

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

THE LAMP

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

July
2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from Pastor	1
Stewardship Report	2
Stewardship Thought	2
Memorials	3
Prayer of the Month	3
Pastoral Acts	3
Participate in Worship	4-5
Library Lights	6
Upcoming Events	6
Summer Bible Studies	7
Men's Ministry	8
Senior Ministry	8
Women's Ministry	9
Love Note from Kitchen	9
RYG-JAMS	10
Family Life	10
Missions	11
VBS	12-13
Fellowship	14
100 th Anniversary	15-18
Counseling Corner	19
July Bible Reading	20
Advertising	21-23
July Birthdays	24

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear friends in Christ,

Britain's King George III wrote the day's activities in his diary: "July 4, 1776-Nothing happened today." Nothing happened? America was born that day, King George. Her birth marked an epoch in history for the cause of human freedom.



Today we continue to be the longest on-going Constitutional Republic in the history of the world and we need to understand that blessings such as these are not by chance or accidental. They are from God. John Adams said, "The general principles on which the fathers achieved independence were the general principles of Christianity." Adams went on to say that in observing the 4th of July, "It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty." Preserving American liberty depends upon our understanding of the foundations on which this great country was built and then preserving those principles upon which it was founded. Woodrow Wilson once declared, "A nation which does not remember what it was yesterday, does not know what it is today, or what it is trying to do." "We have heard with our ears oh God, our fathers have told us what you did in their day long ago." Psalm 44:1

It was on July 30th, 1789 that President George Washington gave his inaugural address. A third of his address was dedicated to the direct supplication to God for guidance and strength for our nation.

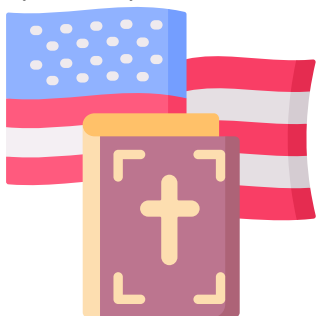
The trouble with America today is that we have stopped listening to our fathers, listening to what they told us of God's role in their lives long ago. God has been forsaken. As a nation we have told Him that we don't need the Bible, we don't need the church. We don't need God in the running of our nation, our schools and sadly even our homes.

We need to return to the foundation that supports this great nation. A political science professor from the University of Houston did a research study on who the founding fathers quote the most. They examined 3,154 documents. Who did they quote the most? Three writers were very prominent, and referred to over and over again. Those three writers were Blackstone, Montague, and John Locke. But 16 times more than those writers, they quoted from the Bible.

As a nation we have forgotten our God. Our allegiances have changed. Does our country today even resemble what was intended?

Happy 4th of July!
God bless our nation!

Pastor Randy



LUTHERAN CHURCH of the REDEEMER

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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

MAY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekly Attendance Average	2025	2024
Worship	425	386
Bible Class	113	125
Sunday School	22	22
Monthly Attendance Totals	2025	2024
Communion	623	598
Visitors	60	34
Month: May	2025	2024
Income and Expenses		
Income received	\$124,078	\$126,981
Budget requirements	\$152,191	\$134,156
General fund expenses	\$188,253	\$181,928
YTD Fiscal-year income	\$1,693,746	\$1,699,408
YTD Fiscal-year expenses	\$1,697,157	\$1,586,034

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

"For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery" (Galatians 5:1).

We celebrate this month because of the freedoms and liberties our country has afforded us. We are right to do this. We should be thankful for these liberties – the freedom to gather together to worship and to live out what believe in our daily lives.

But freedom and liberty in our age have devolved. It has become a freedom from duty instead of a freedom for it. Indeed, freedom and liberty in our age has turned into licentiousness – a license to do what we want, when we want. This license is a submission again to a yoke of slavery. For freedom as license to do what we desire when we desire it means we are slaves to our desires and slaves to our passions.

Christ died to set us free from our desires. In Holy Baptism, our Old Adam is drowned and put to death along with all sin and evil desires so that a new man may arise and live before God in righteousness and purity. In Christ, we are a new creation. We are set free from the passions of the flesh so that we are free to do our duty and bear fruits of the Spirit.

Our duty is what God calls us to do as members of a family, society, and the Church. God calls us to believe in His Word and gladly hear and learn it. He calls us to pray for all people. He calls us to live in faith toward Him and in fervent love for our neighbor. He calls us to put the gifts He gives to us in His service. God calls parents provide for their children and raise them in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

And God calls children to honor their parents and provide and care for them when they are no longer able to do so themselves. God calls the government to punish those who do evil and to reward those who do good. He calls citizens to pay their taxes and honor the governing officials as God's servants. He calls pastors to preach and teach the Gospel, repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And He calls hearers to support those who teach them with every good thing.

Christ died to set us free from the works of our selfish flesh, giving us the freedom and liberty to do our duty. Stand firm, then, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.



JULY Lamp

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Dear Lord, as we welcome the month of July, we seek Your guidance and blessings for new beginnings. Help us to leave behind any regrets or failures from the past and to embrace the fresh opportunities that lie ahead. Fill us with hope, optimism, and a renewed spirit to face this new month with confidence.

"Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'"
Thank You, Lord, for being our constant protector. Amen.
Psalms 91:1-2



CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

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

Why Should I Invest at Church Extension Fund?

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

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

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS

2nd Wednesday of the Month

*(July 9; August 13; September 10; October 8;
November 12; December 10)*

BOARD OF ELDERS MEETINGS

July 23
September 24

IN REMEMBRANCE

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

Donations made in honor of Lily Tyler and Sam Stapleton and in memory of Barney & Charlotte Tyler

Donations made to the garden fund in loving memory of Rev Ron Farah & Fred Suczynski's mother.

Donations made to the general fund in loving memory of Kathryn E. Mather

Donation made in honor of Parker Deiro's baptism



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**.

PASTORAL ACTS

BAPTISMS

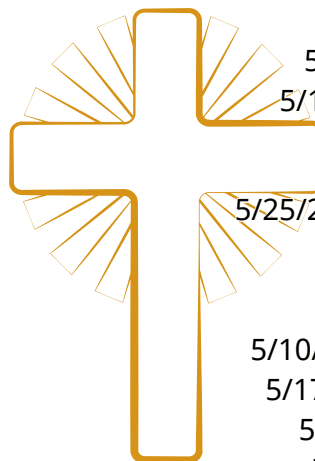
5/3/2025 - Jones Marie Mato
5/17/2025 - Parker Joseph Deiro

WEDDINGS

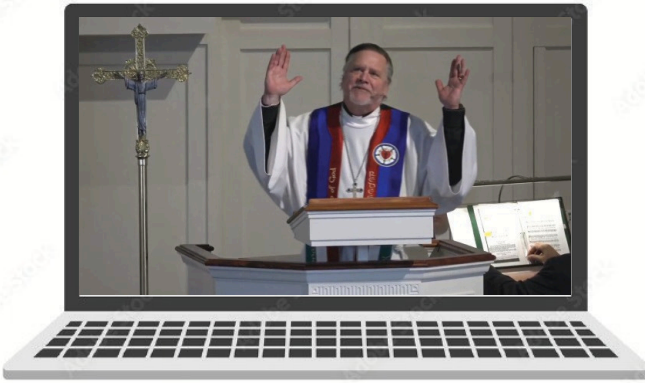
5/25/2025 - Orion Ryan Pedersen and
Alyna Ryan Wolfe

FUNERALS

5/10/2025 - Dolores Marlene Loucks
5/17/2025 - Leslie Fern Nuler Toth
5/27/2025 - Corinne M. Breer
5/30/2025 - Elfrieda S. Rose
5/31/2025 - John Eugene Lychuk



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.



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.

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

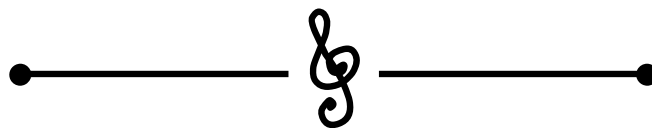
You can find the sign-up charts on the Town Square bulletin board or online under the "WAYS TO SERVE" box on the church website.

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

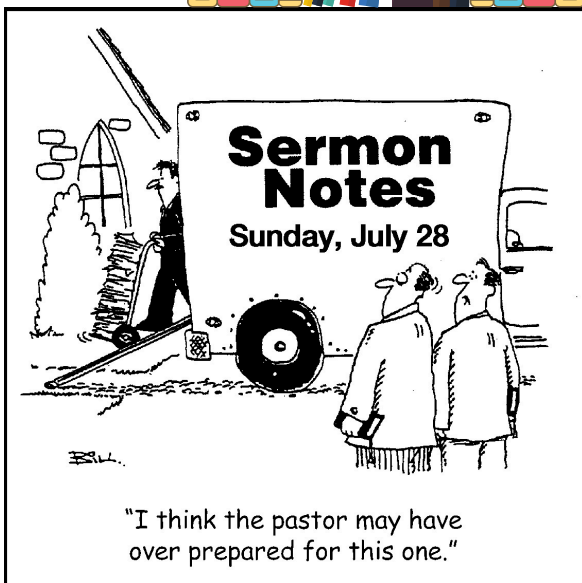
In the midst of summer heat, baseball games, kids riding bikes, lazy afternoons by the pool and family barbeques I hope you are having a chance to stretch your mind as well as relax your body. If you're looking to try a few new things whether it's hiking a new trail, watching a new television series or studying a new book in the Bible, the Redeemer Library has so many options.

This month we have a few new additions to the youth fiction section. ***Gargoyles of Gaylord (#5)*** and ***Catastrophe in Caseville (#16)*** are part of the book series ***Michigan Chillers*** by Jonathan Rand, a Michigan author living in Indian River. We also have the ***American Chillers*** series by the same author. If you're looking for a quirky cozy style mystery for kids, this series is for you.

Our library has many non-fiction and reference options from Herbert Lockyer's ***"All" Series*** which includes titles like ***All the KINGS and QUEENS of the BIBLE*** and ***ALL the TRADES and OCCUPATIONS of the BIBLE*** to the ***What Luther Says Series*** by Martin Luther. We also have the ***Rose Book of Bible Charts, Maps and Time Lines*** to help you reference all things mentioned in the Bible and our wonderful reference books and various Bible studies.

If you're looking for a historical romance the ***Beacons of Hope*** series by Jody Hedlund might be just your thing. There are five books in this series. Each book takes place in a slightly different time period (the 1800s) and a different location but always centers around a town or island with a light house. From Presque Isle, Michigan in 1859 to Race Point, Massachusetts in 1876 and herisses to female traveling preachers... there is a lot to love about this wonderful series.

Happy Reading!



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



July 7, 14, 21, 28

Summer in the Spirit-Mommy and me group

July 4

Happy 4th of July!
Church Office and Building Closed

July 9

Leadership Team Meeting

July 15

Sight and Sound Lancaster Trip Meeting

July 18

Jimmy John's Field Faith Night

July 22

Women's Pop-up Bible Study
Women's Book Group

July 23

Board of Elders Meeting

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 and 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

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

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

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!

POP-UP
BIBLE
STUDY

Women's Tuesday Night Bible Study Pop-Up! Tuesday, July 22 at 6:30

We had so much fun the last time we met, exploring the Bible for unknown and unsung women. We discovered names of women never heard of who did amazingly brave acts in the name of God. So we will continue with "You Go, Girl!" on **Tuesday, July 22 at 6:00pm** in the Great Room. If you have discovered a jewel who served without hesitation and with love for her Lord bring that name to our study along with a little history and we will share. See you then. Goodies provided!

SUMMER IN THE SPIRIT

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 starting June 23rd
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).

EVENT SCHEDULE

Redeemer
Young
Adults

BIBLE STUDY: FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY
MONTH

MONTHLY SOCIAL EVENTS AND OUTINGS

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

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

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

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). **NO CLASS JULY 2!**

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@redeemberirmingham.org - a freewill donation will be received. Join us for a great time of fellowship!

"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).



SIX YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF Faithful Friends "FAITHFUL FRIENDS - A HEART FOR SENIORS"

Word can travel very fast or very slow throughout the hallowed hallways in a Church of God. For this very reason, the Faithful Friends Ministry Team would like to take you back a few years to the birth of this senior-focused program in 2018, and then on to its current status in this noteworthy 100th Anniversary of Redeemer.

Seven years ago, a longtime member of the congregation felt a calling from the heart to start a ministry for the elderly to connect with those who were homebound or living in care facilities and residences. Sensing the loneliness and isolation these loyal members must feel, the idea was presented to Pastor Randy, and with his blessing, a small committee of Redeemer members was formed. "Faithful Friends - A Heart for Seniors" was on its way ready for "post time". As the Lord would have it, those drawn to the Committee felt personal connections through their own experiences with elderly parents or relatives.

Ideas and activities came easily with an action plan assigning a volunteer Redeemer member as a "Faithful Friend" to a shut-in or care facility resident. With God's grace guiding, there was an immediate response of volunteers and seniors interested in the program. Personal visits, phone calls, cards, small gifts, devotionals, and prayers built a strong bond between the "Friends" - a Volunteer and their special Senior. When the Lord opens a window, the breeze of love, care, and a servant's heart gently opens many more.

Today, Faithful Friends graciously boasts over 25 Volunteers befriending nearly 30 Seniors. As the Faithful Friends Ministry grew, opportunities for fellowship, service, personal growth, and exchange of ideas for eldercare emerged. Three or four Educational/Enrichment Resource presentations are held throughout the year, with recent topics including: In Home Elder Care - "Seniors Helping Seniors" presented by Dawn Neally; "Estate Planning and Wills" presented by member David Mammel; and "Long-Term Care and Legal Rights" by member Erin Mortensen. Presentations are taped and online on the Redeemer website. In addition, we are also blessed to have an in-house expert on Eldercare, member Diane Johns. The Faithful Friends Ministry Team sends cards to all our Senior friends every holiday and birthday, plus one-year memorial cards to families of our departed friends.

Our primary mission and goal is to honor every elderly member of our Redeemer congregation with the love, joy, and comfort they deserve. We hope to celebrate many more anniversaries along with our church family, Lutheran Church of the Redeemer. For more information on "Faithful Friends - A Heart for Seniors," contact any member of the Ministry Team. We hope to see you at one of our future events!

The Faithful Friends Committee

Gary Priskorn, Marilyn Staargarrd,
Diane Johns, Tracy Fish, and Cheryl Carr

"Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you." Isaiah 46:4

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



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!



Women's Bible Study

We had so much fun the last time we met, exploring the Bible for unknown and unsung women. We discovered names of women never heard of who did amazingly brave acts in the name of God. So we will continue with **"You Go, Girl!"** on **Tuesday, July 22 at 6:00 in the Great Room**. If you have discovered a jewel who served without hesitation and with love for her Lord bring that name to our study along with a little history and we will share. See you then. Goodies provided!



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

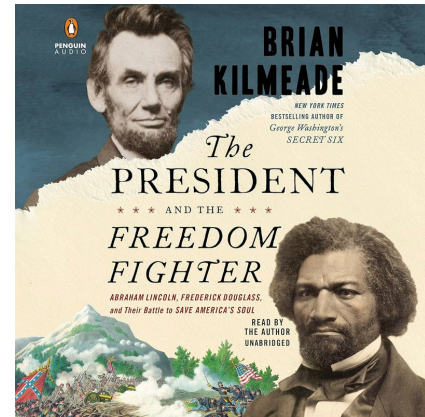


A Love Note From the Kitchen Witch

Just a friendly note to all who enjoy our kitchen; please put the pots and pans back on the shelves and put their lids in the wire sections of the shelves. That way you can match pot to lid in no time. Another happy note.....please do not put coolers on the floor. State Law requires all food service items to be off the floor. Coolers go up High on the wire shelves in the pantry. And, if you have the time to read further, pest that I am.....if you use the cast iron skillets and have fat or grease left over please dispose of it properly and wash up that big ole skillet. The Kitchen Witch understands you have other things to do but she just wants harmony in the kitchen. Bye for now!!!

Women's Book Group

Tuesday, July 22 at 7:30 in the Town Square



What better book to read during July than one that celebrates freedom! Join us in Our happy circle to review and discuss ***The President and the Freedom Fighter*** by Brian Kilmeade.

Here is a synopsis by one reader: "Shaping a nation and policies are never an easy task but this book does show that minds can be changed for the good. Humility is a quality that was undeniably essential for these changes to take place. This book also shows that we as a people have not changed as much as we think we have. Current events show rebellion, mob mentality, voter fraud, disruptive events and even discrimination are still prevalent. People still cling to the ideas that they are good, but in reality this book shows even the best of us can make wrong decisions based on beliefs and biases. Putting the rights and needs of others ahead of our own will give us humility and the opportunity to learn from others."

Have an opinion? All are welcome!

RYG AND JAMS

RYG HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

SUMMER JAMS & RYG

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.**

JAMS & RYG GO TO CEDAR POINT!

Students going into grades 6-12 are invited for a day of fun on the roller coasters of Cedar Point on **Wednesday, August 13th!** The cost is \$65 and includes admission, roundtrip travel, breakfast, and a water bottle for the day. Grab a permission slip from outside Gia/Eric's office, Laura's office, or download one from the church website.

Forms and money are due on Sunday July, 27th!

LIMITED QUANTITY OF SPOTS!

Contact Gia, Eric, or Laura for more information.



"redeemer_youth"
ALWAYS CHECK INSTAGRAM
FOR ANY SCHEDULE CHANGES

JAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

WELCOME TO RYG!

**ARE YOU A NEW CONFIRMAND OF REDEEMER?
WILL YOU BE ENTERING HIGH SCHOOL NEXT 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! **July 14th**

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



FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY



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

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER SUMMER PICNIC

Group Perks Include:

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

Enjoy an All American BBQ!

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



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



CONFIRMATION 2025-2026

Confirmation will break for the summer and begin again in September. **Classes for 6th-8th grade students will occur every Wednesday from 6:00-8:00pm.** If your child is in the 6th grade - or if they're older - and you would like to enroll them in Confirmation, please contact **Laura Vowell**, and she will get you all set-up!





Family of God

Camp Restore Detroit Update – Redeemer Café Exterior Renovations

In 2021, Redeemer blessed Camp Restore by sponsoring a home on the CRD campus for complete renovation. Since then, teams of volunteers from Redeemer have participated in workdays in and around the home, clearing the jungle that was the yard, removing the old garage and building a new front porch. Work on the inside has included replacing rotten walls and ceiling, removing walls, installing a support beam, drywall, new windows and security doors. This winter, we were blessed with a generous donation of high-quality vinyl siding and trim from Alside Siding and a donation of time and talent from the expert installers at Kroll Construction in Garden City. Their siding professionals layered-up and braved the cold in February and March to get the work done. Check out the before and after pictures. Wow! Redeemer and Camp Restore Detroit send out a big Thank You to Alside and Kroll Construction! Redeemer Café Exterior Renovations:

Before:



After:



Camp Restore 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.)

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).

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



VBS 2025 stats

3 amazing directors
8 incredible captains
302 campers
25 teachers
75 teen helpers
23 adult volunteers
1510 snacks served
1208 crafts created

8,613+ school supplies donated
7 songs learned



MAGNIFIED!



VBS 2025 was a HUGE success! We had a fun week growing in our faith while having a blast singing, dancing, crafting and eating. This is an event that truly takes a village to put on and we have some amazing people who have stepped up to help. There are too many people to name individually but you know who you are and know that I am forever grateful that God put you on this path!



CRAFT



snack



Our Creator's Head Detail Detectives



FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



THROUGH THESE DOORS

Through These Doors, our little book written by Redeemer members and friends, is going to publish soon! Thank you for your submissions and wonderful stories about finding your way to Redeemer. It is a joy to read. Please watch the announcements to find out when and where you can pick up your copy!

MONDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP!



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

Fellowship includes 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



100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION: REDEEMER'S WORSHIP AND STAFF MINISTRY OVER THE YEARS

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

WORSHIP - *"Worship the Lord with reverence." Psalm 2:11a*

We come to church to worship our God. It is a holy and sanctified experience. It is what draws us closer to Him and reminds us of what it means to be children of God. It gives us the opportunity to pause and spend time in His presence, focusing on what we as Christians can do to be good disciples. There are many people who help to make our worship services special.

Greeters are the first people that we meet when entering the doors on Sunday morning. Peter Bokmiller led this program for many years. The goal is to extend a warm welcome to familiar faces and to those newcomers that are looking for a new church home.

The next person you might see on a Sunday morning is an **Usher**, ready to hand you a bulletin for the morning service. Over the decades, ushers also have had a vital role in our worship services. An old ushering manual notes that the ushers are "Mr. Redeemer" to our members! "Their purpose is to maintain a reverent and worshipful atmosphere to all persons." Back in the day, ushers were to wear a dark blue or black suit, white shirt, black shoes, and the "usher tie," which was navy blue with polka dots. The ushers escorted congregants to their seats and were to have a "cheerful attitude." The Usher's Manual had diagrams for collecting the offering and for communion. Our ushers are also trained in what to do in case of a medical emergency. More recently, the Family Ushering program started where a family takes over the duties of the ushers, providing a great opportunity for them to participate in the worship service together.

During the service, there are many lay people that assist the Pastors in worship. Our **Acolyte** program began in the late 70's. Clara Bailey fabricated all of the Acolyte stoles that were worn by the Crossbearers. She made at least 24, and they took 2-1/2 hours per stole! The processional cross was a memorial gift donated by the family of Ben S. Hawkins. In 1976, the first group of acolytes and crossbearers received a silver cross and red braid in recognition of their service. The group included Debi Hollis and Eric Rolf!

Another group of people who assist on Sundays are our **Lay Readers**, our **AV Operators**, and the **Board of Elders** who help during Communion.

For decades, the **Altar Guild** has been comprised of many God-fearing women. Under the current leadership of Karen Pridmore and Kathy Eley, they are responsible for setting up the Sacraments for Holy Communion, including wafers, and cups and goblets that are filled with wine and grape juice. These elements are not sanctified until the Words of Institution are spoken over them. After the service, they take time and care to properly wash and re-store these elements. Pastor Duane used to hold each cup up to each communicant's mouth! He had perfected the technique and not many drips occurred. Today we also offer the common cup. The Altar Guild is also responsible for filling the candles, laundering linens, and maintaining the pews by checking the pencils and refilling the cards.

During our worship, the **Sanctuary Lamp** is lit in memory of those saints who have gone on before us. Our Sanctuary Lamp was given by the Elders and Pastor Randy in 2000 in loving memory of Rev. Theodore Wuggazer and Rev. Duane Wuggazer, and is a constant reminder to the people of Redeemer that our God is always present and will never abandon us.

Worship services also include **Pastoral Acts**: baptisms, weddings, and funerals. Our faith journey begins with Baptism, when we enter the family of God. Everyone's personal journey then culminates with their own Confirmation, which currently has its own service to celebrate this special moment in their lives. "Confirmation helps a baptized child through Word and Sacrament to identify more deeply with the Christian community and to participate more fully in its missions" (Lamp, Meinert, 1974). Weddings take on special meaning by celebrating the couples being joined together in God's kingdom, and funerals for those families honoring their loved ones who have gone to live with Jesus with special services and remembrances.

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Up until 1970, Redeemer had two services: 9:30am and 11:00am. September 13, 1970 marked the first Contemporary service at 8:30am. This service caused a bit of controversy – it used guitars and “folk-type” music. An article in the Lamp explained that, “Experimentation is good. Change is good. It is easy to get into ruts and make worship habitual rather than exciting and meaningful.” Gene Guettler, one of our youth choir directors, led the service with his voice and guitar. He got many young people interested in guitar and brought them into the service. After Gene left, a group of young people led the service.

Redemption was a worship service that also followed a different path. Mark Wuggazer started Next-Gen Confirmation, which was held on Wednesday nights. Following dinner, choir, and confirmation instruction, an “Emergent Movement” worship service was held in the gym. Redemption was marketed as, “same, but different”. There was a great band, and the creeds, liturgies, and prayers interwoven.

Redeemer’s special worship services are so uplifting. We celebrate **All Saints Day** (formerly our Day of Memory) with candles that are lit by our congregants in memory of their loved ones. **Reformation** in October is about celebrating our Lutheran heritage and Martin Luther. **Thanksgiving** has flags, special music, and beautiful hymns. **Christmas Eve** is simply breathtaking. We continue to sing the last verse of Silent Night in German; to celebrate our German heritage and as a tradition that Pastor Duane Wuggazer began, and Pastor Randy has continued. **Easter**, the joy of the Resurrection, with its beautiful flowers and cross made of flowers, is spectacular. The “Hallelujah Chorus” resounds throughout the Sanctuary as members of the congregation join the choir. Pastor Randy instituted a “**Pet Blessing**” service that takes place on the front lawn on a Sunday in September. During the season of **Lent**, our Wednesday services are held in the Chapel and have a theme that carries through the season.

Our worship services are greatly enhanced by our music ministry. We will do a deep dive into that ministry in November, but for now we will reference Psalm 98:1 to remind all of the blessings of music in our worship: “*Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things.*”

OOPS!

**Acolyting and
crossbearing
mishaps:**

Shane Battier was in our youth program years before he entered the NBA. He was so tall, that he hit the chandelier with the cross.

Kristen Rolf dropped a ball of fire from a candlelighter on Christmas Eve onto the carpet. Choir Director, Fred Rohrbach rushed in to put it out!

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.
Bring your family, friends, and neighbors!*

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

MINISTRY STAFF

Redeemer has been blessed with a successful, growing congregation over these last 100 years in large part due to our staff. From our early years with **Pastor Schuessler**, to our current years with **Pastor Randy**, the staff has played a vital role in running smooth programs for our congregants.

In 1966, **Bill Meinert** was our Director of Christian Education. He came from a position at Ford Motor on a handshake from Pastor Ted. Bill oversaw our Sunday School, School of Religion, Kamp, and Youth Group. Over the years, countless members from our Youth Group still remember him fondly as one of their best Christian mentors. Several of his assistants such as JoAnn Tylicki and Lee Western helped Bill when he felt that he needed some younger people who could relate to the youth.

Marge Noettl worked with the Women's Ministry and the Grand Group. By the late 1980's she was instrumental in starting our beloved Advent by Candlelight.

Cary Richert came to us as the Minister of Discipleship in 1985. His signature program was Stephen Ministry, which we will highlight during Congregational Care month. In the late 1990's, Cary heard the call of the Holy Spirit and attended Seminary. In 2001, when he was ordained, he became our Assistant Pastor and was revered for his Bible studies and his way of teaching the lessons of the Bible.

Dottie Reiher came to Redeemer from Our Shepherd in 1987, and helped fill some of the shoes of Bill Meinert when he retired. She was our Minister of Children and Family Life.

In 1991, **Joe Werner** was hired to take over as our full-time Minister to Children, Family Life and Youth. Joe was instrumental in his work with our marriage ministry, Sunday School, and the beginning of our Mexicali Mission Trips.

We have had several part-time staffers in charge of Lay Ministry. In the early 1990s, **Cindi Mills** filled this role and then **Cindy Grove** took over. **Sharon Sweet** was hired as fulltime Minister of Music and Lay Ministry in 1994, and Cindy Grove then moved to Senior Ministry. In 1995, it was announced that after annual reviews, it came to light that Cindy and Sharon's gifts and talents would be better served if they changed areas of ministry, so Sharon took on Senior Ministry while Cindy went back to Lay Ministry.

Kitty Sweitzer was a volunteer and part-time staff member for years until she was hired as full-time Minister of Children's Ministry, Evangelism, and Outreach in 1995. What a blessing she was to our children in that role! Kitty later moved her focus to Women's Ministry and leads the Advent by Candlelight program. Her gift of storytelling is a highlight of the evening. Over the years Kitty has been tireless in her work for God's kingdom. From teaching at Westmaple, leading Women's Ministry, VBS, and planning the wonderful 100th Anniversary luncheon on June 1, she has been a constant and steady presence in our hallways and hearts.

In 2015, **Nicole Olds**, a member since she was small, took over the reins of Children's Ministry from Kitty Sweitzer. She now heads up Sunday School, VBS, Mom's Day Out, and so much more. You will see her every Sunday during the children's sermon waiting to escort the children of Redeemer to Sunday school.

In 2000, **Gary Priskorn** was hired as Minister of Family Life and was asked to take on the additional role of Minister of Discipleship in 2001 once Cary Richert was ordained. He eventually took the lead on Men's Ministry and has developed a great bond with the men of Redeemer through the Wednesday morning men's Bible study and events such as Bocce Ball and the Silversides Tour. Gary's birthday phone calls to each member of Redeemer are a treasured source of joy. In his retirement brochure, Gary is called a faith-filled man and one of the greatest handymen you'll ever know. Yes, Gary retired from full-time Ministry in 2012, but he is the most "unretired" man we know.

In 2004, **Joanna Newman** came to Redeemer as an intern. She brought so much energy, enthusiasm, and creativity and was hired full-time in 2005 as our Minister of Discipleship. Joanna was responsible for teaching 6th grade confirmation and creating curriculum, teaching and planning Bible Studies, Stewardship, visitor follow-up, and running the prayer ministry.

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

In 2000, **Rev. Mark Wuggazer** found his calling and came on our staff full-time as Minister of Youth. After Mark was ordained, he was our Youth Pastor. Mark made a significant impact in the lives of the youth, inspiring 4 young men to enter the seminary. His impact on the youth group during the Mexicali mission trips could be considered his hallmark achievement at Redeemer. Today, our youth groups are led by **Laura Vowell**, Middle School, and **Gia Scheidt**, High School, who grew up in our church. **Eric Wisniewski** came to youth group as a guest of one of our members and stayed on to assist Gia in leading the High School Ministry.

When Mark Wuggazer left to become a senior pastor, **Laura Vowell**, a life-long member and **Joel Brockberg** were hired as Youth Directors. In 2017, Laura came on our staff full-time and is our Director of Middle School Ministry, Family Life, and Outreach. When we had a change in staff, she added Confirmation to her job description!

Elisa Stephens was our Director of Fellowship in 2000, and **Kim Davis** holds position now. Kim heads up our Sunday morning coffee hours, as well as the homecoming picnic. You'll find her calm presence on Sundays, filling our snack trays and making sure everyone enjoys their fellowship time between services.

Andrea Schlak took on the interim Director of Outreach position in 2011. Additionally, she ran the confirmation program as well as being Westmaple Nursery Director. Her guiding force has made each of these programs run smoothly and effectively. She is now head of Redeemer's 100th Anniversary Celebration Committee.

Redeemer offers Christian counseling services and the program has been run by **Sandy Pourcho**. You'll read more about this in August when we focus on Congregational Care.

Last, but not least, we have those who work behind the scenes to keep Redeemer running. In 1969, the office of Parish Administrator was created, and **Edward Nuelkin** functioned as the business manager, manager of the buildings and grounds, public relations manager, organizational consultant, and policy. **Stan Kelley** and **Jeanne Krauss** also served as Parish Administrators.

In the 1970s **Joe O'Connor** was our full-time custodian. He walked around church with his cigar and did maintenance and cleaning. We had live-in caretakers during that time, and they lived in the apartment which was located where the Town Square is now! **Steve Schuetz** took care of our building for many years along with Lenny Paczkowski. Our current maintenance person, **Fred Suczynski**, is a godsend when something needs to be done. Fred will be retiring soon and his presence will be dearly missed!

Our monthly newsletter, The Lamp, was initially written by Pastor Ted. Pastor Duane took over after the death of his father, and when he became too busy, Kris Held, Pam Dundas, and Amy Strumolo became our editors. It is now handled by our current office staff.

Our financial and accounting staff has been comprised of **Diana Schultz, Keri Peck, Julie Branigan, Barb Herzog, Lisa Doeden, and Laura Jones**. They keep our church treasurer up to date on anything financial!

Last, but certainly not least, is our office staff. Where would we be without them? **Mrs. Gassoway** served as our Church Secretary for a very long time without pay, until in 1951, she began receiving a salary of \$100 per month! **Grace Schroeder** was the driving force behind Pastor Ted and Pastor Duane. She ran that office with such efficiency – all by herself. Pastor Duane commented that when his eyesight was failing, he couldn't have done his job without the secretary and wedding hostess! Some secretaries throughout the years were: **Ruth Bandelin, Julie Branigan, Anne Earle, Lisa Maki, Sue Bishop, and Nancy Smith**. **Pam Tyndall** and **Therese Scheidt** were so valuable to our office staff and we were so sad to lose them this past year.

Our current Church Office Staff – **Rose Kiehle** and **Carrie Morris** are the glue that holds this church together. They have many volunteers to help, but they produce bulletins and the Lamp, schedule everything, and help keep Pastor Randy organized. We are so thankful and grateful for everything they do!

COUNSELING CORNER

When I was younger I would eagerly await the 4th of July fireworks. Now, as years have gone by, I find that I don't have the same excitement as I did previously to watch them light up the sky. My dogs go into paranoid mode finding a place of refuge when the firecrackers begin. All of the sky noise that is relative to the 4th is actually deleterious to our dog's emotional state of security, safety, and comfort.

I think children feel the same emotions of insecurity, danger, and discomfort when they are witness to "fireworks" in the marriage. Most of us begin our marriages with "white lace and promises and a kiss for luck and we are on our way" (Karen Carpenter). As time evolves throughout the marriage there can be changes in career, health, finances, or responsibilities, and ultimately our emotional needs and objectives can be challenged. We lose our perspective. There are a few things that can be immediately implemented to help the children feel more secure and settle down (if they are acting out in misbehavior).

- 1 Parents-do NOT disagree with your spouse's parenting style or discipline modality in front of the children. You will undermine their authority in front of the kids which will add to more confusion and bad behavior. It is my belief that this can slowly damage a marriage. Remember, your spouse comes FIRST-NOT your kids. If the marriage breaks, what do they have then? By all means, please discuss and come to agreement whatever concerns you have with each other in private...outside, in the car, or when kids are asleep in bed.
- 2 Always present a united front when dealing with the kids in any way.
- 3 Affirm that you love them, continually bending down and making eye and physical contact with the child.
- 4 Remember that YOU are the parent and giving the child too much leeway in making decisions for themselves can be unfruitful and deleterious to the family order and, their (age appropriate) maturation development process. They will test the fence line. No doubt. Make sure it is ALWAYS on!! Meaning, be consistent with boundaries and violation of consequences thereof.
- 5 The Titus2gether group discuss the bullet points of "Have a New Husband by Friday" by Kevin Lehman. I must tell you I think a lot of us got rebooted in our thinking about the nature of our relationship and expectations we have with our husbands. Too much "girl-friending" of our husbands was happening and then when they don't perform as WE expect them to...well, the fireworks begin!! A GREAT Summer read! You'll see.

Happy 4th of July!!

Dr. Sandy Pourcho

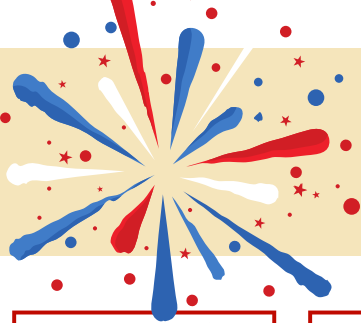


COUNSELING CENTER

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





JULY

BIBLE READING PLAN

1

2 Kings 18:13-19:37
Acts 21:1-17
Psalm 149:1-9
Proverbs 18:8

2

2 Kings 20:1-22:2
Acts 21:18-36
Psalm 150:1-6
Proverbs 18:9-10

3

2 Kings 22:3-23:30
Acts 21:37-22:16
Psalm 1:1-6
Proverbs 18:11-12

4

2 Kings 23:31-25:30
Acts 22:17-23:10
Psalm 2:1-12
Proverbs 18:13

5

1 Chronicles 1:1-2:17
Acts 23:11-35
Psalm 3:1-8
Proverbs 18:14-15

6

1 Chronicles 2:18-4:4
Acts 24:1-27
Psalm 4:1-8
Proverbs 18:16-18

7

1 Chronicles 4:5-5:17
Acts 25:1-27
Psalm 5:1-12
Proverbs 18:19

8

1 Chronicles 5:18-6:81
Acts 26:1-32
Psalm 6:1-10
Proverbs 18:20-21

9

1 Chronicles 7:1-8:40
Acts 27:1-20
Psalm 7:1-17
Proverbs 18:22

10

1 Chronicles 9:1-10:14
Acts 27:21-44
Psalm 8:1-9
Proverbs 18:23-24

11

1 Chronicles 11:1-12:18
Acts 28:1-31
Psalm 9:1-12
Proverbs 19:1-3

12

1 Chronicles 12:19-14:17
Romans 1:1-17
Psalm 9:13-20
Proverbs 19:4-5

13

1 Chronicles 15:1-16:36
Romans 1:18-32
Psalm 10:1-15
Proverbs 19:6-7

14

1 Chronicles 16:37-18:17
Romans 2:1-24
Psalm 10:16-18
Proverbs 19:8-9

15

1 Chronicles 19:1-21:30
Romans 2:25-3:8
Psalm 11:1-7
Proverbs 19:10-12

16

1 Chronicles 22:1-23:32
Romans 3:9-31
Psalm 12:1-8
Proverbs 19:13-14

17

1 Chronicles 24:1-26:11
Romans 4:1-12
Psalm 13:1-6
Proverbs 19:15-16

18

1 Chronicles 26:12-27:34
Romans 4:13-5:5
Psalm 14:1-7
Proverbs 19:17

19

1 Chronicles 28:1-29:30
Romans 5:6-21
Psalm 15:1-5
Proverbs 19:18-19

20

2 Chronicles 1:1-3:17
Romans 6:1-23
Psalm 16:1-11
Proverbs 19:20-21

21

2 Chronicles 4:1-6:11
Romans 7:1-13
Psalm 17:1-15
Proverbs 19:22-23

22

2 Chronicles 6:12-8:10
Romans 7:14-8:8
Psalm 18:1-15
Proverbs 19:24-25

23

2 Chronicles 8:11-10:19
Romans 8:9-25
Psalm 18:16-36
Proverbs 19:26

24

2 Chronicles 11:1-13:22
Romans 8:26-39
Psalm 18:37-50
Proverbs 19:27-29

25

2 Chronicles 14:1-16:14
Romans 9:1-24
Psalm 19:1-14
Proverbs 20:1

26

2 Chronicles 17:1-18:34
Romans 9:25-10:13
Psalm 20:1-9
Proverbs 20:2-3

27

2 Chronicles 19:1-20:37
Romans 10:14-11:12
Psalm 21:1-13
Proverbs 20:4-6

28

2 Chronicles 21:1-23:21
Romans 11:13-36
Psalm 22:1-18
Proverbs 20:7

29

2 Chronicles 24:1-25:28
Romans 12:1-21
Psalm 22:19-31
Proverbs 20:8-10

30

2 Chronicles 26:1-28:27
Romans 13:1-14
Psalm 23:1-6
Proverbs 20:11

30

2 Chronicles 29:1-36
Romans 14:1-23
Psalm 24:1-10
Proverbs 20:12



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