

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
2025

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FROM THE PASTOR

You can't blame the chickens – they didn't know!

In medieval Europe, the church of Rome had strict rules for fasting during Lent. No meat or any animal product, including eggs, was to be consumed. As I said, the chickens didn't know, and they kept producing eggs. Rather than discarding the eggs, they boiled them and

saved them for when Lent ended on Easter. At some point in history, they started coloring them for Easter celebrations.

Paas comes from Pasen, the Dutch word for Easter. William Townley, a New Jersey drugstore owner, invented concentrated dye tablets in 1893. He had a good idea!

Some believe that hiding Easter eggs started with Martin Luther and others who were part of the Reformation. Men would hide the eggs around the church property, and woman and children would hunt for them. This was to symbolize the women who first discovered the empty tomb.

The egg and the Easter bunny have their root in the thought of fertility, and the celebration of the goddess Eostre. Yes, that is where we get the name for Easter!!

The painting by Italian artist Titian in 1530 called The Madonna of the Rabbit hangs in the Louvre in Paris. It was thought at one time that the rabbit could reproduce without having a male rabbit involved. Over time, the rabbit became an allusion to the Virgin's conception of Christ.

As Christianity moved from place to place, the missionaries would connect pagan celebrations with that of the Christians. In springtime, we see many bunnies – they just appear and then disappear to wherever! This, in a way, became a symbol for Christ; after His resurrection and before His ascension, Jesus would appear to His followers and then disappear. You can see why the bunny became associated with Christ!

his Easter, keep an eye out for a bunny – they appear and then disappear. When you observe this, think of Jesus and His victory over death, and how He appeared to many following His Resurrection.

The Lord Has Risen! He has Risen Indeed! Happy Easter!



Pastor Randy



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

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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

FEBRUARY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekly Attendance Totals	2025	2024
Worship	373	373
Bible Class	108	138
Sunday School	22	21
Monthly Attendance Totals	2025	2024
Communion	591	743
Visitors	51	35
Income and Expenses	2025	2024
Income Received	\$219,228	\$214,605
Budget Requirements	\$226,001	\$192,161
General Fund Expenses	\$195,547	\$183,848
YTD Fiscal-Year Income	\$1,267,471	\$1,184,711
YTD Fiscal Year Expenses	\$1,143,439	\$1,046,932

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Give Generously, and You Will Never Lack

Our Father in heaven sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. His atoning sacrifice is the first fruits of all the dead, a pleasing aroma to His Father, so that His perfect life and death count for all who believe in Him. He claimed us as His own children in Holy Baptism. He sustains and strengthens our faith with His Holy Word and His Body and Blood.

As new creatures, who have put on Christ, we bear good fruit. We do the good works prepared for us, which He makes known to us in His Word. By faith then, trusting in the Word of God, we do what he says because He does not lie and always keeps His promises. For "without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him" (*Hebrews 11:6*).

And so the Lord promises: "Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine" (*Proverbs 3:9-10*). How do we honor the Lord with the wealth that God has given us in His generosity? By giving generously to those whom the Lord has called us to love and support your family, your society, and your church. And His promise is that, in so doing, you will never lack.

A common counterpoint is: "But that's from the Old Testament!" Our Lord Jesus Himself gives us similar promises in the New Testament. He says, at the conclusion of the parable of the talents: "For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance" (*Matthew 25:29*).

And then at the end of the parable of the dishonest manager, he says: "One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money" (*Luke 16:10-13*).

And in His sermon on the mount, he says: "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (*Matt. 6:19-21*).

We have become conditioned against these promises because of their misuse by the peddlers of the prosperity gospel - the guys on TV who say you get rich by putting God in your debt. And thus, we miss out on the fact that God

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

does reward temporal faithfulness in temporal matters with temporal blessings. It's no quid pro quo. It's all from God's grace and His fatherly divine goodness and mercy. But those Bible passages do in fact say what they say! It's not the Old Testament's problem. It's ours. It is almost as if we have become so jaded against this that we think it a virtue to be stingy with our offerings.

But our Father in heaven still loves to bless those who bless others. He loves to give to those who give freely and generously. In fact, he challenges us to challenge Him: "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need" (*Malachi 3:10*).

And so, while we don't give so that we would get, we do receive from the Lord in order to give, and He will bless your giving with more receiving. As St. Paul wrote in *Romans 8:32*: "He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?"

**Credit LCMS Stewardship Newsletter*



CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

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

Why Should I Invest at Church Extension Fund?

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

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

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IN REMEMBRANCE AND REFLECTION



In Memory...

GIVE A MEMORIAL GIFT

Donations made to the general fund in loving memory of Lisa Vautaw

Brian Vautaw

Donations made to the general fund in honor of Michael and Ashley's Wedding

Mark and Marsha Suszan

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

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Then go joyfully to your work, singing a hymn, like that of the Ten Commandments, or whatever your devotion may suggest.

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands, I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Amen.

Then go to sleep at once and in good cheer.

PASTORAL ACTS

BAPTISMS

2/9/2025 Grayson Andrew Slank
son of Garrett and Amber Slank



PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP



How do I watch Sunday Services LIVE online?

- Go to the church website.
www.redeemberbirmingham.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.redeemberbirmingham.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!

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PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP

VOLUNTEER AT REDEEMER

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



BE A READER*

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

HOST A COFFEE HOUR*

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

BE A GREETER*

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

FAMILY USHERING*

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

MYSTERY PRELUDE

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



ACOLYTING & CROSS BEARING*

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



HOLY HOUSEKEEPING

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS

April 9

May 14

BOARD OF ELDERS MEETINGS

May 28

July 23



Should you receive a phone call or 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.



DONATE YOUR STOCK TO REDEEMER

Did you know you're able to donate your stock to Redeemer through Charles Schwab?! If you would like to give to Redeemer in this way, here are the steps you'll need to take - printed directions are also available in the Church Office. Thank you for your contribution!

- Get in touch with your financial person and give them Redeemer's Account #, Tax ID, and DTC number, **all of which can be obtained in the Church Office or by Laura Jones, our accountant.**
- Your financial advisor will transfer the stock into Redeemer's Schwab account.
- Send an email to Laura Jones once the transaction is complete. This will notify her so she can liquidate the stock immediately.

****THIS IS HER ONLY NOTIFICATION OF THE TRANSACTION, SO THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT!****

- The person donating will receive a letter/email confirming Redeemer has received the donation.

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.

LUTHERAN SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP



If you are enrolling your child for the first time at Our Shepherd Lutheran School or Lutheran High Northwest and you'd like to find out more about sponsorship, you must make an appointment by mid-April to speak with **Pastor Randy**. Be sure to schedule your appointment as soon as possible!

Parents re-enrolling your children at either Our Shepherd or LHNW for the 2025-2026 school year, please inform **Carrie Morris in the Church Office** as soon as possible.



HOLY HOUSEKEEPING

THANK
YOU!
♥

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
THE 2025 RUMMAGE SALE!

THANK
YOU!
♥



You donated items, sorted, folded, priced, and SHOPPED! Through your time, talents, and teamwork, we made \$18,000 for the high school mission trip and Sacred Space. Not to mention that hundreds of non-member shoppers experienced Redeemer positively through this outreach. Michele Margosian led our efforts again this year - without her selflessness, this fundraiser wouldn't be possible!



LIBRARY LIGHTS



Lent and Easter are such a special and important time in our church calendar. There are many books, movies, and Bible studies in our church library to help you deepen your relationship with Christ and give you insight into his life. Consider checking out one of the following...

The Women of Easter: Encounter the Savior with Mary of Bethany, Mary of Nazareth, and Mary Magdalene by Liz Curtis Higgs is a beautiful, historical fiction view of Easter through the eyes of three women named Mary, each of whom has a life-changing encounter with Jesus: Mary of Bethany, who prepares the way for the Lord's burial when she anoints His feet and fills the air with her perfume; Mary of Nazareth, who remains by His side from His first breath to His last, her loyalty unwavering; and Mary Magdalene, delivered of seven demons, who bravely supports her Teacher through His darkest hours, then proclaims the glorious news of His resurrection.

If you are looking for a Bible study, **"Knowing Who You Are in Christ" by Joyce Meyer** is a wonderful choice! Published in 2006, this DVD series will help you get a solid understanding of your identity in Christ. These inspiring messages will teach you what it means to be complete in Christ, that our worth and value are found only in Him, and how to develop an unshakable confidence in Christ instead of yourself.

Happy Easter! The Lord is Risen, Alleluia!!

Did You
KNOW?



KOST OF KAMP!

In 1977, Kid Kat Kamp had 44 campers. The program budget was \$5,013, with 81% of the cost going directly to Camp Skyline. The budget also included one campership (scholarship), \$10 for curriculum material, \$100 for safety training and supplies, and \$400 total for salaries for four administrative staff and ten counselors. Program costs were partially covered by a fundraiser selling garbage bags, which raised \$359!

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

APRIL Lamp



April 1

Prime Timer's Committee
Planning Meeting

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 and Palm Parade

April 17

Maundy Thursday

April 18

Good Friday

April 19

Holy Saturday

April 20

Easter Sunday

April 21

Easter Monday
Church Office and Building Closed

April 24

Chicks with Sticks

April 26

Farmington Community Chorus
Cabaret Concert and Dinner Show

April 27

Young Adult Luncheon

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



FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



May 1

National Day of Prayer

May 2

Confirmation Rehearsal

March 3

Confirmation Day

May 4

Mt. Everest Guest Speaker
Prime Timer Event

May 6

Prime Timer's Committee
Planning Meeting

May 8

Chicks with Sticks

May 10

King's Brass Concert

May 11

Mother's Day

May 14

Fred Hollis Memorial Bocce Ball
Tournament
Leadership Team Meeting

May 17

Langsford Men's Chorus Concert

May 21

Wednesday Lunch and Worship

May 22

Chicks with Sticks

May 26

Memorial Day
Church Office and Building Closed

May 28

Board of Elders Meeting

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



★ 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 \$25.00 per-person is requested or reserve a full table (8 people maximum) for a minimum donation of \$250.00. Reserved seating tickets may be purchased in advance by contacting **Sally Flayer (248.613-2623 saflyer@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!**

**PLEASE INDICATE ANY SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS
WHEN MAKING YOUR RESERVATION.**



Join us for a night of fun, entertainment, and baseball!

**FAITH NIGHT UNICORNS VS. MAMMOTHS - FRIDAY, JULY 18TH
FIRST PITCH 7:05PM - GATES OPEN 6:00PM**

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER SUMMER PICNIC

Group Perks Include:

- Game seating in party patio area
- Group photo on the field
- Welcome message on the scoreboard
- Kids Run the Bases after the game
- Meet JJ the Field General, the bat dog
- Meet & Greet with a team mascot
- Free Parking

Enjoy an All American BBQ!

Premium Hot Dogs, Slow Roasted BBQ
Pulled Chicken, Fresh Pasta Salad, Coleslaw,
Baked Beans, Potato Chips, and Cookies.
*Food is served starting when the gates open
for 90 minutes.* Each guest will receive
unlimited soft drinks, lemonade, iced tea,
and water.

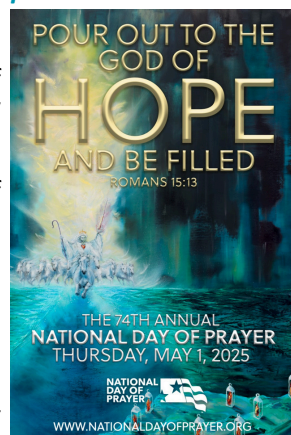


***Purchase your tickets today!
Contact Nicole Olds with any questions!***

POUR OUT TO THE GOD OF HOPE AND BE FILLED

"Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13

The annual National Day of Prayer will be held on Thursday, May 1st, 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.



FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



WOMEN INVESTING IN WOMEN®

JOIN US

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH - GREAT ROOM
ARRIVE BY 6:45PM FOR STONE VOTING
PRESENTATION STARTS AT 7:00PM**

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.

Sign-up TODAY with the QR code
or in the Town Square!



PALM CROSS WORKSHOP

It never gets old... Palms have been ordered, and our **Palm Cross Workshop is scheduled for Friday, April 11th at 9:00am in the Gym**. Intrepids, Kathy and Tom Eley, are in the saddle ready to show the novices how to make a cross from a palm branch and encourage the seasoned veterans to continue their good work. Snacks, lunch, beverages, and encouragement will be generously served. Everyone loves a palm cross, and members take them to others in the community.

Join us for the making of 800 crosses to share!



CALLING ALL BAKERS!

VBS provides snacks for the kiddos 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. **Please sign-up online via the church's Sign-Up Genius to volunteer to bring something in. Thank you for your help!**



WE NEED YOU!



Who doesn't LOVE VBS?! We are looking for adults of all ages to help with this incredible week of fun! Teachers, classroom helpers, craft workers, and kitchen sous-chefs are all needed - please consider volunteering!

Please sign-up online via the church's Sign-Up Genius to volunteer in the kitchen or craft area. Interested in teaching? Please reach out to Nicole Olds.

Thank you for making this week possible for our kiddos!

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.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN TO ALL!

Please invite family and friends to join you this year at Kamp! Sign-up soon to secure your spot!

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 (redeerkamp@gmail.com).

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

May 10, 1996 is the date of the most historic tragedy in Mt. Everest history. Eight climbers died. Lou Kasischke, A Redeemer member and renowned mountain climber, was there. He lived to tell that story!

The setting is climbing the highest mountain in the world. The drama was high when, after six-weeks of climbing, things went wrong near the summit. At this point, Lou was 400 vertical feet from the top, but the crux of his story has much in common with everyday life. This was Lou's struggle with himself when he faced a tough decision and conflicting internal voices about what to do. Lou's story includes uncommon moments that revealed what saved his life. It's a story about the still, small voice of the heart. It's really a love story.

Lou will join us at Redeemer on Sunday afternoon, May 4th at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary to show images and tell his intriguing and moving personal story which is more about being mountainside. It's also about his long aftermath journey to understand his experience, to find meaning in it, to share the role of his Christian faith in his survival, and to serve as an example of how and where to go for the guidance and inner strength needed in hard decision moments.

Lou wrote a book entitled "After the Wind" about his experience and served as a consultant to Universal Pictures for the 2015 feature film, "Everest," that told the tragic story.

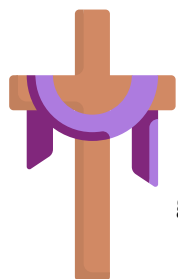
A Q&A session will follow Lou's presentation, along with a reception with light refreshments in the Town Square.

No charge to attend - no sign-up needed.

All are welcome - invite family, friends, and neighbors. Lou suggests middle school age and older.

Questions? Please contact Gary Priskorn.

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

LAST CALL!

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**.



EASTER EGG HUNT!



ATTENTION ALL KIDDOS!

Don't forget to bring your Easter baskets to church on **Easter Sunday, April 20th!** Join in on the fun as Jericho the Bunny will kick-off our hunt following 10:30am worship. Grab your friends and meet on the front lawn of the church - we hope to see you there!

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
"Walk to the Cross" - Reminders of His Love
6:30pm (Great Room) - *4th Tuesday starts at 6:00pm

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!



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

EVENT SCHEDULE

*Redeemer
Young
Adults*

BIBLE STUDY: FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

MONTHLY SOCIAL EVENTS AND OUTINGS

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

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

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

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

REDEEMER YOUTH OVER THE YEARS



Our emphasis on Youth has always been at the pinnacle of Redeemer's focus and ministry. From fellowship, Bible studies, and mission work, the bond between participants has always been strong, due in large part to our exceptional leaders.

In 1940-1941, Redeemer joined both the LCMS National Youth Group and the International Walther League. Lots of activities followed, such as a Variety Show in 1961, where our own Ginny Schalm performed. The youth held a Toy Drive each year, collecting and repairing toys for St. Andrews in Detroit, and an onsite 2-week VBS, teaching children of Riverside Church in Detroit.

By 1965, the Walther League was renamed "Youth Group," and mission projects were locally centered with visits to nursing homes and the Pontiac State Hospital. H. William (Bill) Meinert was hired in 1966 as our Director of Christian Education. Under his direction, the Youth Group flourished. Mr. "M" took the kids on retreats in the fall and winter to Camp Skyline. The retreats offered Bible studies, singing, and spiritual activities. Beth Lanthier remembers fondly how, "Mr. M taught us so much about ourselves and God's love." Overnight Lock-Ins at the church were a popular highlight, as well.

In 1969, our youth began the "Mums for Moms" project for Mother's Day. Mums beautifully decorated the Sanctuary and were purchased by people wishing to honor their living mothers or those dearly remembered. The youth also participated in a "Hike for the Hungry" where they received pledges for each mile walked, which totaled 20-miles, raising \$1,765.00 with a bonus of lots of sore feet!

An annual charitable project in the 1970s was "Take a Kid Shopping," where our youth took groups of underprivileged kids to a local mall to help them buy Christmas gifts.

Camp Skyline was the original home for our Kampers. Looking at the Kamp Committee roster today, you will find all former kampers and kounselors! Kamp fundraisers sold M&M's and trash bags, and held spaghetti dinners and pancake breakfasts. We held Bible studies, and we sang and worshipped in the Chapel in the Woods. A high point of the week was the hike to the graveyard and hearing the scary story of "Yellow Mike," which Kevin Jones created. Most popular was the "dance" - most of the boys would finally shower on the day of the dance! - and we were allowed to 'slow dance' to "Stairway to Heaven," and later to the beat of 50s music.



JoAnn Tylicki took over as Youth Group leader in 1977, when Mr. M felt that he needed someone younger to lead the youth. She was a "regular" in Youth Group, and under her direction, the group continued to thrive. Two major events took place annually - a "Special Kids" party and a Dance Marathon for Muscular Dystrophy. Kevin Jones' band would play in the gym, and there were events like goldfish swallowing and throwing a pie in Pastor Duane's face! Oh no!

By 1987, JoAnn needed to devote her time to school and work, and Pastor Toby Joeckel was hired as the Minister of Bible Study and Youth. Under his leadership, the youth went on white water rafting trips and excursions to the Torch Lake home of long-time Redeemer members Kathy and John Ostrander. In 1991, Pastor Toby moved, and Joe Werner was hired as the Minister of Children and Family Life.

In 1996, the opportunity arose for our youth to go to Mexicali and join 2,000 other youth from the US in Spring Break mission work. They lived in tents, with no showers or flushing toilets, and brushed their teeth in "spit holes." In 1998, the Youth Group returned to Mexicali and the village of Irapuato to restore a church. These mission trips really showcased the meaning of service to others. Donna Hollis, a long-time chaperone wrote in 1999, "Our 4 years in Irapuato has helped us develop a solid, trusting relationship with its Pastor. He told us our presence has been an answer to many prayers. About 125 children attend the daily VBS activities - Bible lessons, singing, crafts, and games. Our youth also described Christian family values to the village women. Both the people of Irapuato and our youth exchanged valuable blessings reaching far into the future."

In 2016, after it was deemed too dangerous to travel to Mexicali, our youth explored other Spring Break mission work opportunities. They ventured to Jamaica to work with physically and developmentally disabled children and adults. North Carolina needed ramps built for the disabled, and our youth answered the call. They traveled to New Orleans to "muck out" debris from several hurricanes, and in Puerto Rico, painted the exterior and playground of a school, and also helped teachers in Spanish and English classes. Redeemer's youth have engaged in relational ministry, children's ministry, and physical labor for many years.

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

In 2000, Joe Werner took a call elsewhere and Mark Wuggazer, another "born and raised at Redeemer," took over as Youth Director. He continued the Mexicali tradition and saw the numbers of youth on the Mission Team soar. Of the many legacies Mark left, the Mexicali Mission trips, "Heart of Worship," and the contemporary worship service "Redemption" left a beautiful spiritual presence at Redeemer.

Many former Youth Group members continue to lead the youth. Mark Bushuiakovish took over when Wuggie was at Seminary, Laura Vowell and Joel Brockberg started our JAMS group, and Eric Wisniewski and Gia Scheidt lead our senior high youth.



Kid Kat Kamp is now held at Michawana, and former Kamp Kounselor, now Director, Tim Springer has kept this ministry alive. Peter Neumann, a well-known Christian singer/songwriter continues to join the group at Kamp and leads the worship.

Today, the youth continue to have an impact on Redeemer through Spring Break mission trips, helping with our Rummage Sale, and volunteering at the Family of God Soup Kitchen.

YOUTH GROUP MEMORIES

"Mr. Meinert was responsible for building a family of God, loving the Lord and living a life of faith, mentoring others - an integral part of growing our faith and nurturing relationships with our Savior. We enjoyed retreats, Kid Kat Kamp, and canoe trips. He's the reason so many of us are still strong at Redeemer."

Jennifer Dobring

"Pastor Toby was one of those rare people who could balance being a strong spiritual leader with being an absolute goofball. He had an incredible gift for bringing joy and connection wherever he went, and I'm so grateful to have him in my life!"

Kris Held

SAVE THE DATE

100th Anniversary Celebratory Church Service and Congregational Luncheon
SUNDAY, JUNE 1ST - FOLLOWING 10:30AM SERVICE

We are honored to have Pastor Mark Wuggazer lead worship that morning with a brunchon immediately following worship. Tickets required and available starting on April 6th during Coffee Hour or in Miss Kitty's office. Fee will donation appreciated.

Questions? Contact Miss Kitty!

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!



100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION TOUR - **SPACE STILL AVAILABLE!**

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



Space is still available for our "CELEBRATION BUS TOUR!" This trip is highlighted with a live performance of "NOAH" at the SIGHT & SOUND MILLENNIUM THEATRE! Perfect for families, young & "young at heart" alike!

Registration forms, trip itinerary, and cost are located on the Town Square bulletin board and posters throughout Redeemer.

OUR BUS IS FILLING UP FAST - REGISTER TODAY!

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

MINISTRIES AT WORK

JOIN THE REDEEMER FAMILY!

REDEEMER'S SPRING NEW MEMBER SESSION WILL BE A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT THIS TIME AROUND...

Instead of traditional classes with teachers in a classroom, we will have a special **Sermon Series** that will review the Lutheran doctrine! All you have to do is let us know you'd like to become an official member of Redeemer by **contacting Gary Priskorn or the Church Office**, then attend church this spring and listen to the sermons.

If you miss coming to church, you can watch the recording via Vimeo on the church website.

BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS SO YOU CAN JOIN US ON THE LISTED DATES!

- Sunday, April 27th: Ten Commandments
- Sunday, May 5th: Apostles Creed
- Sunday, May 18th: The Lord's Prayer
- Sunday, May 25th: Baptism
- Sunday, June 8th: The Lord's Supper
- Sunday, June 15th: Confession and Absolution

WE'RE EXCITED TO WELCOME YOU TO THE REDEEMER FAMILY!

New member paperwork will be collected this spring and summer. All spring new members will be recognized during next fall's New Member Brunch.

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.

SENIOR'S MINISTRY



FAITHFUL FRIENDS ENRICHMENT SERIES

On March 2nd, Diane Johns, Gerontologist and Redeemer member, led a discussion on aging services at the Faithful Friends Enrichment Program. We had a small group, but a lot of information was shared about the types of care available in the home, as well as the different levels of housing facilities available. Diane shared that AgeWays (1-800-852-7795), formerly the Area Agency on Aging 1-B, has an Information and Referral Program and is a great starting point when looking for resources for senior services.

While we did not record this discussion, there is a video available on the church website from the last time Diane did this presentation. At that time, she also covered signs of when it might be time to seek some help. To view this or any of our past presentations, click on the 'Faithful Friends' tab under the Past Services section.

If you have any requests for future topics that you would like to learn more about, please let any of the team know, and we can look for a speaker. Blessings for a happy Spring!

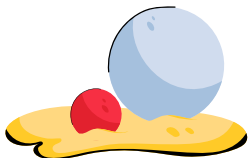
We hope to see you there!

- 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

WHO WANTS TO BOCCE?!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

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

Guys of all ages are cordially invited to join us for some great fellowship starting at **6:00pm on Wednesday, May 14th!** Thank you to the Hollis Ladies for - again! - hosting at the Hollis' Home. A meal of chicken shawarma and side dishes will be served from 6:00-6:45pm with bocce ball to follow. There will also be a Bean Bag Toss (Cornhole) "course" set-up for individual competition while waiting for your next round of Bocce!

There is no charge for the evening - a freewill donation will be received. Please sign-up by May 11th on the Town Square bulletin board.
Questions? Contact Gary Priskorn.

MINISTRIES AT WORK

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Chicks with Sticks

Our Chicks with Sticks loves to knit and share their expertise with others, so if you would like to make a scarf, hat, blanket or other item for the less fortunate, homeless or infant in need, please plan on joining us! **Due to Holy Week, we will meet the second and forth Thursdays of this month on April 10th and 24th in the Library.** We hope to see you there!



Thank you, Toby and Julie Buechner, for sharing your home with 32 women, appetizers, desserts, Bunco tables, prizes, new and old faces, new and very old white elephant gifts, and the return of our beloved, awful, and ugly trophy! What a great night! Women's Ministry Team volunteers Jan Kanka, Tracey Fish, and Leslie Whitfield - you are truly an amazing trio of women and made this evening so special with all your good work!

Women's Ministry Coffee Hour

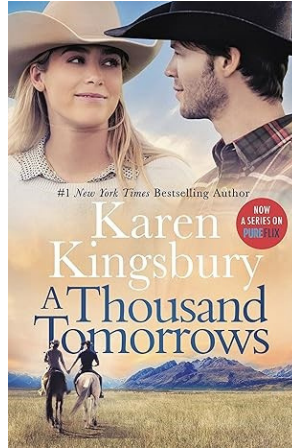
Gratitude and thanks for the women who served God and his church over the past 100 years and taught us by example! We celebrated with a fun, delicious coffee hour featuring quiche, scones with clotted cream, and gift baskets for men, women and children to win! Thanks to the Women's Ministry Team who answered questions and urged our women to join-up and join-in the spiritual, intellectual, and physical activities we have planned for them. Make a friend, review a book, study the Bible, go on retreat and many more wonderful opportunities await.

Particularly grateful for the helping hands of Leslie Whitfield, Therese Schulz, Karen Pridmore, Karen Rose, Jan Kanka, Tracey Fish, Brenda Baldner, Denise Barron, Julie Buechner, and Jamie Thompson for the food, presentation, clean-up and happy hearts! Thanks also to representatives of Library, Stacie Millilchamp, and Chicks with Sticks, Janet Kletzli, for their support!

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AND STILL GROWING!

APRIL Lamp

Women's Book Group



"A Thousand Tomorrows" by Karen Kingsbury is our choice for a good read and an even better discussion - join us on Tuesday, April 27th at 7:30pm in the Town Square! Cody Gunner and Ali Daniels both ride in the Pro Rodeo Tour hiding a secret. Cody, a bull rider, is trying to rid himself of the anger he feels toward his father for leaving their family because his brother, Carl Joseph, has Down syndrome. Ali, a barrel racer with cystic fibrosis, wants to live life to the fullest since the death of her sister, also from cystic fibrosis, even though it means shortening hers. One evening, after her run, Cody finds Ali struggling to catch her breath and he ministers to her. Out of that moment comes a friendship which soon turns to love and the sacrifice it brings. Karen Kingsbury has a unique writing style - the words flow easily, with no mistakes in editing. Join us for a good discussion and even better fellowship!

Women's Bible Study

We have finished "Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table"... How timely, accurate, and appropriate for the times we live in. **This month, we will meet on Tuesday, April 1st, 8th, and 15th at 6:30pm** where we will do a mini "Walk to the Cross" with Scripture readings from the last days of Jesus. Please let Kitty know if you would like to attend and share this journey with us - we will save a place for you!



"Love isn't love until it's given away."
Stay tuned for more mission projects and fellowship opportunities dedicated to our 100th Anniversary!!

MINISTRIES AT WORK



LENTEN KIDZ!



LENTENKIDZ CONTINUES DURING MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES!

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!



THE VBS TEAM IS WORKING HARD TO PREPARE FOR THIS YEAR'S AMAZING WEEK - COME EXPLORE WITH US JUNE 16-20!

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

Online registration started in March but spots are still open - please visit the church website for more information and to sign-up today!

Be sure to check the Weekly Announcements for any donations we might need. We can't wait to go on this new adventure with you!

Blessings from the 2025 Team:

Andrea Calvaneso, Heather Calvaneso, and Megan Rettray



REGISTER YOUR KIDS TODAY!

*Interested in volunteering at VBS?
See Page 9 to learn about opportunities!
Contact Nicole Olds with any questions!*



SCAMPER CAMP!



SCAMPER CAMP IS COMING!

Scamper Camp is held during the summer for 2-5-year olds, has a new theme each week, and runs Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:30am-1:00pm with an extended day option until 2:30pm. We will explore space, the zoo, become chefs, and so much more!

Availability some weeks with a waitlist on others!
Visit the church website to learn more or register!



CONFIRMATION

CONFIRMATION IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!



UPCOMING YEAR 3 DATES TO REMEMBER:

Friday, April 11th-Saturday, April 12th:
Confirmation Retreat

Saturday, May 3rd:
Confirmation Day

*Be sure to check out May's Lamp
for all of our Confirmand bios!*



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!

JOIN US IN APRIL AS WE BEGIN TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND HOMES FOR SUMMER!

- **April 2nd:** Pat Raezler - Guest Speaker - "Building Your Children's Self-Esteem"
- **April 9th:** Officer Gina Moody - Guest Speaker from the Birmingham Police Department
- **April 16th:** NO CLASS - Spring Break
- **April 23rd:** NO CLASS - Spring Break
- **April 30th:** Cook for FOG (Meet in the Kitchen)

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

MINISTRIES AT WORK

RYG HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP



APRIL SCHEDULE

Wednesday, April 2nd: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm

Meet in the Youth Room

Sunday, April 6th: Youth Group, 7:00-9:00pm

Meet in the Youth Room

Wednesday, April 9th: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm

Meet in the Youth Room

Sunday, April 13th:

9:00am: Mission-Team Sponsored Coffee Hour

Meet in the Kitchen

7:00-9:00pm: Youth Group

Meet in the Youth Room

Monday, April 14th: FOG, 5:00-8:00pm

Meet in the Kitchen

Wednesday, April 16th: Core Group, 6:00-8:00pm

Meet in the Youth Room

Sunday, April 20th: *NO MEETING - HAPPY EASTER!*

Sunday, April 27th:

10:30am: RYG Ushers for Worship Service

Meet in the Sanctuary

7:00-9:00pm: Youth Group

Meet in the Youth Room

WE'RE BACK FROM NORTH CAROLINA!

High schoolers from Redeemer traveled to Asheville for Spring Break to provide hurricane disaster relief and relational ministry! Our team was split into two groups with one group sanding, prepping, and painting a house that was flooded during Helene, and another group clearing debris (big trees and root balls) from people's yards, as relief aid has really slowed down as of late. The locals taught us that the "mountain people" (their term) are a generationally proud people who find it hard to ask for or accept help to rebuild. The most common prayer request from the people we encountered was for their mental health. In our free time, we enjoyed supporting small, local businesses and learning more about local culture. Our team banded together to be productive in our work, but more importantly, to encourage each other and shine the light of Christ! Thank you for all of your prayers and support from home while we were gone!



FAMILY OF GOD

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

April 14th

May 12th

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



"redeemer_y00th"

ALWAYS CHECK INSTAGRAM
FOR ANY SCHEDULE CHANGES

ATTEND LENTEN SERVICES

RYG meets Wednesdays 6:00-8:00pm

Lenten Services at 7:00pm

April 2, 9

Questions? Contact Gia or Eric!



JAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

POWER HOUR + JAMS GAME NIGHT RECAP!



We had 35 extra people come to help clean-up after the Rummage Sale during POWER HOUR and it was a HUGE success! We got everything done in 1.5 hours...that's a RECORD! Thank you to everyone who joined in on the efforts... You helped make the Rummage Sale a success and helped Redeemer raise \$18,000!

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

MOTHER'S DAY MEN'S CHORUS

CALLING MEN OF HONOR AT REDEEMER!

If you also sing, please plan to join in with several other men in our annual Mother's Day Men's Choir! We will honor our wives and all of the mothers when we sing together on Mother's Day - Sunday, May 11th. We prepare one song together for both the 9:00am and 10:30am services.

Rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, April 2nd and will be held on Wednesday evenings from 7:45-8:00pm throughout the remainder of Lent, and then from 6:30-6:45pm after Easter. (*No rehearsal in Holy Week.*) We will also have one final rehearsal on Sunday, May 4th following the 10:30am service. Rehearsal tracks will also be made available.

No experience necessary - just the ability to carry a tune and a desire to offer a musical tribute to mothers. We hope you'll join us!



100TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT SERIES

Redeemer is hosting a variety of musical performances this spring and summer to help commemorate our special year - we hope you'll join us!

- **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)
- **Saturday, May 10th - 7:00pm:** King's Brass Concert (Redeemer Sanctuary)
- **Saturday May 17th - 7:00pm:** Men's Choral Concert featuring the Langsford Men's Chorus (conducted by Steve SeGraves - Redeemer Sanctuary)



COUNSELING CORNER

A few days ago, a member of Redeemer stopped by my office when the door was open, and he noted the three scriptures that I have painted on my wall by an artist. He and his wife were admiring these scriptures, and I told them that these three scriptures are what I have learned to live my life by, and I've realized that I also constantly refer to them during my counseling sessions. They have literally changed my life and paradigm in challenging times.

In contemplating what to share with you this month, these same scriptures came to mind, and I would like to share them with you, too...

Colossians 3:23: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

Lesson Learned: The person God expects you to serve (spouse, friend, co-workers, relative, parent, etc.) sometimes does NOT deserve anything from you, much less service! (Neither did we, but Jesus died for us anyway, out of LOVE!) However - here's the gold! - when you serve them, you are doing it as unto the Lord - you are serving HIM! With this paradigm shift, it is a whole lot easier to serve others who, in our flesh, don't deserve it! We are to be a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1) - this truly is walking the talk!

Habakkuk 3:17-19: "Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior. The Sovereign Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to tread on the heights."

Lesson Learned: No matter how bad or tough life gets, I will keep praising the Lord no matter what the circumstances look like! God's got this, and He has a plan to help me. I will not give in to negativity (Satan's playground) - God ALWAYS comes through for me. It does not matter how things "look" - it's a faith-walk, for sure.

Proverbs 3:5-7: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean NOT on your own understanding; in ALL your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Lesson Learned: I'm still learning to give EVERYTHING to God that concerns me. My kneejerk response is to handle things on my own and not "bother the Lord with the small stuff." But, it sure goes a whole lot better when I trust God with everything. You'll see!

I truly pray you give these scriptures a try - they are life-changing! Be more contemplative and more intentional. Did you know that the things (good and bad) you obsess about and ruminate on are the very things that can start to take root in your heart? That's why God instructs us to "meditate on His Word day AND night and obey everything in it - then you will prosper and succeed in all you do" (Joshua 1:8). God's Word has transformative power to change your life!

May the Lord empower you on your journey with Him!

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



APRIL

BIBLE READING PLAN

1

Deuteronomy 18:1-20:20
Luke 9:28-50
Psalm 73:1-28
Proverbs 12:10

2

Deuteronomy 21:1-22:30
Luke 9:51-10:12
Psalm 74:1-23
Proverbs 12:11

3

Deuteronomy 23:1-25:19
Luke 10:13-37
Psalm 75:1-10
Proverbs 12:12-14

4

Deuteronomy 26:1-27:26
Luke 10:38-11:13
Psalm 76:1-12
Proverbs 12:15-17

5

Deuteronomy 28:1-68
Luke 11:14-36
Psalm 77:1-20
Proverbs 12:18

6

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

7

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

8

Deuteronomy 32:28-52
Luke 12:35-59
Psalm 78:56-64
Proverbs 12:24

9

Deuteronomy 33:1-29
Luke 13:1-21
Psalm 78:65-72
Proverbs 12:25

10

Deuteronomy 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

15

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

20

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

25

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

30

Judges 11:1-12:15
John 1:1-28
Psalm 101:1-8
Proverbs 14:13-14



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April 1

Dee Aebersold
Ray Meyer
Robert Petrillo

April 2

Shane Held
Jan McIntyre
Katherine Rubel
Allison Schneider
Deb Thomas
Enzo Zuliani

April 3

Sean Amos
Avery Friedrich
Vincent Holland
Rebekah Sydorchuk
Debbie Warnicke

April 4

Abigail Bloink
Amber Drolet
Alex Pedersen
Stephen Priest
Judy Wagnitz

April 5

Kalvin Kelkar
Anna Lewis
Judy Michalak

April 6

Laura Cardenas
Joshua Hugel
Katre Klow
Lisa Nagle
Nicholas Springer

April 7

Tyler Dorantes
Alexandra Evert
Dale Robinson
Carol Romeo
Grant Schneider
Alaina Smith
Debbie Wroe

April 8

Pastor Jimmy Greenwalt
Janet Henke
Lucas Ilitch
Collins Leischner
Trevor Malven
David Pflieger

April 9

Katherine Banerian
Andrew Geller
Kaitlyn Ziegele
Gordon Zimmer

April 10

Julia Conover
Jeffrey Couger
Kari Elliott
Alison Harrison
Traci Ricelli
Timothy Springer, Jr.
Gary Sullivan

April 11

Maria Behr
Amber Davis
Robert Esling, III
Robert Hoge
Maria Nehan
Emily Page

April 12

John Cobb
Bryan Dobbs
Grace Drexel
Elyse Metikosh
Martha Waldron

April 13

Everett Kipley
Zack Learman
Eleanor Ortiz
Alexander Papa
Karen Rose

April 14

Tom Eley
Michael Suszan
Abigail Swanson

April 15

William Baker
Austin Niedzwiecki
John Schaffer, Jr.

April 16

John Gaenssle
Jack Gardner
Charlotte Girdler
Chris Klow
Emma Kreil-McInnis
Clara Leahy
Catherine Leahy
Isabella Marshke
Sandy Roehm

April 17

Lance Harrison
Timothy Hawkins
Lynn Kartz
Elizabeth Mauger

April 19

Art Eckert
Max Falk
Joseph Hussey

April 20

Mike Bacon
Blake Baldner
Joe Conte
Vivian Claire Holland
Linda Laurain
John Ostrander
Michael Schultz
Maeve Trescone

April 21

Molly Ezis
Liz Lalone
Danielle LaRue

April 22

Stephanie Clifford
Gerald Hansen
Millard Ryland

April 23

Karen Best
Kate Nash
Brenda Needham
D'Aun Norman
Nicole Olds
Steve Scheidt
Charles Snell
Colleen Tafel

April 24

Matthew Bassett
Tatum Hamaty
Jeanne Hollis
Lauren Janness
Sawyer Kiriluk

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Alyce Brown
Jim Compton
Megan Josifovski
Ben Kamm
Jane Leahy
Ellie Raezler
Ray York, Sr.

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

April 28

Kate Bassett
Kurt Doolin
Torbjorn Ericsson
Branden Kaline

April 9

Lucy Becker
Greg Girdler
Michael Raezler, Jr.
Samira Shaw
Chris Thompson

April 30

John Conte
Tierney Flatter
William Geller
Kevin Russ

