

# SMOKE SIGNALS

Redeemer Lutheran School \* 468 Grand Street \* Redwood City \* CA \* 94062  
(650)366-3466 \* [www.redeemer-school.org](http://www.redeemer-school.org)

*“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. Love your neighbor as yourself.” Matthew 22: 37-39*

November 20, 2009

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## **MR. MANCINI, PRINCIPAL'S CORNER**

### **THANKSGIVING THOUGHTS...**

As we approach the Thanksgiving holidays I can't help but think of all the blessings we have received throughout the past year from our great God. It is so easy to reflect on difficult times instead of giving thanks to God for all our circumstances in life. Thanksgiving is a time of reflection. A time to look back and thank God for all the gifts he has blessed us with during the year.

Here is a great prayer that you may want to read around your Thanksgiving table this year. I believe it incases everything we believe and how we can thank our awesome Lord and Savior.

**God of all Creation:** *You have cared for the earth, and have filled it with your riches. Abundance flows in your steppes, through the pastures and wilderness. You provide for our land, softening it with showers, bathing it in light, and blessing it with growth.*

*The hills sing with joy; the meadows are covered with flocks; the fields deck themselves with wheat; and together they glorify your name!*

*On this occasion of our Thanksgiving, we as a nation take rest from our labors to consider your many blessings. We thank you for our freedoms, and for the opportunity to contribute our skills, our attributes and our values toward the good of society.*

*We thank you for the mixture of our cultures, blending us into one people under God. Help us to be a light unto other nations, and to further the cause of freedom and justice all over the world.*

*We remember those who are less fortunate than we. We lift up in prayer the victims of poverty and racism, and all those who suffer from forms of political and economic oppression. Let the word that goes forth from our mouths speak of your peace, and let us proclaim our hope in Christ as Savior of all humankind.*

*We pray that you will bless all those who gather here, as we have come to experience your presence among us. Give us your guidance, O God, and empower us for your work. For we claim nothing for ourselves, but return all honor and glory unto you, and offer our thanks and praise. Amen.*

### **WELCOME BACK MRS. MAIER!**

We all welcome back Mrs. Maier from her maternity leave this coming Monday. We all thank Mrs. Mesler for her commitment and dedication to our team over the past three months and look forward to having her as part of our substitute team.

### **PASS IT ON**

We are already beginning to start the process of marketing for next fall! We ask you to pass on information to friends and neighbors about the great experiences you have had at RLS. Have families, who might be interested in a quality Christian education, call us to see the school or have them take a look at the school's website [www.redeemer-school.org](http://www.redeemer-school.org).

We are very blessed to have committed and dedicated parents such as you and we look forward to giving our children not only a quality education, but also the Christian values and morals that will allow them to succeed in forever changing society.

Thanks for your continued love and support of our ministry. May the God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow continue to bless you and your family during this Thanksgiving holiday.



## CHAPEL OFFERINGS

### *Teddy Bears!*

We will once again be collecting TEDDY BEARS for our chapel offerings for the San Mateo County Children's Fund. These bears are given to children who are going through stressful times. Bring in a **NEW**, soft, cuddly, dark-colored **12-18 inch** bear to chapel in December. Monetary offerings will be given to the RLC Teddy Bear committee to purchase additional bears. Thank you for your support and generosity.

## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC BEE

We will hold our twelfth annual National Geographic Bee on Thursday, **December 17th** at **2:00 PM** in the church. Please join us!

Students in grades 5-8 may participate in the Bee. The teachers will determine the ten contestants after the Thanksgiving break. Read up on worldwide current events and look over your US and world maps for a leg up on the competition!!



## MANDATORY HOURS

Just another friendly reminder about mandatory hours for 2009-2010. Hours worked May 1, 2009-April 30, 2010 count for this year. Two-parent households are required to contribute 35 hours/year (25 hours for families new to RLS this year). Single-parent households are required to contribute 20 hours/year (15 for new families). Unfulfilled hours must be paid at \$20/hour.

Please keep track of your hours on the official two-part NCR form that was included in your summer mailing. If you need another copy, please stop by the school office.

**COLUMN A, listing all hours worked 5/1/09-11/30/09, is DUE ON DECEMBER 5.** Please turn it in to the school office on or around December 5. Please turn in only the white copy of Form A, and keep the yellow NCR copy for your records. Once you have recorded your required hours for the year, you don't need to record additional hours. If you've already worked more dates than will fit in column A, feel free to spill over into column B or attach a separate page listing the additional dates. *BE SURE TO PUT YOUR NAME ON THE FORM!*

Thank you to our volunteers. We sincerely appreciate all the time and talents you bring to Redeemer School. Many of you cheerfully give over and above the required hours and we salute your generosity!



## SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK

Last day to bring in food for our food drive is  
Monday, November 23.

Help us meet our goal of 2,000 pounds.  
Last year we collected 2,068 pounds.  
Let's see if we can surpass that total!!!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL  
ENROLLMENT DATES FOR 2010-2011**

**January 4 - February 16, 2010**

Priority Kindergarten Registration

Enrollment forms received after February 16th will be placed on a waiting list pending space available.

**February 1-26, 2010**

Priority registration for current Redeemer students.

**Beginning March 1, 2010**

Open enrollment for all grades

If you have a kindergarten student for the upcoming year, I encourage you to enroll as soon as possible in January. Pick up an application in the school office.

Re-enrollment packets for students in grades 1-8 will be mailed home in January.

Spread the word! Current Redeemer families can earn a \$300 credit for each new child who enrolls in Redeemer! Ask Mrs. Olsen for complete details.

**REDWOOD CITY GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!**

Attention all girls ages 5-16

Softball for beginners and experienced players.

There are three ways to register:

1. Online at [www.rcgsl.org](http://www.rcgsl.org)
2. Mail in - download the form at [www.rcgsl.org](http://www.rcgsl.org)
3. Walk in - December 12<sup>th</sup> 10:00-2:00 at the RC Main Library, 1044 Middlefield Road

Register today and join the fun!

**REDUCE \* REUSE \* RECYCLE**

Did you know...

- Recycling one aluminum beverage can saves enough energy to run a 100 watt bulb for 20 hours, a computer for 3 hours, or a TV for 2 hours.
- Five 2-liter recycled PET bottles produce enough fiberfill to make a ski jacket.
- It takes approximately 1 million years for a glass bottle to break down at the landfill.

[www.epa.gov/osw/partnerships/wastewise/wrr/factoid.htm](http://www.epa.gov/osw/partnerships/wastewise/wrr/factoid.htm)



**WINTER COATS**

Item #15, page 12 in the handbook states:

*“Only official Redeemer School sweatshirts, fleeces, vests, and jackets may be worn. Winter coats of your choice are allowed November - February. Winter coats and rain gear may be worn outdoors only.”*

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

When a student is INSIDE the school building, the only outerwear they are allowed to wear is an official RLS sweatshirt, fleece, vest, sweater, or jacket. If a student wishes to bring a heavier coat/jacket or a rain coat, they may wear it OUTSIDE during recess or lunch over or in place of their uniform jacket/sweatshirt.

Students may not, at any time during the year (fall, winter, or spring) wear a non-uniform sweatshirt, sweater, fleece, vest, or lightweight jacket to school when school uniforms are required.

Thank you for your support and cooperation. Please don't hesitate to call the school office if you have any questions.

## LADY BRAVES VOLLEYBALL SEASON!!!!

Dear Players, Parents, Grandparents, Drivers and all the Great Fans,  
Thank you for making this season a good experience for the girls. Our team did not win the state championship, but that was not our goal. We had a great group of scrappy and tough 6th graders who played hard and improved every day. Our 7th graders played extremely well and will be next year's cream of the crop! Keep up the practice! This group was always working hard in practice and had many shining moments during the season. Good luck to you next year. Our departing 8th graders showed great leadership and never gave up. Congratulations on a successful year, with many memorable rallies, digs, sets, spikes, killer serves and ACES!!!! I wish the best for you in your high school future student/athlete careers. Thank you for allowing me to coach this amazing group of young women. A big thank you to Coach Heidi Pellarin for her assistance. I couldn't have done it without her!

Team members:

- 6<sup>th</sup> graders: Olivia Pellarin, Lexi Riccardi, Katey Zimmer, Amanda Hawley, and Itzel Bravo
- 7<sup>th</sup> graders: Mikeala Lewman, Taylor Madsen, Sabrina Proctor, Mable Attiogbe, Gaby Ruiz, and Regina Roudebush
- 8<sup>th</sup> graders: Emily Moffat, Sarah Burrows, McKenna Brown, June Bowie, and Kaylee Kohlmaier.

*God's Blessings, Bob Bowie, Coach*

## BRAVES VOLLEYBALL

This was a "building" year for our boy's volleyball team. With only a few returning veterans from last year, we called on the 5<sup>th</sup> graders to help carry the load. It was a tough year since we were competing against teams made up of mostly 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The lone 7<sup>th</sup> grader was Nick Chiamos. He was our captain. He used his wicked serve to score a lot of points for us. In fact, he served 15 in a row at our POP tournament. There were several 6<sup>th</sup> graders on the team from last year. Gavin Ball, Giulio Gambelin, and Andrew Cahill, along with newcomer Chris Johnson, helped us throughout the year. They also helped the 5<sup>th</sup> Graders with skill development and defensive positioning. The 5<sup>th</sup> graders were Justin Abdel Shahid, Liam Dumanske, Kyle Elpel, Cory Jester, Cristian Palafox, Matthew Ramirez, and Aidan Stevens. As these players grow taller and get stronger, I expect the team to be stronger and more competitive next year. It was a treat to see the growth in these players. They worked hard at getting better.

*Thank you Braves! Coach Doody*

Team Roster 2009:

- 7<sup>th</sup> grader: Nick Chiamos
- 6<sup>th</sup> graders: Gavin Ball, Giulio Gambelin, Andrew Cahill, Chris Johnson
- 5<sup>th</sup> graders: Justin Abdel-Shahid, Liam Dumanske, Kyle Elpel, Matthew Ramirez, Aidan Stevens, Cristian Palafox, Cory Jester

## THANKSGIVING

*"He who thanks but with the lips  
Thanks but in part;  
The full, the true Thanksgiving  
Comes from the heart."  
J.A. Shedd*

Redeemer Lutheran  
Church  
Worship Service  
Thanksgiving Morning  
9:00 AM



## YEARBOOK PICTURES

I need your pictures. If you have digital pictures of school events -- beach day, field trips, sports, classroom activities, Art in Action, etc. -- please be generous and share them with me. I must have the entire yearbook completed by early March, so the sooner, the better!!!

Please put pictures on a CD. If you have no more than 5-6 pictures to share, you may e-mail them to me at [golsen@redeemer-school.org](mailto:golsen@redeemer-school.org). **PLEASE** help me out and look through your pictures first and send only the best ones. Please don't send me 250 pictures to sort through... pick out 20 good ones!

**REDEEMER IS A NO BULLY ZONE**

Peace is a daily, a weekly, a monthly process, gradually changing opinions, slowly eroding old barriers, quietly building new structures.

***John Fitzgerald Kennedy***

**DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- Mon & Tues, Nov. 23-24..... Regular school days
- Weds-Fri, Nov. 25-27 ..... Thanksgiving Holidays, No School
  
- Tues, Dec. 8..... Happy Birthday Maestra Evans
- Tues, Dec. 8..... NO PSC MEETING IN DECEMBER
  
- Fri, Dec. 11..... 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade Musical “Christmas in Reverse” 7:00 PM
- Sat, Dec. 12..... Faculty/Staff Christmas party hosted by PSC
- Sun, Dec. 13..... Sunday30 Christmas performance 10:30AM
- Sun, Dec. 13..... Happy Birthday Mrs. Madden
  
- Tues, Dec. 15 ..... 12:30 Dismissal, Faculty Meeting
- Thurs, Dec. 17 ..... Special Cheerleader Hot Lunch (pre-order only)
- Thurs, Dec. 17 ..... National Geographic Bee 2:00 PM in church
- Fri, Dec. 18..... 7<sup>th</sup> grade leads chapel, Fruit of Spirit Awards
- Fri, Dec. 18..... 12:30 Dismissal for Christmas vacation!
  
- Dec. 19 - Jan. 3..... No School - Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
- Mon, Jan. 4 ..... Back to school

**“Christmas In Reverse”**  
**A musical presented by grades 3 & 4**  
**Friday, December 11**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Fellowship Hall**



# The PSC Page

## Openings in the PSC

The PSC has a variety of activities that require volunteers in order to continue. My heartfelt thanks to the special individuals who have filled these roles for so long!

- Fundraising
  - Print Cartridge Recycling
  - Dining Dollars/Free Dress
  - eScrip / Gift card Scrip
  - Lucky Gift Card Coordinator
  - Auction (2009-10)
- Gift Wrap Co-Chair
- Library Volunteers and Coordinator
- School Supplies Co-Chair

Please prayerfully consider if you are called to serve in any of these ways! If you have questions on what any position entails, please don't hesitate to contact Mallory Stevens ([mallory@pacbell.net](mailto:mallory@pacbell.net) or 650-366-0570).

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

- **No PSC Meeting in December.** The next PSC Meeting is Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.
- **Auction Meeting** at 6 p.m. before the January PSC meeting!
- **Staff Christmas Party on December 12<sup>th</sup>!**
- **Next Auction Meeting:** Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. and 1 hour prior to PSC meeting moving forward.



## Auction Update



Redeemer's Auction will be a fun night out for everybody. We will be hosting Monte Carlo Night on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Lots of food, fun and great auction items! Check the calendar for upcoming dates so **you** can get involved! Look for the monthly Auction Update newsletter to keep informed as this exciting event comes together!

Please start thinking about donations... Fill out the form and turn it in if you have a donation you would like to make! Carry them with you and give them to the businesses that you patronize frequently!

## Special Thank You's

The PSC depend on each and every parent to help with the many things that we do for the school. Thank you this month to:

- Stephanie McCollum for agreeing to host the Staff Christmas Party. Please be sure to volunteer to bring something or to help out at:  
<http://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dDB6Vm1qSDB6Y1E5QzZ1VEFubDhodlE6MA>
- Sonia Lough for opening her home for this event.
- Judi Weller for agreeing to coordinate Teacher Appreciation Week! You'll hear more as we get close to this special week!
- Melissa Davis for all her hard work in the library! With student volunteers she has been entering books in our system, labeling and shelving them! Come by and check out the many books that have been added to the library. With her encouragement, all classes in the school are actively using the library. Also, the Library is **Open** for parents and children to visit after school on Wednesday afternoons from 3:15 to 4:00 p.m. Come by and check it out! Volunteers are still needed, so please do think about it!

**PSC MEETING MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2009 7:00-8:30 PM**

**Attendance:** Lisa Hicks, Rochelle Jackson-Edwards, Karen Wedel, Susie Gilbert, Melissa Davis, Stephanie McCollum, Lisa Wen, Leslie Blum, Sonia Lough, Lindsey Kinstler, Judi Weller, Mallory Stevens, Dawn Smith, Mike Mancini, George Jackson (Gift Wrap Fundraiser)

**Welcome/Prayer**

Mallory Stevens

**Reports**

***President's Report***

Mallory Stevens

- The budget has been reviewed and updated to reflect a conservative approach.
- Thanks to Melissa Davis for helping make the final push to getting the library books entered and for offering to have the 6<sup>th</sup> grade class introduce all the lower grades to the library next week.

***Principal's Update***

Mike Mancini

- *Washington DC trip is coming up soon.*
- *Fundraising: if people have any interest in doing something, please bring it to Mike or Mallory so the idea can be included in their monthly meeting.*
- *H1N1 update: as of this meeting, there have been no confirmed cases. Please continue to be vigilant about following health department guidelines for cleanliness.*

***Treasurer's Report***

Lisa Hicks-Dumanski

- The budget will be presented on a monthly basis in an abbreviated version, and quarterly in a full version.
- A review of the budget raised the question that some School Supplies Fundraiser income may not have been captured, and Lisa will take a closer look at that for next meeting.

**Special Topic– Fundraising**

*New Offering*

George Jackson

- Presented a new fundraiser “My Parent’s Reward Card”.

*See's Candies*

- School-wide fundraiser benefiting PSC’s support of Art in Action and the children’s playroom will begin in November. Coordinated by Stephanie McCollum.

*Cheerleading*

- Lindsey Kinstler presented the need for cheerleading to be included in the PSC sponsorship budget, and a fundraiser idea using a card which features local businesses.
- Adding Cheerleading to the sponsorship budget will be put up for a vote next meeting.

*Auction*

Mallory Stevens/Rochelle Jackson

- Progress: We have a theme and a date! Which is Monte Carlo Night on April 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Understanding Sponsorship: there will be levels of sponsorship to offset the cost of the evening.
- There will be game playing, heavy appetizers, desserts, silent auction and live auction.
- Still need lots of volunteers for a variety of roles. Contact Mallory for details.
- Discussing the online auction idea.

**Updates**

*Gift Wrap Fundraiser*

Sonia Lough

- The Gift Wrap Fundraiser went well this year earning about \$4700. The new incentives worked well. 4<sup>th</sup> grade won the best dressed pig, and high sellers were Clairese Muckel and Vivi Barragan.

**Closing Prayer/ Adjourn Meeting**

Mike Mancini

**New Business & Upcoming Events**

- Library Training: Will be scheduled as soon as I get volunteers! And a special thank you!
- Auction Information Meeting Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. and 1 hour prior to PSC meeting moving forward
- **Next PSC Meeting:** Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

PSC Committees

Experienced Uniforms

Valerie Chiang/Yvette Garcia

Family Fun Day

Steve Harper

Fundraising

- Print Cartridge Recycling
- Dining Dollars/Free Dress
- GM BoxTops
- eScrip / Gift card Scrip
- Lucky Gift Card Coordinator

Stephanie McCollum

**\*\*open positions \*\***

Heather Riccardi

**\*\*open positions \*\***

**\*\*open position \*\***

- Auction (2009-10)
- Gift Wrap

Hospitality

Hot Lunch Coordinator

Library

School Supplies

Snack Shoppe

Teacher Appreciation Week

Staff Christmas Party

Mallory Stevens/Rochelle Jackson Edwards

*Sonia Lough/CoChair \*\*open position\*\**

*Reezanne Elpel*

*Jennifer Palafox*

*Mallory Stevens/\*\*open position\*\**

*Sonia Lough/CoChair \*\*open position\*\**

*Marsha Huggins*

*Kirsten Criscenti*

*Stephanie McCollum*

## PSC MEETING MINUTES Tuesday November 10th, 2009 7:00-8:30PM

### Attendance

Stephanie McCollum, Rochelle Jackson, Heather Riccardi, Melissa Davis, Lisa Hicks, Susie Gilbert, Mike Mancini, Mallory Stevens, Judi Weller, Kathy Burrows, Challeen Flick.

### Welcome/Prayer

Mallory Stevens

Start Meeting: 7:05

### Reports

#### *President's Report*

Mallory Stevens

- See Items below

#### *Principal's Update*

Mike Mancini

- *H1n1: One verified case, school informed parents and reinforced the precautionary measures families can take by following health department cleanliness guidelines*
- *Washington DC trip went great*
- *Enrollment Push: starting meetings with prospective parents for 2010-11 year.*
- *Received \$2500 technology grant, thanks to Gary Chiang and Melissa Davis.*
- *Type to Learn and K to the Power of 8 coming soon, Stanford EPGY.*
- *Baseball next year.*
- *First Focus Phonics pilot program going well in K.*
- *Denise Maier, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade teacher on maternity leave, coming back on Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>.*
- *Suggestion for K recruiting by Rochelle: provide parents with a financial analysis of the true cost difference between private and public school, and the website could use testimonials and more information about what programs are being used.*

#### *Treasurer's Report*

Lisa Hicks-Dumanske

- *No items to add.*

### Special Topic – Unplugging the Christmas Machine

- Discussion regarding the book premise that expectations have been built into the Christmas season. Read the Christmas pledge. Group shared things that are good about their season and those things that they could do without.

### Updates

- Staff Christmas Party

Stephanie McCollum

Dec. 12 at a RLS family home.

- Book Fair Update

Judi Weller

Sold \$3500, 25% less than last year. \$200 paid for Library upkeep and labeling. One for Books (free dress and change donations) fundraiser \$358 for the St. Francis Center.

- Parent Card

Mallory Stevens/Catherine Fraser

Geoge Jackson gave RLS the Redwood City exclusive for selling and promoting the card for 1 year. Will get the this program going before Thanksgiving.

- Auction

Mallory Stevens/Rochelle Jackson

- Auction letter has been written which will be sent out and followed up with personal contact.
- Still working on scheduling a venue.
- Meetings will be scheduled in Dec. and January meetings.
- Need people who are moved to solicit donations to attend.

Survey results were helpful in understanding the public perspective.

- Cheerleading support from PSC request: in January the PSC will vote for a budget line item for Cheerleading.

### Closing Prayer/ Adjourn Meeting

Mike Mancini

### New Business & Upcoming Events

- Auction Planning Meeting: 1 hour prior to PSC meeting in January
- **Next PSC Meeting:** Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. NO DECEMBER MEETING – Staff Christmas Party

### PSC Committees

Experienced Uniforms

Valerie Chiang/Yvette Garcia

Family Fun Day

Steve Harper

Fundraising

- Print Cartridge Recycling
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*Stephanie McCollum*

**\*\*open positions \*\***

*Heather Riccardi*

*Laura Ventura*

**\*\*open positions\*\***

**\*\*open position \*\***

*Mallory Stevens/Rochelle Jackson Edwards*

*Sonia Lough/CoChair \*\*open position\*\**

*Reezanne Elpel*

*Jennifer Palafox*

*Mallory Stevens/\*\*open position\*\**

*Sonia Lough/CoChair \*\*open position\*\**

*Marsha Huggins*

*Judi Weller*