



## March 2018 Newsletter – Change is our Constant

Welcome to 2018! We stepped into the new year embracing words from Heraclitus, a fifth century B.C. Greek philosopher, who apparently wrote, “There is nothing permanent except change.”

*Ok. . .we actually didn't know who Heraclitus was as we began the new year, but we certainly were familiar with the idea he espoused. Change is indeed one constant we can always count on.*

The beginning weeks of 2018 introduced some new challenges for Redeemed Seasons, including termination of our services arrangement with Discovery Church, the launch of our second offering of FORGE, planning for a new discipleship program in partnership with a local, equine-based nonprofit, and the development of new relationships and partnerships on the ministry front.

As we roll through all these changes, we are leaning into our most powerful constant: our God. And we are encouraged and comforted by God’s truth, as expressed through the Prophet Jeremiah: “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” (Jer.29:11)

We pray you take a few moments to read below about the specifics opportunities and challenges we are working through in this new year. None of these things would be possible without your encouragement and support. Thank You! We are so grateful for the blessings of your partnership and your prayers.

### RSM and DCC Take a Break

In February, Redeemed Seasons terminated its staffing relationship with Discovery Church, although we continue to partner on some programs, such as FORGE.

Our decision to suspend the pastoral care services with DCC was motivated by the realization that we were drifting far from the core ministry calling of Redeemed Seasons: to disciple followers of Jesus and to equip leaders to care well for men and women of the church.

Although pastoral care is essential within the church, it has not been a major element of our mission. Accordingly, we felt we needed to return to our original vision and reclaim the time we were devoting to DCC’s pastoral care functions. The move has improved our focus and effectiveness; however, it has also resulted in a substantial reduction in our monthly financial support.



## What else are we doing?

Our Winter/Spring offering of FORGE has begun, attended by 16 wonderful men and women, and facilitated by our team of 6 leaders. We are 4 weeks into the discipleship experience, and God is moving in the lives of the participants, as well as the leaders, in powerful ways.

On June 9, Redeemed Seasons and Thunder Cliff Shires will be partnering to host a very special and unique discipleship event that melds the companionship of horses with a contemplative posture toward God. The day-long workshop, tentatively entitled "In a Pasture Apart", will lead a small group of participants through a series of experiences with God in an equine context. Further details and information about this powerful workshop will be released in the coming weeks.

RSM is also actively pursuing other partnerships with churches and ministries in the Colorado Springs area. Of particular note, we are now attending weekly services at Holy Trinity Anglican Church and are looking forward to the ways in which God will apply our gifts and calling within the ministry work of this loving and welcoming body of believers. In addition, we are in preliminary talks with an international missions group who is exploring use of our spiritual direction and soul care skills to support and mentor young men and women returning to the U.S. from the missions field.

## Personal Corner - Lizzie and Luna

On the personal front, Mark and Christy have been investing their hearts and their time in these two "girls." Lizzie is a 3-year-old Clydesdale mare, and Luna is a 5-year-old Shire mare.

Both horses, part of the large herd of animals resident at Thunder Cliff Shires, are benefitting from the consistent one-on-one attention that Mark and Christy are providing.

With the amazing guidance of Michelle Conners, co-founder of Thunder Cliff Shires and a member of the RSM Board of Directors, Mark and Christy are training both horses to be ridden, while they are learning skills themselves as riders and "horse people."

The "In a Pasture Apart" discipleship workshop described above is a product of the ministry vision of Thunder Cliff Shires and reflects some of the more impactful experiences that Mark and Christy are having with Lizzie and Luna.

It just doesn't get any better: the co-mingling of new personal passions with the passions Jesus is kindling for service to His Church!



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## How to Support the Mission?

If you have a heart for the ministry work we do at RSM, we encourage you to support us through your tax-deductible donation. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

We accept one-time and ongoing contributions via our website or by check sent to our mailing address at 6472 Alibi Cir., Colorado Springs, CO 80923.