are visiting for the first time. If you would like a name badge, please email me in the church office or place a request on the black pad available on each row in the church sanctuary.

Secondly, we are trying to update our Church Directory. Beginning March 2nd, I will be at a table in the narthex before worship, where you can update or give your family's

information. If you have not had a picture taken by Linda Clark, we would like to make arrangements to do so. The more participants we have, the better our church directory will be. We are trying to put together a pictorial directory in-house which you will receive in the near future. If you have any experience in doing something like this and would like to help, please let me know at

amyvender@hotmail.com

Christ's Sympathy to Weary Pilgrims by Octavius Winslow 1808-1878

Love Suffering, and Bleeding and Expiring

The **love** of Christ! Such a precious theme! Of it can we ever weary? Never! Its greatness can we ever know? Never! Its Plenitude can we fully contain? Never! Its depths cannot be fathomed, its dimensions cannot be measured! It

passes knowledge! All that Jesus did for His people was but the unfolding and expression of His **love**.

Traveling to Bethlehem—I see *love incarnate!* Tracking His steps as He went about doing good—I see *love laboring!* Visiting the house of Bethany—I see *love sympathizing!*

Standing by the grave of Lazarus—I see *love weeping!* Entering the gloomy precincts of Gethsemane—I see *love sorrowing!* Passing on to Calvary—I see **love suffering, and bleeding and expiring!** The whole scene of His life is but an unfolding of the deep, and awesome, and precious mystery of **redeeming love!**



Spiritual meditation for pilgrims in a weary land on their way to glory!

Women In the Church

Well, ladies the time is getting short to register for our upcoming **Spring Retreat**, but there are still rooms available and we would love to see some of our newest members and regular attendees participate! Then, of course, it would be wonderful to see some of the older (maybe I should say ladies who've attended RPC for a while) members and regular attendees be a part of this really good opportunity to grow spiritually and to gain some new friends. The cost for the whole retreat, food and lodging, is \$70.00 for 4 to a room; \$100.00 for 2 to a room and \$145 for a private room (there is a \$10.00 late fee added). So far we have 26 ladies signed up and we have room for 8 to 12 more!

Now I know sometimes things make it impossible to spend the night away from the family, so there are 2 ladies, who are driving up on Saturday and if you need to do that, it will cost you the 4 to a room price of \$70.00, and we would love to have you come on up to join us on Saturday morning.

For those signed up, you will be receiving a letter with a map and the information of what to bring, the time to check in and other important information to make your

weekend special. So be looking for your letters later in the month of March!

Our **WIC Board**, which consists of President (me), Vice President (Rebekah Lovelace), Secretary (Heather Conrad), Treasurer (Rowena Yates) and Historian (Adrienne Dagley), is about to have some changes, as the time of service is up for Rebekah, Rowena and Adrienne. So when you see any of these ladies, please thank them for their service to the Women In the Church!

The **Nominating Committee** has been working and praying very hard to fill these spots and all the members of RPC will have an opportunity to vote on the new nominated officers in the third week of March. So be watching your email for the ballot and return it as soon as you can. Then we will introduce the new officers at the retreat and Bryant will install them in April.

As many of you know, my father died on January 26, which was a blessing because he was very sick. But the reason I am bringing this up is for the purpose of letting you know about our **Prayer Chain**. Kelley Burgess has been the Coordinator of the very special committee since its inception 9 years ago and I am sure that my

family is not the only one in this Body who've been blessed by the group of Prayer Warriors who are a part of this committee. But I wanted to give a special thanks to these ladies who held me up during the time of Daddy's sickness and death. Our Great God works through the prayers of His people and Redeemer has a fantastic group of faithful Prayer Warriors. So I would recommend to anyone out there reading this, who needs prayer, that you contact Kelley and get the Prayer Chain to lifting you up in prayer to our Lord. Also, if you love to pray for others, then join us as we pray for the Redeemer Body and others in our sphere of influence, by calling Kelley Burgess or talking to her at church and join this very important ministry.

Lastly, I want to remind you of our **2 ladies Bible Studies**. We have 2 wonderful teachers, Cecilia Andis and Nancy Kerr, who would be happy to have some additions to their groups. Cecilia's group meets at her home in Plano on Wednesday evenings (no nursery) and Nancy's group meets at the church on Wednesday mornings (nursery provided for a small fee). You'll be Blessed!!

Doing better than I deserve!
Linda Clark

1 Peter 2:3-4

“Do not let your adornment be merely outward, arranging the hair, wearing gold or putting on fine apparel, rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.”

Report from the Diaconate

Opening Prayer: Deacon Jared Page

Old Business

- Playground benches: The diaconate will send a request to the Session for a "gift" to be given to RDS to purchase the benches that are needed for the playground area. This will remove the burden from the RDS budget.
- Phone system wiring: Jared, Will, Steve and David will meet at the church Monday February 4th to install wiring for the new phone system
- Concrete repair – curbs: In word only quotes would prove this to be cost prohibitive at this point. Recommendation is to have them repaired when we add to the parking lot as part of the building expansion.

New business and things that need to be done around the building:

- New Deacon assignments: inside- David Vender, outside – Steve Buchanan, mercy focal – Under advisement (Jared Page), clerk – Steve Buchanan
- Wedding lower cost: a request was made by a non member to lower the fees associated with using the facility for a wedding. A unanimous "no" vote was cast. Will Wendé to communicate to requestor about the deacon's decision and reasons for said decision.
- Building Committee – Discuss their charge at this point: Steve Buchanan will work with Stewart Teasley to communicate to the deacons and Steve will carry to

Stewart ideas to move forward with the committee. Working with ministry heads to get their input on the construction;

- Widow assistance day : Meet at the Church 9:00 am February 9th. If tools are required Will to communicate to deacons.
- Hope Resource Center - Thursday classes instead of Tuesday need two rooms key for the leader: No issues with this. Gary Loney to assist with key for leader.
- RDS Checking account overdraft protection: A decision was made to request from the session a gift to RDS to offset the difference in budget and actual to assist with payroll and to ensure that no payroll checks are insufficient.



Submitted by
Will Wendé
Chairman

Growing By Grace



Mark your
Calendars!!

Mark your Calendars!!
Sunday, March 30th from 6pm to 8pm!

The Elders will be unveiling our Growing By Grace campaign, which is the stewardship program Pastor McGee has been mentioning from the pulpit for the last three weeks.

We will have a delicious fellowship meal, which begins at 6pm and then there will be a nursery provided for ages 3 and under during the

meeting.

At the meeting, the Elders will have a DVD presentation of the history of Redeemer with pictures from the Holiday Inn, from Ruben Johnson Elementary School and now our current building. Also, there will be artist drawings of the proposed additions, so everyone can see just where their money will be going.

During our meeting

everyone will have the opportunity to ask questions and get answers. Also, the Building Committee will lay out the church's vision for the next several years and just how the Growing By Grace campaign fits into that vision.

This will be a great time to fellowship and learn how our Great God is working within the Body of RPC to take the gospel to McKinney and to the world.

SABBATICAL NEWS

Last month I shared RPC's Sabbatical Policy with you and informed you of the Session's intent for me to be gone this summer (June-Aug) on sabbatical. As promised, I told you in that article I would be sharing more info with you in the upcoming months and eventually my agenda or plan on how I will be using the time. Before doing that, I wanted to share with you some thoughts from another individual which will help explain why the Session feels it is important to send me on a sabbatical. I'll follow these quotes with a few of my own comments as well.

Ron Benson, in his article, "Give 'Em a Break: How Congregations Can Help Their Pastors Stay Focused for the Long Haul," wrote this after walking away from ministry: "According to statistics, it's a surprise more pastors don't quit. The Alban Institute estimates that 17% of all pastors are experiencing burnout. A study of one major denomination concluded that less than 1/3 of its pastors were happy in their work. Another 30% were 'deeply ambivalent' about ministry. And 40% described themselves as 'heading for burnout.' When clergy are facing this level of dissatisfaction, the congregations they serve cannot be expected to thrive. Is

there an answer? There is! It's biblical, practical, and beneficial for both the pastor and the congregation to send him on a sabbatical."

The statistics referenced in Benson's article only support the results of my dissertation entitled: "Care for the Caregiver: Stress and Burnout in the Pastorate." I would also remind you that we have a copy of my dissertation in the church library and I have a couple of personal copies you can "check out" as well. Ministry is a unique calling. I guess everyone could think, "Why should he get time off? What makes his work so special when I am just as busy?" That is actually a great question and one that can be answered. We are prone to compare our occupations with others – our workload, hours, tasks, etc. - but that simply cannot be done with ministry. Being a pastor, for me anyway, is the greatest "job" in the world; I can't imagine doing anything else! But, what I do and what others do really cannot be compared to each other. This is not to say my job is harder, it is just very different. On any given day, I wear scores of different hats – I will move from teacher to counselor to administrator to janitor to discipler to judge to evangelist and many other positions. There is seldom a

time when it is all done and I sit back and rest wearing no hat at all. Even when I do step away, such as playing a round of golf, I am still "on call." I'll be paired up with a couple other guys and one will introduce himself as a doctor and I tell him about some pain I have been having and his counsel is, "Call my nurse and make an appt and come see me at the office and we'll take a look." He then asks what I do and after saying I am a pastor, he steps into my "office away from the office" and begins to talk about all the things that trouble him and for the next 18 holes we talk – and I work. I may invite him to come and visit the church, but the conversation that began continues until he is ready for it to end. This is a reality in ministry – and even something I love in ministry – but this is also the very thing pastors need to step away from to fall in love with the Savior and with ministry all over again. How do we do it? One way is to step back from day to day ministry and take a sabbatical.

Next month I want to define what a sabbatical is, because it is not an extended vacation, and also begin laying out for you what I plan to do while I am away.



Senior Pastor
Bryant McGee

Report from Diaconate continued from page 6

- Floor refinishing in the class rooms: Jared to contact the floor company to get quote to refinish floors in classrooms only.
- Sanctuary lighting, complaints speak to Lynn Gilliam about options or recommendations: David to speak with Lynn about his recommendations of what we can do in the interim. This item may need to wait until construction of the expanded Sanctuary area.
- Dumpster area cleanup: Steve to haul off Christmas tree, other to work on removing cardboard.
- Flower bed clean up – specifically in the bed by the handicapped parking, February 9th
- Solar screens in the pulpit area – remove during winter spring and fall? A "No" decision was made on this. We do not have the storage area for these, decision that we would do more harm than good to the screens by taking them down and trying to store them away. Other point that these were put up not only for heat but for the glare from the sides.
- Right hand door into the Sanctuary : hitting against the metal frame – David V will take care of this.

Misc

Deacon Get together Saturday February 2nd 2007, Wende home at 4:00 pm.

Closing Prayer

Deacon Will Wende

Missionary Corner written by Karen Heise



**Tim & Linda
Armstrong**

*Acts 1:8
“and you will be
my witnesses in
Jerusalem and all
Judea and
Samaria and to
the end of the
earth.”*

Tim and Linda Armstrong have taken up the leadership role for the missions team here at Redeemer. On November 17th, 2007, the kick off for Redeemer’s missions committee began. The meeting was to let people know, how the mission committee would operate and serve our missionaries. We would love to have more come and join us in the quest, to reach out to our missionaries. Some people have volunteered to personally keep us in touch with certain missionaries, Laura Meintjes will be in touch with the Ebys, Kelly Burgess will contact the Fishers, Michael Lovelace will contact the Zapatas, and Karen Heise will keep in contact with the Mooibroeks.

The second meeting was held February 3, 2008. We were blessed to have the Mooibroeks present to give us advice on certain issues. We discussed the summer missions trip and Kelly Burgess volunteered to coordinate the trip.

The third meeting is scheduled for March 16th,

2008. The Armstrongs will be discussing needs and concerns of the field missionaries we support as a church, plus any new related issues. After this third meeting we plan on scheduling quarterly meetings.

Redeemer supports four missionaries:

1. Dave & Darlene Eby are training pastors in Uganda.

2. Joe & Marla Mooibroek are building a school in Uganda. And for those who do not know they are also members of our congregation.

3. Paul & Dawn Fisher have a ministry is to the inner city of Guadalajara.

4. Aaron & Leticia Zapata are BEAMM missionaries at the San Pablo Seminary. (BEAMM is an acronym for: Border Evangelism And Mercy Ministries. They are a PCA mission organization to plant churches along the US/Mexico border.)

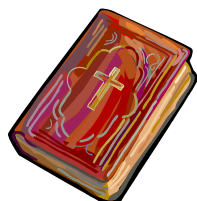
Each month we will be highlighting one of the missionaries to help the RPC Body keep up with any needs they

may have and to list praise reports on the work that God is doing through them.

Geography Lesson:

Uganda is in Eastern Africa, west of Kenya. It is slightly smaller than the US state of Oregon. The border countries are Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, and Tanzania. They estimate the population to be 30,262,610. English is the official national language, while Ganda or Luganda is also spoken there. Roman Catholicism and Protestantism are the two largest denominations.

On the Scriptures, by James Meikle (edited by Linda Clark)



**a small portion of
the scriptures
suffices us.**

An entertaining history, or a striking description of some famous battle will challenge our attention, and cause us to read a while longer. Yes, even some will read a well-written romance, but a small portion of the scriptures suffices us. *This is my lamentation!*

Ah! How I am to blame—who do not more value this invaluable book, where the style is lofty, the images striking, the figures

beautiful, the harmony conspicuous, the subjects of infinite consequence, and the glory of God the scope of all. Here corruption and grace are portrayed to the life; and the struggles of the old and new man set forth in an instructive light. Here are arrows that pierce the stubborn heart, and the balm of comfort for the bleeding soul. Here kings are taught how to reign, and princes how to judge; and here is an unerring directory for churches in their

public, and Christians in their private capacities, to walk by. This is the armory of heaven, from which I may be furnished with weapons for my spiritual warfare; for the sword of the Spirit is the word of God.

Like a kindly comforter, the Word stills my complaints, chases away my sorrows, cheers my sinking spirit, revives my hope, strengthens my faith, and sets me above the hurricanes of time.

(continued on page 9)

Missionary Spotlight

written by Karen Heise

Joe & Marla Mooibroek are not only members of our church, they are also missionaries who have been closely involved, in helping to build a school in Uganda. They live here, in McKinney, and travel to Uganda, when they have funding to do a project. Joe's and Marla's ministry website is, www.shiloahministriesincorporated.org.

Their current mission focus:

- *Food and basic clothing for the children of Uganda
- *Educate boys and girls in Mutungo/Katale
- *Basic medical care
- *Build Houses for the widows (poor)
- *Drill Fresh Water Wells
- *Build worship centers
- *Teach skills to the unemployed
- *Teach/disciple the people of God's Kingdom

The school started in February of 2005 with 20 kids. In March of 2006, the number had grown to 180, meeting on a temporary rented campus. Once they received monies from some private donors to purchase the land and start the building pro-

ject, they began building their own building for the school in March 2006. The attendance jumped quickly and by the end of the year they had 370 children. Shiloh Ministries owns the school (94%) through a Uganda limited liability corporation. Registration for the new school has begun for 2008 and there are over 60 new students with about 520 total students.

The Mooibroeks have asked us to pray for several things:

1. Mr. Oboth, as he has taken in two boys who were abandoned by their mother at the school. She said she could not work and take care of them.
2. the safety of the school staff.
3. The return of the items that were stolen from the school. (generator, 200 new plastic chairs, 70 smaller new plastic chairs, refrigerator, stove & microwave), also needed are enough funds to give to the police to continue the search for the thieves who broke into the school.
4. Headmaster John Wasswa, Bursar Ruth Luwangula, and the teachers as they serve in a dan-

gerous environment.

5. that God would comfort the staff. They are in sorrow for the passing away of one of their students, Ivan Kizito.
6. Dorm buildings for both the girls and boys, along with a security fence.
7. the students well being, since some walk a long distance to school and are many times in physical danger from predators.

There is also much praise to give God as well:

1. They have many tasks completed: new floor, book cases, painting of the buildings, and books ready for the kids.
2. The staff is now complete and they have started registering for the new school year.
3. They have their well drilling machine back in their custody, and a Christian well drilling company has tentatively scheduled to drill on Monday the 25th of February.
4. The school continues to grow rapidly.
5. Day Spring Christian Academy's charter is written after Westminster Christian Academy (Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church's School).



Joe & Marla Mooibroek, Missionaries

On the Scriptures continued from page 8

This feeds me with manna; the divine manna, preserved in the golden pot of the promise, laid up in the ark of the covenant of grace, for all the chosen seed. Surely "your words were found by me and I ate them, and your word was the joy and rejoicing of my heart." This is the only food that can support the strength of the traveler heavenward.

Without this scared book I would have no happiness here, no hope for the future; for it is the Christian's

charter for the glorious inheritance above. The bible is my directory in all conditions, at all times, in all difficulties, amidst all companies, and in all places. They are always refreshing to the spiritual taste...when the Spirit breathes on them with such power, that in them we hear God talking with us and our heart burns within us.

Here time is bounded, and eternity brought forth—the world set on flames, and the new creation formed; here

heaven and earth talk together, God and man converse; here conscience is accosted, thoughts discerned, and secrets brought to light; so that the Word is both full of eyes, and solemn all around.

In a word, this scared word is the beautiful day-star that gives the pleasant dawn, until the Sun himself arises and shines in the sky of glory.



in them we hear God talking with us

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

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Demonstrating and sharing the reality of a relationship with Jesus Christ!

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Rolf Meintjes: *Assoc. Pastor*
Amy Vender: *Admin. Assistant*
Christine Yang: *Music*
Shelli Phillips: *RDS Director*

Ruling Elders & their main

Responsibilities:

Bill Caldwell: *Operations*
Ross Earley: *Outreach*
Ed Kaylor: *Clerk*
Steve Lytle: *Nurture*
Matt Lenhard: *Nurture*
Jeff Anderson: *Education*

Deacons:

Will Wende, *Chairman*
Anthony Broadfoot
Steve Buchanan, *Clerk*
Gary Loney
Jared Page
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