

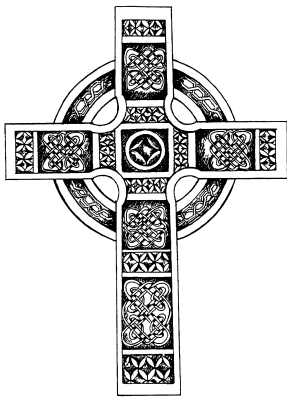
February 8, 2004

THIS WEEK

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

Redeemer

Presbyterian Church
exists in the power of
Christ's gospel,
as a community of
Christ's kingdom,
for the spread of
Christ's glory.



Redeemer
Presbyterian Church
2201 North Lamar Blvd.
Suite 100
Austin, TX 78705
512-708-1232
512-708-0141 fax
www.redeemerpres.org

Mercy Ministry

By Chris Plummer - New Start Director

"Whoever closes his ear to the cry of the poor will himself call out and not be answered." Proverbs 21:13

Mercy ministry is the Church's work of extending the mercy of Christ to a perishing world. It is hearing the cry of the poor and responding to their needs in a tangible, gospel-centered way. It is recognizing our need to obey the command of Christ in Luke 6:35-36, "But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful." Mercy ministry is kingdom ministry; it incorporates all of the effects of the coming of the kingdom of God and thus is a visual, viable representation of the gospel of Jesus Christ, through whom all things are renewed, in part now, and fully in the age to come.

There are many illustrations of mercy given throughout scripture, yet the incarnation of the Son of God is the most complete picture of God's compassionate mercy on His enemies. Jesus Christ is the great high priest who extends mercy and forgiveness to those in need; and He is the great deacon who identifies with and pours Himself out in costly service to the poor. Through His preaching, miracles, death and resurrection, Christ demonstrates how the kingdom of God restores all of creation and how the effects of sin (spiritual, physical and social) are healed under His rule. The incarnation ultimately illustrates God's mercy in that Christ humbles Himself in many ways and to great depths in order to take in Himself the burden of sin for those He has called to Himself. Jesus Christ is described as being mighty in word and deed, and we are called to follow Him as our example.

The Church represents Christ to the world; following His preaching and example by working to heal all the effects of the fall, thereby manifesting the redemptive kingdom of God. The internalized reality of the gospel is the primary and foundational motivation for Christians to show mercy. If we truly know and comprehend fully that we were enemies of God saved by His mercy and grace, we are both open and generous to the outcasts and unlovely. Christians are clearly called to follow Christ's example in humble service as each of us sets aside ourselves and considers others first. Jesus clearly teaches in Matthew 25 that we will be judged not only based on our profession of faith but also by our deeds.

As a body of believers, saved by Christ's mercy and called to show forth His mercy to others, Redeemer has been, and continues to be, salt and light to the City of Austin. There are many new and exciting opportunities to serve in one of the mercy ministry areas of Redeemer. To learn more about these opportunities, please review the brochures and information on the mercy ministry section of the book/information table, and/or contact me at the church office (708-1232, ext. 21).

Preaching Today

Dr. Robert Godfrey has taught church history at Westminster Seminary California since 1981, having previously taught at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Stanford University, and Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. Currently he serves as the third President of Westminster Seminary, California, and is a minister in the United Reformed Churches. As a Professor of Church History he helps students see God's truth alive in the life of the church, shaping its worship, piety and theology. He encourages students to reflect on the ways in which different cultures have influenced the development of the church throughout its history. He has spoken at many conferences, including ones sponsored by the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization, the Philadelphia Conference on Reformed Theology, and Ligonier Ministries. He is the author of *Reformation Sketches*, *Pleasing God in Our Worship*, and *God's Pattern for Creation*. He has written chapters or articles in *John Calvin, His Influence in the Western World*; *Through Christ's Word*; *Theonomy: A Reformed Critique*; *The Agony of Deceit*; *Roman Catholicism*; *Sola Scriptura!*; *The Practice of Confessional Subscription*; *The Coming Evangelical Crisis*; and in such journals as *Archive for Reformation History*, *Sixteenth-Century Journal* and *Westminster Theological Journal*.

Dr. Godfrey and his wife Mary Ellen have three grown children.

Divine Service Location Change

Sunday, February 15, 4:00 P.M.

First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa Drive

No School of Discipleship or Evening Activities



City School

Admission Deadlines

Still haven't enrolled your child in City School, Austin's premiere Christian school with an emphasis on the individual student? The 2004-2005 enrollment deadlines are as follows:

Feb 15 **Deadline for Priority Admissions of New Students**

Feb 21 **Kindergarten Testing** (by appointment only)

Feb 28 **Kindergarten Testing** (by appointment only)

Mar 5 Priority Admissions Notification Letters Sent

Student applications for pre-kindergarten through 8th grade are available in the church office and on-line at www.cityschooltexas.com. You may also speak with Molly Powell, Dean of Faculty, at the conclusion of any Redeemer service. Thank you all who have worked with the school to increase its pool of applicants. We are very excited about the families applying.

Interested in Teaching?

City School is currently seeking elementary teachers for the 2004-2005 school year. If you have a passion for inspiring young minds, while seeking to find and provide meaning, value, and purpose in service to the Lord Jesus, we invite you to learn more about these wonderful opportunities. More information is available at www.cityschooltexas.com or call the school office at 416-7744.

Please Pray For...

Our nations leaders and the judicial and legislative decisions that are being made regarding the sanctity of life, marriage, and family.

Harry Jones, stationed in Korea, separated from his wife, Laura, and daughter, Haddan.

Rev. Benjie Slaton and wife, Natalie, may God bless his ministry and the University of Texas.

The Pastoral Search Committee

The ongoing search for permanent facilities

**2003-04 Women's Retreat
February 13-14
Barton Creek Resort, Austin**

We look forward to seeing all of you who are registered for the retreat. Please note the event schedule below. Don't forget to bring your Bible, pen and paper, clothes, and toiletries. Susan Hunt's books will be available for purchase at the book table.

Friday:

Registration will begin at 4:00 p.m.
Dinner will be served from 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Session I will begin at 7:30.

Saturday:

Breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m.
Session II will begin at 8:30 a.m.
Retreat will end at 12:30 p.m.

Directions to Barton Creek Resort & Spa
8212 Barton Club Drive
(800-336-6158 or 512-329-4000)

Take Loop 360 to Bee Caves Road (R.M. 2244). Go west on Bee Caves Road and go 1 mile to the stop light for Barton Creek Boulevard. Make a left on Barton Creek Boulevard and go 1.8 miles to Barton Club Drive and turn left into the resort complex. Proceed to the Main Resort Entrance (third entrance on the left) for guest check-in.

Women's Ministry

The Ladies' Bible Study of the book of Romans continues. For information call Carol Holmlund at 868-9921 or email her at carol@holmlund.org.

MORNING SESSION

Date: Thursdays
Time: 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Place: Gateway Community Church
4300 Bull Creek Road
(approximately Mopac and 45th)

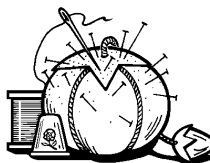
EVENING SESSION

Date: Mondays
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Home of Ruth Connell
4615 Everest Lane, Austin, 836-1261

Church Directory

The Redeemer office has started work on the Spring 2004 directory. If you have corrections to be made, or if you are a regular attender and would like to be added to the directory, please contact Rebecca Milling, 708-1232 or rmilling@redeemerpres.org.

Sewing Circle



Ladies of Redeemer, do you love to crochet, cross-stitch, embroider, knit, needlepoint, quilt, sew, or tat? Then join us!

When: The first Thursday of each month, beginning **March 4, 7:00-9:00 p.m.**

What: A sewing circle – Bring any portable project you are working on and come for an evening of fellowship and refreshments. Share your favorite patterns and help each other with stitch techniques.

Who: Ladies of any age are welcome – just come prepared to enjoy the work God has given you to do with your hands!

Where: The apartment of Susan Marcus and Christina Bausman (8001 Hwy. 71 W., Apt. I-107)

For directions, contact Susan or Christina in the Redeemer offices, 708-1232, or smarcus@redeemerpres.org or cbausman@redeemerpres.org. We hope to see you there!

Nursery Schedule February 15

3:45 p.m.

Rebecca & Jim Nolen, Andy Thyssen,
Brittany & Greg Lewis, Jessica & Trey Pavy,
Laura Drell, Claudia Rowe

The Week Ahead

Sun 8	9: 00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	The Divine Service – The Eucharist celebrated , guest preacher, Dr. Robert Godfrey Evening at Redeemer Children and Youth Choirs PYG (Presbyterian Youth Group) - at the home of the Shuffields, 8604 Azalea Trail Westminster Confession of Faith Study Prayer
Mon 9	6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	New Start Meeting at Austin First 7th Day Adventist Church , 301 W. Anderson Ln. Contact the New Start office, 708-1232, for more information. Ladies of Redeemer Evening Bible Study —At the home Ruth Connell, 4615 Everest Lane, 836-1261.
Tue 10	7:00 a.m.	A Study of Cornelius Van Til's " The Defense of the Faith "—This book study is led by Derick McDonald and meets at the church office, 2201 North Lamar. Please call Derick McDonald, 708-1232, for more information.
Wed 11	7:00 p.m.	Choir rehearsal held in the Birkmann Chapel at Concordia University. Contact George Dupere, 708-1232, for more information.
Thu 12	9:30 a.m.	Ladies of Redeemer Bible Study —The study meets at Gateway Community Church, 4300 Bull Creek Road. Contact Carol Holmlund for more information, 868-9921 or carol@holmlund.org.
Fri 13	6:00 p.m.	Women's Retreat—Barton Creek Resort
Sat 14	8:30 a.m.	Women's Retreat— Barton Creek Resort
Sun 15	4:00 p.m.	The Divine Service – The Eucharist celebrated , Rev Danny Shuffield preaching at First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa Drive

* Please check the Information Table for a schedule of Home Fellowship Groups

LOOKING AHEAD

Wed Feb 25	7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Service —Birkmann Chapel, Concordia University
Sun Mar 14		Scheduled Baptism —Please contact Rebecca at the church office for details
Sun May 9		Scheduled Baptism —Please contact Rebecca at the church office for details

Visitors, Welcome to Redeemer Presbyterian Church!

*Good morning and welcome to Redeemer! We are glad you could join us to worship this morning.
For more information about Redeemer, please visit the information table at the back of Birkmann Chapel.
Please let us know if we can help you in any way, 708-1232, or redeemer@redeemerpres.org.*