

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER



THE LAMP

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. Psalm 119:105

AUGUST 2024

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From
the
Pastor

A man holding his own skin. A strange thing to see for sure. Who is it, and what happened to him?

After Jesus called Philip to follow Him, Philip found Bartholomew also called Nathaniel and told him "We have found

the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote..." Perhaps this tells us Philip and Nathaniel were students of the law and the prophets, and on account of this Philip recognized the Messiah.

Bartholomew would respond, "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" When Jesus saw him coming, He said, "Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false." The Greek word for "false" means "deceitful, crafty, or full of guile. Jesus knew Nathaniel's heart.

Bartholomew asked how Jesus knew him, and Jesus replied, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you." This would be evidence of His omniscience.

It is thought that Jude and Bartholomew visited the Armenians early in the first century and converted them to Christianity. In 302, St. Gregory the Illuminator baptized the king of Armenia. The Armenians claim that they

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Pastor Randy



Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

1800 West Maple Road • Birmingham, MI 48009

Phone: 248-644-4010

e-mail: redeemer@redeemberirmingham.org

website: www.redeemberirmingham.org

Facebook: Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Our mission is to faithfully communicate the love of God, nurture people in their Christian faith, and equip people to bring the love of Jesus to others.

Rev. Randall J. Schlak (ext.119)
Senior Pastor
Rev. James Greenwalt (ext. 117)
Assistant Pastor
Rev. Ron Farah
Pastor Emeritus
Gary Priskorn (ext.123)
Dir. of Men's & Senior Ministry
Kitty Sweitzer (ext.111) Dir. of Women's Ministry
Nicole Olds (ext 124) Dir. of Children's Ministry
Steve SeGraves (ext.129)..... Dir. of Music
Laura Vowell (ext 121)..... Dir. of Family Life/Middle School
..... Confirmation/Outreach
Gia Scheidt (ext.120) Dir. of High School
Eric Wisniewski (ext.120) Assistant Dir. of High School
Kim Davis..... Dir. of Fellowship
Jim Compton..... Dir. of Handbell Choir
Pat Raezler (ext.126) Dir. of Westmaple Nursery
Rose Kiehle (ext.116) Office Manager
Pam Tyndall (ext 118)..... Professional Staff/Office Liaison
Laura Jones (ext. 110) Accountant
Counseling Center (248) 568-6040
Dr. Sandy Pourcho 248.568.6040 / Anna Lewis 248.224.0383
Fred Suczynski (ext.113)..... Building Maintenance

Worship Schedule

Sundays - 8:00am (Chapel), 9:00, *10:30am (Sanctuary)

Mondays - 7:00pm (Chapel)

* Livestreamed service

Communion Schedule

1st & 3rd Sundays - 9:00am and 10:30am

2nd, 4th & 5th Sun./Mon. - Sun. 8:00am; Mon. 7:00pm

Stewardship Report

Month	June	2024	2023
Weekly Attendance Averages			
Worship	377	527	
Bible Class	133	138	
Sunday School	18	23	
Monthly Attendance Totals			
Communion	643	695	
Visitors	31	79	
Month:	June	2024	2023
Income and Expenses			
Income received	\$144,284	\$91,176	
Budget requirements	\$88,976	\$151,392	
General fund expenses	\$124,394	\$149,359	
YTD Fiscal-year income	\$1,843,692	\$1,821,856	
YTD Fiscal-year expenses	\$1,710,427	\$1,687,780	

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT



Mercy and Grace Lead to Generosity

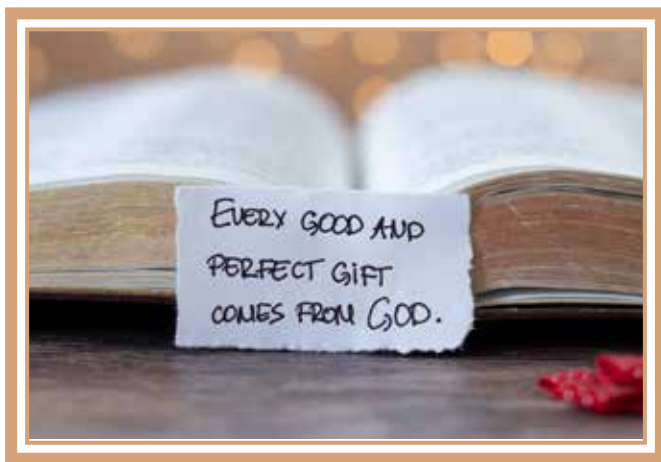
Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift" (2 Cor. 9:15)! This is St. Paul's exclamation upon hearing the Corinthian church's response to the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and his request for support for the church in Jerusalem. The Christians in Corinth heard and received God's mercy in Christ, and they responded to St. Paul's call to support Christians in Jerusalem with a collection. The Corinthians' joy filled Jerusalem's need.

This is the reality of stewardship. Because of God's generosity in the giving of His Son to die on the cross for us, we are to be generous with all that we receive from Him. What do we receive? Everything. All that we are and all that we have is the Lord's. He is the creator and the giver. We are His creatures and those who receive what He gives.

It sounds easy. And it is. But then again it isn't. Stewardship is easy because it is God's work. Through what God gives, we give to others. Through what God gives, we support the work of the church for the life of the world. He gives; we receive. And like our generous Father in Heaven, we, as His children, use what He gives to us to love and serve others.

But stewardship is also difficult. That is because it goes against our natural inclination to think that what I have is mine to do what I want with. This is our sinful nature. It is our selfishness and our greed. How can we who have been given everything — life, food, clothing, house, home, forgiveness, divine sonship, an eternal inheritance — be so stingy with what we give to the church, the place where we hear about and receive all that God gives us and does for us? We are all guilty of this kind of thinking. And the only godly response is to repent and trust in the Gospel.

For if God has given you His own Son, will He not give you all things? Yes. He will. This is His sure and certain promise. God provides for His people. He provides everything we need for this body and life and for the life that is to come.



The church is a mercy place. It's a place where God's mercy in the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, is given and received. For us who believe it means forgiveness, life and salvation in the face of sin, death and the power of the devil. Here in the church, we inhale God's mercy in Word and Sacrament, and exhale this same mercy in love and service to our neighbor. And that is an enduring, joyful thing to do. Our joy fills our neighbor's need because His joy filled ours (Heb. 12:2). Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!

MUSIC MINISTRY

SPECIAL MUSIC NEEDED FOR SUMMER SERVICES

Whether you sing or play an instrument, if you would be willing to use your vocal or instrumental talent to provide special music for the 9:00am service on a Sunday in the summer, please let Steve SeGraves know. (ssegraves@redeemberirmingham.org) Summer Music will be needed **all the way through Labor Day weekend**. We invite you to help provide this important ministry at Redeemer.



In Memory GIVE A MEMORIAL GIFT

A memorial is a gift given in memory of someone who has gone to be with their Lord. If you would like to donate to a specific ministry in memory of someone who has passed, you can use a memorial card located in the church office or specify on your check the ministry and the person whom you are memorializing.

Often times, families would like to donate an item in memory of a loved one, (ie. paschal candles, benches, altar items, trees...any items the church may need). For more information on this, please contact Pastor Randy, the senior pastor.

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Thank you for this time of year with longer days, brighter nights and a break from normal routine.

You are the God who needs nothing and yet you took time to rest. Thank you for the summer that gives us the opportunity to follow your example.

We rejoice in the gifts of family and friends and the time off to enjoy them. As Father, Son and Holy Spirit you lived in community for all eternity. Thank you that our holidays truly do become holy days when we spend time with those we love and who love us. In Jesus Name, Amen.

PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP



How do I watch Sunday Services LIVE online?

1. Go to the church website
www.redeemberirmingham.org

2. Click the first *Vimeo* square on the front page of the website.



3. Click on the video that has the **LIVE** indicator. The indicator will appear when the service starts.

IMPORTANT NOTE: When viewing on smartphone or tablet: Right below the church description, select the word **VIDEO** to watch the current live video and **ABOUT** to learn more about Redeemer. You can watch **PAST VIDEOS** under the Showcase option.

Altar Flowers*

Sign up now for either Altar or Lectern flowers in the Sanctuary or the Chapel. (Sanctuary/\$55; Chapel/\$50; Lectern/\$45) The sign-up charts are up on the Town Square bulletin board and are also available online via sign-up genius (links found on the front page of the website www.redeemberirmingham.org by clicking the **Ways to Serve** box then the **Altar and Lectern Flower Signup** box). Once you sign-up, you will be contacted about a dedication/payment a month before your date OR you can fill out your dedication form and pay online with a link in the flower chart signup. When picking up your flowers, ***please leave the flower liners behind for the next week's flowers!!!***

You can pick up Sanctuary flowers after 10:30am worship and Chapel flowers after the Monday 7pm worship. If you need assistance, please contact the church office at 248-644-4010 or office@redeemberirmingham.org and we would be happy to assist you!

How do I watch past services or other videos on demand?

1. Go to the church website
www.redeemberirmingham.org

2. Click the second *Vimeo* square on the front page of the website.



3. This will take you to "**Redeemer's Showcase Page**" where you can view all of Redeemer's past videos. Choose the category you'd like and select the video.

Please feel free to call the church office if you are having trouble viewing any videos.

NOTE: If you are having a difficult time hearing the audio on vimeo, press the closed-caption option to **READ** what is being said. The closed caption button is the CC (in a box) on the lower right of the screen.



Our Sanctuary Has A Hearing Loop To Assist Those With Hearing Loss. Users should set their hearing aids to T-coil. Please see an usher if you have questions or for additional information.



Scan QR code to go to **Redeemer's website** click on the **WAYS TO SERVE** box to sign up to **VOLUNTEER**

*** signups are also available on the Town Square bulletin board**

PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP

Be a Reader*

Would you like to read the Old Testament and Epistle Scripture verses during worship? We need readers ages 5-95 for ALL worship services! You can sign up under the **WAYS to SERVE** box via the church website or by contacting the church office (office@redeemberirmingham.org).

Host a Coffee Hour*

We need volunteers to host coffee hour on Sunday mornings throughout the year! It doesn't have to be anything fancy, and we'll give you easy-to-follow directions on how to do everything! Grab some friends and do it together! What a GREAT way to serve your congregation! You can sign up under the **WAYS to SERVE** box via the church website or by contacting Kim Davis (248-613-4200).

FAMILY USHERING

Your family can help out the congregation by ushering on a Sunday morning! You'll be handing out bulletins and passing the offering plates during the service. The job is easy enough that kids can help too... PLUS there will be an usher at the service with you to help you every step of the way! Sign up under the **WAYS to SERVE** box on the church website or contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberirmingham.org).

MYSTERY PRELUDE

You can have our organist, Rick Helderop play the Prelude spot at all the Sunday Services for the day (8am, 9am and 10:30am) with one of your favorite songs. Sign up on the front page of the website or scan this



QR code to be taken directly to the form. It is \$10 and ALL PROCEEDS GO TO OUR MISSION FUND! Thank you for participating!

signup
online or call the
church office

Be a Greeter*

Can you say "good morning"? Can you shake hands and smile? Do you have 15 extra minutes on a random Sunday morning? Are you looking for an easy way to service your church? Then YOU can do a very important outreach job... greeting! Redeemer is looking for volunteers to help greet at the Town Square doors before the 9am and 10:30am services. Grab a friend or your family! This is a great, easy way to get kids involved with serving the congregation. You can sign up under the **WAYS to SERVE** box via the church website or by contacting Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberirmingham.org).

ITTY-BITTY BUDDY BAGS

Welcome, little ones, to Redeemer! Learn about Jesus while you sit in church with mommy and daddy by borrowing an Itty-Bitty Buddy Bag for babies and toddlers. Filled with soft toys, books and cuddly things, you can learn to listen, watch, and participate in the service. Please return used bags to Nicole Olds' office after the service. If you want to play and make a lot of noise, we have a nursery just for you with lots of toys.



COMMUNION

If you would like communion to be brought to you, **please let an usher know before the service begins** and they will be sure that you are accommodated.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS

August 14
September 11
October 9
November 13

BOARD OF ELDERS MEETING

September 25
December 4

ATTENTION

ANYONE WHO HAS EMAIL!

If you ever receive an email from Pastor Randy asking for gift cards or ANYTHING of value, **please disregard it.** Always look very carefully at the **email address.** If it is not from **rschlak@redeemberirmingham.org**, it is **NOT FROM** Pastor Randy. **Please ignore the email and DO NOT REPLY.** If you are uncertain, you can always forward the email to **office@redeemberirmingham.org** or call the church office at 248-644-4010 and we will look into it for you.

TIME TO UPDATE YOUR MEMBER PROFILE!

Please make sure you login to **ShelbyNext Membership** (Our Church database) to confirm/update your family's profile information OR send your updated information to **office@redeemberirmingham.org**. (If you need your login credentials for ShelbyNext, reach out to the church office). You can download the **ShelbyNext Membership app** on your smart device (**redeemberirmingham** is the domain name to enter) to have access to the directory and church calendar on the go. You can also login to Church Membership on your desktop computer from the front page of our website.

****Please note, we no longer mail a printed directory because the information in our online directory is always current. If you would like a printed copy, please contact the church office at office@redeemberirmingham.org and we can print the most current directory.**

NOTE: If your older children have moved to their own address, please let us know and we can put them in their own family and link them to you. If they moved away and would no longer like to receive mailings, or are attending another church, we can remove them from our database.



**Lutheran Adult Gathering
October 11-13, 2024
Mackinac Island - Grand Hotel**

2024 Theme is "New Beginnings IN HIS PRESENCE" based on Revelation 21:5

National Renowned Speakers will inspire and encourage the next generation of believers with the hope-filled and unchanging message of the Gospel **Register Online at michigandistrict.org/lag24**

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were the first Christian state.

So who is the man holding his skin? It is thought that he was also martyred in Armenia. While still alive, his skin was torn or cut from his body. That is why he is often depicted as a man holding his own skin!

His feast day on the church calendar is August 24th. So this month we remember a man who would die for his faith, but before being executed planted the seed of faith to the Armenian people.



We are offering a CPR Training session Sunday August 11th at 12pm in the Redeemer Gym for anyone in the congregation that is interested. This is a 90-minute non-certification training. Redeemer is covering the cost of the training, with an option for a free will offering if you choose. We need a minimum of 20-30 individuals to hold a session. Please note that this will be the final opportunity to participate this year. Sign up sheets are posted on the Town Square bulletin board. Please contact Chris Lagoe with any questions 248-515-5873 clagoe1221@icloud.com



Saturday,
August 3rd

Help us encourage moms & dad to choose LIFE for their pre-born babies!

Visit www.WalkForLifeDetroit.com for more information!

Sponsored by Care Net Pregnancy Center



August 5, 12, 19, 26th

Join us Monday nights
for a Light Dinner prior to
worship

August 14, 21, 28

RYG Core and Summer
JAMS

August 7

RYG & JAMS Cedar Point

August 12

FOG

August 13

Women's Pop-up Bible
Study

August 14

Men's Golf and BBQ
Leadership Team Meeting

August 15

A Day at the Cottage

August 27

Women's Book Group

*For a full list of all
church events
go to our website.*

www.

redeemberirmingham.org

BIRMINGHAM COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

You can also go to www.redeemberirmingham.org and click the box below to register!

LOCATION - Church of the Redeemer
1800 W. Maple Rd.

APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED
Call 866-MIBLOOD or scan the QR code to schedule:



Donate and get a custom Versiti tote, while supplies last.

Complete your screening questions the day of your donation using Versipass:



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

BAPISMAL BOXES



If you had a child baptized at Redeemer during 2023 be on the lookout for a special invitation. We have a wonderful tradition of presenting baptismal boxes to our newly baptized. Our event will take place on Homecoming **Sunday, September 8th**. Questions please contact Nicole Olds.



Summer Sunday School will continue through September 1st. We will kick off the fall on **September 8th!!** If you have a child who is now 3 or are new to Redeemer please reach out to Nicole Olds so you can be added to our email list. The more kids the better!! nolds@redeemberirmingham.org

HELP!!

I am looking for new teachers to fill a few spots.

We have been blessed by the dedication of a few people who are either retiring or moving on to college. The schedule is set up so that you teach for 5 weeks and then have a 10 week break. You would teach 2-3 rotations during the school year. I have all the supplies for you. The curriculum is set up so you don't need a lot of prep time but gives you options of activities to do as well. If you want to give it a try this summer is a great opportunity to do so. I'd be happy to co-teach with you this summer!! Please help give our kids a reason to be excited to come to church! Contact Nicole Olds to sign up!! nolds@redeemberirmingham.org



PASTORAL ACTS

Weddings

6/8/2024 Anthony Wayne Barbee and
Oksana Lechner

Baptisms

6/23/2024 Otto Alexander Pivrotto
son of Ryan and Nicole Pivrotto

6/30/2024 Callen Anderson Schilling
son of Cameron and Jaclyn Schilling

6/30/2024 Jevne "Tripp" Robert Conover
son of Tripp and Julia Conover

Funerals

6/4/2024 Majorie Jeanne Kome

6/21/2024 Rose Mary Vettraino Ricelli



Monday Night Fellowship Dinners

August 5, 12, 19, 26

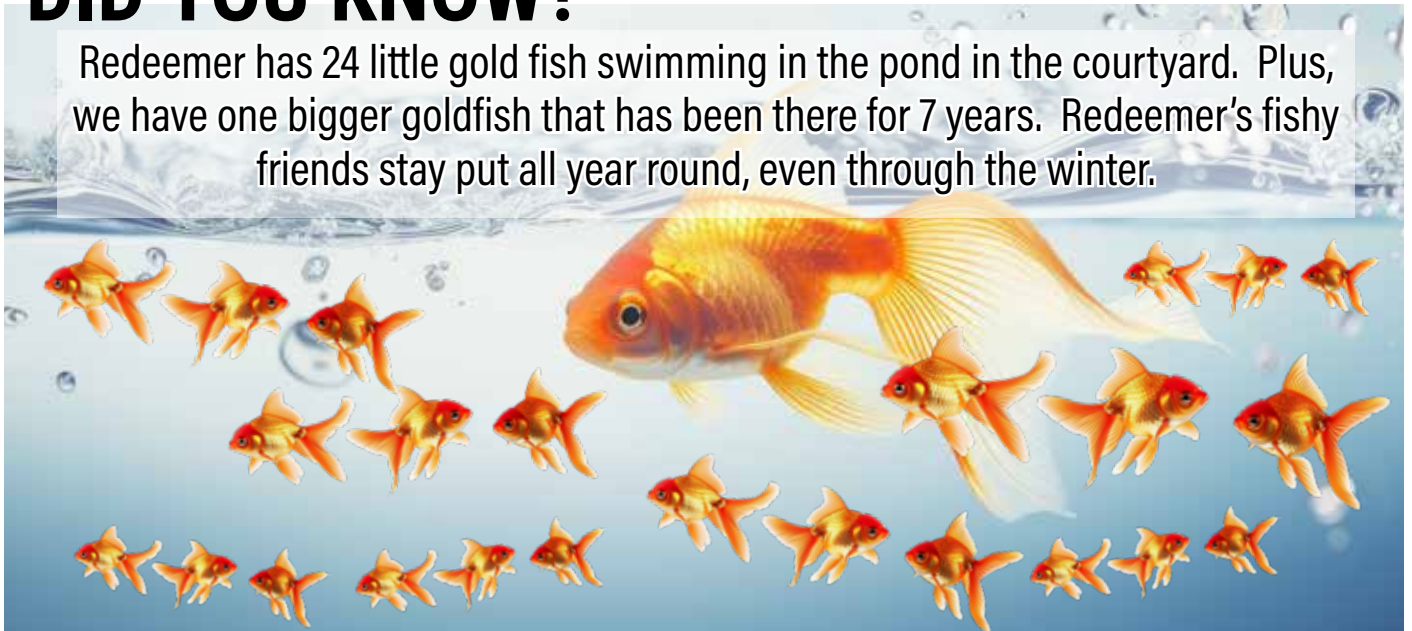
Includes: Light Dinner at 6:30pm and
Worship at 7pm

Redeemer front Lawn near the Chapel or
in the Chapel Narthex (depending on the
weather)



DID YOU KNOW?

Redeemer has 24 little gold fish swimming in the pond in the courtyard. Plus, we have one bigger goldfish that has been there for 7 years. Redeemer's fishy friends stay put all year round, even through the winter.



Redeemer's Annual Homecoming Picnic

September 8, 2024
after the 10:30 worship



Frank's includes:

All Beef Hot Dogs
with fresh baked buns and
traditional hot dog toppers
and condiments

Assorted Sausages
with flame roasted peppers and onions or
the traditional Detroit style coney chili

Quarter Pound Certified Angus Beef Burgers
with fresh baked buns and
traditional burger condiments, spreads and toppers

Assorted Kettle Style Chips

Chocolate Chunk Cookies

Double Chocolate Chunk Brownies



**Battle Light
Gamer**

*Join the fun
with:*

Balloon Twisters



**Bounce Slide
Circus**



**Professional
Face Painting**



and so much more....



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**
For Homecoming Picnic!

**We need your help
for a successful picnic!!**

There are things to get done before, during, and after the event – **especially with clean up at the end!**

Please sign-up to help via the church website.

This is a great opportunity for confirmands to earn service hours – sign up as a family and earn some family service hours!

Contact Kim Davis (248-613-4200) with questions or for more information.

SUMMER BIBLE STUDIES

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Rev. Ronald Farah - *The Study of Romans*
Sundays, after 9am service (Scheidt Room)

Children's Sunday School - Nicole Olds
Sundays, 10:30am (lower-level classrooms)

Women's Bible Study - Kitty Sweitzer -
pop up study - July 16, Aug 13
Tuesdays, 6:30pm (Library) beginning in the fall
*4th Tuesday starts at 6pm

Men's Bible Study

Gary Priskorn - *Study of Acts* *Zoom available
Wednesdays, 6:45-7:30am - all year long (Great Room)

Summer RYG and JAMS

Wednesdays, 6-8pm - Starts June 26
Pizza dinner begins at 6:00 on the playground and then the two groups
retreat to their designated spots

RYG (High School) - Gia Scheidt (Youth Room)

JAMS (Middle School) - Laura Vowell (Gym)

**For more information on a particular study,
contact the names indicated or call the church
office at 248-644-4010.**



ADDITIONAL BIBLE STUDIES RETURNING THIS FALL

New Member Class - Laura Vowell
Sundays, 9-10am (Great Room) Sept 29-Nov. 3

Adult Bible Study - Pastor Jimmy
Tuesdays, 9:30am (Great Room) begins Sept 10

Women's Bible Study - Kitty Sweitzer
Tuesdays, 6:30pm (Library) begins Sept 10

*4th Tuesday starts at 6pm

Positive Parenting - Victoria Ilitch & Kristin Thompson
Weds, 9:15-10:45am (Great Room) begins Sept 11

Confirmation Classes - Laura Vowell
Wednesdays, 6-8pm (various rooms)

Community Bible Study - TBD
Thursdays, 9:30-11am (Great Room)

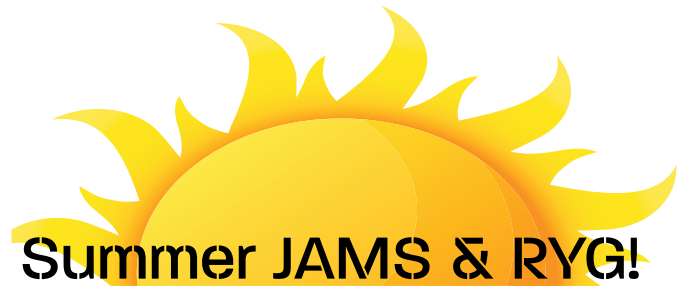
Redeemer Youth Group (High School) - Gia Scheidt &
Eric Wisniewski - Sundays, 7pm (Youth Room)

A graphic titled "EVENT SCHEDULE" for "Redeemer Young Adults". It lists three recurring events: "BIBLE STUDY: FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH", "MONTHLY SOCIAL EVENTS AND OUTINGS", and "CHURCH LUNCHES: FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH AFTER 10:30 SERVICE". At the bottom, it says "TEXT MICHAEL BANERIAN TO GET INVOLVED! (248) 925-7125".



CONFIRMATION 2024/2025

We are in the process of compiling a list of all our incoming Confirmation students for the fall. Most children are on the Sunday School roster, but we do not want to miss anyone! If your child is entering the 6th grade and you would like to enroll him/her in Confirmation, please contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberirmingham.org). She will get you all set up! If you have a child that is older or younger than 6th grade, and you are interested in starting him/her in the Confirmation program, Laura can help you with that too!



Summer JAMS & RYG!

Middle Schoolers (JAMS) & High Schoolers (RYG) are hanging out on Wednesdays from 6-8pm ALL SUMMER LONG at NO COST! Everyone meets outside on the playground for a pizza dinner. Afterward, JAMS will go in the Gym to play games and RYG will go to the Youth Room for Bible Study! Parents, you can drop your high schooler and middle schooler off at the same time so that they can have Christian fellowship and some time to grow in their faith! Contact Gia, Eric, or Laura for more information.

****NO MEETING on Wednesday 8/7!**

****LAST MEETING is Wednesday 8/21!**

Become a Member!

If you are interested in becoming a member of Redeemer...now you can! Join us for our New Member Classes! Starting on **Sunday, September 29th**, classes will run for 6 weeks on Sundays from 9am – 10am. We will end with New Member Orientation on Sunday 11/10 and the New Member Brunch on Sunday 11/17. Come join us! Contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberirmingham.org) with questions or for more information.



To the Redeemer Congregation:

It is with great joy that I can report to you. I have successfully completed the SMP program. Without your support and encouragement, prayers and advice I am not sure I could have made it. I thank you all.

Pastor Jimmy

RYG = REDEEMER YOUTH GROUP



ALWAYS
CHECK INSTAGRAM
FOR ANY
SCHEDULE CHANGES

FAMILY OF GOD feeding the poor

RYG cooks and serves on the 2nd
Monday of the Month
August 12
September 9
October 15

Come join us to help others



Youth Fall Retreat!

All students in grades 6-12 are invited to join us at Camp Skyline for the **WHOLE WEEKEND** with friends! We'll be having fun and learning more about God's Word during the weekend of **October 4th – October 6th!** Friends are more than welcome! Stay tuned for more information and permission slip. Contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemerbirmingham.org) with questions or for more information.



JAMS @ RYG GO TO CEDAR POINT!

Students going into grades 6-12 are invited for a day of fun on the roller coasters of Cedar Point on **Wednesday, August 7th!** The cost is \$50 and includes admission, travel to & from park, breakfast, and a water bottle for the day. Grab a permission slip from outside Gia/Eric's Office, Laura's Office, or download one from the church website. Forms & money are due on Sunday 7/21 – LIMITED QUANTITIY OF SPOTS! Contact Gia, Eric, or Laura for more information.

RYG SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY KICKS off with a POOL PARTY! SEPTEMBER 8TH

more details to follow!!



iZosh UPDATE



Safe Motherhood Ambassador Worke's story is a remarkable account of community turning into family. At the age of 7, she tragically lost both her parents and had no relatives to stay with. Fortunately, a neighbor named Zegale took her in and raised her as his own daughter, and she lived with her new family for 17 years.

Wanting to become self-sufficient, she started working on a farm for daily wages while living independently. Unfortunately, due to lack of prenatal care, both of her pregnancies resulted in stillbirths. Following the second delivery, she developed a fistula, which prevented her from working. With nowhere else to turn, she returned to her adoptive father, Zegale. Zegale, ever the supportive figure in her life, welcomed her back with open arms. He helped her seek medical attention at Hamlin Fistula Hospital, where Worke received the surgery she needed to repair the fistula after living with the condition for five months.

"I told him about everything that happened, and he took me to the nearest hospital. I got surgery and I am now cured. I don't remember my birth parents as I lost them while I was very young. But God has given me Zegale who raised me and is still taking care of me. I am hopeless without him, and I am forever in debt to him and his family."

"It is like she is born again."

When Zegale attended Worke's graduation, he told us:

"May God pay you back. Not only did she get treated, but she looked like a flower with her beautiful dress. You rehabilitated her physically, psychologically and spiritually. It is like she is born again. I have never seen an organization who does this and blesses the women and showers them with love and care like you do.

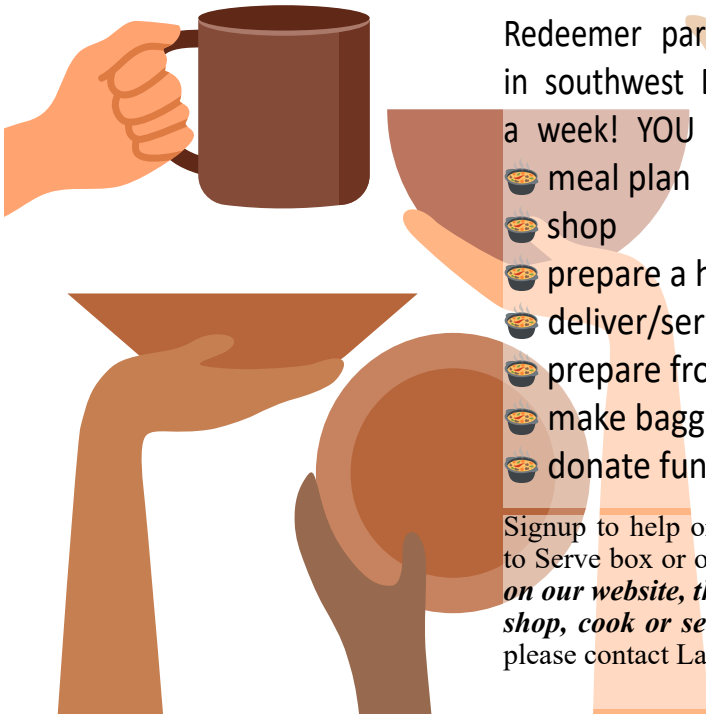
At a time like this it's a blessing to have you and I pray God bless you and everyone who supports your work. Thank you."

Feed the Homeless!

Redeemer partners with Family of God (FOG), a Lutheran Church in southwest Detroit, that provides meals to those in need 6 days a week! YOU can help with these meals in MANY different ways:

- 🍲 meal plan
- 🍲 shop
- 🍲 prepare a hot meal
- 🍲 deliver/serve a meal
- 🍲 prepare frozen meals
- 🍲 make bagged lunches
- 🍲 donate funds to be used to purchase supplies for the meals

Signup to help on our website at www.redeemberirmingham.org under the Ways to Serve box or on the Town Square bulletin board. **NOTE: If you are signing up on our website, there is a separate signup to sponsor a meal than there is to plan, shop, cook or serve the meal.** If you have questions or need more information, please contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberirmingham.org).





This month we'll take a look back at Congregational Care and Adult Education at Redeemer. One of the ministries contained in Congregational Care was the Stephen Ministry. In 1991, Cary Richert, Kay Veller, and Dorothy Hesskamp went through rigorous training to become Stephen Ministry Leaders. Stephen ministers provided Christian caregiving, listening, crisis intervention, and connections to community resources.

From an article in The Lamp (1997) entitled, "The Power of Christian Care": Fall 1996 brought a unique opportunity for Redeemer's Stephen Ministry to

provide Christian care. Fred (not his real name), from Austin, TX came to Royal Oak Beaumont seeking perhaps his last chance of winning a long battle against cancer. Fred had been referred to our Stephen Ministry by the LCMS in St. Louis. He was frightened about his treatment and not knowing anyone in the area. Fred was assigned a Stephen Minister, and other congregation members took him under their wings. Phone calls to Fred were made before he came to the area, and arrangements were made for his living. Fred's Stephen Minister supported and encouraged, prayed and worshipped with him, and befriended him in numerous ways. He also became involved in a small group at Redeemer.

What was interesting is that Fred had no church background and was not Lutheran. His few church experiences had been unfulfilling. Yet, in his moment of deepest need, it was a ministry of the church that brought him into contact with the love of Jesus and the sweet message of the Gospel.

By 2014, eighteen years after his first meeting with Redeemer's Stephen Minister, he had moved to Denver and was searching for a Lutheran church in the area. His successful treatment has allowed him to come closer to God and enjoy life in Denver – what a testimony!

Teaser and Trivia for Congregational Care and Adult Education

Last month, our trivia question was about our long-serving office volunteer. Carol Frost has been serving the office ever since her daughter Emily began Westmaple over 50 years ago! Many, many thanks, Carol!



In 1994, Pastor Duane proposed a new governing structure at Redeemer – the Leadership Team. Previously operating as the Church Council, they spent many hours in meetings, listening to the various reports from the Staff and ministry leaders. This new governing body was unique in Lutheran circles, but received the support it needed from the Michigan District and Redeemer members. The change over

to the Leadership Team meant that while it was still the governing body of our church, more time would be spent focusing on the Vision, Goals, and Priorities of Redeemer. As Pastor Duane wrote, "This monumental step would formally designate the Church Council as a true Leadership Team by redirecting its composition from selected board representatives to a body of 12 people. The only agenda is

the welfare of all the ministries carried on at Redeemer and is the expression of a people bent on making a difference in the quality of ministry offered to people in our community. The agenda for the team meetings will have more structure with time being devoted to planning, dreaming, studying, and discussing our vision of the future."



AUGUST

Bible Reading Plan

1

2 Chronicles 30:1-31:21
Romans 15:1-22
Psalm 25:1-15
Proverbs 20:13-15

2

2 Chronicles 32:1-33:13
Romans 15:23-16:9
Psalm 25:16-22
Proverbs 20:16-18

3

2 Chronicles 33:14-34:33
Romans 16:10-27
Psalm 26:1-12
Proverbs 20:19

4

2 Chronicles 35:1-36:23
1 Corinthians 1:1-17
Psalm 27:1-6
Proverbs 20:20-21

5

Ezra 1:1-2:70
1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5
Psalm 27:7-14
Proverbs 20:22-23

6

Ezra 3:1-4:23
1 Corinthians 2:6-3:4
Psalm 28:1-9
Proverbs 20:24-25

7

Ezra 4:24-6:22
1 Corinthians 3:5-23
Psalm 29:1-11
Proverbs 20:26-27

8

Ezra 7:1-8:20
1 Corinthians 4:1-21
Psalm 30:1-12
Proverbs 20:28-30

9

Ezra 8:21-9:15
1 Corinthians 5:1-13
Psalm 31:1-8
Proverbs 21:1-2

10

Ezra 10:1-44
1 Corinthians 6:1-20
Psalm 31:9-18
Proverbs 21:3

11

Nehemiah 1:1-3:14
1 Corinthians 7:1-24
Psalm 31:19-24
Proverbs 21:4

12

Nehemiah 3:15-5:13
1 Corinthians 7:25-40
Psalm 32:1-11
Proverbs 21:5-7

13

Nehemiah 5:14-7:73
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Psalm 33:1-11
Proverbs 21:8-10

14

Nehemiah 7:73-9:21
1 Corinthians 9:1-18
Psalm 33:12-22
Proverbs 21:11-12

15

Nehemiah 9:22-10:39
1 Corinthians 9:19-10:13
Psalm 34:1-10
Proverbs 21:13

16

Nehemiah 11:1-12:26
1 Corinthians 10:14-33
Psalm 34:11-22
Proverbs 21:14-16

17

Nehemiah 12:27-13:31
1 Corinthians 11:1-16
Psalm 35:1-16
Proverbs 21:17-18

18

Esther 1:1-3:15
1 Corinthians 11:17-34
Psalm 35:17-28
Proverbs 21:19-20

19

Esther 4:1-7:10
1 Corinthians 12:1-26
Psalm 36:1-12
Proverbs 21:21-22

20

Esther 8:1-10:3
1 Corinthians 12:27-13:13
Psalm 37:1-11
Proverbs 21:23-24

21

Job 1:1-3:26
1 Corinthians 14:1-17
Psalm 37:12-29
Proverbs 21:25-26

22

Job 4:1-7:21
1 Corinthians 14:18-40
Psalm 37:30-40
Proverbs 21:27

23

Job 8:1-11:20
1 Corinthians 15:1-28
Psalm 38:1-22
Proverbs 21:28-29

24

Job 12:1-15:35
1 Corinthians 15:29-58
Psalm 39:1-13
Proverbs 21:30-31

25

Job 16:1-19:29
1 Corinthians 16:1-24
Psalm 40:1-10
Proverbs 22:1

26

Job 20:1-22:30
2 Corinthians 1:1-11
Psalm 40:11-17
Proverbs 22:2-4

27

Job 23:1-27:23
2 Corinthians 1:12-2:11
Psalm 41:1-13
Proverbs 22:5-6

28

Job 28:1-30:31
2 Corinthians 2:12-17
Psalm 42:1-11
Proverbs 22:7

29

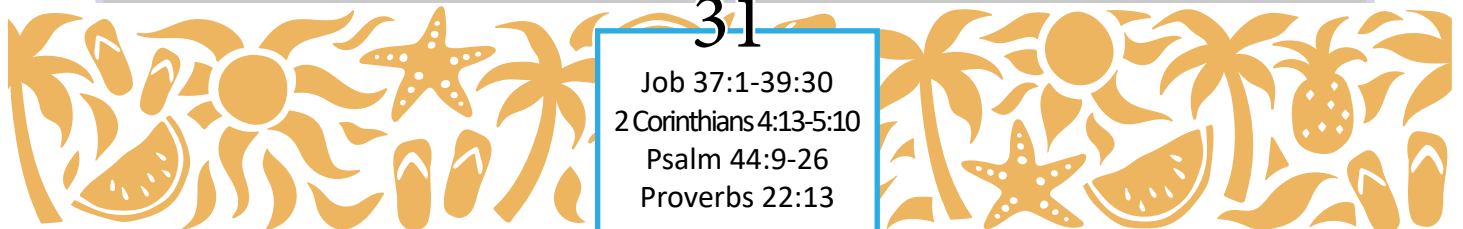
Job 31:1-33:33
2 Corinthians 3:1-18
Psalm 43:1-5
Proverbs 22:8-9

30

Job 34:1-36:33
2 Corinthians 4:1-12
Psalm 44:1-8
Proverbs 22:10-12

31

Job 37:1-39:30
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:10
Psalm 44:9-26
Proverbs 22:13

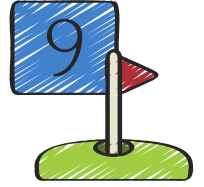


MEN'S MINISTRY



Men's Golf and Barbecue

Guys of all ages – mark your calendar for **Wednesday, August 14th** for our 23rd annual Men's BBQ at Beverly Park Pavilion (Beverly Rd. west of Southfield). The BBQ begins at 6:00 p.m. and there is also an optional 9-hole scramble golf event at Lincoln Hills beginning at 3:00 p.m. Contact "Golf Commissioner" Walt Sweitzer (248-797-2755) to sign up for golf or with questions. Sign up by August 11th on the Town Square bulletin board for the BBQ or the BBQ and golf, or contact Gary Priskorn (248-561-2641 or gpriskorn@redeemberirmingham.org). There is no charge for the BBQ – a freewill donation will be received. Join us for a great time of fellowship!



Men's Bible Study

Men of all ages are invited to join us on **Wednesday, morning, 6:45-7:30 a.m. in the Great Room** or via Zoom, as we continue the study of the book of Acts. The emphasis of this important book is literally the fulfillment of the Great Commission, describing the founding of the Christian Church and the spread of its message to the Roman Empire. You are invited to join us each Wednesday morning for fellowship and spiritual growth – and some coffee cake, juice and coffee! Contact Gary Priskorn for further information – 248-644-4010 ext.123.

Wednesday Lunch & Worship

September 18th

All are invited to join us as we resume "Wednesday Lunch & Worship" on **September 18th**, our 3rd Wednesday of the month gathering at 12 noon in the Great Room where we're served a delicious meal, again graciously prepared by Michele Margosian. After the meal we move to the chapel at 1:00 p.m. for a brief worship service with Holy Communion. Please call the church office (248-644-4010) by September 16th if you're joining us for lunch. Also, if you are in need of transportation, let the office know and we'll do our best to assist. Questions? Contact Gary Priskorn at the number above.

A Day at the Hollis' Cottage

Thursday, August 15

2:00-6:00 p.m.



The Hollis family has again invited adults of all ages to join them on Thursday, **August 15th** at their cottage on North Lake in Dexter Twp. for fun, food and fellowship from 2:00 – 6:00p.m. Guests are asked to bring beverages and a dish to pass to serve 10 (appetizers, salad, vegetables, dessert). Dinner (sloppy joes) will be at 5:00 p.m. Carpooling is encouraged! Sign-up sheet (by August 12th) and maps are on the Town Square bulletin board. Questions? contact Gary Priskorn (248-644-4010 ext.123)

Save the Date
Fellowship Breakfast
Saturday, Oct.5th

Hosted by Men's
Ministry



September 2

Labor Day
Office/Building Closed
No Monday Night Service

September 5

Chicks with Sticks

September 8

Church Homecoming Picnic
Baptismal Boxes
RYG Pool Kickoff Party

September 11

Leadership Team Meeting

September 15

1st Day of Sunday School

September 18

Wed. Lunch & Worship
Confirmation Orientation Yr 1
Titus 2 Bible Study

September 22

Confirmation Orientation Yr 3
Confirmation Orientation Yr 2

September 24

Women's Book Group

September 25

Confirmation Classes Start
Board of Elders Mtg

September 29

New Member Class

For a full list of all church events go to our website.

www.

redeemberirmingham.org

The Garden Walk

Julie Dawsom, artist, author and master gardener opened her home to Women' Ministry attendees and friends on a glorious summer day. Julie has a heart for people, flowers and nature lovingly sharing her abundant knowledge with us. The women who attended can't wait to visit Julie's garden again. Maybe you will be one of us. Thanks to Kaki Mammel for leading this adventure!



Redeemer Brass is playing at these various venues!

1. Wednesday September 4th. @ Dog & Pony Show Brewing in Oak Park time - 6-8 or 7-9pm. (TBD)
2. Saturday September 21th @ Our Shepherd Church in Birmingham - time 3-5:30/45pm.
3. Saturday September 28 @ OLQM in Beverly Hills - time 1-4pm.



There will be a great time enjoying German food, beverages, and bands. This event is hosted at Our Shepherd and is an event supported by all the congregations in the Birmingham Circuit of the Michigan District in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



CHICKS WITH STICKS

Chicks with Sticks will meet on **Thursday, September 5th and 19th at 1:00 in the library.**

We are making all kinds of things for the homeless and those who live just making ends meet.....hats, mittens, and other cozy things.... and yes, we will continue to knit for the next winter when people will need the warmth of a gift and a message of hope. Come anytime and sit in. If you don't knit you can help sort or bring a project to work on and enjoy the fellowship. We also crochet and love to share our enthusiasm! Meetings are typically the first and third Thursday of the month. Please check the schedule or call the church office.

Women's Bible Study

Tuesday Women's Bible Study.... will meet **August 13 at 6:30** for our last summer pop-up! We have enjoyed the leisure pace of our lessons and and found peace in each other's company. Join us in the Great Room and celebrate the word together. Just bring a bible and an open heart. Good News!

The Chosen – Season 4 has been released on DVD and this wonderful series will kick off our Tuesday Night study on **September 17** at 6:30. Bring a friend and study along with us. Sign up is helpful and located on the Town Square bulletin board. If you want a study guide please indicate on the sign-up. You can pay at our first meeting on the 17th. Join us and continue the journey in God's Word.



AUGUST Lamp



LITTLE DRESSES AND LITTLE BRITCHES

Thank you everyone for your beautiful handiwork on the little dresses and britches. Deadline for receiving all finished goods is August 1, in time for delivery

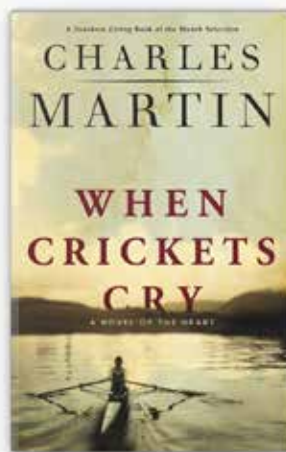
to the Orphan Grain Train satellite drop-off in Flint. These dresses and shorts make their way around the world including the USA.

When we delivered dresses last year the workers at the church could not get over the detail (rickrack, ribbon, pretty pockets, buttons and trims) on each and every dress. They so admired the colors and good fabric and we told those women to take some for their children if needed. It was such a feeling of gratitude to know little girls would be twirling and dancing in their new sun dresses and that those mommies would rejoice in the joy .

Womens Ministry will be hosting other mission projects this year: The Angel Tree, Little Dresses, The Giving Tree, Detroit Street Mission, Birthday boxes and more and we would love to work alongside you.

Women's Book Group

Tuesday Night Women's Book Group will gather on **August 27** to read Charles Martin's **When Crickets Cry**. If you like good Christian literature then this book is for you. Charles Martin has the ability to use the written word to describe a person's inner feelings and fears. The main character has suffered a traumatic experience and has retreated and rejected his former life and friends. His emotional climb back to his former self is beautifully described.



We begin to understand his dilemma and his inner demons and in doing so may recognize our own. Town Square....be there!

Counseling Corner

With Summer in full swing, I'm wondering how many of you are having a great time or is it "same old same old"? Moreover, are you feeling stuck, unfulfilled or just plain tired? In my counseling practice, I find quite often that when people are experiencing these types of feelings it can be because they just can't measure up to the expectations they have put upon themselves...and others. It can be a real eyeopener when one examines their goals and then responds with these destructive feelings and emotions because they are unable to reach such unrealistic goals.

We all do this at one point or another in our lives. It's our culture that purports over-commitment and a "you can do anything if you just believe in yourself" attitude. This is just Not true. This mantra that we put on ourselves and children can set us/them up for failure and frustration that can lead to depression and hopelessness. For example, if one really truly believes that they can become a physician or a veterinarian but they struggle continually in the basic math and science subjects then it is more likely than not that they are just not genetically wired to take on successfully these subjects. In general, people usually lean towards the right brain (social sciences) or left brain (hard science like math, biology, science in general).

Setting the bar (goals) at a reasonable level that can be attainable is using wisdom and kindness towards yourself and others. Who doesn't want to succeed? Why not do what you love to do or what you are really good at? How about that thing that has been gnawing at you, way deep down in your spirit? Could that be God telling you the plan He wants you to pursue, *Jeremiah 29:11*?

I find that when my clients get more realistic with their goals they feel a whole lot better inside and it manifests on their face. Now, they are setting themselves up for success, not failure and rejection. Additionally, finding the things in life that God created (hard wired) us to do is a journey one can prayerfully pursue with God. He's with you right there waiting for you to ask Him *Jeremiah 29:12*.

In relationships, I also find that people expect too much from their spouse that they too are just not wired to deliver. Many try to fill that empty space inside of them with a false expectations of others like wanting a husband to talk- talk- talk with you, share his inner most feelings with you..(this is girl-friending him) probably not going to happen. Like Dr. Lehman says in his book "Have a New Husband by Friday" "You are seeking a type of intimacy with your husband that only God can deliver. Men are just not that deep!" God created in us that little sacred space that only HE can fill. Sadly, I see some of these "underperforming spouses" tap out of the relationship because they feel like such a disappointment to their wife or husband.

Finally, be kinder to yourself and others with realistic expectations. If you are just not sure if the bar is too high, just ask God. He will love you through this situation with direction, wisdom and finally peace. You will know in your gut if it is "well with your soul". Take some nice walks with Jesus. Talk with Him. He's knocking at the door, you just need to open it.

God's Blessings to you,
Dr. Sandy Pourcho

COUNSELING CENTER

Redeemer Counseling Center is open and our counselors are available to address your counseling needs! Call to set up an appointment soon!

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June Campbell
Rayna Nadeau
Daniel Reck Jr

August 2

Jordan Held
Dorothy Holter
Jim Rowe
Dominique VanDyke

August 3

Sydney Beck
Franco Calvaneso
Kathy Eley
Beth Hamada
Debbie Lavoie
Griffin Ortale
Emily Volckaert

August 4

Anna Baranowski
Samuel Cvetanovski
Brooke Lapinski
Dave Malven

August 5

Jordan Mato
Rosemary Scheidt
Timothy Schiller
Jackie Seeger
Lauren Thomas
Laura Vowell

August 6

Julie Buechner
Tyler Glime
Jennifer Kafarski
Amber Silva
Gary Strumolo
Terry Thomas

August 7

Jamie Burstein
Tyler Olds

August 8

Norah Baker
Tracey Papa

August 9

Cameron Friedrich
Krista Mills

August 10

Will Bliss
Daniel Dobring
Michael Ebert
Morgan Gardner
Ted Mabley
Megan Martzolf
Dustin Meyer
Meg Schulte
Karl Storrie

August 11

Christian Durham
Linda Lewis
Margaret Long
Caitlin Rayle
Collins Thompson

August 12

Andrea Appel
Chase Norman
Nathaniel Schultz
David Snyder
Kelly Teahan

August 13

Kenneth Eisenbraun
Jan Hoge
Kendall Orava
Megan Rettray
Robin Swift

August 14

Rosemary Ging
Giasella Lucas
Sandra Ochalek
Jeanne Vautaw

August 16

Jill Bloom
Casaungra Kaiser
Hannah Millichamp
Ingrid Rhind
Cameron Ritter
Ethan Rosenberg
Sharon Tylenda
Christian Wiegand

August 17

Rosemary Demrick
Tom Gray
Lucas Greiser
Debra Howe
Margaret Loose
Michael O'Donnell
Zack Reinbold
Mario Trescone
Joan Warriner

August 18

Patrick O'Neill
Jacob Schlak
Nathen Stolzenfeld
Andy Teahan
Emily Watkins
Lauren Wroe
Stephen Wroe

August 19

Kristina Lalik
Michelle Lund
Lisa Wesner

August 20

Sara Amos
Natalie Appel
Brad Baldner
Gwendolyn Berumen
Charles Couger

August 21

Kennedy Dorantes

Joanne Greenwalt
Mark Kaline
Julien Maeder
Robert O'Boyle
Jennifer Rass

August 22

Genevieve Doyle
Tom Violante

August 23

Jason Ahlquist
Luke Guevara
Dana Nehls
Stephanie Bowers

August 24

Dana Bolcer
Kimberly Carr
Bryan Mortenson
Eric Rolf
Greg Schulte
Brady SeGraves
Ryan Vanderhoef
Megan Zeigler

August 25

Lynn Dutton
Sofia Fekete
Lauren Lagoe
Gregory Margosian
Luis Silva
Tyler Warriner

August 26

Kyle Klopocic
Makenzie Kulczycki
Maximus McCulloch
Julia Russ
Hannah Tikkanen

August 27

Raymond Dobring
Jack Falk

August 28

Leah Curcio
Tim Frost
Barb Grattan
Calvin Hoy

London Leischner
Steve SeGraves
Chris Tylenda
Dennis Wilkie

August 29

Douglas Charron
Leilani Jones
Patrick Laramie
Susan McCracken
Emma Schuele
Amy SeGraves

August 30

Kaeli Fish
Scott Rhind
Gia Scheidt
Abbey Smith
Kevin Smith

August 31

Michael Butler
Cheryl Kent
Barbara Morrell
Jeff Rettray
Graham Schulte

