LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

THE LAMP

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

APRIL 2024

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Is the church responsible for what we now call April Fool's Vay?

Yes, it may be true. In 1563 the leaders of the Roman Catholic Church met in Italy; this would be the third meeting of

the Council of Trent. Their goal was to fix the calendar. In 45 BCE, Julius Caesar introduced a new calendar called the Julian calendar. The new year was set for the last week of March.





The leaders were concerned with the calanders incorrect calculation, and it was causing dates to drift. This was affecting when Easter would be celebrated. Now the council of Nicaea in 325 had decreed that Easter should fall on the first Sunday following the first full moon after the vernal equinox, which at the time fell on March 21. To solve the problem the council recommended removing 10 days from the current schedule. No action was taken.

Nineteen years later Pope Gregory 13 signed a papal bull in February 1582 proclaiming the reformed calendar that would come to be known as the Gregorian calendar. The recommendation by the council was finally adopted.

This repositioned new years to January 1.

News didn't travel fast back then, and many people continued to celebrate the New Year in March. It became popular to make fun of these uninformed people.

Thus, creating April's fool's day.

Happy April Fools, or Happy New Year?



Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

1800 West Maple Road • Birmingham, MI 48009 Phone: 248-644-4010

e-mail: redeemer@redeemerbirmingham.org website: www.redeemerbirmingham.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.

Worship Schedule

Sundays - 8:00am (Chapel), 9:00, *10:30am (Sanctuary) Mondays - 7:00pm (Chapel) * Livestreamed service

Communion Schedule

1st & 3rd Sundays - 9:00am and 10:30am 2nd, 4th & 5th Sun./Mon. - Sun. 8:00am; Mon. 7:00pm

Stewardship Report

Month: February	2024	2023
Weekly Attendance Avera	ges	
Worship	387	372
Bible Class	124	138
Sunday School	20	21
Monthly Attendance Total	S	
Communion	743	651
Visitors	34	34
Month: Febru	uary 2024	2023
Month: February Income and Expenses	uary 2024	2023
	2024 \$214,605	2023 \$231,862
Income and Expenses	•	
Income and Expenses Income received	\$214,605 \$192,161 \$183,848	\$231,862 \$178,269 \$197,691
Income and Expenses Income received Budget requirements	\$214,605 \$192,161	\$231,862 \$178,269
Income and Expenses Income received Budget requirements General fund expenses	\$214,605 \$192,161 \$183,848	\$231,862 \$178,269 \$197,691

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Whose Is It Anyway?

If you have ever bought or sold a house, you are acquainted with the concept of a "title search." Before you can sell your house, and before anyone else will feel comfortable putting down the money to buy it, you have to prove that you really own it. So a title company looks through the public records to ensure that you bought it from the person who really owned it, who bought it from the person who really owned it before that, all the way back to the earliest records of your state, including when your state was only a territory or colony of England.

Peak into a preschool classroom during playtime and you'll see a simplified version of this. A child starts playing with a ball, but another child says, "That's mine: I had it first."

You can't understand the Seventh Commandment without understanding this concept of ownership or title. As the Small Catechism puts it:

You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Your neighbor's possessions are his: you don't have a right to take them. And likewise, your possessions are yours. Ownership and property rights are foundational to any functioning society.

But there is something deeper to know about ownership, and that is the question of who has the title and ownership to you? Paul says, "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price" (1 Cor. 6:19–20).

If you yourself are owned by God, then of course everything that you own, belongs to Him since you belong to Him. For you were bought with the blood of Christ.

continued on page 3

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS

March 13 (after worship)
April 10
May 8
June 12

If you would like to be a part of the Leadership team, please let Pastor Randy or the church office know. Please provide a paragraph as to how you feel you can contribute to the team.

BOARD OF ELDERS MEETINGS

May 22



continued from page 2

This notion is the foundation of all Christian stewardship. It all belongs to God. It should all be used for things that bring honor to His name, blessings to our neighbors and the extension of His kingdom.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. St. Francis of Assisi (c.1181-1226)

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, June 23

after the 10:30 worship service



In Loving Memory forever in our hearts

Donations made to the Sacred Space Fund in memory of Lisa Vautaw

Donations made to the Music Fund

**Please note: We are no longer printing the names of donors who donate to the memorial fund in memory or honor of someone. If you do donate, you will still receive notification, and your donation will be on your Shelby statement.

GIVE A MEMORIAL GIFT

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

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



How do I watch Sunday Services LIVE online?

- Go to the church website www.redeemerbirmingham.org
- 2. Click the first *Vimeo* square on the front page of the website.



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

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

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

- 1. Go to the church website www.redeemerbirmingham.org
- 2. 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 feel free to call the church office if you are having trouble viewing any videos.

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

Mystery Prelude

Our very own Rick Helderop will play one of your favorite/meaningful songs in the Prelude spot at all the Sunday Services for that day (8am, 9am and 10:30am). It doesn't have to be a hymn! It can be your wedding song, a song that reminds you of a loved one, or even a catchy tune you just LOVE! Your name and the significance of your selection will be printed in the bulletin and the song will be revealed in the announcements. Sign up for one of



the available Sundays on the front page of the website or scan this QR code to be taken directly to the form. It is \$10 and ALL PROCEEDS GO TO OUR MISSION FUND! Thank you for participating!

Flower Sign-ups Available!

Sign up now for either Altar or Lectern flowers in the Sanctuary or the Chapel. (Sanctuary/\$55; Chapel/\$50; Lectern/\$45) (Please leave the flower liners behind for the next week's flowers!!!) The signup charts are up on the Town Square bulletin board and are also available online via sign-up genius (links found on the front page of the website www redeemerhirmingham org

by clicking the Ways to Serve box then the Altar and Lectern Flower Signup box). Once you sign-up, you will be contacted about a dedication/payment a month before your date OR you can fill out your dedication form and pay online with a link in the flower chart signup. If you need assistance, please contact the church office at 248-644-4010 or office@redeemerbirmingham. org and we would be happy to assist

you!

PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP

Be a Reader*

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

Family Ushering

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



Be a Greeter*

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

Host a Coffee Hour*

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





The Redeemer Acolyte Program is a service requirement for students in the Confirmation program in grades 6-8, and open to all who wish to volunteer. The schedule is up if you'd like to sign up. You can sign up under the **WAYS** to **SERVE** box via the church website. If you have any questions, contact Laura Vowell at *laura@redeemerbirmingham.org*.

Scan QR code to go to *Redeemer's*website click on the

WAYS TO SERVE box to sign up to

VOLUNTEER

* signups are also available on the Town Square bulletin board

BIBLE STUDIES



SUNDAYS

Sunday Bible Study - after 9am service Rev. Ronald Farah - **Study of Romans** all year long on Sundays, (Scheidt Room)

No class on 4/6

New Member Class (fall only)

Sundays, 9-10am (Great Room) contact Laura Vowell if you are interested in becoming a member or just brushing up on your Lutheran knowledge

Children's Sunday School

Nicole Olds - Sundays, 10:30am (lower-level classrooms)

Redeemer Youth Group (High School)

Gia Scheidt & Eric Wisniewski - *Sundays, 7pm check instagram for updated information.*

SMALL GROUP

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 at 248-644-4010 ext. 119









Young Adult Lunch

Sunday, April 7th after 10:30 worship

Young Adult Bible Study

Thursday, April 4th at 6:30

TUESDAYS

Adult Bible Study - Tuesdays, 9:30am Pastor Jimmy - Study of James (Great Room)

Women's Bible Study - Tuesdays, 6:30pm check page 19 for more information (Great Room)

WEDNESDAYS

Men's Bible Study - 6:45-7:30am Gary Priskorn - Study of Acts Check page 23 for more information *Zoom available - all year long (Great Room)

Positive Parenting - *9:15-10:45am* Victoria Ilitch & Kristin Thompson-see next page for more information

Core Group (High School) - 6-8pm Gia Scheidt - (Youth Room)

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

(Great Room)

THURSDAYS

Young Adult Bible Study

1st Thursday of every month Michael's house (3217 Maplewood Ave. in Royal Oak) text Michael Banerian to RSVP (248.925.7125)

For more information on a particular study, contact the names indicated, check the bulletin announcements, or call the church office at 248-644-4010 for more specifics.

POSITIVE PARENTING

Positive Parenting would love to have you joinin for any of our April sessions. We are looking forward to a cozy month of fellowship as we study parenting strategies, analyzed through the lens of our Faith and scripture.

Our wonderful Redeemer nursery is available for your younger children at no charge on Wednesday mornings when we meet, with no advance sign-up required. Please stop-in, we meet weekly in the Great Room from 9:15 - 10:30 on Wednesdays. Please reach out to Kristin Thompson (kethompson1@gmail.com) or Victoria Ilitch (victoria.ilitch@gmail.com) with any questions!





TIME TO UPDATE YOUR MEMBER PROFILE!

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

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



Redeemer no longer has an Ameritrade account, it is now Charles Schwab. These are the instructions for a Stock Donation. They can be found in the church office.

- **1.** Get in touch with your financial person and give them Redeemer's *Account #, Tax ID and DTC number*. (those numbers can be obtained in the church office or by Laura Jones, our accountant).
- **2.** Your financial advisior will transfer the stock into Redeemer's Schwab account.
- **3.** PLEASE, send an email to Laura Jones at (billing@ redeemerbirmingham.org) when the transaction is complete. This will notify her so she can liquidate the stock immediately. **THIS IS HER ONLY NOTIFICATION OF THE TRANSACTION, SO IT IS VERY IMPORTANT**
- **4.** The person donating will receive a letter/email confirming Redeemer received the donation and what it was sold for.



Thank you to Michele Margosian for heading up the sale and to everyone that volunteered

and shopped in order to make the rummage sale such a huge success! We couldn't have pulled it off without the entire staff's and congregation's support. The \$16,975 (and counting) in proceeds benefited the high school mission trip to Jamaica on March 23 - 30th and to replenish the unplanned maintenance fund. Due to many unplanned maintenance expenses, we have depleted most of that account, so the funds raised from the sale are going to replenish that account.







You can follow their journey by visiting this link: https://www.ppm.org/ mission-trip-journals/19688



JAMAICA

The high school mission team, made up of 8 students: Maddie Orlando (11), Tyler Olds (9), Lauren Lund (10), Cece Hurst (10), Georgia Lewis (11), Gianna Vesprini (11), Hannah Merz

(12), Nate Eckert (11) and 3 mentors (Eric Wisniewski, Gia Scheidt, Leah Louis-Ferdinand), traveled to Jamaica March 23 - 30th! Their focus was on spreading the Gospel through relational ministry. Their sites were a nursing home, an elementary

school (on their annual all-school Sports Day!) and at West Haven Children's Home for physically and developmentally disabled children and adults. They stayed minutes away from the ocean, so they recharged with their feet in the sand and a climb of a waterfall at the end of the week!

LIFT UP THE WORD - LIGHT UP THE WORLD

For you are my lamp, O Lord, and my God lightens my darkness. For by You I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. This God—his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true; He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him.

LIFT UP THE WORD

2 SAMUE 22:29-31

THE 73rd ANNUAL NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024

2 Samuel 22:29-31

The First Thursday of May - The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. Our Task Force is a privately funded organization whose purpose is to encourage participation on the National Day of Prayer. It exists to communicate with every individual the need for personal repentance and prayer, to create appropriate materials, and to mobilize the Christian community to intercede for America's leaders and its families. The Task Force represents a Judeo-Christian expression of the national observance, based on our understanding that this country was birthed in prayer and in reverence for the God of the Bible.

Shelby NEXT Giving

Go to redeemerbirmingham.org and click the "GIVE" box or scan this QR Code to be taken to the giving page!

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.



MISSED CHURCH?

If you are unable to attend church on Sunday morning, here's some options to enrich yourself in our worship services.

- Watch our 10:30am worship service LIVE online wherever you are. (Check out "How to watch Sunday Services LIVE online" in this Lamp edition)
- Monday night worship in the Chapel at 7:00pm.
- Watch your local cable provider's community station.
- Listen to a Podcast of the service.
 Under the Worship tab of our website, select Missed Church? Click on the link provided. Keep in mind this will not be available until the week following the worship date.
- CD & DVD's of prior weeks services are available though the church office 248-644-4010 for a nominal fee.

MISSIONS



Come join us as we continue work on the Redeemer House!
Plenty of opportunities to help in this great mission!



Contact Jon Duff to sign up or for more details:
(248) 214 - 9037
duffjon53@gmail.com

JOIN OUR TEAM Empower Women Worldwidel

lcr.church/izosh

To achieve our goal, we need YOUR help!

If you want to get involved with the mission of iZōsh, we're always looking for **enthusiastic volunteers** to join us. Most critically, we are in need of people to assist with various **communication needs** that are crucial to our cause.

COMMUNICATION VOLUNTEER NEEDS:

- **○** Craft engaging emails
- ♦ Boost attendance by promoting in the community
- **♦** Assist with post-Event write-ups
- Document stories of impact and success

OTHER VOLUNTEER NEEDS:

- Education Team (Finding Speakers)
- **Hospitality Team** (Event Setup/Cleanup)
 - Day of Event Support

(Greeter, AV Tech, Baker)

CONTACT US:

izosh.birmingham@gmail.com

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

Facebook and Instagram

Christie Hurst • Therese Scheidt

Rose Kiehle • Leslie Baranowski • Stacey Rolf

Feed the Homeless!

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

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



Signup to help online or on the Town Square bulletin board. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemerbirmingham.org).

SAVE THE DATE



The Mandate's Mission is to break the stronghold of poverty globally by providing basic care, education, and commerce for the helpless. Through this, the love of Christ will be tangibly realized in such a way as to draw others into relationships with Him.

- Education
- Widows and Orphans
- Clean Water
- Women's Health
- Evangelism

What does this look like?

The Mandate supports the following: education through teacher salary assistance, school fees, and supplies for students; health education and hygiene supplies for girls and expectant mothers; widow care that includes home repairs, solar lighting kits, and supplemental food; nutrition and farming opportunities for the villages; prison ministry; employment opportunities through adult trade training; drilling wells for clean water; and Bible teaching for adults and children every Sunday, and so much more. Each of these touchpoints brings opportunities to share the love and salvation of Jesus Christ.

Women of all ages are invited to our Spring Event:

April 26, 2024 -6:45pm Redeemer's Great Room

Join us to hear Jennifer's story! Jennifer and her husband Kip are the proud parents of six grown children and grandparents of eight amazing grandchildren. After 12 years of homeschooling, she began her career in the nonprofit industry as an Administrative Assistant at her church. In 2016, she

Our Keynote SPEAKER:



Jennifer Cummings
Managing Director
The Mandate
Executive Director
Surfari Pals Inc

attended Louisiana State University Shreveport to receive her Certification in Nonprofit Administration. She and Kip started a nonprofit, Surfari Pals, which focuses on Teaching Kids Good Character. In 2020, she had the opportunity to join the team at The Mandate. The Mandate's mission is to break the stronghold of poverty globally by providing basic care, education, and commerce.

To Register for our Event!

SIGN UP LINK IS OPEN NOW!!

Scan the QR code to sign up , donate, & learn more!

Sign ups and advanced donations are greatly appreciated as it helps the Loan officer identify the number of loan recipients needed for the Event.

Donations at the event can ONLY be made via cash or check.

HOST A TABLE AT OUR SPRING EVENT!

It's easy! Just indicate you'd like to be a hostess during sign up.

Host a table for you and 7 friends (a minimum of 3 guests required to reserve a table). PLEASE NOTE: Hosting a table or being seated at a "hosted table" is NOT required to attend!!

There is a place for everyone!!

Questions or comments? Please email us at *izosh.birmingham@gmail.com*



The VBS team is working hard to prepare for this year's amazing week. Come and explore with us! Scuba – diving into friendship with God is our theme this year. Our registration started online in March this year. See the website for more details! Check the weekly announcements for any other donations we might need. We can't wait to go on this new adventure with you, June 17-21! Blessings from the 2024 team: Victoria Ilitch, Courtney VanderWerp, Andrea Calvaneso and Heather Calvaneso.

BE A VOLUNTEER!

Who doesn't LOVE VBS!?!?! We are looking for people of all ages to help with this incredible week of fun. We will need help in ALL areas including:



- Classroom helpers
- People in the craft area
- Kitchen sous-chefs

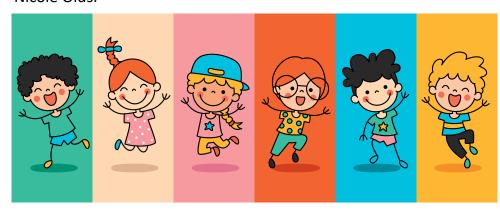
- Drama lovers
- Teen helpers
- Music efficianados

....and many other areas.

Please consider volunteering. See the sign-up here https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080845A8AE2CA13-47929550-vbsadult# or on the Children's Ministry page on our website for the craft area and kitchen. If you are interested in teaching, please reach out to Nicole Olds (nolds@redeemerbirmingham.org)

Scampers SUMMER

SCAMPER Camp is coming! Scamper camps are held during the summer for 2-5 year olds. Each week is a new theme and runs Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:30 to 1:00 with extended day option until 2:30. We will explore the rainforest, treasure island, make music, become superheros, go down on the farm and so much more! There is still space available in some weeks but there is also a waitlist in others. Information and the registration is available on the church website on the Children's Ministry page. Questions contact Nicole Olds.



CALLING ALL BAKERS!

VBS Need YOU!

Calling all bakers or anyone who loves to feed people! VBS provides a snack for the children attending but the teens and adults that volunteer their time love a little something too. Please consider

providing a snack (bagels, baked goods, chips/ pretzels, fruit/veggies, etc) for our hard workers. See the Sign-Up Genius to volunteer to bring something in.

Thanks for all your help!

https://www.signupgenius.com/ go/5080845A8AE2CA13-47929553-vbsvolunteer# or on the Children's Ministry page.

APRIL EVENTS

April 4

Young Adult Bible Study Chicks with Sticks

April 4-6

Confirmand Retreat Y3

April 7

Confirmation Led Worship Young Adult Lunch

April 9

Giving tree going up for Women's mission

April 11

Birmingham Musical Concert

April 14

Birmingham Concert Band

April 17

Wednesday Lunch and
Worship
Little Dresses Pre-Workshop

April 18

Chicks with Sticks

April 19

Prime Timers Event

April 20

Little Dresses Workshop

April 21

Westmaple Open House

April 25

Women's Book Group

April 26

Izosh Spring Event

April 27

Men's Breakfast Community Chorus Cabernet Dinner and Concert



LIBRARY LIGHTS

Christ is Risen!

The Redeemer Library wishes you and your family a very Happy Easter!

New in the library this month for Redeemerkidz:

The Awesome Super Fantastic Forever Party: A True Story about Heaven, Jesus, and the Best Invitation of All by Joni Eareckson Tada. What's the best invitation you've ever received? Maybe to a birthday, wedding, theater or sports event? The most precious gift we receive when we know Jesus is His promise of salvation and the invitation to spend eternity with Him. From the Tales That Tell the Truth series, this is a true story about spending forever with Jesus and what it will be ...new heavens, new earth, new bodies, no more sin, splendor & glory...it's an awesome super fantastic forever party! For ages 4-8.

Charlie and the Preschool Prodigal by Ginger Blomberg. Charlie is obedient and clean. His younger brother, Eddie, is rebellious and runs away, taking Charlie's candy and his father's tie with him. Eddie returns home, scared and guilty, and is greeted with his father's welcoming arms. Charlie is confused about why his dad has been so forgiving. This retelling of the prodigal son for children is a wonderful way to learn about and discuss sin, grace, and God's unconditional love. Recommended for ages 3-7.

JUNIOR-HIGH-MINISTRY

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Dates to Remember:

Confirmation Retreat – Friday 4/5 – Saturday 4/6 Confirmand-Led Worship – Sunday 4/7 Confirmation Day – Saturday 5/4

Check out the May Lamp for Confirmand bios!



Home Plate 2024!
Saturday, June 22nd
Join your Redeemer
friends for a faith-filled
pre-game program and
game at Comerica Park!
Details coming soon!

RYG = REDEEMER YOUTH GROUP



ALWAYS
CHECK INSTAGRAM
FOR ANY
SCHEDULE CHANGES



FAMILY OF GOD - feeding the poor

RYG cooks and serves on the 2nd Monday of the Month

> April 8 May 13 June 10

fome Johnus to help others

RYG APRIL Calendar Sunday's from 7-9pm



April 7 April 14 April 21 April 28

Attend CORE Group

RYG meets - 6:00-8:00pm in the Youth Room

APRIL 3, 10, 17, 24

Questions? Contact Gia or Eric.



KAMP 2024: JULY 28-AUGUST 3

Campers will ARRIVE on SUNDAY JULY 28 and LEAVE Kamp on SATURDAY AUGUST 3!

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

APRIL 1, 2024: Registration is open to everyone! If you have any questions about Kamp please review our Registration Page and Kamp FAQs at www.redeemerbirmingham.org. If you still have questions contact us at redeemerkamp@amail.com.

Did You Know?

We have many faithful volunteers that devote countless hours on a regular basis to support our staff and



many of the ministries here at Redeemer. We have 12 AV team members that help on Sundays as well as for funerals, weddings, and other events. We have 49 individuals who share ushering duties on Sundays on a rotating basis. There are 48 individuals split into monthly Altar Guild teams who clean pews, fill candles, and prep and clean up communion every week. There are also 3 members who come in weekly to count the offerings and make the deposit at the bank. Finally, we have 3 office volunteers who support the office staff on a weekly basis stuffing bulletins, recording attendance, doing

PASTORAL ACTS

Baptisms

2/11/2024

Jonah Bradley Klow Noelle Grace Klow

children of Christopher and Katre Klow



2/18/2024

Reese Joan Reardondaughter of Brett and Rachel Reardon

Funerals

2/7/2024

Alexander Wilhelm Walter

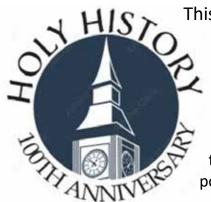
mailings, and various other tasks. We would like to highlight one special office volunteer, Carol Frost, who has been volunteering in the church office every Wednesday for 50 years! Thank you Carol for your long standing dedication! There are so many more who share their serving heart. If we have failed to highlight anyone it's because we are so blessed by so many people who volunteer and serve willingly. We cherish everyone of you!!!

Wednesday Lunch & Worship – April 17

All are invited to join us as we resume "Wednesday Lunch & Worship" on April 17th, our 3rd Wednesday of the month gathering at 12 noon in the Great Room. We'll be serving a delicious Armenian Style Luncheon, including stuffed peppers, egg noodle and cheese bake, mint yogurt soup, salad and dessert, again graciously prepared by Michele Margosian. After the meal we'll move to the chapel at 1:00 p.m. for a brief worship service with Holy Communion. Please call the church office (248-644-4010) by April 15th if you plan to join us for lunch. Also, if you are in need of transportation, let the office know and we'll do our best to assist. Questions? Contact Gary Priskorn at the number above, ext 123.



This month we'll take a look back at the Youth of Redeemer



Redeemer has a long, rich history of youth ministry. Beginning in the 1940's, the Walther League was very active. In 1951, ground was broken for the youth wing to accommodate the activities of the youth and to add in a Sunday School wing. We had several interns that were hired from Valparaiso as youth directors, and in 1965, Redeemer hired its first full-time youth director. William Beilfuss stayed until 1966, when the full-time position was extended to Bill Meinert.

In 1968, Redeemer's Kat Kamp began with 5 staff members and 20 campers. Kat Kampers were in grades 7-9, and Kid Kamp began in 1972.

The Youth Group has always been very active and included activities such as canoe floats, retreats, bible studies, service projects, pancake breakfasts and spaghetti dinners, and mission projects. More recently the Youth Group has taken several mission trips to Mexicali, Mexico and Jamaica.

Our Youth Group has been instrumental in forming life-long friendships, as well as fostering 2 Lutheran school teachers and 11 LCMS Pastors.



HOLY HISTORY TRIVIA

Our trivia question from last month was about the couples that met and married at Redeemer. There were certainly more than 5 couples! People who met/married at church:

- Marie Bernier and Fred Meinbert, Jr. (Aunt and Uncle of Beth (Schoen) Lanthier)
- Stacey and Eric Rolf
- Geoff and Nikki Boyle
- Kathy and Greg Merryman
- Tim and Lynn Duerr
- Sean and Hannah McCauley
- Kevin and Amy Jones camp
- Duane and Brenda Wuggazer
- Elsie Hentschke and Henry Nimtz (Grand Group)
- Erin and Tim Springer camp and youth group
- Doris McKee and Martin Otto



YOUTH GROUP TRIVIA

Redeemer has a number of people that have been a part of the youth group and have become famous! Can you name them?

- An Academy Award winning director and actress
- A jazz musician
- An NBA player
- A Detroit Newscaster

Answers next month!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

CHICKS WITH STICKS

Chicks with Sticks will meet on Thursday, April 4 and 18 at 1:00 in the library. We are making all kinds of things for the homeless and those who live just making ends meet.....hats, mittens, and other cozy things....and yes, we will continue to knit for the next winter when people will need the warmth of a gift and a message of hope. Come anytime and sit in. If you don't knit you can help sort or bring a project to work on and enjoy the fellowship. We also crochet and love to share our enthusiasm! Meetings are typically the first and third Thursday of the month, with some variation at times. Please check the schedule or call the church office.

Women's Ministry collected diapers through Westmaple Nursery which were taken to Miside, an organization that empowers communities and people through giving. Thanks to all of you who donated and to Kristen Rolf who took them all to Miside for distribution.

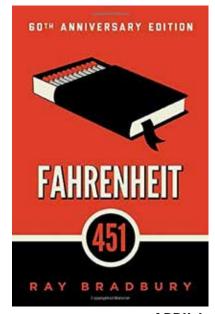


Thanks to Kathy and Tom Eley and all who pitched in to make 800 palm crosses for our beautiful Palm Sunday service. The palm crosses end up in bibles, visors in cars, lapels, table tops and as book marks.....a lovely reminder of God's gift to us!

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

Women's Book Group will have a change of pace. We will meet on **Thursday, April 25 at 6:45pm** to review Ray Bradbury's exceptional work *Fahrenheit 451* with Justin Sweitzer, humanities teacher from California, sharing his understanding of Bradbury's work. Justin reviewed George Orwell's work last year and we all appreciated his knowledge and insights. We will meet in the Town Square and will have a few refreshments beforehand. Looking forward to discussing this futuristic novel and your company.





W/OMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women's Bible Study will not meet on Tuesday, April 2. We will resume our study on Tuesday, April 9 at 6:30 in the Great Room. We will do a DVD study with Melanie Shankle entitled "The Church of Small Things." This study is humorous and honest and Melanie offers an opportunity to embrace what it means to live an abundant and meaningful life by finding beauty and laughter in all the small things right beneath the surface of everyday. We would love your company! Questions? Contact misskitty@redeemerbirmingham.org!



It's TIME for a





Give away your time, your love, your money.....
give it away to the little kids and women who so need your support.

Exciting news for our Little Dresses/Little Britches (yes, the little boys get shorts too) sewing workshop. We need cutters, ironers, folders, pattern setters, bias tape makers and baggers to come to the following:

LITTLE

DRESSES EVENTS:

PRE-WORKSHOP

Wednesday, April 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the Resource Center.

Bring sharp scissors! Ironing board/iron if you can! We will cut, serge, iron, tape, make pockets, buttons, etc., for our Saturday workshop.

WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 20th, 9-12:00 in the Great Room Little Dresses/Little Britches Workshop. Bring sewing machine, ironing board, iron. Make dresses, shorts, pockets, bias tape. Refreshments served. Packets will be available for those who wish to work from home. All dresses/britches due in by June 15, 2024

Sign up for both workshops on the Town Square bulletin board.



The Giving Tree goes up on Monday, April 9!

The Detroit Street Mission serves women on the streets of Detroit who have little else than the clothes on their backs. Women's Ministry is collecting items to put in backpacks. Shopping the Dollar stores for supplies makes this an affordable option for many. The Giving Tree will be up in the Town Square with descriptive tags listing an item and asking you to purchase 10 of that item

and bring them back to the table by Friday, May 3! Thanks for loving others and making this happen. Questions? misskitty@redeemerbirmingham.org



MUSIC-MINISTRY



DINNER AT REDEEMER APRIL 27TH!

Redeemer's own Steve SeGraves has conducted the Farmington Chorus for 34 years. On **Saturday, April 27th at 7pm**, our church will get a chance to hear wonderful music from this group and other guest artists, along with the opportunity to enjoy a delicious Italian-themed dinner, a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle.

The Cabaret starts at 7pm in Redeemer's Gym. A minimum donation of \$20.00 per-person is requested. You may reserve a full table (8 people

maximum) for a minimum donation of \$180.00. The chorus is celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Disney with our music selections, so each of the 12 round tables will be decorated with a Disney theme. Bids will be accepted for beautiful centerpieces, and door prizes will be awarded throughout the evening. When making your reservation please indicate any special dietary requirements.

Reserved seating tickets may be purchased in advance (credit card or check) by calling Sally Flayer at 248 613-2623, or e-mailing her at saflayer@comcast.net. Reserved seats will be sold on a first come first served basis. So, please order your tickets early!

The Farmington Chorus is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.

"The organist called in sick so I had to get a last minute replacement."

Mother's Day Men's Choir



If you are a man at Redeemer and you can sing, please plan to join in with several other men in our annual Mother's Day Men's Choir, as we honor our

wives and mothers, and all mothers when we sing together on **Sunday, May 12th**. We will all prepare one song (Praise God in All His Glory) for the 9am and 10:30am services that day. Music is available in the choir room. Rehearsals will be from 7:30pm – 8pm every Wednesday night, beginning the Wednesday night after Easter. We will also have one extra rehearsal on Sunday, May 5th after the 10:30am service in the choir room. Rehearsal tracks will be made available. No experience necessary...just the ability to carry a tune, and a desire to pay tribute to our wonderful mothers.

april 3

Bible Reading Plan

Deut. 18:1-20:20 Luke 9:28-50 Psalm 73:1-28 Proverbs 12:10 Deut. 21:1-22:30 Luke 9:51-10:12 Psalm 74:1-23 Proverbs 12:11

Deut. 23:1-25:19 Luke 10:13-37 Psalm 75:1-10 Proverbs 12:12-14 Deut. 26:1-27:26 Luke 10:38-11:13 Psalm 76:1-12 Proverbs 12:15-17 Deut. 28:1-68 Luke 11:14-36 Psalm 77:1-20 Proverbs 12:18

Deut. 29:1-30:20 Luke 11:37-12:7 Psalm 78:1-31 Proverbs 12:19-20

Deut. 31:1-32:27 Luke 12:8-34 Psalm 78:32-55 Proverbs 12:21-23

Deut. 32:28-52 Luke 12:35-59 Psalm 78:56-64 Proverbs 12:24 Deut. 33:1-29 Luke 13:1-21 Psalm 78:65-72 Proverbs 12:25 Deut. 34:1-12 Joshua 1:1-2:24 Luke 13:22-14:6 Psalm 79:1-13 Proverbs 12:26

11

Joshua 3:1-4:24 Luke 14:7-35 Psalm 80:1-19 Proverbs 12:27-28 12

Joshua 5:1-7:15 Luke 15:1-32 Psalm 81:1-16 Proverbs 13:1 13

Joshua 7:16-9:2 Luke 16:1-18 Psalm 82:1-8 Proverbs 13:2-3 14

Joshua 9:3-10:43 Luke 16:19-17:10 Psalm 83:1-18 Proverbs 13:4 Joshua 11:1-12:24 Luke 17:11-37 Psalm 84:1-12 Proverbs 13:5-6

16

Joshua 13:1-14:15 Luke 18:1-17 Psalm 85:1-13 Proverbs 13:7-8 17

Joshua 15:1-63 Luke 18:18-43 Psalm 86:1-17 Proverbs 13:9-10 18

Joshua 16:1-18:28 Luke 19:1-27 Psalm 87:1-7 Proverbs 13:11 19

Joshua 19:1-20:9 Luke 19:28-48 Psalm 88:1-18 Proverbs 13:12-14 Joshua 21:1-22:20 Luke 20:1-16

Psalm 89:1-13 Proverbs 13:15-16

21

Joshua 22:21-23:16 Luke 20:27-47 Psalm 89:14-37 Proverbs 13:17-19 22

Joshua 24:1-33 Luke 21:1-28 Psalm 89:38-52 Proverbs 13:20-23 23

Judges 1:1-2:9 Luke 21:29-22:13 Psalm 90:1-91:16 Proverbs 13:24-25 24

Judges 2:10-3:31 Luke 22:14-34 Psalm 92:1-93:5 Proverbs 14:1-2 Judges 4:1-5:31 Luke 22:35-53

Psalm 94:1-23 Proverbs 14:3-4

26

Judges 6:1-40 Luke 22:54-23:12 Psalm 95:1-96:13 Proverbs 14:5-6 27

Judges 7:1-8:17 Luke 23:13-43 Psalm 97:1-98:9 Proverbs 14:7-8 28

Judges 8:18-9:21 Luke 23:44-24:12 Psalm 99:1-9 Proverbs 14:9-10 29

Judges 9:22-10:18 Luke 24:13-53 Psalm 100:1-5 Proverbs 14:11-12 Judges 11:1-12:15 John 1:1-28

Psalm 101:1-8 Proverbs 14:13-14



May 2

National Day of Prayer Chicks with Sticks Young Adult Bible Study

May 3

Confirmation Rehearsal

May 4

Confirmation Day

May 5

Young Adult Lunch

May 8

Leadership Team Meeting

May 12

Mother's Day

May 15

Wednesday Lunch & Worship Men's Bocce Tournament Women's Bee Lady

May 16

Chick's with Sticks

May 18

Camp Restore Volunteer Day

May 19

Music Appreciation Sunday

May 22

Board of Elder's Meeting

May 23

Westmaple Graduation

May 27

Memorial Day No Worship Building and Office Closed

May 28

Women's Book Group

SENIOR MINISTRY



June Enrichment Event Sponsored by Faithful Friends

You, the congregation and friends are invited to an Enrichment Talk on Elder Law — What Seniors should know when looking into Assisted Living. This will take place on **June 9th in the Great Room immediately following the 10:30 service** and should last an hour. Our speaker will be Erin Mortenson, Redeemer member and her partner Ashley Dickey, attorneys specializing in Elder law, Medicaid & Long-Term Care Planning & Estate Planning. Erin and Ashley will speak on Long Term Care Planning: How to Preserve Your Assets for Future Care. They will help us to understand the costs associated with elder care (at all levels), and what you can do now to ensure you and your loved ones are set up for the future.

The event is sponsored by Redeemer's Faithful Friends Ministry – a unique ministry dedicated to reaching out to our special Senior members who are homebound or reside in an assisted living complex and to offer support and guidance to caregivers. If you are interested in becoming a Faithful Friend for one of Redeemer's Seniors let one of the committee members know. We would love to have you!

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

Gary Priskorn

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"100 YEARS - 100 SONGS" A LOOK BACK IN FILM AND MUSIC!

The Prime Timers group has planned another evening of fun and fellowship on **Friday, April 19th beginning at 6:00 p.m.** in the Great Room. The evening begins with a delicious meal prepared by Michele Margosian. Menu includes: Lemon chicken piccata, Angel hair pasta, Green beans, Salad, Bread, Dessert. Following the meal we'll be entertained by Stuart Johnson as he shares the "Best of All Time" lists of movies and songs that made them great! He takes some of those songs and presents them in both slides and videos from the film itself...like Gene Kelly singing and dancing in the rain, John Travolta showing his disco moves to "Staying Alive", Judy Garland "going over the rainbow" and much more! Should be a fun and memorable evening – we'd love to have you join us! A freewill donation will be received. Sign up on the Town Square bulletin board by April 15th. Questions? Contact Gary Priskorn – 248-644-4010.

MEN'S MINISTRY



Men's Bible Study

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

Fellowship Breakfast

Hosted by Men's Ministry April 27th



Men and women of all ages are cordially invited to join us for our next Fellowship Breakfast hosted by Men's Ministry on **Saturday, April 27th, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. in the Great Room**. A hearty breakfast is served at 8:00 a.m. and the program begins at 8:45 a.m. We will be privileged to have as our guest presenter, Pastor Dave Davis, the new District President of the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (that's us!). It promises to be an informative and interesting morning. A freewill donation will be received. You can sign up on the bulletin board in the Town Square or call/email Gary Priskorn (248-644-4010X123/gpriskorn@redeemerbirmingham.org)

Counseling Corner

Spring time is such a wonderful time for Nature to show her glory! In the cold winter months when things go dormant, rest is necessary, in order for us to have the beautiful blooms and flower show in Springtime.

I think it's a great metaphor for life as humans, too. We all need a break sometimes from the routines in life and from the stressful daily stuff that gets thrown at us. Have you ever noticed though that the trees and plants look so bare, lifeless and actually dead, are the ones that after a long winters break come back so beautifully in the Spring?

Breaking our routines and taking some time off, going up north or down south seems to be for many, a refreshing reboot. Although these "Mountaintop" experiences, vacations and the like with loved ones etc. have renewal benefits for sure, one must be mindful of everyday stress levels and how to affectively maintain balance and synergy. We need to be careful not to get sucked in to the daily drama of others that can lead to emotional burnout and just plain exhaustion.

You can run a "cost benefit analysis" when coming up against situations where you sense the evil one is trying to engage you, seduce you in to other's problems that you really have no assets to fix. It would be something like saying to yourself "can I add anything positive to the outcome of this situation, help with Godly counsel (praying and asking God what is His will for you in this situation), financially relieve their stress (you might be in a position to help someone temporarily in order for them to get back on their feet)? This is where praying and seeking God's wisdom and direction will be most prudent and effective.

Being used by God to bring relief and comfort to those hurting can be such a gift and honor. You might just think about who you know that would really be blessed by a simple Spring bouquet that you delivered to their door? (FYI, Whole Foods in Birmingham has a stand with multiple little posy bouquets for around \$10.00 right in front of you when you walk in) A kind text telling them that you are thinking about and praying for them are also ways to bless others with very little effort, but the results of these and other kind gestures towards those hurting, can be immeasurable.

May I encourage you to be a "Spring bouquet", a gesture of love or kindness to someone that would benefit from your love and kindness. Just taking time to "notice" someone in their time of need and acknowledge it with ACTION can be a game changer for the recipient. You'll see! Or, maybe you won't, but God sees. His eyes are always on us like Hagar lamented. "You're the God who sees".

And finally, may your face be the window that lets the love of Jesus shine through!

Happy Spring! Dr. Sandy Pourcho



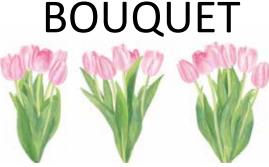
COUNSELING CENTER

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

ment soon!

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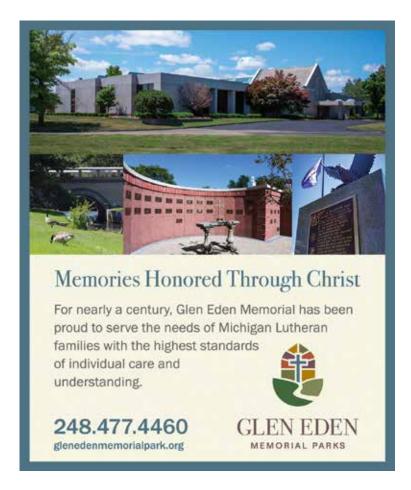
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<u>April 9</u>

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April 12

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April 24

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April 25

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April 26

Savannah Amos Nicole Cornwell Holden Kipley Erin Mills

April 27

Maribeth Frincke Ryan Kavanagh Heather Sherk Mark Suszan Susan Tyler Sophia Worden Jean York

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April 30

John Conte Tierney Flatter William Geller Kevin Russ

