



# THE HAPPENING

May 2016

## What's Happening

### Events

May 5 National Day of Prayer  
Mother Daughter Banquet

May 7 Men's Prayer Breakfast  
Family Movie Night

May 8 Mother's Day



May 15 Pentecost  
One Combined Service @  
10:30 am - Meal to follow

May 30 Memorial Day



### Chosen servers

May 1 Dawson/DeFevers

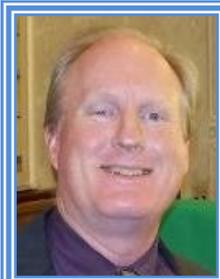
May 15 Mobley

May 29 Courtney/Otto

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## May 2016 Minister's column by Rev. Craig Pinley



**"The wise in heart are called discerning and pleasant words promote instruction." (Proverbs 16:21)**

In my first Consistory meeting as Redeemer Church's pastor I asked those in attendance to tell me one of the unwritten rules I needed to follow as I led this congregation and the first rule I received was this one: "Don't do anything to cause Traci problems." The inference was that our secretary, Traci Rudolfo, was a prized employee who did not need a meddling pastor to alter the quality work she was doing. It spoke to the high opinion our leaders thought of the kind of work she produced, but I suspected that it also spoke well to her character. Over six months of working with her, I've discovered that our leaders were wise in their assessment and that the wise heart and pleasant words were added bonuses from having a quality person like Traci helping us do ministry at Redeemer. On May 15<sup>th</sup>, we'll have a chance to thank Traci and her family for her eight years of service to our church. She and her family will be moving near Nashville, TN, as Traci's husband Greg accepted a job transfer that will allow them to be closer to aging parents. It coincides with our Membership Sunday in which five people will be welcomed into membership: Dave and Lorrie Newmister, Steve Muller, Mary Pinley, and Jim Chester. I'm thankful for our new members, two of whom I've known about prior to my arrival here and three others whose qualities have already been noticed. My connection to Dave and Lorrie came last fall as they were putting together our new church directory, coordinating information and taking photos. Lorrie has accepted the responsibility for overseeing our Vacation Bible School this summer. Dave shared in ministry with some of our men in Jonesville, VA, this past week. .

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The Evangelical Covenant Church

Steve Muller has been a valuable help to our children's ministry this past school year, teaching our children's church during our 11 a.m. worship service. He's also helping coach our church softball team and is a regular at our Wednesday night activities, he and wife Mindy leading family ministry studies of all sorts during the past few months. They are parents to five kids and one of the more pleasant regular views of this family that I see is mom and dad with youngest child Drew in tow, either on a Sunday morning or a Wednesday evening. As for Mary Pinley, she's been my wife for nearly 15 years, so that makes her a saint; but I'm also glad she has enjoyed helping our praise team in our praise worship service and doing a little of this and that for other activities at Redeemer (not to mention parenting our daughter Ellie). As for Jim Chester, he and I were students at North Park Theological Seminary in Chicago over two decades ago. Jim has been a Covenant pastor at Covenant Community Church in Fairfield (serving nearly a decade in children's ministry and as senior pastor) before serving currently as a hospice chaplain in the area. His membership allows him to keep pastoral credentialing through our denomination and he's gotten to know some at Redeemer via a twice-monthly bible study. All five new members will benefit the kingdom of God through their lives and ministry God puts in front of them. We're glad for the opportunity to continue our ongoing relationship with them, even as we say goodbye to a person whose competence, collaborative spirit and genuine Christian witness has been a blessing to so many here. Please join us as we celebrate them all over lunch together following our 10:30 a.m. combined worship service.

IN CHRIST,

*Pastor Craig*

### **"Help With the Welcome Center"**

We are looking for volunteers to assist with the Welcome Center after the Heritage and Praise service. This would entail being at the Welcome Center after church lets out to provide pre-packaged bags for any visitors and answer any of their questions. The time commitment would be approximately 15 minutes after the respective church services. We

would like to get a number of volunteers to work in a rotational basis similar to the rotation we use for ushers. At this time we have 8 volunteers, but would like to have 12 to 14.

If you are interested, please contact Kyle Schuppie at 513-863-8068 or send me an e-mail at [kyleschuppie@gmail.com](mailto:kyleschuppie@gmail.com).



WELCOME  
CENTER

### **"Sew and Sewers" Small Group**

In the tradition of women gathering to sew their quilts, knit, embroider and crochet, the *Sew and Sewers meet at Redeemer Church each Tuesday from 9am -11am in the Fellowship Hall*. Our two main projects are the *"Harvest Happening" quilt* and the *"Mother's Day' Banquet quilt*. When not doing those two projects we are *quilting baby blankets and lap quilts for Seniors* all year long. If you love to quilt or sew please come and check out our group. Bring a project and join in the fellowship of women in love with the Lord.

Contact person or if you have questions please call:

**Betty Waltner 513 863-4839 or Mary Van Lieu 513 894-4886 or 314-6022**



The Evangelical Covenant Church

## President of the Congregation

***“April showers bring May flowers.”*** While growing up I heard that phrase many, many times. Born and raised in the snow belt of Pennsylvania April was not the best weather month of the year. May ushered in much warmer weather but more importantly the flowers began their beautiful blooming cycle. I am encouraged that Redeemer has made our way through the “April showers” and moving into May, a month where “new blooms” are sprouting everywhere. The YMCA has moved out providing us with the necessary room to begin building on our current Christian education programs. The Y painted all the classrooms and stripped and waxed the floors. This is a large load off Redeemer, physically and financially and now we can start planning the future in those rooms. We are starting to form small groups who are interested and passionate in brainstorming ideas, plans and dreams for various parts of our building and grounds. The first group has been organized and has met several times now to discuss the Gathering Hall (Fellowship Hall.) We will be looking to establish 3 additional groups; Sanctuary, Family Life Center and the classrooms. If you are interested listen for when and where to sign up.



I have had the honor to work with Traci Rudolfo, our office secretary for the past several years. Traci has always made my work at church much easier and more enjoyable. Traci is the “rudder on the ship” at Redeemer through multiple pastors, staff, presidents and treasurers. A job transfer for Traci’s husband Greg is the reason for their move but I know that God is leading them in every step of this new journey, Please join in our celebration of Traci and her families time here at Redeemer on May 15th after service in the Family Life Center.

As all of Leadership strives to communicate as best we can if you should have any questions, concerns, suggestions or just want to talk, please don’t hesitate to contact me or another leader.

In Christ.

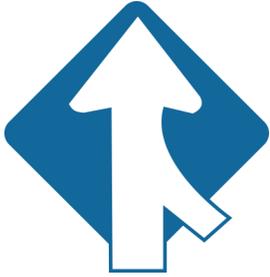
*Sam*

Getting together before and after church for a cup of coffee/ and or fellowship is becoming more and more popular at Redeemer. It’s a special time when members can share their week and put into action their faith to guests, visitors, and also support each other.

An article, “Ministry Matters” shared some thought-provoking ideas: “At the coffee time we either extend the hospitality we proclaim or we withhold it. We either feel the grace we acknowledge or we do not...Many people judge a congregation by its coffee time hospitality...especially newcomers. They can tell by the feel in the room whether they are welcome or not.”



Eight women of our church have made it their mission to create a room for fellowship that is even more warm, welcoming, and inviting. They are just getting started; however, they are enthusiastic regarding this project. Members of the group are the following: Bev Childs, Dawn Knochenmus, Tina Otto, Mary Sue Peters, Mary Pinley, Janie Schuppie, Rose Marie Stiehl, and Karen Wittmer



Merge Ministries is a Covenant organization that does short term missions work all over. There is currently a need of some roofing help in Detroit as outlined below.  
Interested? Contact Pastor Craig for more info.

[City Covenant Church of Detroit](#) is hoping to open a new Covenant Recovery Center to house young men recovering from addiction as well as mental illness in Detroit. In order to open this facility the building needs a new roof.

We are looking for 4-6 workers to come for a weekend to help with the project. City Covenant is trying to get the materials, but they need experienced construction workers to make it happen.

The idea is to have a team of 4-6 the following weekends:

- June 10-12 Demolition of current roof
- June 17-19 Repair of cinder blocks
- June 24-26 Construction of new roof

Merge will organize the trip and is asking for \$60 per person to cover staff expenses. Food and housing will be provided. Teams will need to provide their own ground transportation (drive to site or rental). If team members can donate something toward construction materials it would be appreciated, as the church is HOPING to get the materials donated, but that is not for sure.

Dear Redeemer Church,

The Kroger Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to local communities. We do this through a variety of activities, including charitable giving, sponsorships and the unique Community Rewards Program of Kroger. We are also committed to carefully protecting our customers' personal information. In order to meet their expectation of privacy, we have adopted a simple policy to never share a customer's personal information. Our privacy policy applies to Community Rewards participation as well. As your neighborhood food retailer, we deeply value our ability to support local organizations like yours.



Your supporters (34 households) who shopped at Kroger between 11-01-2015 and 01-31-2016 (Cycle 4, Qtr 3) have contributed to your **\$353.73** total donation.

*Kroger Reward Team*



Redeemer Church has been approved as a Nonprofit Organization in the new Kroger Community Rewards Program. Please visit [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) to register your Kroger Plus card.

Redeemer's NPO # is 80053.

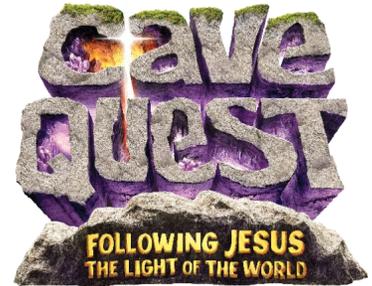
# Vacation Bible School

**Help wanted: “Must love God, have a servant’s spirit, be ready to learn, and love kids.”**

Redeemer is gearing up for this year’s Vacation Bible School, which is scheduled for July 31<sup>st</sup> - August 4<sup>th</sup>, followed by a Fun Night on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 to 8:30 pm.

Vacation Bible School is our opportunity to be missionaries in our own community, inviting children to our church to learn about Jesus and God’s love. This year’s theme is CAVE QUEST, you can see more at [www.group.com](http://www.group.com). Each day revolves around a Bible verse:

1. O Lord, you alone are my hope. (Psalm 71:5)
2. Take courage, I am here! (Matthew 14:27)
3. He will show you which path to take. (Proverbs 3:6)
4. We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us (1 John 3:16)
5. Our great power is from God, not from ourselves. (2 Corinthians 4:7)



In the interest of welcoming families to our church, this year VBS will be providing a light supper at 6 pm, inviting parents and children to break bread together with our VBS staff. This will give us time and opportunity to get to know each other. We will also invite parents to stay for coffee and parenting classes presented by Steve and Mindy Muller, to reach out to people who don’t regularly attend Redeemer.

VBS depends on volunteers!

We need 10 volunteers to serve as Crew Leaders, taking a group of 5 kids (of mixed ages), and shepherding them from station to station, engaging them in conversations, keeping watch over them and giving them encouragement and praise. This is a great opportunity to get to know the youth of our congregation, to be a friendly face to visitors, and to show them God’s love. This is an important job, as you will have direct daily contact with 5 children.

We need Imagination Station leaders, 2 adults, to head an activity center with a little bit of science and a little bit of crafts. Crews of kids will visit this station for 20 minutes.

Kid Vid- Need one adult to show videos, make and serve popcorn, and initiate follow-up conversations in the Crews. Crews of kids will visit this station for 20 minutes.

Table set up and take down

We will need kitchen help. Lori Lohrer has procured some Zaycon meats and Elisha has pizzas.

Providing 5 light suppers for possibly 100 people will need organization and delegation of tasks.

We will be putting up the sticky note “needs” boards. The VBS budget is slim, so we will be asking for specific items to help stretch our budget. Right now, I know we will want lots of brown paper (craft paper or recycle your paper grocery sacks) for decorating. Start saving!!



(continued page 6)

