

# THE HAPPENING

A Publication of Redeemer Church • Hamilton, Ohio



**Rev. Nicole Thomas**  
Pastor

Hello all! Philippians 4:6-7 states, "Don't worry about anything; instead pray about everything. Tell God what you need

and thank Him for all He has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus." My challenge to you, as you bring your prayer requests unto God, that you begin with thanksgiving. Start with 5 things for which you are grateful. For example:

*I AM thankful*

1. I want to thank the Lord for salvation. For Jesus and His Sacrifice on a cross, making relationship with God, the Father and Creator, possible. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
2. I thank God, Almighty, for his patience. He's still working on us, making us who He desires for us to be. He has filled us with His Spirit, who guides and transforms our heart and mind, daily. He is producing fruit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control) in each of us. Praise His Name!



3. I thank God for Redeemer. We are one body, working together, to accomplish God's will for us. May we be a billboard, displaying His Majesty, Grace, Compassion, Love and Mercy.
4. I thank the Lord for His provision. We continue to stand in awe of the Ways in which He supplies our needs.
5. I thank the Lord for His revealed Word. I thank the Lord for those much more equipped than myself to translate the original texts into an English Version from which we all may glean truth.

God is so good. Be blessed my friends!

*Pastor Nicole*

## FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



**Amy Dermen**  
Consistory  
Vice President

In the wake of many tragic incidents, safety has been on the hearts and minds of us all. It is time for Redeemer Church to plan for how we should respond if we were ever to

be under threat. This topic is one

most of us never want to think about, but the reality is, our children have been trained for these events in school and the adults in church need to be prepared as well.

One of the more popular initiatives, directs us to "Run, Hide, Fight". If you are able to run away from the threat, do. If you cannot run away, hide. If you cannot hide, be prepared to fight – in any capac-



ity you can. The idea is to stall the perpetrator so that help can arrive. As reported from the recent incident in Dayton, emergency responders arrived within one minute of that 911 call.

Of course, we can all do our part to pray: for the 1<sup>st</sup> responders, for the victims, for the grieving family members, for those that are fearful,

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## FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT CONT.

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for the children who have lost their innocence, for those with anxiety as they watch the news, and for those that are contemplating such heinous acts. In addition to prayer, we also need action. We are looking for



members within our church that would like to be a part of a Safety Patrol team to help us develop a plan. If you have the gift of observation and the willingness to protect our flock, please let us know.

## COMING ATTRACTIONS!



**Duane Cantrell**  
Deacon

As Christians, our favorite "coming attraction" might best be revealed in Revelation 1:1-7, which in part says (Rev. 1:3) **Blessed is the one who reads**

**aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.** Although to be honest, that anticipated event is a little scary to think about too if you ask me. Why... maybe because we're concerned as to whether or not we have paid attention to those teachings of the Bible that come before Revelation.

Things like:

Matthew 25:35-36 (NIV) 35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

Starting in September, we will begin our efforts on behalf of Angel Tree children. We will receive a list of our "adopted" children and start making



plans to host a Christmas Party for those children here at Redeemer where we will deliver gifts to them from their incarcerated parents. The program is technically supposed to function along the lines of one child – one church member or family. I personally don't have any concerns about more than one family here at Redeemer participating in hosting a child. That doesn't mean that a child would get more than one gift but it would hopefully mean that there would be more people to share the joy with as far as making the event as much of a success as it could possibly be. Stand by for more information on this "coming attraction".

Another upcoming focus from your Deacon Board will be to see if we can develop an expanded role in a ministry we're supporting called Oasis House. Oasis House helps women and children (yes children) who have been victimized by the horrendous

"trafficking" activity that occurs across our nation



Those affected are fully as trapped as any of the incarcerated parents of the children we'll be working with as part of Angel Tree. Theirs is a prison without walls. Just read these statistics:

- The average age a teen enters the sex trade in the U.S. is 12 to 14-year-old. Many victims are runaway girls who were sexually abused as children.
- Human trafficking is the third largest international crime industry (behind illegal drugs and arms trafficking). It reportedly generates a profit of \$32 billion every year. Of that number, \$15.5 billion is made in industrialized countries.
- According to the U.S. State Department, 600,000 to 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders every year, of which 80% are female and half are children.

In a future edition of the Happening, look for interviews and testimonials

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## COMING ATTRACTIONS! CONT.

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from Oasis House staff members as well as from people who have been helped by their efforts. We also plan on speaking with the Executive Dir., Cheryl Oliver, to determine if we can get a guest speaker to visit us on a Sunday in the near future. Wouldn't it be awesome if Redeemer could

make some small impact in our community as regards this activity that demeans and enslaves people? We might serve as a conduit that can direct someone to true freedom and steer them towards the loving embrace of Jesus.

Like many of you... I have always loved hearing about the "coming at-

tractions". Well there you go. There are many things to look forward to here at Redeemer.

If you are interested in becoming a Deacon or volunteering to be part of the work we're doing in many different areas at Redeemer, please touch base with me or any other Deacon or Elder.

## *Happenings...*

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT BOOK CLUB/BIBLE STUDY

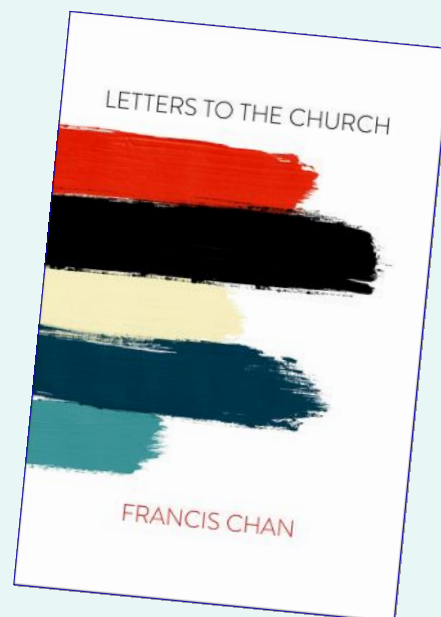
You are invited to the Wednesday Night Book Club/Bible Study that will start at 7pm on September 11, 2019. It will be co-facilitated by Amy Dermen and Pastor Nicole. We are going to be reading, Letters to the Church, by Francis Chan.

He takes an honest look at the church of Jesus Christ today and examining whether or not we truly reflect the original church and all that God designed for us to be.

We are not only going to evaluate the book but also have an in-depth look at the Scripture which he utilizes to support his analysis. It will be a time of lively discussion and prayer, as well!

Please join us and if you need a copy of the book, please do not hesitate to ask and Pastor Nicole will order it for you. Cost of book is \$10.

Video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DMdgPWKD5hk>



**Confetti Club**

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

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

E-mail: [ConfettiClub@redeemer-church.org](mailto:ConfettiClub@redeemer-church.org) for information



- Karen Wittmer.....September 1
- Dan Childs .....September 2
- Heather Harper .....September 6
- Amanda Wittmer .....September 7
- Brad Angelini .....September 8
- Lorrie Newmister .....September 9
- Ron Peters .....September 17
- Charlotte Burkhart ..... September 20
- Al Schumm ..... September 22
- Debbie Khulenberg .... September 25
- Bev Childs .....September 26
- Tina Otto .....September 28

- Dan & Karen Wittmer..... Sept. 17
- Gary & Shelby Shuppert..... Sept. 18



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**Rev. Nicole Thomas, Pastor**  
 E-mail: [pastor@redeemer-church.org](mailto:pastor@redeemer-church.org)

# WOMEN'S EVENT

A BIG Thank you to everyone who came to our "Need to Breathe" event on Saturday, August 24.

Despite a panicky few minutes with trying to get the sound board open and turned on (thanks, Karen Wittmer with Dan on the phone!), we enjoyed a time of worship led by Pastor Nicole and with Becky Rich-

ards teaching us to 'sign' the song "Just Breathe".

Jennifer Powers (our guest speaker) talked about the trials of her life that taught her how to "breathe" while trusting God. We cannot thank her enough for sharing her heart with us!

We got a lesson, using sponges, that

showed us that what goes in us, is what comes out when we are squeezed.

After that was lunch, and it was delicious! Thanks, Karen Schumm, Tina Otto, and Sadara Courtney.

What a wonderful and God inspired day we had!

