

REDEEMER

R E P O R T

NOVEMBER 2007

TEN MARKS OF REVIVAL

Over the last several decades there has been an enormous amount of scholarly attention to what have historically been called spiritual ‘revivals.’ These are periods in which there is an explosion of spiritual interest and growth in the Christian church. In Europe and North America, for example, there were significant revivals in the 1740s, the 1830s, and the late 1850s. The 1857 revival began in lower New York City and is often called ‘the Fulton Street Revival.’ By one

account, during a period of about 2 years, about 10% of the population of Manhattan was converted and joined the city’s churches. In the 20th century there have also been major revivals in East Africa, Korea, as well as many more localized revivals.

What causes revivals? The Spirit of God, of course—but can more be said? Indeed it can. Here are ten marks of revival, bundled together in three categories. I’ve distilled these over the years, both from studying the Bible

(for example, Judges, particular Psalms, and the book of Acts), from reading church history, and from my own brief encounters with revivals personally.

Three instrumental means of revival.

The Holy Spirit is the ultimate cause of a revival, but there are three instrumental means (or ‘secondary causes’) that the Spirit ordinarily uses. First, there is always a *recovery of the gospel*. The default mode of the human

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BY TIM KELLER

SCOTT SAULS WELCOMED AS NEW DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY FORMATION

Scott Sauls began serving as Redeemer’s Director of Community Formation in October. He will be in charge of all the Fellowship and Beta Groups, as well as other aspects of community development including collaboration with the diaconate and Redeemer Counseling Center. Scott’s impression after his first week on the job at Redeemer is one of great enthusiasm, due to a combination of his appreciation of the Redeemer vision, and, in his words, “an incredibly impressive, gospel-loving team of men and women” on the staff.

Prior to coming to Redeemer, Scott was the Church Planter and then Senior Pastor of two

churches—Oak Hills Presbyterian Church in Kansas City and Riverside Church in St. Louis. Both churches, heavily influenced



by the Redeemer model, have grown into vibrant, Gospel-centric faith communities that serve their respective cities. The Sauls’

move to Redeemer reflects a desire to be part of a Gospel-driven movement that is eager to work for the peace and prosperity of a great, global city such as New York—and through this to reach and bless the world.

Scott’s “macro” hope in his new role at Redeemer is to help integrate the Community Formation arm of Redeemer with the overall vision of the church to be a multiplying, Gospel-centered church that is for the city of New York. His “micro” hope is to facilitate deep, Gospel-rich, life-on-life community between people of varying ethnicities, nationalities, generations and ideologies—to the end that the hurting find

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GIVE THE GIFT OF HOPE

BY FAITH HUCKEL

Christmas, meant to be a season filled with joy, peace, and the celebration of Christ's birth, can sometimes be a very disappointing time of year for families in need throughout the city. With little or no income and few resources, homeless, poor and low-income families find themselves scrambling to buy presents or to connect with caring community in order to make Christmas special for themselves and for their children.

For this reason, Hope for New York hosts three annual Christmas events: Angel Tree, His Toy Store, and the Hope for New York Christmas dinner. Through Angel Tree and Prison Fellowship

Ministries, HFNY provides 300 children who have a parent in prison with Christmas gifts on behalf of their incarcerated parent. His Toy Store is a toy program for low-income families whereby HFNY partners with a variety of churches and faith-based organizations to create "toy stores" whereby families can come and shop for gifts for free for their children. The end of our Christmas outreach is completed with the Hope for New York Christmas dinner—a Christmas party for 300 homeless men, women and children that includes a hearty meal, desert, presents, musical entertainment, and

Christmas caroling.

All three of these events are ways for the Redeemer community to serve and connect with the marginalized during the Christmas season. Your contribution could literally change someone's life, providing a sense of hope for the future and by helping to connect people in need with HFNY affiliates that not only serve the poor and marginalized once a year, but every single day of the year in very practical ways.

If you or your fellowship group are interested in learning how you can serve through HFNY this Christmas, please contact volunteer@hfnny.org

REDEEMER'S ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION AND SALE CONTINUES

If you've been by the Redeemer offices in the last month, you've seen the exhibition "Hope in Making," including works by twenty-nine artists in the Redeemer community. This fall marks our third annual juried art exhibition and sale, which we celebrated with an Opening Party and Silent Auction on October 26. Forty works of art are included in the show, including paintings, photographs, multi-media pieces, and more.

The good news is that any pieces that weren't sold at the Silent Auction are still for sale! Two-thirds of the pieces are \$500 or less, and a number are \$200 or less. This is a great way to get orig-

inal works of art on your own walls, and support Redeemer artists and ministry partners.

It's typical in the art world for the "gallery" to retain half of the proceeds of works sold for operating expenses. In our case, that half will be donated to ministries that are using the arts to build "hope" in our city. Past beneficiaries of the art exhibitions have included Redeemer's Vision Campaign, the Diaconate, and arts-oriented short-term missions trips. The artists welcome this opportunity to give through their work to ministries they care about.

This year, two organizations will split the proceeds. Hope for New York is a Redeemer-affiliated

ministry that "helps ordinary people make an extraordinary difference by mobilizing and equipping people to contribute their resources to the cause of mercy and justice in our city." HFNY supports a number of affiliate ministries that use the arts in their outreach to the poor and marginalized of New York City. The other beneficiary this year, Zocalo Fine Arts Studio, seeks to "provide excellent and affordable fine arts instruction to children living in East Harlem."

The exhibition will be on display until January 2008. Visit www.faithandwork.org/exhibition for more information about the exhibition, and to view images of the works that are for sale.



Imprint (Heaven and Earth), etching by Hannah Kim

REDEEMER REPORT

Kathy Keller
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 • 6:00PM	ETHICAL CULTURE West 64TH and CPW service at 9:15AM	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Corner of West 79TH and Broadway service at 5:00PM & 7:15PM
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SERVING OTHERS WITH GOD'S GIFT

BY MARIE SCALFANI

I started to attend Redeemer in 2000 and became a member in 2003. I wondered how congregational care worked and how it came together at Redeemer. About a year after becoming a member, I felt a shift in my heart. It began to occur to me that I was still behaving like an observer and not really engaged. During that time, I was reading Rick Warren's *Purpose Driven Life* and Day 31 invites us to ponder: "What God-given ability or personal experience can I offer to my church?" It caused me to think about my life; the lessons that I'd learned and the talents I had acquired

personally and professionally. I read and prayed over 1 Peter 4:10, "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms," and soon I felt I could no longer attend Redeemer just as a consumer.

I called the Diaconate office offering to help peripherally because it felt like the safest way for me to ease into ministry work. The next thing I knew I was speaking to deaconesses, attending theological and practical skills classes and was being equipped to serve God's kingdom here at Redeemer.

I have been on the Diaconate now for over two years and it has been humbling, rewarding and spiritually enriching. Walking along side of congregants experiencing hardship and seeing their suffering is not easy. But I am truly part of God's family when I can listen to and pray with a brother or sister who is hurting. It's a privilege to see God's grace working in the lives of our clients as well as my own. As we enter officer nomination month, I invite you to ponder: Read 1 Peter 4:10, pray about your own gifts, and let God lead you to consider becoming a deacon or deaconess.

NOVEMBER IS OFFICER NOMINATION MONTH

During the entire month of November Redeemer will be accepting nominations for elder, deacon and deaconesses. As our church continues to grow, so does our need for new leaders. If you are a member, please start to prayerfully consider whether you or someone you know, who is also a member, could serve as an elder, deacon or deaconess.

As Redeemer's mercy ministry, the Diaconate provides practical

assistance to those in our congregation who are facing challenging situations (Acts 6:1-4 and 1 Timothy 3:8-13). The elders serve on the Session and provide spiritual leadership to our congregation through oversight of Redeemer ministries, leaders and members (1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9).

You must be a member to nominate another member. You can obtain a nomination form from Redeemer's website at

www.redeemer.com/nominations or pick up a form at any service at the information center. Fax completed nomination forms to the church office, attention: Jenny Chang at (646) 572-0020 or mail it to the office at 1359 Broadway, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10018. You may also place nomination forms in the offering basket during any of the Sundays in November. The deadline for submitting nominations is November 30, 2007.

REDEEMER OFFICER OPEN HOUSE

Friday, November 9 at 7:00PM at the Redeemer Offices, 1359 Broadway, 4th Floor

You are cordially invited to meet Redeemer's elected leaders, the members of the Session & the Diaconate as well as the Pastor. Come learn what the Session and the Diaconate do, hear about what it is like to be an elder and a deacon/deaconess and find out how you can be involved. More information: www.redeemer.com/nominations.

ART 101

If you would like to learn more about contemporary art, the artwork in the current exhibition (see pg. 2), and the artists who painted it, plan to attend our "Art 101" class on Tuesday, January 8, at 7:00PM at the Redeemer offices. Visit www.faithandwork.org/greenhouse or watch for announcements in the bulletin for more information.

heart is self-salvation and works righteousness, whether of a conservative or a liberal variety. Revival always proceeds around a rediscovery of the wonder of grace, the radical nature of Christ's accomplishment of salvation on our behalf. Secondly, there is always *corporate prayer*—extraordinary, kingdom-centered, prevailing prayer across the ordinary walls that divide Christians.

Third, however, there is *creativity*. No revival is just like the last one. For example, the Great Awakening was based on the innovation of itinerant preaching, including open air meetings. The 1857 revival, however, was based on lay-lead prayer meetings. In each generation, some new methods arise for getting out the gospel that fit the cultural moment.

Three parts of revival.

If the Spirit begins to bless these means, what does revival actually look like? There are at least three parts to it. First, *nominal church members get converted*. There are people who profess Christian beliefs, subscribe to Christian ethics, and are baptized members of the church. But during revivals many of these people come to realize that they have never experienced the new birth or truly understood the gospel.

Second, *sleepy Christians wake up to an immediate sense of God's love and presence*. Another mark of revival is that, especially during corporate worship, everyone experiences the reality of God's presence in a way hitherto unknown to them. They begin to have direct experience of God's love that fill them with assurance and confidence. Because of this new love for God, Christians spend time in deep repentance for idols (Judges 10) which only

enhances their joy.

Third, *non-believers outside the church are attracted to the Christian community in remarkable numbers*. Because of the conversion of nominal members and the assurance of believers, the church community itself becomes beautified. Christians begin to reach out in love to their community in striking ways. The cold, tribal attitudes ordinarily present in non-revived churches melt away. Non-believers are drawn in and the church grows at an amazing speed.

Four results of revival.

If revival gets underway, there are usually four results or responses. First, there is always the *excessive fringe of the revival*. Instead of being humbled by the new sense of God in their lives, some people seem to get puffed up with pride. They become condemning of Christians not in their own party. Leaders become elevated to positions of power before they are ready and often experience highly publicized lapses. Sometimes out and out charlatans see their opportunity because of the gullibility and vulnerability of the newly converted, and put themselves into authority. Many doctrinal idiosyncrasies or outright heresies are countenanced, because spiritual experience has become the main standard of validity, not Biblical truth.

Secondly, in response to the excessive fringe, there is a *mainstream cultural backlash*. The people in the leading cultural institutions find revivals frightening and vulgar. They usually fix their attention on the excesses and point it out to the rest of the world, saying, "See? There is where this revival stuff leads."

Thirdly, *some conservative, traditional church leaders also attack the*

revival. This is partly due to warranted concern about the excesses as well as an over-emphasis on experience and under-emphasis on the importance of the church. It is often also due to how jealous and threatened pastors can be when other ministries in their town are growing by leaps and bounds.

Despite all this, when a revival is broad and deep enough, there is *a real impact on society*. There have always been social reforms in the wake of revivals—the repeal of child labor laws, the abolition of slavery, a decrease in crime, improvements in the institution of marriage, and many other benefits.

Where is the revival?

Revival dynamics can be local, national or international. They can be intense and over soon, or they can be much slower moving and remain present at a low level for several years before subsiding. I have personally seen two periods of fairly intense revival dynamics, one on college campuses in the year 1970-71, and the other during some eighteen months at the beginning of Redeemer's ministry, 1990-91.

No one can force a major revival to happen by pushing the right buttons. God is sovereign because he is a God of grace. You can't merit a revival any more than you can merit your salvation. Yet I have seen over the years that when we earnestly seek God for his own sake (not for ministry success,) and seek to be mini-cases of personal revival ourselves, positive spiritual dynamics begin to work in the church around us. I believe God has many more revivals up his sleeve, before the final, Ultimate Revival, the Ultimate Spring after Winter, when even the trees of wood will sing for joy (Ps 96:12.)

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: YEAR END SNAPSHOT

BY DAVID BISGROVE

The Apostle Paul writes of the price Jesus paid on our behalf: "He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?" (Romans 8:32) The gospel reminds us that the very nature of God is relational, selfless giving. We see that the Father gives us his Son, and the Son in obedience to the Father gives us himself. Once we understand that selfless giving is at the heart of who God is, we will look at the things God has given us differently. Our money and possessions, our friends and our jobs, our time and our skills—are all gifts of God that must be stewarded and surrendered to the one who "for our sakes became poor, so that through his poverty we might become rich." (2 Corinthians 8:9).

At Redeemer, not only do your generous gifts fund special projects like the new facility to be built on West 83rd Street, but the ongoing ministries that serve our growing congregation and City. Please review the information below and prayerfully consider how you might invest in Redeemer's Vision.

Operating Budget: Giving to the 2007 Operating Budget is \$6.1M, which is 20% higher than the same period in 2006. And although spending is below target through September, we added a fifth service in March and have a number of new ministries expanding this Fall. The table below summarizes our current financial position. Please note that revenue figures in the table includes both operating giving and interest.

Because of the strength of Re-

deemer's giving relative to budget, the trustees elected to set aside approximately \$1M of operating reserves as a separate reserve fund to prepare for the mortgage on the new building. This mortgage reserve fund is not included in the above Operating Reserves. As such, our operating reserves are lower than we would like them to be at this time.

While giving has been above projections, it is important to remember that the largest portion of annual giving is received in the *last three months of the year!* Therefore in order to meet our goals, **we need to receive over \$3.6M (or just over 37% of our annual giving) between October 1 and December 31, 2007.** Prayerfully consider your part in our year-end giving. Online giving is available at <https://giving.redeemer.com>

Vision Campaign: We are grateful that giving to the Vision Campaign continues to be ahead of schedule. Campaign giving stands at \$12.2M, or 64% of the total pledges of \$19.2M. Your sacrificial giving to the vision will allow Redeemer to secure the funding needed to close on the purchase of Redeemer's first worship and community center on the Upper West Side. Please remember that even though we plan to purchase the building in the next few months, the project will be under construction until Spring 2010. Keep in mind that Redeemer will start paying mortgage interest shortly after we purchase the building, which is planned for December, 2007, or January, 2008. If it is possible for you fulfill your pledge early,

please do so. For those who have pledged but not yet contributed please consider giving toward your pledge in 2007. If you haven't yet pledged

to the Vision Campaign and would like to, visit our website at <https://giving.redeemer.com>.

How Can I Contribute?

1. Make a Gift Online via credit card or electronic check at <http://giving.redeemer.com>.

2. Place your checks/cash in the offering on Sundays.

3. Mail your checks (please don't send cash) to the church office:
*Redeemer Presbyterian Church
Attn: Finance Dept.
1359 Broadway, 4th Floor
New York, NY 10018*

4. You can donate stocks and mutual funds and other 'property' that often provide you with a double tax benefit (assuming the investment has appreciated and that you have held the stock for more than one year). By donating appreciated securities you avoid the capital gains tax faced when selling the stock, and the church pays NO capital gains tax when it sells the donated security. You should check with a tax professional before initiating any transfer of securities. If you would like to donate stock you can initiate the transfer through your broker and request that the shares be transferred to:

Charles Schwab

Account Name: Redeemer

Presbyterian Church

Account Number: 7354-3138

DTC #: 0164

(Please contact Sandy Young, sandy@redeemer.com, or x108 if you are considering this kind of gift so that we can understand how you would like this gift to be utilized and send you a tax receipt in a timely manner.)

5. If your bank has automated bill paying (i.e. JP Morgan/Chase) you can set up Redeemer Presbyterian Church to receive electronically generated checks, allowing you an easier way to be systematic in your giving.

September 30, 2007		
	Actual	Budget
Revenue	\$ 6,287,000	\$ 5,774,000
Expenses	\$ 6,725,000	\$ 6,999,000
Budget Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (438,000)	\$ (1,225,000)
Operating Reserves	\$ 791,000	\$ 4,000



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Center for Faith & Work Upcoming Events in November 2007

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
Fri, Nov 2, 6:00 PM	Re-Imagine Law: an evening with Tim Keller	Register at www.faihandwork.org/legal (\$10)
Thurs, Nov 8, 7:00PM	Graduate Student Fellowship	Monthly fellowship at Redeemer Office
Thurs, Nov 8, 7:00PM	Health Care Fellowship	Monthly Prayer Fellowship. Contact Amy Seon, aseon@hotmail.com , for location and details.
Fri, Nov 9, 7:00PM	InterArts Fellowship	Monthly fellowship at Redeemer Office
Sun, Nov 11, 12:00PM	Finance Chat	Held at Hunter College Room 507
Thurs, Nov 15, 8:00AM	Legal Fellowship Breakfast	Monthly Bible study at Redeemer Office
Sun, Nov 18, 12:00PM	Health Care Fellowship Lunch	Monthly lunch gathering. Meet at Hunter College welcome desk at 69th St. entrance
Mon, Nov 19, 7:00 PM	Entrepreneurs Fellowship	Apply for this group at www.faihandwork.org/entrepreneurs
Tues, Nov 20, 7:00 PM	The A. D. Agency	Monthly fellowship at Redeemer Office
Wed, Nov 21, 7:00 PM	Marketing & Sales Group	Monthly fellowship at Redeemer Office
Mon, Nov 26, 7:00PM	Financial Services Monthly Fellowship	Fellowship & Community building. Open to all Financial Services professionals.
Thurs, Nov 29, 7:00PM	FSM event with David Miller	David W. Miller, executive director of the Yale Center for Faith & Culture at Yale Divinity School and is an adjunct professor of business ethics.

Advance Registration or RSVP required for most CFW Events. Go to www.faihandwork.org

SCOTT SAULS, NEW DIRECTOR

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hope, the irreligious are intrigued and drawn in, the religious lose their religiosity, and believers mature into servant-leaders who love deeply and authentically.

Scott is the grateful husband of Patti, the proud Dad of Abigail (9) and Ellie (5), and the semi-reluctant patron of two gerbils (Scott is more of a dog person, but he lost the family debate regarding pets). Scott received his undergraduate degree in Business at Furman

University (1990) and his Master's of Divinity from Covenant Theological Seminary (1996).

Scott and Patti like to indulge in simple things—family walks, road trips, a good glass of wine or beer, life together with friends, stimulating, heart-fulfilling books from the likes of C.S. Lewis, Henri Nouwen, Anne Lamott, Donald Miller, etc., watching movies, eating out, and digging all kinds of music from The Rolling

Stones to U2 to Sufjan Stevens to Alison Krauss to The Indigo Girls to the occasional Mozart. Scott grew up in athletics, majoring in basketball and tennis, and highlighted by winning the 1984 Georgia state high school tennis championship. Patti has a master's degree in speech pathology from St. Louis University, and has also served as a children's ministry director at both of the Sauls' previous churches.