

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

THE LAMP

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

AUGUST
2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from Pastor	1
Stewardship Report	2
Stewardship Thought	2
Memorials	3
Prayer of the Month	3
Employment Opportunities	3
Pastoral Acts	4
Participate in Worship	4-5
Library Lights	6
September Events	6
New Member Classes	6
Pet Blessing Sunday	6
Summer Bible Studies	7
Through These Doors	7
Men's Ministry	8
Senior Ministry	8
Fall Bibles Studies	8
Missions	9
Church Leadership	9
Children's Ministry	10
Women's Ministry	10
RYG-JAMS	11
Homecoming Picnic	12
Fellowship Opportunities	13
Music Ministry	14
Counseling Corner	15
100 th Anniversary	16-19
August Events	19
Church Extension Fund	19
August Bible Reading	20
Advertising	21-23
August Birthdays	24

FROM THE PASTOR

Friends in Christ,
August 24 is the feast day for Saint Bartholomew. He was one of the twelve Apostles of Jesus. In the Gospel of John (1:45-51), he is introduced as a friend of Philip. He is skeptical of Jesus with a dismissive comment: *Can anything good come out of Nazareth?* (John 1:46)



Nevertheless, he goes with Philip to go see Jesus, who on seeing him, Jesus says: *Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!* (John 1:47) He is always referred to in the Gospel of John with the name Nathanael. In each listing of the disciples it seems Philip and Bartholomew are lined, which may indicate they were good friend or even related. We know he was present and saw the risen Lord (John 21:2) and was present at the Ascension (Acts 1:1-11)

Tradition says that he and the Apostle Jude brought Christianity to Armenia. Both saints are now considered patron saints of the Armenian Apostolic Church. There is also a local tradition that he was martyred at the site of the Maiden Tower in Baku, Azerbaijan, by being skinned alive.

In this painting he is portrayed as a man holding his own skin. (Michelangelo's The Last Judgment)

Pastor Randy

Homecoming Picnic

details on page 12



LUTHERAN CHURCH of the REDEEMER

1800 West Maple Road • Birmingham, MI 48009

Phone: 248-644-4010

E-mail: redeemer@redeemberirmingham.org

Website: www.redeemberirmingham.org

Facebook: Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

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

Rev. Randall J. Schlak - Senior Pastor	ext. 119
Rev. James Greenwalt - Assistant Pastor	ext. 117
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
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

JUNE STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekly Attendance Average	2025	2024
Worship	388	342
Bible Class	75	92
Sunday School	20	17

Monthly Attendance Totals	2025	2024
Communion	502	755
Visitors	67	45

Month: June	2025	2024
Income and Expenses		
Income received	\$156,362	\$144,284
Budget requirements	\$127,921	\$88,976
General fund expenses	\$138,099	\$124,394
YTD Fiscal-year income	\$1,850,108	\$1,843,692
YTD Fiscal-year expenses	\$1,835,255	\$1,710,427

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

JESUS' TRANSFORMING PRESENCE

"But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, 'Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.' Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost'" (Luke 19:8-10 NIV).

Who knew, all those kids sitting in Sunday school were getting a lesson in stewardship! Generations of children have very often heard lessons based on the familiar account of Zacchaeus. The diminutive tax collector's curiosity surrounding the person and ministry of Jesus is what the Holy Spirit used to set him on a collision course for a total stewardship transformation. This transformation, according to the text of Luke 19, is not just about this life. This stewardship transformation is about eternity as well! Remember the story: Zacchaeus was a tax collector. Do not think of friendly neighborhood IRS agents. This was more like a toll booth operator, but the governing authorities did not set the toll. They would contract men to staff roadside booths and tax the commerce that was passing along the road. This was an enterprise full of greed and graft. The tax collectors would take as much as they could and only pass on a portion to the government. The rest did not go into the community chest either! It went into the pocket of the tax collector.

This is why the people had such disdain for Jewish tax collectors. They were seen as both crooks and traitors. They were crooks in that they extorted their compatriots and others in the toll process. But worse, they were seen as traitors because their efforts supported the occupying Roman authorities. That is the real reason that the people would not make way so that short Zacchaeus could see Jesus.

For this reason, he runs ahead and climbs a tree. He had heard all the stories. He wanted to see this Jesus with his own eyes. Mercy is on display. This hated crook and traitor gets a direct audience with Jesus — at Jesus' own request! Jesus invites Himself to Zacchaeus' house. This is where the transformation is about to take place!

Notice how Jesus does it. He does not preach a three-week sermon series, nor does He ask Zacchaeus to make a pledge. There is nothing programmatic about Jesus' approach. But Zacchaeus is completely transformed! The transforming force is the very presence of Jesus!

continued on page 3

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

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. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Then go to sleep at once and in good cheer.

continued from page 2

Direct time with Jesus takes a crooked, selfish, criminal and makes him the most faithful steward. This new life of stewardship is marked by the promises made. First, he gives half of his ill-gotten gains to the poor. These are people whom he would not have defrauded at all! Yet, after spending time with Jesus, they are His first concern. Only after this does he double the requirement of the Levitical law on fraud. And what does Jesus say is the result? Salvation!

Doing the acts of stewardship does not save. Rather, the faith in Jesus that is created by the Holy Spirit is what saves! This is critical for us to confess. Failed stewardship can and will cut you off from God. The only antidote for failed stewardship is the presence of Jesus.

We do not need to run ahead and climb a tree for this presence of Jesus. He makes Himself available to us every week in the Divine Service. He speaks His Word of invitation to us in the pages of Holy Scripture. This, and this alone, transforms us from sinner to saint, from owner to steward of all that belongs to the Lord.

Do you want to become a more faithful steward? Spend more time with Jesus. Make the Divine Service a weekly priority. Feast on Christ's body and blood weekly! This is the great gift that brings salvation from God's House to yours!

*The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship*

Paid or Volunteer opportunities!!

Interested in serving God by serving others on the beautiful shores of Lake Michigan? Camp Arcadia is seeking individuals aged 16+ to serve on our End of Season Staff. Learn more by visiting www.camp-arcadia.com/serve and clicking "End of Season." Paid and volunteer positions are available starting August 17th through the end of October. Work for a weekend, a week or even a month... **Reach out to Shelly (Michelle) Gallo (shelly@camp-arcadia.com) for more details!**

IN REMEMBRANCE

Donations made to the general fund in loving memory of Rev. Ron Farah

Donations made to the music fund in loving memory of Elfie Rose



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.

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

JOIN OUR TEAM in the church office

Redeemer is looking for a new Office Coordinator! We are looking for a creative, tech-savvy individual to join the Church Office team on a part-time basis (approximately 25-hours/week). This individual must be personable, compassionate, and have a heart to serve, while also being driven, well-organized, have the ability to multi-task, and think critically. Past office experience is helpful but not mandatory; past design and/or social media experience is a plus; computer experience is required. Onboarding and training offered while also learning through hands-on experience. If you or someone you know might be a good fit for this position, please contact Pastor Randy or Rose Kiehle in the Church Office.

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.

SHOW YOUR TALENTS

Whether you sing or play an instrument, we would love to use your vocal or instrumental talent to provide special music for a 9:00am service on a Sunday in the summer! Summer special music will be needed beginning on Sunday, June 8th, and all the way through Labor Day weekend. Individuals will be needed to help provide this important ministry at Redeemer. **If you are interested, please contact Steve SeGraves.**



COMMUNION

If you are unable to receive communion at the Chancel, and 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!



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.

PASTORAL ACTS

BAPTISMS

6/8/2025 - Walter John Vowell,
son of Laura and Marty Vowell

6/28/2025 - Peyton Olivia Gallagher,
daughter of Kendra (Krentz) and Dylan Gallagher

6/29/2025 - Julia Margaret Grieser,
daughter of Danielle (Bridges) and Ben Grieser

6/29/2025 - Lee Preston Hutchings,
son of Erica (Schulz) and Alistair Hutchings

PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP



VOLUNTEER AT REDEEMER



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

FAMILY USHERING*

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

ACOLYTING & CROSS BEARING*

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

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.

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS*

Beautify our Sanctuary and Chapel with Altar and Lectern Flowers for a special occasion, or just because you love flowers. Altar flowers include two vases of flowers and Lectern flowers include one planter of flowers that will be yours to take home. Prices are the following:

- Sanctuary Altar: \$75
- Chapel Altar: \$55
- Sanctuary or Chapel Lectern: \$35

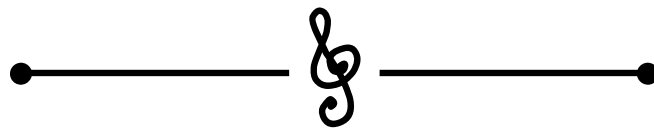
You can find the sign-up charts on the Town Square bulletin board or online under the "WAYS TO SERVE" box on the church website.

You can complete the dedication form and make payment directly online or follow the link in the confirmation email you receive. 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."**

NOTE: Please remember to leave the flower liners and/or ceramic pot for the following week when collecting your flowers! There are disposable floral bags in the Sacristy you can use to place your flowers in. 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.

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!

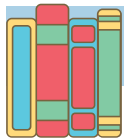


MYSTERY PRELUDE

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!

Scan to Request a Mystery Prelude:





LIBRARY LIGHTS

When August begins we start to think about the end of Summer and the impending arrival of Autumn. It's surprising how quickly summer is speeding by and how much we still have left to do before the warm weather disappears and schedules change. If you're looking for inspirational ways to wrap up the summer the Redeemer Library has several options.

If you are looking for a movie or Bible study, you may want to look to **War Room**. This acclaimed movie stars Priscilla Schirer as Elizabeth, a working wife and mother who is struggling to save her crumbling marriage. When Elizabeth meets Miss Clara she is challenged to create a "War Room" and a battle plan for prayer to rebuild her life.

The Bible study - based on the movie - includes 5 scriptural lessons and inspiring movie clips from **War Room**. This short series provides a variety of movie scenes and Bible study session on topics that include: Dealing with Spiritual Luke Warmness, Christian Accountability, Grasping Grace and the Gospel, Engaging in Spiritual Warfare, and Trusting God in Prayer.

For early readers looking for adventure **The Imagination Station** is a fantastic series. Similar to **The Magic Treehouse** series, this book series features cousins Patrick and Beth as they travel to various lands and times via the Imagination Station at Whit's Soda Shoppe. In book 1 they meet Erik the Red, book 3 finds them in China in 1271 searching for the golden tablet of Kublai Khan and book 5 brings them face to face with David and Goliath. This 33 book series has no end to adventure for young readers.

We hope you enjoy all the library has to offer.
Happy Reading!



PET BLESSING SUNDAY!

Dogs, cats, and gerbils... OH MY! You are invited to bring your pet(s) to church on **Sunday, September 21, during 9am & 10:30am services!** We are having worship outdoors on the front lawn (so bring a lawn chair too!) and during the service we'll have a special pet blessing! Coffee Hour will also be outside and will include special goodies for the animals. Contact Pastor Randy or Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberirmingham.org) with any questions.



SEPTEMBER EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 4
Chicks with Sticks
Young adult Bible Study

September 7
Homecoming Picnic
Faith Chest Blessing
RYG Kickoff party

September 8
FOG - Youth Group

September 10
Leadership Team meeting

September 12
Five Lakes Silver Band Concert

September 16
Tuesday Night Women's Bible Study begins

September 17
4 G's - Gourmet, Grub, Games & Gab
Year 1 Confirmation orientation

September 18
Chicks with Sticks

September 19
Prime Timers event - Why's It called that
(Detroit History Tours will speak)

September 20
Women's Health Workshop

September 21
Pet Blessing Sunday
Year 2 and 3 Confirmation Orientation

September 23
Women's Book Group

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

NEW MEMBER CLASSES!

If you are interested in becoming a member of Redeemer... now you can! Join us for our New Member Classes! **Starting on Sunday, October 12**, classes will run for 4 weeks on Sundays from 9am - 10am. We will end with a yummy New Member Brunch on Sunday 11/9! Come join us! Contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberirmingham.org) with questions or for more information.

All God's
Creatures



SUMMER BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAYS

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL - Nicole Olds
During 10:30am Service (Lower-Level Classrooms)

TUESDAYS

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - Kitty Sweitzer
Will resume in September
6:30pm (Great Room) - *4th Tuesday starts at 6:00pm

WEDNESDAYS

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

RYG & JAMS (HIGH AND MIDDLE 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

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



**MOMS AND CHILDREN -
JOIN US FOR**

SUMMER IN THE SPIRIT!

**ENJOY A BEAUTIFUL BIBLE STORY TOGETHER
WITH OUR CHILDREN FOLLOWED BY FUN ON THE
PLAYGROUND!!**

**Mondays - 2:00-3:30pm
ALL SUMMER LONG!!**

**Meet in the Lower Level
Fellowship Room!**

**If you have any questions, call
Crissy Bienkowski (989.450.3946) or
Andrea Calvanese (248.703.8289).**



SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDIES

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

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

EVENT SCHEDULE

*Redeemer
Young
Adults*

**BIBLE STUDY: FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY
MONTH**

MONTHLY SOCIAL EVENTS AND OUTINGS

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

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

ATTENTION PLEASE



THROUGH THESE DOORS

Through These Doors Anniversary Book
Thank you for your submission to Redeemer's
"Through These Doors" book to mark our 100th
anniversary as a congregation. We have been
happily editing over the past several months and
need your help to ensure everyone who submitted
a story is in the computer awaiting the final
printing of our little book. If you have submitted a
story for this book, please go to the Town Square
bulletin board, find your name on the "Through
These Doors" alphabetized list and put your initials
next to your name. This will confirm your
contribution to this little gem of a book. If you are
not on the list, your story is not in the computer.
Please double check today. (If you submitted and
do not see your name, contact Kitty at
misskitty@redeemberirmingham.org.)

MEN'S MINISTRY

ADDITIONAL BIBLE STUDIES

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Guys of all ages are encouraged to join us on **Wednesday mornings from 6:45 – 7:30 a.m.** in the Great Room or via Zoom as we begin our study of the book of Genesis. In addition to our study and great fellowship among the guys, we enjoy some delicious goodies, juice and coffee. For Zoom Log-in details or for further information, contact Gary Priskorn (248-644-4010 ext.123).

MEN'S GOLF AND BARBECUE

Guys of all ages are cordially invited to join us on **Wednesday, August 20th** for our 24th annual Men's BBQ at Beverly Park Pavilion (Beverly Rd. west of Southfield). The BBQ begins at 6:00 p.m. and there is also an optional 9-hole scramble golf event at Lincoln Hills beginning at 3:00 p.m. Contact "Golf Commissioner" Walt Sweitzer (248-797-2755) to sign up for golf or with questions. Sign up by August 17th on the Town Square bulletin board for the BBQ and/or golf. Other questions, contact Gary Priskorn at 248-561-2641 or gpriskorn@redeemerbirmingham.org – a freewill donation will be received. Join us for a great time of fellowship!



coming this fall

more details in the September Lamp!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY - Kyle Chuhran
Sundays, 10am (after 9am worship)- (Scheidt Room)
Begins on Sunday, September 14 at 10:00 a.m. We will be exploring the book of Hebrews. Come to learn from God's Word and from conversations with fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

NEW MEMBER CLASS - Laura Vowell
Sundays, 9-10am (Great Room)

ADULT BIBLE STUDY - Pastor Jimmy
Tuesdays, 9:30am (Great Room)

*The topic for the next Tuesday Adult Bible study is the Apocrypha or the Inter Testament Books. **We will begin on September 9.** We will be using "The Apocrypha The Lutheran Edition with Notes Study Guide."*

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - Kitty Sweitzer
Tuesdays, 6:30pm (Library)
*4th Tuesday starts at 6pm
The Chosen - Season 5

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

CONFIRMATION CLASSES - Laura Vowell
Wednesdays, 6-8pm (various rooms)

COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY - Andrea Schlak
Thursdays, 9:30-11am (Great Room)

*Andrea Schlak will be leading our weekly Community Bible Study at 9:30am in the Great Room **beginning September 11.** We hope you'll join us to dive deep into The Sermon on the Mount! Please contact Andrea or the Church Office with any questions.*

REDEEMER YOUTH GROUP (RYG) (High School) - Gia Scheidt & Eric Wisniewski
Sundays, 7pm (Youth Room)

ALL ARE
WELCOME

HOSTED BY PRIME TIMERS

TO BOTH OF THESE EVENTS

"A DAY AT THE COTTAGE!"

The Hollis family has once again invited adults of all ages to join them on **Thursday, August 7th** at their cottage on North Lake in Dexter Twp. for fun, food and fellowship from **2:00 – 6:00 p.m.** Guests are asked to bring beverages and a dish to pass to serve 10 (appetizers, salad, vegetables, dessert). An entrée will be provided at 5:00 p.m. Enjoy a relaxing time as you set sail on beautiful North Lake's "best" pontoon boat and are regaled with stories of the Hollis' family history on the lake! Carpooling is encouraged! Sign-up sheet (by August 4th) and maps are on the Town Square bulletin board. Questions? Contact Gary Priskorn (248-561-2641).



"WHY'S IT CALLED THAT?"

Friday, September 19th – 6:00 p.m.

Have you ever wondered why Woodward is called Woodward or how Belle Isle got its name? Do you wander in the city asking yourself "why is that named that?" Then this Prime Timer sponsored event on **Friday, September 19th** is for you! The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. in the Great Room with a delicious meal that will be followed by a very interesting and informative presentation by Jeff Pollock of the Detroit History Tours. We'll explore the parks, public buildings, streets and foods whose names are famous but whose stories have been lost to history. Learn the infamous, strange and charming reasons for Detroit names with "Why It's Called That?" Bring a guest and join us! Sign up on the Town Square bulletin board by September 15th. Questions? Contact Gary Priskorn.

MISSIONS



Family of God

Redeemer partners with Family of God, a Lutheran Church in southwest Detroit that provides meals to those in need 6 days a week! Redeemer provides meals 2 times a month to Family of God. ***YOU can help provide these meals in MANY different ways!***

GIVE:

By signing up to sponsor Family of God, (\$100), you would be helping feed those in need. The \$100 would be used to purchase groceries/supplies to make the meal for that month. EVERY dollar makes a difference in someone's life.

SHOP:

Volunteers are needed to shop for ingredients for the meals a day or two before we're scheduled to bring a meal to Family of God. You can use Redeemer's GFS account or save your receipts to be reimbursed by the church. We store ingredients in the church kitchen until they are used.

HELP PREPARE A MEAL:

You can use the church kitchen to prepare a meal that is already planned by someone else. All ingredients have been purchased, we need you and your crew to put it together and cook it. OR, if you prefer, you and your crew can prepare a meal that you planned and shopped for.

DELIVER AND SERVE:

To deliver and serve the meal at Family of God is a life changing experience. You would meet in the church kitchen to pack your vehicle(s) with an already prepared meal and drive it to Family of God in southwest Detroit (directions are provided). You will stay and serve the food to the community, many take-to-go containers. The Family of God staff is there to direct and help you in any way needed. The drive to Family of God takes about 40 minutes, and the serving/light clean up typically wraps up in an hour. If you prefer, you can be paired up with someone who has done it before.

PREPARE FROZEN MEALS:

Plan and prepare a frozen meal to feed at least 75 people. We will give these meals to Family of God to use when no one is signed up to bring a meal for them. This can be funded by Redeemer, if needed.

MAKE BAGGED LUNCHES:

Purchase and assemble 50 bagged lunches. Family of God will distribute the lunches to the homeless in Clark Park (southwest Detroit). This can be funded by Redeemer, if needed.

Choose one or more of the ways above to help! This is also a GREAT way to get kids involved with serving others! :)

***If you have questions or need more information, please contact Laura Vowell
(laura@redeemberirmingham.org).***



Needs Volunteers!

JOIN CAMP RESTORE DETROIT ON THE THIRD (3RD) SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH FOR A SERVICE DAY!

People of all ages are welcome - individuals, families, and groups - come by alone or gather your loved ones!

Some things to know before you come...

- Volunteers will serve from 9:30am-3:00pm.
- Bring a sack lunch and a refillable water bottle.
- Dress for the work and the weather - some projects may be outside.

For more information or questions, contact Tanya Karn (tanya@camprestore.org or 313-636-4422 ext. 1.)

Help Survivors of the Texas Floods

Samaritan's Purse is responding to deadly flash flooding in central Texas where volunteer teams are assisting devastated homeowners with clean-up and mud-outs. Starting next week, all donations made by September 1st to help those impacted will be matched by Redeemer (up to \$4,000) and donated to Samaritan's Purse, who mobilizes equipment and enlists thousands of volunteers to provide emergency aid to victims of natural disasters in the United States.

Please make checks payable to Lutheran Church of the Redeemer and put "Flood Relief" in the memo line.

Please continue to pray for all those grieving and whose lives have been turned upside down by these events.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS

2nd Wednesday of the Month
(September 10; October 8;
November 12; December 10)

BOARD OF ELDERS MEETINGS

September 24

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Summer Sunday School will continue through **August 31st**. We will kick off the fall on **September 7th!!** If you have a child who is now 3 or are new to Redeemer please reach out to Nicole Olds so you can be added to our email list. The more kids the better!! nolds@redeemberirmingham.org.



TEACHING IS A WORK OF HEART

I am looking for new teachers to fill a few spots. The schedule is set up so that you teach for 5 weeks and then have a 10 week break. You would teach 2-3 rotations during the school year. I have all the supplies for you. The curriculum is set up so you don't need a lot of prep time but gives you options of activities to do as well. If you want to give it a try this summer is a great opportunity to do so. I'd be happy to co-teach with you this summer!! Please help give our kids a reason to be excited to come to church!

Contact Nicole Olds to sign up!!
nolds@redeemberirmingham.org

FAITH CHEST BLESSING

If you had a child baptized at Redeemer during 2024 be on the lookout for a special invitation. We have a wonderful tradition of presenting our newly baptized with a special keepsake. Our event will take place on Homecoming Sunday, **September 7th**. Questions please contact Nicole Olds.



FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY

Jimmy John's Family Faith Night Recap: We had a group of 31 people (ages 3 months old - 79 years old!) attend the event. In addition to the baseball game, we enjoyed a BBQ buffet, played on the playground, saw JJ the bat dog, got lots of freebies, and even got to help display the flag during the National Anthem! We hope you'll join us next summer!

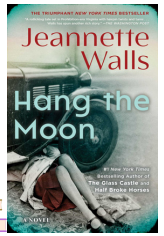


Play Ball!!



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Women's Book Group



Join us for an evening of review and comments on Jeanette Wall's novel **Hang the Moon**, the story of the Kincaid's, a leading family in rural Virginia during Prohibition and the Great Depression. A leading family they may be, but their (and just about everyone else's) principal source of revenue is "moonshine." Young Sallie, the heroine was banished by her father, the head of the family, to live with a poor aunt in a ramshackle mountain cabin.

Now, she must prove to him that she has what it takes to work in the family business. And when her father is lost? It's up to her to prove to the rest of the family, none of whom have any great love for her, that she can lead their business, despite the attempts of a rival "moonshining" family, US Government agents, and temperance-minded relatives to shut it down. We will gather on **Tuesday, August 25 at 7:00 in the Town Square**. Join us, please!!



Women's Bible Study

Let's take a look at relationships, ours and those in the Bible. **"I'm Listening"**, will give us an opportunity to build our skills when spending time with old and new friends, sharing faith with others, hearing the heart of someone in need of a good listener. **Tuesday, August 5 at 6:30pm** with a salad supper. (Bring something to throw in the bowl) - I will provide the lettuce and chicken, dressings, beverages. Great Room cozy!



Chicks with Sticks

Chicks and Sticks will be taking the summer off, but we hope you will continue to knit and crochet wonderful and necessary scarves and hats for the homeless people of Oakland and Wayne Counties! We will meet again on **Thursday, September 4th** to kick-off another wonderful year together. Thanks for all the good work and generous spirit you have shared with so many. Happy summer to all!

RYG AND JAMS

Middle Schoolers (JAMS) & High Schoolers (RYG) are hanging out on Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00pm ALL SUMMER LONG!

Join us **every Wednesday** as we continue to meet each week throughout the summer - NO COST! Everyone meets outside on the playground for a pizza dinner. Afterward, JAMS will go in the Gym to play games and RYG will go to the Youth Room for Bible Study! Parents, you can drop your high schooler and middle schooler off at the same time so that they can have Christian fellowship and some time to grow in their faith!

Contact Gia, Eric, or Laura for more information.

RYG HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

SAVE THE
DATE

**Youth group kick-off party
September 7th**

**ARE YOU A NEW CONFIRMAND OF REDEEMER?
WILL YOU BE ENTERING HIGH SCHOOL THIS FALL?**

WELCOME TO RYG - WE CAN'T WAIT TO MEET YOU!

All recent Confirmands and incoming high school students are welcome to start coming to Youth Group! From Sunday night gatherings to Wednesday Core Group - cooking for FOG and everything in between, we look forward to you joining us!

Grab a friend and come see what Redeemer Youth Group is all about - we can't wait to meet you!

FAMILY OF GOD

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

***Meet in the kitchen at 5:00pm and bring money for dinner! We'll carpool to FOG then get dinner together!**



September 8
October 13
November 10
December 8



"redeemer_y00th"
ALWAYS CHECK INSTAGRAM
FOR ANY SCHEDULE CHANGES

JAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

JAMS Game Night!

Dodgeball! Aliens in the Church! Pizza! Ice Cream Sundaes! AND MORE! Don't miss out on all of this fun with your friends! Middle School kids in grades 6-8 are invited to the JAMS Game Night on Friday, **October 10th from 5:30pm - 8:30pm!** Friends are always welcome! The cost is \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door! Grab a permission slip from outside Laura's office or download one via the church website.

Contact Laura Vowell

(laura@redeemberirmingham.org) with questions or concerns.

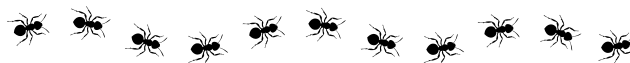
CONFIRMATION 2025-2026

Confirmation 2025/2026! We are in the process of compiling a list of all our incoming Confirmation students for the fall. Most children are on the Sunday School roster, but we do not want to miss anyone! If your child is entering the 6th grade and you would like to enroll him/her in Confirmation, please contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberirmingham.org). She will get you all set up! If you have a child that is older or younger than 6th grade, and you are interested in starting him/her in the Confirmation program, Laura can help you with that too!

Important Confirmation Dates:

Year 1 Orientation: Wednesday 9/17 at 6pm
Year 2 Orientation: Sunday 9/21 at 1:30pm
Year 3 Orientation: Sunday 9/21 directly following the 10:30am service
Confirmation Classes Start: Wednesday 9/24 from 6pm - 8pm

REDEEMER'S ANNUAL



Homecoming Picnic

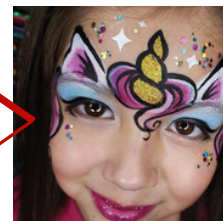
September 7, 2025
after the 10:30 worship

JOIN US TO ENJOY:

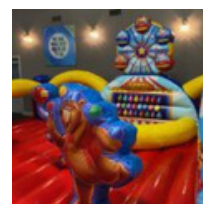
Chicken Shack chicken
Mission BBQ pulled pork and brisket
hotdogs
salads
baked beans
desserts and drinks
Kona ice truck

bring
a
friend

Professional
face painters



BALLOON TWISTERS



carnival playland bounce house

so much fun in every direction...



olympic obstacle course

shaved ice on wheels



CALL for VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers for Homecoming Picnic!

We need volunteers to make the picnic a success! There are things to get done before, during, and after the event – especially with clean up at the end! Please sign-up to help via the church website. This is a great opportunity for confirmands to earn service hours – sign up as a family and earn some family service hours! Contact Kim Davis (248-613-4200) with questions or for more information.

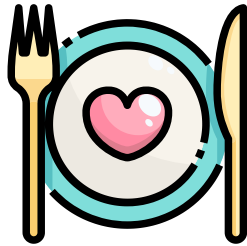
FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



WEDNESDAY LUNCH AND WORSHIP IS TRANSFORMING INTO THE 4 G'S

"Gourmet, Grub, Games, and Gab" – or "The 4 G's!" That's right, we are going to continue to have our gathering with a delicious lunch, but instead of worship, we will be playing games! We will gather the third Wednesday of each month in the Great Room, **starting September 17th**, at 12:00pm for lunch prepared by Michele Margosian. For our first meeting, we'll enjoy Cheesy Potato Soup, Hudson's (favorite!) Maurice Salad, Bread and Butter, and Dessert – followed by **BINGO!** We're excited for this new program, and we hope to see you there!

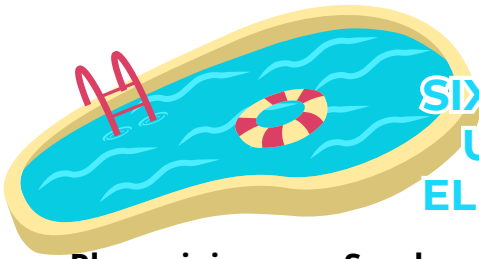
MONDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP!



Join us this summer on Monday evenings for fellowship and dinner!
June 9th - August 25th

The evening includes: Fellowship, light dinner, dessert, and refreshments. Meet at 6:30pm outside the Chapel, and stay to worship at 7:00pm.

If you would like to host an evening, call the church office!



SIXTH ANNUAL USHER AND ELDERS PARTY!

Please join us on Sunday, August 10th from 1:00-4:00pm!

All ushers, elders, and pastors are invited!
Lunch, drinks, and good cheer provided - be sure to bring your swimsuit if you want to take a dip!

Paul Quasarano's Backyard
31033 Franklin Road - Franklin

READY YOUR RECIPES FOR OUR COMMEMORATIVE COOKBOOK!

As part of our 100th Anniversary celebration, Redeemer is creating a commemorative cookbook that will feature favorite recipes from you - our members! - as well as some vintage specialties from the archives. These cookbooks will be professionally published and are sure to be an enjoyable (and useful!) keepsake for us all.

Multiple recipes from all members will ensure that the cookbook is a success, so don't be shy! Feel free to submit 3-5 of your family's favorite recipes and be a part of this special occasion cookbook.

We have created an online recipe portal through Morris Press Cookbook to make the recipe-gathering process as easy as possible. However, if you prefer, you can also submit hard copies to the Cookbook Committee.

To ensure your recipes are included, please submit recipes online no later than September 12th so we can meet our deadline of early November.

To Submit Recipes Online:

- Go to www.typensave.com and click 'Login.'
- Enter the User Name: redeemercookbook
- Enter the password: potato096 and click 'Submit.'
- Enter your name and click 'Continue.'
- Click 'Add Recipes' to begin adding your recipes.

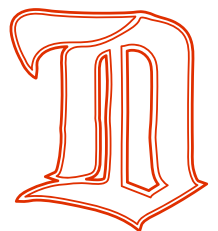
It should be pretty self-explanatory after that in terms of actual recipe entry. Under "Notes," we would love for you to include personal comments, such as "this recipe has been in our family for 50+ years" or "this is my kids' favorite meal!"

We look forward to creating this culinary collection with you!

- The Cookbook Committee

Beth Lanthier, Donna Hollis, Nancy Lesinski,
Sharilyn O'Boyle, Liz Pedersen, Richelle Pedersen

Fellowship Breakfast Saturday, October 11th



Mark your calendar - Men's Ministry is hosting another Fellowship Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. in the Great Room with a very special guest presenter - former major league pitcher and Detroit Tiger, Frank Tanana! All are welcome! More details to follow.

MUSIC MINISTRY



All the wonderful music ministry groups at Redeemer are back in full swing starting the first week of September. The meeting times and places are listed below.

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 Choir

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 6:30pm to 8pm in the music room. Contact Steve SeGraves at stevenssegraves@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 at 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 8am in the sanctuary, and in the summer at 9am in the Choir Room. Contact Steve SeGraves at stevenssegraves@gmail.com.

YOUTH CHOIR

The Youth Choir is made up of children ages 6 to 14 years of age. These musical children sing approximately one Sunday a month, generally at the 10:30am worship service. Rehearsal information to be announced. Nancy Lesinski - 248-709-3040 OR Nicole Olds - 248-644-4010 ext. 124

HEART OF WORSHIP: Senior High

The Heart of Worship is a contemporary youth praise group, made up of talented Senior High Teens from our Youth Group. They participate in our worship services periodically throughout the year. Gia Scheidt and Eric Wisniewski at 248-644-4010 ext. 120

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 11:30 after the 10:30 worship. Pastor Jimmy Greenwalt - 248-644-4010 ext. 117

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



HAS GOD GIVEN YOU MUSICAL TALENT? GIVE IT BACK TO HIM!

Not everyone is blessed with musical talent. If you have musical ability but aren't yet participating in a music ministry group at Redeemer, you are missing out on the opportunity for God to use your musical talent for His glory. And we are missing out on you!

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Colossians 3:16



MUSIC AND MUNCHIES

On **Wednesday, September 10th** the Chancel Choir will hold our 2nd annual "Music and Munchies", night. This will be a just-for-fun, no commitment event for visitors to the choir, that will include refreshments, some singing, and who knows...maybe some fun musical door prizes. So come out and have a snack with the choir and sit in on a sing-through of some wonderful songs.

See you in the choir room at 6:30pm on September 10th!

COUNSELING CORNER

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

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

Setting the bar (goals) at a reasonable level that can be attainable is using wisdom and kindness towards yourself and others. Who doesn't want to succeed? Why not do what you love to do or what you are really good at? How about that thing that has been gnawing at you, way deep down in your spirit? Could that be God telling you the plan He wants you to pursue, Jeremiah 29:11? I find that when my clients get more realistic with their goals they feel a whole lot better inside and it manifests on their face. Now, they are setting themselves up for success, not failure and rejection.

Additionally, finding the things in life that God created (hard wired) us to do is a journey one can prayerfully pursue with God. He's with you right there waiting for you to ask Him. Jeremiah 29:12. In relationships, I also find that people expect too much from their spouse that they too are just not wired to deliver. Many try to fill that empty space inside of them with a false expectations of others like wanting a husband to talk- talk- talk with you, share his inner most feelings with you..(this is girlfriending him) probably not going to happen. Like Dr. Lehman says in his book "Have a New Husband by Friday" "You are seeking a type of intimacy with your husband that only God can deliver. Men are just not that deep!" God created in us that little sacred space that only HE can fill. Sadly, I see some of these "underperforming spouses" tap out of the relationship because they feel like such a disappointment to their wife or husband.

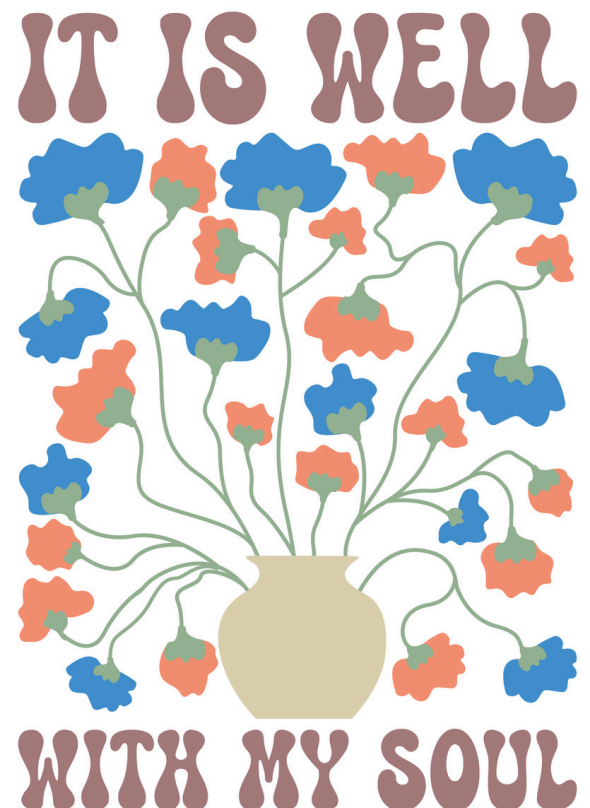
Finally, be kinder to yourself and others with realistic expectations. If you are just not sure if the bar is too high, just ask God. He will love you through this situation with direction, wisdom and finally peace. You will know in your gut if it is "well with your soul". Take some nice walks with Jesus.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

God's Blessings to you,
Dr. Sandy Pourcho

COUNSELING CENTER

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

Sandy Pourcho, PHD
248.568.6040



100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION: REDEEMER'S CONGREGATIONAL CARE

***"One generation commends your works to another;
they tell of your mighty acts." - Psalm 145:4***



"Pay attention to yourselves and all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which He obtained with His own blood." Acts 20:28.

Over the last 100 years, Redeemer has always had a focus on Congregational Care. This entails making sure our members are offered opportunities for spiritual growth, Christian counseling services, volunteer opportunities that create a foundation for Christian connection and support, having a strong leadership team in place that guides the church forward, and offering needed resources to learn about the Bible and the guiding principles of our faith.

The Church Council has been in place since the very beginning of our congregation, and has successfully brought Redeemer to where we are today. We have been so blessed by our leadership. The original Council was comprised of men only, until 1978, when women were able to join. They were not allowed to be the President or Vice President. The Council meetings covered reports from staff, Pastors, and each Board. The Boards were in charge of each area of ministry, and included the Trustees, Music, Women's Ministry, and more. These meetings could run until midnight on some occasions!

In 1994, outgoing President, Dale Claudepierre, set Action Goals and Ministry Visions, which led to our constitution being rewritten to change our governing body to a Leadership Team. For two years, the Mission, Vision, and Value statements and strategic ministries were developed. In a letter to the Church Council in 1994, President Tom Demrick noted that our management structure would change, to complement the emphasis on spiritual growth. "The agenda for the team meetings will have more structure with time being devoted to planning, dreaming, studying and discussing our vision of the future." The Boards would not present verbal reports, instead they would send monthly reports and simply be available for questions that would arise. Greg Merryman was also instrumental in the transition to the Leadership Team.

Today's Leadership Team is blessed with our current President Pat Carr, VP and past President Deb Vanderhoef, Secretary Laura Romeo, and Treasurer Stacey Rolf. Our ministries are all staff led, which leaves the Team to take on pressing church matters such as our finances and safety issues.

Redeemer has an elected team to lead and guide the congregation as well as paid staff members who direct and guide our ministries. How does everything else get accomplished? Volunteers!!! We would not be who we are without each member of the congregation that volunteers. We all know that if you are in church on a Sunday morning, you have been asked to help out in some manner. The song, "They'll Know we are Christians (by our Love)" represents who we are and what we are. Most volunteers work behind the scenes, but some folks deserve some special recognition. Carol Frost volunteered weekly in the office for over 50 years, Cathy Hansen was a volunteer assistant for Lay Ministry in 1994, and now hosts our coffee hour most Sundays. Leslie Whitfield ran our Confirmation program for many years, and whenever you are at church, you will usually see Michele Margosian cooking in the kitchen! When Bill Cordes retired, he practically lived at church, working on all types of projects. He performed the "great duckling rescue" when they were stuck in our courtyard! For many years, Henry Moore spent hours categorizing, filing, and organizing the choir music. Judy Mammel counted the offering plate cash for over 15 years, along with Sherry Higgins.

In 1967, the Evening Guild opened the Book Nook which sold religious items such as Bibles, hymnals, greeting cards, and jewelry. Carol Romeo and Doris Strane spent many hours running to the Lutheran Bookstore in Detroit, picking up merchandise and getting things engraved. The Book Nook started on a card table in the basement and then to a room near the Chapel. Carol remembers her excitement when a permanent home was created. It was eventually replaced by the elevator, but moved across the hall next to where the nursery used to be.

"Blessed is the man who finds wisdom, the man who gains understanding." Proverbs 3:13. Reverend Ted Wuggazer always had a dream of a library at Redeemer. He wanted a resource for our members to learn and grow spiritually. By 1965, our Library was established and dedicated in his name in 1972. The library became known as one of the most extensive church libraries in the area. Lois Meinert wrote that it began with a few books from the Sunday School Office and about 15 books from the youth department. These books were housed on some rickety shelves in the corner of the youth leader's room. Later, it was moved to the overflow room of the Sanctuary where Bible classes were held. In a letter to her "Library Gals", Lois thanks them for donating money so that a card catalog could be purchased, and that left enough money in our library fund for a typewriter! In 1967, the library began purchasing inspirational art works, which were professionally framed and loaned out to Redeemer members for \$1.50 for four weeks. The library also housed 154 film strips, which were used as teaching aids. Lois had a staff of 4 volunteers who worked one afternoon per week processing new books and cataloging them, repairing hymnals, and staffing the library on Sundays and Tuesday evenings.

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

In 1971, the Multi-Purpose Facilities were dedicated, and Reverend Theodore Wuggazer's dream of a home for the library was realized. His portrait was hung, and the 1,000th book, The Jerusalem Bible, was in place. By 1977, the library housed over 3,000 volumes. The library committee consisted of: Ruth McCornick, Dorothy Flanagan, Marjorie Morkin, Thelma Cordes, Betty Moore, Varda Hanson, Fay McCornick, Margaret Biske, and of course Lois Meinert.

In 1994, a computer system was purchased for the library by the Women's Ministry. Today, the updated system allows the library committee to maintain, catalog, and check out books. Our library committee presently consists of: Karen Rose, Stacie Millichamp, and Dawn Leiser. Stop in and check out a book or two!

Redeemer has a long-standing history of Care and Concern Ministries. Over the years, there has never been a lack of volunteers who are genuinely motivated to serve others in the name of Jesus. When Sharon Sweet was Director of Lay Ministries, she offered a spiritual gifts survey to the congregation. This allowed members to see which ministries were a good fit for their talents. The ministries are wide and varied in scope and purpose, but always with a goal of reaching out to comfort others.

In 1976, the vital ministry H.E.L.P.I.N. was established. Urgent needs require urgent response. H.E.L.P.I.N. – Help Every Living Person In Need – provided immediate help to any member who experienced an urgent crisis. This Ministry offered a central call-in station with member names and phone numbers who were available to aid and assist. Linda Lewis, Ingrid Bartlam and Eileen Winkler were the "Helper" contacts for this essential ministry.

There are many tasks and works of service for the church that go unseen by most of the congregation. Labors of Love is a two-part ministry. Originally started by Cleora Fitzpatrick, this group's goal was to welcome every newcomer with a smile and a nametag, following up with a friendly phone call. The second phase of Labors of Love involved volunteers who saw areas around the church which needed fixing, painting, cleaning, etc. These labors of love for Redeemer were present in the smell of fresh paint, the gleam of the pipe organ, and the clear shine of the windows, all reflecting the care and concern of the Lord's servants.

In 1992, Pastor Cary Richert brought the Stephen Ministry program to Redeemer. It was widely recognized as a comforting connection for individuals who seek one on one guidance and Christian counsel during times of sorrow, depression, health concerns, loss of loved ones, job loss or financial difficulties. Redeemer Stephen Ministers, under the direction of Pastor Cary Richert, went through a rigorous 10-week training program to equip them with the tools and wisdom they needed to provide counseling. Core leaders include Kay Veller, Dorothy Hesskamp, and Marion Smith, with additional members: Jess Soltess, Cathy Hansen, Rick Russ, Gini and Dale Claudepierre, Gloria Miller, Lynn Kartz, and Jane Stearns.

An extension of the Stephen Ministry program is a group known as HeartWarmers, which provides practical short-term assistance at home, and a listening ear to those experiencing temporary disruptions in their lives. Errands, transportation, babysitting, preparing meals and reassuring visits are all part of the heart-warming assistance provided.

Do you ever wonder when a fellow member is absent from worship services, whether anyone has tried to reach out to them? The Shepherding Ministry was developed by Bill Rolf in 1995 to provide a friendly approach to those whose presence had been missed. Graciously, over 60 members responded willingly to answer this call, and lovingly contacted those members who had been missed.

Prayer is a powerful voice asking God for His merciful Grace, and Redeemer has many members who answer that call with personal and group petitions of prayer for those in need. Previously, a small group of members came together to pray for the specific needs of the congregation. This group was expanded greatly when a Prayer Chain was created for online daily petitions and sent out to a large group called "Prayer Warriors". Those needing prayer can submit their requests online to prayerchain@redeemberirmingham.org.

Our Pastors often go on visitations to see members in the hospital, care facilities, shut-ins, and those recovering at home. They often like to take treats, or even meals with them to compliment the visit. The Fishes & Loaves Ministry was a compatible program where members would sign up to make meals for those in need. The meals were delivered by pastors during their visits, or by the member themselves who prepared the meal. Those receiving these lovingly prepared meals often enjoyed them with a special dessert!

Sonshine Greeters are volunteers who celebrate the birthdays of members who are 80 years and older. Scriptural cards, candy, and flowers accompany the visit and Sonshine Greeters have formed loving relationships with those they contact or visit.

A similar, but expanded ministry called Faithful Friends – A Heart for Seniors, was created to address the emotional and spiritual needs of those members in care facilities, nursing homes, or those restricted to their homes. A Faithful Friend is assigned to someone in these residences: sending cards, making phone calls, and personal visits. The simple act of letting these shut-ins know they are loved and appreciated provides profound blessings. Evidence of this appreciation is shown in the numerous thank you notes and phone calls the church receives.

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Our devoted Senior members enjoy a delicious home cooked meal on the 3rd Wednesday of the month preceding a worship service in the Chapel. For many years, several volunteers prepared this feast including Bill and Carol Leahy, Marilyn Staargaard, Karen Pridmore, and currently, Michelle Margosian.

Redeemer has always been on a mission to attract new members. For decades, the Lutheran doctrinal classes were held twice a year. Members could attend pre-service classes to learn about Martin Luther and Lutheranism, and often the information was repeated in the sermon that Sunday. Currently, the program has shifted and now the prospective members learn the doctrinal lessons during specific sermons.

Redeemer understands both the physical and emotional needs of its congregation. The church offers Christian counseling opportunities for both men and women in a private and non-threatening environment. Dr. Sandy Pourcho currently offers personal, marital, spiritual, and parenting counsel for clients, and meets with them in her comfortable Redeemer office. Pastor Ron Farah, who recently joined loved ones in his heavenly home, offered spiritual advice to men in the congregation. Bethany Baker and Anna Lewis were former Redeemer Counselors. Anna Lewis frequently teaches a Bible Studies on Thursday mornings.

Titus 2, so named after the Biblical book in the New Testament, is a mentoring program for young moms. Each younger mother is paired with an older, more experienced woman who provides wisdom and perspective in a casual, friendly manner. Coffee, lunch, phone calls and cards are part of this personal and beneficial ministry.

In the historical journey of Redeemer, one can be sure Bible Study is a constant co-pilot. Bible Studies are offered nearly every day for every age in a wide variety of themes. In 1969, Minister of Adult Education, Bill Meinert introduced the Bethel Bible Study series to Redeemer. Bethel was an intensive program using over 40 visual aids to acquaint students with the themes of the Bible. The study, completed by a large number of members, took two years to complete!

Adult Bible Studies are available at different times and days of the week. Kitty Sweitzer, Director of Women's Ministry leads the Tuesday evening Bible Study with a wide variety of books and DVD's from Beth Moore, Priscilla Shirer, Ray Vander Laan and currently, episodes of the popular TV series, "The Chosen" about the life of Christ. Men are invited on Wednesday morning at 6:45 a.m., for breakfast, Bible study, fellowship and prayer, and is led by Gary Priskorn. This ministry prides itself on its long-standing presence over the years, and the loyalty of its members. Saturday morning informative and inspiring presentations are often offered for all men in the congregation. Young moms are provided with "Positive Parenting", with tips and advice on Wednesday mornings headed by Gary Priskorn, then by Andrea Schlak, and now by Victoria Ilitch & Kristin Thomas. Beth Schoen led a Single Women's Bible Study during the early 90's on Monday evenings.

Mom's Group was a gathering of young moms looking for fellowship and Bible Study, who gathered on Thursday mornings, attended Community Bible Study and then broke into small groups to discuss the study. Originally headed by Leslie Whitfield, the torch was then passed down to Phyllis Viola, then to Marilyn Staargaard and finally to Patty Schmidt.

Community Bible Study (CBS) on Thursday mornings attracted those from other churches in the area and offered fellowship and study on various books of the Bible. During the 90's, Margaret Hess, a biblical scholar, taught groups of up to 50 people for many years. Pam Dodge and Rosemary Ging also led CBS from the 90's through 2021. During Covid, most Bible Studies including CBS, were offered virtually on Zoom, allowing members to study the Bible in the safety and security of their homes.

In the early 90's, Cary Richert introduced Small Group Bible Study. The idea was to form small groups that met together in the more intimate setting of their homes to study the Bible. The original group included Walt & Kitty Sweitzer, Tim & Sandy Springer, Tom & Sue Peoples, Dennis & Helga Gueguierre. They met for coffee, dessert, fellowship and biblical study. Small groups continue to be very active today still meeting at members' homes each month.

In the 1990's, it was realized that while the inside of every church sanctuary is indeed a holy and sacred temple, the exterior space is also the place where the Lord resides. A Garden Committee was formed to attend to the monumental task of creating an outdoor environment reflective of His grace and the beauty He desires and deserves. Redeemer members, Sandy Springer, Sharon Zimmer, Nancy Tar, Colleen Berndt, Mary Ellen Martin, and Joan Evans took the helm and the Garden Committee created several beautiful spaces around Redeemer. The Myrtle Wuggazer Memorial Garden was created in her honor, and resides outside the east entrance by the columbarium. The Garden is circular in form and vision, lovingly planted with a wide variety of flowering plants, herbs, bushes and trees, statuary, and memorial plaques. And who would guess that God assigned many of the flowers and herbs special Bible verses reflecting their beauty and character. The "Myrtle" plant is referred to in Isaiah 41:19, and in Zechariah 1:7-8, 10-11. 'Lilies of the Valley', 'Wild Olive', Dill, Mint, Hyssop—all had specific Bible verses attached to them. In fact, over 40 shrubs and 65 trees are mentioned in the Bible. Exact references can be found in the Baker Encyclopedia of Bible Plants. The Biblical Memorial Garden had over 124 plants, blooming in each of the four seasons. Some of the plants carry humorous names such as, "Jack in the Pulpit", "Jacob's Ladder", "Dwarf Goat's Beard", and "Monk's Hood", to name a few. This garden also features brick pavers that our members have donated in honor of loved ones.

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

After services, members are delighted with a view of the Courtyard Garden featuring bright orange day lilies, huge white hydrangeas, hosta, flowering shrubs and trees, a statuary of Jesus blessing the children, memorial plaques, a fountain and waterfall, a gazing ball, and finally a pond featuring red poi fish. The Courtyard Garden was designed by Ronald and Diane Detloff in 2004. Since then, many aesthetic features have been added to enhance the Courtyard Garden.

We have been entrusted with the Heavenly charge of caring for ourselves and others in the church and the world. Redeemer has always taken time to ensure that the grace of God and the teachings of the Bible are embedded in our words and deeds. Whether the Word is taught through Bible study, shone through members actions or viewed in our gardens, it is apparent that God's love shines through our members, creating a church rich in faith and action that we hope creates a lasting legacy for Redeemer and that would give God reason to say "Well done, good and faithful servants." Matthew 2:21



August 4, 11, 18

Summer in the Spirit-
Mommy and me group

August 3-9

Redeemer Summer Kamp

August 7

A Day at the Hollis Cottage
Young Adult Bible Study

August 10

Annual Usher/Elder Party

August 13

RYG and JAMS to Cedar
Point
Leadership Team Meeting

August 12-15

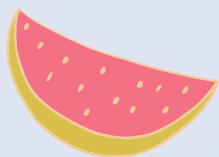
Sight and Sound Lancaster
Trip

August 20

Men's Golf Outing and
BBQ Fellowship

August 26

Women's Book Group



100TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT SERIES

Redeemer is hosting a variety of musical performances this fall to help commemorate our special year - all performances will take place in the Sanctuary. We hope you'll join us!

Friday, September 12th

7:00pm: Five Lakes Silver Band Concert
(Redeemer Sanctuary)

Sunday, October 19th

3:00pm: Detroit Lutheran Singers
Fall Concert (Redeemer Sanctuary)

SAVE THE DATE



100th Anniversary Community Event

Friday, November 7th

including **Detroit Youth Choir Concert**

*and so MANY other fun events for the whole family.
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***Updated Interest Rate sheets for July
are available around the building.***

AUGUST

BIBLE READING PLAN

1

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

2

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

3

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

4

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

5

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

6

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

7

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

8

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

9

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

10

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

11

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

12

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

13

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

14

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

15

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

16

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

17

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

18

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

19

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

20

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

21

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

22

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

23

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

24

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

25

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

26

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

27

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

28

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

29

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

30

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

30

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



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august

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June Campbell
Rayna Nadeau
Daniel Reck Jr

August 2

Jordan Held
Dorothy Holter
Jim Rowe
Dominique VanDyke

August 3

Sydney Beck
Matt Briede
Franco Calvaneso
Kathy Eley
Debbie Lavoie
Griffin Ortale
Emily Volckaert

August 4

Anna Baranowski
Samuel Cvetanovski
Brooke Lapinski
Dave Malven

August 5

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

August 6

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

August 7

Jamie Burstein
Tyler Olds

August 8

Norah Baker
Tracey Papa

August 9

Cameron Friedrich
Krista Mills

August 10

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

August 11

Christian Durham
Linda Lewis
Margaret Long
Caitlin Rayle
Collins Thompson

August 12

Andrea Appel
Chase Norman
Nathaniel Schultz
David Snyder
Kelly Teahan

August 13

Kenneth Eisenbraun
Jan Hoge
Kendall Orava
Megan Rettray
Robin Swift

August 14

Rosemary Ging
Giasella Lucas
Sandra Ochalek
Jeanne Vautaw

August 16

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

August 17

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

August 18

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

August 19

Kristina Lalik
Michelle Lund
Sharilyn O'Boyle
Lisa Wesner

August 20

Sara Amos
Natalie Appel
Brad Baldner
Gwendolyn Berumen
Charles Couger

August 21

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

August 22

Genevieve Doyle
Lily Tyler
Tom Violante

August 23

Jason Ahlquist
Stephanie Bowers
Luke Guevara
Dana Nehls

August 24

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

August 25

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

August 26

Kyle Klopck
Makenzie Kulczycki
Maximus McCulloch
Julia Russ
Hannah Tikkanen

August 27

Raymond Dobring
Jack Falk

August 28

Leah Curcio
Tim Frost
Barb Grattan
Gavin Hoy
London Leischner
Steve SeGraves
Chris Tylenda
Dennis Wilkie

August 29

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

August 30

Kaeli Fish
Scott Rhind
Gia Scheidt
Abbey Smith
Kevin Smith

August 31

Michael Butler
Cheryl Kent
Barbara Morrell
Jeff Rettray
Graham Schulte

have a
very happy
birthday