

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

THE LAMP

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

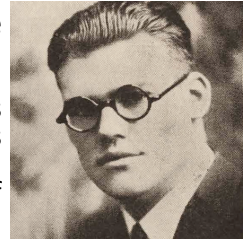
MARCH
2025

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A BLAST FROM THE PAST!

"The season of Lent is annually observed by the Lutheran Church. In the Christian and Lutheran sense, Lent is that season of the church year which has been set apart for the special consideration of the sufferings and death of Jesus Christ for the sins of the world. It is the time in which the church calls her members to a heartfelt and earnest meditation upon the passion of our Lord in order that they may be weaned away from



the cares and pleasures and interests of the world, and be more thoroughly won for the Kingdom of God. Lenten time is repenting time, and is a constant reminder to us of the greatest tragedy of the ages. No sadder thing happened, nor will ever occur, than the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

The death of Christ is, however, the greatest blessing that has ever been bestowed upon fallen mankind. In that which transpired on Calvary's hill on that memorable Good Friday, about 1926 years ago, one can see both the depth of human sin, which demanded such a sacrifice for its expiation, and the height of divine love. For the suffering and death of Christ, having come about in accord with the eternal decree and foreknowledge of God, took place in order that all who believe might be saved. This purpose of Christ's atoning self-sacrifice is nowhere so beautifully stated as in John 3:16:

'For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have eternal life.'

The season of Lent brings these overwhelming truths to our attention in a special way. And, truly, so tremendous a price as that paid by our Savior for our souls, deserves more than a passing consideration now and then. No one will permit Lent to go by unobserved, unless he be little concerned about his sins and their terrible consequence, unless he be totally bereft of all love towards the Savior.

Lent is a time when the repentant soul, like the Prodigal Son, arises and goes home to his Father and says, 'I have sinned,' and feels the joy of forgiveness in his embrace and kiss. It is a time for spiritual refreshment for honest souls seeking God. It is the reparation for the great Feast of Easter - the festival of victory over sin and death, and every one who keeps Lent well, can rejoice in the victories that have secured to him 'a risen life.'

Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church, the first Lutheran church in Birmingham, was established as a Mission in November, 1924, and organized into a congregation in April, 1925. The present church building on Lincoln avenue was dedicated May 10, 1925. Since its beginning Redeemer Lutheran church has experienced a steady growth. The total number of members is approximately 150 souls. The prospects for continued development is promising."

**Written by Reverend L. Schuessler
Birmingham Eccentric - February 19, 1926*

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 - 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

JANUARY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekly Attendance Totals	2025	2024
Worship	388	348
Bible Class	121	116
Sunday School	19	15
Monthly Attendance Totals	2025	2024
Communion	701	731
Visitors	37	34
Income and Expenses	2025	2024
Income Received	\$214,773	\$172,986
Budget Requirements	\$189,841	\$209,391
General Fund Expenses	\$205,335	\$191,356
YTD Fiscal-Year Income	\$1,048,243	\$970,106
YTD Fiscal Year Expenses	\$952,893	\$863,084

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

God's Instruments, God's Stewards

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. (Ephesians 2:10)

Some pastors refer to these words as “the most forgotten words in the Scriptures.” They are forgotten because they follow the familiar and critical words before it. The preceding two verses that overshadow Ephesians 2:10 are words of justification: “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9). These are words preached regularly. They are assigned as confirmation verses. They carry with them the very heart of what it means to be a redeemed child of God!

Precisely because the previous verses are so central to salvation, they often overpower our practice of stewardship! We have been saved by grace. This is certain and sure because of Jesus. Works play no role in our salvation. No credit taking for us! Grace is freely given. Faith is miraculously created by the Spirit and joyously received. This truth is so wonderful and so encompassing that we often miss out on WHY we are redeemed.

The grace of God revealed in Jesus calls us to faith. But St. Paul doesn't stop with grace and faith. He continues to the logical conclusion. Just like the creation declares the handiwork of God, the redemption of sinners like you and me declares His greatest handiwork! Redeemed stewards are created to reflect the grace and mercy God showers on us to others.

As Lutherans, we understand that good works flow from faith in Jesus Christ. They are the fruit of the tree of salvation into which we have been grafted by grace. Sanctification and stewardship are both ongoing and active confessions of what the Lord has done in us. These works are not always spectacular. Many times, they are simply parents showing Jesus to their children. They are compassionate actions that live out the truth of the Gospel to co-workers and even complete strangers. While they can be grand endeavors, more likely they are simple, beautiful works which highlight what Jesus has done in us.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

These works aren't random either. They have been planned by God. God planned to use you as a faithful steward as you walk the road that leads you through your daily life. There are no chance encounters or coincidences. They have been planned by the Lord of the universe for the benefit of His creation. Good works are what point to God's greatest work: Jesus!

He calls you and me to walk in this faith, which flows from this grace, which has been poured out on us in Jesus. But even this is not to our credit. We are simply called to be faithful stewards of God's grace so that we may share it with those who need it as much as we do. God's Spirit carries us along in this. We are just the steward - the instrument in His hand to accomplish His plan and glorify Him!

**Credit LCMS Stewardship Newsletter*



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 for March are available around the building.
MARCH Lamp

IN REMEMBRANCE AND REFLECTION



In Memory

GIVE A MEMORIAL GIFT

Donations made to Vacation Bible School in memory of Elizabeth Hamada

David Hamada

Donations made to the Memorial Fund in memory of Marlene Penrod

Donald Penrod

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

God of goodness and mercy, hear our prayer as we begin this Lenten journey with you. Let us be honest with ourselves, as we look into our hearts and soul, noticing the times we turn away from you. Guide us as we humbly seek to repent and return to your love.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

PASTORAL ACTS

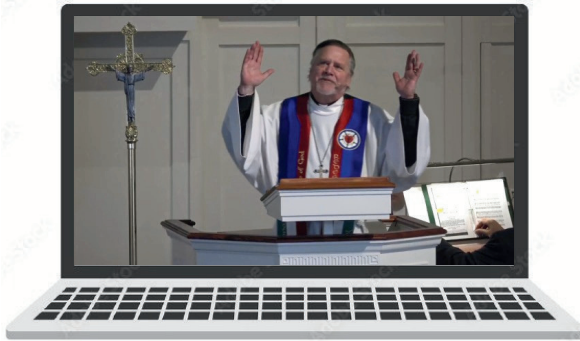
BAPTISMS

1/18/2025 Felix Anthony Vazquez
son of Jonathan and Allison Vazquez

1/19/2025 Charlotte Olivia and Adeline Rose Imhoff
daughters of Jacob and Emily Imhoff



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!

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.

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.

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!



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)!

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.

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

March 12

April 9

BOARD OF ELDERS MEETINGS

March 26

May 28



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.

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.



iZosh

WOMEN INVESTING IN WOMEN®



Join us at our spring iZosh Event, scheduled on Friday, April 11th!

We will be joined by guest speaker **Abadir M. Ibrahim**, Associate Director of the Human Rights Program (HRP) at Harvard Law School. Dr. Ibrahim's research focuses on African approaches to human rights while his broader research interests encompass the intersections between global human rights normative structures, as well as non-Western cultural/religious institutions and traditions. His academic and legal work focuses on African countries, especially his home country of Ethiopia, where he studies different aspects of associational life, social movements, and nonprofit organizations.

Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

KID KAT KAMP 2025

Kampers will ARRIVE on SUNDAY, AUGUST 3RD and LEAVE Kamp on SATURDAY, AUGUST 9TH!



Redeemer Summer Kamp is a week-long sleepaway camp for kids entering 3rd-9th grade. We rent a beautiful camp facility in western Michigan each year where Kampers spend a week in a rustic outdoors setting, enjoying typical camping activities such as crafts, boating, fishing, hayrides, games, campfires, and more! Our program is combined with Bible study, worship, and singing which all take place in a safe, Christian environment. Please visit our website to read more about our Kamp mission, camp facilities, and staff.

- **MARCH 1, 2025:** Registration is open to Redeemer members and returning Kamp families ONLY!
- **APRIL 1, 2025:** Registration is open to everyone!

If you have any questions about Kamp, please review our Registration Page and Kamp FAQs on the church website. If you still have questions, please send us an email (redeemerkamp@gmail.com).

MARCH Lamp

HOLY HOUSEKEEPING

THANK
YOU!


Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
My thanks to all of you for the cards, prayers,
and telephone calls received over the last several
weeks. Each one has been uplifting knowing it
comes from the loving heart of someone who
cares. Your ministry to me has been very
meaningful, and may God bless you for it.

Pastor Farah



LIBRARY LIGHTS

Marching into Spring, Lent and Easter! As we think about Spring, minds often turn to warm weather and new beginnings. Spring and especially Lent, is the perfect time to deepen your relationship with Christ. The redeemer Library has so many options!

In non-fiction, **The Jesus I Never Knew: Revealing What 2,000 Years of History Have Covered Up** by Philip Yancey is a fantastic biblical and historical look into the life of Christ. This book will help you get to know Jesus on a whole new level, not only from a biblical perspective but from a historical perspective, as well. It "will engage your heart, mind, emotions, and senses, preparing you for a new, life-changing encounter with the real Jesus described in the Gospels."

The movie **Miracles from Heaven**, starring Jennifer Garner, is a gripping, true story about a young girl with a rare, incurable disease and her mother's fight for her life. After Anna has a freak accident, an extraordinary miracle unfolds in the wake of her dramatic rescue that leaves medical specialists mystified, her family restored, and their community inspired.

Young lovers of mystery stories will love the **Theodore Boone series** by John Grisham. Our library has the first six books in this seven book series. Theodore Boone is a kind, independent 13-year old. He dreams of following in the footsteps of his parents, a real estate lawyer and a divorce attorney, and becoming either a lawyer or judge. Although he's only 13, Theo finds himself suddenly dragged into the middle of a sensational murder trial.

Happy Spring and Happy Reading!

Did You Know?



LET'S PLAY BALL!

Did you know that Pastor Duane Wuggazer was on our 1950's men's baseball team and was the star pitcher?! He was renowned for his blazing fast ball speeds!

Thank you to our 100th Anniversary Committee for this fun tid-bit from our history!



March 1

Rummage Sale Intake Day

March 2

Faithful Friends
Enrichment Event

March 4

Pathways

March 5

Ash Wednesday

March 6

Chicks with Sticks

March 6-7

Rummage Sale Prep Days

March 7-9

Rummage Sale

March 9

Rummage Sale Clean-Up
Daylight Savings Time Begins

March 12

Leadership Team Meeting

March 13

The Birmingham Musicale
Choral Ensemble Concert

March 14

Resurrection Eggs

March 16

Confirmand Led Church Services

March 20

Chicks with Sticks

March 22-28

RYG North Carolina Mission Trip

March 26

Board of Elders Meeting

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



FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



April 1

Prime Timer's Committee
Planning Meeting
Pathways

April 6

Birmingham Concert Band
Spring Concert

April 9

Leadership Team Meeting

April 10

Chicks with Sticks
The Birmingham Musicales Choral
Ensemble Concert

April 11

Palm Cross Workshop
iZosh Spring Event

April 11-12

Confirmation Year 3 Retreat

April 13

Palm Sunday

April 17

Maundy Thursday

April 18

Good Friday

April 19

Holy Saturday

April 20

Easter Sunday

April 24

Chicks with Sticks

April 26

Farmington Community Community
Chorus Cabaret Concert and Dinner

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



100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION TOUR!



**TOUR PICTURESQUE LANCASTER, PA
AND EXPERIENCE THE SERENE
DUTCH COUNTRYSIDE!
AUGUST 12-15, 2025 (4 DAYS & 3 NIGHTS)**

This trip is highlighted with a live performance of "NOAH" at the SIGHT & SOUND MILLENNIUM THEATRE! Experience one of the Bible's most incredible stories, live on stage using captivating special effects, beautiful music, and extraordinary sights and sounds as we watch Noah and his family faithfully follow God's instructions despite difficult odds. Come aboard with us to witness this remarkable, once-in-a-lifetime voyage with Noah, his family, and God's most creative and unique passenger manifests ever!
Perfect for families, young & "young at heart" alike!

"You do not want to be left behind! Climb on board; IT LOOKS LIKE RAIN!"

Details of the "CELEBRATION BUS TOUR" are located on the Town Square bulletin board. Registration information, cost, trip itinerary, and other details are posted and available on flyers and the tour posters around Redeemer.

**An informational gathering will be held in the
Great Room on Sunday, February 2nd during coffee hour.
Please attend if you are interested in traveling with us.**

**PLEASE NOTE: LIMITED CAPACITY (52) SEATS AVAILABLE, FIRST COME-FIRST
SERVED (BASED ON REGISTRATION + DEPOSIT).
SIGN-UP SHEET FOR CONTACT & LEVEL OF INTEREST ONLY!**

Questions? Please call Leslie Whitfield at 248-330-8685.

★ CABARET DINNER ★

Steve SeGraves has conducted the Farmington Chorus for 35 years, and on Saturday, April 26th at 7:00pm our church will hear wonderful music from this group and other guest artists! Come for a great show and enjoy a delicious Italian-themed dinner, silent auction, and a 50/50 raffle!

The chorus is celebrating it's 45th "Sapphire" Anniversary this year, so all the songs will have "blue" in the title or in the lyrics, and each table will be themed in a different shade of blue.

A minimum donation of \$20.00 per-person is requested or reserve a full table (8 people maximum) for a minimum donation of \$160.00. Reserved seating tickets may be purchased in advance by contacting **Sally Flayer (248.613-2623 sflayer@comcast.net)**. Reserved seats will be sold on a first come first served basis. If the event sells out, there will not be at-the-door sales.

Please order your tickets early - we hope you'll join us!

When making your reservation, please indicate any special dietary requirements.

A NOTE FROM THE KITCHEN!



Redeemer's kitchen is a blessing! Not many churches have a facility like ours - which even visiting chefs find complete and perfect to work in! And most facilities lock their kitchens in order to keep things under control. We don't lock our doors because the kitchen belongs to all of us. And because the kitchen belongs to all of us, all of us have to be partners in its care and maintenance.

Our beloved Marge Noettl used to say,
"If something needs doing...just do it!"

Great advice for all of us! If there are dishes in the sink, spills on the counter, dishes waiting to be put away properly in the pantry, please don't wait for someone else to do it...you do it with a prayer of thanks for what we have! Please help us keep our wonderful kitchen wonderful! *Many thanks from Kim and Kitty!*

RUMMAGE SALE

REDEEMER'S RUMMAGE SALE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

Proceeds will benefit the high school mission trip to North Carolina & Redeemer's "Sacred Space" fund!

Please consider supporting the Rummage Sale in one (or more!) of the following ways:

- **DONATE ITEMS FOR THE SALE:** We will be accepting clothing and accessories, electronics, housewares, pictures, décor, books, toys, small working appliances, sporting goods, furniture, and much more! Donations are tax deductible, and receipts will be available during intake.

You can drop off donations in the Gym at the following days/times:

- Saturday, March 1st: 9:00am-1:00pm
- Thursday, March 6th: 9:00am-6:00pm

We **cannot accept** non-flat screen televisions/computer monitors, mattresses/box springs, large household appliances, textbooks, large musical instruments, weapons, large games or play sets, hazardous materials, fax machines/old printers, medical supplies, outdated skis, exercise machines, cribs, car seats, large wall units/entertainment centers, or large industrial metal desks.

We will be **picking up larger furniture items** from homes on **Saturday, March 1st**. If you have any larger furniture items that you would like to donate but are unable to bring in yourself, please **contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberirmingham.org or 248.644.4010 x121)** by **Tuesday, February 25th** to be added to the pick-up schedule (exclusions may apply).

Please keep in mind that **all donations must be in sell-able condition**. When donating clothing, please help us by labeling the bags (i.e. women's, children's, etc.).

- **HELP WITH SET-UP:** Please consider stopping by to help on Thursday, March 6th (9:00am-8:00pm) and/or Friday, March 7th (9:00am-4:00pm). **Michele Margosian** will be available to guide you to an area of need!
- **SHOP AT THE SALE:** We have three great opportunities for you to shop the Rummage Sale!
 - EARLY BIRD SALE: Friday, March 7th from 6:00-8:00pm**
 - Get the first pick! Donation of \$5/adult will be received.
 - GENERAL SALE: Saturday, March 8th from 9:00am-3:00pm**
 - Come find some hidden treasures!
 - BAG SALE: Sunday, March 9th from 12:00-2:00pm**
 - \$5/bag of clothing and accessories + HALF-OFF all other items!
- **HELP WITH CLEAN UP:** Join us for "POWER HOUR" (Sunday, March 9th from 2:30-3:30pm) to help bag and box unsold items for Goodwill and clean-up the rooms used for the sale! It's only ONE HOUR of your time!
- **SPREAD THE WORD:** Please encourage family and friends to donate items and shop at the sale to help support our missions!

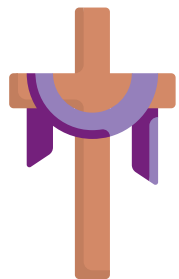
For any general questions or concerns, please contact Michele Margosian.
Cell: 248.515.1282 - Home: 248.855.3694 - mmargosian@sbcglobal.net

NEEDED: BAGS & HANGERS FOR THE RUMMAGE SALE!

Please save bags (paper/plastic grocery bags, big shopping bags, etc.) and hangers - they are needed for the sale! If you have any that you would like to donate, please put them outside Laura Vowell's office!



THE SEASON OF LENT AND EASTER



ATTITUDE CHECK! 2025 LENTEN THEME

The Sermon on the Mount is the longest message recorded in the gospels. Jesus' message brings to us a great deal of insight into our role in the Kingdom of Heaven, and He starts it all with the "Beatitudes."

I must admit at one time, the Beatitudes sounded to me, "Today, life is hard. But one day soon, I will bless you!" yet I have discovered that these sayings are powerful when viewed through a new lens. It's a prescription on how we are to live.

This Lent, we will study the Beatitudes as a way to live our lives as "be" attitudes.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

THE BEATITUDES - MATTHEW 5:3-12

****March 5th, Ash Wednesday - Matthew 5:3****

Poor in Spirit

March 12th - Matthew 5:4

Those who Mourn

March 19th - Matthew 5:5

The Meek

March 26th - Matthew 5:6

The Hungry and Thirsty

April 2nd - Matthew 5:7

The Merciful

April 9th - Matthew 5:8

Clean of Heart

1:00pm - Chapel; 7:00pm - Sanctuary

****Additional 7:00am Ash Wednesday Sunrise Service - Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes Only****

Each worship service is preceded by a meal:

Lunch 12:00pm; Dinner 6:00pm (Confirmands 5:30pm)

HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday, April 17th

1:00pm - Chapel; 7:00pm - Sanctuary
Holy Communion at Both Services

Good Friday, April 18th

1:00pm and 7:00pm - Sanctuary

Easter Eve, April 19th

5:00pm - Sanctuary

Easter Sunday Services, April 20th

7:30am with Holy Communion; 9:00am and 10:30am
Easter Egg Hunt to follow Easter Sunday 10:30am Service
Bring your Easter Basket!!

***ALL 7:00PM LENTEN SERVICES AND THE 10:30AM
EASTER SERVICE WILL BE LIVESTREAMED***

It's about that time... ORDER YOUR EASTER FLOWERS! Easter Sunday - April 20th, 2025

These gorgeous flowers will add beauty to our Easter Sunday services and will be used to decorate Redeemer on Easter! You may then take them home following our 10:30am service; alternatively, you may donate them to a local nursing home for a wonderful surprise for those who need an uplifting gift on Easter.

Order forms, with the option to pay online, can be found on the church website (click on the Lent/Holy Week box) or scan the QR code. The order form can also be found around the building, or in the Church Office. Please fill it out and turn it in to the Church Office along with your payment/check no later than *Tuesday, April 1st.

Orders placed after this date are NOT guaranteed as the nursery has a limited supply.



WAYS YOU CAN HELP? We are in need of families and volunteers to take donated flowers to local nursing homes immediately following the 10:30am Easter service. This is a great opportunity to spread God's love and bring a fantastic surprise to those who need it - you truly feel the gift of giving firsthand! **If you are interested, please contact the Church Office!**

Questions? Contact Jamie Thompson or call the Church Office!

LENT AND EASTER MUSIC!

Hallelujah Chorus on Easter! If you plan to attend worship at the 9:00am or 10:30am services on Easter Sunday, April 20th, we invite you to join the Chancel Choir in singing the 'Hallelujah Chorus' from Handel's Messiah! You will be provided with a copy of the music during the service, or a copy can be obtained in advance by contacting **Steve SeGraves**.

Special Music Needed for Lenten Services! If you sing or play an instrument, we are looking for individuals to provide special music during our 1:00pm and 7:00pm Wednesday services. Services run Wednesday, March 12th thru Wednesday, April 9th. Please contact **Steve SeGraves** if you'd like to offer your musical ability for one of these services.



PREPARING FOR LENT AND LENTEN MEALS!

**Lent begins on Wednesday,
March 5th and we need YOUR help!**

Grab your family or some friends and sign-up to host a Lenten lunch or dinner! You can sign-up via the church website or the Town Square bulletin board. Contact **Kim Davis (248.613.4200)** with questions or for more information. If you don't feel comfortable planning a whole meal, sign-up to be a helper!

CURRENT BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAYS

ADULT BIBLE STUDY - Rev. Ronald Farah

The Study of Romans

**Cancelled until further notice!*

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)

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 LUNCHEES: 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



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Soon after Redeemer's founding in 1924, 16 women united as the 'Ladies Aid' to raise funds and support work being done on the chapel. In 1929, the group was renamed the 'Ladies Missionary Society' with the motto, "Work! Make money! Spend that money!"

In the early years, they hosted bake sales and bazaars; made quilts and jams; and sold "dolly duzit" kitchen sponges. Popular fundraisers included "sauerkraut and ham dinners," and a system in which families "bought" a basket with a baked good, made a new goodie, then "re-sold" the basket, all to benefit missions. The Paper Committee sold 2,050 pounds of paper for \$6.15 (remember, it was the 1930s)!

Also that time, the women also created separate Mission Teams. The Ruth Guild sewed cancer pads; the Rachel-Mary Guild ran the Spring Salad Buffet and Fashion Show; the Elizabeth-Martha Guild organized a Christmas auction; and the Naomi Guild held fashion shows modeling "Davidson's of Birmingham" clothing. Each Guild also hosted a booth at the World's Fair of Missions held in 1963.

Rummage sales became vital fundraisers after the first 1930s sale netted \$78.15. Soon after, Redeemer was hosting biannual sales that filled the church (except the Sanctuary) – the church even rented space on 8 Mile for storage! Sales continued off and on over the years, and the 2003 sale helped to support major parking lot improvements. Today, many ladies volunteer for the youth rummage fundraiser, led by Michele Margosian.

Missions remained important during the war years and beyond. Ladies sent cookies to servicemen overseas, cleaned pews, decorated the church for Christmas, and collected coins in 'Mite Boxes' to support Michigan District Synod services. In 1967, the "Book Nook" opened where Carol Romeo sold Bibles, books, jewelry, and cards to benefit missions.

In 1977, women's mission work was renamed the "Women's Society," encompassing Altar Guild, Friendship Circle, Mission Circle, and the Needlework Guild, which cross-stitched confirmation verses, made new member welcome baskets, and clothing for various charities. Women also published their mission dollar allocation; for example, in 1980, they distributed \$22,800 to local, national, and international missions.

Despite their focus on service, the ladies have always enjoyed the good things in life! They published a church cookbook in the 1960s featuring member recipes and have repeated the tradition numerous times since then with a 100th Anniversary cookbook coming soon!

In time, Marge Noettl stepped in to lead Women's Ministry. Kitty Sweitzer recalls that Marge "was strong in faith, hardworking in service, and dedicated to Redeemer," and when she saw a need, she lived by the mantra, "If you see it, do it!" During this time, Women's Ministry broadened its offerings to include various fellowship, educational, spiritual, and cultural events, ranging from Bible studies to lectures. The ladies also embraced their fun sides with events like the Mad Hatter Party, Spring Luncheon, and "Girl's Night Out" - where the men served the food!



Mary Zollar, Elvira Brenner, August Brauer, and Olga McKee (1966)

The first Women's Retreat was held at Camp Skyline in 1981 with over 50 women learning how to become "spiritual butterflies," metamorphosing with the theme of "Lord, Change Me." Many retreats followed, each with its own unique spiritual significance and comic relief!

For years, Myrtle Wuggazer helped ladies welcome the start of Advent with 'The Christmas Musicale and Tea,' which included various musicians including organist Nancy Kochenderfer. In 1988, the celebration changed to Advent by Candlelight which was brought to Redeemer by Denise McNaughton. Marge Noettl took the reins and the event has become a seasonal favorite ever since.

During the 1990s, Redeemer women played on a ladies' softball team, often followed by a trip to Pasquales for pizza. Participants fondly remember putting a porta crib behind the backstop!

Today, Women's Ministry is overseen by Kitty Sweitzer; Kitty leads a weekly Bible study for the women of Redeemer, while Andrea Schlak and Rosemary Ging lead a Community Bible study. Other programs include retreats, book club led by Stacey Rolf, lectures, outings, cooking classes with Donna Hollis, and bunco nights. We also maintain our commitment to missions, as discussed in last month's Lamp, and we annually celebrate the spirit of service when the annual Woman of the Year is announced at Advent by Candlelight. The cumulative dedication of these women to Redeemer and the community is so inspiring!

MEN'S MINISTRY

The men of Redeemer have always found ways to come together in the name of Jesus and to build fellowship.

In the 1960s, Redeemer's Men's Club was very active, holding monthly events such as a 1966 Chuck Wagon Dinner featuring a speaker from the Ford Motor Company about the Ford Racing Program.

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



In 1968, Redeemer launched Men's Bible Breakfast, which is now our longest running men's activity. It began on a cold, February morning as a group of men paid \$1.00 for breakfast, cooked by a "group of obliging ladies." The group started out reading about one Bible chapter a week, and the study was led for many years by Bill Rolf. He formally passed the Bible to Gary Priskorn, who now leads in-depth studies of a few verses each week... And today's men also make their own breakfast!

During this time, Redeemer partnered with neighboring First Presbyterian and First United Methodist Churches in the Maple Road Men's Club, which included a rotating annual joint banquet.

In the 1970s, the men chose to focus more narrowly on four major annual events: the Maple Road Banquet, a Father/Son Banquet, a Spring Golf outing, and a June

Steak Roast. Redeemer also had a group called the "Redeemer Businessmen," which held weekly luncheons at local restaurants.

Over the years, the men have enjoyed a number of other fellowship and educational events including banquets, wine tastings, lectures, and retreats.

In 2002, Gary Priskorn became the first formal leader of the Men's Ministry. Since that time, he has devoted many early mornings and late evenings to this vital ministry. He is the hands, feet, wisdom, and effort behind all of Redeemer men's activities. He shared that one of his favorite events was a 2005 tour of the World War II submarine, the USS Silversides, where the men's group spent the night onboard!

Gary instituted the popular quarterly Saturday morning Fellowship Breakfasts, which present relevant and gifted speakers, such as the Detroit Lions' Lem Barney and the ever-popular Reverend Ron Farah.

One especially entertaining speaker was former Redeemer member, Lou Kasischke. In 2008, Lou joined the Men's Breakfast to share his story about averting tragedy when he turned back from attempting to climb the summit of Mount Everest in 1996. He heard a voice inside him that overrode his personal desires and brought him home safely. The book he later wrote about the experience, *After the Wind*, is deeply inspiring.

"Guys Night Out" social events have become a mainstay on the men's calendar, including the annual Men's BBQ, which started in 2002. For many years, Bill Rolf hosted the event and Tom Violante provided dinner. Those who wish to can also join a golf scramble beforehand, organized by "Golf Commissioner" Walt Sweitzer.

Redeemer men have a long sporting history, especially due to our "home plate" baseball diamond. In 1980, the team won the Division E Championship with a team led by the Helmke Brothers and "Home Run Walt" Sweitzer. In 1981, the men won the Division D Championship with a 19-2 record, with separate MVP awards for Walt Sweitzer and Cliff Clark. Other members of the winning team were Keith Lewis, Bruce Helmke, Jim Helmke, Tim Springer, and Mike Dundas.

Men's Ministry has hosted many other sports teams and events, including bowling leagues with team names like the 'Holy Rollers' and 'Sermon Sleepers.' In 2007, Redeemer introduced the "Man Olympics," and in 2008 launched an annual Bocce Ball Tournament hosted by Fred and Jeanne Hollis, culminating in the award of a very unique trophy. Today, our most popular sport is pick-up basketball, as men gather on Tuesday and Thursday nights at Redeemer for friendly competition.

Men's Ministry is dedicated to service and has had a special and lasting impact on building and construction projects. For decades, experts such as members Jim Endress and Cliff Clark have repaired, rebuilt, and provided other construction services for families in need through missions such as Camp Restore, Habitat for Humanity, and Christmas in Action.

The men of Redeemer have always found a way to be the hands and feet of Jesus. From community gatherings to sporting events, from Bible studies and mission work, they have spread their faith and enhanced men's fellowship in the church.

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, JUNE 1ST

**100th Anniversary Celebratory Church Service
and Congregational Luncheon**

We are honored to have Pastor Mark Wuggazer leading worship that morning, and Kitty Sweitzer, with her dedicated committee, organizing our fellowship meal!

More information coming soon!

ASK ME ABOUT...

During our anniversary year, you will see our church staff and volunteers wearing buttons that invite you to ask them about our vast array of ministries here at Redeemer.

Please ask them questions - they are very excited to share!



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.

MARCH MADNESS WATCH PARTY

All are welcome to join in on the fun at this year's March Madness Watch Party at the Parsonage, set for **Sunday, March 30th from 3:00-6:00pm!**

Bad Boy Chili and Fixin's - Center Court Cornbread - Beer and Soft Drinks - Games and Prizes

Free-will donation requested - please **sign-up in the Town Square** so we can plan accordingly! Questions? Contact **Gary Priskorn** or **Jon Duff (248.214.9037)** for more information!

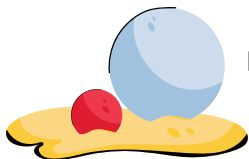


WHO WANTS TO BOCCE?!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Our 15th annual "Fred Hollis Memorial Bocce Ball Tournament" will be on **Wednesday, May 14th!**

More information to follow in April's Lamp!



SENIOR'S MINISTRY



FAITHFUL FRIENDS ENRICHMENT SERIES

Join us for our next Enrichment Program on **Sunday, March 2nd from 11:45am-12:45pm** in the Great Room!

Do you have an elderly parent or friend who seems to be struggling with the reality of day-to-day living? Are you a current or potential caregiver looking for Eldercare resources, answers to caregiving questions, or are unsure of the signals and symptoms that may prompt concern and additional care? Then, please join us for our next Faithful Friends Enrichment Program on March 2nd in the Great Room.

Based on requests, Redeemer member and Eldercare Counselor and Gerontologist, Diane Johns, also an experienced caregiver, will again lead a discussion of recognizing the obvious, but also the "silent" signs and behaviors of the elderly that warrant attention, observation, and care, as well as review available resources.

Please let any of the team know if there is a topic you are interested in learning more about for future programs.

We hope to see you there!
- The Faithful Friends Committee
Gary Priskorn, 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

MOUNT EVEREST TRAGEDY A TIME TO LIVE...A TIME TO DIE

Everyone is encouraged to mark your calendar for the next Primer Timer event, scheduled **Sunday, May 4th at 6:00pm**. Please join us for a very special and moving presentation in our Sanctuary by **Redeemer member and renowned mountain climber, Lou Kasischke**. Lou was part of a Mount Everest climbing expedition in 1996, one which turned out to be the worst tragedy in Mount Everest's history. His intriguing and inspirational story is one you won't want to miss!



A question/answer session will follow Lou's presentation, along with refreshments in the Town Square. More details to come in April's Lamp!

MINISTRIES AT WORK

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

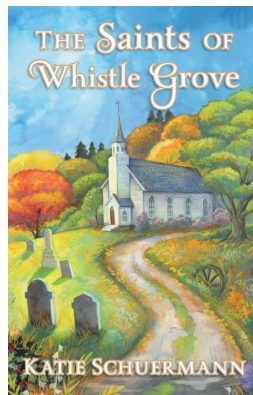
Woman of the Year Luncheon

**NEW
UPDATE**

Unfortunately, our Woman of the Year, Erin Mortenson, is unable to attend the Council of Women's Luncheon on March 25th. We will plan a celebration of Erin and her service at a later time. Please stay tuned to the weekly bulletin and upcoming future Lamp articles for more information.

If you have already bought a ticket, please check about a refund from the source. Questions? Ask Kitty!

Women's Book Group



Join us for a discussion on **"The Saints of Whistle Grove"** by Katie Schuermann! After 150 years of preaching the Gospel, the little country parish of Whistle Grove has closed its doors for good, but the faithful Reverend Edmund G. Oglethorpe remains. There is the empty building and the crumbling cemetery to maintain, and who else will bury old Miriam Werth when the time comes? Told through the voices of generations

past and present, **"The Saints of Whistle Grove"** follows the journey of a son in search of his mother, a daughter in need of connection, a family without a home, and the cemetery that brings them all together. Please join us **Tuesday, March 25th at 7:30pm in the Town Square** - we hope to see you there!

Women's Ministry Coffee Hour and "Get to Know You Sunday!"

Come to coffee hour at **10:00am on Sunday, March 9th** and enjoy special goodies, a prize basket for men, women, and children, and talk to our Board Members about the things we do and what you may want to be part of as we work to spread our ministry and further the efforts of our missions. Come and meet the team, hang out with us, and learn why we love the people we serve and the activities we do!

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study NEW SERIES - "Don't Give the Enemy A Seat At Your Table" with Louie Giglio!

Have you ever regretted not coming to a Bible study and then thought you couldn't possibly attend because two or three sessions had gone by and you would be too far behind to catch up? Well... This is not one of those studies! Please join us as we wrap-up this wonderful study and gain a better understanding of God's loving plan for us! We will meet at **6:30pm on Tuesday March 4th in the Great Room** to conclude this study - but never fear, we will begin a **new study** for the rest of the month, meeting on **March 11th, 18th, and 25th (*at 6:00pm)**, Join us then!

**DON'T
GIVE
THE ENEMY
A SEAT
AT YOUR
TABLE**
IT'S TIME TO WIN THE BATTLE OF YOUR MIND...
**LOUIE
GIGLIO**



Chicks with Sticks

Our knitting needles are hard at work this winter! **Chicks with Sticks will meet on Thursday, March 6th and March 20th in the Library at 1:00pm.** Don't know how to knit? We'll teach you! Come join us for this amazing fellowship opportunity!



Many thanks, Donna!

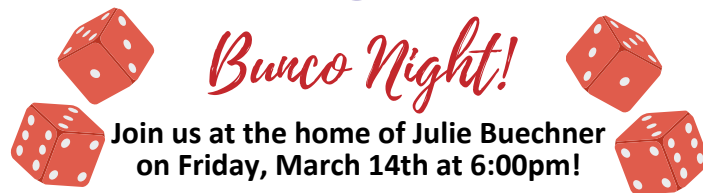
Thank you to Donna Hollis and her wonderful Soup's On class last month! Donna has a very special way of teaching, reaching, and stirring the latent cook in all



of us. Her soups and salad were delicious and 33 women enjoyed the evening. Next up will be English scones, "what's that gadget for and how do I use it?", and a serious talk about taking care of your knives. Donna is the expert and she will keep us in the know. Our audience was warm and receptive, and took good notes - hope soup is on the stove in all of those homes!

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event possible!

Andrea Schalk, Jerris Rosenthal, Jan Kanka, Tracey Fish, Karen Pridmore, Lynn Speerschneider, Theresa Schulz, Sharon Tylenda, Filippa Genovese, Madelon Ryland, David Hamada (who even washed the kitchen floor - you are the best!)



Bunco Night!

Join us at the home of Julie Buechner on Friday, March 14th at 6:00pm!

Fun as fun can be, no experience necessary, no acumen or skill needed!

You just sit at the table and roll the dice. Appetizers, refreshments, desserts, prizes, and fun! Following Bunco, we have a white elephant exchange, and laughter and smiles will be shared by all.

Please sign-up on the Town Square bulletin board.

MINISTRIES AT WORK



RESURRECTION EGGS

FRIDAY, MARCH 14TH
5:30PM - 7:30PM

Get ready for Easter by making your own box of Resurrection Eggs for your family and learn how to teach the Easter story to others!

PLUS! We'll eat dinner, decorate cookies, and play Easter BINGO!

RSVP BY SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH!

Contact Laura Vowell with questions!



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:

- **March 5th:** Kitty Sweitzer - Guest Speaker
- **March 12th:** Review and Discuss "The Power Pause: How to Plan a Career Break After Kids and Come Back Stronger Than Ever"
- **March 19th:** Continue "The Power Pause" Discussion
- **March 26th:** NO CLASS - Spring Break

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

LENTEN KIDZ!



Join us during mid-week Lenten services, which start on **Wednesday March 5th**, for LentenKidz! All children ages 3 to 5th Grade are welcome! Children go to church with their families and then, after the Children's Message, will go down to the Scheidt Room for lesson and activities. We hope you'll join us!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS BACK FOR 2025 AND IS TAKING PLACE JUNE 16-20!

MAGNIFIED! DISCOVERING THE BIGNESS OF GOD IN THE SMALLEST OF THINGS!

Join us this summer when we take a closer look at God's awesome creation to discover how big and powerful He really is! **Stay tuned to the weekly bulletin for exciting updates on registration and how you can help!** We need kids from 3 to 99 to join us - you are never too old to come to VBS!

SCAMPER CAMP!

Scamper Camp is back for another summer of fun for preschoolers! **REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!** Check the church website for more information! **Contact Nicole Olds with any questions!**



MINISTRIES AT WORK

RYG HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP



MARCH SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 1st: Rummage Sale Intake, 9:00am-3:00pm

Sunday, March 2nd:

4:00pm: Mission Trip Meeting #2

Meet in the Great Room

7:00-9:00pm: Youth Group

Meet in the Youth Room

Wednesday, March 5th: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm

Ash Wednesday

Friday, March 7th: Rummage Pre-Sale, 6:00-8:00pm

Saturday, March 8th: Rummage Sale, 9:00am-3:00pm

Sunday, March 9th:

Rummage Sale Bag Day, 12:00-2:00pm

Rummage Sale Clean-Up, 2:00-4:00pm

NO MEETING SUNDAY EVENING!

Monday March 10th: FOG, 5:00-8:00pm

Meet in the Kitchen

Wednesday, March 12th: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm

Sunday, March 16th:

4:00pm: Mission Trip Meeting #3

Meet in the Great Room

7:00-9:00pm: Youth Group

Meet in the Youth Room

Wednesday, March 19th: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm

Saturday, March 22nd-Friday, March 28th:

North Carolina Mission Trip

NO RYG THIS WEEK - HAPPY SPRING BREAK!

Sunday, March 30th: Mission Trip Reunion, 7:00-9:00pm

Meet in the Youth Room



"redeemer_y00th"

ALWAYS CHECK INSTAGRAM
FOR ANY SCHEDULE CHANGES

HIGH SCHOOL NORTH CAROLINA MISSION TRIP

Did you hear the news?! High schoolers from Redeemer are traveling to Asheville, North Carolina this March to provide hurricane disaster relief and relational ministry! RYG is partnering with Praying Pelican Missions for our fifth time! Please keep the group in your prayers as they prepare over the next several weeks for their annual Spring Break mission trip!



FAMILY OF GOD

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

March 10th

April 14th

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

ATTEND LENTEN SERVICES

RYG meets Wednesdays 6:00-8:00pm

Lenten Services at 7:00pm

March 5, 12, 19

April 2, 9

Questions? Contact Gia or Eric!



JAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

JAMS POWER HOUR & GAME NIGHT!

All middle schoolers (and their families!) are invited to help **SERVE** and have **FUN!** Join us for a **POWER HOUR** of cleaning-up from the Rummage Sale on **Sunday, March 9th from 2:30-6:00pm!** Many hands make light work - our goal is to have at least 50 PEOPLE sign-up! After we swoop in and finish cleaning, we'll have a Game Night with all the usual things - Aliens in the Church, open gym, pizza, ice cream sundaes, and MORE!

If middle school families come to help, siblings are welcome to stay for Game Night to see how awesome JAMS is!

Younger siblings can get a glimpse of how awesome JAMS is and older siblings can stay and enjoy their favorite JAMS pastimes!

Sign-up via the church website! Contact **Laura Vowell** with any questions!

MARCH Lamp

MINISTRIES AT WORK

MUSIC MINISTRY



All the wonderful music ministry groups at Redeemer are 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

WELCOME, RICK LEE!

Rick lives in Clawson with his wife Ronda, daughter Jordan (age 16), and son Jesse (age 11). Jordan and Jesse attend Clawson schools. His two older children are grown with Caleb living in Sacramento, CA and Robyn who resides in Wyandotte with her fiancé Josh and their son Henry (age 1).



Rick and Ronda are both very active in their community; both are Clawson Performing Arts Boosters members, and Ronda has served as president for the past six years.

Rick and his family are members of the St. Andrews Society of Detroit. Rick and Jesse are also members of Stagecrafters in Royal Oak.

Rick started his love for singing at age 8 in his church's Junior Choir and had his first professional vocal lessons at age 15 with Redeemer's own Bonnie Brooks. Rick studied vocal performance at the University of Central Florida under the instruction of Louis Roney and Elizabeth Wrancher. While in Florida, he sang with the worship team of St. John's Lutheran Church (Winter Park). Upon his return to Michigan, he created and helped lead a contemporary worship team at Prince of Glory Lutheran in Madison Heights. Rick's love for God first, family second, and music third is a reflection of his life of faith, family relationships, and musical expressions.

Rick started singing with the Chancel Choir at the end of January and is already an important part of the Choir. We welcome Rick and his family with open arms, and we're glad he's with us here at Redeemer!



SPRING CONCERTS AT REDEEMER

- **Thursday, March 13th - 1:00pm:** The Birmingham Musicales Choral Ensemble (*Redeemer Sanctuary*)
- **Sunday, April 6th - 3:00pm:** Birmingham Concert Band (*Redeemer Sanctuary*)
- **Thursday, April 10th - 1:00pm:** The Birmingham Musicales Choral Ensemble (*Redeemer Sanctuary*)
- **Saturday, April 26th - 7:00pm:** Cabaret Dinner, Show, and Silent Auction with the Farmington Chorus (*directed by Steve SeGraves - Redeemer gym*)
- **Sunday, May 18th - 4:00pm:** Men's Choral Concert featuring the Langsford Men's Chorus (*conducted by Steve SeGraves - Redeemer Sanctuary*)

MARCH Lamp

COUNSELING CORNER

Recently, I read about a research project conducted by the Center of Bible Engagement (CBE) where 40,000 people ages 8-80 were surveyed about their Bible reading habits. "As they compiled the results, they made a profound discovery they were not even looking for when they originally planned the survey."

They found that people who read their Bible one to two times a week had negligible change in their life. Three times a week people, might see a bit of an uptick. "Something moved in the behavior of the person engaging in Scripture." The eyeopener happened when Bible engagement reached at least four times a week. The astonishing findings included the following statistics:

1. Feeling lonely dropped 30%
2. Anger issues dropped 32%
3. Bitterness in relationships dropped 40%
4. Alcoholism dropped 57%
5. Sex outside of marriage dropped 68%
6. Feeling spiritually stagnant dropped 60%
7. Viewing pornography dropped 61%
8. Sharing your faith jumped 200%
9. Discipling others jumped 230%

I thought how timely to get into a new, positive habit for the New Year! I would like to invite all of you who are reading this article to start today by reading your Bible 4 times a week – or more! – and observe how your life changes!

You may start by reading a few verses a day and then contemplate them throughout the day. If you're not sure, ask the Lord where to begin. I personally love the Psalms and Proverbs.

May the Lord touch your soul during this Bible reading challenge!

With God's love,
Dr. Sandy Pourcho



COUNSELING CENTER

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

Sandy Pourcho, PHD
248.568.6040



PATHWAYS GRIEF AND LOSS RECOVERY GROUP

*During the Lenten season, our meetings will take place on **Tuesdays** during March and April at 1:00pm in the Town Square.*



Come join us on **Tuesday, March 11th** 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.*

MARCH

BIBLE READING PLAN

1

Leviticus 24:1-25:46
Mark 10:13-31
Psalm 44:9-26
Proverbs 10:20-21

2

Leviticus 25:47-27:13
Mark 10:32-52
Psalm 45:1-17
Proverbs 10:22

3

Leviticus 27:14-34
Numbers 1:1-54
Mark 11:1-26
Psalm 46:1-11
Proverbs 10:23

4

Numbers 2:1-3:51
Mark 11:27-12:17
Psalm 47:1-9
Proverbs 10:24-25

5

Numbers 4:1-5:31
Mark 12:18-37
Psalm 48:1-14
Proverbs 10:26

6

Numbers 6:1-7:89
Mark 12:38-13:13
Psalm 49:1-20
Proverbs 10:27-28

7

Numbers 8:1-9:23
Mark 13:14-37
Psalm 50:1-23
Proverbs 10:29-30

8

Numbers 10:1-11:23
Mark 14:1-21
Psalm 51:1-19
Proverbs 10:31-32

9

Numbers 11:24-13:33
Mark 14:22-52
Psalm 52:1-9
Proverbs 11:1-3

10

Numbers 14:1-15:16
Mark 14:53-72
Psalm 53:1-6
Proverbs 11:4

11

Numbers 15:17-16:40
Mark 15:1-47
Psalm 54:1-7
Proverbs 11:5-6

12

Numbers 16:41-18:32
Mark 16:1-20
Psalm 55:1-23
Proverbs 11:7

13

Numbers 19:1-20:29
Luke 1:1-25
Psalm 56:1-13
Proverbs 11:8

14

Numbers 21:1-22:20
Luke 1:26-56
Psalm 57:1-11
Proverbs 11:9-11

15

Numbers 22:21-23:30
Luke 1:57-80
Psalm 58:1-11
Proverbs 11:12-13

16

Numbers 24:1-25:18
Luke 2:1-35
Psalm 59:1-17
Proverbs 11:14

17

Numbers 26:1-51
Luke 2:36-52
Psalm 60:1-12
Proverbs 11:15

18

Numbers 26:52-28:15
Luke 3:1-22
Psalm 61:1-8
Proverbs 11:16-17

19

Numbers 28:16-29:40
Luke 3:23-38
Psalm 62:1-12
Proverbs 11:18-19

20

Numbers 30:1-31:54
Luke 4:1-30
Psalm 63:1-11
Proverbs 11:20-21

21

Numbers 32:1-33:39
Luke 4:31-5:11
Psalm 64:1-10
Proverbs 11:22

22

Numbers 33:40-35:34
Luke 5:12-28
Psalm 65:1-13
Proverbs 11:23

23

Numbers 36:1-13
Deuteronomy 1:1-46
Luke 5:29-6:11
Psalm 66:1-20
Proverbs 11:24-26

24

Deuteronomy 2:1-3:29
Luke 6:12-38
Psalm 67:1-7
Proverbs 11:27

25

Deuteronomy 4:1-49
Luke 6:39-7:10
Psalm 68:1-18
Proverbs 11:28

26

Deuteronomy 5:1-6:25
Luke 7:11-35
Psalm 68:19-35
Proverbs 11:29-31

27

Deuteronomy 7:1-8:20
Luke 7:36-8:3
Psalm 69:1-18
Proverbs 12:1

28

Deuteronomy 9:1-10:22
Luke 8:4-21
Psalm 69:19-36
Proverbs 12:2-3

29

Deuteronomy 11:1-12:32
Luke 8:22-39
Psalm 70:1-5
Proverbs 12:4

30

Deuteronomy 13:1-15:23
Luke 8:40-9:6
Psalm 71:1-24
Proverbs 12:5-7



31

Deuteronomy 16:1-17:20
Luke 9:7-27
Psalm 72:1-20
Proverbs 12:8-9



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MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 1

Robert Artelt
Rick Claar
Blake Ritter

March 2

Leo Chioini
Laura Romeo
Dr. Ron Semlow

March 3

Nils Ericsson
Christopher Schuetz
Eric Wisniewski

March 4

John Friedrich
Hannah Rass

March 5

Kevin Hessen
Patrick Kroenung
Maxwell Martin
Dan Rose
Aimee Stein

March 6

Cathy Girdler
Adeline Imhoff
Carley Stevens
Jacob Stevens

March 7

Louisa Artelt
Joseph Kfoury
Daniel McCann
Chandler Smith

March 8

Ellie Gause
Ariana Hardoin
David Schneider

March 9

Ellie Gause
Teddy Hartzell
David Schneider

March 10

Nathaniel Chuhran
Dorothy Evans
Mary Ellen Martin
Melissa Rodriguez
Brett Taylor

Christopher VanLoon
Chris Wilson
Matt Ziegele

March 11

Tim Fithian
Tyler Tucker

March 12

Blake Burstein
Elizabeth Gunckle
Rose Kiehle
Karen Pridmore
Sara Ritter
Kristin Stevens

March 13

Mary Cycholl
Jack Grubisch

March 14

Steve Beck
Jack Buechner
Callie Cray
Jackson Dean
Jimmy Johnson

March 15

Jack Dettlinger
Barrett Dettlinger
Sara Ilitch
Mary Ellen Lychuk
Emma Schmidt
Matthew Wiegand

March 16

Sean Bonner
Annie Donato
Kyle Donnelly
Julia Drexel
Audrey O'Kelly

March 17

Chris Ingram
Kevin O'Reilly
Faith Schultz
Jeri Snyder
Scott Steigerwald

March 18

Jodi Curtis
Hannah Paccione
Amy Pilzner
Susan Poppert

March 19

Amanda Holland
Nicholas Staargaard
Ava Tafel

March 20

Peter Belanger
Betsy Laansoo
Reese Reardon

March 21

Erick Held
Ian Herdegen
Lauren Lund
Terry Roberts

March 22

Dylan Cohen
Kylie Cohen
Magnolia Dobring
Noah Eckert
Brian Fish
Xander Gallo
Nicholas Lagoe

March 23

Sloane Dean
Janice Klopccic
Ron LaLone
Henry Mortenson
Finn Muldoon
Kerry Niedzwiecki
Elfie Rose
Ginny Schalm
Kate Stapleton

March 24

Paula Butler
Brookelyn Hugel
Kathryn Smith

March 25

Janey Compton
Courtney Emde
Keith Murphy
Bailey Needham
Ingrid Sievertsen

March 26

Molly Dunlap
Tom Gordy
Brooke Learman

March 27

Courtney Ebert
Sharon Frey
Jeff Oen
Thomas Pitlanish
Clara Yuhn

March 28

Ashley Buechner
Ron Curcio
David DeClark
Kris Held
Haley Labadie
Greg Merryman
Arianna Nonahal
Lauren Pratt
Betsey Rubel
Courtney Wilkie

March 29

Sara Deiro
Layla Geiger
Patricia Kubik
Beckett Learman

March 30

Adam Camden
Jessica Hodor
Dennis Kavanagh
Ethan Lonze
Melissa Perez
Neil Warriner
Elizabeth Wiegand

March 31

Lisa Cotter
Daniel Heidt
Sydney Hessen Vieregge
Greta Moigis
Krysta Szafranic
Julie Worden

