

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2025

REDEMPTION HILL CHURCH



This Week: Pastor Tim Swanson will be preaching on Hebrews 11:23-31



What's Going On

Sun. 03/08

Sunday Worship @ 10am (Hebrews 11:23-31); Newcomers' Lunch @ 12pm

Sun. 03/15

Sunday Worship @ 10am; (Hebrews 11:32-40);
prayer Gathering @ 11:45

Tue. 03/17

Food Distribution @ 12:30pm

Wed. 03/18

Youth Discipleship @ 7pm

Thur. 03/19

Prayer Gathering @ 7pm

03/27-03/29

Women's Retreat

04/05

Easter Celebration

Every week in our church bulletin (including this one you are reading this article in), we have a column, or more, titled Pray along with a list of people and prayer needs. You will also very likely find points of prayer for missionaries and our highlighted Church of the Month. Recently we have had a column titled "Pray for the Swansons," keyed around the continued health concerns for our pastor, Tim Swanson's, blood condition and, of course, the impacts on his family.

It makes good sense that prayer would dominate our bulletin as it should dominate our church life and, to some great measure, our personal life. Many of us are familiar with 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18: "Rejoice always, *pray without ceasing*, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (emphasis added). Bible to Life website lists 116 verses related to prayer, and the list is not exhaustive. There are verses on faith, persistence, confession, intercession for others, thanksgiving, etc. The Bible records Jesus praying at least 25 times in various ways, highlighting his deep connection with God and his reliance on prayer for sustenance.

Continued on next page

Prayers are pleasing to God. In the Old Testament the incense burned at the altar of incense in the tabernacle symbolizes prayers rising to heaven as an aroma pleasing to God. In the New Testament, Revelation 5:8 describes "golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints."

I can't think of anything so important, and with the prescribed frequency, to be so simple. It really does come down to Nike's tag line: "Just do it." Any concerns about doing it right or following a formula should be dismissed. As has been so clearly communicated as we study Hebrews, we have an intercessor in heaven, Jesus, as our great high priest, to hear, interpret, and respond to our prayers. Yes, we have direct access for simply talking to God and making our requests be known, see Phil 4 6-7.

It is important to pray, and it is easy; what more can be said? Plenty. Our prayer life will mature along with the rest of our spiritual life in Christ. While there isn't a required method of prayer, there are loads of books and articles helping us with or prayer life. *I'm Praying for You* by Nancy Guthrie is one example. Books such as these are helpful in focusing our prayers, and books that cause us to journal our prayers in some fashion are helpful in recognizing answers to past prayers.

Another aspect of prayer to highlight is corporate prayer. Either hearing a prayer from the pulpit or being in a group praying for the body, these prayers use the gathering of the church to present a unity of prayer. The "pulpit prayer" isn't as interactive as the group prayer but nonetheless still presents the body's unity of desire. In group prayer we take turns as to who is verbalizing a portion of prayer with a unified focus on the prayer.

I could fill this bulletin and many others highlighting the different aspects of prayer, and perhaps in months to come I will address more of them. Let us take away, though, the main point: that prayer is essential to the life of the Church and to its individual members.

Pray:

- Julia Basch: Recovery from soreness following a fall.
- Jonathan Bauer: Recovering from knee surgery.
- Brandi Durham: Injured knee and ankle; repeated fainting.
- Linda Hubley: For comfort from the Lord, his Word, and his people. For continuance of the perfect peace she currently experiences. That she would make the most of every day, especially during the "better" periods between treatments. That she would identify and make the most of opportunities to speak with others about the Lord.
- Kathy Hughes (wife of Dan); Diagnosed with stressed kidney, lung cancer. Dan is caring for her and working full time.
- Greg Jackson: God's guidance and direction, family reconciliation.
- Kevin Moore: Comfort over continued grieving over his daughter, Christine.
- Jenn Welch: Recovery from surgery; for strong functioning of remaining kidney.
- John and Debbie Cossey's daughter, Annie-recovering from major surgery.
- SSU InterVarsity Spring Conference (03/20-03/22): For students to grow closer to Jesus as they study Mark's Gospel.

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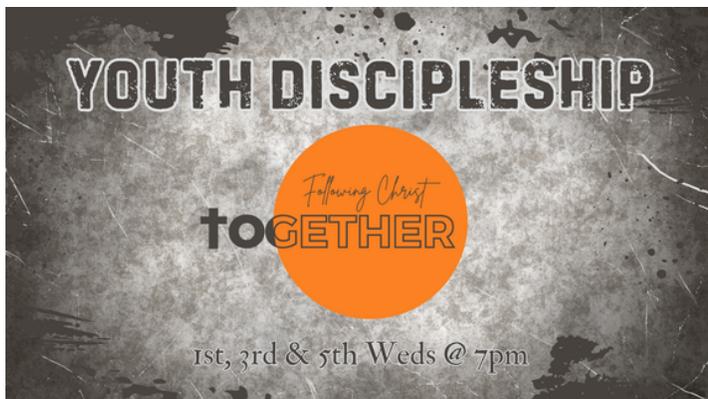
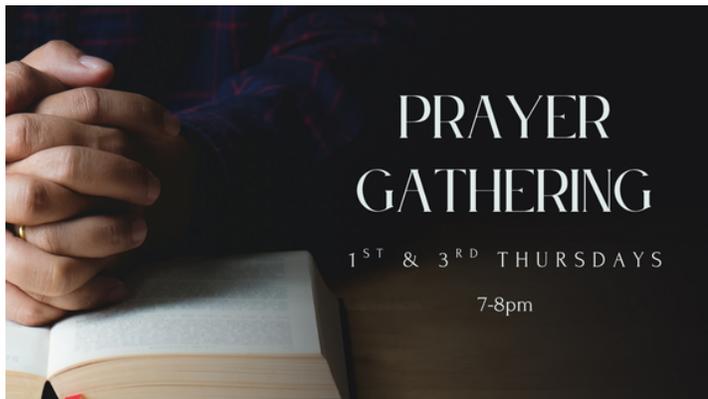
SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2025



Newcomers' Lunch Today

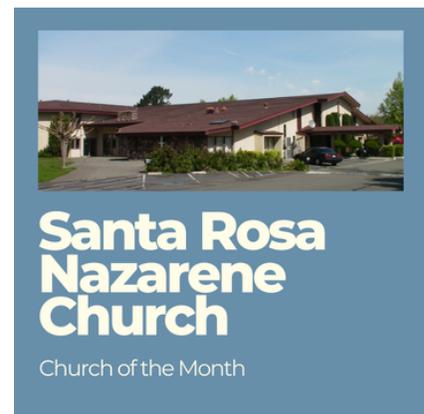
It's not too late to jump in! If you've started attending Redemption Hill in the last 12 months, this informal lunch is a great opportunity to get to know the church's leadership, hear some of our family story, and share some of yours. We'd love to get to know you better.

12pm in the Youth Room



Points for Prayer

- The three unreached people groups I have targeted this year: the development of good relationships with open-hearted individuals.
- Parents of our preschool students: that they'd be moved by the love they see in our teachers and ask about the "Hope" that we carry.
- For my much-needed eye surgery: funding, the skill of the surgeons, and quick recovery.
- For new believers: boldness within their Muslim communities; protection from persecution.



Points of Prayer:

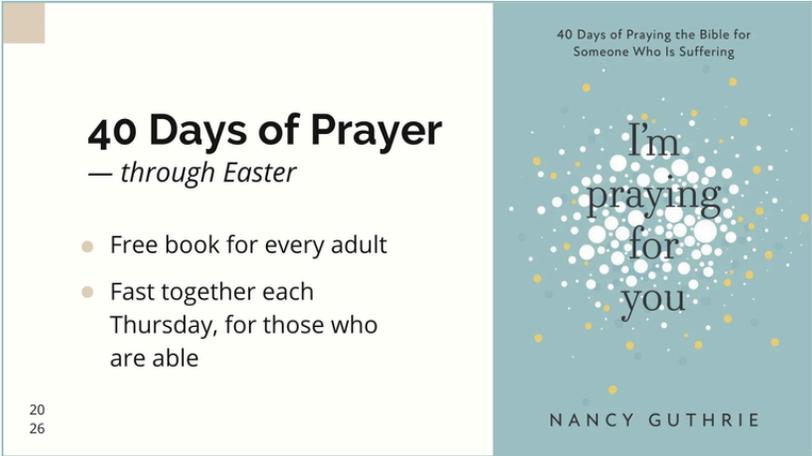
- After 50 years of service, our preschool (Happy Time) is closing due to low enrollment/loss of funds. Pray that we know what God's will is for our next step, and for the sadness around closing.
- Pray that Pastor Rick and his wife Donna would grow in learning how to lead the church in discipleship.
- Pray that we find an associate pastor who would be able to lead the church in its next phase.



PRAY
for the
Swansons

Points for Prayer:

- Removal of any fungus on the valve, pacemaker, and in the blood as well as medication side-effects.
- Protection from infectious emboli and vegetations.
- Restoration of natural ventricular heart beat
- Clarity in decision-making and the fungal source.
- Thwarting of spiritual schemes/attacks in light of Revelation 12:10-11.
- Christ's renewing strength, peace, and joy.
- God will be glorified in this affliction and, as John 9:3, says "...that the works of God might be displayed in (me)."



40 Days of Prayer
— *through Easter*

- Free book for every adult
- Fast together each Thursday, for those who are able

20
26

40 Days of Praying the Bible for
Someone Who Is Suffering

I'm
praying
for
you

NANCY GUTHRIE

Church-wide Forty Days of Prayer

"When we hear that a friend is struggling, it can be easy to say, 'I'm praying for you', but harder to know what to actually pray. The scriptures provide a resource for that, giving us the words to ask God to do the very things he has told us he intends to do in and through the suffering in a believer's life."

In the forty days leading up to Easter, we're praying together as a church family, guided by Nancy Guthrie's book, *I'm Praying For You: Forty Days of Praying the Bible for Someone Who's Suffering*. Join us!

We are giving away a free copy of *I'm Praying For You* to every adult. Additional copies are available for \$5 (please place payment in an envelope marked, "Book," and place it in the offering box.)

Throughout this season of prayer, we are also asking that those who are able fast every Thursday. For more guidance on this, speak to Pastor Tim or Kelly Hubley.



PRAYER
GATHERING
for the Swansons

after next week's service

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2025



Join the women of Redemption Hill from March 27th - March 29th for our Women's Retreat 2026!

Who: Open to all women at Redemption Hill who are in high school or older.

What: Bree Cunningham will be speaking to us from Hebrews 11 on "A Faith that Endures."

Why: It's important for us to disconnect from our hectic schedules and the regular demands upon our attention, to focus on our relationship with Christ and be encouraged and sharpened by His body, the church. Come and be refreshed in the Lord through His Word, fellowship, fun, and food.

Cost: \$160/person until March 16th when it goes up to \$175/person.

Place: The Hansens' Home in Sebastopol. High School and full-time college students receive 50% off.

Lodging: Limited overnight accommodation is available at the Hansens'. The venue is close enough for attendees to return to their homes in the evening.

Food: All meals included (dinner on Friday through lunch on Sunday).

Registration: Regular registration closes on March 16th. After this date, a \$15 late fee will apply.

Scholarships are available. Speak to Pastor Tim or Kelly Hubley for more information.

SIGN UP at www.RedemptionHillSR.org or via the Church Center app.

NEW TO REDEMPTION?

Hi there!

Whatever your background or situation, we're glad you've decided to join us this morning. You might find it helpful to know that:

- There are bathrooms available in the lobby and in the courtyard.
- Nursery services are available for infants. We also dismiss children for age-appropriate learning (toddlers through 5th Grade) during the main teaching time (except on the 5th Sunday of the month).
- A nursing room and changing facilities are available in the Sanctuary building.

Refreshments are available after the service - please stick around and say hi!

We look forward to getting to know you!

FIND COMMUNITY

Hungry for deeper, authentic relationships? We've got Men's, Women's, and Youth Discipleship Groups to help us grow together in grace. We meet weekly to discuss Scripture and pray. *Contact the Church Office for location and availability.*

Men's Groups

- Mon. Evenings - Santa Rosa
- Tues. Evenings - Rohnert Park
- Weds. Evenings - Santa Rosa

Women's Groups

- Weds. Mornings - Santa Rosa
- Weds. Evenings - Rohnert Park
- Thurs. Evenings - Santa Rosa

Youth (6th-12th Grade):

- 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesdays of each month — RHC Campus.
- Contact Kellen for more info: kellen@RedemptionHillsSR.org



Online Giving

Get In Touch

Mailing address: P.O. Box 571,
 Santa Rosa, CA 95402
office@RedemptionHillsSR.org
 Tel. 707-576-0130
 Office hours: Tues 9 am - 5 pm

Ministry Team

Elders:

- Tim Swanson - Pastor/Elder
- Kelly Hubley - Elder

Staff:

- Wendy Cunningham - Worship Ministry Director
- Kellen Eddy - Youth Ministry Director
- John Hansen - Children's Ministry Director
- Sarah Mee - Church Administrative Assistant / Tech Team Administrator
- Alisa Swanson - Hospitality & Facilities Administrator

First Aid

An AED and a Life-Vac anti-choking device are located in the Foyer. A box of other first aid supplies is in the Fireside Room, above the refrigerator.

LET'S CONNECT!

We'd love to get to know you better and welcome you into our family. If you're ready to get connected, please fill out a few details and leave this in the offering box on the back wall of the Sanctuary. Or, better still, scan this code and fill it out online. Someone will be in touch soon.

First name:

Last name:

Email:

Phone:





He considered the
REPROACH OF
CHRIST
greater wealth
than the treasures of
Egypt

Hebrews 11:26

