

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER



THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH. PSALM 119:105

**JANUARY
2025**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from Pastor	1
Stewardship Report	2
Stewardship Thought	2-3
Memorials	3
Church Extension Fund	3
Prayer of the Month	3
Watching Online/LIVE	4
Altar Flowers	4
Participate in Worship	5
Holy Housekeeping	6
Pastoral Acts	6
Family Life Ministry Poem	6
Library Lights	7
Did You Know?	7
January Events	7
February Events	8
Fellowship Opportunities	8
Welcome New Members!	9
Missions and Outreach	10
Pathways	10
Woman of the Year	10
Current Bible Studies	11
100th Anniversary	12-13
Men's Ministry	14
Senior's Ministry	14
Women's Ministry	15
Children's Ministry	16
Family Ministry	16
Positive Parenting	16
Youth Ministry (RYG & JAMS)	17
Music Ministry	18
Counseling Corner	19
January Bible Reading	20
Advertising	21-23
Birthdays	24

FROM THE PASTOR

Happy New Year, Redeemer!

Many people at New Years think of new beginnings. Yet for Christians, know that new starts are available at any time.



“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” (Lamentations 3:22-23)

Every day is a new beginning, and we can find courage to endure through times of difficulties.

Instead of making a resolution to quit doing something bad or start doing something good, take advantage of looking at your life and face the sin that you harbor and find freedom from its effects. New Years is a great time to dig up the roots of sin and - by the power of the Holy Spirit, with true repentance - find a life of peace.

“Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.” (2 Corinthians 7:10)

Adrian Rogers writes: “Jesus was not a recluse. He performed His first miracle at a wedding, when He changed water into wine. He was so full of life that His enemies called Him a wind bibber and a glutton. He was not, but there was in Him a genuine joy, and if you don’t have that you, you’re not like Jesus, for He is literally leaping with joy.”

We are encouraged by Christ’s example to be filled with the exuberance for life, which is living with the Holy Spirit.

“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, ‘Abba, Father.’” (Romans 8:14-15)

We have so much reason to celebrate as we enter 2025!

Happy New Year!

Pastor Randy

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

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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 - Senior Pastor	ext. 119
Rev. James Greenwalt - Assistant Pastor	ext. 117
Rev. Ron Farah - Pastor Emeritus	248.642.3137
Gary Priskorn - Dir. of Men's and Senior Ministry	ext. 123
Kitty Sweitzer - Dir. of Women's Ministry	ext. 111
Nicole Olds - Dir. of Children's Ministry	ext. 124
Steve SeGraves - Dir. of Music	ext. 129
Laura Vowell - Dir. of Family Life, Middle School, Confirmation & Outreach	ext. 121
Gia Scheidt - Dir. of High School	ext. 120
Eric Wisniewski - Assistant Dir. High School	ext. 120
Kim Davis - Dir. of Fellowship	248.613.4200
Pat Raezler - Dir. of Westmaple Nursery	ext. 126
Rose Kiehle - Office Manager	ext. 116
Carrie Morris - Office Coordinator	ext. 114
Jamie Thompson - Office Coordinator	ext. 118
Laura Jones - Accountant	ext. 110
Fred Suczynski - Building Maintenance	ext. 113
Dr. Sandy Pourcho - Counseling Center	248.568.6040

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

NOVEMBER STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekly Attendance Totals	2024	2023
Worship	459	449
Bible Class	145	145
Sunday School	31	23
Monthly Attendance Totals	2024	2023
Communion	449	472
Visitors	31	23
Income and Expenses	2024	2023
Income Received	\$168,559	\$177,849
Budget Requirements	\$177,821	\$155,711
General Fund Expenses	\$202,153	\$179,552
YTD Fiscal-Year Income	\$565,027	\$566,133
YTD Fiscal Year Expenses	\$559,131	\$497,691

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Repenting of "Feasts that Know No Fast"

Fresh off the Christmas season and the retail frenzy that accompanies it, January brings a shot of frigid air into the lives of the people we know and love. This is not a meteorological statement either. While it is true that January is one of the colder months for those in North America, the cold front blast that hits us is the full force of credit card spending that fueled the retail frenzy. The bills for the gifts, the parties, the food and the travel have now come due. The credit card makes things convenient, but it also requires more discipline than many can muster. When the bills come in January for December's celebration, it really puts a damper on things.

Congregations often make the same mistake in stewardship. We often charge forward in doing what we always do or starting new endeavors without counting the cost. But at the end of the month, or the end of year, when the bill comes due, the red ink on the congregational balance sheet smacks the people in the face like a stiff north wind in January. We hunkered down. We circle the wagons. We start to panic. The work of the Gospel suffers.

The fifth verse of "Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness" (LSB 788) addresses this January situation. The words penned by William Watkins Reid are very needful for us to hear as we start a new year, while dealing with the bills of past efforts and expense.

"Forgive us, Lord for feast that knows not fast..." This hits us hard, doesn't it? We love when the money is flowing, the parties are going, and things are getting bigger and better. But there is a time in life, and most especially in our spiritual disciplines, that we need to fast. The purpose of a fast is to step back, lay something aside for a time, and replace it with meditation on Scripture and prayer. This is designed to keep us from turning something that may well be good into an idol that separates us from the God who loves us in Christ.

"For joy in things that meanwhile starve the soul..." In "The Parable of the Sower," we hear Jesus talk about how the worries and cares of life choke out the growth of the seed of the Word that was planted. We know how this happens in our lives. Professional and youth sports do this. Materialism does this. Travel and leisure and do this. There is a list of things that we enjoy that starve the soul.

But it also happens in our congregations. When corporate stewardship is not managed in a responsible way, it can and does destroy individual stewardship. Is it good individual stewardship to support a ministry that doesn't take its corporate responsibility seriously?

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

"For walls and wars that hide your mercies vast and blur our vision of the Kingdom goal." This is the ultimate end of the idolatry of failed stewardship. We build walls between believers within the church and hamper those who are outside from coming to the Light of Life that is Jesus. The wars we fight over money and its impact on ministry do the same. It eventually blurs our vision of what we are here to do: share the Good News of Jesus. When the wintry blast of January hits us in this fashion, we are called to repent.

When the Holy Spirit uses the cold front of the call to repentance, we meet the God who forgives and restores. That is what He does for individual and corporate stewards. When the bills hit, they call us back to Jesus. He is the One who indeed forgives us our shallow thankfulness and leads us into the bounty of His mercy yet again.

**Credit LCMS Stewardship Newsletter*



CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

CEF is a long-trusted ministry partner of churches and schools in the Michigan District since 1901 where individuals and congregations can invest their money.

Why Should I Invest at Church Extension Fund?

When an individual or congregation invests at CEF, they help to build churches and schools across Michigan. The invested money is used to make construction or renovation loans to churches, like the CEF loan Redeemer has, that made Sacred Space 2 possible. The interest paid back on those loans helps pay the interest on your investments. Your investment at CEF will build a church, school, or other ministry. When you invest at a bank, you will build another bank building. Your investment at CEF runs into eternity! It's a win-win for everyone! **For more information call Curtis Burstein at 248.320.5100, our Redeemer Representative.**

**Updated Interest Rate sheets are available around the building.*

IN REMEMBRANCE AND REFLECTION



In Memory

GIVE A MEMORIAL GIFT

Donations made to the Memorial Fund in memory of Carol Frost

*Curtis Burstein
Dennis Wilkie*

Donations made to the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, Foreign Missions in memory of Beth Hamada

Catherine Hansen

Donations made to the Memorial Fund in memory of Hans Maser

Curtis Burstein

Donations made to the Memorial Fund in memory of Janet Hogan

Dan Hogan

Donation made to Santa Brunch in memory of Mike Raezler

Curtis Burstein

Donation made to Chicks with Sticks in memory of Beth Hamada

Kaki & Greg Merryman

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.

*Oftentimes, families would like to donate an item in memory of a loved one (i.e. paschal candles, benches, alter items, or trees - any items the church may need). For more information on this, please contact **Pastor Randy**.*

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

As the dawn breaks on a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our health, our family, and our friends. Let us release our grudges, our anger, and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains. Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way. Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, color, or creed.

May your year be filled with peace, prosperity, and love. May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy, and peaceful new year.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP



How do I watch Sunday Services LIVE online?

- Go to the church website.
www.redeemberirmingham.org
- Click the first *Vimeo* square on the front page of the website.
- Click on the video that has the **LIVE** indicator. *The indicator will appear when the service has starts.*



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.

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

- Go to the church website.
www.redeemberirmingham.org
- Click the second *Vimeo* square on the front page of the website.
- 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 don't hesitate to contact the Church Office if you encounter any difficulties viewing videos.

KINDLY NOTE: If you are struggling to hear the audio on Vimeo, simply click on the closed-caption option to read the dialogue. The closed caption button is labeled CC (in a box) located at the bottom right of the screen.

ALTAR FLOWERS*

Sign-up now for either Altar or Lectern flowers in the Sanctuary or the Chapel! Rates are as follows:

- Sanctuary: \$55
- Chapel: \$50
- Lectern: \$45

You can find the sign-up charts on the Town Square bulletin board or online under the “WAYS TO SERVE” box on the church website. You can complete the dedication form and make payment directly online or follow the link in your email you receive to confirm your sign-up. Alternatively, you can email your dedication to the **Church Office**, drop off your check at the Church Office, or leave payment in the Sunday morning offering plate clearly marked “Altar Flowers.”

Please remember to leave the flower liners for the following week when collecting your flowers! Sanctuary flowers can be picked up after Sunday’s 10:30am service, and Chapel flowers after Monday’s 7:00pm service. For assistance, please reach out to the **Church Office** for support.

**Sign-up links can be found on the church’s website by selecting “WAYS TO SERVE” and then “Altar and Lectern Flower Sign-Up.”*



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.

COMMUNION

If you wish to receive communion in your pew during the church service, **kindly inform one of the ushers before the service starts**, and they will be sure to accommodate your request.

ITTY BITTY BUDDY BAGS!

Welcome to Redeemer, LITTLE ONES! Learn about Jesus while you sit in church with mommy and Daddy with your very own Itty-Bitty Buddy Bag for tiny tots! Packed with snuggly toys, books, and fun stuff, you can join in, watch, and play during the service! **Don't forget to return the bags to Nicole Olds' office after the fun.** And if you're in the mood for some playtime, we've got a nursery waiting for you with tons of toys!

JANUARY Lamp

PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP

VOLUNTEER AT REDEEMER

*Scan the QR code to visit Redeemer's website and click on "WAYS TO SERVE" to explore volunteering opportunities at church!
You can also find sign-up details on the Town Square bulletin board.*



BE A READER*

Would you be interested in reading the Old Testament and Epistle Scripture passages during worship? Readers of all ages, from 5 to 95, are welcome to participate in ALL worship services! You can sign up under "WAYS TO SERVE" on the church website or reach out to the **Church Office** for more information.

HOST A COFFEE HOUR*

We are looking for volunteers to host special "In Memoriam" coffee hours on Sunday mornings throughout our Anniversary year! We will provide simple instructions to help you set it up, and this is a fantastic opportunity to serve your congregation! Please contact **Andrea Schlak** with questions or to sign-up (schlakandrea@gmail.com)!

BE A GREETER*

If you can offer a friendly "good morning," a handshake, and a welcoming smile, and have an extra 15-minutes on a Sunday morning, you can play an essential role in outreach – GREETING! Redeemer is in need of volunteers to welcome attendees at the Town Square doors before the 9:00am and 10:30am services. Bring along a friend, your family, and your kids for this wonderful opportunity to serve your community! You can sign-up for this rewarding experience under "WAYS TO SERVE" on the church website or contact **Laura Vowell** for more information.

FAMILY USHERING*

Your family can help out the congregation by ushering on a Sunday morning! You will distribute bulletins and assist with passing the offering plates during the service. There will also be an usher from the church available during the service to support you along the way. You can sign-up under "WAYS TO SERVE" on the church website or contact **Laura Vowell** for more information.

MYSTERY PRELUDE

Have a song request? Sign-up to have our organist, Rick Helderop, perform your requested song during the Prelude at all Sunday services (8:00 am, 9:00 am, and 10:30 am)! To sign up, visit the church website homepage or scan the QR code below to go directly to the Request Form. The fee is \$10, and all proceeds contribute to our Mission Fund! Thank you for participating!



ACOLYTING & CROSS BEARING*

The Redeemer Acolyte & Cross Bearing Program is open to anyone who wishes to serve and is also a requirement for students in the Confirmation program. Crissy Bienkowski will return this year as our coordinator! You can sign up under the "WAYS TO SERVE" on the church website. Please contact **Crissy Bienkowski** with questions or for more information (crissybienkowski@gmail.com).



HOLY HOUSEKEEPING

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS

January 8
February 12

BOARD OF ELDERS MEETINGS

January 22
March 26



Should you receive an email from Pastor Randy requesting gift cards or valuable items, **PLEASE IGNORE IT!** Be sure to look carefully at the email address – if it does not come from rschlak@redeemberbirmingham.org, it is **NOT** from Pastor Randy. ***Please delete the email and AVOID RESPONDING.***

If you are unsure, kindly forward the email to or contact the Church Office, and we will look into it further for you.

PASTORAL ACTS

WEDDINGS

- 11/2/2024 Blake Burstein and Dana Smith
- 11/3/2024 Omar Barbat and Holly Hermiz
- 11/16/2024 Joshua William Hessen and Amanda Lynn Ingledue

BAPTISMS

- 11/9/2024 Olivia Mae Kloplic
daughter of Ryan and Courtney Kloplic
- 11/17/2024 Vivian Clare Holland
daughter of Ian and Jordynn Holland

FUNERALS

- 11/2/2024 Stacey Ann Tikkanen
- 11/9/2024 Hans Maser
- 11/8/2024 Elizabeth Hamada

UPDATE YOUR MEMBER PROFILE!

Kindly log in to your ShelbyNext Membership, church database, to verify or update your family's profile information. For quick access to the church directory and calendar while on the move, download the **ShelbyNext Membership app** on your phone or smart device (the domain name is **redeemberbirmingham**). Alternatively, you can log in via the church's website on your desktop computer by selecting "CHURCH MEMBERSHIP."

If you would like assistance with updating your profile or need help with your login credentials, please reach out to the Church Office.

****Please be aware that we no longer send out printed directories since our online database is always changing. If you prefer a printed copy, kindly contact the Church Office, and we will happily provide you with the latest directory.***

NOTE: If your adult children have relocated to their own address, please inform us so we can update their details while keeping the family linked in our database. If they have moved and no longer wish to receive communications or are attending another church, we can remove them from our database.

FAMILY CAMPING FOND MEMORIES

BY JENNIFER DOBRING

Family Camping,
Always an adventure!
Ministering to our kids
In the company of other families
Learning about Jesus through devotions
Yogi Bear movies

Canoeing, kayaking,
Activities, games and slushy runs.
Many s'mores by the campfire!
Pitching tents and campers too
Incredible lasting memories
Nurtured friendships
Great Christian family fun!



Written for Family Life Ministry for the 100th Anniversary

HOLY HOUSEKEEPING



LIBRARY LIGHTS

Happy New Year 2025! Start the New Year off right by picking up a new book to read! The Redeemer Library consists of books and movies which are Christian in content and/or perspective. We also include books that are deemed to have literary value and, while not written specifically from a Christian perspective, do reflect biblical values. The library has a good collection of Bible studies, reference books, and commentaries. Books are generally checked out for three weeks, DVDs for one week, and Bible studies for however long they are needed. There are no fines for overdue books but ask that items be returned in a timely manner. Please stop in and check out our wonderful library!

NEW ARRIVALS AT THE REDEEMER LIBRARY!

The true master of thrillers, **Ted Dekker**, has teamed with his daughter **Kara** to write a new series for early chapter readers. *The Dream Traveler's Quest*, a four-book series, follows the life of 12-year-old Theo as he stumbles on an ancient book that transports him into another world. He is tasked with finding the five Seals of Truth that will ultimately lead him to discover who he really is and transform his life, from one of fear and loneliness to one of joy, love, and peace. This series includes: *Into the Book of Light*, *The Curse of Shadowman*, *The Garden and the Serpent*, and *The Final Judgment*.

Nine by **Rachelle Dekker** is the newest book by Ted Dekker's eldest daughter, and she proves that suspense runs in the family! Two young women are brought together by unforeseen circumstances. Zoe doesn't want to remember her past. Teenage Lucy, fleeing for her life, cannot remember the past. And finally, an FBI agent whose mission is that young girl. This is a thriller with dystopian and sci-fi elements. Does our past define us?!

LOOK FOR ALL NEW BOOKS ON THE SPINNING RACKS!



January 1

Happy New Year!

January 5

Christmas Un-Decorating

January 7

Prime Timer's Committee Planning Meeting

January 8

Pathways Leadership Team Meeting

January 9

Chicks with Sticks

January 15

Lunch and Worship

January 19

Young Adult Lunch

January 22

Board of Elders Meeting

January 23

Chicks with Sticks Red Wings Faith Night

January 24

JAMS Game Night

January 25

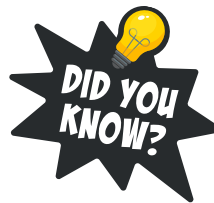
Men's Breakfast

Please visit the church website for a full list of events: www.redeemberirmingham.org



ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT ... 1940	
RECEIPTS.	
Balance Dec. 31, 1939	346.08
Regular envelopes	1712.99
Plate Offerings	387.82
Synod	188.09
Subsidy	440.00
Painting and repairs	223.32
Special donations	141.00
Centennial Offering	31.85
Initial offering	5.40
Thanksgiving offering	37.01
Bank Dividend	5.26
TOTAL RECEIPTS	3518.81
DISBURSEMENTS.	
Pastor's salary	1428.00
Car allowance	60.00
Debt payment:	
Interest: 206.07	
Principal: 913.83	
TOTAL	1120.00
Decorating parsonage	160.00
Sewer repair	61.00
Alter wine	6.00
Water (church & parsonage)	34.25
Offering Envelopes	9.58
Financial record books	10.18
Newspaper advertising	4.90
Centennial offering	31.85
Fuel oil	37.25
Postage and printing	22.60
Light	17.82
Repairs at parsonage	25.13
Mimeograph roller	2.88
Choir music and collars	7.54
Corp. & Sec. Commission	2.00
Drain taxes	3.26
Fire insurance	25.00
Easter & Christmas folders	15.00
Devotional booklets	21.17
Convention & substitute	
Pastor	11.00
Janitor	50.00
Synod	188.09
Cleaning supplies	2.14
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	3556.72
BALANCE DEC. 31, 1940	162.09
Church Debt	7077.66
Building Fund	363.79

OUR BUDGET WAS WHAT?!



Did you know that in 1940, Redeemer's annual budget was \$3,356.72?!

It's amazing how much things have changed over the past 85 years!

We got a kick while reading the Annual Financial Report - hope you find it interesting, too!

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



February 2

RYG Mission Trip
Orientation Meeting

February 4

Prime Timer's Committee
Planning Meeting

February 5

Pathways

February 6

Chicks with Sticks

February 8

100th Anniversary
Vow Renewal

February 12

Leadership Team Meeting

February 13

The Birmingham Musicale
Choral Ensemble Concert

February 16

Prime Timer Program
Dinner and Guest Speaker

February 19

Lunch and Worship

February 20

Chicks with Sticks

Please visit the church website
for a full list of events:
www.redeemberirmingham.org



RED WINGS FAITH NIGHT!

JOIN US FOR A VERY SPECIAL EVENT AT LITTLE CAESAR'S ARENA ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 23RD - HOSTED BY MEN'S MINISTRY!

An inspirational pre-game concert by renowned Christian singer Matt Hammitt, Christian testimony by former Detroit Lions Cody Wilson, and more, followed by the Red Wings battling the Montreal Canadiens!



Doors for the concert open at 4:30pm with the hockey game following at 7:00pm. We have a block of upper bowl seats near mid-ice so we can enjoy the program and game together.

Tickets \$65.00 per person - checks payable to Redeemer with "Red Wings" in the memo line.

For tickets or for more information, contact Gary Priskorn (248.561.2641) or Jon Duff (248.214.9037).

We hope you can join us - GO WINGS!

Event sponsored by Men's ministry, but ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US! Make it a family event!

WHY'S IT CALLED THAT?!

A special afternoon of fellowship, unique information, and a delicious meal of chicken parmesan is planned by the Prime Timers group for **Sunday, February 16th from 2:00-5:00pm in the Great Room**. Our special, captivating guest presenter will be **Bailey Sisoy Moore**, owner of Detroit History Tours. Bailey was our speaker for an event in November 2023 and was extremely well received!

Did you ever wonder why it's called Woodward Avenue or how Belle Isle got its name or wander in the city asking yourself, "Why is that named that?" Bailey will help us explore the parks, public buildings, streets, and foods whose names are famous but whose stories have been lost to history. Following her presentation, we'll enjoy supper together. All are welcome to join us for a great way to spend a winter Sunday afternoon! There is no charge - a freewill donation will be received. Please sign-up by February 10th on the Town Square bulletin board or call the Church Office. Questions? Contact **Gary Priskorn**.



SOUP'S ON!

Mark your calendars! **Cooking with our own Donna Hollis is set for Tuesday, February 11th at 6:00pm in the Great Room!** We will taste a variety of soups made by our women, and Donna will add her own soup and some fun things to serve along with it...a perfect way to spend a winter's evening!

Sign-up sheet is on the Town Square bulletin board. We would love to slurp some soup along with you!

Questions? **Stacie Millichamp** and **Miss Kitty** might be able to answer them!



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!



Bill & Amanda Burmeister, with Daughter Amelia

Bill and Amanda both grew up Lutheran and attended Lutheran school through 8th grade. After getting married, moving to the Detroit area, and expecting their daughter, they decided they needed to find a new church home, and we're thankful they found Redeemer! Bill works in business development, and

Amanda works as a finance director. In their spare time, they enjoy boating, traveling, MSU football, and spending time with their family and dog Cassius! They baptized their daughter, Amelia (6-months old) at Redeemer this past July! Welcome, Burmeister Family!



Jacob & Emily Imhoff, with Daughters Adeline and Charlotte

Jacob and Emily found Redeemer while looking for a traditional and reverent church for their children. Jacob grew up Lutheran and Emily grew up Baptist - both active in their childhood churches. Jacob works as a Project Manager - Business Development Manager, and Emily works in banking as

Vice President of Risk Governance. In their free time, they both enjoy playing with their puppy Henry, Lions football, painting, gardening, listening to podcasts, and reading. Emily plays the piano and guitar - one of the ways she participated in her church growing up! Adeline (4-years old) and Charlotte (3-years old) enjoy coloring, painting, building forts, playing dress up, and singing! Welcome, Imhoff Family!

Bill & Stephanie Clifford, with Daughters Megan, Samantha, and Anna

Bill and Stephanie were members at Hope Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills where they raised their 3 daughters. After moving to Bloomfield, they wanted to attend a church closer to home and found Redeemer! Megan and Samantha are both enjoying their time at college, while Anna is still local and participating in everything that high school has to offer! Welcome, Clifford Family!

Sharilyn O'Boyle

Sharilyn was a member of Redeemer with her husband Robert O'Boyle and their daughter, but transferred to Trinity Utica after receiving a call to teach 2nd grade at their school. After retiring, she decided to return her membership to Redeemer! Sharilyn enjoys drawing, painting, attending theater events, and traveling to Bed and Breakfasts. Welcome back, Sharilyn!



Amy Fuqua, with Children Daphne and Archie

Amy was first introduced to Redeemer through Mom's Day Out! She then started attending Positive Parenting classes and Sunday worship. She grew up in the church and attended Baptist and Catholic schools. Amy and her kids needed a new church home and loved all that Redeemer has to



offer! Amy works as a Finance and HR Manager. In her spare time, she enjoys fitness and volunteering. Daphne (3-years old) and Archie (1-year old) attend Sacred Heart and enjoy running, laughing, and singing! We're so glad you're here, Fuqua Family!



Tom and Jerris Rosenthal

Tom and Jerris transferred to Redeemer from Historic Trinity in Detroit. Both grew up in Michigan at Lutheran churches. They are both now enjoying retirement! We're so glad you're here, Tom and Jerris!

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

ANGEL TREE



THANK YOU, REDEEMER, FOR ALL THE BEAUTIFULLY WRAPPED GIFTS YOU BROUGHT IN FOR THE ANGEL TREE THE PAST COUPLE OF WEEKS!

Watching some of you as you picked through the tags looking for a need you could fill was so special! You were thoughtful and careful, selecting your recipients. It was so fun to go with my sister, shopping for our gifts, setting our budget, then blowing our budget because a special little girl needed a dolly with accessories, so of course we bought the accessory package, as well!

One of our members tag-teamed with Redeemer and took this project to her corporation whose employees were as eager as all of you to make Christmas a reality for Grace's residents. They helped take an additional 15 families under their wing, combining with our efforts to make 35 family's wishes come true this Christmas season!

We sent our gifts with a prayer for all those at Grace who are in recovery, at risk, and trying hard to live a life of hope. Can't wait until next year!



Ginny Schalm, Kim Martin, Asia Maeder, Janice Kanka, Debbie Wroe, Jennifer Dobring, Karen Rose



A HEARTFELT THANK YOU!

A warm, heartfelt thank you to all confirmands, confirmation families, and congregation members who participated in this year's annual Christmas Card Project! All Christmas cards were hand-delivered to numerous care facilities in the Metro-Detroit area.

Your loving heart and giving spirit touched the hearts of **1,140 elderly folks** - a small yet meaningful reminder that they were not forgotten this Christmas season!

With heartfelt gratitude, I thank you all!
Leslie Whitfield



PATHWAYS GRIEF AND LOSS RECOVERY GROUP

This month, our meeting will take place the second Wednesday of the month at 1:00pm in the Town Square.

Come join us on **Wednesday, January 8th** to learn skills and acquire loving comfort and support while adjusting to your life change and the new journey God has set before you. Bring a friend, all are welcome! *For those who would like to get help with their grief and loss in a non-group setting, Dr. Pourcho is available to meet with you as a private counseling client.*

*Any questions or to schedule an appointment, feel free to call **Dr. Sandy Pourcho** (248-568-6040), Redeemer's Resident Counselor.*

SERVE AT FAMILY OF GOD

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 provide these meals in MANY different ways:

- Make bagged lunches + Prepare frozen meals***
- Deliver/serve a meal + Shop for items***
- Donate funds used to purchase supplies for meals***



Sign-up to help on the church website under the "Ways to Serve" box or on the Town Square bulletin board. Please contact **Laura Vowell** if you have questions or would like more information.

NOTE: *If you are signing up on the website, there is a separate sign-up to sponsor a meal than there is to plan, shop, cook or serve the meal.*

CONGRATULATIONS TO ERIN MORTENSON!

Our Woman of the Year certainly deserves this award! So what makes her so special? She serves the community as an attorney in elder care, protecting the physical and emotional well-being of her clients, often pro bono. And there is no doubt that she is 'round Redeemer in Advent by Candlelight, VBS, Women's Ministry, and anywhere she is needed. She shines in ministering to her own family, teaching her children Bible stories, reading to them nightly about Jesus, teaching prayers, and encouraging those in her path, including her husband, about the sovereignty of God...and doing such a good job at it that she has brought others to faith. She is a kingdom worker, and we are so happy to present **Erin Mortenson** as our 2024 Woman of the Year!

A luncheon at Crystal Gardens in Southgate will take place to honor all metro-Detroit honorees on Tuesday, March 25th. Tickets will be available after January 15 - please let Kitty know how many tickets you would like!
(Price unavailable at this time.)

CURRENT BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAYS

ADULT BIBLE STUDY - Rev. Ronald Farah
The Study of Romans
All year after 9:00am service (Scheidt Room)

NEW MEMBER CLASS - Laura Vowell
Annually in the Fall

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL - Nicole Olds
During 10:30am service (lower-level classrooms)

REDEEMER YOUTH GROUP (HIGH SCHOOL) -
Gia Scheidt & Eric Wisniewski
School year, 7:00-9:00pm (Youth Room)

TUESDAYS

ADULT BIBLE STUDY - Pastor Jimmy
Heroes of the Bible - ***ZOOM Available**
9:30am (Great Room)

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - Kitty Sweitzer
"Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table"
*6:30pm (Great Room) - *4th Tuesday starts at 6:00pm*

WEDNESDAYS

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY - Gary Priskorn
The Study of Acts - ***ZOOM Available**
Year round, 6:45-7:30am (Great Room)

POSITIVE PARENTING -
Victoria Ilitch & Kristin Thompson
9:15-10:45am (Great Room)

CONFIRMATION CLASSES - Laura Vowell
6:00-8:00pm (various rooms)

CORE GROUP (RYG - HIGH SCHOOL) -
Gia Scheidt & Eric Wisniewski
6:00-8:00pm (Youth Room)

THURSDAYS

YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY - Michael Banerian
First Thursday of Every Month - 6:30-8:00pm

COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY - Andrea Schlak
Moses and The Book of Exodus
9:30-11:00am (Great Room)
***BEGINS JANUARY 9TH!**

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDIES

In-home gatherings are people committed to growing together spiritually, caring for and ministering to one another, reaching others with the love of Jesus and, ultimately, sharing life victories and challenges.

Talk to **Pastor Randy** if you are interested in joining or starting a Small Group!



EVENT SCHEDULE

*Redeemer
Young
Adults*

BIBLE STUDY: FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

MONTHLY SOCIAL EVENTS AND OUTINGS

CHURCH LUNCHESES: FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH AFTER 10:30 SERVICE

TEXT MICHAEL BANERIAN TO GET INVOLVED!
(248) 925-7125

*For more information on a particular study, contact the names indicated or call the **Church Office** for further assistance.*

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



"But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15)

If you look around the Sanctuary on a Sunday morning, you will see a host of families that are heeding these words of Joshua. Seniors, parents, teens involved in youth group, couples, and singles living their family traditions through the auspices of Redeemer. Family life is a priority, and an aspect significant to Redeemer which has attracted our members and kept them faithful to our church over the years.

During the 1960s and 1970s, Redeemer's Men's Club held annual Father-Son Banquets. Each event had a different theme, such as "Dads & Lads," "Man's Quest for Space," and several sports-related events. "Man's Quest for Space" in the '60s celebrated America's "Project Apollo" space program and moon landing with a pretend spaceship constructed by fathers and sons, space-related movies, and documentaries. A very special sports banquet in 1976 featured Lion's star punter Herman Weaver, nicknamed "Thunderfoot," who came to motivationally speak and entertain the "guys," big and little in the congregation.

In the late 60s and early 70s, Redeemer held family caroling festivals. Families would gather on a frosty night to sing carols for neighboring communities and celebrate afterward with hot cocoa and Christmas cookies.

For decades, girls have enjoyed a sweet night with their dads at the annual Daddy-Daughter Dance. And boys loved competing with their moms during mother-and-son bowling tournaments. There was never a lack of opportunities for family fun and playful entertainment. Ice cream socials, a 200-mile family bike hike, trips to nearby Metropolitan Beach, and Jelly Stone Family Campgrounds are just a few.

In the 1970s, a class called Parent Effectiveness Training (P.E.T.) was offered. This intensive and vital study taught parents how to communicate with their children at various stages in their lives. Another class that was invaluable in 1974 was entitled "Two Shall Become One." This unique workshop gave guidance to those seeking the marriage union, but also served as a refresher course on the practical realities of a Christian marriage.

In 1978, Redeemer's Director of Christian Education, Bill Meinert started the Family Life program, "Forum on Christian Living." This six-week program included studies for parents of confirmands, elementary students, and preschoolers. In 1984, in addition to his other duties, Bill Meinert was named the Minister of Family Life. One of his most successful programs was "Christmas ADVENTure."

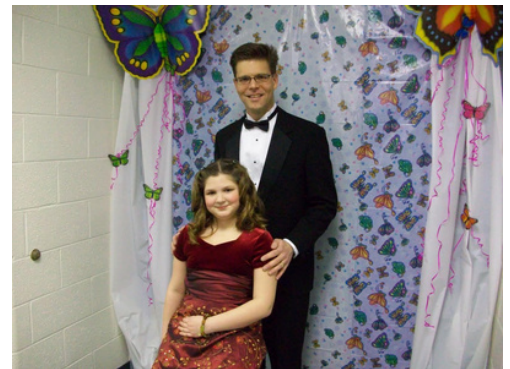
This joyous event featured food, crafts, and Christmas fun. After Bill retired, Dottie Reiher came on board in 1987. One of her programs, the "Little Lambs Families," was a group for families with children 3 years and younger and it enabled these families to come together and socialize and "talk babies" with other couples in the same situation. Each month was organized around an activity that included the babies and toddlers. A program that exceeded expectations was P.A.R.T.N.E.R.S. or "Parents as Religious Teachers Need Encouragement, Resources, and Support." Each event included a meal, a family craft, songs, and a devotion.

In 1991, Joe Werner came to Redeemer, taking on the role of Minister of Children and Family Life. He introduced outings and retreats for families to Frankenmuth and the Wheels Inn, Ontario. Tons of fun and family bonding were the themes of these retreats. For many years, families camped together at Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park in Grayling. Due to Joe's efforts, Redeemer was awarded as a "Family Friendly Congregation" by the Lutheran Family Association in 1994!

Joe also started "Rainbows," a support group for single-parent children. They met for two six-week semesters, focusing on topics such as Self, Trust, Anger, Family, and God.

In 1996, the popular "Growing Kids God's Way" was introduced to Redeemer. Joe and Audrey Werner led this program that was based on helping parents learn about raising their children in a God-centered environment. Today, our "Positive Parenting" group helps young moms find support and fellowship with classes focusing on parenting skills. Moms can share their experiences with other moms and learn new parenting methods combined with tried and true techniques.

In 2000, Gary Priskorn took over the title of Minister of Discipleship from Cary Richert, who went on to Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. In 2002, Gary became Minister of Family Life. The Family Life retreat called "Growing Fantastic Families" was a well-attended event in the early 2000s. Around the same time, Kitty Sweitzer, Director of Children's Ministries, and



**Daddy-Daughter Dance
Mike and Brooke Lapinski**



Family Camping

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

a Westmaple Preschool teacher presented "Toys, Joys, and a Baby Boy," a combined effort featuring the children's Christmas pageant along with the "Ingathering of Toys" for local community service agencies. Both the Pageant and the Ingathering of Toys remain active service and children's worship projects today.

Redeemer has often sponsored evening activities for families. "Family Fun Fests" were a big hit when families enjoyed a night "in" Hawaii (2003) and "at" the OK Corral (2004). The church was transformed into a true to life, thematic atmosphere reflecting each of these themes. Family Service Nights were a combined effort on the part of Gary Priskorn, Laura Vowell, and Kitty Sweitzer. Families would also put together care packages for the homebound, the poor, and needy. These wonderful events combined service ministry with fellowship.

Andrea (Hofley) Yuhn started up the Young Families Club in 2009. You will see additional photos of the cookie decorating event on our video in the Town Square.

In 2006, the first "Marriage Vow Renewal" for Redeemer couples was held. Renewal vows were individually sanctified at the Altar by Pastor Randy, and each couple was presented with a photo. After the proceedings, couples attended a dinner dance at a local hotel. It was a lovely, elegant evening for all who attended. Coming in February 2025, there will be another opportunity to renew your marriage vows, strengthening the marriage bond yet again.

Today, our Family Life Director, Laura Vowell, has followed her family tradition of serving the Lord. One of her favorite events is the annual "Shine the Light Night," which provides an alternative to trick-or-treating in a Christ-centered Halloween event.



Cookie Decorating with the Young Families Club

WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO REDEEMER?



I grew up at Redeemer and participated in Sunday School, VBS, School of Religion, Children's Choir, Youth Group, and Kid Kat Kamp. I had a lot of fun and met lots of wonderful people, including my husband Eric, who also grew up at Redeemer. We were married by Pastor Duane, who had baptized and confirmed us both.

Eric and I were regulars at the early service for many years, then switched to the 9am service when our kids were able to go to Sunday School. Our kids have also grown up Kit Kat Kamp. I have participated in many ministries over the years, especially if my kids were involved (but only if the job didn't require cooking skills.) Redeemer has always felt like home to me, and I feel lucky to be a part of the Redeemer family!



100TH ANNIVERSARY "IN MEMORIAM COFFEE HOURS"

Redeemer's Anniversary Historical Committee has been hard at work for over a year preparing for our centennial celebration! Throughout the upcoming year, you will see a rotating display of historical photos and documents commemorating our history; however, some of our history is extremely personal as you remember Redeemer members from your own family who are now in the glory of heaven. So that you can honor them in your own personal way, we have blocked many Sundays throughout the anniversary year for you to host a coffee hour in their memory. This is an opportunity to bring pictures and memorabilia to tell your story! If you have never hosted coffee hour before, Kim Davis will guide you through the process and help along the way. You may even want to consider hosting with another family!

*The sign-up sheet and instructions are now available.
Questions? Contact Andrea Schlak (schlakandrea@gmail.com).*

WE ARE WRITING A BOOK!

Guess what Redeemer? You are writing a book! Oh, yes you are! You can find submission forms around the church. Write 250 words or less about how you came to Redeemer. Include a favorite scripture at the bottom of the page, and our little committee (reserving the right to edit) will put your journey on paper to create a beautiful book for our 100th Anniversary celebration here at church. Your book "Through These Doors" will be a history of our people who found a spiritual home in this place. What motivated you? Anyone walk with you? Journey difficult, easy, or both? What did you gain? Lose? Tell us your story!



Search your past, your heart, and memory, and let us know how you became part of Redeemer's history! Contact Miss Kitty with questions.

Deadline for submission February 1, 2025!

MINISTRIES AT WORK

MEN'S MINISTRY

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Men of all ages are invited to join us on **Wednesday mornings from 6:45-7:30am in the Great Room** or via Zoom, as we continue to study 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 on Wednesday morning for fellowship and spiritual growth - and some coffee cake, juice, and coffee! Contact **Gary Priskorn** for further information.

PLEASE NOTE: We will not meet on Wednesday, January 1st - enjoy the holiday with your loved ones, and we'll see you on **Wednesday, January 8th!*



WEDNESDAY LUNCH & WORSHIP

We look forward to resuming our Wednesday Lunch and Worship in the new year! We will gather again on **Wednesday, January 15th, in the Great Room at 12:00pm** with a delicious meal of sweet and sour chicken with white rice, prepared by Michele Margosian. Following the meal, we'll hold a **worship service at 1:00pm in the Chapel** that will include Holy Communion. Please call the Church Office by January 13th if you plan to join us for lunch. If you are in need of transportation, let the Church Office know and we'll do our best to assist. Contact **Gary Priskorn** with any questions. Looking forward to having you with us!



FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST



Men, women, and youth are welcome to join us for our next Fellowship Breakfast on **Saturday, January 25th beginning at 8:00am in the Great Room** with a hearty breakfast. Following the meal, we will hear the story of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) shared by **Tim Morton**, the area director for FCA in Oakland County. The FCA "seeks to make disciples through their strategy of engaging, equipping and empowering coaches and athletes to know and grow in Christ and to lead others to do the same." Tim speaks of the need to energize young people in faith in a similar fashion to that of athletic practice! It promises to be an informative and motivating morning for people of all ages! **Please sign-up on the bulletin board located in the Town Square by January 20th.**

Questions? Contact **Gary Priskorn**.

SENIOR'S MINISTRY



JOIN FAITHFUL FRIENDS IN THE NEW YEAR!

The Faithful Friends Ministry started six years ago with a focus on pairing members of the congregation with members who were homebound, offering periodic visits and sending the message that those members are loved and prayed for. We also want to be a resource for caregivers, offering guidance and support.

Over the past two years, our goal has been to increase the enrichment part of our ministry and provide more educational opportunities. We gather several times a year with the hope that, by providing information to caregivers, it will ease the stress that comes when decisions need to be made. We would like to thank our speakers and attendees for the informational and informative programs and discussions we have shared. Sessions are recorded and then posted to Redeemer's website (archived videos can be found under Ministries-Adult-Seniors-Faithful Friends Meetings). Below you will find a list of past topics and speakers:

- Signals and Signs for When to Get Help and Available Senior Resources - *Diane Johns, Gerontologist*
- Faithful Nourishment for the End of Life - *Pastor Tyler Walworth*
- What to Look for in a Senior Facility - *Margot Ladd, Samaritas Marketing Coordinator*
- Elder Care and Hospice Care - *Leah Light, Social Work Director and Bereavement Coordinator*
- Estate Planning: Taking Control of Your Family's Decisions - *David Mammel, Attorney*
- Elder Law and Medicaid - *Erin Mortenson, Attorney*
- 'Seniors Helping Seniors' Home Care Program - *Dawn Neally, 'SHS' Owner*

Save the Date for our next Enrichment Program on March 2nd at 11:30am! Diane Johns will talk about signals and signs to watch for as loved ones age and community resources. If you have a topic that you would like us to cover, or if you would like to be a Faithful Friend to one of our seniors, please let any of the team members know.

One of our founding committee members, **Pam Tyndall**, is beginning her retirement. She has been vital to this ministry's start, ongoing operation, and keeping the rest of the team organized. Thank you, Pam, for everything you have done! We hope after you have time to travel, relax, and spoil your beautiful grandchildren, you will join us again. **Until then, congratulations and thank you! We welcome Tracy Fish and Cheryl Carr who have recently joined our Ministry Team!**

Happy New Year! - The Faithful Friends Committee
Gary Priskorn, Pam Tyndall, Marilyn Staargarrd, Diane Johns, Tracy Fish, and Cheryl Carr

"Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you." Isaiah 46:4

MINISTRIES AT WORK

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Remembering Christmas

A lovely time was had by all at our numerous Christmas gatherings to celebrate this joyous time of year! Thank you to everyone who helped to make these events possible! From the planning and the set-up, to the hosting and cooking, to everything in-between - we are grateful for the Women of Redeemer who give their time so graciously and extend their hearts so willingly!



Advent by Candlelight



Christmas Whispers

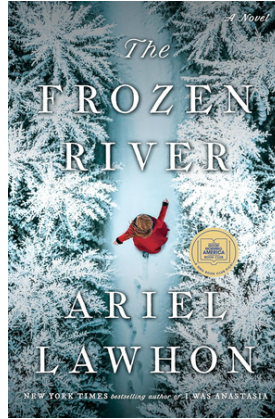


Chicks with Sticks

Chicks with Sticks is excited to kick-off the New Year together! **We will meet on Thursday, January 9th and 23rd in the Library at 1:00pm.** New yarn coming, and there is interest in crocheting, which has taken Europe by storm. We know how - come and learn! See you there!

*"Love isn't love until it's given away."
Watch for mission projects dedicated to our
100th Anniversary!!*

Women's Book Group



Women's Book Group can't wait to kick-off the new year together on **Tuesday, January 28th** when we'll discuss "**Frozen River**" by **Ariel Lawhon**, winner of the **NPR Book of the Year** and the **GMA Book of the Year**.

Clever, layered, and subversive, Ariel Lawhon's newest offering introduces an unsung heroine who refused to accept anything less than justice at a time when women were considered best seen and not heard. "**The Frozen River**" is a thrilling, tense, and tender story about a remarkable woman who left an unparalleled legacy yet remains nearly forgotten to this day. Join us by the fire at **7:30pm in the Town Square** and share your thoughts on this exciting new read.

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study looks forward to starting a **NEW SERIES** in the **NEW YEAR** - "**Don't Give the Enemy A Seat At Your Table**" with **Louie Giglio!**

DON'T GIVE THE ENEMY A SEAT AT YOUR TABLE

IT'S TIME TO WIN THE BATTLE OF YOUR MIND...

LOUIE GIGLIO

Social media has power for good and evil. We are often unsuspecting about how much influence this media has over the way we process our thoughts and manage ourselves. What if we could end the cycles of endless criticism and negative thinking, and take back the authority over our own thoughts? We were made for challenging circumstances, but things can get in our way... Why not join in with positive, God-driven reminders of who we are and who our lives belong to...! **Our study will begin on Tuesday, January 14th at 6:30pm in the Great Room!** Join good friends as we stream the video together and hold great discussion!

*From all of us in Women's Ministry...
Happy New Year,
and many blessings to each of you!*

MINISTRIES AT WORK



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Redeemer's Vacation Bible School is back for 2025 and will take place **June 16-20!** All children in Preschool through 5th Grade are welcome to attend - teens, teachers, and parent volunteers will be needed to make the week fun for all! Contact **Nicole Olds** if you are interested in helping out this summer!

Stay tuned to the Lamp and bulletin for more information and exciting updates!



SCAMPER CAMP

Scamper Camps will be offered again the Summer of 2025! Programming is open to children who are 2-years old (as of January 1st, 2025) through 5-years old. Once kids have gone off to kindergarten, they are too old to come back. **Sign-ups will start in February - please contact Nicole Olds with any questions!**



We still do...

A marriage reaffirmation ceremony for all Redeemer couples!



Saturday, February 8, 2025

The vow renewal ceremony will take place at 5:00pm in our Sanctuary followed by...

Dinner & Dancing at 6:30pm at the Auburn Hills Marriott

\$150 per couple

**Cost includes the ceremony, dinner, dancing, and photography. There will also be a cash bar and special rate for those who wish to stay the night.*

Questions?
Contact Laura Vowell!



Kindly RSVP by Sunday, January 26th!



POSITIVE PARENTING

Join us on Wednesday mornings from 9:15-10:45am in the Great Room! We are a group of moms that discuss topics relating to family-life, parenting, and motherhood. We explore a wide-range of books and ideas throughout the year and enjoy conversation, prayer, and community. Nursery care is provided and available on a drop-in basis for younger children. Each session stands alone - we look forward to having you!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **January 1st:** **NO CLASS** - New Year's Day
- **January 8th:** Casual Conversation over Coffee and New Year's Resolution Planning Exercise
- **January 15th:** Kitty Sweitzer - *Guest Speaker*
- **January 22nd:** Fruit of the Spirit - Discuss the *Let's Parent on Purpose: Christian Marriage, Parenting, and Discipleship Podcast - Episode 364*
- **January 29th:** Cook for FOG (*Meet in the Kitchen*)

Please reach out to **Kristin Thompson** or **Victoria Ilitch** with any questions.

JANUARY Lamp

MINISTRIES AT WORK

RYG HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP



JANUARY SCHEDULE

- January 5th: , 7:00-9:00pm
Meet in the Youth Room
- January 8th: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm
Meet in the Youth Room
- January 12th: , 7:00-9:00pm
Meet in the Youth Room
- *EARLY-BIRD RETREAT SIGN-UP DEADLINE!**
- January 13th: FOG, 5:00-8:00pm
Meet in the Kitchen
- January 15th: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm
Meet in the Youth Room
- *JANUARY 19TH: NO MEETING!**
- January 22nd: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm
Meet in the Youth Room
- January 26th: , 7:00-9:00pm
Meet in the Youth Room
- *RETREAT SIGN-UP DEADLINE!**
- January 22nd: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm
Meet in the Youth Room

FAMILY OF GOD

RYG cooks and serves at Family of God Soup Kitchen the 2nd Monday of every month - join us in helping others!

January 13th

February 10th

***Meet in the kitchen at 5:00pm and bring money for dinner!**

COMING IN FEBRUARY!



HIGH SCHOOL WINTER RETREAT

Join in the fun at Camp Skyline for our annual Winter Retreat!

Open to all high-schoolers - friends are welcome!

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7-
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

**\$80 BEFORE JANUARY 12TH
\$95 DUE BY JANUARY 26TH**

Don't delay - sign-up today!

HIGH SCHOOL NORTH CAROLINA MISSION TRIP

Save-the-date for our upcoming Orientation Meeting for mission trip to Asheville, North Carolina!

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND
4:00-7:00pm - GREAT ROOM**

**REQUIRED ATTENDANCE FOR ALL
PARTICIPANTS AND PARENTS!**



**"redeemer_y00th"
ALWAYS**

**CHECK INSTAGRAM
FOR ANY
SCHEDULE CHANGES**

JAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

JAMS GAME NIGHT

Dodgeball! Aliens in the Church! Pizza! Ice Cream Sundaes! AND MORE! **Middle School Kids (grades 6-8) are invited to the JAMS Game Night on Friday, January 24th from 5:30-8:30pm!** Friends are always welcome! The cost is \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door! Grab a permission slip from outside Laura's Office or download one via the church website. Contact **Laura Vowell** with questions or concerns!

MINISTRIES AT WORK

MUSIC MINISTRY



All the wonderful music ministry groups at Redeemer are back in full swing! Redeemer's Music Ministry offers a place for everyone - experienced or novice, choral or instrumental. If you're interested in singing or playing for the glory of God, please join us!

CHANCEL CHOIR: ADULT ONLY

The Chancel Choir sings at our Sunday morning worship services and seasonal festival services to enhance the worship experience. The Chancel Choir provides opportunities for those who enjoy singing everything from classic anthems to modern settings in a traditional, contemporary, spiritual or gospel style. The Choir practices each Wednesday evening from 6:30-8:00pm in the music room.

Steve SeGraves - stevensegraves@gmail.com

REDEEMER PRAISE

The church's praise team, Redeemer Praise, sings and plays on the third Sunday of the month at the 9:00am and 10:30am worship services and during summer 10:30am services. It provides opportunities for those who enjoy singing or playing wonderful arrangements of contemporary Christian music. The Praise team meets Sunday mornings from September to May at 8:00am in the sanctuary, and in the summer at 9:00am in the Choir Room.

Steve SeGraves - stevensegraves@gmail.com

REDEEMER BRASS

Our Brass Ensemble plays on the second Sunday of each month at the 9:00am and 10:30am services, and on special Sundays throughout the year. Participation is open to any brass player who can play easy to moderately challenging pieces. Rehearsals are in the Sanctuary on Sundays at 11:30am after the 10:30am worship service.

Pastor Jimmy Greenwalt

REDEEMER RINGERS: Adult Bell Choir

This group brings the unique and beautiful sound of bells to our worship services, sometimes joining with the Chancel Choir, Redeemer Brass, or other featured instrumentalists. The Redeemer Ringers usually play on the fourth Sunday of each month and they rehearse on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm in the hand bell room.

James Compton (248.396.7635)

YOUTH CHOIR

The Youth Choir is made up of children ages 6-14 years of age. These musical children sing on special events during the church year, mainly at Christmas time and generally at the 10:30am worship service. Rehearsal information to be announced.

Nancy Lesinski (248.709.3040) or Nicole Olds

A very special thank you!

Redeemer hosted a number of groups and musical performances in the Sanctuary throughout the month of December. From outside concerts to our own worship services, our church was filled with joyous music throughout this festive season.

Thank you to everyone who participated in or attended our musical services this Christmas season!

COUNSELING CORNER

Mourning the departure of a loved one is highly subjective. There are no time limits set by the research pertaining to grief recovery. When people are told, "It's time to get over it and move on..." by friends and family, it often has a deleterious effect on the one trying to adjust to their deeply personal loss.

For those of you who have not yet attended Redeemer's Pathways Grief and Loss Group meetings, here are a few tips to help start you on your journey to recovery from your loved ones passing:

- Try to get outside in the fresh air and sunlight, if possible, and take a walk daily. If you feel like crying, then do it - lean into the tears. Your body wants to release the pain of this loss, and research shows that the chemistry of grief tears is toxic. So, when you feel the urge to cry...cry. Get that expression of grief and toxicity out of your body. Crying gives relief once you allow that release. FYI, chemically, tears of joy are not toxic.
- Write a letter (or several, until you no longer feel the need to do so) to your departed, and ask God to give it to them. He sees it, and loves you beyond your comprehension. He knows your pain right down to the cellular level, so trust Him in this process. Sometimes, a component of grief is unfinished business. Writing out your thoughts to this person or a situation helps give closure. One person in our Pathways Group reported that, after they had written their departed loved one a letter, they felt a measure of instant relief. Research has shown that writing out one's thoughts or journaling is also very healing and very good for one's mental and physical health.
- Celebrate your loved one by giving financially or of your time to a charity they would embrace. With the season of Lent coming upon us, plant or put in a pot a bush or tree in remembrance and celebration of your loved one's life. Every time you look at that greenery, remember the significance of the resurrection of our dear Lord and, because of what that represents, we shall be reunited with our loved ones in heaven. Glory to God!
- Think about getting a dog. After the loss of my 16-year-old Chihuahua CocoNut, I rescued a 9-year-old Chihuahua whose love and affection has been well beyond my expectations. I personally have found that animals are miraculous in their healing powers when we are sad, grieving, or lonely. Having to take a dog for a walk and outside throughout the day helps get our thoughts off ourselves and onto something else like these furry love bugs! They are so comforting!

Finally, I would like to encourage those of you who have suffered a loss and have not attended our Pathways Group meetings to do so. It is amazing to sit back and not facilitate, and just watch how the people heal each other organically, by sharing tips and their own experience with each other. What a gift they are to each other! One member of the Pathways Group recently shared with me an article from The Wall Street Journal about grief. The author Elizabeth Bernstein wrote, "What helped me the most is the realization that grief is unexpressed love. Lying in bed one night, unable to sleep, I asked myself: If there was a magic pill that I could take that would erase my grief, would I take it? The answer came to me like a revelation. Heck no. Because to erase the grief would be to erase my ongoing love for my dad."

This is a new year, one that can be filled with new beginnings and fresh starts. Remember, YOU are in charge of the timing and healing behaviors as suggested. Most of all, I want to encourage you to lean into Jesus. Talk with Him throughout the day. Psalm 34:18 reads, "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit." You are never alone. We are here for you, too.

With God's love,
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!

Sandy Pourcho, PHD
248.568.6040

Rev. Ron Farah, Pastoral Counseling
248.642.3137



JANUARY

BIBLE READING PLAN

1

Genesis 1:1-2:25
Matthew 1:1-2:12
Psalm 1:1-6
Proverbs 1:1-6

2

Genesis 3:1-4:26
Matthew 2:13-3:6
Psalm 2:1-12
Proverbs 1:7-9

3

Genesis 5:1-7:24
Matthew 3:7-4:11
Psalm 3:1-8
Proverbs 1:10-19

4

Genesis 8:1-10:32
Matthew 4:12-25
Psalm 4:1-8
Proverbs 1:20-23

5

Genesis 11:1-13:4
Matthew 5:1-26
Psalm 5:1-12
Proverbs 1:24-28

6

Genesis 13:5-15:21
Matthew 5:27-48
Psalm 6:1-10
Proverbs 1:29-33

7

Genesis 16:1-18:15
Matthew 6:1-24
Psalm 7:1-17
Proverbs 2:1-5

8

Genesis 18:16-19:38
Matthew 6:25-7:14
Psalm 8:1-9
Proverbs 2:6-15

9

Genesis 20:1-22:24
Matthew 7:15-29
Psalm 9:1-12
Proverbs 2:16-22

10

Genesis 23:1-24:51
Matthew 8:1-17
Psalm 9:13-20
Proverbs 3:1-6

11

Genesis 24:52-26:16
Matthew 8:18-34
Psalm 10:1-15
Proverbs 3:7-8

12

Genesis 26:17-27:46
Matthew 9:1-17
Psalm 10:16-18
Proverbs 3:9-10

13

Genesis 28:1-29:35
Matthew 9:18-38
Psalm 11:1-7
Proverbs 3:11-12

14

Genesis 30:1-31:16
Matthew 10:1-23
Psalm 12:1-8
Proverbs 3:13-15

15

Genesis 31:17-32:12
Matthew 10:24-11:6
Psalm 13:1-6
Proverbs 3:16-18

16

Genesis 32:13-34:31
Matthew 11:7-30
Psalm 14:1-7
Proverbs 3:19-20

17

Genesis 35:1-36:43
Matthew 12:1-21
Psalm 15:1-5
Proverbs 3:21-26

18

Genesis 37:1-38:30
Matthew 12:22-45
Psalm 16:1-11
Proverbs 3:27-32

19

Genesis 39:1-41:16
Matthew 12:46-13:23
Psalm 17:1-15
Proverbs 3:33-35

20

Genesis 41:17-42:17
Matthew 13:24-46
Psalm 18:1-15
Proverbs 4:1-6

21

Genesis 42:18-43:34
Matthew 13:47-14:12
Psalm 18:16-36
Proverbs 4:7-10

22

Genesis 44:1-45:28
Matthew 14:13-36
Psalm 18:37-50
Proverbs 4:11-13

23

Genesis 46:1-47:31
Matthew 15:1-28
Psalm 19:1-14
Proverbs 4:14-19

24

Genesis 48:1-49:33
Matthew 15:29-16:12
Psalm 20:1-9
Proverbs 4:20-27

25

Genesis 50:1-26
Exodus 1:1-2:10
Matthew 16:13-17:9
Psalm 21:1-13
Proverbs 5:1-6

26

Exodus 2:11-3:22
Matthew 17:10-27
Psalm 22:1-18
Proverbs 5:7-14

27

Exodus 4:1-5:21
Matthew 18:1-20
Psalm 22:19-31
Proverbs 5:15-21

28

Exodus 5:22-7:25
Matthew 18:21-19:12
Psalm 23:1-6
Proverbs 5:22-23

29

Exodus 8:1-9:35
Matthew 19:13-30
Psalm 24:1-10
Proverbs 6:1-5

30

Exodus 10:1-12:13
Matthew 20:1-28
Psalm 25:1-15
Proverbs 6:6-11

31

Exodus 12:14-13:16
Matthew 20:29-21:22
Psalm 25:16-22
Proverbs 6:12-15



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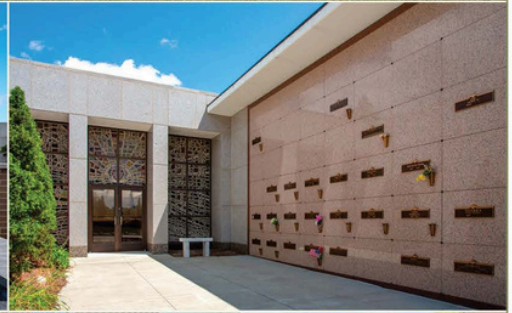
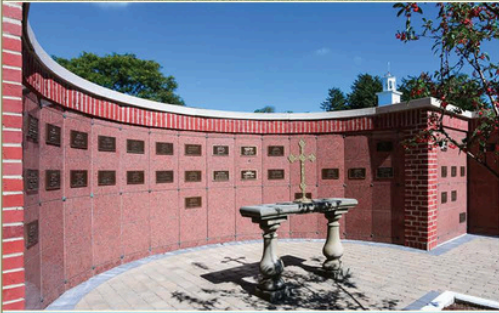
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January 1

Linnea Artelt
Drew Dorantes
Patty Jacobs
Jim Noettl
Kyle Silva
Bev Yocum

January 2

Michael Ilitch, IV
Thom Johnson
Kris Ortale
Kristen Rolf
Tyler Shulte
Evan Turner

January 3

Lili Camden
Millie Murdock

January 4

Laura Schulz
Caitlin Tobin

January 5

Matthew Leiser
Debra Meissner
Matt Vanderhoef

January 6

Lexi Beckeman
Jack Cotter
Rebecca Gersonde
Elijah Kidder
Mark Worden

January 7

Bill Burmeister
Jack Lumsden

January 8

Arden Baker
Pollyanne Dux
Laura Geiger
Sarah Jane Lesinski
Trish Oen
Ruth Ortiz

January 9

Lauren Ackerman
Caroline Claar
Jill Denman-Duggan
Brian Elliott
Griffin Herdegen
Zach Smith

January 10

Dan Cook
Henry Sutherland
Allison Vazquez

January 11

Nico Calvaneso
Maggie Greenwalt
Thomas Morris
Peter Pridmore

January 12

Joel Brockberg
Neal Krentz
Elke Kroenung
Chad Morris
Walt Sweitzer

January 13

Ellen Baker
Sally Tyler
Jack Vercnocke
McKinlay Vercnocke

January 14

Andrew Farah
Sue Middeldorf
Paige Schulte
Alida Toth
Eric Vanderhoef
Garrett Vercnocke
Matthew Warnicke

January 15

Adam Niedzwiecki
Pam Tyndall
Dick Weir

January 16

Lucia Calvaneso
Cheryl Chuhnan
Emily Dobring
Dave Tyndall

January 17

Mark Cycholl
Caity Lagalski
Andrew Pflieger
Glenn Schuetz

January 18

Susan Dickey
Lorelai Gallo
Katie Harper

January 19

Gary Drolet
Charlotte Finley
Louis Hartzell
Jason Hoover
Timothy Moore
Jeremy Nicol

January 20

Natalie Rolf

January 21

Sandra Burnett
Blake Dobbs
Diane Dorantes
Grace Guevara
Jeff Middeldorf
Ryan Nehls
Cindy Noettl
Michael Ziegele

January 22

Kate Dankovich
Eric Girdler
Robert Hoffdal
Jim Junker
Robert Lee
Marilyn Ripson

January 23

Calvin Greer
Kelly Greer
Grace Kamm
Allison Kavanagh
Tayden Leischner
Laura Sellnau

January 24

Brenda Boyce
Curtis Burstein
Sarah Harrison

January 25

Michael Conte
Lily Doolin
Mark Kent
Gary Priskorn
Pam Priskorn
Trevor Schultz

January 28

William Doyle
Mila Grubisich
Brady Tatai

January 29

Karen Cleaver
Terri Fithian
Rich Krentz
Tony Kurnat
Hailee Schuele

January 30

Ken Baetz
Tillie Browett
Tina Conte
Allison Leiser

January 31

Harvey Cycholl
Jeff Drexel
Janet Harthen
Nicholas Mushovic

