

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER



THE LAMP

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

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The Red Letters of Jesus



What if we stopped reading about Jesus and started putting his Red Letter words into practice? You may have noticed that in many Bibles the words Jesus speaks are in Red. What if by putting the words of Jesus into practice, we discover who He is and who He has made us to be?



You see, we are to be a reflection of Jesus in this world. How are we doing with that? What about Christianity as a whole?

"If you love me, keep my commands. (John 14:15)

- Feb. 14** Ash Wednesday - Building on Christ
- Feb. 21** Being with Christ
- Feb. 28** Forgiving with Christ (*even forgiving ourselves*)
- March 6** Serving Christ
- March 13** Generosity (*The Law of Generosity*)
- March 20** Going for Christ

1:00pm Chapel and 7:00pm Sanctuary
 Each worship service is preceded by a meal
 (12:00 noon and 6:00pm, 5:30 for confirmands)

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

Maundy Thursday, March 28 - Dining with Christ

Good Friday, March 29 - Dwelling with Christ

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

Holy Communion at both Maundy Thursday services ONLY

Easter Eve, March 30 - 5:00pm

Easter Sunday Services, March 31

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 Wed. 7pm services & 10:30am Easter Service will be livestreamed*



Pastor Randy



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 (ext.119) Senior Pastor
 Rev. James Greenwalt (ext. 117) Assistant Pastor
 Rev. Ron Farah Pastor Emeritus
 Gary Priskorn (ext.123) Dir. of Men's & Senior Ministry
 Kitty Sweitzer (ext.111) Dir. of Women's Ministry
 Nicole Olds (ext 124) Dir. of Children's Ministry
 Steve SeGraves (ext.129).....Dir. of Music
 Laura Vowell (ext 121).....Dir. of Family Life/Middle School
 Confirmation/Outreach
 Gia Scheidt (ext.120) Dir. of High School
 Eric Wisniewski (ext.120)Assistant Dir. of High School
 Kim Davis.....Dir. of Fellowship
 Jim Compton..... Dir. of Handbell Choir
 Pat Raezler (ext.126) Dir. of Westmaple Nursery
 Rose Kiehle (ext.116) Office Manager
 Pam Tyndall (ext 118).....Professional Staff/Office Liaison
 Therese Scheidt (ext. 114).....Office Coordinator
 Laura Jones (ext. 110).....Accountant
 Counseling Center (248) 568-6040
Dr. Sandy Pourcho 248.568.6040 / Anna Lewis 248.224.0383
 Fred Suczynski (ext.113)..... Building Maintenance

Worship Schedule

Sundays - 8:00am (Chapel), 9:00, *10:30am (Sanctuary)

Mondays - 7:00pm (Chapel)

* Livestreamed service

Communion Schedule

1st & 3rd Sundays - 9:00am and 10:30am

2nd, 4th & 5th Sun./Mon. - Sun. 8:00am; Mon. 7:00pm

Stewardship Report

Month: December	Dec. 2023	Dec. 2022	
Weekly Attendance Averages			
Worship	456	380	
Bible Class	117	96	
Sunday School	23	30	
Monthly Attendance Totals			
Communion	1037	453	
Visitors	70	80	
Month:	December	2023	2022
Income and Expenses			
Income received	\$230,988	\$257,016	
Budget requirements	\$247,876	\$252,250	
General fund expenses	\$174,037	\$178,600	
YTD Fiscal-year income	\$797,120	\$797,352	
YTD Fiscal-year expenses	\$671,728	\$676,044	

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

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

CARING FOR MY NEIGHBOR

If any of the Ten Commandments might tempt us to think that keeping the Law is easy, it would be the Fifth Commandment. After all, how hard is it to get through life without murdering somebody? The vast majority of people can handle that!

But Jesus famously blows up this notion by pointing out that the command, “you shall not murder,” goes much deeper — down to the heart.

You have heard that it was said to those of old, “You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.” But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, “You fool!” will be liable to the hell of fire. (Matt. 5:21–22)

Hatred and disdain come from the same sort of crookedness of heart as murder. With both murder and hatred, you look down on another person and think them of little worth.

In the Small Catechism, Luther also points out that every “do not” in the commandments also includes a “do this:” “We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body but *help and support him in every physical need*” (SC, Fifth Commandment, emphasis added).

We are not called merely to avoid evil; we must also do positive good.

So when Jesus drew near to us and became our neighbor by taking up our humanity, He came not only to avoid harming us, but He came to positively help us, bless us and serve us.

We are now called to show the love to our neighbors that Christ showed to us. Your neighbor is yet another gift that God has given you that requires your stewardship. We are called to show mercy, to be kind, to love and serve our neighbor. One aspect of this stewardship is financial: our neighbors need us to support the church's work so that they can hear the Gospel and come to faith. Our neighbors need the church's alms and mercy work. Our neighbors need our faithful service in all we do in the name of Christ.

“
Love your neighbor
as yourself.
”

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS

February 14 (after worship)

March 13 (after worship)

BOARD OF ELDERS MEETINGS

March 27

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

I thank you that there is no human experience that I might walk through where your love cannot reach me. If I climb the highest mountain you are there and yet if I find myself in the darkest valley of my life, you are there. Teach me today to love you more. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

In Loving
Memory
forever in our hearts

*Donations made to the
Memorial Fund
and the Music Fund*

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

GIVE A MEMORIAL GIFT

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

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



How do I watch Sunday Services LIVE online?

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



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

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

1. Go to the church website
www.redeemberbirmingham.org
2. Click the second *Vimeo* square on the front page of the website.
3. This will take you to “Redeemer’s Showcase Page” where you can view all of Redeemer’s past videos. Choose the category you’d like and select the video.

Please feel free to call the church office if you are having trouble viewing any videos.

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

Mystery Prelude

Our very own Rick Helderop will play one of your favorite/meaningful songs in the Prelude spot at all the Sunday Services for that day (8am, 9am and 10:30am). It doesn't have to be a hymn! It can be your wedding song, a song that reminds you of a loved one, or even a catchy tune you just LOVE! Your name and the significance of your selection will be printed in the bulletin and the song will be revealed in the announcements. Sign up for one of the available Sundays on the front page of the website or scan this QR code to be taken directly to the form. It is \$10 and ALL PROCEEDS GO TO OUR MISSION FUND! Thank you for participating!



Flower Sign-ups Available!

Sign up now for either Altar or Lectern flowers in the Sanctuary or the Chapel. (Sanctuary/\$55; Chapel/\$50; Lectern/\$45) **(Please leave the flower liners behind for the next week's flowers!!!)** The sign-up charts are up on the Town Square bulletin board and are also available online via sign-up genius (links found on the front page of the website www.redeemberbirmingham.org by clicking the “Ways to Serve” box then the “Altar and Lectern Flower Signup” box). Once you sign-up, you will be contacted about a dedication/payment a month before your date OR you can fill out your dedication form and pay online with a link in the flower chart signup. If you need assistance, please contact the front office at 248-644-4010 or office@redeemberbirmingham.org and we would be happy to assist you!



PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP

2024
dates available

Family Ushering

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

Be a Greeter*

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

Host a Coffee Hour*

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

Be a Reader*

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

Acolyting & Crossbearing

The Redeemer Acolyte Program is a service requirement for students in the Confirmation program in grades 6-8, and open to all who wish to volunteer. We welcome new director Crissy Bienkowski who will replace our amazing, long-time director Pam Lucas. Welcome Crissy, and thank you Pam for your hard work and service. The new schedule is up if you'd like to sign up. You can sign up under the **WAYS to SERVE** box via the church website. If you have any questions, contact Laura Vowell at laura@redeemberirmingham.org.



Scan QR code to go to **Redeemer's website** click on the **WAYS TO SERVE** box to sign up to **VOLUNTEER**

** sign up are also available on the Town Square bulletin board*

BIBLE STUDIES



SUNDAYS

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

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

Children's Sunday School
Nicole Olds - Sundays, 10:30am
(lower-level classrooms)

Redeemer Youth Group (High School)
Gia Scheidt & Eric Wisniewski - Sundays, 7pm
check instagram for updated information.



SMALL GROUP

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

Talk to Pastor Randy if you are interested in joining or starting a small group at 248-644-4010 ext. 119

TUESDAYS

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

Women's Bible Study - Tuesdays, 6:30pm
Kitty Sweitzer - **Killin it by Andy Stanley**
3 session study on Pride
(Library)



WEDNESDAYS

Men's Bible Study - 6:45-7:30am
Gary Priskorn - **Study of Isaiah**
*Zoom available - all year long
(Great Room)

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

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

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

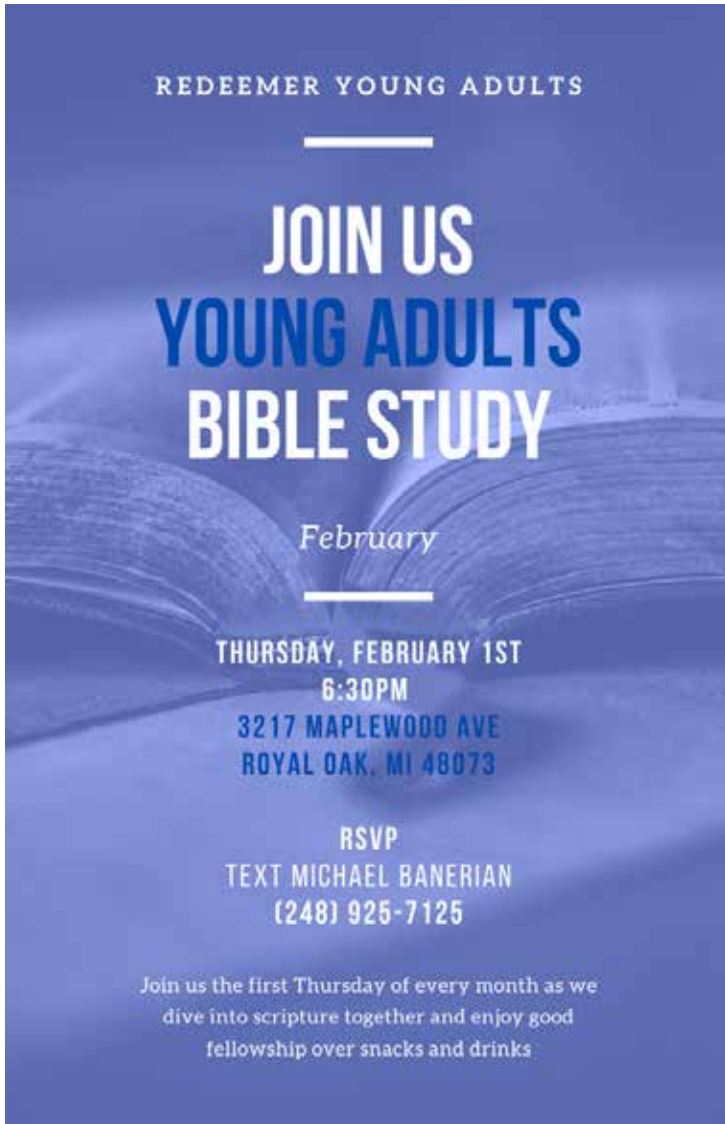


THURSDAYS

Young Adult Bible Study
1st Thursday of every month
Michael's house (3217 Maplewood Ave. in Royal Oak) text Michael Banerian to RSVP (248.925.7125)
For more information on a particular study, contact the names indicated, check the bulletin announcements, or call the church office at 248-644-4010 for more specifics.

COME GROW
With us





TIME TO UPDATE YOUR MEMBER PROFILE!

Please make sure you login to **ShelbyNext Membership** to confirm/update your family's profile information OR send your updated information to office@redeemberirmingham.org. (If you need your login credentials for ShelbyNext, reach out to the front office). You can download the **ShelbyNext Membership app** on your smart device (**redeemberirmingham** is the domain name you enter) to have access to the directory and church calendar on the go (EVEN PASTOR RANDY IS USING THE APP!) or you can login to ShelbyNext Membership on your desktop computer.

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

POSITIVE PARENTING

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

In February we will read and discuss *Vertical Marriage*, by Dave & Ann Wilson. We will also pull from a recent podcast to look at the main points from the book *Hunt, Gather, Parent* by Michaelleen Doucleff. Additionally, Miss Kitty is tentatively scheduled to come as a guest speaker for one session.

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





SENIOR MINISTRY

Faithful Friends Enrichment Series:
“Planning a Christian Funeral”
Sunday, February 11, 2024

It's February 2024 and many of us are anticipating the new year with enthusiasm and excitement. One of the most popular New Year Resolutions is “Avoiding Procrastination”. Not to diminish the joy of a fresh new year, but procrastination can often get the best of us when it comes to planning one's own or a loved one's funeral or final memorial tribute. It's always best not to be caught off guard, which frequently happens by a sudden death. And for those in the later stages of life, having a well thought out plan can provide one's family with the decisions and requests which are so difficult to decipher during a time of sorrow.

On Sunday, February 11, immediately after the 10:30 Service, Pastor Randy will lead us with a step by step guide about “*Planning A Christian Funeral*”. Many people know the practical aspects involving a funeral, but few understand the Ecclesiastical purpose, which is to experience the comfort in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Eternal Love and Hope present in these Divine Truths. With every Christian death, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ meets us with His Sacrificial Light in order that we may be glorified to and by Him with the absolute assurance we will be united with our loved ones in Heaven.

In his presentation, Pastor Randy will lead us step by step through the “*Funeral Planning Guide*” from the initial meeting with the family, to the subsequent decisions regarding the selection of the funeral home and director, organist and special music, the order of service including selection of hymns, psalms, scripture readings, eulogies, and prayers. In addition, the planning guide provides an especially important section on understanding tax and legal issues inherent with the death of a loved one.

Please join us for this important Faithful Friends Educational Event.

Questions? Contact: Gary Priskorn, 248-644-4010 x123 or Pam Tyndall at the church office: 248-644-4010.



PASTORAL ACTS

Baptisms

12/3/2023

Jack Michael Stein

son of Eric Michael Stein

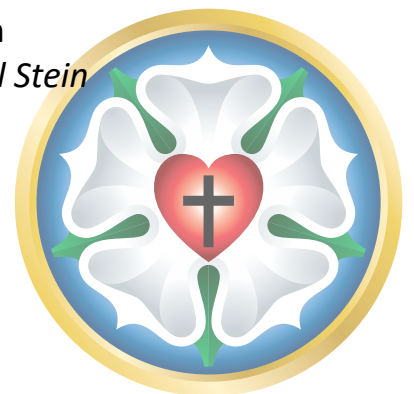
Aimee Mary Stein

Funerals

12/7/2023

Geraldine Joanne

Williams



“The Legacy of “Rosie the Riveter””

A special afternoon of fellowship, information and food is planned by the Prime Timers’ group for **Sunday, March 3 from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.** in the Great Room. The special Guest Presenter will be Claire Dahl, a retired high school history teacher and member of the Yankee Air Museum Public Relations Committee. Claire blends her love of history with inspiring and captivating stories of Rosie the Riveter and the Historic Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant. We’ll enjoy a delicious meal of chicken cordon bleu in puffed pastry, mushroom risotto, green beans, salad, rolls and dessert prepared by Michele Margosian! All are welcome to join us for a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon! There is no charge – a freewill donation will be received. Please sign up by February 26th on the Town Square bulletin board or call the church office – 248-644-4010. Questions? Contact Gary Priskorn.



THANK YOU KID'S AGAINST HUNGER

We had 250+ volunteers come this past Wednesday, Jan. 24th to pack over 38,000 meals that will provide fully nutritious food to impoverished children & families around the world... and around the corner.



Detroit Street Mission



Check out page 18 to see the amazing work the Chicks with Sticks contributed to the Detroit Street Mission!

Calling ALL YOUTH!

See page 15 for details on the YOUTH Jamaica Mission!

SERVE AT FAMILY OF GOD!

We are in need of some volunteers to drive our Family of God meals down to Detroit in the coming months. Grab some friends or your family for this awesome way to serve locally! The meal will already be prepared and packed up, so you'll just need to drive it down and serve it! This is also a GREAT way to get kids involved with serving others! Sign up under the **WAYS TO SERVE** box via the church website or by contacting Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberirmingham.org). Looking to get more involved with Family of God this season?



Update on Desta a women funded through iZosh on 5/12/2022!

Ambassador Desta

Getinet Demeke

Interest: Sheep fattening;

Start-up Business Amount: \$250

- Married & is living with her husband.
- Desta has had three pregnancies in her lifetime, with the first being at age 25. She was in labor for 24 hours at home the first time she gave birth, which resulted in a stillborn. She began having difficulty controlling urine five days later. She suffered from urine incontinence for one year without treatment.
- Quote: *"Before I got treatment I was staying at home because my neighbors were laughing at me and holding their nose while they saw me, but after treatment I was fully cured and I was very happy. Now fistula happened [to] me again. I hope my wound will heal in the future".*
- One year later she developed difficulty of controlling her urine so she went to hospital and then was referred to Addis Ababa and underwent repair surgery, but she was not fully cured. Two years after she developed fistula she went to Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia Bahir Dar Centre for a second successful surgery. Unfortunately, her third childbirth was attempted at home with the same results as her first childbirth: she labored for 24 hours and was left with another stillborn child, and another case of obstetric fistula.



Updates on her IGA (income generating Activity):

We bought her three sheep for fattening. She said "I sold three of them for birr 13,000 for the Ethiopian new year holy day and then I bought another four sheep for fattening. I have birr 3,000 saved in my personal bank account. I bought new clothes for myself and for my husband from the profit. I also can contribute some money for community events during some social celebration and I started attending any activity in my village, I am very happy now, I have some money in my hand because of HHOJ's support. My husband is helping me and is contributing to my success."



SAVE THE DATE



Women of all ages are invited to our Spring Event:

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



The Mandate

www.themandate.com

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

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

What does this look like?

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

Our SPEAKER:



Michael Riordan
Co-Founder and Board
Member of the Mandate



Check out The Mandate!

JOIN OUR TEAM Empower Women Worldwide!

lcr.church/izosh

To achieve our goal, we need YOUR help!

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

COMMUNICATION VOLUNTEER NEEDS:

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

OTHER VOLUNTEER NEEDS:

- Education Team (*Finding Speakers*)
- Hospitality Team (*Event Setup/Cleanup*)
- Day of Event Support
(*Greeter, AV Tech, Baker*)

CONTACT US:

izosh.birmingham@gmail.com

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

Facebook and Instagram

Christie Hurst ▪ Therese Scheidt

Rose Kiehle ▪ Leslie Baranowski ▪ Stacey Rolf

ATTENTION

REDEEMER RUMMAGE SALE IS COMING IN MARCH!

SAVE YOUR STUFF!



Intake Day: Saturday, March 2, 2024
Sale: March 8-10, 2024

ITEMS NEEDED!



Bags & Hangers for the Rummage Sale!
Save your bags (paper/plastic grocery bags, big shopping bags, etc.) and hangers! We need them for the Rummage Sale! If you have any that you'd like to donate, please put them outside Laura Vowell's office.



LIBRARY LIGHTS

New in the Redeemer library for youngsters of all ages:

Wherever You Go, I Want You to Know by Melissa Kruger with illustrations by Isobel Lundy. Children dream, pretend, and talk about what they want to do as they grow up, where they'll go, and who they might meet. In this clever, rhyming, and colorfully illustrated book geared for ages 3-6, author Melissa teaches children that the most important decision in their life is to follow Jesus. "Walk with Him, talk with Him, day after day. Follow King Jesus - the Life, Truth and Way."

The library now has two more great books in the ***Tales that Tell the Truth*** series for kids. ***The God Contest: The True Story of Elijah, Jesus, and the Greatest Victory*** by Carl Laferton and ***Jesus and the Lion's Den*** by Alison Mitchell. Both of these books relate the well-known Old Testament stories in Elijah's time with the contest between the true God and the false god Baal, and Daniel's bravery and faith when he is put into the lion's den. They both have a twist not often seen in a children's book - showing how both of these true stories point to the life and purpose of Jesus.

Additional books in this series: ***The Friend Who Forgives; The Garden, The Curtain, and The Cross; God's Very Good Idea; The Storm that Stopped; The One O'clock Miracle; The Big Wide Welcome.***



It's BACK! Redeemer's
RUMMAGE SALE
is just around the corner!
Proceeds will benefit the
high school mission trip to
Jamaica & Sacred Space!

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

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

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

- **Saturday, March 2nd 9am—1pm**
- **Thursday, March 7th 9am— 6pm**

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

We will be picking up large furniture items from homes on **Saturday, March 2nd**. If you have any large furniture items that you would like to donate, but are unable to bring in yourself, please contact Laura Vowell (laura@redeemberirmingham.org) by **Tuesday, February 27th** to be added to the pick-up schedule (exclusions may apply).

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

2. **HELP WITH SET-UP:** Please consider stopping by to help on Thursday, March 7th (11am – 8pm) and Friday, March 8th (9am – 4pm). Michele Margosian will be available to guide you to an area of need!
3. **SHOP AT THE SALE:** We have three great opportunities for you to shop at the Rummage Sale!
 - **EARLY BIRD SALE:** Friday, March 8th from 6pm - 8pm Get the first pick!
Donation of \$5/adult will be received for Early Bird Sale.
 - **GENERAL SALE:** Saturday, March 9th from 9am - 3pm Come find some hidden treasures!
 - **BAG SALE:** Sunday, March 10th 12pm - 2pm \$5/bag of clothing and **HALF OFF** all other items!
4. **SPREAD THE WORD:** Please encourage family and friends to donate and shop the sale!
For any general questions or concerns, please contact Michele Margosian.
(248.515.1282 – cell, 248.855.3694 – home, mmargosian@sbcglobal.net)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Save the dates!!

Last summer we had a fun filled week diving deeper into God's word at VBS. What will VBS 2024 bring?? We have started planning and will get you more details soon. No matter what the theme is, it will be a fun week of learning more about our faith and having fun with our friends! Watch your March Lamp for more information on how you can help! We need kids from 3 to 99 to join us. You are never too old to come to VBS. **This year's VBS dates are June 17-21 so mark your calendars now!!**

Sunday School
10:30am only

Preschool to
5th grade
COME JOIN US!!!

The graphic features a rainbow with four cartoon children sitting on it. The text is in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Scamper Camps Summer of 2024!

Scamper Camp is back for another summer of fun for preschoolers! **Registration will begin the first full week of February so keep an eye on the website for more information.**



RYG WINTER RETREAT

Camp Skyline - Feb. 9-11 Permission slips will be by the Youth office, or contact Gia Scheidt!!



RYG
USHERS
THIS MONTH
February 25 at the 10:30 service

The graphic features the letters 'RYG' in a large, red, stylized font at the top. Below it, the word 'USHERS' is written in large, blue, block letters. In the center of 'USHERS', there is a small icon of two hands shaking. Above the 'H' in 'USHERS', the words 'THIS MONTH' are written in red. At the bottom, the text 'February 25 at the 10:30 service' is written in red.

RYG = REDEEMER YOUTH GROUP



ALWAYS
CHECK INSTAGRAM
FOR ANY
SCHEDULE CHANGES



FAMILY OF GOD

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

February 12

Come join us to help others

RYG FEBRUARY Dates

*Sunday's from
7-9pm*

February 4, 18, 25
*no RYG on Feb 11 because
of the Winter Retreat*



Orientation
Meeting
**Sunday,
February 4,
4:00-7:00pm**

Applications can
be found in the
main office, youth
room, or outside
Gia's office.

**Meeting #1
Sunday,
February 25
4:00-7:00pm**

In A
RELATIONSHIP
with GOD 

Attend LENTEN Services with us - 7:00pm

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

February 14, 21, 28

February 7th regular Core Group 6:00-8:00pm

Questions? Contact Gia or Eric.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

February 2 and 10
Relationship Workshop

February 8
Birmingham Musicale Concert

February 9
Women's Bunco

February 10
Daddy Daughter Dance

February 11
Faithful Friends Enrichment-
Planning a Funeral
Birmingham Concert Band

February 14
Ash Wednesday
Leadership Team Meeting


February 19
President's Day

February 25
Young Adult's Group

February 27
Women's Book Group

See page 20 for full
**LENTEN Schedule of
Worship and Meals**



5pm - 7pm  February 10th

DADDY *daughter* DANCE

Dinner ★ Music ★ Dancing ★ Photos

Fathers, grandfathers, uncles or
the special fellow in a little girl's life,
are all invited to this special evening!



★ Invite friends - all are welcome!

Sign Up Here!



Contact Vowell (laura@redeemberirmingham.org).

Relationship Workshop

Make your marriage even **MORE** powerful with the tools that Pastor Ron Farah will share with you. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to glean from Pastor Farah all of his counseling and pastoral wisdom, not to mention his own successful journey as a husband!

The workshop includes TWO SESSIONS: Saturday 2/3 and Saturday 2/10 (9am - 12pm). The cost is \$50, due at the first session (cash or checks payable to Redeemer). Childcare for all ages is included! Please sign up on the using the QR code or on the Town Square bulletin board!

Questions? Contact Pastor Farah 248-642-3137 or Dr. Sandy Pourcho at 248-568-6040.





This month we'll take a look back at Missions Ministry and its upcoming celebration in February 2025

Redeemer has a long history of mission work. From our local communities to far off countries, we've worked to lessen life's burden on those less fortunate, leaving the handprint of Jesus behind. A few notable projects include Redeemer adopting a Laotian family in 1980, our work with Habitat for Humanity that started in the early 1990's along with our youth Mexicali trips. By 2000, we were sending hygiene kits to Lutheran World Relief Africa, 2004-2005 Redeemer began its years long support for Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac and by 2007, we were heading to New Orleans for disaster relief after Hurricane Katrina. This and so much more will be highlighted in February 2025.



Westmaple Nursery School Wrapping Paper Tube Collection

Westmaple is looking to collect as many wrapping paper tubes as possible for future projects and crafts. If you have any to donate, there is a box outside of the gym by the coat rack for you to place them in. (They are NOT in need of paper towel sized tubes). Thank you for your help!



Holy History Trivia Missions Ministry Edition

Did you know that Pastor Randy, Mike Raezler (President of the Board of Elders), the Board of Elders, and the Leadership Team made an unconventional decision in 2004, when they decided that instead of sending 100% of our mission money to the synod, we would keep 50% at Redeemer and choose for ourselves where we wanted our mission dollars to go? As a result, many of our local and international charitable organizations benefitted directly from Redeemer.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



CHICKS WITH STICKS

We hope you will find time to come to the library at Redeemer and share your talent or new interest in knitting or crocheting hats and scarves for the people of Detroit Street Mission.

Some of us are really good at this, some are pretty good at it, and some are just learning. But you should see what a simple scarf turns out to be in your hands. The Chicks with Sticks group will be meeting more days a month in 2024.

**February meeting dates:
February 8, 16, 22
in Library at 1:00pm**



Our fearless leader, Beth Hamada was an encourager, cheerleader, and teacher, over the past few months and deserves a big hug for wrangling our group.

Thank you, Beth, for your big heart!



The hands of Janet Kletzli and Beth Hamada lovingly lay out the hats and scarves received from our women in Chicks and Sticks. Knit with love, all will go to Detroit Street Mission. All are welcome to contribute to this wonderful ministry. Thanks everyone for your loving hearts!

Volunteers! You Are The Best!

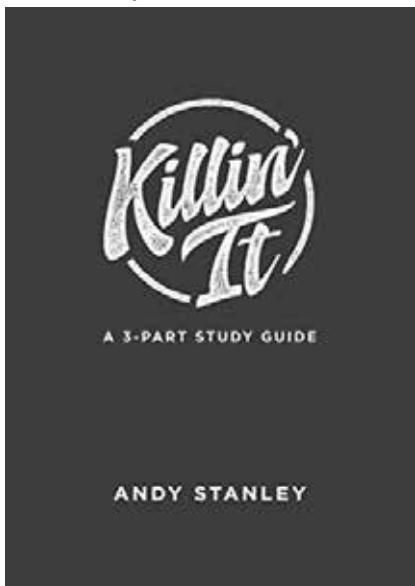
Just like every other staff person at Redeemer my

job, my joy, depends on the kindness of people who offer to help make the wheels go 'round on the ministries I serve. Do you know what would happen without you? Not much! Please don't ever feel taken for granted. Your work does not go unnoticed or unappreciated. When I leave church after a big project I find myself going through the time spent with a full heart because time is expensive, hard to come by, difficult to share, and there is so little of it. Yet, you chose to spend it here, planning, prepping and delivering the results. God's kingdom on earth has work to do and needs the hearts and hands of so many people, and I am so grateful (for a selfish reason) for the time spent with you because in many cases that time not only resulted in a mission well served but also resulted in a new friendship as we worked side by side to make something happen. God has richly blessed us! Thank you for being there.

*We ♥ our
Volunteers*

Women's Bible Study

Women's Tuesday Night Bible Study continues on Tuesday nights at 6:30pm in the Great Room. Come and hear one of our favorite study leaders, Andy Stanley with a three session study on pride entitled

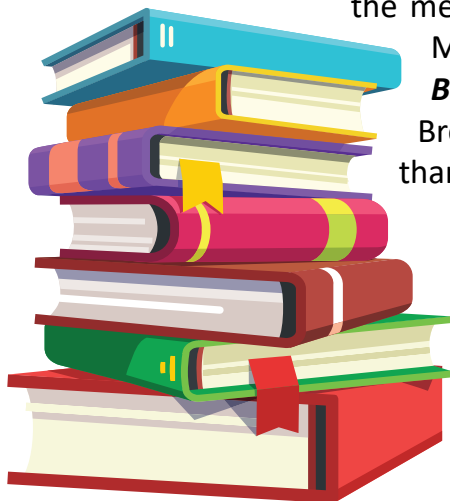


"Killin' It". Pride. It shuts us in and shuts God and others out. It keeps us from saying what needs to be said and hearing what needs to be heard. Join us, fellowship with us, learn with us! Are you new? Reach out to Kitty to join in and see how much you will learn that applies to your everyday life. We are waiting for you!

Women's Book Group:

Due to our unpredictable (and most of the time, lovely) Michigan weather we are combining our January and February book group meetings to review *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge and *Modoc: The True Story of the Greatest Elephant that Ever Lived* by Ralph Helfer. We will discuss both at our **Tuesday, February 27 meeting at 7:30pm** in the Town Square by the cozy fireplace. In

the meantime, cozy up with our March read *Women of the Bible Speak* by Shannon Bream. No Better place to go than into a good book!!



LAST CHANCE to celebrate the 2023 Women of the year, Kathy Eley!
Deadline to buy tickets is February 5.

Ticket are \$38.00. Email or call Miss Kitty if you wish to attend.

Luncheon is **Tuesday, March 19** at The Mirage, located at 16980 18 Mile, Clinton Township.

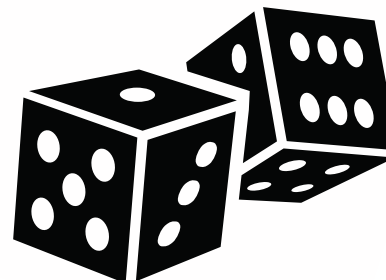


BUNCO!

Yes you read that right! BUNCO is coming to Redeemer on Friday, February 9 at 6:00 for appetizers, dessert and the game everybody can play that requires no skill – just luck! And because we are reading a story for book group about elephants we would like you to bring a white one (a white elephant gift, that is.) Wrap it and we will fight over it!



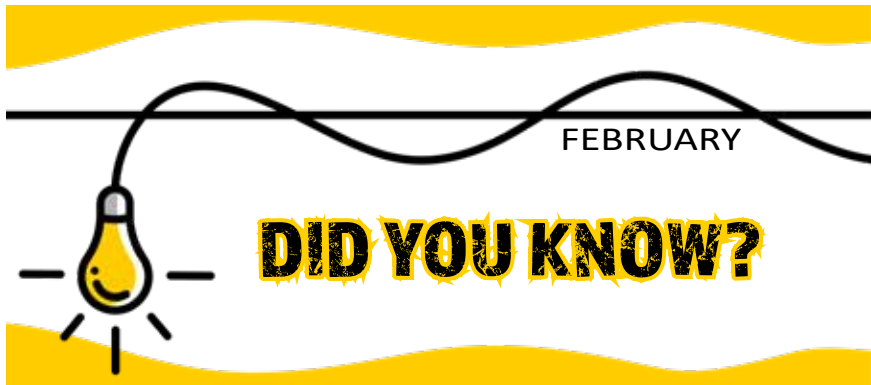
Bunco Night is just for fun and we hope you will take us up on the invitation. Sign up on the Town Square bulletin board and bring one of the suggested items. Jan Kanka will be your hostess and she really wants you to come!





Your 2023 Contribution Statements were EMAILED to all families on file January 24. If we did NOT have an email in Shelby, you were mailed a physical copy. PLEASE NOTE: You can log in to your ShelbyNext account at ANY time and **download your contribution statement** by clicking 'My

Giving' on the left tool bar, clicking the 'down arrow' next to statement in the middle of the screen at the top of the page, then select 'previous calendar year' and finally hit 'download PDF'. Please contact our accountant Laura Jones at ljones@redeemberirmingham.org or 248-644-4010 ext. 110 if you would like a copy mailed to you or if you have any questions.



MDO Net Income for 2023

Revenue	\$44,000
Approx. Expenses	<u>28,500</u>
	\$15,500

MDO (Mother's Day Out) allows moms to take a morning break and have MDO lovingly care for their children from one year old and up. Toddlers sing, make crafts, enjoy free play, go outside and have Bible stories and snacks. Babies are sung to, played with, taken for rides in our stroller and gently nurtured. All caregivers are screened and CPR-certified. Our youngest children need to be one by December first of the school year. Contact the church for days and times. MDO runs during the school year from September until mid-May. Call Nicole Olds X124 for more information!

MARCH EVENTS

March 2

Rummage In-take day

March 3

Young Adult Lunch
Prime Timer's Event
Mission Trip Meeting #3

March 6, 13, 20, 27

Lenten Lunch, Dinner and
Worship

March 7

Young Adult Bible Study

March 8-10

Rummage Sale

March 10

Daylight Saving Time Begins

March 17

Requiem Performance

March 19

Women of the Year Luncheon

March 22

Palm Cross Workshop

March 23-29

Youth Mission Trip

March 24

Palm Sunday Palm Parade



FEBRUARY Bible Reading Plan

1

Exodus 13:17-15:18
Matthew 21:23-46
Psalm 26:1-12
Proverbs 6:16-19

2

Exodus 15:19-17:7
Matthew 22:1-33
Psalm 27:1-6
Proverbs 6:20-26

3

Exodus 17:8-19:15
Matthew 22:34-23:12
Psalm 27:7-14
Proverbs 6:27-35

4

Exodus 19:16-21:21
Matthew 23:13-39
Psalm 28:1-9
Proverbs 7:1-5

5

Exodus 21:22-23:13
Matthew 24:1-28
Psalm 29:1-11
Proverbs 7:6-23

6

Exodus 23:14-25:40
Matthew 24:29-51
Psalm 30:1-12
Proverbs 7:24-27

7

Exodus 26:1-27:21
Matthew 25:1-30
Psalm 31:1-8
Proverbs 8:1-11

8

Exodus 28:1-43
Matthew 25:31-26:13
Psalm 31:9-18
Proverbs 8:12-13

9

Exodus 29:1-30:10
Matthew 26:14-46
Psalm 31:19-24
Proverbs 8:14-26

10

Exodus 30:11-31:18
Matthew 26:47-68
Psalm 32:1-11
Proverbs 8:27-32

11

Exodus 32:1-33:23
Matthew 26:69-27:14
Psalm 33:1-11
Proverbs 8:33-36

12

Exodus 34:1-35:9
Matthew 27:15-31
Psalm 33:12-22
Proverbs 9:1-6

13

Exodus 35:10-36:38
Matthew 27:32-66
Psalm 34:1-10
Proverbs 9:7-8

14

Exodus 37:1-38:31
Matthew 28:1-20
Psalm 34:11-22
Proverbs 9:9-10

15

Exodus 39:1-40:38
Mark 1:1-28
Psalm 35:1-16
Proverbs 9:11-12

16

Leviticus 1:1-3:17
Mark 1:29-2:12
Psalm 35:17-28
Proverbs 9:13-18

17

Leviticus 4:1-5:19
Mark 2:13-3:6
Psalm 36:1-12
Proverbs 10:1-2

18

Leviticus 6:1-7:27
Mark 3:7-30
Psalm 37:1-11
Proverbs 10:3-4

19

Leviticus 7:28-9:6
Mark 3:31-4:25
Psalm 37:12-29
Proverbs 10:5

20

Leviticus 9:7-10:20
Mark 4:26-5:20
Psalm 37:30-40
Proverbs 10:6-7

21

Leviticus 11:1-12:8
Mark 5:21-43
Psalm 38:1-22
Proverbs 10:8-9

22

Leviticus 13:1-59
Mark 6:1-29
Psalm 39:1-13
Proverbs 10:10

23

Leviticus 14:1-57
Mark 6:30-56
Psalm 40:1-10
Proverbs 10:11-12

24

Leviticus 15:1-16:28
Mark 7:1-23
Psalm 40:11-17
Proverbs 10:13-14

25

Leviticus 16:29-18:30
Mark 7:24-8:10
Psalm 41:1-13
Proverbs 10:15-16

26

Leviticus 19:1-20:21
Mark 8:11-38
Psalm 42:1-11
Proverbs 10:17

27

Leviticus 20:22-22:16
Mark 9:1-29
Psalm 43:1-5
Proverbs 10:18

28

Leviticus 22:17-23:44
Mark 9:30-10:12
Psalm 44:1-8
Proverbs 10:19

29

LEAP DAY
FREE DAY





MUSIC MINISTRY

All the wonderful music ministry groups at Redeemer are in full swing! 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 stevensgraves@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 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 stevensgraves@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.

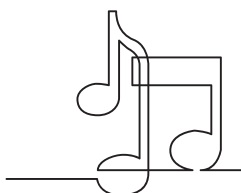
Gia Scheidt and Eric Wisniewski at 248-644-4010 ext. 120

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



Come sing or ring, or play an instrument for our God.

If you need a ride to rehearsal, we will make sure you have one.

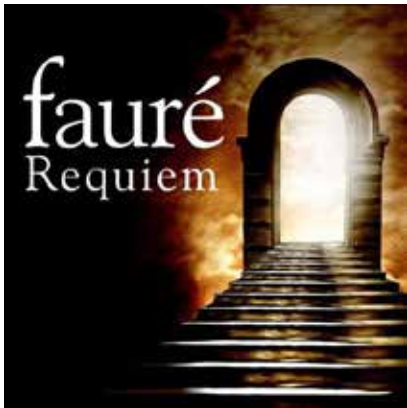
If you need childcare for your children, it can be provided.

If you can't commit every week, we will work with your schedule.

For Chancel Choir if you can't read music, that's ok. It is not a requirement.

There is no audition. Join us for great fellowship and a wonderful opportunity to minister to the congregation. Come make music with us!

Faure Requiem on Sunday March 17th, 2024!



This coming March, your Redeemer Chancel Choir and soloists, along with professional orchestra and joined by the Concordia

University Choir will present the Requiem by French Composer Gabriel Faure' at the 9am and 10:30am worship services. Faure' (1845-1924) has been described as "the most advanced composer of his generation in France." His music is timeless in its depth and beauty.

If you are interested in adding your voice to the choir to sing this beautiful work, you are invited to join the Chancel Choir in our Wednesday night choir rehearsals starting in mid-January, as we prepare the work for the services on March 17th (the Sunday before Palm Sunday). We will set aside the last half-hour of each choir rehearsal on Wednesday nights (7:30pm – 8pm) to learn the Requiem. Listening tracks will also be made available to help you learn the work. Auditions for the Soprano and Baritone solos will be open to anyone who is interested. Audition dates and times TBA. If you've done this work before, we'd love to have you sing it again here at Redeemer. If it is new to you, we predict that it will become one of your favorites.

Come join us!

LENT 2024

Lenten Meals!

Lent starts on Wednesday, February 14th and we need YOUR help! Grab your family or some friends and sign up to host a Lenten lunch or dinner! You can sign up via the church website or the Town Square bulletin board. Contact Kim Davis (248-613-4200) with questions or for more information. If you don't feel comfortable planning a whole meal, you can sign up to be a helper!



Lenten Kidz

Join us during the mid-week Lenten services, which start February 14th, for LentenKidz. All children ages 3 to 5th Grade are welcome! Children go to church with their families and then after the Children's Message will go down to the Scheidt Room for lesson and activities.

Special Music

Needed for Lenten Services

If you sing or play an instrument, we are looking for individuals to provide special music during our 1pm and 7pm Wednesday services during Lent. These services run from **Wednesday, February 14 - March 20**. Please contact Steve SeGraves (stevensegraves@gmail.com) for more information.



Counseling Corner

I've spent a large portion of my counseling career helping people be more comfortable in their own skin, the way God wired them. For example, an introvert who tries to live up to the false expectations of their peers so they pretend to be someone they are not like putting on more of a happy face, attending events with lots of conversation that can be draining. This kind of self-inflicted pressure can manifest into anxiety attacks. It is exhausting, I am told.

I'm not saying if you are lonely and a bit of a loner to just stay at home and do nothing...but how about lowering the bar on yourself just a bit and find a happy medium where you can be with others, but on your terms? A book club, attending a guest lecturer at the local library or university etc. You get the picture. Putting on a false persona and being inauthentic can be and is usually exhausting.

It can be extremely helpful to examine the phrase "Like likes like". In other words, hang out with others who are wired like you are. If you are the more quiet type, find events that would attract those like yourself and attend. Remember, God made you the way you are, wired you the way you are. So, if someone does not like the way you are wired and they try to change you tell them to take it up with your Maker. God said He knew you before you were born. "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before I set you apart; I appointed you prophet to the nations Jeremiah 11. He already has a plan for your life before you are born. He knew exactly who and what He was creating before you came into existence. He loves you just the way he made you.

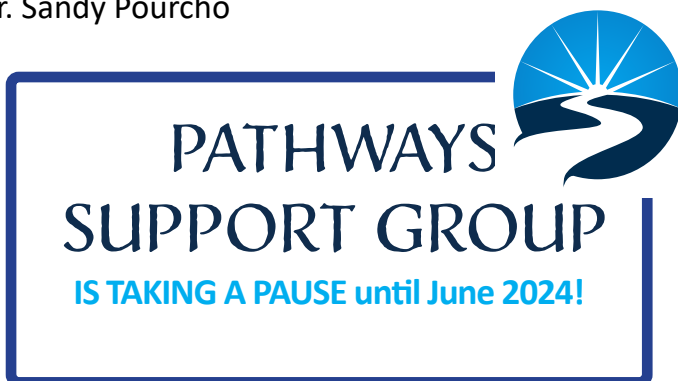
Being authentically You and comfortable with who you are, can be very freeing and once practiced enough by using your voice to refute the critics, I bet there will be a decrease in the anxiety. Check yourself as you are learning to use your voice more and not be embarrassed of who God made you to be. See if some of the bothersome symptoms begin to disappear.

Finally, may I encourage you not to allow others to thwart God's plan for your life just because they don't like or understand who you (in Christ!) are, so they try to change you! New set of friends? Maybe more like yourself? Remember, YOU are in control of your friend choices.

If you are dating someone that you just can't seem to change, I would suggest accept who they are as God made them or move on to someone who will be better suited for you without all of the undue pressure to both of you trying to change them into someone they are not.

In this month that celebrates Love, show love and kindness to yourself. God loves you SO much. Believe it. Embrace it. Live it!!

Happy Valentines Day!
Dr. Sandy Pourcho



COUNSELING CENTER

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

Sandy Pourcho, PHD
248-568-6040

Anna Lewis, LMSW
248-224-0383

Pastoral Counseling
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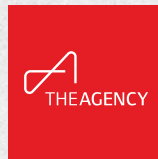
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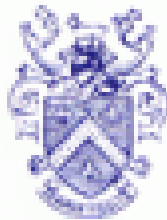
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FEBRUARY

BIRTHDAYS

February 1

Mickey Margosian
Cheryl Schneider
Tommy Violante

February 2

Rachael Chickensky
Carole Citron
Briggs Leahy
Noah Schiller

February 3

Kristina Dobring
Jay Kafarski
Claire Laansoo
Mike Murdock
Lynda Nehan

February 4

Darlene Abraham
Alaine Burns
Andrew Lumsden

February 5

Gus Hartzell
Sarah Quasarano

February 6

Wyatt DeVos
Rob Lavoie
Arthur Poppert
Stacie Schultz
Amy Silva

February 7

Oliver Hartzell
Samantha Mee

February 8

Andrew Baskin
Jennifer Dilley
Rev. Ron Farah
Joshua Hessen
Kaki Merryman
Owen O'Neill
MaryAnn Perryman
Theresa Schulz

February 9

Sheila Bonner
Paige Curcio
Jack Juilano
Paul Quasarano
Daniel Settecerra

February 10

Jacob Best
Ray Johnson
Marnie Lewbel
Bob Meyer
Matt Rose
Brayden Smith
Kathleen Szafranic

February 11

Ben Baranowski
Jeanne Bolcer
Tedi Collier
Brian Tyler

February 12

Jennifer Finley
Christie Hurst
Leesa Kulczycki
Steve Robinson
Adam Skoglund

February 13

Jane Howard
Kristen Schmidt

February 14

Liam Cruz
Kristen Fekete
Emily Fredericks
Rachel Pawlik
Kathy Richert
Maveric Seme
Evan Tylenda

February 15

Steven Krieger
Tyler Steigerwald
Matt Tyndall

February 16

Bill Baldner
Nicholas Johns
Sue Kurnat
Benjamin Meteer
Joseph Mosey
Bob Stewart

February 18

Colin Amos
Jeffrey Harper
Wesley Jones
Jourdain Nash
Eric Stein
Eve Tice
Lindsey Turner
Gabriel Whetsell
Jeff Wolfe
Madelyn Young

February 19

Megan Cook
Donna Hollis
Sarah Johns
Cindy Nyquist
Ellie Reimann
Oliver Vowell
Brian Wroe

February 20

Dannielle Chahbani
Etta Leischner
Scot Lewis
Ingrid Moigis
Pat Raezler

February 21

Sean Millichamp
Jane Quasarano
Madelon Ryland

February 22

Rudi Goddard
Trevor Kent
Diana Nash
Erika Schmidt

February 23

Greg Appel
Zoe Gartner
David Hamada
Nick Mushovic
Duane Niedzwiecki
Matthew Pedersen
Marty Schmidt
John Schosman
Sara Wilkie

February 24

Liz Beck
Christopher Charron
Erica Hutchings
William Whetsell

February 25

Scott Hoge
Donald Holland
Ted Howard
Kelly Kipley
David Lumsden
Jon Oen, II

February 26

Marlene Burchill
Alivia Calvaneso
Donald Mitchell
Leeuw VanderWerp

February 27

Cody Chickensky
DeAnna Hendricks

February 28

Katherine Mauger
Randy Ortiz
Michael Vautaw

February 29

Edith Vella

