



THE HAPPENING

October 2016

What's Happening

Events

Family Movie Night
Saturday, October 1st 6:30 PM

Wed Night Studies
Dinner @ 6PM
Classes 6:30-7:45 PM

Open Gym Thursday Evenings
6:00 PM

Chosen servers

Oct 2 Jorgensen
Oct 16 Schumm
Oct 30 Hoover

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October 2016 Minister's column by Rev. Craig Pinley

On my first official day of ministry at Redeemer Church, I started that morning by attending another congregation's worship service. Last October 4th, the day of last year's annual meeting, I went to the 9 a.m. service at Community Church down the street, got to the last part of Redeemer's 9:45 a.m. service as Rev. Linnea Carnes prayed for me, then went into the Family Life Center to hear what our budget was going to include and talk about our future.

By the end of my first week of ministry here, I'd done two hospital visits, watched Matthew Grammel play high school soccer, and officiated Andy and Tessa McDonald's wedding, along with attending my first ministerial cluster group with area Covenant pastors. Week 2 included an Elder/Deacon meeting of nearly four hours, Hamilton ministerial association meeting, Wednesday night programming to see how the kids programming was going, and meeting and greeting many at the Harvest Happening dinner. I also attended the early service at nearby Bridgewater Church down the street from our home to see how another congregation was doing worship.

And so it's gone – a never-boring year of ministry from the corner of Route 4 and Hamilton-Middletown Road. From a pastor bowling bash for 51, to the dedication of Eden Balsbaugh on Easter Sunday to the emotional highs and lows of officiating eight funerals, to throwing out the first pitch at a Hamilton Joes baseball game, to having a pie smooshed in my face for Vacation Bible School, it's been a mixed box of chocolates, full of sweet memories interspersed with that occasional bite of the candy you thought was caramel but ended up coconut crème.

In my previous ministries in Illinois and Iowa, there were a limited amount of hospitals and caregiving entities in the region, so I got pretty acquainted with them – here, I've been to Jewish, UC, Children's and Good Samaritan hospitals in Cincinnati, to go along with the ones in West Chester, Fairfield, Middletown and Hamilton, and nearly a dozen care facilities in Butler and Hamilton counties. To take from a Johnny Cash song, "I've been everywhere man, I've been everywhere." And when you add the number of visits I've taken to get to know you in your homes or at local eateries, I've had a lot of interaction with this congregation. Thanks for having allowed me into your lives thus far; it's much appreciated. And, as you've done that, it's brought many fond memories.



(continued page 2)



The Evangelical Covenant Church

One of them occurred in the middle of Lee County, VA, at “Wayne’s Place” with a few guys from church listening to some fine Appalachian music after serving at a Covenant camp in nearby Jonesville. A Murder Mystery Night with a family from church, Family Fun Nights organized by Amy Derman, Reds games with various church families, a Miami basketball game with a few guys and a Christmas lunch with my wife and the ladies where Carrie DeFevers lives are among the other highlights. And on a more regular basis on Mondays during the summer, the Redeemer Church softball games brought much fun (albeit tweaked hamstrings in each leg on various occasions). There were some worship experiences that I really treasured too. Our Christmas program in a box last December was fun and the spirit in the packed sanctuary was wonderful; a Good Friday service we shared with host Covenant Community Church in Fairfield was really meaningful. And being the one giving the ashes at our Ash Wednesday worship service last February was especially poignant. It’s one of many moments where – as a pastor – you know well the privilege you are given to be God’s servant and a leader. Another was during a three-hour dinner at the Newmisters’ home, where this year’s new members shared their stories of faith.

Finally, there are moments...they come when you least expect them, or just when you need them. One occurred when we decided to bring kids up and pray for them during second service and the first time we did it there were a slew of them and you’re reminded that your church’s future lies in these little lives. Or it’s during a choir anthem or while you’re singing with praise team and the song lifts your spirit and you know those worshiping are feeling that same feeling. Or when you’re stopped by someone in your congregation, who tells you they’ve been praying for you all week because they know ministry is weighing on your mind.

They also come when you watch people serving Jesus. I mentioned in our Elder/Deacon meeting that I’ve got a ton of respect for the many resilient elderly folks who not only take care of a lot of ministry, but also bring perspective on things when I need it. Others put in numerous volunteer hours and they can never be thanked enough. But there’s also the guy with the servant heart taking care of the sound system, the woman with the perpetual smile on her face who says hello when you walk into church on a Sunday, the person who always raises her hand when you ask for help in the nursery. Or maybe it’s the little girl who comes to Wednesday night kids program with a seemingly endless dose of energy, or the cute little 3-year-old whose got the ‘10 on the cute factor’ going on, or the teens who can always be counted on to cheerfully help when they’re asked (by the way, do you realize how many great kids we have in our midst here?).

So that’s my more personal take on Year 1 at Redeemer. I have some other senior pastor thoughts and on October 9th at our annual meeting I may share a thing or two about that. Please come and give your support and your feedback as we review our past year and consider what God may have in store for us in the coming 12 months.

IN CHRIST,

Pastor Craig



**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL
POTLUCK LUNCH – MEETING
OCTOBER 9, 2016
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE
COMBINED SERVICE @ 10:30 A.M.**



**Sign-up sheet in Gathering room*

President of the Congregation

As I prepare for the Annual Congregational Meeting I have reflected over the past year at Redeemer. We agreed to have Town Hall meetings to have honest and open conversations to better communicate with each other. This was just one way to get information out to everyone but you're reading another avenue leadership uses. The Shepherding Groups were started this year and work well to get the word out but more importantly allows us to keep each of you in our hearts and prayers. Our leadership team will be having our annual planning meeting to discuss programs, functions and other items to build the calendar for 2016-2017 so if you have an item to suggest please speak to a member of the leadership team. The Budget Committee has recommended to Consistory a proposed budget that will be presented to the congregation for your vote at the Congregational meeting. The proposed budget has trimmed several line items in an attempt to anticipate the need to spend money on building and ground needs at Redeemer and to more closely align with our projected income. Many of you are aware of the structural building repairs needed but the largest may be the support beam in the Sanctuary, the replacement of the roof on the Sanctuary, repairing the flat roof over the Gathering Room & hallway. We will be preparing for the winter heating season soon so we will be having the heating systems inspected, serviced and readied.



As we prepare for the new fiscal year I ask you to each prayerfully consider how you will be involved at Redeemer in the many different programs and offerings then I challenge everyone to act on those desires and make Redeemer a great place to attend.

May God bless and keep each of you safe.

In Christian love,

Sam



DIG IN
CREATING DEEPER BIBLE EXPERIENCES FOR KIDS

We are in need of Helpers during Children's Church – both services; Leaders for Kindergarten – 2nd grade at the 2nd service; and Substitutes for both services. We are only asking for a 4 week commitment once or twice a year to fulfill our need from Sept 11, 2016 to August 27, 2017. We are adding the additional volunteers so that we adhere to our child protection policy, which requires us to have two adult volunteers in our children's ministry activities.

We have a new and exciting curriculum called Dig In! It's fun for the kids, easy for Leaders to prepare and flexible to the Leaders desires and talents. Adults of all ages are welcome to volunteer – your only requirement is to want to love and nurture our children! Please contact Lisa Bowersox to add your name.

Are you a young person grades 7-12? Got one living in your house? It's here!
Youth group - every Sunday night from 6:00 – 7:30pm. At the Muller's, 5612 Red Oak Ct in Fairfield. Join us for games, songs, skits, and teaching for both junior and senior high. We'll tackle some hard stuff and some fun stuff too. Don't miss out!

**YOUTH
GROUP**

**FAMILY FUN NIGHT
TRUNK OR TREAT AND PRAYER PARTNER KICK-OFF
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 26, 2016
6-8 P.M.**

6:00 - 6:30 - Dinner (Provided) 6:30 – 7:30 Meet with Prayer Partner 7:30 – 8:00 Trunk or Treat (In Parking Lot.)



A Trunk or Treat is a Kid-Friendly Halloween event sponsored by churches as an alternative to “Scary” Celebration. People gather and park their cars in the parking lot. They open their trunks or the back of their vehicle. They handout candy or fun things like crayons, markers, coloring pages etc. You can decorate your car if you like but please, no “SCARY STUFF!”

Please plan to join us to meet our Kids and have a fun evening.

Interested in being a Prayer Partner? Help with Crafts? Please contact Amy Dermen.



REMEMBER OUR SHUT IN'S

Redeemer Church has a number of members who are either confined to their homes or residing in Care Centers. Please remember them with a card or call. Remember, if you send a card please be sure to add “Redeemer Church” after your name!

Norma Gammell

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Evelyn Warner

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Hester Childs

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Janet Evans

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Zelma Miller

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Birthday list

- Oct 01 Brent Clark
- Oct 04 Glenna Carroll
- Oct 06 Lisa Wolpert
- Oct 10 Nathan Khuleberg
- Oct 11 Bill Stiehl
- Oct 15 Butch Dawson
- Oct 23 Joey Wolpert
- Oct 24 Mary Oakley
- Oct 25 Lee Skorupa
- Oct 29 Duane Cantrell



Serving in Worship

Liturgists

- 10/2 Rose Marie Stiehl
- 10/9 Larry Kachner
- 10/16 Dan Childs
- 10/23 Amy Dermen
- 10/30 Bill Hyatt

Prayer Intercessors

- 10/2 Carrie DeFever & Joan Riley
- 10/9 Gary & Carolyn Maschmeyer
- 10/16 Lori Lohrer & Linda Hoover
- 10/23 Charlotte Burkhart
- 10/30 Carrie DeFever & Mary Van Lieu

Ushers

1st Service

- 10/2 Bill & Sherry Phillips, Ron & Gloria Spurlock
- 10/9 Ed & Kathy Swope, Nancy Henry, Mary Van Lieu
- 10/16 Ron & Mary Sue Peters, Dewayne & Sharon Grammel
- 10/23 Larry & Charlotte Kachner, Duane Cantrell
- 10/30 Richard & Joan Riley

2nd Service

- 2-Oct Teens
- 16-Oct Lori Lohrer & Lee Skorupa
- 23-Oct Karen Wittmer & Carol Hahn
- 30-Oct Jon & Tari Lawson