

# SMOKE SIGNALS



Redeemer Lutheran School  
468 Grand St, Redwood City 94062  
(650) 366-3466  
www.redeemer-school.org

April 11, 2008

*"I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior" Habakkuk 3:18*

## UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Apr 12	Taste of Tuscany PSC Auction
Apr 14-18	Iowa Testing grades 2-8
Apr 15	Faculty Meeting 12:30PM Dismissal
Apr 21-22	Iowa Testing makeups for absentees
Apr 30	Assembly grades K-5 10:30AM
May 5-9	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 10	Track Meet -- Newark High School
May 13	PSC Meeting 7:00PM
May 16	Grades 1 & 2 musical 7:00PM
May 18	Grades 1& 2 musical encore 1:30PM
May 20	Faculty Meeting 12:30PM Dismissal
May 26	No School Memorial Day Holiday
May 30	Kindergarten Graduation 9:00AM
May 30	Academic Awards 7:00PM
May 31	Family Fun Day @ Huddart Park
June 3	8th grade Banquet 6:30PM
June 6	Last Day of School 11:00 AM dismissal
June 6	8th grade Graduation 7:30PM

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

**Mr. Mike Mancini**

***Redeemer Lutheran School - Creating The Future  
One Child At A Time!***

"All in good time!"...management that is.

As the school year winds down, the issue of time becomes oh so important. These past two months have truly challenged me on how I focus my time. Time is a commodity of which everyone is given in equal amounts -- 24 hours each day. The problem for me lately is not that I don't have enough time, but I sometimes struggle with how I manage time. Permit me to share a brief story with you.

*An expert on time management chose to give his audience a quiz. He pulled out a one-gallon wide-mouthed plastic jar and placed it on the table in front of him. He placed about 12 fist-sized rocks in the jar one at a time. When he filled the jar to the top and no more rocks would fit in, he asked if the jar was full. "Yes" came the response from the audience. He reached under the table and pulled out a bucket of gravel. He dumped some of the gravel in the jar, shook it, and the gravel settled into the spaces between the rocks. Once again he asked, 'Is the jar full?' The*

*audience responded, "Probably not". After agreeing, the expert pulled out a jar of sand and did the same thing. One again he asked if the jar was full. Again the audience responded with a resounding "No". Finally the speaker took out a jar of water and began to fill the gallon jar to the brim. Then he asked the audience, 'What is the point of this illustration?'*

*One eager beaver raised his hand and said, 'The point is, no matter how full your schedule is, if you try really hard, you can always fit some more things into it.'*

*'No,' replied the speaker. 'The truth this illustration teaches is this: If you don't put the big rocks in first, you'll never get them in at all.'*

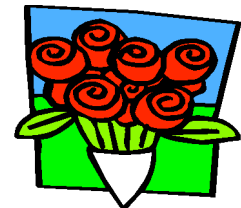
*What are the 'big rocks' in your life? A project that YOU want to accomplish? Time with your loved ones? Your FAITH, your education, your finances? A cause? Remember to put these Big Rocks in first or you'll never get them in at all.*

*So, tonight or in the morning when you are reflecting on this short story, ask yourself this question: 'What are the 'big rocks' in my life today?' Then, take a moment to ask our risen Lord to help you take care of the "Big Rocks"! Oh... and remember, put those in your jar first.*

I want to thank all of you for your understanding and patience through the past two months. Our God is truly an AWESOME God and I thank him daily for the students and parents at Redeemer.

## TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK 2008

One of our teachers, defined Teacher Appreciation Week, "Her favorite week of the year"... and yes, that's coming soon! We'll celebrate our teachers and staff the week of May 4th. The PSC and individual room parents will be planning many activities to make this week memorable and show the RLS staff how much they are valued. Stay tuned for more information coming next week in the Friday folders. If you wish to become involved, please contact Laura Ventura, Teacher Appreciation Coordinator, [lauraventura@yahoo.com](mailto:lauraventura@yahoo.com) (phone: 650-208-0718).



## **LADY BRAVES BASKETBALL**

*Coaches Lenahan and Maier*

Thank you to the 2007-2008 Lady Braves for giving us an exciting basketball season. With only two 8th graders on the team, this was a year of building, learning, and growth.

Providing 8th grade leadership were Alyssa Flores and Sara Dumanske. Alyssa was a first-year starter and provided a spark with her competitiveness both offensively and defensively. Sara came off the bench to make significant contributions to the successes we enjoyed this year. 7th graders Tessie Rhodes, Courtney Lucas, Tori Ramirez, Jordan Robinson and Olivia Gambelin all gained valuable experience this year in starting roles and will be counted on heavily next year to move this team to the next level. Rounding out the team and getting valuable playing time and varsity experience were 7th grader Jackie Krantz and 6th graders June Bowie, Kaylee Kohlmaier, and Emily Moffat.

We always tell the girls that our goal for the season is to play in the championship round on Sunday at the Nor-Cal Tournament in Lodi. This basketball team accomplished that goal with a 6th place finish at Lodi. We started with a convincing win over Town and Country from Sacramento. This win set us up to play Mokelumne River, the top ranked team from the valley schools. Our girls played hard, but the taller and more experienced Mokelumne squad prevailed. This left us with our backs against a wall. We only had a one-game break and we had to beat our next opponent, St. Peter, Elk Grove, or go home. Needless to say, the girls were determined not to go home and to play on Sunday. The girls played with heart and dug down deep to come out on top. This put us in position to play for 5th place in the tournament against our nemesis, Prince of Peace. We hadn't beaten them this year, but the team was still optimistic. Unfortunately, Prince of Peace had too much height and power for us as we fell to them in a hard-fought game. Placing 6th out of 19 teams is very encouraging for this young team and we are all looking forward to next year.

We would like to thank the girls for their efforts this season and for making this an exciting year for us. We'd also like to give a special thanks to all the parents and grandparents who provided transportation to the games and gave the team incredible support.

## **CHEERLEADING**

*Miss Kinstler, Cheerleading Coach*

Time flies when you're having fun. I can't believe another year of cheerleading is over! This year the girls did an amazing job! We started off the year making sure everyone new on the team knew all the cheers. This always takes some time. In January we started working on our Roundball Competition cheers and dance.

This year the cheerleaders did a lot of fundraising. One of the main reasons was to pay for a choreographer to

create our competition dance. Boy did this help me out or what!?! Morgan Craig did an amazing job and I could not have asked for anything more. We also had two Redeemer graduates come back and help us. One of our competition cheers was taught by Gabi Bizzarro and the other cheer we learned from Kristi Olsen. Both girls did an excellent job creating the cheers and teaching the squad! I always love help from former RLS cheerleaders.

All the girls on the team worked very hard. That hard work sure paid off at the end! We received FIRST place at our competition. It had been 13 years since Redeemer won the competition. Way to go girls! We will truly miss our 8th grade girls: Nicole Haemmerling, Emily Burns, and Christina Karrle. I hope to see all those 6th and 7th grade girls back again next year along with some new faces from the 5th grade. Let's defend our trophy! Go Braves!

## **CONGRATULATIONS BRAVES**

*By Coach Mancini*

WOW! Can you believe it! Another season has already gone by and once again the Boys Varsity Basketball team had a great year! With the graduation of four starters and a group of inexperienced players who had never played for RLS, our team far exceeded expectations. This truly was a "Season to Remember"!

The season started with an incredible performance at the Mission Peak Tournament where our boys went all the way to the championship game and lost a tough contest to Fremont Christian. We then opened our Lutheran school play and won all but three games; those losses coming to evidential Roundball Champion Zion, Piedmont. We finished league tied for 2nd place.

We then earned the #3 seed in our bracket of the Roundball Tournament. The boys from Redeemer won their first game against St. Marks of Citrus Heights. Their second game was played in front of a packed house against Grace, Modesto. The game came down to the final second in OVERTIME! With .07 seconds to play the Braves had one more shot but the ball fell short and the Braves were defeated by ONE point.

On Saturday the tournament shifted to Woodside High School. The facility was great, the weather was great, and the fans were in high spirits as 16 more games were played to see who would move on to Championship Sunday. The game on Saturday for the RLS boys was against a competitive team from St. Peters, Elk Grove. The winner would go on to play in the 7th/8th place game on Sunday and the loser would go home. The Braves played well and won, setting up another game with St. Peter, Lodi.

Sunday was the conclusion of our tournament and our boys played against St. Peter, Lodi for 7th place. This was a tough game for the Braves. Each team went back and forth in scoring the whole game. When the buzzer sounded the Braves hung on to win by one! The boys were very proud of their accomplishment, as six eighth grade boys left their final tournament on a

special note! Congratulations to Ben Justice who was named to the All Tournament Team.

I am very proud of all these young men, and will remember this season for a very long time! An awesome 16-3 record! Thank you guys! Thanks to Mr. Doody and Mr. Spain, my assistant coaches for all your help and support. Thanks to all of our terrific parents and fans for making this another special year! We couldn't have done it without you! A special thank you to our 8th grade boys who played their final season as Braves -- Ben Justice, Peter Simon, Chris Moffat, David Spain, Adrian Palafox, and Morgan LaCasse! We will miss you!

Until next season...*Go BRAVES!*

### **MANDATORY HOURS**

**Mandatory Hours for the 07-08 school year are due on May 1st.** Please turn all of your hours worked in to the school office no later than May 7th. Hours will not be accepted after this date. Accounts not credited with the required hours by this deadline will be billed at \$20/hour for unfinished hours. Balance of billed hours must be paid no later than May 20th. Students with unfulfilled hours or unpaid balances will not be allowed to participate in end of school activities (including field trips and graduation) and final report cards will be held until payment is received.

All hours worked by parents, guardians, grandparents, other relatives and friends without children at Redeemer count! Hours may not be transferred from one school family to another.

Remember to keep track of all hours worked after May 1st. These hours will all count toward your 08-09 hours.

### **IOWA TESTING**

All students in grades 2-8 will participate in ITBS (Iowa Test of Basic Skills) testing. Testing will take place the week of April 14. Please ensure your student is well rested, on time, and well fed so that they are able to do their best on the tests. Please do not schedule appointments or outside activities during school hours during this week and makeup testing is sometimes difficult to fit into the daily class schedule.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

*Reminder -- Early dismissal at 12:30 PM on Tuesday, April 15th for a Faculty Meeting.*

### **TWINDERELLA DVDs**

Twinderella DVDs are available for purchase. If you ordered and paid for one at the musical, your copy was sent home with your student this week. If you haven't already paid for a copy, bring in \$10 (exact cash or check payable to RLS) and pick one up in the office. All proceeds benefit the musicals fund.

### **THE MONTH OF MARCH**

The month of March at Redeemer was a very full one. We began the month with the girls' annual basketball tournament in Lodi. While in Lodi, Mrs. Maier received a phone call that would change her life forever. She and her husband Karl were blessed with a baby boy, Aaron, who was ready to be adopted by them immediately! Mrs. Maier is currently taking the months of March and April for "maternity" leave and will be returning in early May. We wish them all God's blessings. Mr. Mancini has taken a second job as the 7th grade homeroom and junior high science and math teacher. The month continued on with the always fun Lutheran Schools Week and Roundball Tournament and Cheerleading competition. Thank you to all who helped out in so many ways at the tournament, especially Linda Heywood for running the concession stand. The next weekend a terrific musical, "Twinderella," was performed by our very talented 5th and 6th grade classes. Holy Week was upon us with special class-led chapels every day and our annual Seder Meal. We welcomed back Mrs. Madden to 1st grade on Monday the 17th. She had been on maternity leave since giving birth to Izzy in December. Sadly, during Holy Week, Mrs. Davis, our 6th grade homeroom teacher, lost her baby Leah as she was delivered stillborn three months early. We grieve with Mrs. Davis and her husband Tim and know that their faith in God will help them through this very difficult time. Mr. Behrens graciously stepped in and taught for Mrs. Davis while she was out. We welcomed Mrs. Davis back to her classroom on Tuesday this week. I hope you all enjoyed a relaxing a restful Easter break. He is risen, He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

April came roaring in with Grandparents Day. We were so very happy to have approximately 300 attend our special chapel service on the 4th. Thank you to Judi Weller for organizing all of the refreshments. Third quarter report cards were sent home with the students. The PSC Auction is tomorrow at the RC Elk's Lodge. Thank you to Robin Foucrault for heading up the auction! Next week we will have standardized testing. Mr. Mancini will be out of town for several days later this month on school business. And finally, the K-5th graders will enjoy an assembly on April 30th to learn about water conservation and environmental responsibility.

We're now into the home stretch! The fourth quarter has begun, the 8th graders have officially contracted "8th graderitis," and we look forward to all of the special events that the next two months have to offer!

### **FINANCIAL AID**

If you will need financial aid in 08-09, please stop by the office and pick up an application. Forms must be mailed in or done online by May 1. Late forms may not be considered. If you are currently receiving financial aid, your aid grant was for this year only! You **MUST** reapply every year.

## 2008-2009 REGISTRATION

Thank you to all of the families who have turned in their 08-09 registration forms and fees. I appreciate your prompt response. If you haven't registered for next year, please turn in your enrollment form and \$350 enrollment fee as quickly as possible. It makes the budgeting process so much easier if we know who will be returning.

If your child will not be returning, please call the school office and let Mrs. Olsen know so that she can take you off the 08-09 roster. Please don't rely on me "hearing it through the grapevine!" (It's not always reliable.) Thank you!

## PAST DUE BALANCES

If you have any past due tuition or Kidz Klub fees, these must be brought current before your child can participate in end of the year activities (including kindergarten and 8th grade graduation, field trips, etc.). Also, families with past due balances may not register for 08-09 until past due balances are paid. Please contact the school office if you have any questions.

## SNACK SHOP NO LONGER SELLS JUST SNACKS!

Did you know that Snack Shop sells Redeemer t-shirts (adult and youth sizes)? These are a great addition to the school uniform and can be worn on Fridays.

Did you know that Snack Shop also sells Dennis Uniform Scrip certificates (\$20 each)?

AND, did you know that Snack Shop now sells Safeway gift cards (\$100 and \$25) and Starbucks gift cards (\$10 and \$25)!!!!

All of these items may be purchased with cash or a personal check.

Go check out the Snack Shop today! It's not just for snacks anymore!

## THEATRE NIGHT 2008 Elton John & Tim Rice's AIDA

Saturday, May 17  
8:00 pm

Hillbarn Theatre  
1285 E. Hillsdale Blvd, Foster City

Please join us for a night at the theatre. All proceeds benefit the Redeemer tuition assistance fund. Ticket prices are \$30 adult / \$25 teen / \$10 youth. Please contact Barry Dixon at 650-349-0255 or email [bldnet@mindspring.com](mailto:bldnet@mindspring.com). Please purchase tickets by April 27.

Dinner planned at Creola, a New Orleans Bistro, 344 El Camino, San Carlos prior to the show.

## 2008-2009 SCHOOL SUPPLIES

As a service to Redeemer School parents, this summer Redeemer PSC will purchase in bulk, package individually, and offer for sale Redeemer school supplies for the 2008-2009 school year.

For a \$25 deposit, you can reserve your child's school supplies now. The supplies will be in your child's classroom on the first day of school. The balance due for the school supplies will be due one week before school begins. (Please note: the balance due cannot be calculated at this time, and will vary from grade to grade since the supply lists vary.)

The \$25 deposit may be paid by cash (exact amount, please) or a check made payable to "Redeemer PSC."

To reserve your child's school supplies, return the completed form (attached) along with your payment to the school office on or before Friday, June 6.

Questions? Contact: Pamela Estes at 780-9727, [pkestes@rcn.com](mailto:pkestes@rcn.com), or Sonia Lough at 474-0514, [patsonia2002@yahoo.com](mailto:patsonia2002@yahoo.com).

## ROUNDBALL

*by Linda Heywood, Concessions Chairperson*

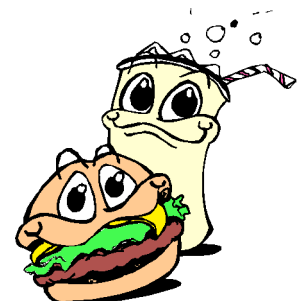
My volunteers this year were awesome! Thank you to everyone who helped out in the concession stand and working as gymnasium door monitors.

I would like to say a huge thank you to the following volunteers who went over and beyond the call of duty: Melanie Proctor, the Ruiz family, the Bibbs family, Nancy Mize, Matthew Yutzy, and Norma Lara.

Thank you to all my volunteers: Carla Lucas, Kellie Baumann, Michelle LaBelle, Jessica & Grace Stafford, Diana Browder, Rick Wendland, Robbie Moffat, Michelle Stanghellini, and Teresa Muckel. We couldn't have done it without you! (My apologies if I've left anyone out.)

A giant thank you to Kurt Schreiner for once again providing his famous chili! It was a top seller as always.

*And of course, we at Redeemer give a huge thank you to Linda Heywood for her hours and hours devoted to the concession stand! We appreciate you!*



## CONGRATULATIONS!

The Redwood City Civic Cultural Commission has selected the winners of their 17th Annual Art Contest from more than 1,100 entries received. This year the theme for the contest was "Redwood City: Keep it green! Keep it clean!". Redeemer School earned \$100 because we had the highest number of private school participants as a percentage of school enrollment.

Redeemer also had two individual winners:

- ◊ Anika McGuire, 2nd place for 6th grade
- ◊ Sara Dumanske, 3rd place for 8th grade

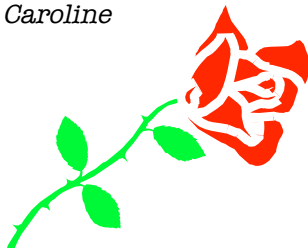
The contest winners will be honored at an awards ceremony on Wednesday, April 30 at 7:00 PM in the Veterans Memorial Senior Center, 1455 Madison Avenue.

Congratulations girls! We are very proud of you and thank all the students who participated in this year's contest.

*Dear Redeemer Families,*

*We want to express our heartfelt thanks for your prayers and love during these past few weeks. We thank you for the incredibly generous gift certificate to provide meals for our family. We are so grateful to be a part of an amazing community of people who offer their hope and help in His name. We are humbled by our helplessness and thankful to Jesus for carrying us on his shoulders at this time in our lives. We may never know the reason for Leah's short tenure in our lives but we find peace in the knowledge that her life has had a purpose. We know that through our precious Leah Faith we are learning to walk by faith, to love without limits, and to share the grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus with the lost and the weary. While our hearts ache we have HOPE for our future because we know that God is good all the time. We know that He has an awesome plan for our family and that through Him all things are possible. We find comfort in the words of many wonderful songs, but our song of choice to honor our daughter Leah Faith Davis is "My Savior Lives" because **"my Savior lives, my Savior loves, my Savior's always there for me!"** With love we thank you all!*

*Melissa, Tim, Ella, and Caroline  
Davis*



## REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

"The mission of Redeemer Ministries is to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus and the community of faith, offering them hope, help and healing in His name."



### REDEEMER SUNDAY WORSHIP

Band-Led Worship - 8:30 a.m.

Organ-Led Worship - 10:00 a.m.

Children's Sunday School - 8:30 a.m.

### You Shop...

#### Our Kids Win!

Sign up with eScrip and everytime you shop at any of the over 6,000 merchant locations, a percentage of your purchase will go to our group.

- Go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com)
- Click on Sign Up
- Enter our Group ID# 137104928

It's Free,

It's Easy,

It's Powerful!

