



THE HAPPENING

A Publication of Redeemer Church • Hamilton, Ohio



Rev. Nicole Thomas
Interim Pastor

As I sit here at my desk, preparing for the day, I find that I am thinking over the past couple of

weeks and the tears that have fallen. These have been tears over the loss of two precious saints from Redeemer, Mary Sue Peters and Dickie Standafer. Time has been

spent preparing for funerals and weeping with those who weep and mourning with those who mourn.

There are truly no words nor sentiment from a human perspective to give comfort or hope, yet amidst each service, it was the Word of God that transformed the funerals into Home Going Celebrations.

This truly is a Wonderful World (we listened to What a Wonderful World at Mary Sue's service), filled with

God's grace, beautiful families and friends, laughter and joy, yet as Revelation was read, this life's grip began to lessen. I long for the

day when "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.

He who is seated on the throne said, 'Behold I am making all things new.' " (Revelation 21:4 -5a)

Imagine it....no more tears!



FROM THE PRESIDENT - LEADERSHIP RETREAT 2019



Dan Wittmer
Consistory President

For those of you who attended the Leadership retreat on Saturday, February 16...Thank you! Attendance exceeded expectations.

We started out the meeting with a review of our Constitution and By-laws. Our Constitution defines our affiliation with the Evangelical Covenant Church. It defines who we are and how we operate. Our Bylaws define the duties and responsibilities of our Consistory, Nominating committee, Pastoral Relations committee, Budget com-



mittee, and of our Pastor. Our By-laws define requirements for congregational meetings, membership as well as governance of property and small groups.

Pastor Nicole presented John Wesley's leadership practice known as the Means of Grace (as explained in the book, *Holiness of Heart and Life*, written by Dr. Stephen A. Semands). The Means of Grace process is 1) Prayer, 2)

Searching the Scripture, 3) Attendance at the Lord's Supper, 4) Fasting and 5) Christian Conferencing.

Dan Childs presented the responsibilities of our Elder board. The primary duty of the Elders is to serve as overseers of spiritual matters at



Redeemer, such as oversight of shepherding groups, Christian education, assistance to the Pastor, oversight of committees and

(Continued on page 2)

LEADERSHIP RETREAT 2019 - CONT.

(Continued from page 1)

prayer groups.

Amy Dermen presented the responsibilities of the Deacon board. The Deacons are primarily respon-

sible for leadership of Redeemer's missions. See the bulletin board in the hallway for more information on Redeemer's missions.

Chuck Genenbacher presented the

responsibilities of the Trustee board. The Trustees are responsible for the building and grounds. The primary focus is the sanctuary beam project. Preparations have already begun. The project will take approximately 8-9 weeks.

A special thanks goes out to the team who kept us fed! It's always amazing how things come together...you guys are fantastic!



Attended but not pictured: Richard and Joan Riley, Karen Schumm and Karen Wittmer

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND



Dan Childs
Treasurer

The current initiative to correct the issue with the Beams and Roof Support in our Sanctuary will deplete our current Capital Improvement Fund. We have other capital Improvements that

we need to consider in the near future including but not limited to Roof Replacement on the Sanctuary, repairs to the Parking Lot, repairs to our flat room, etc.

In addition, there are unforeseen needs that can occur at anytime such as Air Conditioner replacements, heating repairs,



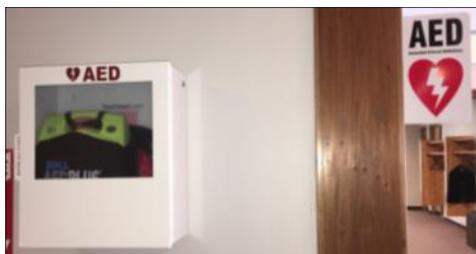
Beam damage viewed in the church library

etc. We are currently soliciting funds for our Capital Improvement Fund. If you desire to make a contribution, you can use one of the giving envelopes in the pews and mark it Capital Improvement. If you have questions or need help with your donation, please feel free to contact me.

AED CLASS AT REDEEMER BY AL SCHUMM

Saturday, February 16, Mark Mignery, coordinator of Hamilton's paramedic service, taught a CPR and AED class at Redeemer.

An automated external defibrillator (AED) is a portable electronic device that automatically diagnoses the life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias of ventricular fibrillation and pulseless ventricular tachycardia and is able to treat them through defibrillation: the applica-



AED defibrillator located near kitchen door

tion of electricity which stops the arrhythmia, allowing the heart to reestablish an effective rhythm.

Five people attended the class and

four took the certification test. All four passed the test and earned their certification: Lori Lohrer, Amy Derman, Chuck Genebacher and Al Schumm. We now have six of our members that are certified in CPR and AED. We have a new AED unit in our church, but hopefully we will never have to use it.

A makeup class is planned sometime after Mother's Day for those who would like to become certified.

DEACONS MISSIONS SUPPORT



Amy Dermen
Deacon

The Deacons continue to lead support efforts to six missions. Those include two missionary families - the Delps and the Merillats, the

ECC, and three local missions: Oasis House, Heaven Sent, and Serve City/Chosen.

Each month, we will feature a mission and any updates in this newsletter.

Redeemer has a long standing history with Serve City/Chosen and has been instrumental in providing resources for the homeless since 2001. Prior to the completion of the 622 East Avenue location, area churches (including Redeemer) hosted the homeless one week at a

time until the permanent shelter was completed. To this day, Serve City/Chosen continues to provide shelter for up to 40 men and 12 women per night. Members of the Redeemer congregation provide and serve dinner to the residents on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of each month. Members also volunteer their time in the pantry.

Redeemer members serve the meal with love and prepare the meals with extra special touches, such as dessert or homemade gravy. One resident recently told Dan Childs, "this is the best meal I've had since I got here." We are giving our best. All members of Redeemer are encouraged to support these efforts with whatever talents you may have. Contributions can be made mone-

tarily, by sending a dish, or thoughtful prayers. We continually collect clothing or dry good donations for Serve City/Chosen in the barrel near the kitchen. They are in need of clothing, grocery bags, and disposable dinnerware (plates, napkins, bowls, knives, forks, spoons).



It is the hope of the Deacons that our relationships with the Serve City/Chosen residents will grow. Groups of 4 - 6 are recommended to attend the Sunday night dinners so that some may serve the dishes while the others sit, eat and converse with the residents. If you are new to this ministry, we can partner you with an experienced group. See Amy Dermen for details.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY TEAM BY CHARLOTTE BURKHART



The Women's Ministry Team is busy making plans for our 2019 events. Keep your eyes and ears open so you don't

miss our upcoming "Spring Fling." It promises to be a fun and productive evening!

As always, we would love to have your input, thoughts, and



ideas on Bible studies, mission efforts, or other events.

Women's Ministry Team:
Nicole, Stephanie T., Karen S., and Charlotte B.

REDEEMER SMALL GROUPS

Pick a Small Group. Don't see a Small Group that speaks to you? Maybe that's a call for you to start one...

Small Group	Time	Type
Sew and Sowers	Tuesdays, 9:00 am to 11:00 am	Sewing Club
Women's Bible Study	Tuesdays, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm	Adult Education
Family Night Adult Bible Study	Wednesdays, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm	Study and Fellowship
Confetti Club (Community and Redeemer participants)	Monthly, 3rd Thursday, 5:30 pm	Singles
Go-Getters	Last Thursday of the month, 11:00 am	Women's Fellowship



PRAISE BAND FEATURE: DONNIE ROBISON

The Beat Goes On

For the last 15 years, the Redeemer Praise Team has been keeping time to the beat of our spectacularly talented drummer, Donnie Robison. Born and raised in the Middletown area, Donnie started his musical career as a fifth-grade band student. His love for drumming and his soulful vocals have been enjoyed by others for nearly fifty years now.

He has played with many local musicians and in many venues throughout the area. This includes the bands "Encore" and "Finale." Donnie works in quality, testing

equipment, for Schneider Electric. When asked about the impact that playing praise and worship music



has had on his life, Donnie responded that this long-standing engagement at

Redeemer has kept him centered. He feels that it is the most important thing he does and that he "wouldn't miss it for the world!"

As a church, Redeemer has enjoyed Donnie's beautiful renditions of songs like "You Raise Me Up" and "Who Am I?" While the band relies heavily on Donnie as the drummer who determines the beat and style of the music we play, his heart for the music is much more than the beat.

His kind and caring manner is at the very center of the Redeemer Praise Team. We have been more than blessed by Donnie's dedication to the praise and worship music here at Redeemer.

Next month, another member...

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Pastoral Search Committee continues to meet 2-3 times per month on Wednesday nights.

We currently have three external candidates that have applied for the position. In addition, there are two other candi-

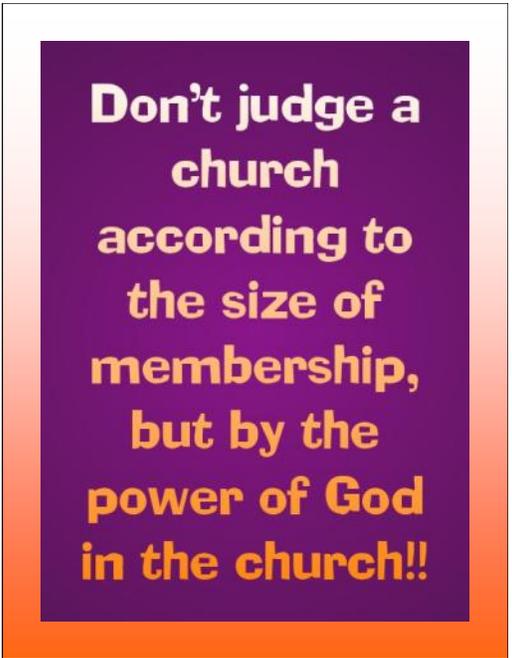
dates in which we have expectations to apply. The PSC met with the District Superintendent, Garth



McGrath, last week in reviewing some of the Covenant Church Affirmations. The committee is currently working on the list of interview questions to begin the interview process.

Pastoral Search Committee members: Al Schumm,

Amy Dermen, Chuck Genenbacher, Dawn Knochenmuss, Kent Hoes, Seth Mobley and Dan Wittmer.



FROM THE TRUSTEES BY CHUCK GENENBACHER

The Butler County Building permit has been issued for the Main Sanctuary beam repair. The Church board has given approval for the work to begin after the March 6 Ash Wednesday Service with a target to have all of the work completed by Mothers Day Sunday May 12th. Both ser-



vices will be held in the Family Life Center during this period. The structural beams supporting the roof will be cut out and replaced with new material, in addition a metal plate will be installed to provide the necessary structural

strength. To facilitate this repair temporary support system will be installed which will require a significant portion of the sanctuary to be removed, including the railings, pulpit, stairs, front pews and the video sound system. In the rear, both the Library and the sound rooms will be partially dismantled.

Happenings...



Chicken & Noodle Dinner
or
Beef & Noodle Dinner
Saturday, March 2, 4-6 pm
♦ Donation ♦
Fundraiser for our Covenant
Mountain Mission Bible Camp




- Carol Hahn.....March 1
- Claudia Cantrell.....March 2
- Sadara CourtneyMarch 5
- Janet GrissomMarch 5
- Darrel Grissom March 17
- Brian Taylor March 25
- Alec Vivian..... March 28



Brian & Becky Taylor.. March 20



Redeemer's 3rd Annual Chili Cook Off

Saturday March 30, 2019
4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Come join us for some great food with all the fixings. Then stay for more fun with family game night.

Interested in entering your best chili? See Mike and Debbie Khulenberg.



Do you have suggestions for articles you would like to see in the Redeemer Church newsletter? Do you have comments or have information or pictures you would like to submit? Please send an e-mail!

newsletter@redeemer-church.org



A big Tip-of-the-Hat to **Debbie Khulenburg** for updating the birthday and anniversary lists.



Our updated bulletin board - thanks Koolie!



You're Invited To A Free Night Out - Movie Night

Showing: A family friendly movie for all to enjoy

Date: Every 1st Saturday of the month from Sept. to May

Time: Cartoons at 6:30 - Movie at 7:00

Place: Redeemer Church Family Life Center

Provided: Freshly popped popcorn along with other refreshments

Cost: Absolutely, Positively, Nothing!

FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE

Thank you

I have just a quick update. I am doing well on my recovery from knee replacement surgery. I will be home soon and be able to keep up my work with Go-Getters, Sew and Sowers, Women's Tuesday Bible Study and the coffee time on Sunday mornings. Thanks for all the prayers and well wishes during this time. - Mary Van Lieu



Confetti Club

For single people age 50 and over from the community and Redeemer, featuring fun, friendship and food!

Meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month, September through May, at Redeemer Church or at area restaurants and venues.

E-mail: ConfettiClub@redeemer-church.org for information

Redeemer Church
3431 Hamilton Middletown Rd.
Hamilton, OH 45011
513-863-3323
www.Redeemer-Church.org