

Putting our ♥ into it!

By Lance Holter, Stewardship Emphasis Coordinator
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Tourists to New York often return home with an "I heart NY" t-shirt to announce to the world how much they loved their vacation. In 1977, Milton Glaser developed the I "heart" NY logo as a pro-bono project that he thought would last a few months. Today, the I "heart" concept is ubiquitous.

People "heart" their schnauzers. People "heart" donuts and people "heart" their high schools. If you've



had a chance to attend services at Redeemer recently, you've no doubt witnessed, and hopefully visited with, members wearing I "heart" t-shirts. Beginning the weekend of February 5 & 6, Redeemer

will launch a stewardship emphasis to raise up members in Christian stewardship through prayer, fellowship, education, teaching and celebration. The sermon series during the Stewardship Emphasis will focus on the things that we "heart," including: Redeemer, Jesus, Life, Giving and Connecting.

On Sunday, Feb. 27, Redeemer will host the Redeemer Jamboree celebration complete with comfort food, down-home

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Journey through the Gospel of John



We all hunger for a deeper, richer, more meaningful spiritual life. At the same time, we are unsure how to go about it or where to find it. Ironically, the answer to our need is right before us the whole time: the Bible.

Throughout the history of the Church, the Holy Scriptures have been the bedrock of Christian prayer and devotional meditation.

Journey with Us

With that said, Redeemer will set out on the Light of Life Lenten study called Journey through the Gospel of John. Starting the first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday (March 9) and continuing just two days past Easter Sunday (April 26),

we'll offer a guided, prayerful and meditative study of this spiritually rich Gospel.

How it works

The plan is simple and clear: read through the Gospel of John over seven weeks. Sundays are not included. Our Sunday sermon series will dovetail with your study, focusing on a portion of what you've studied the previous

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Called to a life of commitment and sacrifice



Dear Friends:
February is the month of love. Valentine's Day falls right in the middle of this month. February 14 commemorates St. Valentine, a person we know little about.

A little online searching reveals the following about St. Valentine's Day...

The feast of St. Valentine was first established in AD 496 by Pope Gelasius I, who included Valentine among those "whose names are justly revered among men, but whose acts are known only to God." As Gelasius implied, nothing was known, even then, about the lives of any of martyrs named Valentine. It's interesting to note that numerous early Christian martyrs were named Valentine.

The people named Valentine who are honored on February 14 are Valentine of Rome and Valentine of Terni. Valentine of Rome was a priest in Rome who was martyred about AD 269 and was buried

on the Via Flaminia. Valentine of Terni became bishop of Interamna (modern Terni) about AD 197 and is said to have been martyred during the persecution under Emperor Aurelian.

No romantic elements are present in the original early medieval biographies of either of these martyrs. By the time a Saint Valentine became linked to romance in the 14th century, distinctions between Valentine of Rome and Valentine of Terni were utterly lost.

So how did St. Valentine's Day become a day of love? There is a legend that is widely repeated despite having no historical basis. The legend says that on the evening before Valentine was to be executed, he wrote the first "valentine" card to a young girl variously identified as his beloved, as the jailer's daughter whom he had befriended and healed, or both. It was a note that read "From your Valentine." So, you might be wondering why I am writing about all this? During the month of February and stretching into March, we will have an exciting stewardship emphasis at

Redeemer under the theme of "I ♥." To a large extent, this theme was inspired by the fact that St. Valentine's Day falls right in the middle of this emphasis.

Although we do not know much about either of the martyred saints named Valentine, it is clear that they were committed to Christ and to his mission of love in the world. They gave their lives for the cause of Christianity. What commitment! What sacrifice!

I truly believe that all of us are called to a life of commitment and sacrifice. During the "I ♥" emphasis, we will be given the opportunity to pledge ourselves again to live a life of commitment and sacrifice. Of course, our commitment and sacrifice pales in comparison to the One who gave everything for us...Jesus Christ our Lord. Jesus is God's "valentine" to us, sent from heaven. For this gift of true and eternal love, we can never say thank you enough.

Happy St. Valentine's Day! God is good!

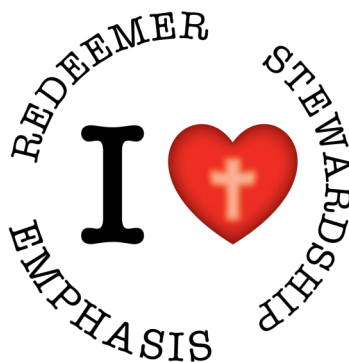
pt@redeemerconnect.com

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music and maybe even a lesson in "roll tossing" by Pastor Tim. We pray you'll join us for this celebration of God's blessing upon our church.

The stewardship emphasis culminates on March 6 when members will be asked to make a financial pledge towards the goal of securing \$2 million and more over the next three years. Monies will be used to pay down Redeemer's debt and free up capital that can be used to connect more people to Jesus. Please prayerfully consider giving your heart to this effort throughout February and March. ♥

**"Thank you, God, for this good life and forgive us if we do not love it enough."
Garrison Keillor**



Cottage meetings offer time to learn & grow together

See our bulletin & [website](#) for information about our upcoming "cottage meetings" that will take place from February 13 through 18. Cottage meetings provide a time for dessert, great fellowship and a video-led, question and discussion session around Pastor Tim's message about raising up stewards, reducing our debt and furthering our mission of connecting people to Jesus.

Take time to turn to God and pray

God told the people of the Old Testament to pray to him. "Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you" (Jeremiah 29:12).

Jesus told his followers to continue to pray... even when circumstances were tough. "Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up" (Luke 18:1).

Like the people of the early church, we continue the practice of praying to the Lord, thanking and praising him for his blessings and asking him for what we

need. On Wednesday, Feb. 9 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Redeemer South Fort Collins will open its doors for a Day of Prayer and Fasting for our church family as we begin the 2011 Stewardship Emphasis. The same prayer and fasting event will take place at our Greeley site on Thursday, Feb. 10 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

You are invited to stop by either Redeemer site and pray for our church, its members and our mission of connecting people to Jesus. Take some

time out of your day and find a quiet place at Redeemer to mediate and reflect on God's Word, listen to quiet praise music, and "lay your requests before the Lord and wait in expectation" (Psalm 4:3). We'll have prayer and fasting guides available starting February 5 & 6. ♥



Learn to build up treasure in heaven

Radical, Joyful Generosity: I've Never Met a Happy Tightwad

Everything we own belongs to God. We are simply stewards of his gifts, which include ourselves, our time, our money, our houses, our cell phones, our cars, etc. You get the point. But it is a difficult point to embrace when you live in America. We are trained from birth to be consumers rather than good stewards. How do we get out of this "glut" and move toward a life that desires to reach the world with God's love? How do we stop building our own kingdom and share

our resources that help build an eternal kingdom? One way is to attend Redeemer's upcoming seminar called "Radical, Joyful Generosity!" And, get this, the subtitle is: "I've Never Met a Happy Tightwad."

This two-hour seminar takes place on Saturday, Feb. 19 at 9 a.m. (with a complimentary breakfast beginning at 8:30 a.m.), and, Sunday, February 20 at 12:45 p.m. (with a complimentary lunch beginning at 12:15 p.m.) at Redeemer South Fort Collins. You choose the day that works best for you. Childcare is

provided. This event is free.

Special guest, pastor and stewardship consultant John Kieschnick will present the seminar that can help us open new doors to spiritual, stewardship and leadership growth. "Pastor K" claims to "have never met a happy tightwad." Come find out why! You'll laugh, learn and be encouraged all in one two-hour sitting.

Sign up online at the [redeemer website](#) or go to the Stewardship Emphasis booth at either Redeemer site. ♥

Redeemer Jamboree—yee haw!

Great friends. Great food. Great fun!

Join us as we praise God and celebrate the wonderful things he has done at our February family event called the Redeemer Jamboree! This down-home, pickin' and a grinnin' event takes place Sunday, Feb. 27 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Life Center at Redeemer South Fort Collins.

Enjoy an old-fashioned, family style chicken dinner....with mash potatoes & gravy, corn bread, apple crisp and all the fixin's. Listen to some bluegrass and gospel music. And, have a laugh and be entertained by comical skits, a Garrison Keiller impersonator and a few surprise guests. It's going to be a night filled with "A Prairie Home Companion" twist. Don't

miss out or you'll miss an important lesson on "roll tossing" from Pastor Tim.

This family event is free with a freewill offering taking place after dinner. Childcare is provided for little ones. Sign up online at our website by clicking on the [Register for Events](#) icon. Or at the Stewardship Emphasis booth at either Redeemer site. ♥

Journey through the Gospel of John journal



Your journey of prayer and meditation during the Journey through the

Gospel of John Lenten series can be enhanced by use of a journal that will be available for \$5 starting at the end of February at both Redeemer sites.

The journal is divided into three steps: reading, meditation and

contemplative prayer. Here is a brief explanation of what this means, and a suggestion for how to use the journal. Please note that it consists of 42 days. It is intended to be used six days a week (not on Sundays).

Opening Prayer for Peace and Calm

Identify a time and a place you will be doing your daily prayer.

Reading

Read God's Word attune to his voice

speaking to us through His Word, in a personal and direct way.

Meditation

Slowly read the text again. Savor the words and phrases. Ponder over God's Word.

Prayerful Contemplation

Conclude with prayerful contemplation. ♥

Gospel of John journals available at the end of February.

A season to spend time with God

Lenten daily devos available starting March 9

Spending time with God in prayer is not an all-or-nothing undertaking. You may feel that if you can't spend a good 30 minutes with God—uninterrupted—it doesn't count.

But setting some intentional time aside with God every day is a great gift. Small moments spent with God add up. If you spent 15 minutes with God every day for one year, you would have logged over

11 eight-hour days!

During our upcoming Journey through the Gospel of John Lenten series, Redeemer will send out daily e-mail message to encourage and remind you of your daily readings in the Gospel of John. Here's the first...

Day 1: John 1:1-18 – "In the beginning was the Word." Meditate and pray about the grace and truth Jesus Christ brings.

If you received our Advent Christmas devotions, you are on the correct mailing list to receive these Lenten daily devotions. If you did not receive our Advent devotions and would like to sign up for the Lenten series, e-mail **Elizabeth Alexander** at elizabeth@redeemerconnect.com. ♥

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven."
Ecclesiastes 3:1

Journey through the Gospel of John *continued from Page 1*



week. On Wednesdays, we will offer a midweek Lenten evening prayer service

at 7:15 p.m. that will also follow along with your study. (All this is offered at the South Fort Collins & Greeley sites.)

Ways to enrich your study

The following materials go along with the

Gospel of John study and can help you stay focused.

1. Daily E-mail Devotions
2. Companion Journal (available for \$5 at Redeemer)
3. Bulletin Inserts for small group or individual use
4. Dr. David Lewis: Sunday Adult Ed Class on the Apostle John (March 6)
5. Sunday Morning Adult Ed class on the Gospel of John (March 13—April 17)
6. Small Group Emphasis

The primary use of God's Word is to be the means by which God speaks to us, what we most need to hear. God's Word is life and gives life. By means of his sure and certain Word of promise, our Lord gives us what we need the most: trust in him, a sure and certain anchor of knowing what God wants for us and what he gives to us through his son, Jesus Christ. ♥

Lenten small group leaders and table hosts needed

By Pastor Scott Coerber
Director of Discipleship
scott@redeemerconnect.com

As a part of our Journey through the Gospel of John Lenten series, we are offering two main options for you to study the Gospel of John with others.

As always, you will have the choice of joining or remaining in a small group in the home of one of our members. Or, you can join a table group at South Fort Collins' on Sunday mornings during the

Adult Education Hours. There, you will be part of the Gospel of John study led by one of our pastors each week. If you choose to come to the class, it offers a mix of teaching and small group time at your table and is a great place to start if you have never been a part of a small group.

If you are interested in leading a home group, or in hosting a table group on Sunday mornings, please contact

Laurie Bowen at 568-3068 or laurie@redeemerconnect.com. ♥



Ash Wednesday is March 9, start of Lenten season

Join us on the Wednesdays in Lent for this year's midweek series that the Light of Life Journey through the Gospel of John Lenten series.

On Ash Wednesday, March 9, we will have services at noon at the Redeemer South Fort Collins. Evening services will be held at Redeemer South Fort Collins and Redeemer Greeley at



7:15 p.m. This service will feature the Lord's Supper and the imposition of ashes.

During the remaining Wednesdays in Lent we will gather for Lenten Evening Prayer from

7:15 to 7:50 p.m. at both sites. Fellowship will follow. Childcare is available.

What is the imposition of ashes?

Around the world, Christians attend church services on Ash Wednesday to receive a cross-shaped ash marking on their foreheads to remind them of death, sin and of the need for Christ's transforming love. The practice actually dates back to the early Middle Ages.

Ash Wednesday is a good time to begin your own Lenten journey. Join us! ♥

Redeemer to host annual PLI Conference in April

By Pastor Tim Runtsch, Senior Pastor
tr@redeemerconnect.com

Redeemer Lutheran Church will have the honor and joy of hosting the 2011 Annual Conference of the Pastoral Leadership Institute (PLI). The mission statement of PLI reads as follows: "The Pastoral Leadership Institute nurtures pastoral leaders to lead congregations in connecting people to Jesus."

The conference, called

"Mountaintops," will take place at Redeemer South Fort Collins April 5-10 and bring together Lutheran pastors and their spouses from our country and around the world. These will be days of both celebration and intensive learning. I am a graduate of PLI and now serve as a mentor for pastors participating in PLI.

We will need many volunteers to host PLI at Redeemer in early April. If you want the opportunity to interact with some fantastic servants of God, this is

your chance! Contact **Kathy O'Connell**, our Director of Member Connections, at kathy@redeemerconnect.com or 225-9020, ext. 102. Or you can connect with **Cheryl Olson** at 223-9346 or cherylolson1524@msn.com. Please help us give a warm Redeemer welcome to PLI! ♥



Redeemer Greeley update

By Pastor Matt Blackford
Director of Multi-Site Ministries
Pastor Gerry Harrow
Site Pastor for Redeemer Greeley

Seeing God work is amazing! In just three and a half months, Redeemer Greeley is averaging 100 people in worship each week and 30 new families have been connected to Christ. In addition, nine families have joined in membership at Redeemer.

We held our first Christmas Eve worship services at Redeemer Greeley and it was a huge success: 187 people came to celebrate Christ's birth. On January 23, we had our first missions fair to help people get connected with partnerships in Greeley and beyond.

The new space is beautiful! If you haven't been to our permanent location in Boomerang Business Park, come check it out! Worship is at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Multi-site is all about

connecting people to Jesus Christ. To God be the glory. For He is the one that holds us together as one church, one mission in two locations! ♥



Stand Firm: Men's Morning

By Pastor Scott Coerber
Director of Discipleship
scott@redeemerconnect.com

Men, spend a few hours with us on Saturday morning, Feb. 5 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Redeemer South Fort Collins in the Life Center. Have breakfast, get to know other guys at Redeemer, and get prepared for the daily spiritual battle. Set to the backdrop of putting on the armor of God, from Ephesians 6:10-18, Pastor Scott Coerber and Craig Crownover will

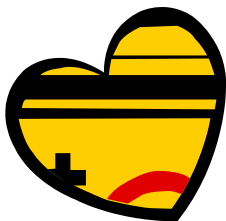


lead discussions on being a Christian guy today and some of the common lies

about God and our faith we believe ourselves. Lies like God isn't really in control, or that you are better off on your own in life, without God or others. The morning is free. Bring a buddy!

Questions? Contact **Pastor Scott** at 225-9020, ext. 119. ♥

Coming up for singles: Valentine Night



The 45 to 65 Singles Group invites all "mature" singles to its Valentine's event at Avogadro's Number on

Monday, Feb. 14 between 5 and 7 p.m. A bluegrass band is the featured entertainment. Casual menu. Meet us at 605 South Mason in Fort Collins. Visit www.avogadros.com. Questions? Contact

Barb Johnson 292-8688 or coloradobj@comcast.net. Please join us!

Relive Rock's glory days!

The March event for the Singles Group (45 to 65) takes place on Thursday, March 17 at the Carousel Dinner Theater. The main attraction is "Smokey Joe's Café." Cost for dinner and the show is \$39.90 per person. Interested? Please contact and provide ticket money to **Barb Johnson** by Monday, Feb. 14 (292-8688

or coloradobj@comcast.net.)

Here's the list of upcoming events:

April 13: Fiddler on the Roof at the Union in Greeley

May: Pot Luck

June: Movie night

July: Cheyenne Frontier Days ♥

Find love and laughter at Women's Retreat Day

"There's so Much More" will help women discover a personal relationship with Jesus. Led by Gail Ficken and Amy Meyer, this retreat promises to be fun, experiential and inspirational. We will explore how much God **loves** us. We will talk about the importance of **laughter** and what threatens to steal our joy. We will **learn** about the importance of listening to God and others. In addition, we will focus on whom you are **leading**, and what kind of an impact you are

making in the lives of those around you. Join us for a special "complimentary" session on Friday evening March 4 from 7 to 9 p.m., if you desire, and on Saturday March 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the retreat. Cost is \$25, which includes light breakfast and a catered lunch by Rainbow Restaurant. Contact **Ginny Allison** at gallisonrn@comcast.net or 292-8238 with questions or if you would like to help. ♥

"We will explore how much God loves us. We will talk about the importance of laughter and what threatens to steal our joy."

R&R events for February & March

By Sally Beebe
461-1849 or saljbb@q.com

On Wednesday, Feb. 16, R&R (Redeemed & Retired) will gather for a potluck at noon followed by Marilyn Fishburn, portraying Abigail Adams (wife of President John Adams) from ages 19 to 57. It is a one-woman monologue, giving insight into Abigail's character. Marilyn is a DAR National Program winner. Please join us at Redeemer South Fort Collins in the Fellowship Hall! Please bring a

covered dish to share. Questions? Contact: **Sally Beebe.**

March

On Wednesday, March 16, join us at the Egg & I on College Ave. in Fort Collins at 11:45 a.m. At 1:30 p.m., we will tour the National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation (seed lab) at CSU. You will need identification



to enter the lab. If you are not a U.S. citizen, you will need your Visa number. Parking is limited. Carpooling is encouraged. A head count is necessary so we will have a sign-up sheet, or, RSVP by contacting **Sally Beebe** by Monday, March 14. Want to Carpool? Need a ride? Contact: Sally Beebe ASAP. ♥

Still working on your new year's resolution?



It is never too late to join our fitness program! Do you have good memories of basketball growing up? We have open gym basketball on Sunday and Thursday evenings from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Always wanted to know how to defend yourself? Join Tae Kwon Do which meets each Tuesday evening 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Do you want to work all your muscles

including your heart in 45 minutes twice a week? How about our Monday and Wednesday morning cardio mix class for 7 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. All these are a great chance to get in shape, learn new skills, and get to know others. Come and join us! Visit our [sports ministry page](#) on our website under the Ministry tab. ♥

Players needed for spring volleyball

Our adult spring volleyball offers three different co-ed leagues: competitive, recreational and leisure. All volleyball leagues start at 6 p.m. on Mondays, starting mid-March. Practices take place at Redeemer's Life Center. All volleyball leagues will start at 6 p.m. on Mondays in north Fort Collins. More details to come. Want to join us? Contact: Sarah Heber at sheber@gmail.com or 686-7424.

Sunday Morning Adult Education at 9:30 a.m.

By Pastor Scott Coerber
Director of Discipleship
scott@redeemerconnect.com

Classes take place at 9:30 a.m. at Redeemer South Fort Collins in the Fellowship Hall. Childcare is provided.

Classes continue through February 27

C.S. Lewis' "The Screwtape Letters":

Join Craig Crownover as we study together the C.S. Lewis' classic book "The Screwtape Letters." A look into the diabolical tactics our spiritual enemy and the One greater who has won the victory over sin.

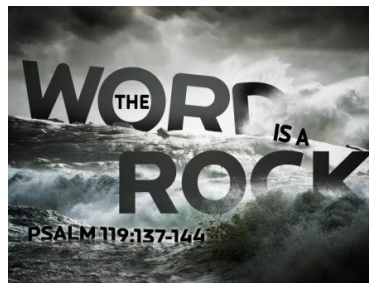
Faith Lessons with Ray Vander Laan:

Join Larry Wallace as he leads discussions using the teaching of Ray Vander Laan's "Faith Lessons: That the World May Know" series. This dynamic video series explores sites in the Holy Land to help us see the world as it was and how the message of Jesus lives today.

Starting Sunday, Feb. 6 Just for 20's and 30's class

Relationships: For four weeks, join Pete and Sharon Baker to talk about improving

your relationships. Sharon is a professional counselor and Pete and Sharon run our marriage ministry at Redeemer. They will touch on topics that apply to your relationships whether you're single, married or transitioning to a new status. Learn about quality time, gender differences, communication styles, commitment and relating to those outside the church.



One Day Only! Sunday, March 6

The Apostle John: Get set for our upcoming study and sermon series based on the Gospel of John by learning all about the person who wrote it: The apostle John. This one-time class will be led by guest speaker and LCMS Concordia Seminary professor Dr. David Lewis. John was the son of Zebedee and Salome and was the younger brother of James. He

was known as a "Son of Thunder" (Mark 3:17). He was a Galilean who apparently came for a fairly well-to-do home (Mark 15:40-41). John was an eyewitness of the events of Jesus' life and played an early role in the work of the early church. Join us and learn all the cool facts about this person who called Christ "the Messiah," "the Lamb of God," "Savior of the world," and "the Word."

Starting Sunday, from March 13 to April 17

The Gospel of John: Join Redeemer's pastoral team each Sunday in the Life Center for a six-week study of the Gospel of John. Each week a different pastor will guide you through this gospel, helping you deepen your understanding of who Jesus is and what he has done for you. There are no parables in the Gospel of John, but there are several accounts of the physical person of Jesus who was hungry, thirsty, and weary and in pain. You'll examine John's recordings on seven miracles (five of which are not recorded elsewhere). And, you'll get a unique look at Jesus as the divine Son of God who wants to give you life. ♥

LifeLight: Jump in for James & Jude

Starting Thursday, Feb. 10 at 9:30 a.m., at the Redeemer South Fort Collins site, join Pastor Tim Runtsch for a LifeLight study of James & Jude. In this study, we'll discuss topics such as dealing with trials and temptations, faith in action, taming the tongue, dealing with conflict and patience. Class meets in the Fellowship Hall. There's always hot coffee and something to eat. Please join us!

Childcare is available. If you plan to join LifeLight for the first time, please contact **Joy Lake** at joy@redeemerconnect.com or 225-9020, ext. 115, so we can get you registered. ♥

In this study, we'll discuss topics such as dealing with trials and temptations, faith in action, taming the tongue, dealing with conflict and patience.

Choral concerts coming

By **Phil Barnett, Director of Choirs**
phil@redeemerconnect.com



Mark your calendars for two great choral concerts coming up at Redeemer South Fort Collins:

Saturday, April 2 at 7 p.m.: A Cappella Choir from Concordia

University, Nebraska. The choir will also sing in worship at South Fort Collins on

Sunday, April 3. Host families are needed for the night of Saturday, April 2.

Sunday, April 3 at 3 p.m.: Laudamus Chamber Chorale presents its spring concert "Reflections & Celebrations" at Redeemer South Fort Collins. The concert will feature a variety of beautiful choral music, including music for Lent & Easter. Laudamus is an auditioned community chorale directed by Phil Barnett. Tickets available at the door (\$10 adults; \$7 students & seniors 65 & older).

Redeemer Choir

Anyone high school age and up is welcome in our adult choir. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The choir sings weekly at the 8 a.m. service and participates in special worship services throughout the year. Interested? Contact **Phil Barnett** at phil@redeemerconnect.com or 225-9020, ext. 124. ♥

We can walk the cancer road with you

By **Linda Ruybal**
Cancer Support Coordinator
416-8705

A Cancer diagnosis turns your world upside down whether it is your personal diagnosis or one of a family member or friend. It has been said that for every one person diagnosed, some 25 other people that are close to that person will be affected also!

We have a Cancer Support Ministry here at Redeemer. Our group is

comprised of cancer survivors, both male and female. We know what you are going through. We can connect you with someone who has experienced a similar cancer or similar treatments. We have the ability to help with transportation, meals, etc., as well as prayer support.

As a group that has 'walked' in your shoes, we would love to be there for you. Please call **Linda Ruybal** at 416-8705 for additional information. ♥



Fall Israel Tour—In the footsteps of the King



By **Larry Wallace**
Lawrence.wallace88@yahoo.com

Join other Redeemer members this fall, from September 26 to October 7, as we take a once-in-a-lifetime tour of Israel. This will be a time of walking where Jesus walked while growing closer to our church family and friends. This tour will be hosted by Larry and Jewel Wallace who visited Israel in March 2010. We will stay at the five-star hotels with breakfast and dinner included.

The trip will include: riding a camel in the Judean wilderness; swimming in the Dead Sea; sailing and eating Peter's fish on the Sea of Galilee; walking through the Nazareth village; listening to Jesus talk to you on the Mount of Beatitudes; visiting the baptismal site on the Jordan River; and much more!

For more information, please contact: **Larry Wallace** at 213-4700 or lawrence.wallace88@yahoo.com. ♥

It's time to register for 2011-12 preschool year

By **Gabriele Bergmann, Director Early Childhood Center**
gabriele@redeemerconnect.com

It's time to register for preschool. Please visit our [Early Childhood page](#) at the Redeemer website to download a registration form and learn more about our preschool offerings. We are excited about our programs and invite you to schedule a visit.

E-mail your completed registration to Gabriele Bergmann to

gabriele@redeemerconnect.com. A \$50 deposit is due at the time of registration. Deposits and registration forms may be mailed to Redeemer Lutheran Church (Attn: Redeemer Early Childhood Center)



at 7755 Greenstone Trail, Fort Collins, CO 80525. You may also drop off your deposit and registration form at the Church Office at our South Fort Collins site.

For information about our preschool, visit our Early Childhood page at the Redeemer website.

Questions? Contact Redeemer Early Childhood Director **Gabriele Bergmann** at 206-0381. ♥

February baptism classes coming up



Our next baptism class is Sunday, Feb. 27 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. It's geared to parents seeking to baptize their newborns or young children, as well as older children and adults who would like to be baptized. You'll learn the importance of this sacrament and why Jesus calls us into a life of discipleship beginning with baptism. Register by Wednesday, Feb. 23 by contacting **Joy Lake** at joy@redeemerconnect.com.

**In Matthew 28:19-20,
 Jesus says to his
 followers, "Go and make
 disciples of all nations,
 baptizing them in the
 name of the Father and
 of the Son and of the
 Holy Spirit..."**

Are you interested in joining Redeemer?

By **Kathy O'Connell Director of Member Connections**
kathy@redeemerconnect.com

If you are interested in membership at Redeemer—either the South Fort Collins or Greeley sites—then register for the Connecting to Redeemer seminar on Sunday, March 27 from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. with check in at 2:50 p.m. It takes place at Redeemer South Fort Collins in the Fellowship Hall. We'll acquaint you with the mission, vision, beliefs and values of

our church and share how to become part of the community life of Redeemer. Snacks and dinner provided. Sign up online at www.redeemerconnect.com by clicking on the [Register for Events](#) icon or sign up onsite at any Welcome Center. Childcare is available. Contact: Member Connections Director **Kathy O'Connell** at 225-9020, ext. 102 or kathy@redeemerconnect.com. ♥



Stephen Ministry welcomes new class

By **Vicki Matteson**
Stephen Ministry Leader
vmatteso@colostate.edu

Redeemer's Stephen Ministry began training another new class of Stephen Ministers in January. Stephen Ministry is a distinctively Christian form of lay care provided by congregation members trained to provide one-to-one support for persons in a variety of stress producing circumstances.

Care giving is one of the most

important jobs God calls us to do, to love others in his name. Please pray for the Stephen Leaders as they prepare to teach care giving topics each week and for the Stephen Minister trainees as they learn, discuss new concepts and transform this information into care giving skills they can use to make God's presence known to others in need. Contact **Lindsey Chandler** at 226-5160 or **Vicki Matteson** at 222-0888 for information on Stephen Ministry. ♥

**“Comfort, comfort
 my people,
 says your God.”
 Isaiah 40:1**

DivorceCare support group a place of hope



DivorceCare is for men and women hurting from separation or divorce. It begins at Redeemer South Fort Collins on **Monday, Feb. 21** at 7 p.m. and continues on Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m. through mid-May. Group meets in the Fireside Room. Cost is \$25 per person. Scholarships are available. Brochures and registration forms are located at our Welcome Centers. Online registration is available at our website by clicking on the [Register for Events](#) icon.

Questions? Contact: DivorceCare leaders **Darci Larrarte** at 310-3775 or darcilarrarte@gmail.com or **Jim Paselk** at 277-2718 or jnbpaselk@msn.com.

GriefShare provides a place of hope

GriefShare is for men and women recovering from the death of a loved one. Our GriefShare Support Group begins **Saturday, Feb. 12**, at Redeemer South Fort Collins and continues weekly on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. until mid-May.

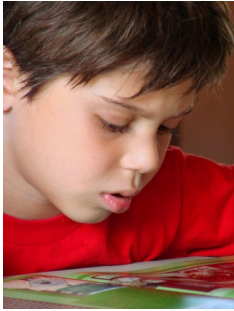
Meetings take place in the Library. Cost is \$25 per person. Scholarships are available. Brochures and registration

forms can be found at the Welcome Center. Online registration is available at our website by clicking on the [Register for Events](#) icon.

Questions? Contact: GriefShare Leader **Mary Carlson** at 221-8573 or carlsonma@comcast.net or **Bill Relph** at 663-5675 or billrelph55@gmail.com. ♥



Greeley site seeking mentors for Kids Hope USA



Kids Hope USA is changing lives in our community! It's a mentoring program where one adult mentors one child for one hour per week.

Redeemer South

Fort Collins now has nearly a dozen mentors walking alongside students at local schools. With success at the South

Fort Collins site, Redeemer Greeley kicked off Kids Hope USA this year.

Research shows that when a child receives the constant love of an adult, that child develops a greater sense of self-worth and confidence to face the future. A mentor is invited to spend the hour with the child playing games, helping with homework, playing on the playground or talking about life.

The first step in becoming a mentor is to take a brief training class at Redeemer

South Fort Collins. Then we screen (background check) each mentor. Finally, the mentor is assigned a child at a local school and the relationship begins.

Interested in becoming a mentor?

Contact: **Pastor Matt Blackford** at

matt@redeemerconnect.com. ♥

Be sure to fill those baby bottles

By Shirley Henkel
shenkelster@gmail.com

Redeemer's South Fort Collins & Greeley sites in conjunction with North Central Colorado Lutherans For Life are hosting a "Baby Bottle Campaign" for the Alpha Center. This simple fundraiser enables the Alpha Center to continue addressing life issues among Fort Collins' college and high school students and community members.

While the campaign started in

January, you can still get an empty bottle at Redeemer South Fort Collins or Greeley following worship. Just ask a Welcome Center attendant to help you locate an empty bottle. Please fill a baby bottle with loose change and return it to either Redeemer site no later than Sunday, March 6. Checks made out to Alpha Center are also greatly appreciated.

The Alpha Center is a place for beginning, a place for finding support and love. The services they provide to women

are a means of establishing hope and God's presence in their lives. ♥



LCEF helps us save money and can help you too

By Chuck Pieper Former Redeemer Board of Directors President
candkp35@comcast.net

Many of you have probably heard about the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) being our mortgage holder. However, did you know that they are different from a traditional mortgage holder? As a partner of our church body, LCEF's mission is to provide tools and resources to aid congregations and other ministries in building up God's Church.

For instance, in 2009 LCEF issued over \$138 million in new loans to help more than 300 congregations construct or improve facilities. They are truly a blessing.

As we communicated previously, LCEF restructured our mortgage loan, which is helping our cash flow and saving us substantial interest cost. This was not something we negotiated, but was proactively suggested by LCEF when members of the Board of Directors met

with them to discuss Redeemer's financial concerns relative to keeping all our ministries going in these difficult economic times.

We can give back to this important ministry by depositing some of our savings in LCEF. By opening an account, you can provide funds that can be used for God's purposes while at the same time earning a return. For more information visit LCEF's website www.LCEF.org or call them at 1-800-843-5233. ♥

Rebuilding our Marriage Ministry. Want to join us?

Join the Redeemer Marriage Ministry Team and help craft meaningful ways to support and strengthen marriages of our congregation and community. Are you an ideas person and like to plan events? Or do you enjoy taking an idea and implementing it?

Our mission is to build Christ-centered relationships that create, sustain and enrich marriages. With biblical tools and fun activities, we seek to support couples of all ages and help them to

communicate effectively, rekindle romance and actively love each other. Does that sound like your passion?

Contact **Sharon** or **Pete Baker** at: 970-224-9464 of bakerpsr@verinet.com.



People in Haiti still need our assistance

One year after the devastating earthquake killed over 200,000 people, Haiti still needs help. This summer, join Redeemer and Lifetree Adventures to help restore Haiti by building a medical clinic and dormitory in a secure location outside of Port-au-Prince. There's an informational meeting on Sunday, Feb. 13 at 12:15 p.m. at



Redeemer South Fort Collins in the Library. Lifetree Adventures, a Group Publishing experienced short-term, mission trip organization, will be on hand to answer questions.

Lifetree is looking for people to join their team who have a heart for service and want to help build these life-saving facilities. "We want to give you the

chance to experience the adventure of serving," says Lifetree Adventures. "You'll grow closer to God as well as the people you work with."

Questions? Contact: **Pastor Scott Coerber** at scott@redeemerconnect.com or **Robin Clark** of Lifetree Adventures at RClark@GroupPublishing.com or 292-4275. ♥

Rise and shine with Lutheran Family Services

Lutheran Family Services will hold a Spring Benefit Breakfast on Thursday, April 28 at 7:30 a.m. at the Hilton Fort Collins on Prospect Road.

The breakfast will highlight LFS programs and how all they provide hope, strength and healing to the vulnerable of our community. LFS is pleased to announce that it launched its Care Management Solutions (for seniors) and the Refugee Programs to Larimer County.

These programs and more provide

help to so many people in Colorado. For more information, or to serve as a table host or volunteer for the event, contact **Colleen Finnman**, Special Events Coordinator, 232-1170. ♥

Who benefits from LFS?

- A child who is protected from abuse.
- An infant placed in a loving family.
- An elderly person who receives support.
- A distraught family that is healed.
- An individual who is offered a new beginning.

Souper Bowl of Caring is Super Bowl weekend

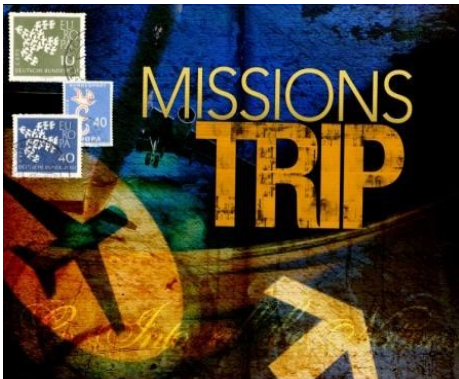
On Sunday, Feb. 6, millions of people all over the world will tune in to the Super Bowl football game. There will be parties with abundant food, friendship and fellowship. At the same time, there will be people worrying about staying warm, finding shelter and a warm meal. Please join Redeemer as it demonstrates God's love by loving our neighbors through the Souper Bowl of Caring campaign on February 5 & 6. It's a simple, yet significant act of caring for others.

All money donated will benefit the Food Bank for Larimer County (FBLC), which provides food to individuals and families in need as well as community groups and hunger-relief programs.

As you leave worship at either Redeemer site, just drop some spare change in the soup pots that will be held by one of our ushers. Those who need help may not know that you cared, but God will. Thank you for your generosity!



Please pray for the Ethiopia Mission Trip



This February, Redeemer will take a second journey to Ethiopia at the same time that Pastor Tim Runtsch is there working with Pastor's Leadership Institute International. This year, we are hoping to help build a church and run a medical clinic a couple of hours outside the capital city of Addis Ababa. Please pray that God's purposes will be fulfilled through our journey and that those travelling from

Redeemer will be blessed through the experience. Look for their commissioning in worship at South Fort Collins on Sunday, Feb. 13. ♥

So many places to serve our Lord

Places to Serve

Women's Retreat Day Team

Help with sign-ups, decorations, meals/breaks check-in or clean-up. Retreat leadership evening is Friday, March 4, 7 to 9 p.m. and the Retreat Day is Saturday, March 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact: Ginny Allison at gallisonrn@comcast.net or 292-8238.

Spring Food Bank Drive (April)

Volunteers to help organize and gather

items (grocery bags, pack boxes of food) for the drive. Contact: **Pastor Matt Blackford** at matt@redeemerconnect.com or 225-9020, ext. 121.

Health Totes Assembling (February)

Contact: **Pastor Matt Blackford** at matt@redeemerconnect.com or 225-9020, ext. 121.

Projectionists /Sound Board Techs

Projectionists are needed for our Saturday 5 p.m. REJOICE! service and

also for our 10 a.m. Redeemer Greeley service. Commitment is one Saturday a month or one Sunday a month. Training provided. Contact: Phil Barnett at phil@redeemerconnect.com or 225-9020, ext. 124.

Redeemer Greeley

Ushers, coffee hosts, and Welcome Center hosts are needed for our 10 a.m. worship service at Greeley.

Places to serve

Continued from Page 13

Kids Hope USA mentoring (Jan-April)

Mentor children once a week for Irish Elementary, Fort Collins or Martinez Elementary, Greeley. Contact: Pastor **Matt Blackford** at matt@redeemerconnect.com or 225-9020, ext. 121.

Lenten Season

Lenten Reception Hosts

Set-up, serve and clean up. Serve at one or several cookie and punch receptions after the Lenten Service. March 16, 23, 30, April 6 or 13. Contact: **Kathy O'Connell** at 225-9020, ext. 102 or kathy@redeemerconnect.com.

Lenten Small Group Experience Facilitators

Please consider becoming a small group facilitator for our six-week Lenten study on the "Light of Life: Journey Through the Gospel of John." A short training session, DVD and materials will be provided. Starts March 6 in your home. Invite your Redeemer neighbors and friends. Contact: **Laurie Bowen** at 568-3068 or laurie@redeemerconnect.com.

MountainTops: Pastoral Leadership Institute Conference April 4-10

This daytime conference for PLI pastors and their wives is an exciting opportunity for our 300 guests. We want to show them our warm Redeemer hospitality and make their stay as pleasurable as possible. We need greeters/hosts, meal servers and meal setup/cleanup. If you can contribute a couple of hours for one day or more—we would appreciate it! Contact: **Kathy O'Connell** at kathy@redeemerconnect.com or 225-9020, ext 102.

Easter Egg-Stravaganza

Volunteers are needed to fill eggs, hide eggs, and assist in the Easter egg hunt.

Saturday, April 23 from 10:30 - noon.
Contact: **Alex Lynch** at amslynch@msn.com.

Easter

Greeters/Hosts

Saturday, April 23 at 5 p.m. (South Fort Collins); Sunday, April 24 at 6, 9:30 and 11 a.m. (South Fort Collins) Sunday, April 24 at 10 a.m. (Greeley) Contact: Contact: **Kathy O'Connell** at 225-9020, ext. 102 or kathy@redeemerconnect.com.

Parking Lot Hosts

Sunday, April 24 at the 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. services. Contact: **Ryan Mirus** at 481-4661 or ormirusbuilders@yahoo.com.

Easter Refreshment Hosts

Saturday, April 23 at 5 p.m. (South Fort Collins); Sunday, April 24 at 6, 9:30 and 11 a.m. (South Fort Collins) Sunday, April 24 at 10 a.m. (Greeley) Contact: Contact: **Kathy O'Connell** at 225-9020, ext. 102 or kathy@redeemerconnect.com.

Easter Morning Brunch for Staff/ Morning Volunteers

We are seeking a coordinator, servers, set-up, clean-up, cooks/bakers for Sunday, April 24 at Redeemer South Fort Collins. Contact: Contact: **Kathy O'Connell** at 225-9020, ext. 102 or kathy@redeemerconnect.com or Beth Helmers at beth@redeemerconnect.com or 225-9020, ex 125.

Kids for Christ

Servants needed for Kids for Christ

Please prayerfully consider becoming involved in one or more of these exciting opportunities.

Sunday School classroom helper

Volunteer once a month. Contact: **Pam Lange** at pam@redeemerconnect.com.

Saturday Night and Greeley Children's PEAK

Become a small group leader once or twice a month on Saturday nights from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. or on Sunday mornings in Greeley during the 10 a.m. service. Contact: **Pam Lange** at pam@redeemerconnect.com.

Vacation Bible School "PandaMania" program

We're already planning for this amazing experience that will help kids explore God's wild love for his children. Join us and be a part of this wonderful celebration and outreach event in June. Contact: **Wendy Gorman** at wendy@redeemerconnect.com.

RsM

Redeemer Student Ministry Golf Shootout Dinner & Silent Auction

If you love to golf, cook or organize events, we could use you! We are starting up our team to organize and assist our student ministry in running this great event. Golf Shootout is Sunday, June 5. Event teams will begin in early February. Contact: **Pastor Ryan Meyer** at ryan@redeemerconnect.com.

Confirmation weekend celebration

If you would like to serve on a team to help make the Confirmation Celebration Saturday Brunch (April 30) extra special, Contact: **Pastor Ryan Meyer** at ryan@redeemerconnect.com. We are in need of those who like to decorate, bake, host and shop!

RsM Night

Lead and interact with our students in Bible study, worship, small groups and activities on Wednesday nights. Contact: **Pastor Ryan Meyer** at ryan@redeemerconnect.com. ♥

Baptisms

- November 21: Cassandra Jane Maroni, daughter of Peter & Jennifer Maroni
- November 28: Ella Skye Barton, daughter of John & Christina Barton; and, Jacob Michael Nelson, Kyle James Nelson, Cody Richard Nelson; sons of Chris & Courtney Nelson
- December 5: Jackson Dean Owen, son of Richard & Julie Owen; Mason Williams Minster, son of Randy & Kerri Minster; and, Luke Edwin Minster, son of Randy & Kerri Minster
- December 19: Austin Chace Frasch, son of Greg & Christy Frasch; and, Evan Price Ostheimer, son of Dan & LeAnn Ostheimer
- December 26: Charles Thomas Notarfrancesco, son of Mark & Kelly Notarfrancesco; and, Kade Conrad Balcerak, son of Damon & Amanda Balcerak
- January 2: Carter James Kingsley, son of Luke & Katie Kingsley

Adult Baptisms

- November 28: Courtney Elizabeth Nelson and Judith Lee Miller
 - December 12: Matthew Blake Hice
- Weddings
- January 8: Loriann Lenart to Kyle Anderson

REJOICE! moves location

We've relocated our Saturday REJOICE! worship service from the Life Center to the Worship Center at Redeemer South Fort Collins. This casual, contemporary service begins at 5 p.m.

Thank-yous!

- Thank you from our new pastors: We would like to thank our Redeemer family for the generous support, love, prayers and gifts that you showered upon us during the ordination celebration. It is truly a pleasure to serve with all of you in Christ's mission here at Redeemer! In Christ's Service, Pastors Scott, Gerry & Ryan
- Over 3,000 pounds collected: The H.O.P.E. group thanks the generous Redeemer faith family for their contributions to the fall food drive. You gave over \$2,900 in monetary donations and 3,006 lbs. of donated food. Many hungry families in Larimer County will be blessed by your thoughtfulness!
- Caroling & Cocoa thanks: A big thanks to



This January, Denny Tripcony retired from his position as building, grounds and tech manager after five years of dedicated service to Redeemer and the Lord. Prior to his current position, Denny served as business manager, overseeing church finances and finances for the Extend the Blessing capital campaign. When Redeemer's building expanded by 24,000 square feet, his focus became building, grounds and computer support. "I'm excited to move on and see what God has in store for me," he says. "I'm going to miss the daily interaction with the staff...it's a staff like no other." You will still see Denny around Redeemer South Fort Collins, assisting with building and grounds projects, speaking God's Word as a reader at worship and glorifying God as a servant. Thanks Denny!

Marcie Thraillkill, Karon Kendrick and their teams for putting on a fun chili dinner! And we appreciated all the carolers who brought such joy to our homebound folks!

- Women's Christmas Tea: A special thank you to Alex Lynch, the Women's Christmas Tea coordinator, Jennifer Kaszynski, Erin Crisson, Tina Gagner, Jennifer Rise, Kimberly Scherer, Jennifer Kaszynski, Marjorie Gibson, Kathy Tripcony, Elizabeth Alexander, Mandy Wilson, Melissa Schulman, Cheryl Olson, Dana Schlitter, Valerie Whitcomb, Carrie Dietrich, Ann Alfonso, Beth Helmers, Penny Kidd, Michelle Weidenbach, Miranda Hernandez, Sharry Hitchens, Elisabeth Robertson, Jane Johnston, Mark Rhodes, Mary Carlson, Patty Lynch, and Jean Scherer for creating a beautiful event to prepare our hearts for our Advent King. We appreciate all who came as well.

- From Diane Hoeflicker: I want to thank all of you at Redeemer for all the gifts that you gave to me. God's blessings to you all of you.
- From Shawndra Correia: Dear Kindhearted members of Redeemer: I am in Afghanistan with the 451st Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. I am a flight medic with the Wyoming Air National Guard. Yesterday I received a care package from your church. Thank you so much! It is always a surprise to get something in the mail! My day was brightened up by you all! Be home soon. Can't wait!

Welcome Home

Welcome home to the following service men and women: Adam Erbes, returned from Japan (navy), Bev Ziemer's son; Steven Kent, returned from Iraq (Army), Lauren Kent's husband; Mark Larson, returned from Afghanistan (Army), Sandie and Ken

Axelsen's nephew; Thor Rasmussen, returned from Afghanistan (Wyoming Air National Guard), Pastor John and Carmella Rasmussen's son; Daniel Raymond, returned from Iraq (Army), Dana Raymond's husband; Shannon Schacherl, completed her enlistment (Navy), Carole and Bob Shott's niece; Brandon Thraillkill, returned from Iraq (Army), Marcie and Mark Thraillkill's son; Kris Yarlett, returned from Afghanistan (Army), Kathy and Jerry Simpson's son-in-law. Many thanks for your prayers. ♥

Please Pray For...



the safety and well being of Michael Kayl, nephew-in-law of Redeemer member Carol Christensen. Michael serves in the Army and is currently deployed in the Middle East.



And, the safety and well being of Justin Zeller, grandson of Redeemer members Elaine and Bruce Zeller. Justin serves in the Marines and is currently deployed in Afghanistan.

Contact us ▶

Do you have an immediate family member serving overseas? We'd like to place him or her in our "Please Pray For" section. Send information, including name, position, mailing and e-mail addresses to **Kathy Mosser** at 278-1855, or kamcpm@msn.com. Note: Please enter "Military" in the subject line. We have a Military Support mail box in the Church Office for your convenience. ☺

Redeemer's Mission

Redeemer Lutheran Church is a grace-filled community of Christians called to connect people to Jesus Christ for a life of rejoicing relating and responding.

7755 Greenstone Trail
Fort Collins, CO 80525
Phone: 970-225-9020
Fax: 970-225-9870

E-mail: redeemer@redeemerconnect.com
www.redeemerconnect.com

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The Three R's of Redeemer

Rejoice

We gather in worship and celebration to rejoice in God's grace and experience renewal through Word and Sacrament.

Relate

We grow in our relationship with God and others through small groups and Bible studies.

Respond

We respond to God's love through our service and witness in the church, community and world.



Lord, may the path of life and joy of your presence be known to...

Church Office

Main phone: (970) 225-9020 (extensions listed below, VM = voice mail box only)

Pastoral Staff

THE REV. TIM RUNTSCH, senior pastor,
pt@redeemerconnect.com, ext. 101, 686-2833 (hm)

THE REV. MATT BLACKFORD, associate pastor,
matt@redeemerconnect.com, ext. 121, 214-2373 (hm)

GERRY HARROW, pastor, Redeemer Greeley site leader,
gerry@redeemerconnect.com, ext. 311 (VM), 405-6691 (cell)

Ministry Directors

GABRIELE BERGMANN, Redeemer Lutheran Early Childhood Center director,
gabriele@redeemerconnect.com, 206-0381 (preschool)

SCOTT COERBER, pastor, discipleship director,
scott@redeemerconnect.com, ext. 119

PAM LANGE, children & preteen ministries director,
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RYAN MEYER, pastor, student ministries director,
ryan@redeemerconnect.com, ext. 103

KATHY O'CONNELL, member connections director,
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Connections Newsletter

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