



The Trumpet Psalm 150:3a

Editor Linda Clark
Writer Marty Sudac

Member Spotlight: The Magnuson Family

While Mary and Brian Magnuson have many things in common, they are often noticed for the difference in their height. Mary is 5 feet tall and Brian is a towering 6 ft 4 inches. Displaying their easy going nature, they both laugh at how frequently people are surprised when they first encounter the couple seated, where the height difference is not so apparent, and then subsequently see them standing next to each other.

Relocating from Tulsa, OK, three years ago, the Magnusons live in McKinney and have attended Redeemer for two years. They have two children – John, age 4 and Anna, age 2. Lacie, their 12 year old dog completes the household.

Brian and Mary met at the University of Tulsa. Brian was an undergraduate studying art education and photography. Mary, having graduated with an elementary education degree from De-

Pauw, was pursuing her graduate degree in art education.

The professor teaching Mary's class was Brian's advisor. Although Brian initially came to Mary's class to speak with his advisor, he kept coming back to talk with Mary. Acknowledging God's hand in their life, Mary says it looked like a chance meeting but "we know better, our meeting was not a coincidence."

Brian is an art education teacher at Hendricks Middle School in Plano. He is a gifted fine art photographer and has had several exhibits of his photographs in Tulsa. Mary recalls a favorite exhibit – photographs Brian took of windows. The exhibit had photographs of beautiful, ornate windows, and more rugged, broken windows. Brian related the photographs to human lives – the windows offering a

look into the human heart. Mary taught 5th grade for ten years and now enjoys her full time role as homemaker. She is president of the McKinney MOMS club. Mary diligently runs three times a week and also enjoys swimming, reading and art.

Both Brian and Mary grew up in Christian homes. Brian, the 4th of 5 children, was born in Tulsa but grew up in Minneapolis. He became a Christian in collage. Mary was born in Buffalo, New York, but grew up in Tulsa. She has a sister and a brother. Mary recalls coming to Christ at age nine during a summer camp.

How is God working in the Magnuson family today? Mary replies "We know that God has a purpose for us moving to McKinney. God never fails us and always provides us with what we need. Even though our faith may be small at times, God is always on time."



Brian, Mary, John and Anna Magnuson

Pray for the Persecuted Church

AFGHANISTAN – Christian Aid Worker Killed by the Taliban – AP...Taliban gunmen shot and killed 34-year-old Gayle Williams, a Christian aid worker in Kabul, as she was walking to work because she was "spreading her religion," reported The Associated Press (AP). The Taliban claimed responsibility for shooting Williams, a South African/British national who worked with disabled Afghans. "This woman came to Afghanistan to teach Christianity

to the people of Afghanistan. Our leaders issued a decree to kill this woman. This morning our people killed her in Kabul," Zabiullah Mujahid, Taliban spokesperson, told AP. Williams was working for a Christian charity organization, SERVE (Serving Emergency Relief and Vocational Enterprises), which has worked with Afghan refugees in Pakistan since 1980. In a statement on its Web site, SERVE described Williams as "a person who always loved

the Afghans and was dedicated to serving those who are disabled." Pray for the family of Williams during this difficult time. Ask God to protect believers as they share the gospel in challenging times. Pray Williams' testimony will draw non-believers and Taliban members into fellowship with him.

Psalm 23:1-6

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SRI LANKA – Pastor Killed – National Christian Evangelical Alliance...On October

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“THE SIN OF INGRATITUDE”



**Dr. Bryant McGee,
Pastor**

Being a sick person is not something at which I am very good! When I'm sick I'm pretty much a baby and want everyone to wait on me hand and foot. When I begin to get better, I am thankful that the illness is going away. After I am completely better, suddenly there is no need to be thankful anymore because things are ok. When we are sick, there is something wrong on the inside and it is revealed on the outside – we're sick on the inside and the outside.

This is what Luke describes in his gospel account when Jesus was confronted by the 10 lepers who screamed out for him to pity them and heal them from their illness (Lk 17:11-19). Jesus did not even walk over to them but declared that they go to the priest and show themselves to be cleansed and all 10 of them turned and went. Only 1 of the 10 stopped, came back, and threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him for the healing he received. Jesus responds by asking where the other 9 are and then declares that this one man's faith has made him well. He was sick on the outside, as the other 9 were with their leprosy, and

Jesus cleansed them. All 10 of them were also sick on the inside and needed the healing power of the gospel that would make them well, not just an outward cleansing but an inward change of the heart, and only 1 received that.

As I sit here at my desk and the weather has begun to change and the deadline for my Trumpet article approached (Oct 15 for the Nov publication), I thought to myself I really need to write an article on thankfulness since this is the issue that will come up a few weeks before Thanksgiving. I know I am like the 1 man in that God has given His grace to me and made me well, but all too often my actions are like the other 9 in that my thankfulness is temporary. Why should we be thankful only at one season of the year when we have been cleansed (outwardly) and made well (inwardly)? Why are our times of thankfulness to God sporadic and many times motivated only by what we want instead of what we have received? Perhaps it is because we are not as thankful as we should be and instead of constantly coming and falling before the Savior and thanking

Him for what he gives, we are focused on ourselves and our own wants and desires.

The story is told of a devout king who was disturbed by the ingratitude of his royal court. He prepared a large banquet for them. When the king and his royal guests were seated, by prearrangement, a beggar shuffled into the hall, sat down at the king's table, and gorged himself with food. Without saying a word, he then left the room. The guests were furious and asked permission to seize the tramp and tear him limb from limb for his ingratitude. The king replied, "That beggar has done only once to an earthly king what each of you does 3 times each day to God. You sit there at the table and eat until you are satisfied. Then you walk away without recognizing God, or expressing one word of thanks to him."

As we approach Thanksgiving, we above all people have much to be thankful for. Let's respond by coming back to our gracious Savior and throw ourselves at His feet and thank Him for making us well.

Soli Deo Gloria!!
Bryant

MISSION NEWS

Are you depressed from all the bad news? Do you feel like nothing good is happening in our country or the world?

Well, you should have heard the encouraging news that Paul Kooistra, Coordinator of Mission to the World (MTW), shared at a "Vision Dessert" in Dallas recently!

MTW is the missionary sending organization of the PCA, which Redeemer sup-

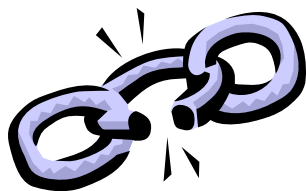
ports with monthly contributions.

Paul shared news of the exciting work God is doing all over the world:

1. So many conversions in Iran that the government is nervous.
2. Revivals in Western Africa.
3. Large numbers of new believers in Japan, Ukraine, and Vanuatu (South Pacific).

So, even though we hear much about the growth of Islam world wide, be encouraged because God is growing His church world wide in amazing ways!

For more information on MTW, please visit their web site at www.mtw.org



Pray for the Persecuted Church continued from page 1

8, Pastor Sebamalai Gunesh of Elohim Gospel Church in the village of Orugodawatte was found dead the National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka said. Pastor Gunesh's brother was also found dead in a nearby location. The pastor was reported missing on October 6, when he did not return home from a religious meeting held in the town of Kadawatha. Ask God to comfort Pastor Gunesh's wife, 4-year-old son and 2-year-old daughter in their grief. Pray that those responsible for the attacks will come to repentance and salvation, just as Paul did. Pray for wisdom and protection for those serving Christ in Sri Lanka at great risk.

Isaiah 49:13

INDIA – Update: Homes Burned; Relief Camps Closure Planned in Orissa – VOM Sources....October 19, Hindu extremists burned several homes belonging to Christians in Kandhamal district, Orissa VOM sources reported. Despite the government's claim that the state is "returning to normal," reports of extremists burning homes, raiding hospitals and stealing animals belonging to Christians continue. The area has been plagued by widespread anti-Christian violence since Maoists killed a Hindu leader in late August. Health conditions remain extremely poor in the overcrowded relief camps, and some who have sought refuge have been sent away with only a plastic tent and a 10-day food supply. Reports that authorities may close the camps have caused further concern for Christians who are unable to return to their homes. Pray for displaced believers in Orissa as

they face these uncertain times. Ask God to comfort displaced family members and those who have lost loved ones since the attacks began in August. Pray the faithfulness of believers will draw non-believers into fellowship with Him.

John 14:27

CHINA- Prominent House Church Leader's Sons Assaulted by Chinese Police – China Aid Association...On October 16, Zhang Jian, the elder son of Pastor "Bike" Zhang Mingxuan, was severely beaten by Public Security Bureau (PSB) officials in Beijing, China Aid Association (CAA) reported. Zhang Jian was at home with his mother, Xie Fenglan, when PSB officials entered their residence and secured the exits before severely beating him with iron bars for nearly half an hour. "As Zhang lay bleeding profusely, his mother called the ambulance, but the receptionist told her that a higher government authority gave a directive not to dispatch an ambulance to rescue Zhang because he is related to Pastor Bike," CAA reported. "Xie Fenglan called her younger son, who rushed to the house and was also beaten by the same authorities," CAA added. After some time a family friend took Zhang Jian to a local emergency room, where doctors said he was so severely beaten that he may lose sight in his right eye. The family has not been able to contact Pastor Bike, who was traveling at the time of the attack, and they fear he might have been detained by authorities. Pray for Zhang Jian and his younger brother's quick recovery from the attack. Ask God to protect

Pastor Bike and his entire family during this challenging time. Praise God for this family's faithfulness to risk their all for the sake of the gospel.

Isaiah 40:31

John 15:18

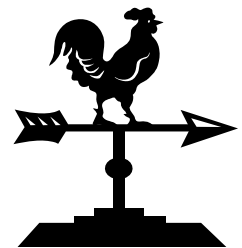
IRAQ - Christian Killed, Hundreds Forced to Flee in Mosul – VOM Sources...A Christian music store owner, Farques Batool, was killed and his nephew injured when gunmen stormed into his store in Mosul and opened fire on the evening of Oct. 1, VOM sources reported. The murder is the latest in a series of recent deadly attacks on Christians in the city. Batool had reportedly refused to join other Christians who were fleeing the city, under threat of violence from Islamist extremists, because he needed to care for his wife, daughter and mother, as well as his brother's family. Batool's family has since fled Mosul in fear for their lives, leaving his wounded nephew in the hospital. Over the past week, approximately 325 Christian families have reportedly fled Mosul. VOM sources added that armed Muslim extremists entered local churches and homes and told believers that they would be killed if they did not vacate the city. Several Christians have sought refuge in relatives' homes, churches and monasteries in the six Christian villages that make up Telkep County and in the predominantly Christian county of Mahmoudiya. Pray that the Batool family will find strength and comfort in the refuge God provides. Pray that the faithfulness of Iraqi Christians will be a light that draws others to Christ.

"Be joyful always; pray continually;"

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-17)

www.persecution.com

www.prisoneralert.com



Redeemer Day School



**Shelli Phillips,
RDS Director**

For the month of November, RDS will be focusing on the biblical objective of honoring and glorifying God by loving him and doing what he commands.

We will be studying about the things for which we are thankful for our upcoming Thanksgiving Feast.

We will be learning

about community helpers and all the things for which we are thankful.

We will also have our very first photographer coming to RDS taking class pictures as well as individual pictures.

We will also be introducing "Spirit Day" this month. Now that we have RDS shirts, we want to have a

few days of the month celebrating RDS by wearing our t-shirts. You can find which days are "Spirit Days" on the RDS calendar.

We want to thank everyone who volunteered to help during our 2nd annual Fall Festival. We are so blessed to be able to have this fun event for our children and look forward to many more.



Missionary Corner/Highlight Mission

Mission to North America (MNA) serves PCA churches and presbyteries as they advance God's Kingdom in North America by planting, growing, and multiplying biblically healthy churches through the development of intentional evangelism and outreach ministries.

The Chaplain Guardian Corps

The PCA currently endorses nearly 100 military chaplains as well as 40 civilian chaplains in hospitals, prisons and other agencies. Preaching, teaching and counseling are the chaplain's primary tasks. The military and many civilian agencies require that to become a chaplain you must be an ordained member of your denomination and have the endorsement of that denomination.

The Presbyterian and

Reformed Joint Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel is the organization that endorses PCA chaplains. The PRJC also endorses OPC, RPCNA, KAPC, URCNA and KPCA chaplains. Chaplain Douglas E. Lee is both the endorser for the PCA and the executive director of the PRJC.

The VGC (Veterans Guardian Corps) is made up of veterans who assist in keeping the congregations informed of the joys, challenges and needs of our chaplains and MNA Chaplain Ministries. Also, VGC members will assist in staying in touch with military personnel from their respective congregations. This ensures that our chaplains are informed of PCA military personnel on their respective installations, enabling our PCA military men and women to be pastored and encouraged in the faith.

This is one of the many outreach ministries that the MNA supports. Please lift them up in prayer. The "Guardian" is the chaplain ministry newsletter printed quarterly. It includes a lot of valuable information on our chaplains stationed around the world. Chaplains personally insert prayer needs and detailed information on what is happening in their ministry in each issue. If you want more information about The Chaplain Guardian Corps go to: www.pca-mna.org/chaplainministries

Philippians 1:3-6 *I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you. I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*



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

What an exalted and endearing truth is Christ's sleepless vigilance over his people! Imagine yourself threading your way along a most difficult and perilous path, every step of which is attended with pain and jeopardy, and is taken with hesitancy and doubt. Unknown to you unseen, there is One hovering around you each moment—checking each false step—and guiding each doubtful one—soothing each sorrow—and supplying each need. All is calm and silent. Not a sound is heard, not a movement is seen; and yet, to your amazement, just at the critical moment, the needed support comes—you know not from where, you know not from whom. This is not a picture of imagination.

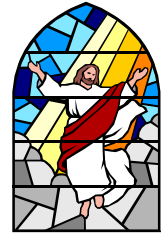
Are you a child of God on your pilgrimage to paradise by an intricate and a perilous way? Jesus is near to you at each moment, unseen

and often unknown. You have at times stood speechless with awe at the strange interposition on your behalf, of providence and grace—no visible sign indicated the source of your help. There was no echo of footfall at your side, no flitting of shadow athwart your path. No law of nature was altered nor suspended, the sun did not stand still, nor did the heavens open. And yet deliverance, strange and effectual deliverance, came at a moment most unexpected, yet most needed.

It was **Jesus**, your **Redeemer**, your **Brother**, your **Shepherd**, and your **Guide**! He it was who, hovering around you—unknown and unobserved, kept you as the apple of His eye, and sheltered you in the hollow of His hand. It was He who armed you with bravery for the fight—who poured strength into your spirit—and grace into your heart, when the full weight of

calamity pressed upon them. Thus has He always been to His children. The eye that neither slumbers nor sleeps was upon you! He knew in what furnace you were placed, and was there to temper the flame when it seemed the severest. He say your frail vessel struggling through the tempest, and He came to your rescue at the height of the storm!

How He has proved this in seasons of difficulty and doubt! How often, at a crisis the most critical of your history, the Lord has appeared for you! Your lack has been supplied—your doubt has been solved—and your perplexity has been guided. He has delivered your soul from death—your eyes from tears—and your feet from falling. You're never for an instant out of His heart—or out of His eye! Go then, and lay your weariness on Christ.



Christ's Sleepless Vigilance Over His People

Women In the Church

Oh my! Can you believe it is already November and there are only 55 days until Christmas! Whew! 2008 has flown by and now it's time to actually take a moment to be thankful for all God has brought into our lives during the past 10 months (that's what our national holiday of Thanksgiving is for—right?)

Well, my "Thanks God" list would begin with thanks for healthy grandchildren, a loving, healthy husband, healthy family—wait!! Those are things for which to be grateful, BUT would I still be thankful if there was serious sickness in my family? As I read the stories of our brothers and sisters

around the world who suffer persecution and death for their faith, I feel very shallow. If your heart is anything like mine, we all must confess it turns aside from God rather easily. The smallest trouble (or even a really big one) causes one to begin to question God's goodness. But in Hebrews 13:5, God tells us to "keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God said, 'Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you.'" So on what should my focus be, as I pray and thank my heavenly Father: He will never, never leave me or forsake me; He will complete the work He started in my life; He does all things well; He gives me

grace upon grace; Whatever my God ordains is right!

Dear ladies, I thank my God often in my prayers for you and for your faith and for your love to this chief of sinners, whom you have given the opportunity and pleasure of being your WIC President and one of the Bible study leaders.

Our God Reigns!

Doing better than I deserve,
Linda Clark



"This is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at My word."

Isaiah 66:2b (ESV)

The Christian in the Workplace – Pt. 2



**Rolf Meintjes,
Associate
Pastor**

So often in the workplace, our lives become driven by our performance rather than a wonder at God working within us. After all, we are paid to be “professionals”, proficient in our various fields of expertise. This inherently, yet often unintentionally, removes God from the center of our lives.

“Does that mean we put spiritual formation on hold during working hours and pick it up again after hours and on weekends? I don’t think so. For here is the striking thing. The opening scene in the resurrection of Jesus occurs in the workplace. Mary, Joanna, Peter, John, Cleopas along with the other unnamed followers of Jesus had presumably spent the previous day keeping the Sabbath. It is unlikely to think that they would have gone to synagogue or temple; worshipping with the leaders who had conspired in the crucifixion of Jesus. The one thing we know they did do on the Sabbath was embalm Jesus’ body. I am thinking their Sabbath observance set them in a far larger context than was reported to them by the crucifixion events of Friday or their own feelings of devastation. The huge catastrophe and horror and disappointment of crucifixion was settling into the larger context of God’s world-making work and soul-making

salvation. Nothing they could do or wanted to do was important enough to take precedence over what God had done and was doing in creation as it came into focus in the Exodus and Deuteronomy commands and was internalized in a lifetime of Sabbath-keeping.

The day after keeping the Sabbath they entered the work week uncluttered with idols – all those subtle but obsessive attempts that daily get tracked into kitchens from off the street to serve as a god or a routine or a program that can be handled and used. Sabbath-keeping provided a detachment from the world’s way of doing things and from their own compulsions to take things into their own hands. Keeping Sabbath, a day of studied and vowed resistance to doing any work so they could be free to see and respond to who God is and what he is doing, was basic in the lives of the women and men who found Jesus alive on the first day of the new creation week.

The capacity to see God working in our place in creation (our workplace) and to respond in resurrection wonder requires detachment from the workplace. How do we cultivate such detachment? Here it is again: Keep Sabbath.

William Willimon puts it well, “Sabbath keeping

is a publicly enacted sign of our trust that God keeps the world, therefore we do not have to. God welcomes our labors, but our contributions to the world have their limits. If even God trusted creation enough to be confident that the world would continue while God rested, so should we.”

These concepts are imperative for us at Redeemer to thoughtfully consider, though it seems completely counterintuitive to find wonder in work by resting more. Rest and work cannot possibly be of benefit to one another, right? Well carefully consider: Are you too busy to even appreciate who God is? Are our lives consumed with what we accomplish or achieve? Does life consist of our accomplishments? When do we take time to re-orient our thinking and structure our lives in a God-pleasing way as He indeed intended? The reminder to keep Sabbath in order to regain a wonder of and for God, again, must be considered and practiced despite the current pressures of life and vocation. This ought to be an integral aspect of what sets Redeemer apart as a church. Sabbath keeping that restores a God-centered approach to vocation and all of life can be cultivated among our body.



Youth Report

This month, the youth began their study on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood on Wednesday nights and continued their study in Genesis on Sunday mornings. We also made cookies and brownies for a family in the church.

Every Sunday night, Pastor and Mrs. Meintjes host a youth leadership meeting at their home for older youth -- interested 10-12th graders. The older youth commit to come

each week and to complete their class preparations for that evening. Pastor Meintjes leads the youth in a study, and they also have an opportunity to enjoy fellowship and dinner with the Meintjes family. This is an opportunity for the youth to be involved in the life of the pastor and his family. But also, by doing this, youth can be involved in learning by reading and thinking and discussing...and also by watching real

life in a young family unfold before them.

Please pray for the RPC youth as they study God's covenantal plan in Genesis on Sunday, His words about manhood and womanhood on Wednesday, and as they reach out to their friends in the community and to members at church -- that they would glorify God and minister to others, denying themselves and taking up the cross daily.



Diaconate Report

The diaconate held a special meeting Wednesday, October 8th to discuss a mercy ministry opportunity about which they were informed by Elder Yates. The deacons in attendance were Will Wende, Jared Page, David Vender, and Steve Buchanan. Elder Yates briefed the diaconate in-depth on a mercy case with whom deacon Page and Elder Yates had had a previous discussion.

The individual needing assistance lives in Denton, and Denton Presbyterian has offered to provide rides for the individual to attend their Sunday services. The diaconate of Redeemer agreed this would be a wonderful opportunity to forge a strong relationship with the young Denton P.C.A. church as the Church Universal seeks to serve the body and minister to those in need who come to the

church requesting spiritual, as well as material assistance. Marty Phagan and the members of Denton Presbyterian Church will transport the individual to doctors appointments. The diaconate has agreed to provide some financial assistance for transportation costs, and will provide Denton Presbyterian funds to be administered for meeting some of the individual's physical needs.



**Steve Buchanan,
Clerk**

Mercy Ministry

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. Galatians 6:9

November:

- *3e McKinney Garage Giveaway
- *Prison Fellowship Angel Tree

December:

- *Prison Fellowship Angel Tree
- *Silver Angel Ministry-Collin Co. Committee on Aging
- *Salvation Army Kettle Drive
- *Poinsettias--benefits missions

Redeemer is now a church partner with the local Salvation Army's 3e McKinney program. As a partner 3e will keep us informed of opportunities to join other community-focused churches to channel resources

(funds, time, and people) into McKinney in order to bring honor to God, hope to the impoverished, and make a positive impact in the community. Details about the organization and partnership are located at www.3emckinney.org.

On Saturday, November 22, from 9-3 p.m. several churches and countless volunteers are joining together through 3eMcKinney to put on a community wide Garage Giveaway and Social Services Fair. The giveaway will resemble an enormous garage sale, but there is a catch: Everything is free!

Along with the huge garage giveaway, there will be a large community social ministry fair, pro-

viding personal care services and food to all who come. If you would like to be involved there are hundreds of volunteer opportunities. Our deacons will be accepting donations for the giveaway at the church through November 16, or you can make your donation in person on November 21 from 7-7 p.m. at Old Settlers Recreation Center. If you have large items or furniture, please take your items during the November 21 times. No donations will be accepted on the day of the event. Also, please be sure to read through the Donations page for details of what they will accept and what is not acceptable.



Redeemer Presbyterian Church

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Grace upon Grace: Receiving as a Body and Reaching Out as Believers.

Redeemer Elders & Deacons

Church Staff:

Dr. Bryant McGee: *Senior Pastor*
Rolf Meintjes: *Assoc. Pastor*
Wendy Meintjes: *Admin. Assistant*
Dr. Christine Yang: *Music Director*
Shelli Phillips: *RDS Director*

Ruling Elders & their main

Responsibilities:

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

Deacons:

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