

Elder Update

Redemption Bible Chapel London

Q1 2025

"Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen." – [Ephesians 3:20-21](#)

GENERAL MINISTRY UPDATE

- A new year has arrived, and we are praising God – giving all glory to HIM, for He has done far more abundantly than all we could ask or think! He...IS... good!
- We ended 2024 revisiting the story of Christmas, with "Awake to the Wonder". For some of us, we have heard the Christmas story many times. For others, it is new and fresh. But for all of us, it was a great reminder that no matter who you are, or where you are at in your process of sanctification, the story of Christmas – God providing a solution to our greatest problem, never gets old. Praise God!
- We are thankful for how God continues to be at work in our church. Our elder sense this. Our staff sense this. We are sure all of you sense this. God is working – adding to His kingdom and growing those who have already put their faith in Him.
- In November, Redemption held a "Revitalization Vision Casting Evening", with leaders from both Knollwood Baptist Church and Forest City Bible Church, to share what God is doing in their ministries, and how the people of Redemption might be involved. We are asking our people to prayerfully consider if God would have them make a switch and plug in at one of these gospel-centered churches.
- We will reiterate this need and request on one of our Sundays in January, in our services, as we are asking the Lord for several individuals and families to consider making this switch of churches to help advance the gospel in our city.

- After a break for Christmas, we are back to our study in Genesis, and hope to wrap up this wonderful book by June.
- There have been 43 individuals baptized at Redemption in 2024 – PRAISE GOD! We have another dozen or so people wanting to get baptized, so we are planning more baptisms for early in 2025.
- We are also excited for Free Indeed, our Men's Conference, coming up February 7-8. This is a highlight event at Redemption, so would you pray with us that men's hearts would be turned to Christ and that He would do a miraculous work in growing our men in their love for Jesus and desire to make much of Him in their daily lives.
- 2025 is a milestone year for Redemption, as it marks our 25th Anniversary as a church. Keep reading for more information on how we plan to celebrate this milestone...

25th ANNIVERSARY

- On March 5, 2000, Redemption held its first service with a group of 80-100 people. That was 25 years ago, and our elders are excited to take this year to celebrate God's faithfulness to our church.
- We are planning to recognize this milestone in several ways, including...

Anniversary Service

- Mark your calendar for March 2, when we will be having a special anniversary service to commemorate our 25th.
- We are still planning this service, but there will be several special elements.
- Ultimately, our hope and prayer is that God would be glorified and praised for all He has done.

God at Work Stories

- We are planning, over the first half of the year, to have monthly special "God at Work" stories, of how He has been at work over the past 25 years.
- For anyone who has been around Redemption for any length of time, you know what these are and what an encouragement it is to hear personal stories from individuals of how God has been doing what only He can do.

And more!

- We've got several other things in the works to celebrate our 25th anniversary, so watch for more details coming soon.

FACILITY UPDATE

- The renovations to our gym are complete – it is no longer a gym!
- The walls are treated, the floor is done, and the folding wall is in. Our old gym (now referred to as room 007), is now a fully functioning classroom which can be used either as one large room, or two smaller rooms.
- Our kitchen renovations are also nearing completion! We've got new cupboards, a new stainless-steel countertop, new walk-in pantry, and you are already enjoying our new self-serve coffee station.
- Finally, you may have noticed the construction happening in our upper lobby. This is going to be a new boardroom (doubles as a prayer room on Sundays), as we needed to convert our old boardroom into more offices. This is one of the wonderful problems of a growing Kids Ministry – we can no longer use space in Kids rooms for office furniture!
- We are so thankful for the many volunteers who have given their time and knowledge to help with all these renovations. We'd like to specifically thank Dave Whalley and Rick Stainthorpe who have been instrumental in all of this. Thank you, Dave and Rick, for giving your time and expertise to these many projects!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

- The reasons to give glory to God for all He has done continue! Praise God, our year-end giving is above budget at \$1,996,683.09. We still have expenses from 2024 coming in, so we won't know for a couple more weeks if we will cover our expenses, but it's looking very positive.
- In addition, as we announced early in January, we were able to collect \$49,566 towards our Christmas Offering. This is the most we have ever collected for our Christmas Offering!!! We are praising God for moving in the hearts of our people to be generous.
- Our elders have seen God use Redemption and our resources to bless other ministries, and it is our desire to continue this.
- God has uniquely positioned our leadership and church to have a kingdom impact. It is the heart of our elders to do more of what He has already enabled us to do – to see where God is providing opportunities to put both time and financial resources to ministries – both in our church and outside of it, that go back to the Great Commission – to make and grow disciples... all for the glory of God.

Would you pray with us about how God would use you and our church for eternal purposes, “as we look not to the things that are seen, but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.” (2 Corinthians 4:18)