



Our Mission

*Jesus said
 "All authority in heaven and on earth
 has been given to me.
 Therefore go and make disciples
 of all nations, baptizing them
 in the name of the Father and of the
 Son and of the Holy Spirit."
 Matthew 28:18-19*

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Reflections from Pastor John

*I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him.
 Ecclesiastes 3:10-14*

Looking back on the year that just was, 2018, a couple of highlights stand out.

1. I began working with staff, council and a number of other ministry leaders and interested members to pilot the Joining Jesus material we were called by God to utilize with the congregation. I had the privilege of visiting the author of Joining Jesus on His Mission, Greg Finke, in his own neighborhood outside of Houston, TX. Greg and I developed a friendship.

2. A Call Team was commissioned by our Congregational Council to begin the process of pursuing God's call of the next Associate Pastor of Redeemer.

3. The Ordination of Pastor Trevor in late summer 2018 was a great blessing for the whole Redeemer

Community. As Paul Lundahl has often pointed out, Redeemer has been so richly blessed with so many wonderful young men called up to pastoral ministry. It is very exciting.

4. Our Joining Jesus focus through the fall saw the participation of some 250 members and attendees of Redeemer in JJ Groups. We all certainly heard the call of our Lord Jesus to take steps towards actually loving our neighbors in ways we hadn't previously experienced. Jesus is on the move in Damascus and the four county region. PTL.

2019 promises to be quite a year. As I anticipate the New Year there are a few things I'd like to share with everyone to get them on your radar for the year.

1. While I will be with the Kenya team in Africa for the first half of January, we are hoping to welcome Pastor Katia from Fe y Esperanza for a visit in our Parish of nearly a month from mid-January through mid-February. This will be an opportunity for her to strengthen her English and get a more immersive experience of the US and Redeemer. There is a possibility we may also welcome a couple of men from Fe y Esperanza as the Nicaraguans continue to seek help in growing their Men's Ministry. Very exciting!

2. Some key meetings will be happening early this new year. A staff/council/key ministry leaders summit

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will be happening at the end of January, on Sunday the 27th. This will be a time of aligning our various ministries with our calling to GO and make disciples. The congregation will be invited to a vision casting congregational meeting on Sunday afternoon February 17th. This meeting will be to share the vision for aligning our whole congregation around our Healing Growing Serving Going identity with a continued emphasis on becoming a launchpad for sending everyday, ordinary missionaries into their various places of relational influence to join Jesus on His mission there. Be anticipating more information about these meetings soon.

3. Lent and Easter are later this year

with Ash Wednesday on March 6th, Holy Week beginning with Palm Sunday on April 14th, followed by Maundy Thursday on April 18th, Good Friday April 19th and Easter Sunday on April 21st. The Easter season runs till the 50th day celebration of Pentecost on June 9th.

4. Be expecting an informational meeting on the proposed budget between worship services on May 26th followed in two weeks by our Annual Congregational Meeting on June 9th, Pentecost Sunday. This day we will all worship together at one service in the Family Life Center, celebrating the Confirmation of our 9th-graders. After the service we will share together in a pot luck lunch and our annual meeting.

5. Right after this meeting I will begin the time of Pastoral Renewal of which our Council President informed everyone in a recent letter. The renewal time will have me out of the congregation for the rest of the summer with my gradual re-engagement beginning on Rally Day Sunday September 8th resulting in my being back to the full engagement of regular activities on Sunday September 15th.

6. By the time I am back in the saddle at Redeemer we will be quickly coming to the time of bidding farewell and Godspeed to Pastor Trevor and Stephanie and their boys. The expectation is still that they will be moving to England for Stephanie to pursue studies in apologetics at

Staff

John Bromhal, Senior Pastor
Ray Scheck, Pastor Emeritus
Trevor Hughes, Assistant Pastor

Denise Ginsburg, Director of Ministry Operations

Music
Jan Saxton

Valerie Bartel, Director of Children & Family Ministry
Kathie Zimmerman, Joyce Anderson
Lisa Gorham, Amy Fipps, Tiffany Cupps,
Jennifer Causey, Lauren Durham, Dallas Saah, Amy Cabrera,
Shannon Matney, and Sherrie Weinhold

Youth Ministry
Courtney Ginsburg, Director of Youth Ministry
Phil Bromhal, Asst. Director of Youth Ministry

Healing Ministry
Cherri Warren
Steve Ellis
Kathie Zimmerman

Valerie Hobbs, Director of Adult Discipleship
Karl Madden, Men's Ministry
Janet Stephens, Women's Ministry
Joanne Kessler, Senior Adult Ministry

Jill Ochs, Serving Ministry

Debbie Tomlinson, Director of Properties
Antonio Hernandez
Taina Schweitzer, Facilities Coordinator

Administration
Tracy Stouffer, Administrative Asst. to the Senior Pastor
Pam Blodgett, Communications Coordinator
Debbie Lundahl, Accounting Manager

Council

Kyle Langham, President
Les Gill, Vice President
Howard Fischer, Secretary
Herb Schoenberg, Treasurer

Members:
Pastor John Bromhal
Chris Breedlove
Susie Campbell
Kirk Cook
Donna Demattia
Leif Gensch
Mike Hoopes
John Redmond
Steve Shumate
Mike Wade

The Voice

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Oxford. While this will undoubtedly be a sad time, it will also be exciting to see what God has in mind for Pastor Trevor's and Stephanie's future as well as Redeemer's future with an expected Associate pastor coming on board, hopefully sometime in 2019 or early 2020.

Well, with that simple look at last year and the year that lies ahead of us, I hope and pray you will trust our great God to guide us as He has been so faithful to do. May we continue to look to Jesus as our Lord and Savior and follow Him by joining Him on His mission.

In the Peace of Christ Jesus,
Pastor John



Kyle and his wife Rachel and their children Abigail, Lily, Audrey and James.

Our Council: President Kyle Langham

Who I am:

I am a father of four small children, ages 8 and below, and have been married to my wife, Rachel, for ten years. Rachel and I started coming to Redeemer 11 years ago. Neither of us had a church home growing up and instantly saw how ingrained faith was in the life of Redeemer's members. We both have learned how to be a Christ-led spouse and parent through the mentoring of

many of the members of Redeemer. Outside of church and home, I manage a team of data scientists at a vaccine development company called Novavax.

Where and why I serve:

I serve at Redeemer as Council President and as a Sunday school teacher. In the past, I also served in Confirmation and leading men's Bible study. I serve first and foremost because I feel called by God to serve His will at Redeemer. I also serve because the people at Redeemer have given so much to Rachel and me in terms of our faith walks, our marriage and our parenting and serving is a small way to 'pay back' the community and hopefully 'pay it forward' to other men and women at Redeemer. I'm a firm believer in "God equips the called, not calls the equipped" and look forward to seeing how He calls me next.

Warriors of Christ

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Family & Conflict:

*What is God's calling for us as husbands & fathers?
How does God want us to handle conflict in our family?*

Saturday January 12

7:00 – 9:30 am

Family Life Center

Questions?

Contact Karl Madden at maddenkm@comcast.net

Serve Globally

Save the Date!

Join Jesus on His mission
in Mexicali, Mexico!

April 13 – 20, 2019

Over the last 14 years Redeemer has developed a neighborhood of friends and contacts in Mexicali. The Holy Spirit is there all year, and invites us to join Jesus the week before Easter. Questions? Contact Pastor Ray at 301-253-3000 or Laurie & Elliotte Want.



Kenya Mission Trip 2019

Please pray for the ministry of One Life Africa and for the 2019 mission team as they prepare for the next trip to Kenya. Our 13-member team will leave the US on January 3 and return January 19. This will be the longest trip we've taken but it promises to be a memorable one. We will be spending the bulk of our time at the new Student Center, living

with the students we will serve. Our team is developing a 5-day camp program designed to train and equip these young leaders as they transition from high school to the university they will attend.

As you can imagine there is a lot of preparation and planning that each team member must accomplish to travel so far and for so long. Pray that each of us will remain focused on Jesus as we face obstacles that can threaten to distract us. Pray for health and safety before the trip, after it and upon our return. And finally, pray that our efforts will not be in vain, but would accomplish the will of God for the people of Kenya and these precious students.

2019 Team

Valerie Hobbs, Pastor John Kulczycki, Mike Hoopes, Pastor John Bromhal, Jackie Cromer, Jen Lawell, Kim Bryan, Phil Bromhal, Aaron Neuberger, Maurice Saxton, Mark Hessels, David & Karen Hartman.

Serve Locally

Beacon House Saturday January 12

While the Frederick Rescue Mission kitchen is under construction there are new procedures for preparing, serving and volunteering. See below for details.

- Please bring food in no later than Friday before.
- Food delivered Saturday must be ready to serve.
- For those serving take first driveway to park and enter building on left side.

Sign up on Serving Opportunities Board in Lobby. Questions? Contact Paul Schweitzer at pcschweitzer@gmail.com.

Care Packages

One of the women's Bible studies has made care packages to hand out to people seeking help and or money on the street corners. Each package has a water bottle, snacks and some information for local resources. A bin has been put out by the Connection Center for people to pick up during the cold winter. Please take some and keep in your car as you encounter people needed extra love and care.

For more information contact Karen Nagy or the church office.

Save the Date

YOUTH MINISTRY: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Coming in March

Women's Ministry Breakfast

The Goodness and Power of
Confession (the sacred space)

Saturday March 9
8:00 - 11:30 am

Join us for breakfast, fellowship and inspiration as we learn from our sisters in Christ the power of confession. For more information contact Janet Stephens at 301-672-0160 or jls3943@comcast.net.

We have reserved 25 spots for this year's workcamp, taking place in East Bank, WV. Workcamp is a great way to encounter Christ and serve Him; we provide home repairs at no cost for elderly, disabled, and disadvantaged people.

Registration online using link (Courtney emailed out) or the QR Code below. Registration sign-up & \$100 deposit is due by January 31 to reserve your spot

See Courtney Ginsburg for more information.

Workcamp 2019
East Bank, West Virginia
June 30 – July 6
Cost \$475
Deadline to Register is January 31



To Register:

1. Open your camera on your smartphone
2. Hold your phone steadily over the QR Code
3. Click on the link that takes you to the registration page.

Upcoming Children & Family Ministry Events

"FUN"Day

Sunday February 10
3:30 - 7:30 pm

Children & Family Ministry sponsors an evening out so parents have the opportunity to celebrate Valentine's Day. Please allow us the privilege of watching and entertaining your children while you and your spouse celebrate Valentine's Day. Details to come.

Questions?

Contact Joyce Anderson at 443-604-4470
or joyce.anderson@redeemer.us

Annual Father / Daughter Dinner Dance

Saturday March 2
5:00 – 8:00 pm

Redeemer Lutheran Church
Details to follow.

Questions?

Contact Joyce Anderson
at 443-604-4470 or
joyce.anderson@redeemer.us





Redeemer Lutheran Church
27015 Ridge Road
Damascus, MD 20872

Sunday Worship
8:00 & 11:00 am

Sunday School for All Ages
9:40 – 10:40 am

G.R.O.W. Wednesdays
Dinner – 5:30 pm
Activities – 6:15 – 7:45 pm

If you would prefer to receive the newsletter electronically or receiving this newsletter in error,
please contact the church office at 301-253-3000.



ON THAT DAY LIFE-GIVING WATERS
WILL FLOW OUT FROM JERUSALEM,
HALF TOWARD THE DEAD SEA AND
HALF TOWARD THE MEDITERRANEAN,
FLOWING CONTINUOUSLY
IN BOTH SUMMER AND WINTER.

ZECHERIAH 14:8

