



THE HAPPENING

July 2017

What's Happening

Events

- July 22 Serve City
Christmas in July
- July 30 Combined Service
9:30 AM
- Harbin Park Service
11 AM Combined with
Pot Luck Lunch

Chosen servers

- July 2 Pinley's
- July 16 Cantrell
- July 30 Muller/Youth Group

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July 2017 Minister's column by Rev. Craig Pinley

He has a moniker that sounds like a child's toy and he doesn't seem much taller than my fifth-grade daughter. But on June 6th, 2017, Scooter Gennett of the Cincinnati Reds did something that no other pro baseball player had ever done – five hits, four of them home runs, and 10 runs driven in during one game. Even more remarkable was the context for this feat – he had just gone through a period where he had no hits in 19 straight at-bats.



I tell you all of this because, although anyone who plays major league baseball is a highly talented athlete, Scooter Gennett is very ordinary at his level. In fact, he was released by his previous team prior to this season's opening game. So there was nothing that could've prepared anyone for what they would witness that night at Great American Ball Park. But in sports you do see such spectacular things occur seemingly out of nowhere. Two decades ago, I wrote a game story the night Chad Bickley made a record 18 of 30 three-point shots in a college game, for example. That's why games are fun to watch; you never know when something extraordinary can happen.

However, being in ministry for going on 20 years, I see the same thing almost every week or hear about something someone did that is really amazing. It occurred in California, in Iowa, in Illinois, and it's no different here in Ohio, people that seem ordinary doing incredible things.

-I think of the daughter and son-in-law that cared for aging parents for many years with nary a break.

-The guy who went into a minefield and saved a fellow soldier decades ago.

-The handful of firemen who have rushed into a burning building as part of their job.

-How about the parents that give tremendous care to their children, some of whom have special needs, or those who've lost kids far too young, picked up the pieces, and went on to bless so many others even while their pain still exists from long ago.

-Spouses that give daily attention to each other in trying circumstances.

-There are people at Redeemer that have dealt with physical or emotional crises (even near-death experiences) and have managed to persevere and even grow from them. And because some have been willing to tell their stories, we are blessed and God is honored through their words.

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The Evangelical Covenant Church

- People that have chosen to care for people in our society that are often neglected and mistreated, competent people that can generate million-dollar grants or use their talents to provide incredible advocacy for those with no voice.
- Creative folks that have invented products that better our lives, patient and caring people who've mentored students and helped them find their life's work, brilliant men and women who could've earned millions in other professions, but chose to focus on people instead of the almighty dollar.
- Overachievers that have come from difficult backgrounds and thrived in adversity.
- High achievers that have become regarded in their professions, whether by winning hundreds of games as coaches, tackling highly sensitive work projects, or navigating through dicey human relations issues.

Sure, occasionally, you have that great performance that gets you on TV or earns you a write-up in the newspaper, or maybe you get something named after you or earn some sort of Man- or Woman of the Year honor (and some from our Redeemer HAVE earned such honors).

But more often, it's the warm handshake, a grateful smile, the pat on the back, or even the look from across the room that says "I know what you're going through, hang in there" that are remembered. So let's aspire to be ready for that day or moment when God uses the best in us to make an impact in public – and don't be surprised when the moment comes because God has created greatness in all of us. But until we have that proverbial 'moment in the sun,' please know that what you do in relative anonymity is noticed...by me, by others, and by the Lord.

In Him,

Pastor Craig

Redeemer 125th Anniversary Weekend of September 23-24

125th Anniversary Booklet Available for \$10

As part of Redeemer's 125th anniversary weekend September 23-24, we'll be producing a book that will document the many achievements and the 'story behind the story' in our congregation's evolution, along with pictures that coincide with events in each era. Initial estimates are that an initial printing run will cost around \$500, so we're offering you the opportunity to reserve an early copy for \$10. Contact Carrie DeFevers if you're interested.





Set sail for VBS fun this summer at Redeemer!

Tuesday, August 1 - Thursday, August 3, 2017, *plus*

Family Fun Night, Friday, August 4

6:00- 8:00 PM

We are off to the **HIGH SEAS EXPEDITION**, exploring the mighty love of God from Psalm 119 and the Book of Acts. Children will experience the Bible stories, cool Bible songs, tasty treats, team building games and hands on mission activities that will help faith flow into real life. Bring your child and invite your friends and neighbors to come along.



Feel free to call or text me at 419-388-5663 with questions or comments

Lorrie Newmister, VBS 2017 Coordinator

CALL TO ACTION:

We need 5 more Crew Leaders for Vacation Bible School. Crew Leaders will shepherd small groups of children from one activity to another and minister to the Kids of the Kingdom.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, July 30th
Harbin Park in Fairfield
@ 11:00am

Combined worship service and POTLUCK with Covenant Community Church and a local Hispanic congregation.



COMBINED SERVICE
Heritage AM Service
9:30am at Redeemer



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