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Visit us on-line @

www.redemptionministries.com



Upcoming Events...

April

1st - IPHC/Redemption Ministries

First Friday Fast @ RMRDC

8th/9th - FEL/SOM @ RMRDC

Royal Ranger/FCF Trace @ RMRDC

15th - 16th - SOM @ Fountain of Life

SOM @ Tree of Life

17th - Palm Sunday

22nd - Good Friday

24th - Easter Sunday

May

2nd - 4th - Retired Minister's/Spouse Retreat

@ RMRDC

6th - IPHC/Redemption Ministries

First Friday Fast @ RMRDC

13th - 14th - FEL/SOM @ RMRDC

14th - Camp Work Day

20th - 21st - Hispanic Women's Retreat

SOM @ Fountain of Life

30th - Office Closed

June

3rd - IPHC/Redemption Ministries

First Friday Fast @ TRC

10th - 11th - FEL/SOM @ RMRDC

16th - 18th - Hispanic City Quest

Oklahoma City, OK

17th - 18th - SOM @ Fountain of Life

19th - 24th - Sr. High Camp @ RM

26th - July 1 Middle School Camp @

RM

July

1st - IPHC/Redemption Ministries

First Friday Fast @ RMRDC

6 - 9 - Kid's Camp @ RMRDC

12 - 16 - Royal Ranger's Camporama

18 - 22 - Youth Quest Atlanta, GA

29 - 1 - Power Chick Ridgecrest, NC

August

3rd - 6th - Petersburg Free Camp

5th - IPHC/Redemption Ministries

First Friday Fast @ RMRDC

8th - 15th - DM/CM Trinidad Missions

Trip

20th - DM Day of Training

Youth, Boys, Girls, Children's

Workers



Messenger

A Word From The Bishop

“The wind was contrary” or “against it”. This is how the storm was described that buffeted the boat on the Sea of Galilee (Mt 14:24). The effect of the wind was that the boat was “tossed” by the waves or “battered” or “buffeted.” These unpredictable winds can sweep down the mountain side near the Sea of Galilee and out of no where, cause a violent storm. Like many of the storms we have experienced recently, wind can be a powerful force. The strong winds and thunder storms of March and April can be extremely “contrary.” In fact, they have literally ripped open roofs and uprooted huge trees. Spiritual storms and winds can be just as unpredictable and violent. How we handle these turbulent, contrary winds will impact our life and destiny. So, what do you do when it seems life is “against” you?

First, always remind yourself of the last word the Lord spoke to you. My motto is “Never let go in the dark what the Lord has revealed in the light!”

Second, “fix your eyes on Jesus” because He is “the author (founder) and perfecter” of your faith (Heb. 12:2). Cast your care on the Lord and release those anxious thoughts to Him. Like someone once said, “Sorrow looks back. Worry looks around. But faith looks up!” Keep a steady eye on Jesus Christ.

Third, seek the Lord for the strength and courage to act. “Take courage” (v 27), Jesus said to the disciples. Take great comfort in Isaiah 40:31, “But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.” Faith and courage are like a kite --- an opposing wind



raises it higher.

Finally, I have learned to embrace the contrary winds and grow from my journey through the storms of life. Jesus made the disciples immediately “get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side...” He knew they would encounter these contrary winds. But he sent them still, even though he would not be in the boat with them. Why? Because when they got to the other side they would face spiritual warfare as never before. So, embrace your contrary winds. The Lord is preparing you for your next assignment.

Blessings,
Dayton

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- FCF Trace
April 8 - 10, 2011
- National Day of Prayer
May 5, 2011
- Sr. High Camp
June 19-24, 2011
- Middle School Camp
June 26 - July 1, 2011
- Kid's Camp
July 6 - 9, 2011
- Youth Quest
July 18 - 21, 2011

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Discipleship Ministries - I hear the sound of rain!

I was sitting in my home recently listening to the rain fall on the roof top. It got louder and louder, as the rain continued for hours. I will admit I don't have a problem with the sound of rain, but the thunder, still to this day, shakes me up. But that's another story for another time. I can only imagine what Elijah felt like when he said in 1 Kings 18:41 “Then Elijah said to Ahab, “Go up, eat and drink; for **there is the sound of abundance of rain.**”

Two chapters prior, because of the wickedness of Ahab and Jezebel, Elijah declared, from the Lord, the heavens be shut until He would speak otherwise.

When God is judging a nation it often takes the form of a severe drought. Things become dry, lifeless and hard. They become of little value. The people of Israel had rebelled against the Lord and turned to idols. The drought lasted for quite a while, affecting the lives of a lot of people.

So he told Ahab, 'Get ready. Prepare to celebrate (eat and drink). The drought is over and rain is coming.' He said this before there were any visible signs of rain in the air. Then Elijah goes to pray. He prays seven times. After each prayer moment, he sends his servant to look at the sky. After the first six times, the servant came back to report that NOTHING had happened. For a season as we pray and obey it seems as if all we receive is NOTHING.

Minister's Wives Fellowship

Happy Spring! I enjoy this time of year because of all of the delicate flowers and trees that the Lord has created. I love to look at the detail of the petals and just how intricate the Lord has made all of his creation.

Dayton and I recently enjoyed a dinner and play at a local dinner theater that was built as a grist mill in the 1600's. We both like antiques and history, me probably a little more the antiques, and that is a story all by itself.

Anyway, I say that to say the play that we saw was about quilters of the early settlers in the prairie and how much their quilts and swatches of fabric meant to them. The ladies of that day always had a story to tell about their quilts as well as their quilts telling a story.

I also like fabric and can usually tell a story about what I have made or why I made it. Fabrics can be eloquent, shiny, bright, all sorts of things, but my favorites are usually the calicos. The more worn or old looking, the better I like it.

Some may even think some of my fabrics or furniture pieces are ugly or boring. I have taken worn out material and furniture and transformed it into something with value and potential.

Do you ever feel that way about yourself? Nothing special. Nothing valuable. Outdated. Well the Lord sees great potential in all of us, no matter how we may see ourselves.

During this season of new life all around us, ask the Lord to

help us see the hidden potential that he sees in us. Remember, we are all new creations in Him. Let the Lord help you embrace the plans he has for you.

In Christ,

Lynn Birt

Discipleship Ministries Fine Arts Update



Congratulations to all our winners in Jr. & Sr. Talent:

Hunter Mason, Kellie & Brittany Harrison, Sarah & Alex Hess, Desire Worship Team, Julian Gonzalez, Avery Lewis, Andrew Carter, Donnavan Campbell, Brian Fullman, Impact Kids from Crossroads, Isaac & Isabel Madden, Leslie Peck, & Ashley Mason

What a tremendous time we had at our Fine Arts Festival and Conference Youth Rally. Thanks to all who came and supported this wonderful event.

Hope you will join us for the following upcoming events. If you need more information please call our office at 804-862-9201 x104.

Camp Prep Day @ RM
May 14, 2011

Senior High Camp @ RM
June 19-24, 2011

Ranger Kids District Campout
June 24 - 26, 2011

Middle School Camp
June 26 - July 1, 2011

Kid's Camp
6 - 9, 2011

Youth Quest
July 18 - 21, 2011

Camporama - Greensboro, NC
July 12-16, 2011

Power Chicks-Ridgecrest, NC
July 29 - August 1, 2011



Gustavo & LeeAnn Torres

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I hear the sound of rain, cont.

During the seasons of NOTHING we need to KEEP our ear tuned to what we heard from God. We can't slip into blaming God, leadership, people, or circumstances. We need to maintain the posture of prayer.

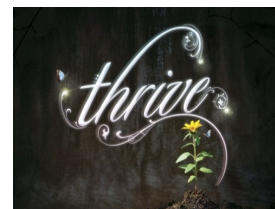
Finally on the seventh time of prayer, the servant returned with good news and bad news. There is a cloud. That's the good news. It's very small, about the size of a man's hand. That's the bad news. There is finally a sign but it is not enough.

And it looks very much like something man could do. God is not limited in our dry season. God is n the business of making the impossible possible! Also at times, I believe God withdraws himself at times from us, so that we will pursue Him with all our heart. We feel so dry, but there is a small cloud coming on the horizon, He begins his supernatural work with the smallest and most ordinary things.

When the servant turned around to look at the sky, it had turned black

with clouds and the winds had begun to blow. The little (man-sized) cloud had grown to many clouds. Look up, and see the clouds are filling with rain. The rain represented the return of the divine favor of God upon His people.

The Lord is sending the rain for you! What was once dry is now saturated with the presence of God. So if you feel dry, keep praying and know that the rain is on it's way. In spite of what you may see or not see, know that your God is sending the rain!



Coming Soon!!

2011 Women's Conference
Sept. 30 - Oct. 1, 2011
At Redemption Ministries

2012 Ministries Convention

What a phenomenal time we had at this past year's Ministries Convention. We are still hearing comments of what an impactful time this weekend was for many.

Preparations are already under way for the 2012 Ministries Convention.

Our guest speaker will be Rev. Bill Wilson of Metro Ministries.



Pastor Bill established Metro Ministries in 1980 in what was one of Brooklyn's roughest neighborhoods, the Bushwick community, most commonly known for its history of gang violence, crime, drugs, and poverty.

KNOW HIM, PURSUE HIM, LIVE HIM

Here, violence is a way of life and a constant threat. Pastor Bill has been beaten, stabbed and shot in the face. Yet, he perseveres and refuses to leave the area or give up on the children growing up in such an environment. Because of that, his efforts have made a difference, not only in the lives of children but in the community as well.



Mark **Feb. 24-25, 2012** on your calendar now and come worship with us as we endeavor to **KNOW HIM, PURSUE HIM, LIVE HIM.**

School of Ministry

We are excited this year about a new concept of teaching Foundations for Emerging Leaders courses. **(Please email us for a list of courses).** We are using these courses in a local church setting and FEL instructors are teaching them on a weekly basis. There are seven sessions and each week one session is taught followed by a group activity. This allows local pastors to train and equip their leadership team and other interested members of the congregation.

The two churches that are currently using this new concept are:

Pastor Chuck Davis
Happy Home PH Church
Tyner, NC Ph 252-221-4039

Pastor Kevin McBride
Crossroads PH Church
Petersburg, VA 804-733-8876

Please feel free to call them and get their feedback on how their congregations are being inspired by this great training.

We are offering a special price of \$30 for the first course; this includes the cost of the instruction and the student guide. Each addition class will be \$50.

Please contact me if you are interested or if you have any questions.



Rev. Don Caskie

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World Missions

Redemption Ministries is committed to fulfilling the great commission through monthly missionary support, People to People ministries, Disaster Relief, and mobilizing short term missions teams.

2011 Short Term Missions Trips:

- Guatemala (led by Bobby Hoyle & Lend A Hand Ministries)
- Ecuador March 23- 29 (Joint Leadership training with River

of Life Conference)

- Honduras - May 19-24 (led by Mario Tabora & Manuel Gonzalez)
- Trinidad - August 8 - 15 (led by Allen Powell & Gustavo Torres)
- Rwanda - November 28 - Dec. 6 (led by Bishop Dayton Birt)

If you are planning a missions trip, or interested in joining one, please contact the conference office at 804- 862-9201

2011 Global Outreach Offering Goal \$30,000

You may send your offering with your monthly church or minister's report.

Or
bring it to:

Annual Conference
Oct. 14-15,
Greensprings Chapel,
Williamsburg, VA