

25 YEARS OF CHANGED LIVES

As a church, Redeemer exists to help build a great city for all people through a movement of the gospel that brings personal belief, community formation, social justice, and cultural renewal to New York City and, through it, the world.

This September, we mark 25 years of serving New York City and its people. In preparation for this milestone anniversary, we are gathering short stories from people who have experienced gospel renewal through Redeemer and its ministries.

People encounter the gospel in different ways and at various points in life. For some, there is a bold, distinct moment of awareness of the realities of the gospel. For others, it can be a quieter, more subtle process

— or somewhere in between. Everyone who's experienced it has a unique story of how the power of the gospel changed them, and each account is a

Share *YOUR* story
redeemer.com/25years/stories

potent testament to God's grace and faithfulness. Here are some examples from people who have shared their story at redeemer.com.

As we have begun to gather stories, we are hearing about subtle awakenings:

"For me, there wasn't an 'a-ha' moment, but over time I came to realize my understanding of Christ had changed."

— *Phil (NY, NY)*

About greater clarity around the desires of our souls:

"...I kept asking myself — what is it that I am looking for? If this — a high-paying job, a fun life in NYC — isn't what I want, then what is? ...

When I opened my heart to the Gospel, not just my mind, I began to see how it was the answer I was looking for."

— *Jane (NY, NY)*

The power of God's love and its manifestation in community:

"In moments of fear and doubt, Abba overwhelms me with His love, and teaches me how to surrender. He

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CHECK OUT THE NEW HFNY.ORG

Hope for New York has a new website!

The updated hfny.org has a new volunteer opportunity search and filtering system, multimedia to show the on-the-ground work of our non-profit affiliates and stories and insights across the site on our mercy and justice efforts throughout the city.

Check it out at <http://www.hfny.org>.

HFNY'S CHARITY BIKE RIDE: STEWARDING OUR POSSESSIONS, TIME, RELATIONSHIPS AND LEGS

BY FAY SARDJONO, HFNY MANAGER OF GIVING AND GROWTH

It's nearly impossible to go one day without encountering need — someone whose life has been overtaken by addiction, trafficking victims in our local news or the disabled man asking for help right outside Hope for New York's office.

In the face of so much pain and suffering, we may feel helpless, overwhelmed or cynical about the possibility of change. We may feel like we have nothing to offer.

In reality, we have everything to offer. All that we have — our relationships, our influence, even the ease with which we can communicate — are gifts from God and we have the opportunity to share and use them to bring greater joy and flourishing to this city.

HFNY's annual Charity Bike Ride, which takes place on September 20, presents an amazing opportunity for you to share your gifts. Last year, over 100 participants who love and follow Christ brought him their bikes, time, influence, relationships, and all the power in their

legs to raise over \$100,000 from over 800 donors. Those funds were part of the total amount HFNY distributed in 2013 — approximately \$1.3 million to organizations serving the poor and marginalized, providing Thanksgiving dinners for over 250 families in need, over 3,000 toys for children at Christmas-time, over 20,000 meals for the homeless, and more.

#TeamHFNY members stewarded their relationships for more than social activity, they leveraged their networks to advocate for New Yorkers in need. They stewarded their bikes and time for more than stress relief and exercise — they turned them into tools that God used to renew the city.

As HFNY gears up for this year's Bike Ride, we ask each of you:

- Do you own or can you rent a bike?
- Do you have friends, family and colleagues?
- Do you have the ability to communicate?

- Do you have a few hours to train this summer?

If the answer to all of the above is yes, then will you prayerfully consider using all those gifts to join us in our Charity Bike Ride this year? You'll serve the city with #TeamHFNY (click here for pics), a group passionate about mercy and justice. All levels are welcome! Strength and community-building rides are available, and you can choose one of four distances for race day: 25, 50, 65 or 100 miles.

When we turn to God, offer to be his hands and feet, and then faithfully join him in his redemptive work, we no longer have to feel so helpless in the face of pain and suffering. Bring what you have to him — in this instance, perhaps your bike and your legs — and join our mighty and compassionate king in the work of healing our city.

Learn more about HFNY's Annual Charity Bike Ride on September 20 at hfny.org/bikeride.

REDEEMER REPORT

The Redeemer Report is a publication of the Redeemer Presbyterian Church.
Office: 1359 Broadway, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10018-7102
212-808-4460 (T) 212-808-4465 (F) www.redeemer.com

Cregan Cooke

Heather Klein

Hunter College Auditorium
E. 69th St.

(between Park & Lexington)

Services: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.

W83rd Ministry Center
150 W. 83rd St.

(between Columbus & Amsterdam)

Services: 9:30/11:30 a.m., 5 & 7 p.m.

Salvation Army Auditorium
120 W. 14th St.

(between 6th & 7th Aves.)

Services: 9:30 a.m. & 5 p.m.

BETA SEASON IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

This is a great opportunity to help build community by becoming a leader!

What makes a good Beta Group leader?

Someone who loves God, and loves people, and wants to try out leading a Community Group. Never been a leader before? Beta Groups are the place to start! It's a 7-week program, so you can try it out without

feeling over-committed.

What's the difference between a Beta Group and a Community Group?

There are two major differences. First, Beta Groups have a temporary duration of seven weeks, while Community Groups are ongoing and meet as long as the group exists. Second, most if not all Beta Group attendees will be meeting

one another for the first time, whereas Community Groups are established and people often join knowing other members. Beta Groups are a great way to meet new people in the city and serve others through providing community.

To find more information about how to lead and see testimonies by people who've participated go to: **redeemer.com/beta**.

MERCY'S IMPACT – NOMINATION MONTH IS COMING!

“Mercy has an impact. It melts hearts. It removes objections. It forces respect out of even those hostile to the gospel. Our good deeds glorify God in the eyes of the world”

– Tim Keller, *Ministries of Mercy*

Redeemer's expression of Mercy Ministry.

Taking its cues from the early church the Redeemer Diaconate is a group of men (deacons) and women (deaconesses) who are nominated, trained, elected and appointed by Redeemer elders and members, much like the historic church.

In Acts 6 we learn that as the church grew, a segment of population, specifically the Hellenistic widows, was overlooked in daily distribution of food. So the church leaders got together and urged the congregation to “pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty [of service] (v3).” Through selection and mobilization of additional servants we see God's kingdom greatly expanded.

Modeled after Acts 6, the Redeemer Diaconate exists to contribute to the building of a repentant and rejoicing community through loving, truth-telling relationships where practical, visible needs are being met while hearts are being changed through encounters with Jesus and one another. The Diaconate expresses in practical ways Christ's command to all believers to love our neighbor as ourselves.

How you can help?

As each of the three Redeemer congregations expand it's crucial for our church to increase our teams of deacons to serve increasing needs of each congregation.

There are various ways for you to partner with us:

Nominate a fellow member to

be considered for the Diaconate this November. We're on the lookout for compassionate, servant-hearted and spiritually mature candidates and we are praying for an explosion in the numbers of nomination. Join us as we pray for our future nominees and come to the Diaconate Open House on Wednesday, November 12, for a lively panel and information session with light refreshments.

Pray with us as we seek God's wisdom and his sustaining grace to serve our fellow sisters and brothers in need.

Consider providing financial gifts to the Diaconate to enable its ministry of mercy.

Thank you so much, your faithful partnership is making a difference.

25TH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Join us September 18-21, 2014 for our 25th anniversary weekend as we thank God for what he has done in our first 25 years as a church and for his provision of people, relationships and means to serve New York City.

Please check redeemer.com/25thweekendschedule as details are finalized, additional information is available and registration opens.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

**FAITH & WORK CELEBRATION AND
MINISTRY YEAR KICKOFF, 7 P.M.**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

CFW ART EXHIBIT OPENS AT W83

**FOUNDERS & EARLY MEMBERS
EVENT, 7 p.m.**

Information about this event will be posted in mid-August. Registration required, details TBD.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

**HFNY ANNUAL CHARITY BIKE
RIDE, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Cycle and fundraise to support HFNY's work to serve the poor and marginalized of our city. More at hfny.org/bikeride.

**SATURDAY BRUNCH MIXER,
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Meet at W83 for brunch with other present and former members.

**HFNY AFFILIATE TOURS,
12 p.m. to 4 p.m.**

See what's happening on the ground at Hope for New York's affiliate non-profits throughout the city. Specific tour locations and sign-ups will be posted in mid-August.

**CFW ART EXHIBIT AT W83,
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

**CFW ARTS CELEBRATION,
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

Detailed programs provided by CFW Arts available throughout the W83 building. To include: Children's Show, Classical Music, Dance, Short films and documentaries.

**25TH ANNIVERSARY VARIETY
SHOW, 7 p.m.**

Hosted by Martin Bashir with the West Side Evening Band. Location TBD, registration required, special guests include Tim & Kathy Keller, special musical performers and past Redeemer members in entertainment and the arts. Registration for this event will open in mid-August.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

**REGULAR WORSHIP SERVICE
SCHEDULE, 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

Sr. Pastor Tim Keller will speak briefly at every service.

**MAX MACLEAN PRESENTS C.S. LEWIS'
WEIGHT OF GLORY, 12 p.m.**

CFW Arts will present this event following the 10:30 a.m. service at Hunter College.

**ALL CHURCH PICNIC IN CENTRAL
PARK, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.**

Location TBD. Rain location is Hunter College, West Building, 3rd Fl.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN A KID'S LIFE AS A MENTOR

BY WHITNEY EDGE, HFNY VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Every August, we gear up to recruit for one of the biggest volunteer needs at Hope for New York: mentors and tutors for the hundreds of children and youth from low-income backgrounds served by our affiliate non-profits across the city.

We believe mentoring can transform the mentor as much as the mentee. Why do we think that this is such an amazing volunteer opportunity?

You'll be part of changing a child's life.

Probably more than any other volunteer opportunity, mentoring a young person one-on-one gives you the opportunity to experience transformation and growth firsthand. As Greg Nance, a mentor with Morris Academy, told us: "I never

would have imagined that a high school kid in the Bronx would actually call me his 'bro,' appreciate our friendship, receive the guidance I offer and trust me enough to share the tough details about his real life problems with me."

You'll join a community of other mentors.

Our programs like Operation Exodus, Morris Academy Mentors, Mont Lawn City Camp, and Shiloh NYC offer an incredible community of mentors who meet, encourage, and pray for one another throughout the year.

You'll build into the next generation of New Yorkers.

When you mentor, you'll join a movement that will have repercussions far beyond the

time you spend as a mentor—you'll be part of influencing an entire generation. We think that's an exciting prospect.

Interested? There are two ways you can join us:

Mentor with us.

Interested in mentoring, but want to learn more? We'll kick off our mentoring year with an info session on Monday August 25. Sign up for the info session at <http://goo.gl/9Ypo5Q>.

Pray with us .

We're sending out prayer emails for our congregations to join us in praying for the kids in our mentoring programs and their families, as well as our affiliate staff and volunteers. Subscribe to our prayer email at <http://goo.gl/LMMSI5>

25 YEARS OF CHANGED LIVES... (CONT'D FROM PAGE 1)

has also given me brothers and sisters with whom to climb this mountain."

— Isaac (NY, NY)

How the gospel changes everything about the way that we interpret our reality:

"I'm no longer content to view the brokenness of our city at a distance, now I'm drawn towards it to engage it. When I'm reminded that Christ wasn't content to view the brokenness of this world at a distance, but

physically entered in to bring renewal, I'm encouraged and find myself asking — how can I be salt and light in this city, and particularly in the work to which I've been called?"

— Glenn (NY, NY)

And how God can use us as vessels to carry His love to others:

"God has used mentoring to show me that how I choose to spend my time and whom I choose to invest it in should not be

about *me* — it's about experiencing His unimaginably selfless love and then sharing it with others."

— Rebecca (NY, NY)

To read these and other stories of changed lives, please see our Stories of Gospel Renewal site: 25years.redeemer.com.

We hope you'll be inspired to see what God is doing in and through these individuals, and that you will consider adding your voice as well! You can share your story at: redeemer.com/25years/stories.



1359 BROADWAY
4TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10018

FIRST CLASS MAIL
US POSTAGE
PAID
NEW YORK NY
PERMIT # 349

MAKE A GIFT TO THE W83 BUILDING FUND

Help us reach our goal to pay down the mortgage 13 years early, in 2026 rather than 2038. Redeemer's goal is to pay down our mortgage by an additional \$1,000,000 each year. Redeemer has dedicated \$500,000 from our 2014 operating budget for this purpose, and needs \$500,000 in gifts to meet our goal in 2014.



Each \$100 gift in 2014 results in \$452 in interest saved over the life of the loan.

Redeemer W83 Mortgage Payoff Comparison

