

REDEEMER

R E P O R T

APRIL 2006

THE EASTER SACRIFICIAL OFFERING: SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2006

Connecting us to an ancient tradition of the church, each Easter Redeemer receives a special offering for our Mercy Ministry, Hope for New York (HFNY). This offering is used by HFNY to support faith-based organizations throughout New York City that are serving the poor. Last year, the offering funded:

- A homeless program on the Upper West Side
- A mobile feeding and resource center in Manhattan, the Bronx and NJ
- An art therapy program for people living with HIV and AIDS

- Resume and interview skills training for a Women's Recovery Program
- Youth mentoring in Harlem and the Bronx
- Refurbishing a computer center for homeless men
- GED, ESL and nutrition programs in Brooklyn

This is just a sampling of the many projects supported by this special offering. What makes HFNY unique, however, is that each of these programs is not only supported financially, but also with volunteers who sacrificially contribute thousands of hours of service each year. These volunteers put their faith to

work making the Gospel a powerful, living presence that touches thousands of lives in our city. During HFNY's last fiscal year almost 3,100 volunteers served over 12,700 people. Volunteers participated in almost 1,200 projects and programs and logged over 32,500 hours of service.

Please pray about your sacrificial gift this Easter. A special offering will be taken during all Easter Services. You may also mail your donation (making checks payable to Hope for New York) to Hope for New York, 1359 Broadway, Suite 410, New York, NY 10018. You may also make a donation online by going to www.hfny.org/support

NEW EVENT: TOWN HALL MEETING!

One of the many positive results of our recent Vision Campaign was the mobilization of hundreds of volunteer partners from within the congregation whose gifts, skills, ideas and energy were critical to the Campaign's success. Going forward, if Redeemer is to fulfill its vision we need to build on that enthusiasm by recruiting and energizing a

greater number of partners from within our congregation.

To that end we will be having our first ever "Town Hall" event on Saturday, April 29th from 9:00AM to 1:00PM at the First Baptist Church at 79th and Broadway (note: NOT at the actual Town Hall theater!!)

What is a Town Hall? A time for those in our congregation to provide input

and receive updates about the Vision Campaign initiatives. Tim Keller will moderate the event, which will include updates on the search for property; church planting initiatives/strategy; ideas for new ministries—and much more. Please mark the date on your calendar and check out the website (www.redeemer.com) for additional information.



INSIDE:

- BRUCE TERRELL ASSUMES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION
- EASTER WEEK AT REDEEMER
- "TRAIN UP A CHILD: ..." CHILD DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR
- LOAD UP YOUR IPOD...WITH SERMONS

BRUCE TERRELL ASSUMES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION

For the past year Redeemer has been searching for a new 'COO'. In December the Session of Redeemer unanimously extended an offer to Bruce Terrell to be our new "Executive Director," freeing Terry Gyger to head up Redeemer's Church Planting Center. Bruce began his new role with Redeemer on March 13. Bruce is a Ruling Elder rather than a 'Teaching Elder' (the Presbyterian term for an ordained minister), which accounts for the fact that his title (Executive Director) is different from that of Terry and Dick Kaufmann (Executive Pastor).

Tim Keller was asked about his understanding of Bruce's role at Redeemer. He responded: "I couldn't be more excited about Bruce's coming to us. Both former executive pastors (Terry Gyger and Dick Kaufmann) interviewed him extensively. Dick told me he could hardly imagine a better person for the job. Bruce has unique gifts that we believe fit him perfectly for the next stage of Redeemer's journey."

The following are highlights from an interview with Bruce.

Tell us a bit about yourself.

I'm the fourth of four children. After my dad graduated from West Point, he and my mom had a wonderful career in the Army. As a result, I grew up living in numerous places throughout the U.S. and Germany. I have two older siblings and an identical twin brother. I've been married to an incredible woman, Missy, for almost 20 years. We have two children. Andrew is 17 and will be heading to the University of Georgia this fall. Katie is 13 and will be attending the Geneva School this fall.

What about your church involvement?

Since moving to Atlanta about 20 years ago, I've been a member of Intown Community Church where my wife and I met. I've served in a variety of capacities as a ruling elder for the last 15 years including strategic planning, personnel, pastor search committee, teaching, and small group leading.

And professionally?

I've essentially had two different careers. My initial career was in student development at the university level. I have a Masters degree in student personnel and pursued that career path for about



7 years before joining the staff of Mission to the World (MTW), the foreign mission agency of our denomination. I thought it would be a 2-year "stop-out" before pursuing a Ph.D. and continuing with my original plan. Those two years turned into 20 great years with MTW where I served in a variety of positions, the last seven years or so as the chief operating officer.

Why the move to Redeemer?

Simply put, I'd have to say it was God's leading. I don't mean that glibly. Humanly speaking, there was nothing that was pushing me out of Atlanta or MTW.

I was more than content. But I deeply believe that this life is not my own. And when we believe God is leading us to do something, we follow. I'm thrilled to be here. I'm ready to embrace this remarkable city and church.

What about Redeemer enticed you to come?

The vision and values. I've been familiar with Redeemer since it's earliest days. I have some friends who were involved since the beginning. More recently, my former role at MTW gave me the opportunity to become more deeply aware and involved because of some partnering between Redeemer and MTW.

What do you see as your role at Redeemer?

I guess there are two ways to answer that question. At one level, it's to be the servant leader of the staff...working with them to optimize their individual and collective ministries. At a more profound level, I want to be a part of transforming NYC and as a corollary, the world. The Lord has built and continues to build a significant Kingdom-influencing ministry through Redeemer that extends far beyond NYC. I feel a tremendous sense of responsibility to steward the movement that God has produced here through this new role.

Are you a Braves fan?

I sure am, and have been since my grandmother took my twin brother and me to a game when we were very little.

Any chance that loyalty could change with this move?

Nope, not a chance.

REDEEMER REPORT

Kathy Keller
Carl de Prado
Heather Klein

The Redeemer Report is a publication of the Redeemer Presbyterian Church.

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HUNTER COLLEGE AUDITORIUM
East 69TH (Between Park & Lexington)
services at 10:30AM • 5:45PM

ETHICAL CULTURE
West 64TH and CPW
service at 9:15AM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Corner of West 79TH and Broadway
service at 7:00PM

EASTER WEEK AT REDEEMER

Palm Sunday, April 9

Open Forum – “The Spiritual Music of John Coltrane”:

6:00PM at Hunter College Auditorium (in place of the East Side evening service)

Free admission.

An all-star quartet featuring Grammy-award winning artists John Patitucci (bass) and Brian Blade (drums), with Jon Cowherd (piano) and Joel Frahm (tenor saxophone) explores the music of jazz legend John Coltrane. Tim Keller and John Patitucci will give brief lectures and an open-microphone question and answer session follows the concert.

Wednesday, April 12

Concert at 315 – John Cowherd and Friends:

7:00PM at Salvation Army Theater 315, 315 West 47th St.

\$10 admission

Didn't get enough of the great jazz at the Open Forum on Sunday? Here's another chance to hear pianist Jon Cowherd (Redeemer's East Side evening music director), John Patitucci, Brian Blade and others in the intimate, 100-seat Theater 315. The last Concert at 315 was a sell-out, so it is recommended that you purchase your tickets in advance at www.redeemer.com

Good Friday Services, April 14

4 Services:

5:30PM & 7:30PM: All Souls Church, 80th and Lexington Ave.

6:30PM & 8:00PM: Ethical Culture Society, 64th and Central Park West

Prepare for the joy of Easter with a service remembering the events of Good Friday. Each service will include Scripture readings, brief homilies by Redeemer's staff, and congregational singing. Arrive early as these services are generally full.

Easter Sunday, April 16

5 Services – Please note special schedule:

9:00AM: Ethical Culture Society, W. 64th St. and CPW

Music by orchestral ensemble, chorale and soloist George Merritt

9:45AM & 11:30AM: Hunter College Auditorium, E. 69th St. and Park Ave.

Music by Orchestra of the Redeemer, Miriam Burns, music director, the Redeemer Choir, and soloist Courtenay Budd

5:45PM: Hunter College, E. 69th St. and Park Ave.

Music by the jazz band with soloists

7:00PM: First Baptist Church, W. 79th St. and Broadway

Music by the jazz band with horn section and gospel ensemble

TRAIN UP A CHILD: THE SPIRITUAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN

Brent Bounds will be teaching a seminar entitled, “Train Up a Child: The Spiritual and Psychological Development of Children” on Saturday, April 22 from 10:00AM to 1:00PM at the Redeemer Offices. Registration available only online at www.redeemer.com.

It is our role as parents and teachers to attempt to enter into the world our children inhabit, understand their developmental process, and communicate Truth to an inquisitive and forming mind. We have an opportunity to cultivate and develop a Gospel world-view in the lives of even young children if we learn to do it in a way that is developmentally appropriate.

Proverbs 22:6 gives both instruction and a promise. *Train up a*

child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. First, the author outlines responsibility. A child does not simply grow on its own, but requires the input and guidance and training of parents. “Train” infers an understanding of the trainee's ability. It suggests an appreciation and use of the trainee's current skills, while consistently stretching them toward the final goal. Training children requires knowledge of their developmental process and how that affects their ability to experience the world, to process new information, to assimilate the new info to their circumstances.

This verse also states that the training should be in the trajectory of “where he should go.” Some commentators believe this to mean

not only in a moral sense but also in the ways that is particularly unique and special to that child. This encourages us to get to know the child's gifts, strengths, values, interests and to help them develop along those particular pathways.

The promise comes in the last part of the verse. The author assures the reader that childhood is a crucial and foundational part of an individual's life. What is learned and developed in childhood will serve as a guide throughout the lifetime. We have a great opportunity to train our children in the truths of the Gospel, to develop in them the love for God's people and His kingdom, and to give them a heart for their culture and the world.

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LOAD UP YOUR IPOD... WITH SERMONS

BY CREGAN COOKE AND STEVE SHAFFER

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. Romans 10:17 (ESV)

The sermon ministry is incredibly blessed to be able to reach thousands of listeners all over the world. Numerous letters and emails come in each year from people whose lives have been changed by hearing Redeemer's presentation of the Gospel.

From New Hampshire a listener writes:

Thank you so much for these life changing teachings. You go beyond the simple translation on the surface and dig deep into the meaning. You have encouraged me in many ways but one is certainly to study the Word with diligence.

From Texas another listener wrote about listening to the Redeemer Marriage Series:

I am a single person grappling with many of the issues you deal with in your sermons. I cannot overstate the impact your words have had on me. Many a time I have sought solace, consolation and inspiration from those messages. So as I look forward to, hopefully, someday meeting someone with whom I can share

my life with, I will greatly depend on your words.

The sermon ministry has reached so many more people in the last 15 years than we could have ever imagined. It's hard to believe that from our first worship service when one or two dedicated volunteers duplicated a few dozen sermons on a Sunday, that today we now fill over 1,000 individual orders online each month and send over 200 sermon CDs and cassettes to our worship sites each week. The ministry now has an office staff of four and a volunteer team of 25. Since 1989 the sermon ministry has recorded every sermon delivered at Redeemer, along with dozens of lectures, conferences, and Open Forums. All Redeemer recordings are available at Redeemer's sermon store: www.redeemer.com/store. By the end of this year the sermon ministry will be able to provide *all* Redeemer sermons, seminars and lectures past and present in digital format.

Go Digital!

Listening to sermons via mp3

download is now very commonplace due to its speed and ease of use. You can store mp3 files on your computer, make playlists, and even convert them into audio CDs with a free downloadable mp3 player program like itunes. By converting the entire sermon library to digital format all sermons will be available for immediate use to people around the world. In addition, the cost to provide mp3 sermons is less than that of a CD or cassette.

Did you know?

- Over 13,000 individual orders were filled at the sermon store in 2005?
- In addition to individual orders, the sermon ministry serves over 1500 weekly subscribers from over 20 countries.
- 48% of all subscribers choose to download mp3s
- 30 free mp3 sermons are available for download at the sermon store: visit www.redeemer.com/store and click on "Samples".
- 100% of the net proceeds from sermon sales fund Redeemer's other ministries.