

What's Happening for Women

September

- 3rd– Women's Ministry leadership training, 9:45am-12pm, EB226
 10th– Women's Prayer group begins, 8am– 9am, Prayer Room
 Journey to Joy Thursday Bible Studies begin, 9:45am-12pm
 Meet in Chapel for brunch and coffee at 9:45. Haven't decided on a group yet? Come and decide at the breakfast.
 13th– **NEW!** Sunday Night Book Club begins, *Gospel Treason* by Brad Bigney, \$15 East Foyer (sofas on the other side of the Worship Center), 5pm- 7pm
 15th– Journey to Joy Tuesday Bible Study begins, *Follow Me* by David Platt, \$20, EB226, 10am-12pm
 16th– Pastor Study begins, Chapel, 6:15pm-7:15pm
 27th– UBC Focus Meeting, Chapel, 7pm

October

- 31st- UBC Fall Festival, 4pm– 7pm

November

- 5th– Tapestry Dinner: Speaker Mary Jo Sharp, 6:30pm

UBC Groups for Women

Tuesdays, 7pm

EB 228 - led by Karol Peters

Wednesdays

Right at Home Moms - 9:30am-11:45am, 3rd Floor Lounge

Children of the Day: 1 & 2 Thessalonians by Beth Moore - 10am-12pm, EB226

Sundays

9:30am, EB 202 -Second Wind led by Pamm Muzslay

11 am, EB 209 - The Lydia Group for Working Women led by Angie Reeves

New Study on Ephesian beginning September 13th

11 am, EB 102 - Journey to Joy led by Debbie Hampton

5 pm– 7pm, East Foyer - Book Club for Women; Gospel Treason led by Jennifer Broddle

Connect with us

Facebook: Women of UBC

Pinterest: UBC Women

Twitter: @ubchouston

Need to talk to someone? Contact Lora Doremus at lora.doremus@ubc.org or 281-488-8517.

Questions about programs? Contact Lisa Stiles at lisa.stiles@ubc.org.

Want to contribute to future newsletters? Let us know!

Joy

September 2015

Joy:

A UBC WOMEN'S MINISTRY MAGAZINE

Hope Springs Eternal

A testimony from a Redeemed Ministry team member

This week Andrea and I rode with Carol and her husband to visit brothels, massage parlors, and spas. The women we met were high strung and extremely nervous about our presence in their establishments. But, the one overriding emotion I witnessed was hope. They accepted our hand of friendship as if it were a cool glass of water. They struggled to overcome the wariness that marks their profession and seemed eager to be liked and accepted for who they are. Our words of hope and love washed over them like a healing balm.

The worldly weariness that is so much a part of their business was etched deeply into each precious face, but as we spoke with them, encouraged them, and talked to them about Christ, they seemed to open up; if only a little. They seemed glad to hear words that affirmed them instead of words that tear down. It was so obvious that the tongue can be used to heal or hurt. This made me overwhelmed by the sheer magnitude of what we were trying to do.

We all want to be loved and accepted. God created us with this desire burning deep in our hearts. These broken women feel the same need. Christ loves these women so deeply and wants only the best for them. It is my hope and belief that we can be His ambassadors to reach the women He puts in front of us, with His love and forgiveness and restoration. That's what being Redeemed is all about.

The women we spoke with were hungry for some kindness and that is such a simple thing to offer. We passed out the New Testament. One woman grabbed it from the bag eagerly. She said she planned to use the Bible to teach herself the English language. We rejoiced because we know the power of God through His word. It never goes out and comes back void. To be a part of such exciting and fulfilling work is humbling. Seeing the Lord move behind tinted glass store fronts, with cameras poised and ready for any violation of business policy, was tremendous.

These women may be hard to reach, but they are not that much different for you and I. They have the same needs, the same hope, the same heart that we all have. Christ is making a difference in these precious lives and we are blessed to be able to work alongside Him. God is doing a mighty thing in Houston.

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The Word

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us.
(Ephesians 1:7-8a)

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
(Col 1:13-14)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast.
(Ephesians 2:8-9)

Fall 2015 Journey to Joy Thursday Bible Studies

Precept Upon Precept: Sermon on the Mount; How Can I Be Blessed? By Kay Arthur

Faith that does not compromise is promised a reward in the world to come, and also a life free from anxiety in this world. Get a deeper understanding of the fruit and security that come with righteousness in the life of a true believer. You'll never look at the Beatitudes the same way again! Kay's DVD set for this study includes teachings on-location in Israel. Cost \$30, EB226

Sermon on the Mount by Jen Wilkin

In His sweeping depiction of kingdom citizenship, Jesus utters some of the most familiar passages in all of Scripture. Most of us have encountered the Sermon on the Mount in fragments—a study on blessedness, a reflection on the Lord's Prayer, a meditation on lilies of the field. But what if we navigated these three chapters as they were originally heard: as one well-ordered message, meant to challenge our thinking about repentance, salvation, and sanctification? This 9-week study led by Jennifer Wilkin does just that. Seat yourself on a mountainside to learn at the feet of Jesus. Ask for ears to hear and a heart to respond to the teaching of our King. Cost \$20, EB210

Crossing Cultures: A group for International Women

Seamless: Understanding the Bible as One Complete Story by Angie Smith

Seamless covers the people, places and promises of the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of Scripture. Participants will gain an overarching understanding of the fundamental layout and meaning of God's Word. Seamless helps replace insecurity that holds participants back with clarity and helping them move forward with confidence in their understanding of Scripture. Each week of study features key information that ties all of scripture together into the seamless truth of the gospel message and is accompanied by maps, general Bible facts, and word studies. Cost \$20, EB222

Quick & Easy Breakfast Ideas to Make Ahead

In our house we are always looking for new & different things to make for breakfast. This often clashes against my desire to sleep in as late as possible! Here are some easy options that we have found work for our family that you can make ahead on the weekends to enjoy, stress-free, throughout the week.

*Make yogurt with granola and fruit easier by either making your own granola, or buying granola cereal and adding it to your yogurt in the morning. Bonus idea is cutting and washing the fruit ahead of time.

*Make either bacon or breakfast sausage ahead of time in bulk and store it in a zip up plastic bag with a paper towel for up to a week. Though if bacon is as popular in your house you never have to worry about it going bad before it's gone! You can also make more at a time by cooking your bacon in the oven.

*Make pancakes and/or muffins ahead of time, double up the recipe so you can get as many as possible for the week. After they've cooled pop them in the freezer, and during the week you can pop them in the microwave for a quick and easy heat up. This is one of our favorite breakfast muffins:

Lemon Blueberry Muffins ~ 12 muffins

- *2 C flour
- *1 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- *1/2 t. salt
- *4 Tbsp butter, melted
- *1/2-3/4 C sugar
- *1/4 C applesauce
- *2 large eggs
- *1/2 C plus 2 T buttermilk
- *2 t. vanilla extract
- *Zest & juice of 1 lemon
- *2 C fresh or frozen blueberries
- *2 T sugar for topping

Preheat oven to 350°. In medium bowl combine flour, BP, & salt. In large bowl combine butter & sugar-whisk till combined. Whisk in applesauce, then eggs one at a time. In liquid measuring cup combine buttermilk, vanilla, and lemon juice. Add dry & wet ingredients to the sugar mixture, alternating till just combined. Gently fold in blueberries. Fill muffin liners in pan 3/4 way full, & top with lemon zest and sugar mixture. Bake rotating pans halfway through till inserted toothpick comes out clean, about 24 minutes.



UBC Ministry Highlight: Redeemed Ministries

When considering the social injustice of sex trafficking, have you asked yourself questions like these: (1) Who is God? (2) What is a human being? (3) Where do I fit in?

If we know that God is a God of justice, then we should want to reflect His character by seeking justice for the oppressed. If we believe that humans are created in His image, aren't they all worthy of respect, dignity and basic human rights? We should value all people because we value their maker. By His grace, God causes the dead to live again; the enslaved to be free; the unrighteous to be righteous; and the broken to celebrate. That's the hope that we have to offer the world, but we may never have that privilege if we don't engage. We need to be alert, wise, compassionate, and gospel-driven in order to love our enslaved neighbor, and to reflect the nature of our merciful, just God. After all, aren't we called to be the hands and feet of Christ?

If you want to know more about Redeemed Ministries, our volunteer needs and upcoming events, including our September 24 luncheon, please contact leabodie@gmail.com.



QUICK FACTS: HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- Human Trafficking in general: Estimated between 28 – 30 million people worldwide.
- Roughly 80% of those are female.
- Roughly 50% are children.
- Human Trafficking generates approximately 32 billion dollars annually.
- Human Trafficking is 2nd only to Drug Trafficking. Why? You can sell a gun once, you can sell a bag of cocaine once but you can sell a human over and over and over.
- An adult (18 or older) must prove force, fraud or coercion in order to be classified as a Sex Trafficking victim.
- Roughly 14,500 – 17,500 victims are brought into the US annually for the purpose of Trafficking.
- Human Smuggling and Trafficking are different crimes. Sometimes Human Trafficking involves Human Smuggling.
- It is estimated that we currently have approximately 600,000 – 800,000 domestic (that is US citizens) victims of Trafficking being trafficked within our borders.
- Of those, approximately 300,000 – 500,000 are domestic Trafficking victims.
- Domestic victims are harder to detect because they blend in more.
- The average age of entry into the Industry is 12.
- The age will continue to decrease as the demand increases.
- The most frequent form of recruitment known is through peers.
- Girls are also recruited off of Facebook, MySpace and other social media sites and chat rooms.