

REDEEMER

R E P O R T

JANUARY 2002

VISION RENEWAL— JANUARY 16TH

BY TIM KELLER

It sometimes seems to me that everybody wants to use September 11 as a way to legitimize their views or activities. A local news-radio station changed its advertising motto to “now—more than ever.” I think that is supposed to mean that we are more in need of their services than before. Almost every pundit and writer is saying, “These events just go to prove what I’ve been saying all along.” I think that is just another way to say that we are more in need of their opinions than before.

Some of these claims are true and some are not. But it is safe to assert that yes, now more than ever, New York City

needs more of the kind of churches that Redeemer aspires to become. We are fac-

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ing a recession that will bring greater need to the inner city. We have seen an event that is

bringing more center city people to seek for spiritual answers than before.

Therefore it is important now for Redeemer as a body to take time to recall what our vision is. Why did God call us into being over 12 years ago? What did he create us to do here? Where are we going? What will it require of each of us for Redeemer to achieve its calling and vision?

Because we minister in a dynamic, ever-changing city, there are always many of our number who are new to Redeemer. The last time we spent time together discussing the above questions was during the Capital Fund campaign, but that was nearly five

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“BUILDING A CITY OF HOPE”

“...opportunities will be featured in the brochure titled, ‘Building a City of Hope’...

describing the opportunities prior to the brochure distribution date.

Please go to one of these sites for more information (www.redeemer.com - ‘How to Help’ — OR — www.hfny.org - ‘Volunteer’).

Hope for New York has mapped out local volunteer needs with its Ministry Affiliates and other organizations actively involved in meeting the direct and indirect needs of WTC victims. The opportunities will be featured in the brochure titled, ‘Building a City of Hope’ and will be distributed to the Redeemer congregation and some satellite churches on January 13th. Both Redeemer and HFNY websites will also host a new page

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- DIACONATE ASSISTANCE
- COUNSELING CENTER
- CHURCH FAMILY UPDATE

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years ago. Less than half our people were present during that season. So it is time to do so again.

At 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evening, January

16, 2002, we are going to meet in the beautiful sanctuary of St Bartholomew's church at E. 50th and Park Avenue. There we will follow the Biblical pattern for 'covenant renewals'

that we find in the Hebrew Scriptures. (Deuteronomy 1:1-5 and 29:1ff; Joshua 24:1-33, 2 Kings 23:1ff., and Ezra 10:1-17.)

In these passages we can see three things happening.

First there is time to look back at the mighty acts of God that brought us into being and sustained us along the way.

Second, there will be a time to look ahead, to see what it is that we are called to be and what we are aspiring to be as a church.

Lastly there will be a time to look at our own hearts in the present. We will provide practical ways for committing our lives more fully to the vision of being a church in the city.

Please plan to be there, whether you are a Redeemer 'old-timer' or newcomer.

SHARE THE VISION

Back in September we announced plans for a special service for Covenant Renewal. We have rescheduled the date for this very special night. We hope you will plan now to attend, because it will be a unique service which you will enjoy and which will inspire you.

January 16th, 2001 at 7:00PM
St. Bartholomew's Church
Park Ave. and East 51st St.

We will take time to renew our vision in a variety of ways as a church community during a time of worship, reflection and teaching through: special music, a vision video, stories of changed lives and Tim Keller will speak about what it means to renew our covenant.

Whether you are an "old-timer" or a newcomer to Redeemer, we invite you to Share the Vision. Join us in celebration as we renew the vision God has given us for our church and our city.

REDEEMER REPORT

Kathy Keller
Buddy Mungo
Dave Jacobs

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HUNTER COLLEGE AUDITORIUM
EAST 69TH BETWEEN PARK AND LEXINGTON
services at 9:30 • 11:15 • 6:00

CHURCH OF ST. PAUL AND ST. ANDREW
86TH AND WEST END AVENUE
services at 7:00

THANK YOU FROM THE DIACONATE

We would like to extend our deepest thanks for the generosity of God's people at the time of our annual Mercy Fund Offering, which we received on December 9, 2001. These funds directly enable us to provide for the needs of those we care for in the congregation and community.

We are "filled with awe" (Acts 2:43-45) at how God provides and heals through His people. Please keep us and those we serve in your prayers.

CHURCH FAMILY UPDATE

NEW MEMBERS & BAPTISMS NOVEMBER 11, 2001

Congratulations and Welcome

New Members

Susan Wunzin S.C. Chen
Anthony Paul Graffeo
Yoon Suk Lee
James Fitzgerald Leonard
Bernhard Burzer
Roy Hing Chan
Charles Chiu-Yi Hsu
Catherine S. Paek
Hyung (Joe) D. Paek
Shawn Michael Watts

Baptisms

Roy Hing Chan
Charles Chiu-Yi Hsu
Shawn Michael Watts
Anthony Paul Graffeo
Hui-Ping Hsu Fatzler

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

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If the aftereffects of September 11th have left you in need of help, we are here for you. Or perhaps you want to help by volunteering. The Diaconate, Counseling Services and the Disaster Relief Team of Redeemer are ready to assist you, our members and attenders, in a variety of ways:

DIACONATE - Susan Keil - 212-808-4460 ext 116
Message Helpline 212-726-1334

- Needs due to lost income
- Pastoral Care & Prayer

COUNSELING CENTER - Denise Poole - 212-808-4460 ext 131

- Career readjustment counseling
- Crisis counseling

DISASTER RELIEF TEAM Ellie Ellsworth - 212-808-4460 ext 153

- Volunteer Opportunities & Training